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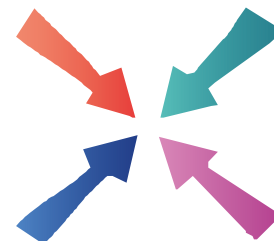
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Meeting Point

Volume 48, Number 9, June 2024

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

From the Editor

This month's cover is by Rose Edwards, and it advertises the Olveston School Summer Fayre and Musical Prom on Friday 28th June. The Fayre is from 3.30 to 5.30pm, followed by the Prom from 6.00 to 8.00pm. I hope they have a wonderful day for this lovely annual event.

We have had a large number of articles sent in for this edition and it has been quite a challenge to make sure as many as possible actually get included. We have got a profile of a new(ish) member of our community, a look back at old Tockington, and a very entertaining account of what it is like to be part of the team that sets up – and clears up – at the Glastonbury Festival.

Also, this month we have an announcement from the Friends of St Mary's, who are celebrating their 30th anniversary of fundraising for the church. It may make you consider joining in, if you haven't done so already!

Marelin

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

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Another Side of the Glastonbury Festival

Mary Long



Well, it's that time of year again - as divisive as Marmite and a microcosm of British summer. The juggernaut that is Glastonbury Festival is revving up and ready to roll. The bands, the crowds, the mud, the traffic and (not least) the toilets are as iconic as Wimbledon, but there's so much more to this famous, indeed infamous, British festival.

(Above, behind the Pyramid Stage. Below, abandoned wellies)

For the last few years we've been privileged to work, albeit in very minor roles, during the latter stages of setting up the festival and in the manic scramble of deconstruction. And it's fascinating. Even now, the first thing that hits me on arrival is the sheer enormity of the site, with the 4m high security fence alone taking several weeks to erect. To put it into perspective, if you stood on Tockington Green, the central festival site would spread north to Old Down Country Park, east beyond Sheepcombe, south to the M4 and west to the edge of Olveston. Beyond that main fence, there are fields upon fields of car parking, glamping sites, and compounds for workers and storage.



As with any city of over 200,000 people, the 5 days of the festival will witness joy, sadness, crime, births, marriages, and sadly the occasional death. But, all in all, it's the biggest party you can imagine. There's truly something for everyone. One minute you can be enjoying the gentle harmony of an a capella group, then go round a corner to find

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you're in the middle of Notting Hill carnival. During the day, there's circus, cinema, politics, crafts, every food stall you could imagine, teepees and saunas, without even venturing near the main stages. And after those iconic stages have fallen silent, there's the excitement of Arcadia's giant spider explosive with fireworks, lasers and throbbing techno beats, as well as the grittier worlds of the 'Unfairground' and 'Block 9' - if you know, you know.

When the party's over and the tired punters have struggled home, there's a frantic whirl of activity as work parties burst into life and the temporary facilities are wound down, wheeled away, and readied for the next event. It's a scene of devastation and major industry as lorries, land rovers, telehandlers and JCBs race across the litter-strewn site that was filled, mere hours earlier, with the hedonistic hordes. (See below)

Two years ago, we all worked through with post festival Covid. And last year my heart went out to the forlorn reveller sadly wandering the empty fields in search of his red Fiesta. I trust he found it.



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Friends of St. Mary's

The prize winners in the April draw, held on 4th April 2024 were:

Amount	Number	Name
£150	639	Mrs C Waites, Olveston
£75	667	Mr R Burns, Olveston
£50	407	Mr M Dixon, Awkley
£25	217	Mrs J Hahn, Olveston
£25	558	Mrs S Chick, Olveston
£20	537	Mrs J Pillinger, Yate
£20	481	Mr D Skinner, Sneyd Park
£20	215	Mr J Brown, Olveston
£20	495	Mr & Mrs M Gibson, Tockington
£20	563	Mr B Brown, Olveston

The prize winners in the May draw, held on 2nd May 2024 were:

Amount	Number	Name
£150	322	Mrs A M Bennett, Alveston
£75	196	Mr W Morgan, Tockington
£50	290	Mrs M Griffith, Thornbury
£25	587	Mr D Jeckells, Olveston
£25	438	Ms K Chick, Olveston
£20	279	Mr A Bryan, Olveston
£20	647	Mr D Baker, Olveston
£20	215	Mr J Brown, Olveston
£20	408	Mr A Phillips, Olveston
£20	576	Mrs V Brazell, Olveston

Just a quick update on the Friends of St Mary's. As I mentioned in an article last year, our 30th Anniversary is in June this year. We didn't know how best to celebrate it, so we thought it would be good to give an additional 'one off' prize of £100 to some lucky member. We want to make it a bit special, and as we can only give the prize to a member, it might be a perfect opportunity to join the scheme now, if you have been putting it off until the time is right.

We are going to make the July draw in the normal way, with the usual 10 prizes, amounting to £425 and then make a further 'one off' draw for the £100 Anniversary Prize for some lucky member. You have plenty of time to join before the July draw if you want to. Don't forget – you can't win it if you're not in it!

Drop me – Andy Phillips - an email in the usual way: andisp28@hotmail.co.uk or call 01454 614890. Hope to hear from you soon.



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Su and John Mills are pleased to be opening their garden for the National Garden Scheme between 12.00pm and 5.00pm on Saturday 15th June and Sunday 16th June.

Beautiful roses, peonies and early summer colour. Various places to sit to enjoy different views of the garden. Regional Finalist in More4's Garden of the Year 2022

Tea and homemade cakes available. All monies raised go to National Garden Scheme charities, including Marie Curie, Macmillan Cancer Support, Hospice UK and Parkinson's UK.

Admission Adults £6.00 Children free. Dogs on leads welcome.



Thornbury Volunteer Centre

Volunteers' Week celebrates the amazing contributions volunteers make to communities across the UK. The celebration starts on the first Monday in June every year. It's a chance to recognise, celebrate and thank the UK's incredible volunteers for all they contribute to our local communities, the voluntary sector, and society as a whole.

Want to volunteer but don't know where to start? Volunteers' Week is a great time to find out more. To contact Thornbury Volunteer Centre either visit, our offices are based in Thornbury Town Hall, and we are open 10.30am-12 noon Monday – Friday, no appointment necessary. Alternatively visit our website at www.volunteer-thornbury.co.uk and search our database of volunteering opportunities, or follow us on Facebook or X: [#thornburyvolunteers](https://twitter.com/thornburyvolunteers) or drop us an email at mail@volunteer-thornbury.co.uk

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Aust Parish Council

Annual Parish Assembly

We had a busy month in April, with a well-attended Annual Parish Assembly held before our regular parish council meeting. The Annual Assembly is an opportunity for residents to hear about what the parish council has been doing over the past year and to raise any issues which they might want the council to consider over the coming year, as well as a chance to discuss other matters of general interest to residents. These meetings date back many years to when we did not have the many methods of communication which we enjoy now but are still a useful way for residents to keep in touch with the parish council, and vice versa.

At this year's Assembly, our chairman Steve Meredith gave an update on what the council has been up to over the last year and South Glos Council member Matthew Riddle reported on some SGC matters. More details are on the parish council's website at bit.ly/austpc_main.

Unfortunately, two of the expected speakers, the local police beat team and the Village Agent, were not able to attend, but we did enjoy an interesting presentation by members of Sustainable Thornbury, on their hopes for developing a community energy scheme in the Thornbury area within the next few years. Planning for this is at an early stage and the type of scheme hasn't yet been determined – it could be wind power, solar, support for more households to install their own renewable technology or something else entirely – but you can find more information via their website www.sustainablethornbury.org/index.php?mylink=communityenergyppt.

You can keep up to date with the parish council's activities via our minutes which are published on the website: bit.ly/austpc_docs.

Woodwell Meadows

I reported a few months ago that the parish council are looking into formation of a volunteer group to carry out regular management activities at Woodwell Meadows nature reserve in Littleton. This has proved to be rather more involved than we first thought! But we are gradually finding our way through the paperwork and hope to be able to announce a date for an initial working party before too long.

In the meantime, a few of the councillors and I have met with South Glos Council officers at Woodwell, to look at the most important priorities for the site and discuss how the volunteer group might be run. We also donned our work gloves and got stuck into some practical improvements, removing a few of the blackthorn shrubs from the upper meadow. Luckily, the sun shone (yes, it has happened once this year!) and reminded us what a lovely spot Woodwell



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Meadows is and why proper management is vital to keep this special wildflower habitat in good order.

More details (hopefully) to follow soon...

Next parish council meeting

Our next meeting will be held on **Tuesday 9th June** in Elberton village hall, starting at 7:30pm. Agendas for council meetings are posted on the village noticeboards at least five days before the date of the meeting, and are also available on the council documents web page (bit.ly/austpc_docs). Residents are very welcome to attend.



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The music will include Elgar's Enigma Variations, Sibelius's Symphony No 7 in one movement, "Larva", a short piece by Tom Green and Mendelssohn's "Son and Stranger" overture.

The concert is in aid of Jigsaw, a charity based in Thornbury supporting families with children and young adults aged up to 25 who have additional needs or disabilities. For more details, contact: info@thornburyorchestra.org.uk.

Fish & Chips Quiz

Thornbury and District Cancer Research UK - Fish and Chips Quiz
Manorbrook School, Park Road, Thornbury, BS35 1JW on
Saturday 15th June. Please arrive by 7pm for a 7.30pm start.

Tickets are £15 per person and can be obtained from Gill Blackborough on 07866 580608. Contactless will be available on the night and there will also be a raffle. Our usual Quiz Master Tony Flintoff will be in charge. Maximum 6 per team. All proceeds going to Cancer Research UK.

Please bring your own drinks. We will provide glasses, cutlery and condiments.



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Last month, six of our members went to the Escape Rooms in Kingswood and escaped just in time from Nautilus, after rescuing Captain Nemo! There will certainly be another visit planned soon to a different challenge!

Paul Godwin will be returning to WI at our June meeting, talking about 'Wildlife through the Lens from Garden to Wetlands'. As always, there will be plenty of time for chat with refreshments afterwards.

Also in June, brunch is booked at The Hideout Lounge. A charity garden party is being held in our member Pat's beautiful garden, raising funds for Age UK, our chosen charity for this year.



Olveston and Tockington WI meet at 7.30pm at the Parish Hall. Usually this is on the second Tuesday of the month. If you would like to join us, please contact Angela Green on 01454 615222. Scan the WI QR code to find out more about joining the UK's largest women's membership organisation.

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Tickets can be purchased at Rosie & Rex gift shop in Thornbury High Street between 9 am and 5 pm, Monday to Saturday.

Tickets cost £8.00. Please note that the performance is suitable for those aged 16+.

Get your tickets soon to avoid disappointment as there is limited seating available, due to the performance being set in an intimate 'in the round' theatre space. To make your evening even more enjoyable, Christ the King Hall has plenty of parking nearby and bar facilities on site.

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The Cider Club was formed in 2010, with the aim of recovering and restoring the neglected orchard at the back of the White Hart and producing cider from the apple trees. Over the last fourteen years the technique has evolved - as has the cider. This year's make is now available in the pub should you wish to try some but be warned – it's around 8% ABV and very easy to drink!

The club hosts an annual Wassail at the rear of the White Hart in January to raise money for charity and the club. The club also hosts events throughout the year. Keep an eye out for more details.



The 30ft x 30ft marquee, which can accommodate over 100 people is available for local hire from the club for £250 per week.

If you are interested, please contact Jim: jteturton@gmail.com.

We look forward to seeing you at the orchard.

Thornbury Art Club

Our next club night is Tuesday 25th June, St Mary's Church Hall, Eastbury Road, Thornbury. 7.15 for 7.30pm.

Tom Hughes, plein air and award-winning artist, will demonstrate his skills in painting a London street scene in oils. Learn how to create the illusion of detail with your brushwork and how to use opaque and transparent paints to create different light effects.

Members free, non-members very welcome £6 on the door, includes tea & biscuits. For more details visit www.thornburyartclub.co.uk, www.facebook.com/ThornburyArtClub, email publicrelations.tac@gmail.com or 01454 414433.

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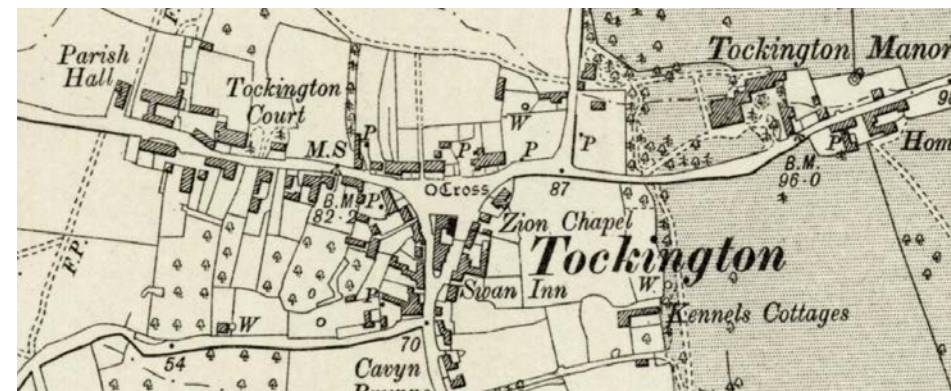
Tockington Cross

Nick Fear

The passing of inspirational local historian Eric Garrett was felt by many in the parish. His encyclopedic knowledge was always on hand for advice, and we are lucky that he left his archive which he had collected over the years. Eric's childhood home of Olveston was always foremost in his mind, but then there was Tockington as a close second. Tockington appears as 'Tockintome' in the Domesday Book. Other writings call it Thokinton, Toketon and Tokinton. The place name may have come from a local Saxon Chief called Tocca who established a village (in Saxon a 'tun') in the area, hence Tocca's Tun.

The Avon Cycle route winds its way through the area and many hundreds - if not thousands - of cyclists use it. Travelling out of Tockington passing Brook Farm towards Fern Hill, I wonder how many realise that they are entering the Moscow Flats. Often mentioned by Eric, the name came from the blast of cold air which hits you once you go round the sharp bend by Brook Farm. The Russian connection may have come from knowledge gained in World War 2 but may also have predated this. Trade with Russia was regular, and mariners' stories tell of Russian boats coming into Bristol and Gloucester docks.

Tockington, the village, has always had a grassy green at its heart. This has given rise to a local name Tockington Green. Legend has an ancient chapel in this area, but this has never been pinpointed. Walls from the village animal pound dating from medieval times can still be seen. To the west side of the Green is a round stone circular structure, now enclosing a small tree and shrubs. It has an outer concentric ring at ground level forming a step. This is however of limited use to gain the height of the structure. What was its original purpose?



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One clue may be found in old maps of the area - and from Eric Garrett. Whenever I mentioned Tockington Green, he would smile and point out that there was no such place. Tockington had a green, but the area I was referring to was actually Tockington Cross. In old Ordnance Survey maps the structure is shown as just this, a cross, with an ecclesiastical capital C marking it as an ancient religious site. If instead of a tree, you can imagine a religious cross in its place, the need for a kneeling step below it makes sense. A worshiper on their knees in prayer or contemplation has long been a Christian practice. A cross at the centre, most likely made of wood, would eventually degrade and fall. With high replacement costs, or perhaps no local demand for a new cross, replacing it with a tree was perhaps an obvious answer.

Several local people recall having seen an image of a cross at Tockington, but to date no copy of this image has been found. However, there are many photographs from across the years of trees of different sizes within the stone circle, some of which were funded and supported by local community groups.

Passing through Tockington you may think about animals gathered together in the village pound. You might experience the spiritual side of Tockington Cross. Going out of the village you may feel the icy blast from Moscow Flats. Experiences like this take us back to times past and remind us of the history in our area which Eric recorded so thoroughly.

A Poem from 1st Olveston Cubs

Things I Love About Cubs

There are lots of things that I love about Cubs,
It is definitely one of my favourite clubs,
Learning new skills and making friends,
When you go to Cubs - the fun never ends.

Woodwork and crafts and going on night hikes,
Backwoods cooking and riding our bikes,
We learn lots from the Leaders, they are so kind,
Just give things a go, they really don't mind.

If anyone asks, I would happily shout,
Life is fun when you are a Cub Scout.

By Carys
Sixer, 1st Olveston Cubs.

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Mandy de la Mare

Pat Thirkettle

Mandy and Steve moved to Olveston four years ago, you may remember Councillor Steve was profiled last month. It has been a long journey to this point with many ups and downs, but they are so happy to be here, having found the perfect house for their needs and a welcoming community.

Briefly, as Mandy has spoken to several local groups already, she was born in 1962 and is one of 460 or so who survived the Thalidomide disaster. All suffered various disabilities; Mandy's arms are missing, she required

extensive surgery on her hips as a child which successfully allowed her to walk, and her left eye was missing, the other partially formed; eventually it suffered a detached retina and was finally removed in 2010. She hates people feeling sorry for her - so read on!



In 2010 the government made a formal apology to Thalidomide beneficiaries and

agreed a one-off pilot payment of £20 million to the Thalidomide Trust. Mandy lived in Kingswood, Bristol at this time and used her share of the money to build an extension which enabled her to regain some independence.

Mandy has been married twice and has three children and five grandchildren. (Mandy is pictured with her children above) In 2014 her daughter Freya was showing signs of autism and starting senior school. This did not go well, and she was officially diagnosed on the autistic spectrum requiring special help in 2016. Sadly, this was not forthcoming; she had a breakdown in 2019 and did not return to school. Mandy was recommended Hedgeways, a college run by Aurora, on Pilning Street, Freya started there in 2019 and, as they say, the rest is history. It was the best thing they ever did, she blossomed in the quiet

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countryside, was able to learn and left in 2021 to go to SGS College to further her education.

While Freya was at Hedgeways, the commute from Kingswood to Pilning Street took one and a half hours each way, which was untenable, so Mandy and Steve house hunted in this area. As soon as they saw the house in Hardy Lane, Steve could see its potential. Mandy sold her house in Kingswood in 2019 and the date for completion was the end of March 2020. However, the day before the move, COVID lockdown struck, and they were held up until May. They eventually moved in during the partial lockdown. Luckily Steve's family and connections were able to start alterations immediately. Freya has a self-contained annexe in the old barn which will hopefully have a little kitchen added this year. The barn also sports a disco room for parties. The main house is almost finished, with just the garden to go.

Steve and Mandy have known each other since teenagers and now, with two marriages apiece, they have found one another again and Mandy says this is one of the best things to happen in her life. She is assisted by a team of three personal assistants and has an ensuite bathroom again to allow her to shower and dress herself. When Freya asked for a puppy, Odin the golden retriever became part of the family. Freya walks him - but otherwise parents have taken over, as is usual! She says this is the best move ever, as they are surrounded on five sides by lovely neighbours and with a friendly pub round the corner. She has received a warm welcome from the WI and St Mary's Church, and they have got to know more people in four years here than she did in forty years in Kingswood.



Since 2004 Mandy has been heavily involved with the Thalidomide trust as a Volunteer Visitor, supporting fellow beneficiaries with any problems eg marital, bereavement, benefits, adaptations and IT. She will happily talk to any interested group about living with Thalidomide.

The last word comes from Mandy:

'I don't want anyone to feel sorry for me because I don't! I am what I am, and I don't blame anyone for it. Yes, it should never have happened, but the blame game is a very negative one. So I always look at what I have gained from being what I am and clearly I have certainly learnt to be patient, understanding and forgiving as life is too short.'



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St. Mary's Music

The next Sunday afternoon concert at St Mary's Church, Thornbury, will be held on June 16th at 4.00pm. followed by refreshments. There is no charge for admission, but donations will go to St. Mary's Music Fund.

We are delighted that Steven Kings is our guest artist this month. Steven is well-known to many of us as the conductor of Thornbury Choral Society, but he is very much in demand as a piano soloist, accompanist and chamber musician. He plays regularly in venues around the region. We are delighted that he is coming to St. Mary's and look forward to what we are sure will be an interesting programme.

We hope you will come along to support this event.

Thornbury & District PROBUS Club 50th Anniversary

The Thornbury and District PROBUS club is celebrating 50 years this July with an evening dinner at Eastwood Park near Falfield. The retired professional and businessmen's lunch club will be fine dining at Eastwood Park on Thursday 18th July and is inviting all members, past and present, together with colleagues in adjoining clubs to join the Thornbury club in their celebration. Members' ladies, wives and partners will be joining the dinner.

As well as welcoming members to the Anniversary dinner, the Thornbury Club is actively seeking new members who are keen to widen their friendship base and pass an hour or two in good company with some excellent food. You don't need to be a retired professional or a retired businessman, in fact you don't even need to be retired although it is useful.

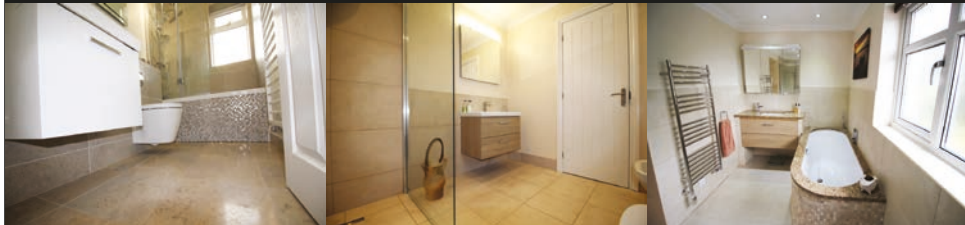
The Thornbury and District PROBUS club meets on the first Wednesday of each month at Bristol Golf Club for lunch and conversation with like-minded individuals from all walks of life, all with worldly experience and plenty of stories. We complete the lunch with a speaker or presentation on a wide variety of subjects.

If there is anyone who would be interested in joining PROBUS as a member and subsequently taking part in our celebration evening, please contact the Social Secretary Steve Wright, on 07925 801552 or steve3110@gmail.com for further details.

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Monday Movie Club

Everyone is welcome to St Mary's, Olveston, to the next Monday Movie on Monday 3rd June. Doors open at 7pm and the film* starts at 7.30pm.

Ulysses Everett McGill (George Clooney), is a suave, fast-talking convict who escapes from incarceration at a chain gang in rural Mississippi in 1937 during the Great Depression. He is chained to two other prisoners, slow-witted Delmar and hot-tempered Pete, so the three must escape together. Everett convinces them that he has hidden \$1.2 million after robbing an armoured car and promises to split it with them. But time is of the essence because the dosh is in his house which is about to be swamped by a new dam. Along the way they are confronted by a series of strange characters--among them sirens, a cyclops, bank robber George "Baby Face" Nelson, a KKK lynch mob, and a blind prophet who warns the trio that "the treasure you seek shall not be the treasure you find." Laughs a plenty! IMDB

The Movie Club is held on the first Monday of every month (summer excluded) and there is no entry fee or membership needed. Refreshments, tea, coffee, wine and beer are available. The Monday Movie Club is a true community event.

*Under the terms of our licensing agreement, we are not permitted to name the film.



Green Force

Electric light can be a beautiful thing, guiding us home when the sun goes down, keeping us safe and making our homes cosy and bright. However, like carbon dioxide emissions and plastic, too much of a good thing has started to negatively impact the environment. Light pollution is the excessive or inappropriate use of outdoor artificial light, and it is affecting human health, wildlife behaviour, and

our ability to observe stars and other celestial objects. Artificial light can wreak havoc on natural body rhythms in both humans and animals.

Nocturnal light interrupts sleep and confuses the internal, twenty-four hour clock that guides day and night activities and affects physiological processes

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in nearly all living organisms. An increased amount of light at night lowers melatonin production, which results in a variety of other health problems. Artificial night lighting causes birds in the city to become active earlier than birds in natural areas - waking and singing as much as five hours sooner than their country cousins. Even animals living under the sea may be affected by underwater artificial lighting. Insects, a primary food source for birds and other animals, are also affected.

Here are some principles which could be adopted to reduce light pollution where you live.

- 1) Install lighting only when and where it's needed.
- 2) Shield your lights so they shine down on the ground.
- 3) Use lights that are no brighter than necessary
- 4) Use timers, dimmers, and motion sensors on outdoor lights.

June 5th is World Environment Day, which is when we observe the wildlife visiting our gardens for 'Let it Bloom in June' following 'No Mow May'.

The whole month of June is '30 Days Wild'. which was created by the Wildlife Trusts to help everyone be more connected with nature by doing something 'wild' every day. When you sign up, you're sent a digital pack with ideas for you and your family. <https://www.wildlifetrusts.org/sign-30-days-wild>

29th June -7th July is Swift Awareness Week. Swifts usually arrive in our villages in April, but they are late this year. Listen out as they swoop and whistle as they fly over Olveston School, where they nest.

Carers Week 2024

Carers Support Centre invites unpaid carers and professionals supporting carers across Bristol and South Gloucestershire to our annual free Carers Week event. During Carers Week 2024, on Thursday 13th June, we'll be presenting a special event at the BAWA Leisure Centre.

The day will cover many aspects of a caring life and present practical information to help while giving an opportunity to meet with other carers and get a bit of well-deserved pampering. We are looking to offer sessions on a variety of caring-related subjects, including:

- Our new befriending and counselling services
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Garden Party



Sharing the Caring

St Peters Hospice Severnside Support Group would be delighted to welcome you to a Garden Party.

Grove House, The Street, Alveston (BS35 3SX)
Sunday 9th June, 2.30pm – 5.00pm (by kind permission of Geoff and Carol).

Entrance is £5.00 to include tea and cake. Raffle. Books.

Bring a picnic chair and listen to the music of Panache Steel Band and enjoy the gardens.

From the Registers of St Mary's, Olveston

Sunday April 28th

The baptism of Florence Jayne Gardner



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Oveston Parish Council

Annual Parish Assembly 2024

The Annual Parish Assembly took place on Tuesday 23rd April. It was wonderful to see so many local organisations speak so enthusiastically about all that they do. The Annual Parish Assembly is not a Parish Council event, it is a local community event and intended as an opportunity for any local organisation or group to inform members of the Parish about what they do. This is often in the hope that they may gain support, increase membership and encourage volunteers to join them. In the past we have heard from Oveston Historical Society, the WI and many more.

This year we heard presentations from the 1st Oveston Scouts Group who are desperately short of adult volunteers, Friends of Oveston School who provide a myriad of exciting events for their pupils, Meeting Point which continues to provide the Parish with important information, Sustainable Thornbury with many aspirations and goals to make our Parish as green as possible and Oveston Allotments who provide the community with their own space to grow fruit, vegetables and flowers. The presentations proved to be very informative, interesting, and extremely enlightening. It is worth highlighting that all of these wonderful organisations, whether they spoke on the evening or not, provide vital opportunities to our community from the youngest to the oldest generation in the Parish. Without them we would surely miss them terribly.

Next year's Annual Parish Assembly will be advertised (as it was this year) on our website, in our Parish Council notice boards found in Tockington, Old Down and Oveston and on our Social Media sites. If you would like to present in the next Annual Parish Assembly, please email clerk@olvestonparishcouncil.org.uk. We would also love the audience to keep on growing so don't be shy, please do come along and get involved. Together we are stronger.

Looking Forward to July

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26/05/24 Sunday XI v Keynsham
01/06/24 1st XI v Brislington
02/06/24 Sunday XI v Portishead
08/06/24 2nd XI v Easton Cuttlefish
15/05/24 1st XI v Knowle
22/05/24 1st XI v Bath
23/05/24 Sunday XI v Bathford
29/05/24 2nd XI v Stoke Gifford

Up the Down!


Get Your Tickets!

Tickets for the 2024 event taking place over the weekend of Friday 5th and Saturday 6th July are now available to buy via the Thornbury Carnival website.



Thornbury Carnival 'The Main Event' will run from 11am to 11pm on Saturday 6th July and will feature a wide range of attractions such as the main stage tribute

acts including those paying homage to Ed Sheeran and the Foo Fighters, a DJ set, and spectacular headline act, Disco Inferno. There will also be stalls, fairground rides, Weston Donkeys, and a Show 'n' Shine with a range of modern sports, American, and classic vehicles. The KidZone, running from 11am to 5pm, will have many activities included in the ticket price such as circus skills workshops, face painting, and children's crafts.



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'Early Bird' tickets for both the Friday and Saturday events are available to buy online until 6pm the day before, after which online tickets will still be available to buy at gate prices.

Tickets for Friday's 'Swing in the Park' are available to buy from <https://www.thornburycarnival.co.uk/swing-in-the-park/friday-tickets/>

Saturday tickets are available from <https://www.thornburycarnival.co.uk/the-main-event/saturday-tickets/>.

People will also be able to buy tickets at the gate using contactless payment or cash, but gate prices will apply - see website for further details.

'Love from a Stranger'

The Whodunnit Theatre Company presents 'Love from a Stranger', by Agatha Christie and Frank Vosper.

Enter Bruce Lovell, a handsome and charming stranger who sweeps Cecily Harrington, off her feet. After a whirlwind romance, Cecily recklessly abandons everything including her family and friends to settle in a remote country cottage – but is her newfound lover all that he seems?

Showcasing talents from around the southwest, The Whodunnit Theatre Company are proud to present this thrilling night of drama. Famous for her stories from the Orient Express and your favourite Belgian detective, Christie crafts an intricate plot of twists and turns – but can you predict the twist in this tale?

Performed at Tytherington Village Hall on 13th, 14th and 15th June from 7:30pm – tickets available for £12 from www.ticketsource.com/the-whodunnit-theatre-company. Recommended for ages 16+

Find us on Facebook by searching 'Whodunnit Theatre Company'.



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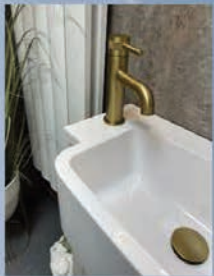


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*Father George Malecki
Christ the King, Thornbury*

Travel by motorway is reckoned to be the safest form of travel for the average motorist. Accidents seldom happen. However, when they do, they tend to be quite serious. And another hazard is then created - people slowing down to take a look. The popular expression for this is: 'rubbernecking'. A police officer on the scene will often be on hand to signal drivers to keep moving, to concentrate on the job in hand - driving safely.

As the season of Easter has now drawn to a close, the Scriptures tell us how, as Jesus ascended into the heavens, his friends stood "staring into the sky": that is, until two angelic figures appeared, gently urging them to move on. There is work to do – a mission to fulfil. For forty days since his resurrection, Jesus had been with them constantly. Now, as they gazed into the sky, they must surely have experienced mixed feelings. He was leaving them. No longer would they be buoyed up by his visible presence. Yet they knew that he was returning in his humanity to his beloved Father, completing the triumph begun by his Resurrection. And they were sure, as the Gospel puts it, that the Lord would be "working with them" as they went out to preach and baptise. Moreover, they had the assurance that this was no final goodbye. One day he would return. They are instructed to wait a little longer for the coming of the Holy Spirit. That would launch them as his "witnesses ... to the ends of the earth". On the day of the Lord's Ascension into heaven, it is the joy of the occasion that is captured as they await that coming of the Holy Spirit.

Today we are invited to raise our voices in praise of the Lord who has ascended to his heavenly throne as King of kings. Our gathering in his name is itself a sign that we want to respond to the invitation. We want to praise our Lord for his personal triumph. We want to thank him too because of the hope that he has brought to us, the "rich glories" he promises and the power, which Saint Paul describes as "infinitely great". And yet we must not stop there. To do so might be described as a type of spiritual rubbernecking, being so fascinated with these spiritual realities that we become distracted and lose sight of the bigger picture.

Jesus' final words at his Ascension into heaven were that we should spread the Good News, that we should be his witnesses. And that is a task we, fulfil principally by the way we live our lives each day. The Bible may speak of some of the marvels associated with those early believers, but we too, both believer and non-believer, in our own small, less dramatic ways, also bear witness to the Lord's message. We do that by our patience, our acts of kindness, our concern, our readiness to forgive, our joy, our humble living out of the Gospel. In so doing, we too are living signs confirming that Jesus has risen, and has ascended, and is indeed Lord.



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Church News

ST MARY the VIRGIN, OLVESTON

June 2nd	10am 6pm	Holy Communion Evensong	Rev David Lloyd Rev David Lloyd
June 9th	10am 6pm	Morning Prayer Holy Communion	Rev Ann Lloyd/ David Moss Rev David Bone
June 16th	10am 6pm	Morning Prayer Holy Communion	Rev David Moss/ J McBride Rev David Moss
June 23rd	10am 6pm	Holy Communion Evening Prayer	Rev Ann Lloyd Janet McBride
June 30th	10am 6pm	Holy Communion Taize Prayer	Rev David Bone Rev Ann Lloyd

Every Saturday in Term Time, 'REFRESH', 4.30-5.30 - Fun, relaxed church for families, all welcome. Every Wednesday, Holy Communion, 10am. NB. Clergy may change.

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

CHAPELRY OF ST JOHN, AUST

June 9th	10am	Morning Prayer	Trevor Cook
June 23rd	10am	Holy Communion	Trevor Cook

Contact: Trevor Cook, 01454 618442

Church Wardens: Jenn Dickens 632312 and Jon Burnett 633835

ST MARY DE MALMESBURY, LITTLETON-ON-SEVERN

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

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

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ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, ELBERTON

June 9th	9am	Morning Prayer	Judith Heybyrne
June 23rd	9am	Holy Communion	Judith Heybyrne

Contacts: Judith Heybyrne 616725
Church Wardens: Catharine Gunnery 413225 and Cheryl Meredith 411065

OLVESTON AND TOCKINGTON METHODIST CHURCH

June 2nd	10am	Tock Ch	Morning Worship led by Rev Sammuel Uwimana with Holy Communion
June 9th	10am	Olv Ch	Morning Worship led by Rev Hilary Cooke
June 16th	10am	Olv Ch	Morning Worship Local arrangement
June 23rd	10am	Tock Ch	Morning Worship by Rev Sammuel Uwimana
June 30th	10am	Tock Ch	Morning Worship led by Rev Dr Simon Edwards

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

THE VINE House of Prayer, Pilning Street, Awkley BS35 4HL
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Contact: 07512 917229, thevine_awkley@hotmail.com

THE OASIS CHURCH, OLD DOWN
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Contact: Neil Mobbs, cnmobbs@hotmail.com

AUST EVANGELICAL and LITTLETON EVANGELICAL CHURCHES

Contact: esther@thebamfields.co.uk

RC CHURCH OF CHRIST THE KING, Thornbury
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SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS), Thornbury

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

Diary Dates for June

Information believed to be correct at going to press.

1 Sat	Park Run, Mundy Playing Field every Sat Quiz night	9am 7.30pm	S+M
3 Mon	Severn Vale Flower Club Monday Movies Alveston Gardens Association talk	2pm 7.30pm 7.30pm	SMCH S+M JHA
4 Tues	Over 60's Coffee Morning every Tues Citizens Advice every Tuesday Thornbury Art Club, Painting Studio group every Tuesday WRBL	10-12pm 10-12pm 1.30pm 7.30pm	DGCL TTH SMCH DGCL
5 Wed	Table Tennis every Wednesday	7pm	OPH
6 Thurs	Thornbury Farmers Market Coffee Shop Good afternoon, Choir, every Thurs Thornbury Art Club Painting Studio group, every Thursday	9am 9-12pm 1-3pm 1.30pm	S+M URC SMCH
7 Fri	First Friday Community Café. Haven Memory Café. Every 1 st and 3 rd Friday	10-12am 10.15- 11.45am	TMC URC
8 Sat	Coffee Morning, 2 nd & 4 th Sat	10-12pm	OMH
9 Sun	St Peters Hospice - Garden Party, Grove House, Alveston	2.30- 5pm	
10 Mon	Severn Vale Flower Club	2pm	SMCH
11 Tues	Thornbury Memory Café 2 nd & 4 th Tues Olveston & Tockington WI	10.15am 7.30pm	TMH OPH
13 Thurs	Coffee Shop Carers Week Event	9-12pm 10-3pm	S+M BAWA
15 Sat	NGS Stoneleigh Down open garden Folk Music Festival - Rockhampton Fish & Chips Quiz in aid of CRUK, Manorbrook School	12-5pm 2pm 7.30pm	Tock Rock Thorn

16 Sun	Fathers' Day NGS Rock House open garden NGS Stoneleigh Down open garden Opera on the Green - Rockhampton	12-5pm 12-5pm 2.30pm	Elberton Tock
20 Thurs	Thornbury Farmers Market Coffee Shop	9am 9-12pm	S+M
21 Fri	Haven memory cafe	10.15am	URC
22 Sat	Coffee Morning	10-12pm	OMH
24 Mon	Severn Vale Flower Club	2pm	SMCH
25 Tues	Thornbury Memory Cafe Thornbury Art Club Night Tom Hughes - London in Oils Demo.	10.15am 7.30pm	TMH SMCH
27 Thurs	Coffee Shop	9-12pm	S+M
28 Fri	Olveston School Summer Fayre Olveston School Prom	3.30 - 5.30pm 6-8pm	Olveston

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

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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