

Meeting Point

Volume 36, Number 2, November 2011

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

EDITOR:

Phyllida Pyper
Stock Farm
Stock Hill
Littleton-on-Severn
Bristol
Tel: 01454 416422

*meetingpointeditor@
googlemail.com*

ASSISTANT EDITOR:

Angela Williams

Ashlea
Haw Lane
Olveston
Bristol BS35 4EG
Tel 01454 612850
*meetingpointmagazine@
googlemail.com*

ADVERTISING:

Nigel Dawes

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

Publication date

1st of each month

Material for December 2011
to the Editor or Deputy Editor
by 7th November 2011.

"A day without laughter is a day wasted."

Charlie Chaplin

From the Editor

As this is my last edition, I'd like to take this opportunity to wish Phyllida all the best in her role as the new Meeting Point editor.

Thank you to everybody who has contributed to Meeting Point whilst I have been editor and also to the committee who meet monthly and make everything run so smoothly. A special thank you to Noel and Nikki Clarke and Lauren Brown who have given me technical help and support on numerous occasions, and to my family who have been encouraging throughout.

Please keep sending in your wonderful articles.

Our cover this month is by Lauren Brown

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**

Woodwell Meadows

Mary Wilkins

The year was 1976. We were living in Olveston and looking for somewhere to keep our ponies. We were also looking for a family home to accommodate our family of six. My mother, Win Peirce, had moved to Thornbury and she wanted to buy a field to walk in. So when two fields in Littleton came up for sale we all went to the auction and she bought them! Shortly afterwards Central Farm came up for sale and we all moved there, very close to the meadows. My mother moved into Rose Cottage, next door.

Our family, including the extended family, enjoyed using the fields in various ways' and the ponies were very happy there too! We didn't use fertiliser or weed-killers and gradually we began to notice all manner of wild flowers emerging and increasing year by year. There were primroses, violets, celandines and cowslips in the Spring, followed by bluebells and red campion in the wooded area at the top.

Then, about fifteen years ago we were strolling up the top field when we came across a bee orchid. We were very excited and have seen bee orchids every year since, sometimes one or two sometimes up to twenty. At the same time we began to see pyramidal and spotted orchids and many other wild flowers, insects and butterflies.

Win always loved the fields and for as long as she could she walked up there every day with her dogs. We put a bench at the top and all enjoyed sitting there and gazing at the view over the Severn.

When Win died, in 2007 at the age of 95 we realised that we would have to sell the fields as part of her estate. We were very anxious that they should be maintained as 'unimproved grassland,' by now quite a rarity. We were thrilled to be able to negotiate the sale to South Gloucestershire Council as a Local Nature Reserve.

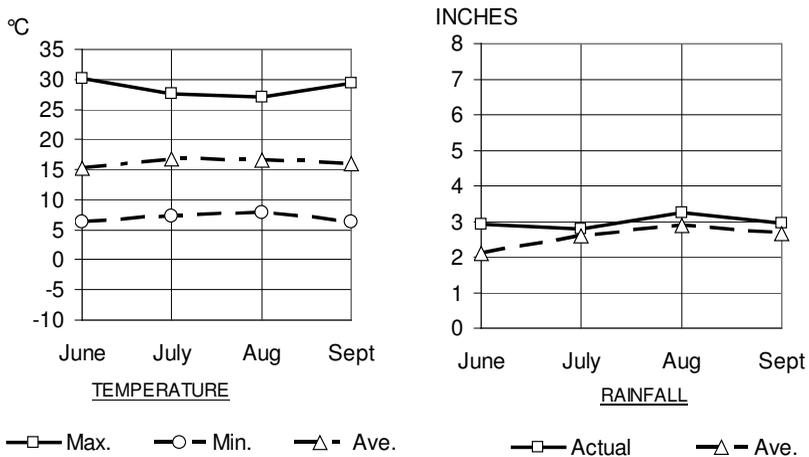
Now that it is up and running we are even more delighted at the way it is being protected and used. In the Summer of 2011 all the pupils of Olveston School had a wonderful 'Safari' day out there. Win Peirce had been a primary school teacher and had run cub packs all her life. She loved the outdoors, camp fires, fun and games and I know that she would be so happy that her legacy is being used in this way.

General Stores in Olveston every Sunday

will now be open until 6.30pm

July to September 2011

Marcus Bean



July

A very mixed month with sunshine interspersed with showers caused by a procession of low pressure systems passing over us. Being cloudy much of the time, the daytime temperatures were below expected at this time of year, but night time temperatures remained fairly high.

A windy cool month with average temperature approximately 1° C below norm which was also reflected in lower barometric pressure, but with rainfall very close to average.

August

A succession of low pressure systems moving to the North of the British Isles brought many cold and warm fronts over us resulting in almost continuous cloud cover and significant amounts of rain. Cool conditions continued for almost the entire month.

Average temperature was almost 1° C below norm, sunshine levels were about 70% of normal and rainfall was approximately half an inch above average..

September

Cool showery conditions existed for the greater part of the month due to Atlantic low pressure systems (many the remains of hurricanes which developed in the Caribbean) bringing their associated weather fronts over the country. For the last four days of the month a huge high pressure system developed over the near-Continent and pushed its way across the south of the country bringing five hot and sunny days.

Average temperature and pressure were marginally below norm but rainfall was slightly above average. We had gales on three days in the month.

'Bugles Calling For Them From Sad Shires'

Anonymous

How easy it is nowadays to cross the Channel, a ride through the tunnel & one is in France; it wasn't much slower in 1914, indeed it was said that a man could have breakfast in the trenches and be home for supper.

How strange Flanders with its vast skies must have seemed to the men from the grimy Northern industrial city, of which it was said there were districts that the sun never fully penetrated, so great was the volume of smoke overhanging the area.

Walking through the graveyard where my relative lies with 1400 others from all over the world including China, one would have to be insensitive in the extreme not to be filled with sadness at so many young men cut down in their prime.

People talk of the 1914 war as a tragedy, but to me the greater tragedy was that the world had to go through an even more devastating war 20 years later.

We should keep in mind the concluding words of President Lincoln's Gettysburg address; "We should resolve that these Dead shall not have died in vain and that this nation under God, shall have a new birth of freedom; and that government of the people , by the people and for the people shall not perish from the earth."

The Big Read

The publication of the Authorised Version of the Bible four hundred years ago, in 1611, was a momentous event in the life of our country. Its striking phrases and memorable images remain very much part of our culture and language today. The familiar parables, the noble teaching of the Sermon on the Mount in the language of the King James' Version, are still valued as part of our heritage. To mark the Anniversary, a team from St.Mary's is planning the public reading of the first four books of the New Testament, the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John (altogether over a tenth of the whole Bible!) on Saturday 26th November, starting at 9.00am. We reckon it will take until about 7.00pm and the reading will be continuous.

Why not drop in and listen for a while?

Denis Jones (612394)

Coffee Morning at Daldry Gardens

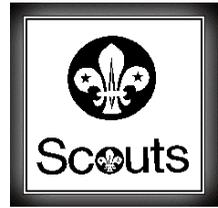
Tuesday 1st November 10.30 -11.30am.

All welcome to come and have a chat and a coffee and biscuits.

Line of Coins

1st Olveston Scout Group will be holding their annual 'Line of Coins' on Saturday 26th November.

We will be starting at the Bakery and also the Village Stores at 10am, lining the streets with copper, silver and hopefully some gold (as they're easier to count). The Beavers, Cubs and Scouts will be given pots to help them collect monies before the day. Please come along and support this worthy event. All money raised will go towards the running costs of our superb hut.



Also the boys will be busy on 12th Nov at the **Royal British Legion Coffee Morning**, start at 10, finish at 12. Please come along and support the RBL.

Lynda Spratt 01454 632484

Colin Prewett (Chairman) 614210

Annual Memorial Service

Nothing is ever the same after someone we love dies. We say our goodbyes at the funeral and try to get on with our lives, but the loss keeps hitting us at unexpected times. In grieving, it helps to make space to reflect, give thanks and to meet with others who have suffered loss.

For all who are mourning the loss of someone they loved, regardless of whether the bereavement was recent or long ago, a Memorial Service will be held at St. Mary's Olveston at 6pm on Sunday 30th October. At this service there will be an opportunity to light a candle, as well as having the name of your loved one(s) remembered in the prayers. Please mention the name(s) you wish remembered to the sidesman as you enter the church. Afterwards there will be a chance to meet and talk with others over light refreshments. Please do attend with as many of your family and friends as you wish.

Christmas Wreath making

at Old Down Manor

Tuesday 15th November 2011, 10.30am-5.00pm,

£40.00 per person to include:

Tea, coffee and homemade cakes on arrival.

Buffet lunch, a wreath making demonstration, a table decoration demonstration, step-by-step instructions to take home with you.

All materials supplied. Wreath and table decoration made by yourself to take home, perfect for the door and table at Christmas!

Oveston and Aust.com

Trevor Cook



The Community Website has been running for just over three years and has steadily grown since its launch. Like every website we are able to use 'Google Analytics' to provide us with several key indicators about the performance of the site and they tell us that...

- The site attracts around 500 visitors per month and many of those look again as there are 650 individual visits per month
- The most popular page is almost always the 'Photo Galleries'. At present there are eighty photographs in the gallery showing local scenes and events and some of our parishes' heroes.
- After looking at the photos it is the 'Events' page which is the next most visited page. The long-term diary has become essential reading for those who are either planning events or finding out what's on.
- Next favourite is the 'Community Magazine' page where the archived copies of "Meeting Point" are held. Can it be that, after visitors know when an event is on, they turn to the magazine to find more information about it?

Although its intended audience is local, the website does have a world-wide audience and we find people from countries as diverse as the USA, Russia and Philippines looking at the site. A number of them use the 'Contact us' tag, to ask about family connections and to trace their genealogy and efforts are made to help.

Although pleased with the numbers, we are always interested to do better and, if you would like to add to or comment about the website, we would be delighted to hear from you via the email **web@olvestonandaust.com** or by using the telephone numbers or email addresses in the front of Meeting Point magazine.

If you haven't visited the site yet you can find us via either of two links, **www.olvestonandaust.com** or www.olveston.com

Expedition Challenge

17th & 18th of September



By Jacques Davies-Cren, PL Cobra Patrol

Five brave scouts were ready for a quest that could bring misery, unhappiness and discomfort; luckily we didn't have any room in our bags to fit them in. Instead we had 2 tents, a stove and the horrible food Ollie bought. We were all given a job to prepare our expedition, Ollie was accountant, Stuart was the leader (a very good one), and Dominic had to do a risk assessment, Ed the first aider and me the lucky person who has to write this article. We had a choice - either we go through the fog and rainy mountains with stormy clouds above them and the terrifying inclines or we could follow the canal. So we followed the canal.

Our adventure started at the Butcher's in Olveston where we all met up to share the transport out between Lynda and Chris Sopp. After half an hour of driving through torrential rain we arrived at the start of our voyage, Stroud, (it must have been the only sunny place in South Gloucestershire). We put on our two-stone bags on to our back and began our hike.

Almost an hour into our hike we had done four miles and we guessed we would arrive at camp at 1p.m. with no problems. As soon as we said we were doing great, we encountered our first problem (not our last). A sign ahead of us said "Footpath Closed " and then a big man came towards us so we did what we do best and looked big and tough. Obviously we didn't - we used the oldest trick in the book, we looked at the map as if we were lost. Luckily the man let us through.

After repeating that we only had 1.5 km left ten times we all agreed we were lost! We headed towards a town and asked an old man for directions to our accommodation. According to him we were ages away. That brought happiness to the group.

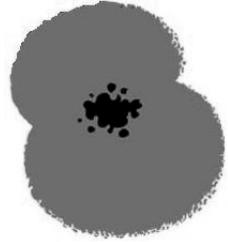
The next day was astonishingly good: we were making good progress and even arrived two hours early. At the church open day we were invited up the church tower to see the clock it was very interesting and I learnt a lot.

I would like to thank Lynda, Caroline and Chris Sopp for all their support and lifts.



1st Olveston Scouts 01454 632484

Olveston Branch Royal British Legion



On **Friday 11th November 2011**, we shall gather at the war memorial at 10.50am for 2 minutes silence at 11am, finishing with a short prayer.

Sunday 13th November 2011 Remembrance Service at St.Mary's 10am

Uniformed parties assemble at Parish Hall 9.15am, stopping at Orchard Rise for others to join in, before proceeding to the church.

Your Editors

Bill Morgan

This November's Meeting Point will be Sharon's last issue and on behalf of the committee I would like to convey our thanks for her work as Editor over the past two years. It is no simple task producing a monthly magazine and we understand that the I.T. job was made a little easier by Sharon's son, Alex, in guiding her through the intricacies of formatting and layout! So our thanks to the whole Lapworth family.

Taking over from Sharon will be Phyllida Pyper from Littleton on Severn who has already dipped her toe into the Meeting Point editorial pool by producing last September's issue. Phyllida will be contactable on meetingpointeditor@googlemail.com so please continue to provide us with the full range of articles that makes Meeting Point an enjoyable and informative local magazine, delivered to your door by numerous volunteers and read around the world on www.olvestonandaust.com

GLOSSFM is back on air!

Community radio station GLOSSFM is back on air from October 31 until November 27 with its annual winter broadcast.

'We've got a month of great programmes lined up,' said scheduler Chris Mountain. 'You can listen to them by tuning in on 87.7FM, or by logging on to www.glossfm.org. Details of all the programmes are on the website.

Our Parish Matters

Richard Rogers

Over the coming months I will be submitting the 'Parish Matters' article for Meeting Point, and hope to be as erudite as my predecessor, Andy Clarke who has recently resigned as a Parish Councillor. Andy is always very adept at getting things done, has been a sterling advocate and supporter of parish activities over a number of years and will be sadly missed by his fellow councillors.

Andy's resignation does however create a vacancy on the Parish Council, and an ideal opportunity for someone to get involved in local affairs. The democratic process involves firstly offering the Parish the opportunity to call an election, and then from the last week of October inviting local parishioners to either stand for election or alternatively offer to be co-opted onto the Parish Council – please watch the Parish Notice boards for the exact timetable and certainly contact the Parish Clerk and other Councillors if you are interested. Ideally candidates should be on the electoral role of the Parish, although nominations can be accepted from anyone over eighteen who lives within three miles of the Parish.

The September meeting of the Parish Council was dominated by discussions about renewable energy, in particular the increasing number of applications for people wanting to fit solar panels to their houses, and especially the proposed wind farm at Ingst. Fitting solar panels to an existing roof are a good source of energy without taking up potentially useful land – they are however subject to planning permission if in a Conservation area, and advice should always be sought from South Gloucestershire Council's planning department.

Whilst England needs alternative sources of energy, and the parish could indirectly benefit from the associated grants and subsidies, the proposed wind farm at Ingst is naturally a very controversial issue. Parishioners local to this Green Belt site have already expressed concerns over the closeness to their properties, the scale of the turbines themselves (over 2½ times the height of existing pylons in the area), the potential noise levels and especially access for the construction traffic along the narrow lanes around Ingst. A planning application has been submitted for a 15m mast to test wind conditions in the area with a full planning application for the project due early in 2012. The parish council are taking a keen interest in events and would appreciate your written comments to the email address below or to the Clerk.

2012 certainly looks set to be a busy year, with the Olympics and especially the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. A group of parishioners led by Nikki Clark and Sharon Lapworth are already planning some stunning celebrations but would I am sure welcome more contributions.

October is also one of the bi-annual Duke of Edinburgh presentations at St James Palace, and this month Matthew Rogers and James Sawyer are making the trip to receive their awards from Prince Phillip. This year Endeavour Explorer Scouts have achieved a further two bronze, three silvers and three golds, and continuing thanks should go to Kathy & Russell Cook and others who guide young people through this worthy scheme.

olvestonpc@googlemail.com

Table Top Sale

"Friends of Daldry Gardens" are holding a table top sale in the communal lounge at Daldry Gardens on Saturday November 19th at 10.00am till 2.00pm. If you wish to reserve a table to sell your unwanted items then please contact Paula on 613778. The cost is £5 a table.

Please come along to support us. Refreshments will be available at a small cost.

Wind Turbines

Residents of Olveston are becoming aware of a proposal to build a wind farm on agricultural land between the M4 and the M48, south of Ingst Hill. Three huge turbines are proposed for this development on Green Belt land, each to be 80m tall with 47m blades giving a full height of 127m. By way of comparison the network of electricity pylons that cross the area are just 50m high, and Ingst Hill is just 27m high. The turbines at Avonmouth are of a comparable size, however sit in an appropriate industrial context.

Most of Olveston will be within 2000m of the site, and if you can see the pylons you can estimate for yourself how the turbines will dominate the landscape.

The homes on the south side of Ingst Hill are 600m from the turbines; householders are not happy about the prospect and view the industrial scale of the proposal as wholly inappropriate to the area and for the Green Belt. There is also very real concern about the ability of the single track lane through Ingst to Northwick to support the construction traffic, and the disruption to local businesses. An action group to oppose the plans is forming, which can be contacted at no2m48windfarm@gmail.com

Movies at St Mary's: Nov

Trevor Anderson

Two films this month in St Mary's Olveston.

MONDAY MOVIES: **Mon 7th Nov**



Author Rudyard Kipling and his wife search for their 17-year-old son after he goes missing during WWI. A powerful and true-story drama for Remembrance Day based around the tragic waste of young lives in WW1. Stars Daniel Radcliffe. *Cert 15.*

MONDAY MOVIES EXTRA: **Mon 21st Nov**

Growing up in 1970s Afghanistan, two young boys are firm friends - until a shocking incident tears their relationship apart. A moving adaptation of the bestselling novel from Finding Neverland director Marc Forster. *Cert 12.* Doors open at 7.00 and shows start at **7.30**. Licensed bar and soft drinks. Free admission.

For film titles, see posters and leaflets in church or join the mailing list (contact trevoranderson@btinternet.com or 613279).

Any films you would like us to show? Send us your requests.

Rural Arts South Glos.

Kevin Tomlinson's **Seven Ages** takes a comic yet moving look at the Seven Stages of Life – Shakespeare meets *Whose Line Is It Anyway?* - in this fascinating show about The Cycle of Life.

With a combination of comedy, drama and pathos it aims to explore two of the most important questions – *Why am I here?* and *What's important in my life?* A truly unique show that makes you re-assess your priorities in life whilst at the same time making you laugh. Come and be inspired!

This event takes place on Friday 25th November 2011 at Olveston Parish Hall 7.45 pm. Licensed Bar. Tickets priced £8 adults and £6 concessions. Tel. 01454 615806 or from The Crusty Loaf, Olveston.

www.kevintomlinson.co.uk



Totally-Locally

at the heart of the community

www.totally-locally.org

The next market day will be held on **5th November**, wow as I write this it does make me respect the movement of time – I can't believe we are coming so close to the end of 2011....reflecting back I do think that as I use the last of my runner beans, yes, runner beans that I have just picked, using your own produce is a savvy way to make your food budget go further – the question this year has been what is Seasonal??? – As I look out today, I have flowers on my strawberry plants!!!

For those of you who ever need a bottle of Rape seed oil or a refill just give me a ring on the number below.

Another exciting addition this year will be the Tockington Manor Gift and Craft Market on 25th November, 2pm till 8 pm, so another date for your diary.

Next Totally Locally Market Saturday 5th November 9.30 – 12.00 on Tockington Green.

Jane Sunnucks, Old Down, 01454 419931

Christmas Gift and Craft Market

to be held at
Tockington Manor School
on Friday 25th November
2pm – 8pm
Everyone welcome!



Free Entry

A wide range of gifts and crafts,
sourced both locally and internationally.
Refreshments available. Raffle

Police Report

Due to annual leave and commitments we were unable to publish reports for August and September so this report will cover crimes and incidents from that period of time.

At the beginning of August a dwelling burglary occurred in Hill, Berkeley and at the time of writing this report fingerprints found at the scene are still being checked for comparison.

There were 6 burglaries to sheds and outbuildings, two males were arrested and have appeared before North Avon Magistrates Court. All other offences took place during the month of August.

Three push bikes found in Oldbury-on-Severn were traced to an address in Thornbury and three males have been arrested and are currently going through the criminal justice procedure.

Two vehicles have been stolen, a Landrover from a farm in Ingst during the day and a work van from Oldbury-on-Severn during the evening. Both vehicles are still outstanding.

We have had reports of tools and a wheelbarrow stolen from the allotments in Olveston. If you use the allotments, please be vigilant and put tools and items away securely.

Two reports of criminal damage, in one of which unknown offenders threw a brick at the shop door and window breaking the outer pane, fortunately not gaining entry to the premises. In Elberton close to the B4461, an Almond tree (which is quite rare) has been deliberately damaged by the branches being pulled back and snapped.

The next SSCG meeting is Wednesday 11th January 2012 at 7.30pm in Aust Village Hall.

Shifts have been changed and the Neighbourhood Policing Team will be working between 4pm and midnight on Halloween and will also be working in Thornbury on bonfire night.

Avon and Somerset Community Policing Awards are back. For further details please go to www.communitypolicingawards.org.uk

The next beat surgery dates are Thursday 24th November and Thursday 22nd December in Olveston Coffee Shop, alternatively most Tuesday mornings you can find us at Olveston Parish Hall between 10 - 12.

Olveston Parish Historical Society

Wednesday, 2nd November 2011, 7.30pm,
The Wyke Hall, Olveston School, Elberton Rd, Olveston BS35 4DB
Everyone is welcome! Free admission for all at this special event.

Schooling in Olveston Parish, 1836-1968

*Headmaster William Green
and pupils in 1900*



Olveston C.E.V.C. Primary School is a big part of many local people's lives. It's a thriving and successful school, with a lively curriculum and a caring ethos. But what was schooling like in the past – in the twentieth and the nineteenth centuries?

We're in for a special treat when Eric Garrett reveals what he has discovered about the history of schooling in the parish of Olveston, using documentary sources such as school log books and the Victorian school management committee minutes.

He starts his story in 1836 when a new school, Olveston and Elberton National School, was built in Elberton Road, to serve the children of what were then the parishes of Olveston and Elberton. His talk will contain fascinating glimpses of school life in very different times from the present, when schooling was often interrupted by serious illnesses and by absence to help with agriculture. We shall also hear about the Old Down Infants School, whose caring teachers were often praised by school inspectors.

Eric will tell us about different head teachers, all men until the arrival of Doris MacDonald in 1953, and the latter part of his talk is bound to include names of staff – and maybe even pupils - who will be familiar to many local residents. His new book, which is being launched at this event, contains many photos of class groups, which should provide hours of fun spotting familiar faces!

Police Notice

As of the beginning of September there is a new non emergency number for Avon and Somerset Police and all other forces in the country.

The new non emergency number is 101

When you call this number you will be directed to the relevant police force for your area.

Olveston Parish Historical Society

Programme: November 2011 – April 2012

7.30 pm start. All events *except 2 Nov.* will be at the Methodist Hall, The Street, Olveston BS35 4DR. Whole season £5. Single meetings £2, payable at the door. All very welcome.

Wed. 2nd Nov. 2011: This meeting is at Olveston School – FREE entry.

Eric Garrett has been researching the history of “**Schooling in Olveston Parish, 1836-1968**”. He’ll be talking about his findings and launching his new book on the subject. You won’t want to miss it!

Wed. 7th Dec. 2011

Dr. Francis Burroughes, of Bristol Blue Glass SW, is a glass historian who can tell us about the Phoenicians, the Egyptians and the Romans. “**Glass-making and Bristol’s Place in its History**” will highlight glass-making nearer home too. We hope to see samples from his own collection.

Wed. 4th Jan. 2012

Tony Cherry’s illustrated talk will be on “**The Thornbury Union Workhouse, 1836-1871**”. Until the 1830s, Olveston Parish looked after its own poor but, following the New Poor Law of 1834, parishes had to unite in Unions with a central workhouse. Olveston was one of 21 parishes in Thornbury Union. Tony has been researching the history of the Thornbury Workhouse for a new book and has some hair-raising tales to tell.

Wed. 1st Feb. 2012

“**Bristol Ships and Shipping in the 15th Century**”. Tim Bowly retired from British Aerospace Dynamics in 2002, since when he has completed an MA and a PhD on the subject of his talk. He will tell us about medieval ships and their merchandise, the ports they used, navigation, ships of war, piracy, exploration and some of the men who financed and sailed in the ships.

Wed. 7th March 2012

Prof. Tom James has advised Melvyn Bragg and Bettany Hughes on the Black Death and contributed to Radio 4’s ‘This Scepter’d Isle’. He will give us an illustrated talk on “**The Greatest Catastrophe in Recorded History: The Black Death of 1348-50**” which, according to modern scholarship, killed over 50% of the population of Europe. His wide-ranging talk will include the impacts of the plague on art and architecture, on the economy and on the mentality of the people of the time.

Wed. 4th April 2012

John Loosley, an energetic and lively local historian, will be telling us about his researches into “**Childhood Employment in Gloucestershire**”. He has looked into child workers in the Forest of Dean and the textile mills of Stroud.

Programme Secretaries: Jenny & Richard Newley 01454 202011

Website: <http://www.olvoston.com/historical-society>

185ft Drop!

On Sunday 20th November, Sharon and Charley Lapworth from Tockington will be abseiling down the side of the Premier Inn in Bristol City Centre (a 185 ft drop) to raise money for St Peter's Hospice, which cares for local adults with incurable illnesses and has helped many people within our community.



Sponsorship would be very much appreciated by going to <http://www.justgiving.com/Sharon-Lapworth> or by contacting Sharon on 01454 613502.

Aust Bonfire Night

Friday 4th November At Manor Farm, Aust

Gates open @6pm

Fireworks @ 7pm

Food and drinks available

Guy Fawkes Competition to be judged at 6.30pm

Family fun for all

Please do not bring sparklers or fireworks as all are provided

For more information contact Nadine Nunn on 631610.



Christmas Coffee Morning

in aid of St Mary's Church, Olveston,
on Friday 2nd December from 10:30am onwards, at the Loans, Alveston

Olveston Church Lands

Remarkably few people in Olveston know much about Olveston Church Lands. Where are these lands? Actually they were sold in the 1920s, and the money reinvested in various Charitable Funds.

What do they do? Olveston Church Lands are a Charity, and their sole purpose is to look after the existing fabric of St Mary's, Olveston. There is a good reason why Olveston Church Lands are not well known. In the 1950s they spent most of their money on repairing the Church roof. Since then they have kept a low profile whilst they replenish their Funds. In the future if there is a major appeal for work on the existing structure, they may be able to help the PCC in a meaningful way.

Over the last few years, small contributions have been made to the PCC to help with maintenance work. They did not make a contribution to the recent Reordering, except in respect of a small amount for work relating to existing fabric.

Loosely, Olveston Church Lands can be described as a private National Trust for the benefit of St Mary's. They are non-religious, and are entirely separate from the PCC. They are run by people (known as Feoffees – an old fashioned word for Trustees), who love the building of St Mary's, and want the building to be enjoyed by future generations. They know that there are many other people in the area who share this love of the building – probably the finest building in the Village. Many of these people are not church goers – as the PCC discovered when they were organising the Reordering!

Olveston Church Lands now wish to raise their profile, and increase their Funds to assist the maintenance of the Church. They have produced a Leaflet, which you will find displayed in the Church, explaining how you can help their cause – either by Gift Aid or by a Legacy in your Will. Please take one. Alternatively you can contact John Gunnery (413225).

John Gunnery
Feoffee

From the Registers of St.Mary's

Marriage on 20th August of Lucy Groom and David Braithwaite.

Thanksgiving Service on 18th September for Janu Sapkota, son of Lalu and Kate Sapkota.

Baptism on 24th September of Lily Rose Gerrard, daughter of Emma and Paul Gerrard.

Marriage on 24th September of Paul Gerrard and Emma Neal.

Marriage on 8th October of James Bennington and Abigail Dobson.

Thanksgiving Service for the life of Henry Douglas Armstead on 30th September followed by cremation at Westerleigh Crematorium.

Service and cremation at Westerleigh Crematorium on 4th October of Muriel Rushton.

Firework Display - The Chantry

Join us for a family Firework Display in The Chantry Garden on
Saturday 5th November 2011

Doors open at 6pm, so why not come and enjoy some food and a drink from the bar before the display starts at 7pm?

Advance Tickets are £3:50 for adults and £2:50 for children and are available from The Chantry office and bar in Castle Street, Thornbury, and the Tourist Information Centre in The Town Hall, High Street, Thornbury.
Tickets will also be available on the night.

For more information – please call 01454 414268 or email
office@thechantry.org.uk

Please note – no sparklers are to be brought to the event

Raising funds for restoration projects at The Chantry

Faith in Prison

On Nov 19th St Mary's are hosting a region-wide conference called 'Faith in Prison'. The title is deliberately ambiguous, because we're looking at the faith that people have in the justice system as well as the place of faith and chaplaincy in prisons. Bishop Peter Selby, former Bishop to Prisons and now president of the National Council of Independent Monitoring Boards is our keynote speaker in the morning; and Juliet Lyon, Director of the Prison Reform Trust, is our keynote speaker in the afternoon. Alongside them we have Steve Webb MP, a prison governor, a serving prisoner, and a prison chaplain, as well as a forum and Changing Tunes, a prison charity that deals very successfully in using music as therapy. If you'd like to come, we need to know in advance for catering purposes, for lunch is included in the price.

It's £7.50, payable to Olveston PCC.

Registration to Stephanie@fairhead.me.uk or ring 01454 413990.

Any queries to Roly Bain, David Shaw or Stephanie.

Advent Talks

Once again we're having Advent Talks at St Mary's to distract you from the pressures (and attractions!) of Christmas shopping. Our line-up this year is:

Thurs Nov 24th - The Revd Rob Gillion, ex actor, priest and regular Radio 2 contributor

Tuesday, Nov 29th - The Revd Brenda Dowie, Chaplain to St Peter's Hospice

Tues, Dec 6th - Dom Alexander, Benedictine Monk at Downside Abbey

Thurs, Dec 15th - Lesley Farrall, Bristol Diocesan Secretary

Each speaker talks simply about their journey of faith, there is then an opportunity to ask questions and we finish with wine and refreshments. No charge for admission, though donations, as ever, are always welcome!

Any queries to Roly Bain, 616593.

Leaflets with more info are available in church.

Yours Faithfully

Rev Sandy Williams

Is your glass half full or half empty?

Which picture do you find most attractive?

'It is a crisp, autumn morning. Dog owners pull on stout boots, warm jackets and wind scarves round their necks and set out for the first walk of the day. A few leaves fall gently, swirling to the ground in red, brown and yellow patterns until they land and the walkers feel and hear their crispness under foot. Arms swing; legs stride out and tails wave and wag in greeting.'

'It is a November morning. The summer warmth is becoming a memory and dog owners no longer leave their homes in T shirts and trainers for the first walk of the day. Instead they are muffled up against the chill. Already the trees are bare and the falling leaves will soon be trodden into the ground where they will become wet mulch under foot. Heads down and hands stuffed in pockets people and their dogs resign themselves to face the winter months.'

Have you ever been asked if you are someone whose glass is half full or half empty or, to put it another way, if you are an optimist or a pessimist. In reality, most of us are somewhere in between. At the beginning of November we know that there will be beautiful Autumn days to enjoy but it would be unrealistic not to recognize that there will also be wet and gloomy days too.

As we begin to face the winter months Olveston and Tockington Methodist Church has already embarked on a refurbishment of Olveston chapel and hall. After all the discussions relating to our property we have decided to do what we can with the limited resources available to us. We have removed the pews from the chapel and having the hall and chapel painted white throughout and the floor sanded and sealed. We have been offered lightweight, upholstered chairs that are no longer needed by Wesley College and expect to reopen both hall and chapel for our carol service on 11th December (although our official opening will be on New Year's Day at 6 pm).

Which picture do you find most attractive?

'The Methodist Chapel is light, bright and welcoming. Chairs can be moved easily to be placed in a semi-circle or round tables. The chapel can be used for meetings, concerts, as well as a place where mums can gather for coffee after taking children to school or retired people can come to play scrabble or sit and chat over tea in the afternoon.'

Now the chapel can be used in many different ways.' God is present wherever people gather together and encourage each other.

'The Methodist Chapel is being spoilt. A Victorian building in the village should have been preserved as a period piece! I hardly ever went into it but churches should be treated as churches and shouldn't be opened up for all kinds of activities. Noisy children shouldn't be allowed to play in a church. It should be kept solely for the purpose of worshipping God. After all it is sacred space!'

As the nights draw in and the weather gets colder I wonder if we can find a balance between the attitudes of 'half full' and 'half empty'. When Christians think of Jesus, they see someone who was prepared to challenge the establishment, who opened his heart to people of all kinds, as we hope to open the doors of Olveston Chapel, and he welcomed them unreservedly. He was also realistic. He challenged closed minds and attitudes and showed people a different way of living. He also knew that God was not confined to the sanctuary in the temple but was found helping, encouraging and enjoying the company of all kinds of people.

We hope you will all come to see our newly refurbished chapel in our open week beginning on Sunday 11th December. Watch out for the list of events that will be displayed in the church porch. I will look forward to hearing your comments then.

God bless.

Friends of St. Mary's

The prize winners in September's draw, held on 22nd September 2011 at the Friends' Committee Meeting were:-

<u>Amount</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Name</u>
£150	154	Mrs. M. Skuse, Pilning
£75	199	Dr. E. Saunders, Olveston
£25	422	Dr. D. Cochrane, Olveston
£25	500	Mrs. P. King, Olveston
£25	411	Mr. R. J. Lloyd, Tockington
£20	465	Mrs. C. Phillpott, Tockington
£10	378	Mr. N. H. Dawes, Olveston

Church News

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, OLVESTON

Nov 6	8am	Holy Communion	Rev Philip Rowe
	10am	Holy Communion	Rev. Philip Rowe & Mrs Ann Lloyd
	10am	Breakfast Club	Breakfast Club Team
	6pm	Evensong	Mr D Jones & Rev R Bain
Nov 13	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Rev David Bone
	10am	Parade Service with Choir	Rev R Bain & Rev R Crew
	10am	Breakfast Club	Breakfast Club Team
	6pm	Holy Communion	Rev R Bain & Rev P Rowe
Nov 20	8am	Holy Communion	Rev Roly Bain
	10am	Holy Communion with Choir	Rev P Rowe & Steve Smith (Crisis Centre)
	10am	Breakfast Club	Breakfast Club Team
	6pm	Evensong	Mr D Jones
Nov 27	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Rev Roly Bain
	10am	Advent Service with Breakfast Club	Rev R Bain & Mrs J McBride
	6pm	Service of Light	Rev Roly Bain

Information on services correct at time of going to press.

Contacts:

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 Church

WEDNESDAY HOLY COMMUNION: At 9.00am led by the Rev. Roly Bain

CHAPELRY OF ST JOHN, AUST

Nov 13	10am	Remembrance Service	Rev David Bone
Nov 27	10am	Morning Prayer	Rev David Bone

Hon. Curate: Rev David Bone, 01454 614601

Church Wardens: Janet Ford, 01454 633300 Terry McLeavy 633680

ST MARY DE MALMESBURY, LITTLETON-ON-SEVERN

Nov 6	9am	Holy Communion	Rev David Pole
Nov 20	9am	Matins	Rev David Pole

Contact: Rev. David Pole 01454 414810; www.sthelensalveston.org

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, ELBERTON

Nov 13	9am	Matins	Tracey Black
Nov 27	9am	Holy Communion	Rev David Pole

Contact: Rev. David Pole 01454 414810; www.sthelsalveston.org

OLVESTON AND TOCKINGTON METHODIST CHURCH

Nov 6	10am	Tock. Ch	Morning Worship with Holy Communion led by Rev Sandy Williams
	6pm	St Andrews	United Service led by MrJacky Quarmbly
Nov 13	10am	StMary's	Remembrance Sunday Service
Nov 20	10am	Tock. Ch.	Morning Worship led by Rev. Sandy Williams
Nov 27	10am	Tock Ch.	Morning Worship led by Mr Colston Smith

NORTHWICK LUNCHEON GROUP: This meets at 12.30pm on Wednesday 9th November. To book your lunch please ring 416528

TOCKINGTON LUNCHEON GROUP meets at 12.15 in the Swan Tockington on Thurs 24th Nov. (later than usual). To book please ring 613241, or 612112

COFFEE MORNINGS: Sats 10.30 - 12 noon in the Olveston Methodist Hall. On Sats 12th & 26th the coffee will be organised by the Scouts

CONTACT: Rev Sandy Williams tel 07841 752 941,
Sandy.williams48@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

THE OASIS CHURCH, OLD DOWN

Nov 6	6.30pm	Victory Outreach
Nov 13	6.30pm	Munir Din
Nov 20	6.30pm	Steve Loader
Nov 27	6.30pm	Jan cooper

Prayer Time every Thurs 7.30

For further information please contact **Ceri Morgan-Davies** 413043
Paul Ashford, 07774 110814 or email: **Paul@CalebGroup.net**

AUST EVANGELICAL CHURCH Family Worship 11.00am Evening Worship
6.30pm. For more details, please phone 632564.

BRISTOL CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP -Our Sunday morning meetings are
held at The Grange School in Warmley at 11 am,
Contact 01454 613305 **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**

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** Bristol area: **www.bristolquakers.org.uk**

Diary Dates for November 2011

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

1 st Tue	Tockington Toddlers Royal British Legion Women-Bingo	9.30-11.30 7.30pm	WR DGCL
2 nd Wed	O.P.H.S Book Launch	7.30pm	OS
3 rd Thu	Thornbury Farmer's Market Coffee Shop Olveston Toddlers	9.00-1.30 9.00 12.00 2.00-4.30	OS+ MH
4 th Fri	Aust Village Fireworks	7.00pm	
5 th Sat	Coffee Morning Royal British Legion Women Colston Hall Totally Locally on Tockington Green	10.30-12.00 9.30-12.00	MH
6 th Sun			
7 th Mon	Severn Vale Flower Club Open Meeting Monday Movie Open Mic. at the White Hart	6.30pm 7.30pm 8.30pm	AH StM
8 th Tue	Tockington Toddlers Women's Institute Aust Parish Council	9.30-11.30 7.30pm 7.30pm	WR PH EVH
9 th Wed	Royal British Legion Men	7.30pm	DGCL
10 th Thu	Coffee Shop Olveston Toddlers	9.00-12.00 2.00-4.30	OS+ MH
11 th Fri			
12 th Sat	Coffee Morning Coffee Morning (Scouts)	10.30-12.00 10.30-12.00	AVH MH
13 th Sun	Remembrance Sunday Parade Charity Craft & Gift Fair at Ship Hotel	10.00am 12.00-4.00	
14 th Mon	Craft Group Tel 07747 562264 for venue.		
15 th Tue	Tockington Toddlers	9.30-11.30	WR
16 th Wed	Severn Valley Quilters 417559 for details Jazz at the White Hart Olveston Th. Meth. Players 'Relatively Speaking' -19 th	8.30pm 7.30pm	TMH
17 th Thu	Thornbury Farmer's Market Coffee Shop Olveston Toddlers	9.00-1.30 9.00-12.00 2.00-4.30	OS+ MH
18 th Fri			
19 th Sat	Coffee Morning Faith in Prison Conference Doodlebugs & Bogeymen	10.30-12.00 10.00-4.30 7.30pm	MH StM PH

20 th Sun			
21 st Mon	Severn Vale Flower Club Monday Movie	1.30pm 7.30pm	AH StM
22 nd Tue	Tockington Toddlers Olveston Parish Council Meeting	9.30-11.30 7.30pm	WR AP
23 rd Wed			
24 th Thu	Coffee Shop Olveston Toddlers Advent Talk Rev. Rob Gillion	9.00-12.00 2.00-4.30 7.30pm	OSt MH StM
25 th Fri	Seven Ages One Man Show Christmas Gift and Craft Market Tockington Manor School	7.45pm 2pm-8pm	PH
26 th Sat	Coffee Morning (Scouts) & line of coins All day Bible reading	10.30-12.00 from 9.am	MH StM
27 th Sun			
28 th Mon			
29 th Tue	Tockington Toddlers Advent Talk Rev. Brenda Dowie	9.30 -11.30 7.30pm	WR StM
30 th Wed	Severn Vale Flower Club Christmas Coffee	10.30am	CH
Looking ahead to December			
3rd	Windy Strings		StM

KEY: AC Aust Church; ACR – Almondsbury Church Rooms; AH – Armstrong Hall; AMC – Olveston Methodist Church; AMH- Olveston Methodist Hall; AP – Alexandra Pavilion; AVH – Aust Village Hall; CCCP – Castle Court Car Park; CH – Cossham Hall; Chy – Chantry; DGCL – Daldry Gardens Community Lounge; EVH – Elberton 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, Oliv.; StMA Almondsbury Church; 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.olvestonandaust.com. If you would like to update your organisation’s details, please email: meetingpointsecretary@olvestonandaust.com

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

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

Copyright Meeting Point 2011. Copyright remains with the author(s) and Meeting Point. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form without the prior permission of the copyright owners.

Meeting Point is printed by **Bristol Business Centre**.