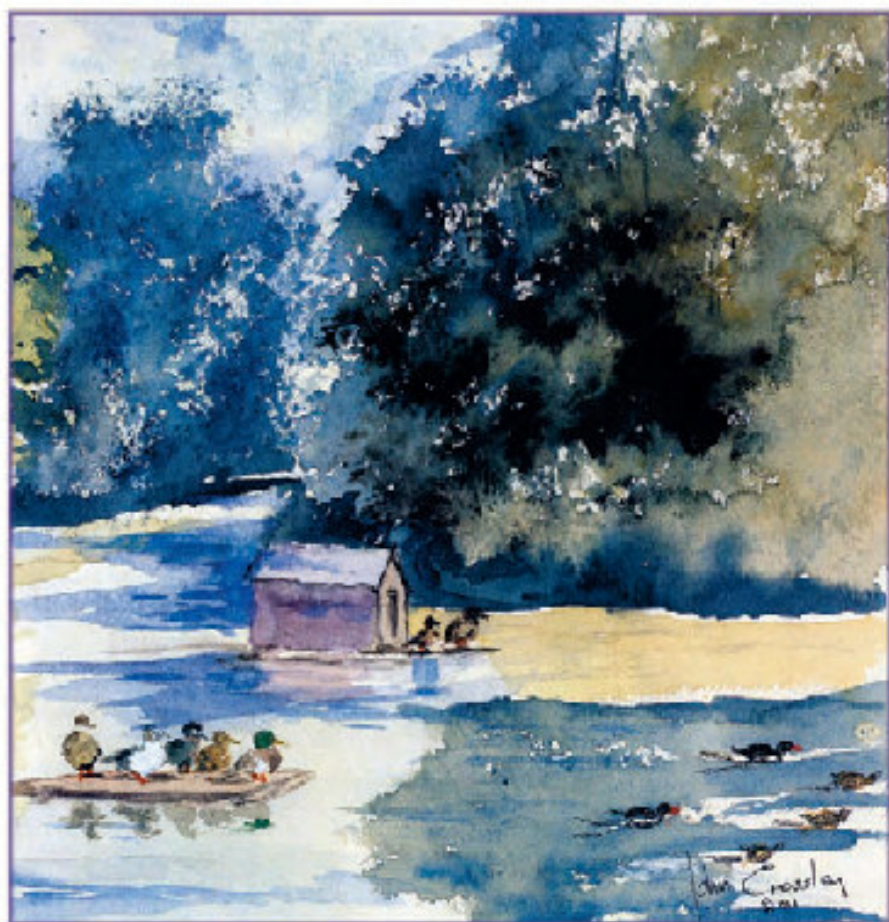
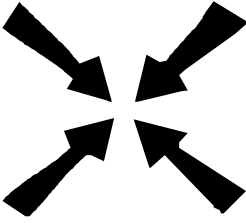


# Meeting Point



May 2013



# Meeting Point

*Volume 37, Number 8, May 2013*

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

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## From the Editor

There are five walks announced in May Meeting Point, including a Rogation Sunday walk, so it *must* be spring, mustn't it? If you are still feeling the cold, cook yourself a warming lamb tagine.

Keep informed about Parish Council matters through the clerks' reports for Aust and Olveston. And find a general round up of forthcoming events in the area in the diary at the back of the magazine. There isn't room to give every event a full description.

The cover: The duck pond at Olveston,  
watercolour by John Crossley

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.olvostonandaust.com](http://www.olvostonandaust.com)**

# The Roof Problem - St John's, Aust

Many of you will have heard about the thefts of lead from the Church roof – what you may not know is that the thieves came back again at the beginning of this year, this time stealing lead from the Chancel roof. We have had discussions with English Heritage and are now able to go ahead and replace the lead with **Terne-Coated Stainless Steel**. The other problem has been that we are only entitled to make 2 claims from our Insurers; the first 3 thefts all took place in the same insurance year and therefore will only be eligible for 1 claim. The fourth theft was in January of this year, a separate insurance year, and that will make the second claim.

You will understand that a tiny village like Aust cannot raise all the money needed (in excess of £40k), and we are intensifying our fundraising campaign – we had to delay doing so until we had local planning authority and diocesan permissions. As well as producing a campaign brochure to go to Charitable Trusts etc, we have planned a super concert in the Church on Saturday June 22<sup>nd</sup> – Midsummer's night – featuring the award winning **DURSLEY MALE VOICE CHOIR**. More details of the concert next month BUT, please do put this date in your diary now and do please buy a ticket and come and enjoy an evening of Music, Prose and Song.

Further details from Janet Ford – 01454 633300 or David and Jennifer Bone, 01454 614601.

## Aust Pilgrimage

**Saturday 18th May.** Walk from Bristol Cathedral, starting at 6.50am or, for a more leisurely start, join en route, aiming for Aust by 3pm (tea at the church; and the Boar's Head will be open for us!), with a short service at 4pm in the church.

Recently, groups have come from Filton, Oldbury and Tidenham. This year we are hoping Severnside Churches will take part. Details from local churches or from David Bone (614601).

# From Mary Griffiths

Thank you to everyone who came to celebrate my 90th Birthday and for your beautiful cards and gifts. Thank you Roly and Pat Thirkettle and everyone who contributed to the wonderful party and to Jo Baxter for the 'Picture Show'. April 10th 2013 will always be one of the happiest days of my life. Thanks to all you dear friends. I am truly blessed.

## A Short Walk in the Wye Valley

*Rod Williams*

To get there: cross the Severn Bridge (£6.20) and take the A466 Wye Valley road. At the northern end of Tintern, turn left at the Wye Valley Hotel into the lane signposted Catbrook. Ascend for 1.5 miles to a T-junction. Cross over the junction into the small 'Whitestones' car park, immediately opposite, and park.

The walk: take the wide stone track behind the car park (green posts) and ascend gently past a barrier through woodland and continue for about 20 minutes (brisk), stopping at the viewing points to enjoy river views. The track eventually curves left into a T-junction where you turn right and follow another track for about 5 minutes to Cleddon Falls. Descend steps to the viewing area. Return to your car the way you came. Good under foot and suitable for dogs.

## Spring Craft Fair at Winterbourne Medieval Barn

**Sunday 19 May 11.00 am – 4.00 pm**

**APOLOGIES - EVENT CANCELLED**

A showcase for local artists and producers. Traditional village fete, with homemade food and drink, competitions and traditional games, and children's art and craft activities.

Come and see local artisans demonstrating their crafts in the wonderful medieval barn. Plus live music and ceilidh. Fun and games for all the family! Admission £2, children under 16 free.

Winterbourne Barn, Church Lane, Winterbourne BS36 1SE

[www.winterbournebarn.org.uk](http://www.winterbournebarn.org.uk)

Registered Charity No. 1112908

# Aust Parish Council Matters

*Tim Pyper*  
austparishcouncil@googlemail.com

## **Annual Parish Meeting**

The annual parish meeting was held on 9<sup>th</sup> April 2013, attended by almost all the councillors, Ward Councillor Matthew Riddle and 4 residents.

Councillor Riddle reported on his past year. For the third year running, South Gloucestershire Council (SGC) had kept the council tax at the same level, despite a 28% reduction in central government grant over this period. 30% of middle management posts had been abolished with many staff redeployed. Two out of five director posts had been abolished.

One result of the smaller staff was a reduced requirement for office space. In rationalising its space requirements, SGC had got rid of 18 leases and concentrated on its new building at Yate – saving £1.8m a year. Unfortunately, SGC now needed less space in Thornbury. Councillor Riddle is fighting to ensure that SGC remain in Thornbury for public access and that some meetings – and in particular planning meetings – continue to be held there.

SGC had found more money for older people, aiming to help as many as possible to remain independent by supporting them to living in their own homes.

SGC would shortly be signing off the Core Strategy – the inspector had pushed for more new homes in South Gloucestershire including an additional 800 in Thornbury. Apart from barn conversions and the like, there should not be many new homes in rural areas. He noted that the Environment Agency is getting more restrictive about building in any flood plain.

The chairman of the Parish Council (APC), Mike Hawkins, made his report of a relatively uneventful year, with few major issues. There had been no desertions or fatalities in the membership of APC – all councillors had served the full year.

As in previous years, planning issues predominated in council business, with those in Littleton causing the greatest concern for residents. There had been no planning matters to consider at Whale Wharf, and the proposed educational facility had not yet materialised. The land between the White Hart and Quarry House, Littleton, had been a continuing concern to APC and residents, with a current application to use the incomplete building for a

tourism purpose. Other issues in Littleton were the proposed manège at Home Farm and the adjacent footpath, and the state of the pond. Also, the state of the storm drainage around the Green and in the lane leading from the Green to the Church.

Elsewhere, the Council had not opposed an application for a certificate of lawfulness at the Sandy Lane gypsy camp; and had discussed with SGC the state of the slip road between Sandy Lane and the M48, B4461 slip road; it was hoped that SGC would repair it. Title issues remain to be resolved before the Greenacres restoration could be completed. APC had also been worried about the problem of houses with agricultural ties being occupied by non-qualified people.

A number of other issues have received attention during the year, particularly with the Environment Agency. These include flooding generally, and in Aust village specifically.

Earlier in the year, APC had seen off a proposal to build 8 large and 4 small houses in Elberton, which would have increased the number of houses in the village by over 20%. The Council had also opposed the proposal to erect two very large (130m tall) wind turbines at lngst - not actually in Aust parish, but very close and visible. They would be on green belt land and in the coastal zone and would be an unreasonable and inappropriate intrusion.

Councillor Hawkins concluded by thanking Ward Councillor Riddle for his energetic help with many issues, particularly those requiring discussion with SGC staff; and also thanked his colleagues on APC and the clerk.

During the open forum, Councillor Hawkins said that information was available on the SGC website about broadband provision in South Gloucestershire. Over the next three years, the Council and BT expect that 100% of subscribers will be able to obtain download speeds of at least 2Mbps, and 94% will have superfast broadband, i.e. over 24Mbps. It was not yet known how this would affect individual properties in Aust parish.

One resident asked whether APC was considering a neighbourhood plan and suggested cooperating with neighbouring parishes, particularly Olveston. He also urged the Parish Council to think about generating green energy in the parish.

# Oveston Parish Council Matters

*Richard Rogers (olvestonpc@gmail.com)*

The Parish Council would like to thank Val Hudspeth, John Spratt and Allen Cogram for generously giving up their time over the years to serve the Parish Council, with their contributions helping to take the Council forward in many ways. Most recently collaborating with the Parish Hall Committee and Pre-School to provide purpose-built facilities for the Pre-School as well as the new play equipment at Tockington for all the young children in the Parish.

Val joined in July 2002, representing the Council on the Parish Hall Committee, the Pre-School Committee, before taking up the challenge to get the Parish Vision up and running. John, a countryman and farmer, joined in May 2003, had responsibility for Footpaths & the Environment, and sat on the Planning Committee. Allen joined in August 2007, primarily representing the Tockington area, was an active member of the Rec & Leisure Committee, and brought to the Council technology changes to help us be more efficient and deal with working practices like Health and Safety.

Oveston Parish Council wishes all three happy and healthy lives, and success with their new challenges. Adverts for replacement Parish Councillors have been posted around the Parish Notice boards, local businesses, and on the Website. Alternatively contact the Clerk or Councillors if you are interested.

The Annual Parish Assembly at 7:30 on May 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Parish Hall, Tockington will be an ideal opportunity to hear the Parish Council's review of 2012/13, as well as to appreciate the challenges facing the Parish over the next few years. The meeting will be headlined by a talk from the Environmental Agency.

At last year's Parish Assembly and the subsequent inaugural meeting for the Parish Vision, parishioners raised a number of concerns, especially flooding and traffic through the Parish. Flooding has been a continuous and difficult issue to solve, although some advances have been made with the servicing of drains. Much work has also been done over the past year in dealing with certain flooding "hot spots", and the Parish Council will continue to work with S. Glos Council and other agencies to resolve on-going problems.

Whether parking congestion, safety around the School, access for large vehicles, or speeding, traffic continues to dominate the Council agenda. Last month's Meeting Point carried an article about proposals close to St Mary's Church and the School, whilst revised signage is to be prepared for Lower Tockington Road, and Haw Lane - local residents have also offered to co-ordinate a Speed Camera scheme. Speeding through the Parish is not just the preserve of residents, but one thing that we as Parishioners can think about is to

be more considerate when parking to allow traffic flow, as at times both Orchard Rise and Church Hill become chicanes that neither buses, nor lorries nor especially emergency vehicles can get through.

S. Glos Council has informed local Parish Councils that they are proposing to extend their 'part-night' lighting scheme throughout South Glos. Last year the effect was limited when some of the lights along the main roads were converted to switch off between midnight and 5am. This year S. Glos Council plan to convert all village streetlights to operate on a part night basis. They are offering a consultation period running from 2<sup>nd</sup> April until the 13<sup>th</sup> May, and more on the scheme can be found at [www.southglos.gov.uk/partnightlighting](http://www.southglos.gov.uk/partnightlighting).

## **Olveston Parish Community Speed Watch**

Continuing on from the great success of the Elberton Speed Watch and from complaints received about the speed of traffic in Olveston Parish, a new Olveston Speed Watch is being set up to try and reduce the speed on many of the local roads. Volunteers are needed to be trained up by the local police and go out on a monthly basis to various locations in the parish for about an hour at a time. So please contact me if you would like to get involved at: [matthew.riddle@southglos.gov.uk](mailto:matthew.riddle@southglos.gov.uk) or mobile 07877413298.

Thank you. Matthew Riddle

## **Olveston & Tockington W.I.**

Are you brave enough to rent out your house, pack your belongings in a rucksack, buy a plane ticket, and go off round the world? That's what our next WI speaker did – at the age of 65! Her children were grown and scattered, so off she went, intending to be away for a year – but it ended by being four years, with visits to 14 countries.

Members and visitors are all welcome to come and hear about her travels and the people she met. I'm sure she'll answer all your questions, and maybe give advice to anyone with "itchy feet"!

As a bonus, that evening we're having a Plant Stall, so come and buy some plants for your garden or bring some cuttings for our gardens! Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> May, 7.30 at the Parish Hall.



# Panama Trad Jazz Band - use it or lose it!

*Mike & Julie Whitfield*

## **3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of every month**

We have loved jazz for 50 years and feel we are extremely lucky to have a band that will come to our local pub to play for us. They have been doing this for many years. The members of the band travel long distances to entertain us and so we do feel they deserve to be well supported.

In March there were only what the band leader called 'the magnificent seven' because he preferred there to be an audience larger than the six piece band!!

We know many people in the local villages who have enjoyed jazz over the years and this band has made a significant contribution to that enjoyment in this area. They have been invited to play at local Birthday Parties, Weddings & Funerals and a number of locals have travelled with them on their annual Jazz Tours to France & Spain. They really are a very good jazz band & a delightful group of very friendly musicians – they play for us for nothing more than a coin collection in a beer mug in the interval.

The White Hart, Olveston has happily hosted them for many years and now, only on jazz nights, offers scampi or sausages in a basket for a very good price to jazz lovers! It would be a lovely surprise for this loyal band if we could reward their contribution by doubling or trebling the regular attendance to make sure WE DO NOT LOSE IT!!

Put it in your diaries now – 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday every month - 8:30pm until 11pm.

## **Parish Players AGM**

What could be better than 'The King and I'?

Our AGM on Thursday 16 May at Tockington Methodist Chapel (7.30pm) will be followed by our selection of the show for next year. All Players and prospective Players welcome.

# Open Morning at Stepping Stones

**Wednesday 22nd May 10.00 - 12.00 noon**

Stepping Stones is a small friendly pre-school in Elberton whose motto is "When the environment is small and friendly the learning comes naturally". We offer a wide range of activities for children age 2 upwards and are now taking bookings for September.

Since moving to a more natural environment at Elberton Village Hall, Stepping Stones have been able to increase the learning opportunities for children. The old walled orchard provided an excellent setting to develop our beautiful enclosed garden. Here the children can play and learn in the well-equipped space whilst still appreciating the peace and tranquillity of nature. The surrounding woods have enabled us to offer the children a variety of safe, stimulating challenges and every Wednesday is now a 'Woodland Wednesday'!

We invite you to come to see the benefits which the children gain from these outdoor experiences at our Open Morning. We will be running a Forest session as usual which you and your child are welcome to join in with. Please visit our website at [www.steppingstoneselberton.co.uk](http://www.steppingstoneselberton.co.uk) where you can also read our extremely positive last Ofsted report. For more information please phone Gill Powell on 07853 173221.

## Garden Tea Party

**on Sunday 19th May for 'Lord Nelson & Tenacious': 2-30 – 5.00 pm**

After a few years' break we extend an invitation to everyone to join us again at Peacehaven, The Street, Olveston (next to Methodist Hall), 2.30 - 5.00pm.

Our ever popular Mystic Anna will be palm reading. There will be stalls including an Island Treasure Hunt, spin-a-wheel with compass points, books and a raffle. We look forward to your company. Entrance £3 adult & £1 children, including tea. Thank you.

*Peggy James and the Jubilee Sailing Trust, Bristol Branch*

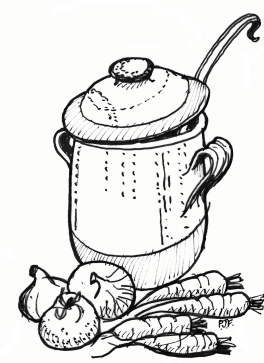
## Church of England Children's Society

To all friends who have a House Box - a big thank you for your amazing contribution to a total of £552. If anyone would like a box please let me know.

*Peggy James*

# Cook's Calendar: May

*Natasha Harrod*



This extraordinarily cold spring will bring an inevitable rise in the price of this already expensive meat. In this recipe, a little lamb goes a very long way. Even more so if you manage to make your own lamb stock as the lamb flavour permeates the whole dish. I have experimented with more tagine recipes than I care to remember and this one, adapted by me from one on a scruffy scrap of paper passed to me from a friend of one of my sisters is far and away the best. It is also dairy and gluten free.

This recipe is the culinary equivalent of leafing through a holiday brochure of exotic warm locations; you can ignore the weather outside and immerse yourself in the warm spices and fragrant lamb, dreaming of souks and minarets.

## **Lamb tagine**

600g diced lamb shoulder  
1 tablespoon olive oil  
1 onion, chopped  
2 garlic cloves  
100g apricots, chopped  
1 teaspoons cinnamon  
1 teaspoons ground cumin  
1 teaspoons ground coriander  
¼ teaspoon ground chilli  
1 teaspoons ground ginger  
400g tin tomatoes  
200ml lamb stock, homemade if possible  
3 tablespoons ground almonds  
400g tins of chickpeas  
300g cubed butternut squash  
2 tbsps honey  
Juice of a lemon  
A handful of flaked almonds  
Small bunch of fresh coriander, roughly chopped

Serves 4

*Continued overleaf*

Preheat the oven to 180C

Take a good solid casserole with a lid put on a high heat. Add the oil and brown the lamb, add the chopped onion and crushed garlic and cook over a gentle heat until the onion is softened. Add spices, fry for a few minutes, stirring, then add tomatoes, ground almonds and lamb stock.

Simmer for an hour, then add the chickpeas and squash and simmer for 45 mins. Finish with honey and lemon, tasting as you go, then sprinkle with flaked almonds and coriander. Serve with cous cous or rice.

**Please note:** cous cous contains gluten, rice is gluten free.

## Movies at St Mary's: May

*Trevor Anderson*



THREE movies this month at St Mary's Church Olveston. Everyone is welcome and there is no need to book:

**MONDAY MOVIES** (*Recent releases and popular classics*)

**Mon 6<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30pm:** Peter Sellars as the hapless Inspector Clouseau in this timeless comic masterpiece. *Cert PG*

**MONDAY MOVIES EXTRA** (*Quality 'non-mainstream' films*)

**Mon 20<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30pm:** It's night on a Paris bridge. A girl leans over the Seine River with tears in her eyes. Out of nowhere, someone takes an interest in her... Award winning French love story. *Cert 15*

**CHILDREN'S MOVIE CLUB** (*Every Monday morning in the hols*)

**Mon 6<sup>th</sup> May at 10.00am:** This much acclaimed Disney classic is based on the popular fairy story about a girl and a beast. Said by many to be the best animated film of all time! *Cert U*

Refreshments available at all the shows. Admission is free although a small **donation** at the end towards expenses is always appreciated.

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](mailto:trevoranderson@btinternet.com)

# Olveston Treasure Trail

Ahoy there me hearties! Olveston School welcomes you to join a **Treasure Trail around Olveston** on **Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May**, between **12 noon and 5 pm**. Follow the directions and clues to find the secret location of Redbeard's pirate treasure.

Tickets for the treasure trail are available in advance from the school office or Helen Dee (07814 171501) for **£5** per family trail or can be purchased on the day. The trail starts and finishes in the School playground. All proceeds will be split between Olveston School and MAF Flight for Sight appeal.

Refreshments, including hot dogs, bacon rolls, sweets and drinks will be available in the playground as well as **refreshments available** half way round, in Orchard Rise.

All ages welcome. All children who determine the location will get a share of the treasure.

# Olveston Summer Fete, 22 June

Olveston Fete - Church and School Together

Another reminder that the Fete will take place at the school on Saturday 22 June from 2pm with entry via the vicarage garden and a Silver Band to welcome everyone.

We are always looking for novel ideas for stalls; if you can help, please phone 612850 any time.

# Scarecrows!

Following the success of the scarecrow festival last year we are doing it again! The theme is 'Superheroes' this year so why not create your own favourite character?

Erect your scarecrow in your garden from the 15th June so they can all be admired, then bring them to the vicarage on the morning of the fete, 22nd June, to be judged!

Start thinking about your designs - we want to see lots!  
Any queries to Debbie on 613273

# Royal British Legion Women's Section

Our May meeting on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm is "What is Poetry", a talk by Nick Large. He is an excellent speaker, and we look forward to welcoming him. We would also welcome any visitors who may be interested. We meet in Daldry Gardens Community Lounge.

## Armed Forces Day Celebrations

I am arranging a trip to Weymouth on Sunday June 23<sup>rd</sup> for this huge event. It is a service of remembrance and seafront parade and vehicle display. We leave at 7.30 am and the cost is £16.50 per person. Should you be interested, please contact Peggy Oakhill on 201091. It should be a great day!

## Old Down Cricket Club

### 150 Club Winners April:

£50 Ian Watkins                      £15 Ian Bradley                      £5 Bill Finch

### Latest £25 Bonus Ball Winners:

9th March    Reg Purchase                      23rd March    Barbara Binns  
30th March    Dave & Diane Buckley                      7th April    Tony Williams

### May Fixtures at the Park: (2.00pm Start)

4th May    1st XI v Failand & Portbury  
11th May    1st XI v Hambrook  
18th May    2nd XI v Bishopston A  
25th May    1st XI v Stoke Bishop

### DIARY DATE

The Club is holding a Fund Raising Deeds Auction on Thursday 9th May at Old Down Manor (7.30). The Auctioneer will be none other than the World Famous (sic) Jon Pullin. Any more information on how you can contribute to the event, please contact me. Please make every effort to attend, as we are raising funds to assist with the re-fencing of the ground. We hope to have 80 to 100 lots available to bid for, items to suit every pocket!!

Up The Down!!

*Tony Gardner 07889 727729*

# 1<sup>st</sup> Olveston Scouts

TRAD CAMP. Penwood, Stroud  
5<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup> April 2013



*By Sid Purchase & Simeon Asford*

On Friday me and Charlie arrived first, with all our bags. And then everyone else arrived so we had to put up the tents before it got dark. We started on the Icelandic tent first and then we went onto the dining shelters. The Icelandic tent was hard but we still had lots of energy left. By the time we sat down we had pasta and soup. Luckily we didn't have to cook it our-selves. Lynda & Claire were kind and cooked it for us. As a bonus we didn't have to wash up!

Then without noticing whilst we were making the tents Theo had put all the bags in for us. So then we had to put our beds out. When we got to bed it was FREEZING but luckily I had lots of layers to keep me warm, it was in the night brrrhhhh.

We chatted in bed for a bit then we got to sleep in the end.

After that night (which was rather restless; thanks to the freezing cold temperatures (minus 3<sup>o</sup> c brrrhhh) we awoke to an equally cold morning. But much to our relief we were greeted by crispy bacon and delicious sausages – to prepare us for the long day ahead. Sid was lucky to be able to warm his hands in a bowl of washing up water (top tip for scouts: always try to do your part of the washing up in the morning). After this great start for the day we had inspection. We all rolled our sleeping mats – with sleeping bags in – to one side of the tent. After this we had flag break, only one major problem... no flag! We all had to raise an imaginary flag, while doing this we enjoyed jokingly pointing out that “the flag's not there it's over there!” As soon as this was done we started packing our lunch for the hike ahead (I had agreed to do the washing up for our lunch, oops there was none.)

Our hike started north of Standish Woods, somewhere just off the map, something that I forgot and then tried to lead us in the wrong direction. We followed the Cotswold Way walking through deep woodlands. Lynda spotted that there were many dog walkers on the path, so we started listing the dogs names and breeds (we weren't very interested in the dogs, this was just to develop our communication skills). On the way we spotted some rope swings, so we stopped and tried them out. We had great fun. We found another rope swing further along the track, but this one was over a crater so if you came to a stop you would be stuck. Theo managed to do this, twice! This was our

***Continued overleaf***

entertainment for lunch. The rest of the hike was downhill, and then flat. This was perfect, until we came to the last km, where it was a killer uphill climb. We made it though, back to camp at Pennwood a total of 6.5km. We tucked into Rhys's cake, it was delicious, it took Charlie's mind off his blister!

That night we made dinner, chicken chow main, lovely. After that we played a great wide game which was called zap. We had to sneak up on the leaders and steal the wooden blocks from a box right next to them. They could stop us by flashing a torch at us and saying zap, then we had to go back to a base point and try again. We finally went to bed and were too tired to even chat (if anything wears you out, it'll be a scout camp). The next morning we cooked a similar breakfast and then had inspection and imaginary flag break. We started making kites from English flags Stuart had got from Scrap Store, much to Louis' disappointment (he's a bit Welsh and a bit Welsh). Us scouts were taking the project slowly but Lynda and Claire had a production line in full flow. Then we went out to the common for a test flight. I had a stunt kite that was incredibly hard to fly and kept just tangling the strings that I had been holding, everyone else's kites worked perfectly. Then we went back to camp and started packing away the tent and dining shelters. Once we had packed everything we had our last imaginary flag break, was handed our badges and travelled home.

*Interested in becoming a Scout? Aged 10.5 - 13yrs  
Call Lynda 01454 632484 or Email [Lynda.spratt@icloud.com](mailto:Lynda.spratt@icloud.com)*

## **Can you help 1st Olveston Scout Group?**

1st Olveston Scout Group (Beavers, Cubs & Scouts) is looking for a new Treasurer, and Membership Secretary to join our committee.

We are very lucky to have thriving Beaver, Cub and Scout groups locally but we are now looking for more volunteers to join our team. If you have an interest in Scouting (- maybe you were a Scout yourself?) then we would love to hear from you. We offer friendship, fun and adventure and a chance to get involved in the community.

To find about more about either role please contact Julia Stephens-Barr on 07887 777398 (evenings). We look forward to hearing from you.



# Police Report for February/March 2013

In February we received 37 calls for the month of which there were 8 reported crimes: three for burglary to outbuildings where power tools and copper piping were stolen and an attempted burglary to a residential property where the rear doors were smashed but no entry was gained.

In March we received 52 calls, of which there were 7 reported crimes: theft of fuel from a residential property, theft of vehicle from the driveway of a property and theft of stone statues from gate posts.

Within the Severn beat crime has decreased in the last few months, now averaging between 10 – 8 per month for the whole of the beat.

Even though crime is low, please ensure that all doors and windows are secure, remove all valuable items from sight and please tell your neighbours if you are going away so that they can keep an eye on your property. Please also ensure that any suspicious person(s) or vehicle(s) are reported so that incidents can be checked out.

Security mark all valuable property and register it at [www.immobilise.com](http://www.immobilise.com).

Emergency calls dial 999 Non urgent calls and to report a crime dial 101

To contact your local beat team you can do so through [www.avonandsomerset.police.uk](http://www.avonandsomerset.police.uk)

Or contact PCSO 9317 Kelly Dimery on 0117 945 5959 or 07917 586645

**Next Beat Surgery dates are: 9<sup>th</sup> May and 6th June 2013 at Olveston Stores Coffee Shop between 10:30 – 11:30.**

## Thornbury Picture House

In this warm-hearted portrait of the French harbour city, *Le Havre*, fate throws a young African refugee into the path of a well-spoken bohemian who works as a shoe-shiner. With innate optimism and the unwavering support of his community, the shoe-shiner stands up to officials doggedly pursuing the boy for deportation. *Le Havre* is a charming, deadpan delight. Cossham Hall at 7.30pm on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May. £5 on the door for non members. AGM for members precedes the film at 7.15pm.

# 'Historic Thornbury' evening walk

**Wednesday 15 May**

This walk, organised by Thornbury and District Museum, is around the town centre and will reveal some fascinating insights into the history of the ancient town and borough.

The walk will last about one and a half hours. We meet outside the Museum, in Chapel Street, at 6.20 pm. The walk is unsuitable for the under tens, and older children must be accompanied by an adult. No dogs please, except for guide dogs. A suggested donation of £2 per person towards Museum funds would be appreciated, payable on the night.

Booking is essential as places are limited; tickets are available from the Museum (Tel: 857774) or email: [enquiries@thornburymuseum.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@thornburymuseum.org.uk) or visit the Museum in Chapel Street on Tues.– Fri. 1-4pm, Sat. 10am-4pm.

Other walks will take place during the summer. For more information, please contact the museum or visit our website: [www.thornburymuseum.org.uk](http://www.thornburymuseum.org.uk)

## Artists at the Museum

**Saturday 4 May – Sunday 12 May, daily, 10am – 4pm**

In May, Thornbury & District Museum will be hosting a designer and maker of gold and silver jewellery (Rosemary Millar), a painter of watercolours (Megan Walden) and an artist who uses acrylics, watercolours and pastels (Susan Dean). They will be resident in the museum every day of the Severn Vale Arts Trail, from 10-4pm, and the rest of the museum will be open daily too, for this nine-day period. Come along and see their work and check out the museum at the same time!

For this and every other location on the Severn Vale Arts Trail, check out the Arts Trail website: <http://www.thornburyartsfestival.com/openstudios.htm>

## Severn Vale Art Trail

**Saturday 4th – Sunday 12 May 2013**

As part of Thornbury Arts Festival several artists in the Meeting Point area are participating in the Severn Vale Art Trail 2013. In alphabetical order they are:- Ray Loadman, Angus Macaskill, Cheryl Miller and Bill Phillips. You can find out more by picking up an Art Trail Guide leaflet at Thornbury Town Hall or Library or by downloading the guide from <http://www.thornburyartsfestival.com/openstudios.htm> The Art Trail Guide contains full details of all participating artists, their locations, maps, directions and exhibition times.

# Malmesbury to Littleton Walk - 1 and 2 June 2013

For the last few years, we have walked from Malmesbury Abbey to Littleton Church to commemorate the monks from the Abbey who made the journey in the middle ages. One of them is supposed to have been murdered on the way, but we hope that we won't be attacked!

The walk is led by our vicar, Dave Pole, and all are welcome. We will start from Malmesbury Abbey on Saturday morning, and walk to Wickwar, probably via St Arild's Church, Oldbury-on-the-Hill [*which is a gem – Ed.*], and on Sunday from Wickwar to Littleton, possibly via St Arild's Church, Oldbury-on-Severn. You are welcome to do either or both days – your editor did one day last year.

For more details contact Dave Pole [davepole@me.com](mailto:davepole@me.com) (01454 414810) or Tim Pyper [tim.pyper@btinternet.com](mailto:tim.pyper@btinternet.com) (01454 416422).



St Arild's Church, Oldbury-on-the-Hill

# St Mary's would like to invite you to ...

## FROCKS AND FROLICS

May Fayre in the beautiful grounds of Olveston Court.

On May 6th at 12.30pm

Lunch with a medieval flavour so why not come dressed appropriately?!

Tickets twelve guineas (£12.50!) Ring 613273/617491

## Friends of St Mary's

The prize winners in the April draw, held on 11th April 2013 at the Friends' Committee Meeting were:-

<u>Amount</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Name</u>
£150	176	Mr J Hedges, Pilning
£75	281	Mr D J Talbot, Olveston
£25	172	Mrs J Robbins, Olveston
£25	441	Mrs E Dobson, Rudgeway
£25	502	Revd D Bone, Tockington
£20	447	Mr R J Tovey, Tockington
£20	356	Mr D J Smart, Thornbury
£10	290	Mrs M Griffith, Olveston
£10	538	Dr M Wright, Tockington

## Thank You!

*Roly Bain*

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the Flight for Sight Appeal to restore sight to a thousand people in remote parts of Africa. Thank you especially to Olveston School who have done all sorts of things to raise funds: selling biscuits and flapjacks, collecting 5ps, having a non-uniform day, hosting an Open Day. Our original target, when we launched the appeal in November, was £12,000, and I'm delighted to report that we've reached that target already, with more to come. David Shaw and I gave up alcohol in March, and we're grateful to all those who sponsored us to the tune of over £1200 (half to the church, half to the Appeal), and then there's the finale of the Flower Festival in July from which all profits go to the Appeal. If we make £15,000, then 1250 people will receive their sight back. And that is wonderfully generous of all of you. Thanks indeed.

# Yours faithfully

*Fr Peter Preston SDS*

## **Take not for granted – but give thanks**

My friend, Derek, is profoundly deaf and even though he has a hearing aid, life is very difficult for him and his family. Communication is practically non-existent and attempts at talking – develop into shouting. All right at home but impractical outside. He lives literally in his own little world.

I thought of him recently as I sat in the living room of my house, reading a novel. It was just after 7.00pm on an evening early in March. I suddenly became aware of a distinctive sound – outside the house – which I had not heard for many a year. It was repeated, my heart beat faster and my curiosity got the better of me. I went and stood outside the front door. There it was again – distinct and mysterious – short and sharp – the hoot of the owl - perched somewhere in the large fir tree on the opposite side of the road. I waited – and the call was repeated about four times – and I waited, delighting in the thrill and pleasure of the evocative and mysterious call. Then there was silence – and I felt strangely saddened and wondered when I would experience this again? I recall it still, as I write, and reflect how fortunate I am to have good hearing. My friend, Derek, would not have been so lucky.

As I stood outside my house, my eyes picked up the stars in the cloudless sky. They twinkled and sparkled in their thousands and, again, I experienced a thrill of wonderment. Because I have good eyesight I was able to see them and marvel at their beauty. But what must it be like for someone who, due to blindness, cannot experience this?

I found myself trying to identify with people who are deaf or blind. Even now, after a period of time has elapsed, I find it is not possible. Because I have never experienced the loss of sight or hearing, I can only imagine what it might be like. And yet does this fact make me any more appreciative of these gifts? Or do I take them for granted?

I have always experienced good health and kept myself fit. I enjoyed running and played a variety of sports. Then a couple of years ago I found that I was experiencing difficulty in writing. A year later, after various tests, I was told that I had Parkinson's. What did the future hold for me? How would I cope? What would be the effects of this illness? I am learning: medical diagnosis and tablets are preparing me – yet, in all honesty, I have to admit that I have still to overcome the element of fear that is present. I am also learning that taking good health for granted is perhaps very natural but not necessarily totally sensible. But I am determined to be positive. Life will go on and I shall

cope. Parkinson's affects people in different ways and I am grateful that, at the moment, it affects me in a mild way. But I do wish I could control the involuntary shake in my arm!

A final thought. It is all too easy to take people, as well as things, for granted. May we live in such a way that we value and treasure the gifts we have and give thanks for them.

## **Stella Elisabeth Bisiker**

Rodney, Martin, Rachel and their families are truly grateful for the love and affection shown to them at the time of Stella's untimely death. Sincere thanks to you all.

## **From the Registers of St Mary's Olveston**

22 <sup>nd</sup> February	Service of Thanksgiving for Malcolm Hughes Followed by Burial of ashes on 26 <sup>th</sup> March
18 <sup>th</sup> March	Service of Thanksgiving for Stella Bisiker
26 <sup>th</sup> March	Funeral Service for Ronald Husband
7 <sup>th</sup> April	Baptism of Henry Edward Arthur son of Jonathan and Helen Oates

## **From the Registers of St Mary de Malmesbury, Littleton on Severn**

3 <sup>rd</sup> April	Thanksgiving Service, attended by family and friends, to celebrate the life of Mary Lalonde (1918-2013). At her request the address was given by family friend Robert Bernays.
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## **Rogation Sunday: 12<sup>th</sup> May**

St Mary's Olveston is having a service combined with a walk on Rogation Sunday to Elberton starting at 10am. We have had to change the destination to Elberton rather than Aust as the route was rather long and treacherous! Apologies for the change of venue. We look forward to welcoming all who can join us.

# Church News

## ST MARY THE VIRGIN, OLVESTON

May 5	8am	Holy Communion	Rev Philip Rowe
	10am	Holy Communion	Rev. P. Rowe & Mrs J McBride
	10am	Breakfast Club	Breakfast Club Team
	6pm	Evensong with Choir	Rev Roly Bain
May 12	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Rev Roly Bain
	10am	Rogation Sun. Service & walk	Rev Roly Bain
	10am	Breakfast Club	Breakfast Club Team
	6pm	Holy Communion	Rev P Rowe & Mr T Cook
May 19	8am	Holy Communion	Rev David Bone
	10am	Holy Communion with Choir	Rev Philip Rowe
	10am	Breakfast Club	Breakfast Club Team
	6pm	Evensong	Rev. Ruan Crew
May 26	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Rev David Bone
	10am	Fourth Sunday	Mrs Ann Lloyd
	6pm	Evensong (BCP) with Choir	Mr Denis Jones

Information on services correct at time of going to press.

### Contacts:

Rev Philip Rowe, 01454 613223; email: [office@stmaryssevernside.org.uk](mailto:office@stmaryssevernside.org.uk)

Rev Roly Bain for Baptisms, Marriages & Funerals 01454 616593.

Verger: Mrs. June Robbins, 01454 617491

[www.stmarysolveston.org.uk/index.html](http://www.stmarysolveston.org.uk/index.html)

PRAYER GROUP: Mondays, 2.45pm in the Church

WEDNESDAY HOLY COMMUNION: At 9.00am led by the Rev. Roly Bain except 4<sup>th</sup> Wed when it is at Olv. Methodist Church

### CHAPELRY OF ST JOHN, AUST

May 9	7.30pm	Holy Communion(Ascension Day)	Rev David Bone
May 12	10am	Holy Communion & Rogation Walk	Rev David Bone
May 26	10am	Morning Prayer with Olv & Tockington Meth. Ch.	Rev David Bone & Rev Sandy Williams

Hon. Curate: Rev David Bone, 01454 614601

Church Wardens: Terry McLeavy 633680 Janet Ford 633300

### ST MARY DE MALMESBURY, LITTLETON-ON-SEVERN

May 5	9am	Matins	Mrs Tracey Black
May 19	9am	Holy Communion	Rev David Pole

Contact: Rev. David Pole 01454 414810; [www.sthelensalveston.org](http://www.sthelensalveston.org)

## ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, ELBERTON

May 12	9am	Matins	Rev David Pole
May26	9am	Holy Communion	Rev David Pole

Contact: Rev. David Pole 01454 414810; [www.sthelensalveston.org](http://www.sthelensalveston.org)

## OLVESTON AND TOCKINGTON METHODIST CHURCH

May 5	10am	Tock. Ch	Morning Worship led by Mr Damon Ujvarosy
May 12	10am	Olv. Ch.	All Age Worship led by Mr Glyn Varney Breakfast Club to join later
May 19	10am	Tock. Ch.	Morning Worship led by Mr Stephen Holliday
May26	10am	Chapelry St John Aust.	Joint Service commemorating John Wesley led by Rev. D. Bone & Rev. Sandy Williams

**NORTHWICK LUNCHEON GROUP:** This meets at 12.30pm on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> May.. To book your lunch please ring 416528

**TOCKINGTON LUNCHEON GROUP** meets at 12.15 in the Swan Tockington on Thurs 16<sup>th</sup> May. To book please ring 613241,or 612112

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

**HOUSE GROUPS** One led by Mr Glyn Varney & Mrs Rosalie Doyle on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month at 10.30am at 7 The Green Olveston. Another led by Rev. Sandy Williams on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday at 10.30 Please ring 416528 for details of venue

**CREAM TEAS** Served on Bank Holiday Mondays 6<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> from 2.30-5.30pm in Tockington Church and on the Green.

Do come and enjoy a delicious cream tea in pleasant surroundings

**CONTACT: Rev David Hardy 0117 9693135,**

**e-mail [dandlhardy@btinternet.com](mailto:dandlhardy@btinternet.com)**

## THE VINE, AWKLEY

The Vine, Pilning Street, Awkley

We meet in a relaxed, informal manner for worship, prayer and conversational Bible studies incorporating Communion, 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](mailto:thevine_awkley@hotmail.com)**



## THE OASIS CHURCH, OLD DOWN

May 5	6.30pm	Rev Neil Mobbs
May 12	6.30pm	Paul Ashford
May 19	6.30pm	Dolfus D'Chikera
May 26	6.30pm	Ceri Morgan- Davies

Each Thurs at 7.30pm Prayer Time

For further information please contact **Ceri Morgan-Davies** 413043

**Paul Ashford**, 07774 110814 or email: [Paul@CalebGroup.net](mailto:Paul@CalebGroup.net)

## AUST EVANGELICAL CHURCH

Family Worship 11.00am

'The Door' for young people on the last Sunday at 7pm

[www.THEDOORYOUTH.CO.UK](http://www.THEDOORYOUTH.CO.UK) or tel 07837234949

For more details, please phone 632564.

## LITTLETON EVANGELICAL CHURCH

Evening Worship every Sunday at 6pm

For details tel. 413247

**Resound (B.C.F)** Twice monthly meetings are held at 4pm at Thornbury Baptist Church (Youth Block)

Contact 0117 3050969 [www.bcfnet.com](http://www.bcfnet.com)

## RC CHURCH OF CHRIST THE KING, Thornbury -

Sat Vigil Mass 18.00 Sun 8.30am Mass 11.00 Family Mass

Tel 01454 412223 [www.ctk-thornbury.org.uk](http://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:** Ben & Candia Barman 01454 412603

National: [www.quaker.org.uk](http://www.quaker.org.uk) Bristol area: [www.bristolquakers.org.uk](http://www.bristolquakers.org.uk)

# Diary Dates for May 2013

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

1 <sup>st</sup> Wed	Thornbury CRUK Coffee morning	10.00-12.00	AMC
2 <sup>nd</sup> Thu	Thornbury Farmer's Market Coffee Shop Olveston Toddlers Olveston Annual Parish Assembly Open Mic. At White Hart	9.00-1.30 9.00-12.00 2.00-4.30 7.30pm 8.30pm	OST MH PH
4 <sup>th</sup> Sat	Coffee Morning Visitors from Brehan here 'til 6 <sup>th</sup> Severn Vale Art Trail 'til 12 <sup>th</sup>	10.30-12.00	MH
6 <sup>th</sup> Mon	Children's Movie Club Monday Movie Frocks and Frolics at Olveston Court	10.00 7.30pm 12.30pm	S+M S+M
7 <sup>th</sup> Tue	Tockington Toddlers Friends of Daldry Gardens Coffee Morning R.B.L. Women What is Poetry? Nick Large	9.30-11.30 10.30-12.00 7.30pm	WR DGCL DGCL
9 <sup>th</sup> Thu	Coffee Shop Beat Surgery Olveston Toddlers Cricket Cl. Deeds Auction Old Down Manor Th & District Flower Club Demo.	9.00-12.00 10.30-11.30 2.00-4.30 7.30pm 7.30pm	OST OST MH TMH
11 <sup>th</sup> Sat	Coffee Morning Coffee Morning Olveston Treasure Trail	10.30-12.00 10.30-12.00 12.00-5pm	AVH MH OS
14 <sup>th</sup> Tue	Tockington Toddlers Memory Café Women's Institute Aust Parish Council	9.30-11.30 10.15 7.30pm 7.30pm	WR TMH PH EVH
15 <sup>th</sup> Wed	Severn Vale Flower Club Demo. Jazz at the White Hart Olveston	2.00pm 8.30pm	AH
16 <sup>th</sup> Thu	Thornbury Farmer's Market Coffee Shop Olveston Toddlers	9.00-1.30 9.00-12.00 2.00-4.30	OST MH
17 <sup>th</sup> Fri	Olv. School Annual Quiz Night Thornbury Film Club 'Le Havre'	7.30pm 7.30pm	OS Ch
18 <sup>th</sup> Sat	Coffee Morning Aust Pilgrimage Thornbury Choral Society	10.30-12.00 7.30pm	MH CS

19 <sup>th</sup> Sun	Garden Tea Party at Peacehaven, Olveston	2.30-5.00pm	
20 <sup>th</sup> Mon	Monday Movie Extra Severn Vale Flower Club Practice	7.30pm 1.30pm	StM AH
21 <sup>st</sup> Tue	Tockington Toddlers R.B.L. Women Bingo	9.30-11.30 7.30pm	WR DGCL
22 <sup>nd</sup> Wed	Stepping Stones Open Morning Severn Valley Quilters	10.00-12.00 7.30pm	EVH CH
23 <sup>rd</sup> Thu	Coffee Shop Olveston Toddlers Th & District Flower Club Practice Class	9.00-12.00 2.00-4.30 7.30pm	Ost MH TMH
25 <sup>th</sup> Sat	Coffee Morning Car Boot Sale at Marlwood School	10.30-12.00 1.30-3pm	MH
28 <sup>th</sup> Tue	Tockington Toddlers Memory Café Olveston Parish Council Meeting	9.30-11.30 10.15 7.30pm	WR TMH AP
29 <sup>th</sup> Wed	St Peter's Hospice 'High Tea'	3.00pm	TMH
30 <sup>th</sup> Thu	Coffee Shop	10.00-12.00	Ost
31 <sup>st</sup> Fri	'Cakes with Coward and Cole Porter'	3.30 pm	CH

## Looking ahead to June

1 <sup>st</sup> & 2nd	Malmesbury to Littleton Walk		
2nd	CRUK "Pimms, Paté and Puds" ,The Cote, Alv	12.00-4.00	
22nd	Olveston Fete & Scarecrow Festival		

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

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

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