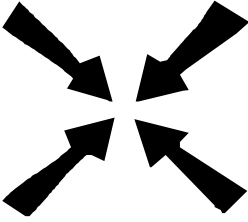


Meeting Point



May 2015



Meeting Point

Volume 39, Number 8, May 2015

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

We are, I'm sure, all aware that there is a General Election on May 7th. What may be less widely known is that the same day is set for South Gloucestershire Elections, as well as for Parish Councils if necessary. In fact, across the Meeting Point area, the situation varies. For Aust Parish Council, no election is necessary. In Olveston Parish, by contrast, there are ten candidates for nine places, so there will be an election. It will be an interesting day, and for people contemplating their voting slips in Olveston Parish, quite complicated!

I will be missing the excitement by virtue of a long visit to family in Australia, and I will be there in time for Hug an Australian Day on April 26th. In my absence Meeting Point will be edited by my very capable Deputy Editor, Marelin Orr-Ewing. Contributions should come to the same e-mail address as usual, please. See you in the September edition...

The cover shows a photograph of Elberton Farms by Peter Haworth.

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**

Olveston Parish Matters

Richard Rogers (olvestonpc@gmail.com)

5th May 2015, Annual Parish Assembly

All parishioners are welcome to the Olveston Parish Hall for 7:30pm. The theme this year is to Showcase the Parish, with the publication of the 'Parish Vision' report, the development of the Parish Council Working Group to ascertain housing needs in the Parish and especially the work being undertaken by various Sports Clubs within the Parish to improve their facilities and to encourage sport within the Parish. Support from South Glos Council will also be presented.

The Parish Hall is again the local polling station for the elections on 7th May. This year all the seats on Olveston Parish Council may also be contested. Election for these seats will depend on whether more parishioners have been nominated than the 9 seats available (at the time of writing, at least 11 nomination packs have been distributed to local parishioners). Please support this event as District Council Elections and of course the national elections are being held on the same day.

Much of the Olveston and Tockington settlements are within designated Conservation areas, therefore any alterations to existing trees need planning permission through South Glos Council before work can be undertaken. This process is currently free (unlike the planning process for building additions/alterations), and interested parties should contact South Glos Council directly.

Olveston Parish Council is undertaking a programme to plant more trees around the parish (twelve have recently been sited on the Aust Verge) and elsewhere in conjunction with the Countryside Group. The Parish Council therefore ask that when trees have to be felled, residents either plant replacements, or consider making a public subscription to increase the tree coverage in the Parish.

Aust Parish Council Matters

Tim Pyper (austparishcouncil@googlemail.com)

The annual parish meeting was held on Tuesday 14th April. A report on the Council's activities during the year was given by the chairman. A copy of his report is on the parish council page of the Olveston and Aust website. The meeting was followed by a parish council meeting, but it was too late for a report to be written for this edition of Meeting Point.

Proposed Defibrillator at Aust

All the funds have been raised for this, the telephone box is being acquired by

the parish council and we hope to see it installed shortly.

Parish Councillors

There won't be an election on May 7th for Aust parish council as there are no more candidates than spaces. A report on the result in the next issue.

News from St Mary's

Roly Bain

'A Night at the Opera'

Gill Olewicz is presenting another concert at St Mary's, this time in tandem with baritone Tim Allan. Tickets are £7.50 from either Gill on 615780 or June Robbins on 617491. It is in aid of the church and hospices in the South West. It promises to be another inspiring evening.

Thornbury Arts Trail

A new venture for St Mary's is being part of the Thornbury Arts Trail. Four artists including Angus Macaskill are exhibiting from April 30th till May 10th. It's open from 10am till 5pm each day, apart from when services are on and the Childrens' Movie Club on the morning of May 4th.

Trinity Sunday

Trinity Sunday is on May 31st, and for the first time we're having a joint service for all our congregations at 11am, followed by a lunch at Grey Gables. We chose Trinity Sunday because of the three congregations at 8am, 10am & 6pm, but there are also the Breakfast Clubbers and the Back to Fronters! It's a chance to meet each other, worship together, and eat together - what more could we want?!

A Thank You

From Roly Bain

Roly would like to thank all those who sent cards and condolences following the death of his mother Romany at the end of March. She was a week past her 91st birthday, but had long suffered from dementia with Lewy bodies. Her death was a great relief and blessing. The family are also extremely grateful for the heartfelt and unstinting care she received at Windmill House these last 11 years - it is a wonderful and caring place.

Olveston Bike Barn is Closing

Gary, the proprietor, has sent Meeting Point the following message: "Olveston Bike Barn is **moving to Fred Baker Bristol**. I would like thank all my customers, who I have met over the last three years, for their support. My new phone number will be 0117 9249610."

Jack Shelley

Profile by Pat Thirkettle

Jack Shelley, 94 years young, moved to Olveston three years ago to be near his son Peter and daughter in law Lynn. Failing eyesight and lack of balance restrict him physically, but are compensated by an excellent memory and much to recall, with persuasion, about an interesting life.



Born in Cheshire in a small village without running water or inside lavatory, at the age of five he started walking a mile to school in Macclesfield, and later passed the exam to attend the Grammar School. At seventeen there was no question of further education; he had to work in an office to help the family finances. But not for long, thanks to Herr Hitler: conscription started in 1938, and Jack joined the army as a territorial. In 1939 he was swiftly called up as a machine gunner in the Cheshire Regiment, and sent to France. In the first few months nothing much happened - the so called phoney war. Then in May 1940 the better equipped German army surrounded the British army which was forced to retreat. Jack found himself on his own with the Belgian army, and when they retreated, he was advised to make it alone to Dunkirk. There he hid in the sand dunes, continually bombarded from the air, (a comrade worked out that there were nine raids an hour), until he was able to swim out to a British destroyer. Safe on English soil, it was back to Bulford barracks on Salisbury Plain and redeployment back to his unit.

A shortage of pilots meant volunteers from the army were asked to train as aircrew. Jack quickly decided that air was much cleaner than army mud, and was transferred to the Air Force and sent to Calgary and Moose Jaw in Canada for training. As a qualified pilot, he was posted to Coastal Command (where he spent the rest of the war). He was also required to do a navigator's course, on the premise that most of the flying would be over sea, and navigation ability would be essential.

He spent the next year flying from Canada on sorties hunting U boats, or escorting convoys, until he was posted to India. Jack casually remarked that on arrival he crashed his plane at Jodhpur. Actually he skilfully crash-landed the plane after one of the two engines caught fire at a height too low to deploy parachutes, saving the lives of his four passengers and ending in hospital with a scar he still bears today. On discharge, he was transferred to Ceylon (now Sri Lanka) to fly Liberator aircraft which he was pleased to see had four engines. As co pilot he patrolled the Burmese coast and the Bay of Bengal on anti submarine missions and photographic reconnaissance until he was transferred back to England. He was then posted to do a short course in

Nassau, following which he was promoted to Pilot Officer and spent the rest of the war in Northern Ireland.

After VE Day in 1945, Jack was transferred to Transport Command, still flying Liberator aircraft that were being used to transport people, goods and equipment. The next year's routine was as follows: Cambridge via Belgium to Tripoli, three days off, on to Cairo, three days off, on to Lydda, three days off, on to Karachi, three days off and on to Calcutta; and then the same in reverse. Some of the return journeys brought back prisoners of war from the Far East, often so emaciated they had to be helped into the aircraft with one hand.

After being demobbed, Jack was offered jobs with several airlines, but newly married, he didn't fancy that. Apparently he wondered about joining the police force, but casually remarked that it was a very cold winter and after watching a policeman on point duty in a snow storm he thought again! He decided on teaching, and after a year's training, he started teaching maths and physics in a secondary modern school in Macclesfield. There he stayed until retirement, switching to teaching history, but the school changed around him, increasing in size and becoming a comprehensive. During these years he and his wife Gladys raised their children Peter and Lis and became busily involved in church activities.

As a child Jack went to the Methodist Sunday School in the village, then to a Baptist church with his parents in Macclesfield. He amusingly suggested the main attraction was the chance to join the cricket team, but actually he was baptised in 1936. The war was a strain on his faith, but a pivotal moment came when his four passengers prayed fervently during the crash in Jodhpur – there are no atheists or agnostics in a blazing aircraft approaching the earth at a hundred miles an hour. Gladys was a strong believer and they built an active Christian family and church life together. There would have been much more to expand upon, but he did mention that he ran a Christian radio programme in Macclesfield Hospital once a week; Gladys went round the wards encouraging people to phone in and the patients voted it the best programme. Sadly she died fifteen years ago, but Jack continued in the house he lived in for sixty five years, until recently. Gradually his friends dropped off through death, disease and dementia – it sounds terrible but that is what happens when you live to a ripe old age. A house became available near Peter and Lynn, so here he is in Olveston.

Jack says his Christian faith has been the bedrock of his life, but he has one wistful regret. He is unable to use his mobility scooter through failing eyesight, so is necessarily housebound and misses friends dropping in for a chat and a cuppa. I would suggest that anyone wanting an interesting and enjoyable chat should perhaps approach Meeting Point or Lynn to be put in touch with Jack and they will be amply rewarded.

Olveston & District Bowling Club (ODBC) Old Down

'Bowls for all' is the club's mission statement. The club offers a supportive environment where everybody can enjoy the sport of bowls according to their individual needs. This can be through friendly & social matches and also competitive games within the club and at county and national level.



ODBC was founded in 1933 and has evolved to become one of the most popular and successful clubs in the area. It is a unified club of 96 men and 47 women playing members from a diverse demographic mix, varied bowling experience and with ages ranging from the 20s to the 90s.

The club has become so successful it is now outgrowing its facilities, so there is a project under way

to modernise the changing rooms and build a larger club house in 2016. The majority of the project works are being contracted out to local firms with some ground works also currently being undertaken by volunteers within the club.

In fact it is volunteers who organise the day to day running of the club. This involves maintaining the green and buildings, organising and assisting with the bar and catering, organising the fixtures and sitting on committees.

The club boasts 4 qualified coaches and arranges coaching sessions for complete beginners with a view to joining the club but with no obligation.

The premises are completely enclosed behind the football pitch and to the right of the cricket ground. It is in a peaceful setting and completely surrounded by countryside.

So at the end of an enjoyable afternoon's bowling, what better way is there to enjoy the surroundings and round off a summer's day by enjoying a glass of your favourite tippie in the company of friends in the Club bar?

The Big Tie Event

by Lucas Vincenot, age 10, year 6

Olveston Primary School is launching an event in order to raise enough money to buy a class set of tablets. Mr C. Tucker, our teacher, will attempt to break a world record by wearing the most amount of ties at once. The record he will have to break is 260 ties. The event will take place on the 5th of June, and we will also be selling cakes, barbecued food, and are organising a number of competitions, such as a tie hunt in the field. We have sent letters to a variety of celebrities and have received signed ties in response, which we will auction after the event to gain some extra money.

Also, we have been asking some companies to sponsor a tie for 10 pounds. Some have very kindly sponsored more than one, which is fantastic. We would like to thank the companies who sponsored us, and would be delighted if you could put forward 10 pounds or more to sponsor a tie. Mr. Tucker has organised a Twitter account (@tuckerties) to let people know about the event, and to get involved.

We hope to see you there helping us achieve our goal.

If you would like to get involved, know any celebrities who could donate a signed tie, or a company that would like to sponsor one, then please contact the school office, .Tel: 01454 613299.

Police Report

PCSO Kelly Dimery

There were 5 reported crimes for April:-

Break-in and theft from a shed and garage on Old Down Hill
Wooden floating platform stolen from Thornbury Sailing Club.
Theft of battery and energiser from a field in Rockhampton.
Offenders broke into a container in Elberton, entering via fields and cutting through fences; power tools were stolen from within.
Offenders broke into a container in Field Lane, Littleton; once inside carts and harnesses were stolen.

The Beat Surgery will be held on Wednesday 20th May 2015 at Easter Compton Village Hall, Easter Compton between 09:15-10:00 and then Olveston Stores, Olveston between 10:30-11:00 for anyone who wishes to discuss any issues or concerns that they may have. Alternatively please call 101.

Anyone locally who may have any information regarding Fly Grazing within the area can send information through to flygrazingsouthglos@avonandsomerset.police.uk.

PCSO 9317 Kelly Dimery, 07889659691

Movies at St Mary's: May

Trevor Anderson



Half way through its fifth year, our MOVIE CLUB at **St Mary's Church Olveston** continues to show films for 'children of all ages' every Monday morning during school holidays and for 'grown-ups of all ages' every first and third Monday evening of each month. So here's a question for you to ponder:

In total, how many films do you think we have shown since we began?

Email your estimate to me by **May 17th** and there's a FREE bottle of wine to collect at the May 18th movie for the person who's closest!

Everyone is welcome to come along to all the shows and, as always, there is no need to book. Admission is free, although a **donation** at the end towards expenses is always appreciated.

Refreshments are available each time: licensed bar and tea/coffee in the evenings and cupcakes, popcorn, soft drinks and biscuits in the mornings.

There will be FOUR Movie Club films in May:

CHILDREN'S MOVIE CLUB

Mon 4th May at 10.00am: Disney animated comedy spin-off of 'Cars' about a crop-dusting aircraft who dreams of becoming a racer. (*Cert U*)

Mon 25th May at 10.00am: A young orphaned boy raised by underground cave-dwelling trash collectors tries to save his friends from an evil exterminator. Based on the children's novel by Alan Snow. (*Cert PG*)

MONDAY MOVIES (*Recent releases and popular classics*)

Mon 4th May at 7.30pm: Francis Ford Coppola's epic masterpiece with Marlon Brando in his Oscar-winning role as the patriarch of the Corleone family. One of the all-time high watermarks of American cinema. (*Cert 15*)

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

Mon 18th May at 7.30pm: Rosamund Pike, David Tennant and Billy Connolly star in this enormously entertaining family comedy written and directed by Andy Hamilton and Guy Jenkin (Creators of *Outnumbered*). (*Cert 12*)

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

Friends of St. Mary's

The prize winners in the April draw, held on 9th April 2015 at the Friends' Committee Meeting were:-

<u>Amount</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Name</u>
£150	541	Mr N Fear, Tockington
£75	408	Mrs B Phillips, Patchway
£25	319	Mr J L Henniker-Heaton, Winterbourne
£25	330	Mr & Mrs K Lazell, Tockington
£25	358	Mrs S Toft, Olveston
£20	299	Mrs J Dickens, Aust
£20	363	Mrs J Hahn, Olveston
£20	359	Mrs J Hawkins, Alveston
£10	531	Mr & Mrs M J Scott, Olveston
£10	236	Mr M E Scott, Rudgeway
£10	260	Mrs P R Kerrison, Olveston
£10	463	Mr S M B Panes, Pilning
£10	545	Mrs S Chick, Olveston
£10	195	Mr R Bisiker, Tockington

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

Inner Wheel Coffee Morning

Thornbury Inner Wheel Club will be holding a Coffee Morning at Box Bush Farm, Ingst, BS35 4AW on **Thursday May 14th from 10.00am to 12.00.**

Please come along and bring your friends to what will be an enjoyable morning in aid of **Thornbury Stroke Support** and **Cancer Research UK.**

Family Sports Experience

There is an opportunity for you, whatever your age to meet some of local sporting groups and try some of their sports. On Saturday June 13th in Tockington try **Tennis, Netball or Archery** and on Sunday June 14th at Old Down try **Cricket, Football or Bowls.** Details to follow...

Just turn up on the day - **All are welcome.**



Barn Dance and 'Partay Franglais'

Saturday May 2nd

Parish Hall 7.30pm until late.

Olveston Parish Twinning Association is running a Barn Dance on May 2nd. Please come and join us - and our visitors from our twinning village of Bréhan - for an enjoyable evening of dancing and food!

Tickets include a 'picnic supper' and cost £10.

Children under 11 £5

A family ticket (2 adults and 2 children) £25.

To get your tickets please ring Noel on 01454 614099.

The Hollow

A murder who dunnit by Agatha Christie, is coming to Thornbury Methodist Church Hall from Wednesday May 20th to Saturday May 23rd 2015. Curtain up at 7.45pm.

An unhappy assortment of romantic entanglements explodes into murder one weekend at The Hollow, home of Sir Henry and Lucy Angkatell. Dr. Cristow is at the centre of the trouble when his mistress Henrietta, ex-mistress Veronica and wife Gerda, simultaneously arrive at The Hollow. Also visiting are Edward (who is in love with Henrietta) and Midge (who loves Edward). Veronica ardently desires to marry Cristow and succeeds in reopening their affair but is unable to get him to divorce his wife. Veronica unwisely states that if she cannot have him, no one shall. Within 5 minutes Cristow is dead. Nearly everyone has a motive and most had the opportunity. Enter Inspector Colquhoun and Sergeant Penny to solve the crime.

TICKETS £7 from Thornbury Methodist Players ON THE DOOR

PHONE 01454 414749 or 01454 600503

CANCER RESEARCH UK is the charity we are supporting for this production. Please come along and show them your support.

A Mystery Guest

Angela Daymond

As I sat in my garden last Autumn I heard the strangest "cough, cough, cough" coming from the middle of the bamboo bush. A rustling and scratching. In the dense patch I couldn't see a thing. Bemused, I left whatever was there and went inside. A week later, dusk falling, the same "cough, cough": it sounded like a heavy smoker had moved into the bushes! This time I delved deeper and there, curled up, was a hedgehog! I know hedgehogs can be noisy when they're out hunting: grunting and snorting is normal, but I knew the coughing wasn't right.

So a quick web search found me 'Hedgehog Rescue' South West. A network of caring people who do all they can for hedgehogs. A lovely lady called Karen advised I get it to her pronto, so with gardening gloves on I lifted the newly named Boris, and off to Bradley Stoke we shot. Karen diagnosed Lungworm and took Boris in for immediate treatment. All their needs are paid for by constant fundraising. It looked good for a while but unfortunately I hadn't caught him in time, and poor Boris passed away.



I thought that was that, but a few days later Karen called me. Would I re-home a couple of recovered hedgehogs from her hospital into my garden? That evening Miss Prickles and Henry arrived, and we introduced them to their houses under the bushes. Miss Prickles

only has one eye following an accident. Henry was a bit bigger than Miss Prickles but that was thanks to Karen feeding him up to size. They both had a couple of laps around the garden and then disappeared into the twilight. The following night Miss Prickles had a short encounter with the fish pond but a quick hug in a towel and she was fine. And that is the last I've seen of them - but hopefully that means they are fine and hibernated successfully through the winter and are now busy living it up on the local slugs and snails.

It's such a shame these delightful creatures are declining. Much of it is down to humans and that bugbear of mine....Litter! All too often hedgehogs get caught up in plastic or get their heads stuck in a takeaway cup. Olveston litter pickers do a wonderful job but wouldn't it be nice if they weren't needed? The hedgehogs would agree.

*For information about Hedgehog Rescue go to <http://hedgehogrescue.co.uk>
Picture of Boris by Angela Daymond.*

Be Prepared - TO PARTY!

Calling all past Scouts and Leaders - that's anyone who has been a Beaver, Cub, Scout or Explorer, or been a Leader or helper during the last *100 years* with 1st Olveston Scout Group....we need you to come and celebrate with us.

The 4th July sees the end of our **100 year anniversary**, so what better way to celebrate than with a **party!** If you have been part of Scouting with our unit at any time, then please take this as your invitation to join us for an afternoon of fun and celebration.

There will be good ol' Scouting fun - campfires, cooking, shelter building, rocket making, games, sports, skills tests, food and probably some cake too!

Come and see if you can light a fire quicker than a Beaver Scout can. Do you still know how to tie a Sheepshank? Did you dyb, dyb, dyb, dob, dob, dob?

We need your stories, your photos, your memories, we need you - so please get in touch.

Speak to any of our leaders to claim your party invite or... email nikki@beavers.olveston.com or ring 01454 614099 to be put on the guest list.

Is Buddhism a Faith and who was the Buddha?

A Talk and Discussion given by Tim Kirkpatrick- aka Dharmachai Vilasamani.

Tim Kirkpatrick is a member of the Triratna Buddhist Order, a non-monastic network of Buddhists setup in the 1960s by Denis Lingwood, a Tooting born Londoner who spent 20 years in post-war India. As well as recounting his own meeting with Buddhism in his early 20s, Tim will give a talk on the title above and look at the path of meditation and mindfulness, as a way through the world and beyond it. It will be followed by questions and discussion as time allows.

As well as a Buddhist, Tim is a Craniosacral Therapist, with an interest in trauma and developmental psychology, and the poetry of the Sufi Mystics and Neolithic stone circles.

This talk is being organised by St Mary's Church with the Methodists and may form part of a series of talks about other faiths and spiritual traditions. It will take place on Saturday May 30th from 10am-12.30pm, in Olveston Methodist Church Hall. All are welcome and coffee and tea will be available.

Stepping Stones Open/Fun Day (In aid of 'Make a Wish Foundation')

This is on Saturday 9th May 10.00-12.00 at Elberton Village Hall. There will be stalls, cakes, tea and coffee, children's games and forest activities. Come and meet our friendly staff team and see all our facilities. All proceeds from the day will go the 'Make a Wish Foundation'. Any donations of cakes or second hand toys and books will be gratefully received: please ring Gill on 07853173221 or drop down to the hall during session times.

Christian Aid Coffee Morning

Please come and bring your friends to the Christian Aid Coffee Morning that is replacing the house to house collection. The date is **Saturday, May 16th**, 10 till 12, at Hawkfield House, Haw Lane, kindly hosted by Jane and Peter Haworth. Tickets £5 to include filter coffee (and seconds!), a homemade cake and a raffle ticket. There will be stalls and hopefully some fine weather.

Bristol Old Vic Theatre School: The Beaux' Stratagem

If you saw triple Oscar Winner Daniel Day Lewis in a Bristol Old Vic Theatre School production you will remember his talent which was so intense it was almost frightening: a sure-fire star in the making!

Will there be another such star blossoming in this year's Bristol Old Vic Theatre School production? The Beaux' Stratagem has entertained and amused generations with its fast moving and breathtaking comedy involving rakes, lovers, desperate housewives, herbal healers and horse thieves!

Come along and appreciate the cream of the country's young actors in this new production on stage in Thornbury as part of an extensive regional tour with one of the finest Restoration comedies, The Beaux' Stratagem by George Farquhar, an 18th Century equivalent of *One Man Two Governors*.

This terrific ensemble production is part of the fund raising for the Armstrong Hall Redevelopment Project (Phase 1). **Saturday 23rd May** at 7.30pm in the Armstrong Hall. Tickets at £12 each (under 16s £10), bar available, can be obtained from Thornbury Town Hall or by phoning 01454 412272.

A Short History of Meccano and the South West Meccano Club

Richard Marshall Smith

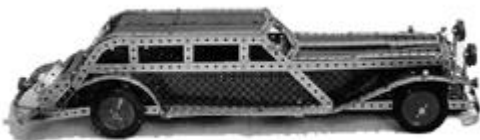
The man behind Meccano was Frank Hornby – the same chap who later brought us Hornby trains and Dinky toys. Just before the start of the 20th Century, Frank Hornby began making perforated metal strips in his garden shed, which his boys could bolt together to make simple models of bridges, cranes and so on. Perforated with holes at a set distance meant that a model could be easily taken apart and the same parts used again and again to make endless tough, working models.

A patent was granted in 1901 and a small factory soon replaced the garden shed but the first sets were not called 'Meccano' at all, but 'Mechanics Made Easy'. The picture below shows an early box lid...



But 'Mechanics Made Easy' was quite a mouthful, so in 1907 the name 'Meccano' was introduced. More parts were introduced and soon a big new factory was needed to keep up with the demand – they just couldn't make Meccano fast enough!

Production of the early nickel-plated Meccano continued through the First World War and by the mid 1920's there were more new parts as well as clockwork and electric motors. In 1926 parts turned to red and green - a popular change. In 1934, Meccano colours were changed again; this time to blue and gold. The introduction of flexible plates allowed very realistic models to be built and Meccano models built with these relatively rare blue and gold parts always look very impressive indeed. Imagine this car in blue and gold!



The Second World War saw production stop, with the factory being used instead for making all sorts of things for our troops. With Peace in 1945, Meccano went back to red and green until 1964 when colours changed to zinc-

plated (brighter than the early Nickel-plated parts) and yellow. In 1978 there

was yet another colour change and for a couple of years, parts were made in dark blue and yellow. Larger sets in this scheme are very rare but Meccano sets still ranged from the small Number One Set to the huge Number Ten Set, which was every boy's dream and which came in a wonderful wooden cabinet.

The good news is that production continues to this day, but in the Meccano factory in Calais, France. Throughout the long history of Mechanics Made Easy and then Meccano, the half inch spacing of the holes has remained the same and any part can still be bolted to any other part. This gives the modeller endless possibilities and some of the models that you have seen today could well include parts that left a Meccano factory as much as a hundred years apart!

The South West Meccano Club is always looking for new members. We are a small but very friendly club that meets four times a year. It doesn't matter if you are young or old and it doesn't matter if you have a very small Meccano set or a very large one because simple models are every bit as welcome as complex ones – all you need is an interest in model-making and an active imagination – so please get in touch! The South West Meccano Club has a new website with pictures of lots more models, details of our next meeting, how to get in touch with us and loads of really great stuff.

We are at 'southwestmeccano.org.uk'

Old Down Cricket Club

Tony Gardner 07889 727729

150 Club Winners April 2015:

£50 **Bob Evans**
£15 **Bill Finch**
£ 5 **Jeff Pullin**

Latest £25 Bonus Ball Winners:

14th March **Diane Grosvenor**
21st March **Neil Cross**
28th March **Paddy Gardner**
4th April **Tony Gardner**

Artists in the Museum

10am–4pm, 7 days a week, Thurs 30 April to Sun 10 May 2015, free entry



Come and see the work of our three resident Art Trail artists:

- Rosemary Millar (hand-crafted silver and gold jewellery with semi-precious stones)
- Mary Drown (watercolours, acrylics and paintings on textiles, especially silk)
- and Mitra McQuilton (who creates pictures in threadwork – see left)

Lots of lovely things to see – and a chance to buy something too, if you'd like. Our volunteer-run museum is staying open all day every day (10 - 4) for the whole period of the Art Trail.

While you're here, check out the rest of the museum. As well as the story of Thornbury's Roman coin hoard, found in a back garden, we have a small WWI display about the local area in 1915. This includes the war diary of Algar Howard of Thornbury Castle, who served at Gallipoli and in Mesopotamia, as a cavalry officer. This is on temporary loan from Sir Algar's granddaughter.

When the Art Trail is over, we'll be back to our normal opening hours of 1pm to 4pm on Tuesdays to Fridays and 10am to 4pm on Saturdays and our 'Fetch the Engine' exhibition about the history of firefighting in the Thornbury area will go back on display for a further period.

That's really drawn people in, including many current and former firefighters who have contributed wonderful stories and objects for the exhibition. Read more about it here:

<http://www.thornburymuseum.org.uk/2015/03/25/tremendous-response-to-fetch-the-engine/>

Thornbury & District Museum, Chapel St., Thornbury

Tel. 857774, email: enquiries@thornburymuseum.org.uk

Check out our new website: www.thornburymuseum.org.uk

Bridge to Gautampuri Update

As you may be aware, St Mary's are trying to raise £15,000 to build a multi-purpose building in Gautampuri, a slum in Delhi. This will be used to house a slum school, a centre where health care workers can base themselves, a church and a sewing school for women.

You may ask why India. Did you know that 30% of the world's poorest people live there and that India still accounts for 20% of child mortality worldwide? Since the health care workers have been working in Gautampuri the mortality rate there fell to 0%. Education is a way out of poverty and giving women the opportunity to learn sewing skills means that they have a way of supporting their family. This building will make a real difference to people's lives there.

So far we have held a Promise Auction and Paintings and Puddings evening. The proceeds from these, plus donations, means that our total by Easter Day was £13,400, an amazing amount in less than six months and we now need just £1,600 to meet our target! The land, costing £8,000, has been purchased. Olveston School is also doing their bit, collecting 5ps to buy the bricks and aiming to raise £1,000. On May 25th there is a sponsored walk. Anyone who would like to support us, by either walking or giving, is very welcome. Any cheques by way of donation or sponsorship should be made payable to Olveston PCC, and if you're a taxpayer, it can, of course, be gift aided.

A very big thank you to those who have supported the appeal so far and we look forward to your continued support and meeting our target very soon.

Any enquiries please contact Roly Bain on 01454 616593, email roly@rolybain.co.uk or Lesley Clarke on 01454 613804.

Friends of Olveston School

Adult Quiz Night, Friday 15th May at 8pm

Please come and join us for this fun evening in the Wike Hall, Olveston School. Maximum 6 people per team, £2.50 per person. BYO drinks and nibbles. There will be a raffle and a prize for the "Best Dressed Table". To book a team contact Sarah: 07887 652385 or email: sarah@kingshaulage.co.uk .

From the Register at St Mary de Malmesbury, Littleton-on-Severn

Colin Daniel GWYOTHER aged 74 years who died on 6th March 2015 at Prospect Farm, Littleton-on-Severn. Funeral and Burial at St. Mary's Littleton-upon-Severn, on 23rd March 2015.

Tockington Manor School

Summer Fun Day

On **20th June**, a family fun day will be held at Tockington Manor School from **12am to 4pm**, following a children's triathlon in the morning. There will be a bouncy castle, face-painting, hog roast, Pimms tent, craft stalls, vintage tea tent, pony rides, archery, music and much, much more.... No entry fee, just come and enjoy yourselves!

For more information about entering the triathlon please contact k2sports-uk.com

For more information about the fun day please contact Sarah on sarahandrob@hotmail.co.uk or the school office on 613229.

Olveston & Tockington WI

For your May diary: Spinning, Weaving and Braiding with Jenny Smart, Tuesday May 12th at 7.30pm in Tockington Parish Hall.

At the March meeting, Tim Lewis and Sheila Furneaux gave a delightful musical offering inspired by *Wind in the Willows*. A short insight into the life of the author Kenneth Grahame set the scene. This was followed by Tim narrating his version of the story, occasionally breaking into song, accompanied by pianist Sheila, while illustrations were shown on screen. Songs including *Yellow Submarine*, *Messing about on the River*, *My Way* and *The Stately Homes of England* challenged members' memories. An intriguing and entertaining evening was much enjoyed by all.

St Peter's Hospice Severnside Support Group

...would be delighted to welcome you to Afternoon High Tea on **Wednesday 27th May** at Methodist Church Hall in Thornbury at 3.00pm. The guest speaker will be Mr Tim Pearce of Castle Estate Agents whose talk will be "Anecdotes of an Estate Agent". Tickets are priced at £10.00 (to include a full home-made high tea) and are available from Thornbury Town Hall from 1st May. Please support St Peter's – your local Hospice.

Life is a Cabaret

Thornbury Musical Theatre Group (TMTG) would like to invite you to attend their next production, 'Life is a Cabaret'. This will be on Friday 5th and Saturday 6th June 7.30pm at The Armstrong Hall Thornbury.

The performance will cover a brief history of Cabaret from the late 1800s to the present day.

A musical journey of how Cabaret developed from the *Follies Bergere* and the Moulin Rouge, through to Germany in the 20s and 30s, spreading to America and the U.K. back to Paris and Worldwide.

Featuring a wide selection of tunes and songs from Franz Lehar's *Merry Widow* to Glen Miller; from 1940s Britain and the American Song Book; from shows like *Cabaret*, *Chicago* and *Moulin Rouge*; through the 60s, 70s and 80s with *Only want to be with you*, *New York, New York* and *Walking in Memphis*.

It is directed by Keith Glasspole and has been devised in collaboration with John Mills our musical director who has also written a number of arrangements for the chorus numbers. The show will include a mixture of Chorus, groups, duos and solo performances, with some dancing thrown in for good measure. It promises to be an entertaining spectacle to suit all tastes.

With only two performances book early to avoid disappointment.

Tickets still available from our box office, Lisa Costa Residential Sales and Lettings, 53 High Street, or phone 07516 270140 or order online at www.tmtg.org.uk.

Adult £12; OAPs, Students & under-16s £10; (10% discount for groups of 10 or more).

Thornbury Library

AUTHOR TALK: A DOG CALLED DEZ by John Tovey

WEDNESDAY 20th MAY at Thornbury Library. Doors open 7.00pm, talk starts at 7.15pm

Age restriction 16+ Tickets £5, all proceeds to Guide Dogs for the Blind.

Meet John and Dez and hear their honest and uplifting story of how Guide Dogs transform lives.

Please enquire at Thornbury Library to book tickets, which will be available from 1st May, or email us at thornbury.library@southglos.gov.uk

Hearing loop available – please request on arrival on the night.

Severn Vale Art Trail: 10th Anniversary!

The Thornbury Arts Festival is pleased to present its **10th Severn Vale Art Trail** from the **30th April to the 10th of May 2015**. The trail follows the



Thornbury Arts Festival week when examples of the artists' work are exhibited in our Showcase Exhibition in Thornbury Town Hall. This will include work contributed by local schools.

Thirteen lucky new artists are joining the trail in our 10th year. Several are painters, others work with textiles or glass. To visit them in their own homes and studios is

fascinating, reminding us of the great talent that exists locally behind closed doors.

Shared venues this year are the Thornbury Pound Gallery, Thornbury Museum, the Whitsun Hall at The Hatch in Thornbury, Celebration Fairs, TomatoJack Gallery in Berkeley, St. Mary's Church in Thornbury and, **new this year, St.Mary's Church, Olveston** and the Chapel at Oldbury. Many of the Thornbury artists may be visited on a walking trail throughout the town – a treasure trail indeed!

Sophie Ploeg, portrait and lace painter, is taking part again this year, having shown in many major galleries last year including the Portrait Gallery in London. Berkeley has a new pair of artists showing in the High Street, Jane Lampard shows from her home in Wick, Rita Dee in Dursley, Claire Failes in North Nibley and Liz Armstrong, ceramicist, in Charfield.

Following a trail to access the work of painters, ceramicists, textile artists, photographers, jewellers and glass works is an exciting way to spend your time and offers a chance to purchase fresh works of art for your home. Pick up brochures from Thornbury Town Hall and in outlets in the surrounding towns and villages. Enquiries to arttrail@thornburyartsfestival.com.

Cancer Research UK

The Thornbury and District Cancer Research UK Committee are holding a Coffee Morning at the Alveston Methodist Church Hall on **Wednesday 6th May between 10am and 12 midday**. There will be home-made Cakes, Jams, Chutneys, Used Books and Jewellery for sale together with the opportunity to win some wonderful Raffle Prizes. Please come along and support us in raising funds for this very worthwhile Charity.

Yours Faithfully

By Rev Helen Webb

There are two major events coming up this month - the General Election on May 7th and the FA Cup Final on 30th. Already the discussions have started about who is going to win both these contests and afterwards I can guarantee there will be people who say "I knew who'd win all along!"

There are always people who are wise after the event. There are a number of passages in the Bible which describe times when Jesus said things which His followers could not have understood at the time but which became clearer to them in later years. Jesus said to them before His death "I have told you these things while I am still with you. The Holy Spirit will come and help you ... will teach you everything and will remind you of what I said while I was with you... So don't be worried or afraid..." (John 14 v25-27)

There is a third event this month – the feast of 'Pentecost' – the birthday of the Christian church. The disciples experienced the reality of Jesus' resurrection and greeted it with unbounded joy but something was missing. Some weeks after they had seen Jesus disappear on a cloudy mountain top (at the Ascension) they were in Jerusalem, hiding from the crowds who had come to celebrate the great Harvest festival and scared that they might be arrested and perhaps killed like Jesus was. Their lives changed when Jesus' promised gift of the Holy Spirit came flooding into their lives.

This gathering of people became the first Christian church. New believers in Jesus were baptized as they joined and they shared life together, focusing on teaching, fellowship, breaking of bread and prayer; they shared their belongings so that no one was hungry or needy. As these first Christians lived out their new faith together more and more people discovered Jesus and that's why we speak of Pentecost as the birthday of the church.

Many of us would call ourselves Christians but live as if the church is useful but unnecessary. We believe that as long as we have a personal relationship with God, everything else is secondary. Pentecost is a vivid illustration of the truth that is found throughout Scripture: the community of God's people is central to God's work in the world. Pentecost invites us to re-consider our own participation in the fellowship, worship and mission of the church; to renew our commitment to live as an essential member of the body of Christ and to use our gifts to build the church and share the love and justice of Christ with the world.

From the Registers of St Mary's Olveston

Funeral service at St Mary's on 25th March, Charles Wiliam Hook, followed by burial in the Churchyard.

Memorial Service at St Mary's on 27th March, Neil Francis Cairncross, CB.

Church News

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, OLVESTON

May 3	8am	Holy Communion	Rev Philip Rowe
	10am	Holy Communion	Rev Philip Rowe
	6pm	Evensong with Choir	Rev Roly Bain
May 10	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Rev Roly Bain
	10am	Rogation Sunday Procession with Choir	Rev Roly Bain
	10am	Breakfast Club	Breakfast Club Team
	6pm	Holy Communion	Rev Philip Rowe
May 14	9am	Ascension Day Holy Communion	Rev Roly Bain
May 17	8am	Holy Communion	Rev David Bone
	10am	Holy Communion with Choir	Rev P Rowe & Rev D Bone
	3.45	Back to Front	Paul Harrod
	6pm	Evensong	Rev Ann Lloyd
May 24	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Rev David Bone
	10am	Fourth Sunday	Mr Denis Jones
	6pm	Evensong (BCP) with Choir	Rev R Bain & Mr T Cook
May 31	11am	Joint Service, all congregations Holy Communion with Choir	Rev Roly Bain

Information on services correct at time of going to press.

Rev Philip Rowe, 01454 613223; email: 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

PRAYER GROUP: Mondays, 2.45pm in the Chancel

WEDNESDAY HOLY COMMUNION: At 9.00am led by the Rev Roly Bain except 4th Wed when it is at Olveston Methodist Church

Morning Prayer 8.30am daily ex. Wed

CHAPELRY OF ST JOHN, AUST

May 10	5.30	Holy Communion.	Rev Ann Parker
May 24	5.30	Evening Service	Rev Ann Parker

Focal Minister: **Rev Ann Parker**, 01454 632329

e-mail annatdibley@btinternet.com

Church Wardens: Terry McLeavy 633680

ST MARY DE MALMESBURY, LITTLETON-ON-SEVERN

May 3	9am	Matins	Mrs Tracey Black
May 17	9am	Holy Communion	Rev David Pole

Contact: Rev David Pole 01454 414810; e-mail davepole@me.com

www.alveston.org/alveston/sthelens-church-alveston

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, ELBERTON

May 10	9am	Family Service	Sandra Edgerton
May 24	9am	Holy Communion	Rev David Pole

Contact: Rev David Pole 01454 414810; e-mail davepole@me.com

www.alveston.org/alveston/sthelens-church-alveston

OLVESTON AND TOCKINGTON METHODIST CHURCH

May 3	10am 6pm	Tock.. Ch Olv. Ch..	Morning Worship led by Mr Glyn Varney Evening Worship led by Rev Pete Brazier
May 10	10am	Olv. Ch	Morning Worship led by Mr John Creech
May 17	10am	Tock. Ch.	Morning Worship with Holy Communion led by Rev Pete Brazier
May 24	10am	Olv...Ch..	Morning Worship led by Mrs Glenys Lewis
May 31	10am	Tock. Ch.	Morning Worship led by Church Members

NORTHWICK LUNCHEON GROUP: This meets at 12.30pm on Wednesday 13th May. To book your lunch please ring 416528

TOCKINGTON LUNCHEON GROUP meets at 12.15pm in the Swan on Thurs 21st May. To book please ring 613241 or 612112

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

PRAYER MEETINGS Tuesdays 9.00-10.00 in Olv. Methodist Church.

HOUSE GROUP Tues 12th May at 10.30am at 7 The Green Olveston
Wed. 6th May at 10.30 at 3 Hardy Lane, Tockington ..

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 Bank holiday Mondays 4th & 25th 2.30-5pm on Tockington Green and in the Chapel

CONTACT: Rev Pete Brazier Tel 01454 418176,

e-mail pete@thebigfishcafe.co.uk

THE VINE, AWKLEY

The Vine, Pilning Street, Awkley

We meet in a relaxed, informal manner for worship, prayer & 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

THE OASIS CHURCH, OLD DOWN

May 3	6.30pm	Paul Ashford
May 10	6.30pm	Alan Tarling
May 17	6.30pm	Steve Loader
May 24	6.30pm	Andrew & June Oates
May 31	6.30pm	Lyall Drewett

Each Thurs at 7.30pm Prayer & PraiseTime

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

Paul Ashford, 07774 110 814 or email: Paul@CalebGroup.net

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 at rogerhowell2@talktalk.net 01454 294367

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

Diary Dates for May 2015

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

1 st Fri	Thornbury Carer's Support group Computer Clinic every week	10.30-12.00 7-9pm	Chy MH
2 nd Sat	Coffee Morning Twinning Barn Dance	10.30-12.00 7.30-late	MH PH
3 rd Sun	Bingo every Sun at Sports & Social club	7pm	
4 th Mon	Children's Movie Club Cream Teas on Tock. Green/Chapel Monday Movie	10.00 2.30-5pm 7.30pm	StM StM
5 th Tue	Tockington Toddlers every week Friends of Daldry Gardens Coffee Morning RBL Women's section Colours for your Life Olveston Parish Annual Assembly	9.30-11.30 10.30-12.00 7.30pm 7.30pm	WR DGCL DGCL PH
6 th Wed	Computer Clinic every week Cancer Research Coffee morning Holy Communion at Daldry Gardens	10.00-12.00 10.00-12.00 2.30pm	MH AMH DGCL
7 th Thu	Local & General Elections Thornbury Farmer's Market (& 3 rd Thurs) Coffee Shop Olveston Toddlers Open Mic. at White Hart	 9.00-1.30 9.00-12.00 1.45-3.15 8.30pm	 OSt MH
9 th Sat	Stepping Stones Fun Day Coffee Morning Coffee Morning	10.00-12.00 10.30-12.00 10.30-12.00	EVH AVH MH
11 th Mon	Mobile Library Orchard Rise Mobile Library Daldry Gardens) Mobile Library Old P.O.- L-O-S Severn Vale Flower Club Practice Computer Clinic every Monday	11.10-11.25 11.30-11.50 12.00-12.15 1.30pm 2-4pm	 AH MH
12 th Tue	Friends of Daldry Gardens Coffee Morning Memory Café W.I. 'Spinning, Weaving and Braiding' Aust Parish Council	10.30-12.00 10.15-11.45 7.30pm 7.30pm	DGCL TMH PH EVH
13 th Wed	R.B.L. meeting at White Hart	7.30pm	
14 th Thu	Coffee Shop Olveston Toddlers	9.00-12.00 1.45-3.15	OSt MH
15 th Fri	FOOS Quiz	8pm	OS
16 th Sat	Coffee Morning	10.30-12.00	MH

18 th Mon	Monday Movie Extra	7.30pm	S+M
19 th Tue	Friends of Daldry Gardens Coffee Morning RBL Womens section Bingo	10.30-12.00 7.30pm	DGCL DGCL
20 th Wed	Beat Surgery Severn Vale Flower Club Demo. Bosom Buddies meeting Swan Thornbury Jazz at the White Hart Olveston 'The Hollow' Th.Meth. Players -23rd	10.30-11.00 2pm 7.30pm 8.30pm 7.45	OS+ AH TMH
21 st Thu	Coffee Shop	9.00-12.00	OS+
23 rd Sat	Coffee Morning	10.30-12.00	MH
25 th Mon	Children's Movie Club Cream Teas On Tockington Green /Chapel	10.00am 2.30-5pm	S+M
26 th Tue	Friends of Daldry Gardens Coffee Morning Memory Café Olv. Parish Council meeting	10.30-12.00 10.15-11.45 7.30pm	DGCL TMH AP
27 th Wed	St Peters Hospice Tea & Talk Alv. Local Hist. Soc. Berkeley/Spetchley	3pm 7.30pm	TMH AMC
28 th Thu	Coffee Shop	10.00-12.00	MH
30 th Sat	Coffee Morning Car Boot Sale at Marlwood School	10.30-12.00 1.30-3.30	MH

Looking ahead to June

14 th	Olveston School Fun Run		
20 th	Olveston Fete		

KEY: **AC** Aust Church; **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.CTK Christ the King **DGCL** – Daldry Gardens Community Lounge; **EVH** – Elberton Village Hall; **LVH** Littleton Village Hall **MH** – Olv.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; ; **WR** – Wesley Rooms.

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

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