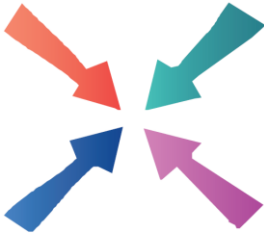


Meeting Point



March 2018



Meeting Point

Volume 42, Number 6, March 2018

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

From the Editor

EDITOR:

Marelin Orr-Ewing
Courtlands
Olveston
Bristol BS35 4DU
Tel: 01454 610081
meetingpointeditor@gmail.com

ASSISTANT EDITOR:

Angela Williams
Ashlea
Haw Lane
Olveston
Bristol BS35 4EG
Tel 01454 612850
meetingpointmagazine@gmail.com

ADVERTISING:

Nigel Dawes
Cromwell House
The Street,
Olveston
Bristol BS35 4DR
Tel: 01454 201558
julie.dawes@tiscali.co.uk

Publication date
1st of each month

Material for April 2018
to the Editor or Deputy Editor
by 5th March 2018.

The month of March was called Hylda monath in Old English, meaning loud or stormy month. I really hope that March 2018 does not live up to this ancient name. As the beautiful daffodils on our cover indicate, we should be seeing new shoots and flowers and, hopefully, enjoying our time outdoors. This month there are two articles about walking – one which encourages us to get outdoors onto local public footpaths and the other which reminisces about walking from Tockington to Olveston 50 years ago. Work in our gardens really gets going this month and Trevor Cook's piece about how to attract wildlife into your garden includes good advice about which plants to choose. There are also details of how you could get involved in creating a wildflower meadow with the Making Space for Wildlife project.

No space for a puzzle this month, so, here are the five words that were hidden in the puzzle last time: bedspread, pronounce, beautiful, dimension and livestock.

Marelin

The cover is by Cheryl Miller

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



News from St. Mary's

Debbie Harries

Special Services

Mothering Sunday is on March 11th with posies for the ladies! Holy Week begins on March 25th with Palm Sunday. Come and join us for breakfast in church at 9.15am followed by the donkey procession from Daldry Gardens at 9.45am. In the evening there is a Severnside event 'Celebration of our journey of Lent' held at Almondsbury Church 6pm. Our Maundy Thursday Agape takes the form of a Passover meal and Holy Communion at 7.30pm. There is a Good Friday Walk of witness from Tockington Methodist Church at 12.30pm, before the Final Hour at 2pm at St Mary's. We then have services on Easter Day, beginning at 6.30am up at The Brake on Vicarage Lane.

Toilet Twinning!

St Mary's is raising money to twin the church and school toilets with toilets in developing countries. This will enable us to finance two toilets for families and toilets for a school that currently does not have any. Come in and see our display or go online for more information.

Quiz

Thank you to all who came to the quiz last month; there were 85 of us and we made a profit of £661.35 for church funds. Our next one is on April 28th with pasta bake on the menu! To book a team (max 6 people) email Debbie at oboe-debbie@live.co.uk

Olveston Parish Hall

A Treasurer is needed! This could be your opportunity to join the committee, which has responsibility for the day to day running of one of Olveston Parish's best used assets. Your role would involve control of all financial matters, assisted by our administrator. Meetings are held bi-monthly. No experience necessary, just enthusiasm. If you are interested in becoming Olveston Parish Hall Treasurer, please contact Linda Chappell on 615806 for a chat.

This position will be filled at the **AGM on 8th March 8th at 7.30pm**. Please come along and join us, there will be wine and cheese following the meeting.

From the Registers of St John the Evangelist, Elberton

1st February Funeral Service and Burial in the Churchyard of
Edna May Taylor

Olveston & Tockington W.I.

Vicki Townsend

The start of the Centenary year for Olveston and Tockington W.I. was celebrated with the installation, on 10th January, of a wooden bench seat outside The Village Stores. Parish Councillor John Hughes accepted the seat on behalf of the community and it is hoped that when the weather improves it will be a useful addition to the furniture of the village. The seat was financed by fund raising by members for the Centenary year. Further celebrations will be advertised later in the year. Watch this space.

Katie Scaife was the speaker at our January meeting; she explained details of the A Forgotten Landscape Project, on the Lower Severn Vale levels, stretching from Shepperdine to Avonmouth. The project officially finishes later this year and it is hoped that many of the activities will be continued by the volunteers, including recording birds on high tide levels, monitoring water voles and great crested newts, and excavating archaeological sites. Information can be found on 'A Forgotten Landscape' web site.

OLVESTON PARISH TWINNING ASSOCIATION



Why not come to Bréhan?

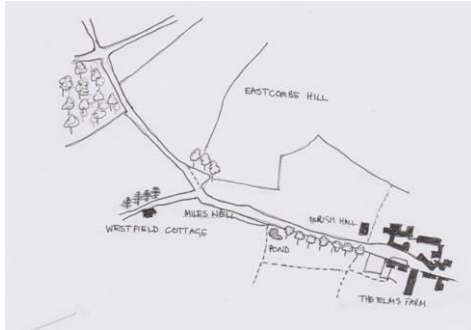
There are still a few spaces available on this year's OPTA trip to Bréhan. We depart from Olveston Friday May 4th at 3.30pm and return late on Monday 7th May. The cost is £125 per adult with a suggested donation of £20 per child. This includes all transport and a cabin for the outward overnight crossing. All meals and most drinks are provided by our hosts once we are there. You are guaranteed a great time and there is no need to be a French speaker – we all manage somehow!

If you are interested and would like more information please contact Lucy Shrimpton who will answer any questions: lucyshrimpton@talktalk.net or 07752 942284

From The Elms Farm to Haw Lane, Olveston, in 1959.

Bruce Farr

How many people travel the road between Tockington and Olveston? It is not very far, maybe half a mile, but so much change has taken place over the last fifty years. I wonder if there will be as much change again over the next fifty?



I remember 59 years ago.....

On the left of the main entrance to The Elms Farm, where now just the gateposts remain, there was an overgrown shrubbery with several tall trees and a lean-to storey shed. Now there is pull-in parking with a high clipped hedge. Where now there are rebuilt farm buildings,

then there was a rickyard with three round ricks of corn sheaves. The main field entrance has been moved to beyond the pond and horse chestnut tree, where conkers were gathered each autumn on the way to and from school.

First on the right was Court Farm with a laurel hedge and cow stalls in a low single storey building with pantile roof. Between farm buildings and The Parish hall, running parallel to the road was a stand of mature elm trees in the grass verge next to what was the main entrance to the farm and barns beyond. On the road side there was an elevated platform where eight to twelve churns of milk would be placed for collection seven days a week by a twin axle flat-bed lorry. Now it is the site of two established family homes.

The Parish Hall had no flat roofed extensions then, just the red brick main building with a grass verge outside. There was a low wall between the verge and front door, where we would sit awaiting the arrival of the once fortnightly film show.

On up the road on the right there were no car parks or tennis courts, just Tockington's favourite tobogganing hill. Mature trees lined the road on either side, mainly elm, making the road much more enclosed. And in the spinney on the left was Miles Well. It is now filled in for safety reasons, but it was used in the past to refill the steam lorries and road rollers and was also renowned for its healing powers as an eyewash.

On over the brow of the hill there were no pavements once you went past the lane to Westfield Cottage. Even then it was a hazardous crossing, though

there were very few vehicles, the most respected being the lorries from Olveston quarry (Lewis Rugg in those days) carrying four, or maybe six, tons of material at a time in twin axle tipper lorries. There were also more country buses in those days!

Across the road was a wild bank of bramble and stinging nettles underneath the trees (again mainly elm), where now there is a terraced garden and a smart drive entrance. The view, as now, was of Olveston and beyond to the River Severn and the Welsh hills. At night it was all darkness away from the village, apart perhaps from the odd light in Chepstow and Beachley Head.

At the bottom of the hill there was no bus shelter, no Police Station either, just a market garden behind the wall. On the opposite side of the road, no clipped front lawns but a paddock where the bungalow now is and a high stone wall on the roadside to the crossroads, behind which an ancient apple orchard gave shelter to the odd bullock or heifer.

Guide Dogs for the Blind

Guide Dogs for the Blind are looking for volunteers in the Pilning area to home their trainee guide dogs on a short-term basis whilst they complete their advanced training. Volunteer 'boarders' as they are also known, are provided with training from our Guide Dog Mobility Instructors and all food and vets bills are paid for by the charity whilst the dogs are with their boarders. Guide Dogs need volunteers to be flexible and are looking for boarders who would be able to take their dog into their workplace, if needed. This is also a great opportunity for those who work full-time because our dogs are in training during the day Monday to Friday.'

To apply directly for this role please visit our website: (<https://www.guidedogs.org.uk/volunteering/>) and search for your postcode under the 'volunteer with us' section. To speak informally about boarding or other volunteering opportunities please call Lesley on 0118 983 8722.

Free Cake

Nikki Clarke

Right, now I've got your attention... take a look at this.... Scouting provides a foundation for great values to live by: helpfulness, friendship, cooperation; respect for self and for others; understanding and tolerance; integrity based on loyalty, honesty and trust; leadership, resourcefulness and courage in the face of difficulties.

What could be more important to nurturing the kind of society we all want to live in?

You can help...1st Olveston Scout Group desperately needs the following volunteers. We aren't looking for a lifetime's commitment, just team members with particular skills, to take the pressure off.

Administrative support: mainly home based computer work - term time only, as and when you can fit it in. No need to attend Scout evenings, this work is purely administrative support (no accounts) for the Beaver Scout team, using a simple, tailor made programme. No upper age limit, you just need to know your way round a computer.

Quarter Master: this is a details person...someone who likes 'a place for everything and everything to be in its place'. We have a lot of kit in a very big store room and we need someone to keep tabs on it - a job that can be quarterly (clue is in the title) at a time to suit. There's no need to attend Scout evenings. You would report to the Executive Committee. There's no upper age limit. Good nagging skills would be a bonus though, as we are a messy lot!

Beaver Scout Team Leader: I left the best 'til last! This has been my job for quite a few years and it's been fantastic! It now needs to be *your* job and before you say you're too busy believe me you need this in your life. Yes it's a big commitment and yes it takes a fair bit of time BUT there are very few things in life that are as fun, rewarding and will fill you so full of happy as this! We welcome women and men of all ages, interests and backgrounds and there's no need to have been involved in Scouting before -all you need is a positive attitude! You can train at your own pace and we will support and empower you to lead others.

Pay: unlike the BBC we pay the same rates to women and men - absolutely zero - but as much 'happy' as you can deal with!

Take a look at this YouTube video - it has Bear Grylls in it - to see what volunteering in Scouting is really about:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h1N3mq7uAYI>

For more info about any of these roles or to claim your free cake (there's only one) ring Nikki Clarke 01454 614099 or email nikki@beavers.olveston.com

Making Space for Wildlife - and the winners are....

Melinda Evans

The Making Space for Wildlife official launch in early January was a huge success. Many residents, young and old, came to learn about the small changes we can make to protect our wonderful but diminishing wildlife. Our guest speaker Mike Dilger was captivating; his passion and enthusiasm for the

natural world contagious, despite of (or perhaps because of) part of his presentation being delivered from inside a tent. Yet another highlight of the launch was the presentation of certificates and announcement of the winners of the children's logo design competition.

One of the aims of the Making Space for Wildlife project is to encourage the youngest in our community to learn more about the wildlife around us. Forty logo design entries were received from local children for judging by three volunteers each having different interests in wildlife and art. Both the judges and committee were struck by the thoughtfulness of the designs received and the knowledge of wildlife already evident in the children in our community. Choosing the winners cannot have been an easy decision. The committee is enormously grateful to a number of local youth groups for promoting the competition amongst their members, in particular the Olveston Beavers, Olveston Guides and Olveston Primary School.



We are delighted to say the overall winners were Porscha Ranklin and Janu Sapkota in the 3-6 years age category, William Elderton in the 7-11 years age category, and Erin Baker in the 12-16 years age category. Highly Commended awards were awarded to eight children whose designs were selected by the judges as

Some of the entrants and winners of the logo design competition with Mike Dilger. *(photo courtesy of the Thornbury Gazette)*

having special merit. These children were Evie North (3-6 years), Dexter Barrell-Wright, Maya Sapkota, April Witchard, Jessie Gale and Rebekah Vizard (7-11 years), and Rosie Culverhouse and Charlotte Lambie in the eldest age category. Every child who entered the competition received a certificate, a wildlife-themed colouring book and a sunflower head bird feeder. Those children not able to be present were given their certificates and prizes at special ceremonies at Olveston School or Olveston Guides during

February.

The committee now has the very difficult task of deciding which design will become the official project logo.

Stay tuned....

Olveston Primary School's Eco Council members attending the exhibition.



Hot off the Press - Create a Meadow!

Come and help us create a wildflower meadow in Olveston. This is the first major undertaking of the Making Space for Wildlife project and is being held in conjunction with A Forgotten Landscape.

Sunday 4th March, 10-11:30am, Aust Road (close to the junction with Elberton Road), Olveston, BS35 4DE. All welcome. For more details see www.aforgottenlandscape.org.uk or call 01454 864265.

Quiz Reminder

St Peter's Hospice Severnside Support Group Annual Quiz.

Armstrong Hall, Friday 9th March at 7.15p.m. Tables of four, to include a light supper, £28.00 per table. Excellent raffle prizes, bar available.

For further information please ring Mary on 01454 412567. Thank you.

Women's World Day of Prayer

Pat Thirkettle

Every year the women of the world organise a day of prayer which starts in New Zealand and finishes in the Pacific Islands. It may be compiled by women, this year the women of Suriname, but it is for everyone. Do you know much about Suriname or even where it is?

The service is entitled 'All God's Creation is Very Good!', so do come and find out more at St Mary's Church, Olveston on 2nd March at 10.15am

The Future of the Armstrong Hall

On 1st March, 7.30pm in the Cossham Hall, there will be a public meeting to discuss the different options for the future of the Armstrong Hall. The Consultation closes on 9th March and 20th March is the anticipated date of Trust/Council meeting to take a decision on which option to progress. If you are interested in what happens to this important local facility and want to have your say, there is information online www.thornburytowncouncil.gov.uk or from the Town Hall and Armstrong Hall.

Surveying in the Churchyard

David Lambie and Richard Newley

Following the recent digital mapping project of memorials and gravestones in the churchyard of St Mary's Olveston, plans are in place for a geophysical survey of the old graveyard. Volunteers from 'A Forgotten Landscape' (AFL), a local, Lottery-funded, project, will be bringing sensitive technology to examine what lies under the ground remotely, without actually having to dig holes!

The church has identified a number of locations in the original cemetery where there are no records of a burial and no evident remains of a grave. These may offer opportunities for more interments in this busy graveyard. As part of the assessment of suitable plots for future burials, the church has asked AFL for advice on whether geophysical techniques can help.

The AFL archaeology team will be coming to the churchyard to perform an 'earth resistance' survey. This will take one or two days. A group of 4 or 5 volunteers will be laying out tapes to form a measurement grid on the ground. Then they will be walking the resistance meter up and down to criss-cross the area. The technique does not move any earth and measurements are focused on the soil



Surveying St Helen's Old Church Cemetery, Alveston Photo courtesy of Mary Lennox

surface. This method is widely used on sensitive, and highly protected, archaeological environments. Indeed the team has recently completed a major survey at the Toot in Oldbury-on-Severn, a nationally recognised Scheduled Monument further north in the Severn valley.

Measurements in churchyards are notoriously difficult and whether the results will be good enough to help identify empty graves is not clear but the results could be really useful. So don't be alarmed if you find the team at work in the graveyard!

Alveston Gardens Association

A Presentation on 'Blue Flowers throughout the Year' will be given by Iain Parsons. Monday 5th March 7.30pm in Alveston Jubilee Hall.
All welcome – Visitors (£3) Full programme www.alveston.org



MARCH PROGRAMME

Trevor Anderson

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

Mon 5 Mar: A chilling psychological thriller with real humanity and a superb twist at the end. A young boy is haunted by a dark secret: he is visited by ghosts. Confused and terrified by his paranormal powers, he is too young to understand the reason and decides to share his torment with a child psychologist. As the psychologist tries to uncover the ominous truth, the consequence for client and therapist is a jolt that awakens them both to something harrowing and unexplainable. The twist ending changes the focus of what has gone before and is both clever and disturbing. (1999, Cert 15)

Mon 19 Mar: Janet has just been appointed to a key ministerial position in the shadow cabinet, the crowning achievement of her political career. She and her husband Bill plan to celebrate this with a few close friends. As the guests arrive at their home, the party takes an unexpected turn when Bill suddenly makes some explosive revelations that take everyone by surprise. Love, friendships and political convictions are soon called into question in this witty, sharp and hilarious new comedy of tragic proportions. (2017, Cert 15)

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

Mon 26 Mar: This much-anticipated sequel to the worldwide hit family film finds the bear happily settled with the Brown family in Windsor Gardens, where he has become a popular member of the community, spreading joy and marmalade wherever he goes. (2017, Cert PG)

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



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

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

News from Olveston School



Firstly, a huge 'Thank You' to everyone who responded to our appeals in the February edition of Meeting Point. We are particular pleased to report that we now have a caretaker.

With the slightly warmer weather, our pupils are looking forward to exploring their topics away from school. Year 1 and 2 recently spent a day at Chepstow Castle and here is a pupil's account of that trip:

'When we arrived at Chepstow Castle we were pleased to see it wasn't raining. First we met Neil, the knight, who was our tour guide. Next we ate our snack and then Neil took us to the oldest part of the castle. He explained to us it was a motte and bailey castle. Afterwards we went up the tall tower. After that we ate our lunch and had a play. Finally Neil showed us his medieval weapons. He showed us a crossbow, an arrow, a long bow and lots of different swords. My favourite part of the day was seeing the arrow fly into the target and the milk bottles being blown up by the sword.'

Auction of Promises

The Parents, Teachers and Friends Association (PTFA) is holding an 'Auction of Promises' on Saturday 21st April from 7:30pm (doors open at 7pm). The event is being held to raise money to revamp the outside play area at the school. We are looking for 'Promises' to be donated for the event and would be very grateful for your support. Ideas for promises include: Meal vouchers - Gardening services - Babysitting services - Ironing or Housework - Dog walking - Car washing etc etc. Please email foospta@gmail.com or contact the School Office (01454 613299) with your Promise donation. Further information on the event will be given on the Friends of Olveston School PFTA Facebook page and in April's edition of Meeting Point.

Sing for your Supper

6th March. 7.30pm - 9pm Thornbury Baptist Church.

Support Fairtrade Fortnight and come along to meet Fairtrade olive and maftoul farmer, Bassema Barahmeh, from Palestine. The evening will start with the Thornbury Community Gospel Choir, helping all those present to 'sing for their supper'. Entry is free, with donations accepted for the light refreshments that will be served. Everyone welcome.

For more information contact Helen Harrison helenhmail@gmail.com

Walking is good for you - fact!

Piet, Richard and Rod

All walking is good for body and soul and it is even better on centuries-old 'public rights of way', preserved by law and crossing glorious rolling countryside. We have 25 miles of public footpaths in this parish alone, some with fabulous views.

Assuming it's all new to you, to get the best out of any walk you might first look for a companion and it's definitely advisable to have a pair of walking boots (compare weights - some are too heavy). You could start by getting hold of one of the free packs of six leaflets describing shortish local circular walks in the parish. (See below)

The new map boards installed near the Queen Alexandra Memorial Pavillion at Old Down, on the bus shelter in Tockington and in Olveston on New Road feature the routes of the six walks.



To see all the footpaths for miles around you'll need a copy of Ordnance Survey (OS) map 'Explorer 167' which is available from most stationers or online, or you can borrow one from Thornbury library where there are several copies. Footpaths are shown as green dashed lines and there are also red dashed lines which signify 'permissive footpaths' along which landowners allow public use but which are not official rights of way. Using the OS map allows you to find a circular route to and from, say, Thornbury or any of our neighbouring villages, with a minimum of road walking. You could even walk to Oldbury-upon-Severn, via Whale Wharf on the river embankment at Littleton-upon-Severn, taking in the big sky.

Having a purpose for a walk is a good way of getting going, for example appreciating church architecture in surrounding villages or perhaps watching the trains go by on the footbridge over the railway mainline near Cattybrook brickworks or at Pilning Station where the overhead electrification is in progress. Another purpose for a walk could be to visit every one of the pubs within reasonable walking distance. There are eleven of them and that doesn't include Thornbury.

For those who prefer a walk which is not on field footpaths, you could park in Aust near the Boar's Head pub and walk along two quiet roads to Old Passage on the bank of the Severn where you might see a peregrine or short-eared owl, before returning the same way, taking great care crossing the fast A403 road. South Gloucestershire Council's 'A Forgotten Landscape' website makes very good reading, covering the whole of our area close to the Severn.

It is important to note that some footpaths are difficult for the less agile walker due to the terrain or awkward stiles and some stiles can be impassable for dogs, but South Gloucestershire Council, with the agreement of landowners, are gradually replacing stiles with gates. If you find a problem, you can report it by phone to SGC's footpaths officer on 01454 868686. HMG's Countryside Code urges walkers to stick to the footpath, leave gates as you find them, follow local signs, keep dogs under control and pick up after them even if you are 'in the countryside'.

Organised walk. There will be an organised walk on Saturday 14th April starting at 1pm from outside the White Hart, Olveston, duration about 2 hours with some climbs. More details about this walk will be in the April Meeting Point or you could contact Rod Williams on 01454 612850.

Free packs of six walks leaflets. These are available from St Mary's Church Olveston and The Swan pub in Tockington. The walks include:

1. Round Olveston. 2. Olveston & Old Down. 3. Old Down & Rudgeway. 4. Old Down & Tockington. 5. Between Olveston & Tockington. 6. Down to the Motorway.

Wildlife in your Garden

Trevor Cook

As March begins, so does the planting season, and the gardeners amongst us will become busy turning over the soil and planting out the season's flowers and vegetables. As you do so it is a good time to think about the kind of flowers that will not only please you but will give something back to nature. It is important as our gardens are becoming the last haven for a rapidly declining wildlife population.

We had an article last year about the trend towards re-wilding certain animals and there is also a trend towards planting wild flowers. You can now purchase selected wildflower seeds in and/or individual seeds for foxgloves, cornflower and poppies and red campion, many of which will look good in any flower bed. Some examples of useful and beautiful garden flowers are sunflower, Michaelmas daisies, wallflowers, and aubrieta, and there are also many native plants, such as meadow cranesbill, primrose, cowslip that are good looking and wildlife friendly species. It is important is to choose flowers that will provide nectar for the bees and food for the insects; those in turn will benefit

the creatures higher up the food chain such as birds and animals, for example, hedgehogs who sorely need our help.

If gardening is not your thing then you might just leave an area to go wild, nature has its own way of providing for insects and animals alike.

For more information you can visit <https://www.rspb.org.uk/birds-and-wildlife>

Old Down Cricket Club

Tony Gardner 07889 727729

150 Club Winners February 2018:

£50 Barry Reeves
£15 Robin Davey
£5 Greg Welsher

Latest £25 Bonus Ball Winners:

13/01/18 Angus MacDonald
20/01/18 Bhavin Radia

Diary Date:

Race Night at the Club Friday 23rd March. First Race 7.30 Full Tote Facilities will be available!

Please let me know if you would like to buy a horse (£5) or Sponsor a Race (£60)

Up the Down!!



Northavon Youth Theatre Company

LES MISÉRABLES™

From the theatres of the worldto Thornbury's own stage!

This epic musical is celebrating 32 years on the West End stage and the Students of the Northavon School of Drama, performing as the Northavon Youth Theatre Company, are bringing it to Thornbury's Armstrong Hall from 27th to 31st March, at 7.30 pm nightly.

We're excited to be opening an online Booking Office for the first time, but still pleased to offer concessions to all Students & Senior Citizens, plus reductions for parties of 10 or more. To book online go to www.nytc.org.uk. By phone call 0798054369. Visit Cadman Wealth Planning Ltd, 4 The Plain, Thornbury, from 13th March (Tues, Thurs & Sat 10am – 1.00pm) or complete a booking form and send a SAE with cheque made out to NYTC to the above address.

Rosemary Boere (nee Reid)



Rosemary was born in Olveston in 1944 and, after a few well-travelled and eventful decades, she returned to live here in 1980. She was actually born in a blizzard, and had to be delivered by her father, the local GP, because the intended doctor was unable to travel through the snow - from Tockington! She went to Silverhill School followed by

secondary education at a Christian Boarding School for Clergy daughters in Clevedon. This was followed by a one year Domestic Science course for young ladies in Lyme Regis.

Rosemary did her nursing training at the Middlesex Hospital rather than in Bristol, showing the first signs of independence. London was a culture shock, but nurses were offered free theatre tickets and Saturday dinners could be game shot on the Astor estate because the family had founded the Nurses Home. She returned to Frenchay as a staff nurse and then spent six months in Bristol Maternity Hospital for her Part One Midwifery qualification.

Through a friend she heard that two young doctors, eager to use their skills where they were needed the most, were planning a medical expedition to Nepal, which had the second lowest doctor patient ratio in the world. Rosemary was recruited, and moved to Beckenham to complete her midwifery training and to be nearer the action while £40,000 was raised. Eventually on 17th April 1968, eleven members of the Britain-Nepal Medical Trust set off in three Land Rovers to drive to Nepal over six weeks. They were in Kathmandu for another six weeks obtaining necessary paperwork, before travelling to Biratnagar, the second biggest town in Nepal situated on the plains close to the Indian border. There Rosemary deployed her midwifery skills with very rudimentary equipment and conditions, as well travelling around by motorbike to do BCG vaccinations. She had initially volunteered for three years, but unfortunately had to be repatriated after one year due to ill health.

While in Nepal she had written to the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh, and on her return she was successfully interviewed and became the first English trained Ward Sister on the Medical corridor. However, three years later, wanderlust kicked in and she decided to travel round the world by sea. She only got as far as South Africa where she met her husband Wim and they married in 1973.

Their first two sons were born there before they returned to the UK in 1978 and settled in Olveston in 1980, where their third son was born. When the boys were older she nursed at Frenchay for five years. She and Wim now have four grandchildren and have downsized by building a house in half of their old garden.

Rosemary has always been actively involved in the community including taking a skiing party for the Severn Vale Youth Activity Group, and working with the Severnside Churches Youth Group. She was a member of Bristol NADFAS (National Association of Decorative and Fine Arts Societies) and was the Bristol Young NADFAS organiser which held a competition for the best Child's Guide to the Local Church. For various reasons, Rosemary, who felt she had little talent in the area, found herself compiling it, and when it won she had to give a speech at the trophy presentation in Kensington Town Hall before four hundred people. She had recently become a committed Christian and had prayed through every stage of the exercise, and knows that God guided and edited the whole project. She has served on the Parochial Church Council of St Mary's Church, as chairman of the Pastoral Committee. While helping at Caring at Christmas in Bristol, Rosemary helped produce a booklet 'How to survive in Bristol', which is still used by Bristol Council.

Rosemary thinks it is unlikely that anyone involved at the start of the Britain–Nepal Medical Trust could have imagined that the organisation would still be working to improve the health and wellbeing of the Nepalese people in 2018. It has split into BNMT UK and BNMT Nepal and the earthquake in 2015, catastrophic though it was for many, was the making of BNMT Nepal which has since grown into an organisation with a countrywide presence in forty districts and diverse set of funding and implementation partners.

A celebration of the Trust's 50th anniversary was held on 16th November 2017 at the Nepalese Embassy in London. The Nepalese Ambassador His Excellency Dr Durga Bahadur Subedi hosted the celebration and presented Rosemary and the other original members with traditional Nepali scarves. This spring, Rosemary and two of the other original volunteers are travelling to Nepal and will be following an itinerary arranged for them by BNMT Nepal. She will be returning to Kathmandu and Biratnagar to see for herself what has been achieved in the fifty years since she worked there. For up to date information: www.britainnepalmedicaltrust.org.uk

Thornbury and District U3A

Welcome Meeting

Monday 5th March 3.30pm St. Mary's Church Hall, Eastbury Road, Thornbury.
To find out more online visit www.thornburyu3a.org.uk or ring our Membership Secretary Jackie Gitsham on 01454 858438



Oveston Parish Matters

Richard Rogers
(clerk@olvestonparishcouncil.gov.uk)

Oveston Parish Council is very pleased to welcome two new Councillors, Mr Robert Harris and Mrs Nina Lewis-Leavers. Mr Harris lives in Oveston and is well known at the Oveston & District Bowls Club, the White Hart Skittles team and has been on the Committee of the Parish Twinning Association. Mrs Lewis-Leavers also lives in Oveston and has two young daughters at Oveston CEVC primary school and has previously helped to run Oveston Mother & Baby Group.

The Parish Council now has a full complement of members, but if you are interested in helping at all or with the various publicised activities (such as Biodiversity or renovation of the Old Down Play Area), then please contact the Clerk.

Alternatively you could attend the monthly Parish Surgeries that are now to be held on the 3rd Saturday of each month during the Coffee Morning at the Oveston Methodist Church. The next session will be 17th March, and there will be opportunities for private conversations if required.

South Glos. Council has issued further consultations that affect local life – but please comment directly back to South Glos. Council

- HomeChoice Re-Housing Policy Consultation 2018 (until 26/03/18)
- Climate Change Strategy, (Until 12/03/18)
- Local Plan Consultation Document (February 2018) (until 30/04/18)
- South Gloucestershire Draft Playing Pitches, Indoor and Built Sports Facilities Strategies (until 24/04/18)

New Pilates Courses

Sam Hutchinson

Back-Care Pilates is a new course specifically designed to help people with back pain. The course combines Pilates moves and corrective exercise

techniques to reduce stress on the back and to train the abdominal and back muscles that support the spine.

The next courses start on April 16th (Mondays 10:30-11:30am at Christ the King Social Club, Thornbury) and April 17th (Tuesdays 6-7pm at St Helens Church, Alveston) and run for 12 weeks. Places cost £150 and are limited to 8 people to allow for focused supervision, so please book early to avoid disappointment. The course will be taught by local fitness professional Sam Hutchinson who has been teaching fitness classes in the local area for over 13 years.

For more information, or to book on to the course, please visit www.samhutchinsonfitness.com or contact Sam Hutchinson on 07977632003 or sam@samhutchinsonfitness.com.

Almondsbury Surgery - Patient Participation Group

Patients registered with Almondsbury Surgery at Sundays Hill may be aware that a representative group of users of the practice have set up a Patient Participation Group (PPG).

The purpose of the PPG is to act as a bridge between the practice and its users - the patients. The Group liaises directly with the Managers and acts as a sounding board for any proposed changes and also voices the opinions and concerns of patients, which hopefully promotes a Practice in tune with the needs of its users.

The Group advises and assists the Practice in the implementation of initiatives such as the drive to get patients to sign up to the on-line appointments and prescription system, it also provided close liaison and assistance at the successful Flu Clinics held over the last few years. As most patients will know the practice is proposing to merge with Hanham Surgery on the 1st April 2018 and the PPG has responded within the Consultation Process anticipating issues that may be of concern to patients. It will continue to strive to work with the Practice ensure the current excellent level of service is maintained.

If you are a user of the Almondsbury Surgery and have any issues that you would like to be raised with regard to the Practice please contact the Chairman as below.

The Current PPG is always keen to broaden its membership so if anyone feels that they would like to join the small team they should not hesitate to contact us. Contact: Pat Hinton at pathinton5331@gmail.com

Aust Parish Council Matters

Tim Pyper (austparishcouncil@googlemail.com)

South Gloucestershire Local Plan consultation

South Gloucestershire is preparing a new Local Plan to cover the period 2018 to 2036. They published a consultation draft on 5th February and the closing date for replies is 30th April 2018. A key role for the Local Plan will be to allocate sites for development to meet the needs for new homes and jobs across South Gloucestershire as established and required by the West of England Joint Spatial Plan (JSP). The JSP currently proposes that 1,300 homes (plus a potential contingency of a further 500 homes if required) will need to be delivered across rural South Gloucestershire. South Glos. is consulting on how to accommodate this level of growth and have suggested three options which could potentially involve up to 35 different places.

The 35 places being considered for this development are focused on existing villages and settlements, the edge of the existing Bristol East Fringe and also Chipping Sodbury. The list of places which have been identified for investigation include Olveston and Tockington, but not the villages in Aust parish, but the proposals could affect those living in Aust parish. You can find the consultation at www.southglos.gov.uk/newlocalplanfeb2018. If you have any thoughts which you would like the parish council to include in its response, please let me know.

Broadband

The broadband arrangements were discussed at January's meeting and many members of the public attended. At the time of writing this article, I can't give any new information – we were due to hold a second meeting with South Gloucestershire officers in January but this was postponed due to illness. We hope to rearrange soon. There is no current date for the limited rollout in Littleton to go live.

Precept

The precept for 2018/19 was set at the same level per house as this year – there will be no increase on the part of your council tax bill that comes to the parish.

Woodwell

South Gloucestershire council runs this nature reserve for the parish council, which owns it. The management plan requires late season grazing only to protect the wild flowers in the upper meadow and this may be extended to the lower. A lot of shrubby plants that aren't wanted grow from seed – if there is any enthusiasm for helping to cut these out, a working party would be welcomed. If you're interested, let me know.

Friends of St. Mary's

The prize winners in the February draw, held on 8th February 2018 at the Friends' Committee Meeting were:

<u>Amount</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Name</u>
£150	296	Mrs B Binns, Alveston
£75	317	Mrs Y Williams, Olveston
£25	162	Mrs P A Kemp, Stoke Lodge
£25	491	Mrs J Lyons, Ingst
£25	572	Mr P Haworth, Olveston
£20	255	Mrs F M Riley, Bitton
£20	275	Mrs L Evans, Alveston
£20	170	Mrs K Hughes, Olveston
£10	382	Mr J Cryer, Olveston
£10	541	Mr N Fear, Tockington
£10	150	Mrs J Hawkins, Alveston
£10	254	Mrs S Roos, Olveston
£10	321	Ms A M Bennett, Alveston

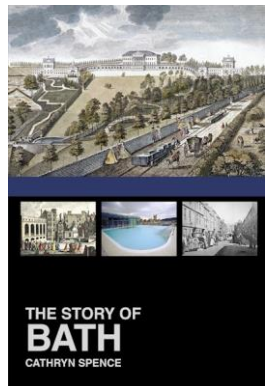
If you are not yet a member and wish to join the lottery please telephone Andy Phillips on 01454 614890.

The Story of Bath

Wed. 7th March, 7.30pm,
Olveston Methodist Church, BS35 4DR
Olveston Parish Historical Society talk. Open to all.

Dr. Cathryn Spence is a former Director/Curator at the Building of Bath Museum. She now works for Bath's American Museum and is a historical consultant for the National Trust. She will share some of the illustrations and stories from her latest book: *The Story of Bath*. Expect illustrations you haven't seen before and some unfamiliar tales from Bath's 2000-year history. It won't just be the Romans and the Georgians but the medieval period and industry and the Second World War, seen through evocative archival images. Cathryn's detailed knowledge of the document and picture archives should make this a talk not to be missed.

£2 for visitors. www.olvoston.com/historical-society



An Evening of Irish Folk Music

24th March at 7.30pm in the Cossham Hall, Thornbury.

Come and celebrate the spirit of St Patrick with 'Fife and Strum'.

Tickets £10 (£5 for under 18s) including interval nibbles can be obtained from Thornbury Town Hall or call 01454 412272

Yours Faithfully

*Revd. David Moss
St Mary's Olveston*

I remember how my grandparents used to spend ages silently staring at a fire smouldering in the fireplace. Of course it was different then, my grandparents had time to watch the fire. Life seemed to have a slower pace.

Today we live in a world of constant motion; in a world that never stops, a world where the buzz of activity is never silent. In fact my phone never stops buzzing, messages, texts, Twitter, Facebook, even sometimes a phone call!

My Grandparents told me that they were the first people in the road to get their own phone. When their phone arrived it was proudly displayed on a mahogany table in the hall, it was rarely used. On the odd occasions it rang, they asked each other who would answer it. It was then, usually my Grandmother who would steady herself on her stick and made the journey into the hall, in a slow, deliberate and purposeful manner, to answer it.

When the buzz of messages and calls slows down I can switch my phone to TV mode. In 1966, my grandparents crowded in with neighbours, around the one black and white TV in the street, to watch England beat Germany in the World Cup. It was then that my grandfather decided it was time to buy his own TV. At the end of the programme, which usually seemed to be either the News or Dad's Army, my Granddad would purposefully rise to his feet and in a slow, deliberate manner, turn the television off and then sit down and watch the fire again.

I love activity but I know only too well that if I never stop still, my well-being deteriorates. The Bible puts it like this

"Be still and know I am God" Psalm 46 verse 10.

Lent is the 40 day period leading up to Easter where Christians are encouraged to slow up, sit down, watch the fire and make space for God.

Church News

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, OLVESTON

Mar 4	8am 10am 6pm	Holy Communion Holy Communion Evensong with Choir	Rev. Helen Webb Revs D Moss & A Lloyd Mr Paul Harrod
Mar 11	8am 10am 6pm	Holy Communion Mothering Sunday Service Holy Communion	Rev Ann Lloyd Mr Trevor Cook Revs A Lloyd & D Bone
Mar 18	8am 10am 6pm	Holy Communion Holy Communion with Choir Evensong	Rev David Bone Revs D Moss & D Bone Mr Trevor Cook
Mar 25	8am 10am 6pm	Holy Communion Fourth Sunday Severnside Lent Service at St Mary's Almondsbury	Rev. Ann Lloyd Mr Paul Harrod Rev Philip Rowe

Information on services correct at time of going to press.

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

Verger: Mrs. June Robbins, 01454 617491

www.stmarysolveston.org.uk/index.html

PRAYER GROUP: Mondays, 2.45pm in the Chancel

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

Morning Prayer 8.30am daily ex. Wed

CHAPELRY OF ST JOHN, AUST

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

Focal Minister: Rev Ann Parker, 01454 632329

e-mail annatdibley@btinternet.com

Church Wardens: Jon Burnett 633835 & Jenn Dickens 632035

ST MARY DE MALMESBURY, LITTLETON-ON-SEVERN

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

Contact Mrs Tracey Black 01454 417660

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, ELBERTON

Mar 11	9am	Morning Prayer	Judith Heybyrne
Mar25	9am	Holy Communion	Rev David Moss

Contact Mrs Tracey Black 01454 417660

OLVESTON AND TOCKINGTON METHODIST CHURCH

Mar 4	10am	Tock. Ch.	Church Anniversary Service led by Rev Caroline Carter
Mar 11	10am	St Mary's Ch.	Mothering Sunday Service
Mar 18	10am	Tock Ch.	Morning Worship with Holy Communion led by Rev Pete Brazier
Mar 25	10am	Olv. Ch.	Morning Worship with Holy Communion led by Rev Pete Brazier

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

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

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

PRAYER MEETINGS Tuesdays 9.00-10.00 in Olveston Methodist Church.

HOUSE GROUP Please see Church Newsletter for details

THE OLVESTON COMPUTER CLINIC Olveston Methodist Hall

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

Ring 07833 354672 or 07957 433091 for further information.

CREAM TEAS Easter Bank Holiday Monday 2nd April 2.30-5.00pm

CONTACT: Rev Pete Brazier Tel 01454 418176,

e-mail pete@thebigfishcafe.co.uk

THE VINE House of Prayer

Pilning Street, Awkley BS35 4HL

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

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

thevine_awkley@hotmail.com

THE OASIS CHURCH, OLD DOWN

Mar 4	6.30pm	Phil Moulden
Mar 11	6.30pm	Tony Ward
Mar 18	6.30pm	Angus Gregson
Mar 25	6.30pm	Courtney Harris

Each Thurs at 7.30pm 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 Ann Roberts 632564.

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

LITTLETON EVANGELICAL CHURCH

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

RC CHURCH OF CHRIST THE KING, Thornbury -

Sun 8.30am Mass 11.00 Family Mass

Monday-Friday Daily Mass at 10am

Tel 01454 412223 www.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: Roger Howell rog3er2@gmail.com 01454 415035

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

Diary Dates for March 2018

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

1 st Thu	Thornbury Farmer's Market Coffee Shop Olveston Playgroup	9.00-1.30 9.00-12.00 9.30-11.30	OS+ MH
2 nd Fri	Haven Memory Café Thornbury Carers Support Group Computer Clinic every week Swimarathon & Fri & Sat Much Ado About Nothing (see Feb M Pt)	10.15-11.45 1.00-3.00 7.00-9.00pm 7.30pm	URC Chy MH CH
3 rd Sat	Coffee Morning	10.30-12.00	MH
5 th Mon	Computer Clinic every week Monday Movie	2.00-4.00pm 7.30pm	MH StM
6 th Tue	Friends of Daldry Gardens Coffee morning Tea/Coffee & Bis. 50p Monthly Raffle British Legion(Wms Section) Beetle Drive	10.30-12.00 7.30pm	DGCL DGCL
7 th Wed	Computer Clinic every week Holy Communion followed by Tea & Cake Table Tennis O.P.H.S. 'Story of Bath'	10.00-12.00 2.30pm 7.00-8.30pm 7.30pm	MH DGCL PH OMC
8 th Thu	Coffee Shop Olveston Playgroup Craft Session at Littleton Parish Hall A.G.M.	9.00-12.00 9.30-11.30 10.00-12.00 7.30pm	OS+ MH LVH PH
9 th Fri	CRUK Quiz Night with Fish & Chip Supper At Manorbrook School tel 07866580608 SPH Quiz tel 01454 412567	7.15pm 7.15pm	AH
10 th Sat	Coffee Morning Coffee Morning	10.30-12.00 10.30-12.00	AVH MH
13 th Tue	Friends of Daldry Gardens Coffee morning Memory Café Aust Parish Council	10.30-12.00 10.15-11.45 7.30pm	DGCL TMH EVH
14 th Wed	Beat Surgery	10.30-11.15	OS+
15 th Thu	Thornbury Farmer's Market Coffee Shop Olveston Playgroup	9.00-1.30 9.00-12.00 9.30-11.30	OS+ MH
16 th Fri	Haven Memory Café Great Olveston Wine Challenge (OPTA)	10.15-11.45 7.30	URC PH
17 th Sat	Coffee Morning	10.30-12.00	MH

	Parish Council Surgery	10.30-12.00	MH
19 th Mon	Monday Movie	7.30pm	StM
20 th Tue	Friends of Daldry Gardens Coffee morning	10.30-12.00	DGCL
21 st Wed	Table Tennis Jazz at the White Hart Olveston	7.00-8.30pm 8.30pm	PH
22 nd Thu	Coffee Shop Olveston Playgroup Craft Session	9.00-12.00 9.30-11.30 10.00-12.00	OS+ MH LVH
24 th Sat	Coffee Morning	10.30-12.00	MH
25 th Sun	Aust Quiz Night at Boar's Head	7.30pm	
26 th Mon	Children's Movie Club	10.00am	StM
27 th Tue	Friends of Daldry Gardens Coffee morning Memory Café Olveston Parish Council Les Miserables N.Y.T.C. 'til Sat 31st	10.30-12.00 10.15-11.45 7.30pm	MH TMH AP
28 th Wed	Table Tennis Alv. History 'The 18 th Century Naval Cook	7.00-8.30pm 7.30pm	PH AMC
29 th Thu	Coffee Shop	10.00-12.00	OS+
30 th Fri			
31 st Sat	Coffee Morning	10.30-12.00	MH

Looking ahead to April

2 nd Mon	Cream Teas on Tockington Green	2.30-5pm	
---------------------	--------------------------------	----------	--

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

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

Advertisements Neither Meeting Point, its editor, nor management committee accept any responsibility or give any guarantee in case of any dispute or claim as to quality, condition or delivery of commodities or services advertised in this magazine. It is not to be taken that publication implies recommendation. It is always advisable to check prices when ordering goods or services.

Views expressed by contributors are not necessarily those of the editor or Meeting Point magazine.

Copyright Meeting Point 2018. Copyright remains with the author(s) and Meeting Point. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form without the prior permission of the copyright owners.

Meeting Point is printed by Motion Printing LTD.