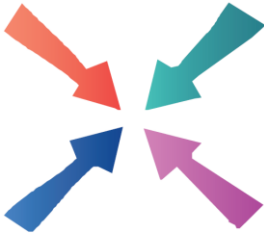


Meeting Point



November 2016



Meeting Point

Volume 41, Number 2, November 2016

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

Looking back over editions of Meeting Point in its early years, I noticed that poems were a fairly frequent feature. I can't recall anyone submitting a poem during my time as Editor, and I am pleased to be able to fill that gap in this edition, especially in view of the subject.

On other fronts, November looks like being a very busy month in the Meeting Point area. Normally I can find space to cover future events in Thornbury that I think might interest readers. But this month I've struggled for that space, so busy are we locally. Nevertheless, I've crammed in details of a couple of Thornbury events supporting very worthwhile causes, while just summarising some of the rest.

Have a great November!

The cover is a watercolour by Peter Floyd of the War Memorial at St Mary's Church, Olveston.

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**

Jo Baxter

Profile by Pat Thirkettle

Jo was born in London the youngest of seven siblings; her eldest sister was nineteen years older. Growing up it felt like a family of four with extra people, because with a nine year gap between the first five and the last two they rarely went on holiday together. She would look forward to Christmas at home or summer holidays at her cousin's farm in Wales when the family came together. There was always someone around to take you to the park or feed the ducks, and plenty of cricket in the back garden. She was surrounded by older people, which reflects in her friends today. Her parents were involved in the church and the Golf Club, and her mother served on the PTA for twenty five years. Therefore Jo grew up helping with events such as fund raising dinners, fetes and designing posters and programmes, much as she does today!



At four years old she saw a local dance school demonstration and immediately announced she was going to do that when she grew up. Even though there was no family background in theatre, she was finally allowed to leave Grammar School at sixteen to attend the Bush Davies Ballet School while studying for 'A' levels. Two hard-working years ensued: 9-11 was school work, followed by a quick lunch and then dance from 12.30 – 7pm, followed by supper and homework and with more dance at weekends. The summer term focussed on the annual show, which meant even more dance and she clearly recalls having to excuse herself during a rehearsal with a visiting choreographer to sit her Maths 'A' level - which went down like a lead balloon. She stayed for a third year to focus especially on Classical Ballet and American Contemporary Jazz - but continued with musical theatre, tap, national and modern dance.

Her first job was a nine month tour of the Far East which enabled her to obtain her Equity card, a necessity then for working in this country. In the late 1980's a trip to Japan, Hong Kong, Thailand and Singapore was an amazing experience. Coming home meant weekly auditions, part-time work to fund dance classes and as often as not Jo seemed to finish first reserve for the West End jobs. So she taught dance in local schools, taught jazz at some professional dance schools and performed with a street theatre tap Company called 'Flat Footers'. She didn't want to end up being a frustrated dance teacher so she decided to leave dance altogether and although her father wanted her to pursue a creative career she decided to avoid further disappointment. Her first job was at the Royal Academy of Dance in the examinations office which was full of frustrated ex dancers! She quickly moved

on to sales and worked for the Independent Newspaper before joining the 'Times' Exhibition Company, as she thought working on a big show would be like a theatre show. She went on to research and launch the House and Garden Fair at Olympia, but a few months before it went live her father suddenly died.

Feeling rather dissatisfied with where her life was going, she decided to travel to Australasia and while in New Zealand was introduced to holistic therapy. Returning to London she changed career paths to be office manager for a new business start-up called 'E-Marketing', just around the corner from the Royal Opera House and her yoga classes in Neal's Yard. This was at the birth of the e-commerce era when businesses were learning how to market themselves on the internet.

However, after three years Jo decided to travel again, this time from South Africa to Tanzania and back again. But after a year it was back to the UK to live in Bath. The job there didn't last and she joined Aardman Animations, which funnily enough was one of the companies she wanted to work for when she stopped dancing. She spent the next three years in the Development Unit whose role was developing new broadcasting properties; Creature Comforts, Shaun the Sheep and Flushed Away were all concepts developed from embryonic status whilst she was there. She felt part of the Aardman family and would run lunch time yoga or relaxation classes and offer Shiatsu sessions during her training. Whilst there she met Adrian who worked in IT and she left to live with him in Olveston and they married in 2005. She started to work part time for Jane Bain at Jane's Pond and part-time as a Shiatsu practitioner and so started her friendship with Roly Bain. Jo originally managed his admin when he was away clowning all over the world, and encouraged by Roly she became involved in St Mary's church and helped him with his church work.

Following the birth of her daughter Eleanor, Jo didn't return to work but decided to turn her energies to where she lived and continued to do so after the birth of her son Jonathan. Like her parents before her, Jo is involved in her community; she ran Olveston Toddlers for many years, is very busy in the church and helps at Olveston School where she has run specific dance workshops, art projects and created a Junk Orchestra for the 2015 Prom. She was involved with the creation of the Parish Vision booklet and the whole Vision process. All these activities have been voluntary, but suddenly with the children at school one of her future jobs will be to run St Mary's Parish Office and be paid!

Jo has a love of life – and as a family they love outdoors (camping, but only somewhere dry and hot!), creative activities, and when there is time working on the allotment. She is always full of new ideas, and has lots of things she would like to do, 'when I have time'. And at some stage she wants to get back to Shiatsu and dance. She believes that the more you give the more you receive in any walk of life.

Aust Parish Council Matters

Tim Pyper (austparishcouncil@googlemail.com)

Works to the Avonmouth road

By the time this article appears, the final stage of the works to the A403 between Aust and Avonmouth should have been completed. This was a programme of repair and improvement to the whole length of the road and was budgeted to cost £14.03 million of which £12.267M was a government grant to Bristol City and South Gloucestershire Councils. South Gloucestershire Council put in about £650K towards the works and Bristol the balance. The final stretch was resurfacing the south-bound carriageway on the lead-in to the traffic lights at Pilning.

Libraries in South Gloucestershire

South Gloucestershire Council launched a consultation about the future organisation of library services in its area some time ago and has now published its preferred solution – see www.southglos.gov.uk/librarychanges. The mobile library would be discontinued and replaced by small community-centred libraries, there would be reductions in paid staff hours, the use of volunteers and new arrangements for borrowing when libraries are not staffed. I don't yet know the closing date for this consultation, but I expect it will be about the end of the year.

Community Base Support

South Gloucestershire council is also consulting about the way it procures community based support services for those who need Social Services support for living. The Council is proposing to have a single provider in each area of the council – Aust parish will be part of the north west area including Thornbury, Iron Acton in the east and Pilning and Severn Beach in the south. Service users who don't wish to use the nominated provider may be able to receive the money that would have been spent to procure their own services. This may have far-reaching implications. The consultation runs until January.

The Blakedown site at Elberton

This site was recently acquired by local developers, who came to the last parish council meeting. They said that the site was a mess; they had bought it just before Blakedown went into administration. They were working up a scheme with a view to putting in an application in October. Their proposal is to build four detached houses and create an open space. There would be a stone wall around the site and the aim would be to conform to the appearance of the village.

The council listened to the plans and asked some questions, and agreed to consider the plans when the application was submitted. If you wish to

comment on the plans when submitted, keep an eye on the South Glos planning website.

Avonmouth Severnside Enterprise Area (ASEF) flood defence project

South Gloucestershire Council, Bristol City Council and the Environment Agency are working in partnership to improve flood defences and create new wetland environments in the area between Aust and Avonmouth. They have launched a consultation and information programme – beyond the scope of this note. If you would like to be included in their mailing list for newsletters and information, email them at ASEA@environment-agency.gov.uk.

Olveston Parish Matters

Richard Rogers
(clerk@olvestonparishcouncil.gov.uk)



The Parish Council is currently beginning the annual review of its budget and the 2017/18 Precept.

'Money can't buy you happiness' is a well-known adage, and it is so true in the Community. Local groups and societies rely on funding and subscriptions, but more importantly the **voluntary support** without which they could not exist. The Parish Council is no exception, with many residents who have already given their time for the Parish Plan, the Olveston Parish Steering Group and sub groups, and are now embarking on the 'Old Down Play Area Project'. A new Olveston Parish Councillor is still sought, and there are further opportunities to help with services that South Glos Council no longer support.

The Mobile Library is in all probability to close and be replaced with community centre based libraries across South Gloucestershire run by volunteer groups. The Parish Council wonder if there is sufficient local interest to create one of these local satellite Libraries totally manned by volunteers. The number of staffed hours at Thornbury Library is also to be reduced - see <http://www.southglos.gov.uk/librarychanges>.

Esther Collis, South Glos Council's **Biodiversity** Officer recently updated the Parish Council on the District Council's stated aims to promote biodiversity and its progress. Species are continuing to decline, and as part of their plans South Glos Council are now looking to Parish Councils to involve local residents in ways of improving habitats for local species. Some actions could be relatively simple, such as promoting fences with holes (approx 13cm) at ground level to allow hedgehogs and amphibians to pass through, so establishing wildlife corridors for the continuation of viable populations. The

Parish Council is also looking for volunteers to help identify and publicise other solutions, arrange local talks and to help identify balanced improvements and develop areas managed by the Parish Council.

<http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/6415972705501184>

Bonfire Night. Please could parishioners give some thought to pet safety and to wildlife that may overnight in piles of firewood. <https://www.bonfire-night-safety.co.uk/> provides good safety tips.

Remembrance Day and the associated **Remembrance Day Parade.** There is a QR reader adjacent to the War Memorial to access information on the names commemorated, which has been collated by the Historical Society in conjunction with South Glos Council. The Parish Council would like to thank local residents who kindly repaired the steps in time for the Parade following damage by a lorry reversing into Church Hill.

Oveston Telephone Box may be decommissioned by BT, and could be taken over by the Parish Council, if residents are prepared to maintain it and identify potential uses.

Aust Village Fireworks Display

There will be a Firework Display on **Sunday 6th November at Manor Farm, Aust.** All proceeds will go towards the Village Hall.

The Bonfire will be lit at 6pm and the Display will begin at 6.30pm. There will be Hot Food and Drinks to buy.

Adults £4, Children £2, Families £10. Pay on the day. Come and enjoy the fun!



Oveston Fun Run Triumph

After a gap of three years the Oveston School Fun run took place on Sunday 2nd October. We were blessed with a beautiful sunny October morning and plenty of keen runners. The day kicked off with the 1k run which was 3 laps of the school playing field, with runners aged from 2 to 11. The competition was tough but Tyler Wood from Oveston School Y3 was the first across the line.

Then it was the turn of the 5k runners, starting with a warm-up encouraged by Oveston School Running Club's Rob Morling. The runners all set off at 10:30 and the first runner home, with an amazing time of 20m02s, was Dalis Jones of Tockington Manor School (retaining the U16 cup which she won the last time the event was held in 2013).



Dalis Jones

The fastest U16 boy home was Oveston School's own George Peacock in a time of 20m30s, with Rob Morling coming home as the first adult. Devan Curtis from Oveston School Yr 6 gets a special mention for stopping to help a fellow runner who was ill out on the course – a true display of sportsmanship! In all 89 runners started (and all finished) the



George Peacock

rather muddy route across the fields behind Elberton Church, and many have commented what a great route and event it was.

Whilst the runners were putting in the effort in the fields it was nice to see three Parish Councillors putting in the hard work cooking and serving the tasty bacon butties.

The day was a great success, raising over £700 (with donations/sponsorship still coming in). One pupil, Skye Roberts, raised a whopping £60 and donated a further £20 of her pocket money!

After a donation to Thornbury Running Club for letting us use all their equipment (and expertise!) the remainder of the money will be split between FoOS (Friends of Olveston School) ongoing fundraising, and another Charity (to be decided by the newly formed SoOs – Students of Olveston School). We think this is a great way to involve children in fund raising events.

We could not have had such a successful day without the help of Thornbury Running Club (equipment); Linela (who kindly donated the fabulous medals); Old Down Toll ride and the landowners who allowed us access for the day; the marshals and helpers who gave up their Sunday mornings; and of course all those that ran!

We look forward to seeing you all again next year for what we hope will be an annual event in Olveston's calendar.

The FoOS Committee

News from St Mary's

Jo Baxter and Trevor Cook

We finish October with **'The Bridge Party at Bletchley Park'**, a murder mystery evening which last year featured many a red herring so that only a handful of people guessed 'who did it!' So if you're a Poirot, Morse, Nancy Drew, Miss Marple or just someone who likes a 'good murder' come along on **Saturday 29th October** for a wonderful evening's entertainment – doors open at **7pm for a 7:30pm start**. Tickets cost £6 and are available by phoning 617491 or 612850.



At the start of the month, on **6th November at 6pm**, is our annual **Service of Remembrance** where our loved ones are remembered. Those who have been bereaved are invited, but you don't need an invitation to come and it doesn't matter if the bereavement was recent or long ago. We light candles for loved ones and you can also bring a photo to put on the altar. The Rev Philip Rowe will be leading the service this year. 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. If you think it might help you please join us and bring as many of your family and friends as you wish.

Our **Parade Service for Remembrance Sunday** organised by the British Legion is on **Sunday 13th November at 10am** when all the uniformed organisations take part. The Rev David Bone leads the service and Trevor Cook will be preaching.

Did you know what the Royal Navy's longest campaign was about? On Saturday, **19th November**, Peter Grindal CBE, a former senior naval officer, will tell us in his talk "Opposing The Slavers". Few are aware that after the Abolition Act in 1807 the Royal Navy embarked on an arduous struggle against those wishing slaving to continue. There will be Q&A afterwards and an opportunity to discuss his research in greater depth if required. No tickets required – just come along for a very interesting historical evening.

On Saturday, **26th November**, we're going to have a simple **Family Breakfast and Advent Craft** session. Come along and make your own Advent calendar or paper wreath, angels and discover what advent means to you. This is very much a family event so parents, grandparents or carers are very much encouraged to join in too!

On the same day in the evening we're having a **Curry Quiz at 7.30pm**. Due to the popularity of this event you need to book early – Tickets are £5 which includes your curry. If you want a table (maximum of 6 to a team), please contact Debbie Harries at oboe-debbie@live.co.uk. Sorry we can't accept people on the door.

Then on the **27th**, the First Sunday of Advent, in the evening we have our **Service of Light**, led by Rev Philip Rowe and featuring the choir. **Save the Date!**

The first Sunday of December, the **4th**, we will be having our annual **Toy Service** which will feature the excellent 'Reach Up & Reach Out' Puppet group from Kingswood and the beautiful singing from Tockington Manor's School Choir. Please bring unwrapped toys which will be given as Christmas presents for those less fortunate.

As Jack Bain was going through his father's things he came across an interview with Roly from an issue of the Oldie magazine 1994 entitled the 'Death File'. In this **Roly** says he thought All Fools Day would be a suitable date for his **memorial** and Southwark Cathedral have obliged. So please save **Saturday 1st April 2017**. The full interview is available in church if you want to read it; needless to say its rather funny!

Struggling at Christmas?

Don't forget that we can help financially if things are getting tight in the bleak midwinter. Get in touch with Nita Slaytor on 612675 or lessslaytor@aol.com. All done with complete confidentiality.

Thank you from Ted Addis

Edward (Ted) Addis wishes to thank the many parishioners for their kind messages and support following the death of Annabel, wife of Ted and mother of Justine and Matthew.

Congratulations Sophie (and June and John!)



Late News - at any rate to the Editor! Sophie Hahn (the 19 year-old granddaughter of Olveston's June and John Hahn) is a very successful, world record-holding, sprinter and she won gold in the T38 100m at this summer's Paralympics in Rio, as well as silver in the 4x100m relay. Fantastic! Congratulations to her and to her proud grandparents.

Volunteer Recruits, Please!

Nikki Clarke



We are looking for new teams to head up our hugely popular and successful Scouting units - Beavers, Cubs and Scouts. All the current unit leaders and assistants would carry on and support new volunteers, plus there is back-up from the amazing Scout training programme.

Ideally we are looking for groups of friends/work colleagues who would work as a team, to deliver the Scouting programme to the young people. Obviously the older the Scout age group the more challenging the activities that you would provide. So if you love mountain climbing, shooting, surfing, outdoor cooking and camping in the wild, then Scouts is for you - whereas if you enjoy hiking, fire lighting, climbing towers and building dens, give Beaver Scouts a go.

Beaver Scouts runs on Mondays from 6-7pm, Cubs on Thursdays from 6.45pm-8.15pm and Scouts on Mondays from 7.30pm.

You don't need to have had any Scouting experience - there's plenty of free training. Also, you don't make it up as you go along - there's a curriculum for each age group and plenty of ready-made programmes online.

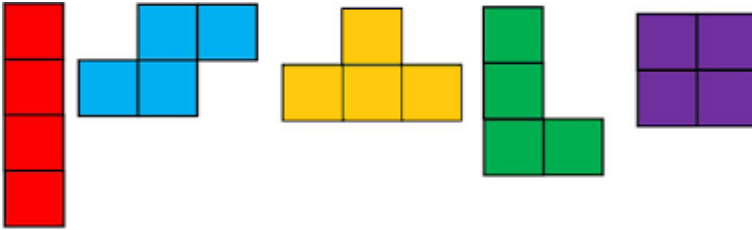
If you don't think you have the time then just take a look at the current leaders - all have full-time jobs, some work shifts, some work 2 jobs, all have hectic family lives too.

If you really want to support your kids, teach them independence, give them genuine life skills and a sense of adventure - volunteer....it's amazing fun!

If this pulls at your heart even a little, then get in touch: nikki@nikkiclarke.com or 614099.

Polyomino puzzles

Jan Winter



These are the five possible different shapes it is possible to make with four squares joined edge to edge (not counting rotations and reflections as different). They are called tetrominoes. You'll know them if you've played Tetris.

It is **not** possible to arrange them to make a rectangle (you might like to prove this to yourself!) but with two of each it is possible to make either a 4 x 10 or a 5 x 8 rectangle. Although there are lots of possible ways, it's not easy – can you find one?

For another challenge, can you find all the 12 possible pentominoes (with five squares) and make them into a rectangle?

Solution to October's Prize Puzzle

This was the puzzle where you had to make as many integer numbers between 1 and 20 as you could, using the numbers 1, 9, 7 and 6 (from the date of Meeting Point's first edition).

There are many possible ways to solve this puzzle. The number that seemed difficult to make (to me and some other solvers) was 19. However, Year 6 pupils did not seem to have a problem, coming up with an answer very quickly! Their solution is $(\sqrt{9} - 1) \times 6 + 7$. Pretty straightforward really! They also used powers to good effect in some answers – for example 1^9 (which equals 1) uses up an unwanted 9 – as they had recently been learning about these. Another solver used factorials, which have the notation of an exclamation mark – for example $(9 - 6)!$ means $3! = 3 \times 2 \times 1 = 6$, and with their help even provided his age.

The Winners!

Meeting Point received quite a few incomplete solutions to October's 40th Anniversary Prize Puzzle, but the prize went jointly to complete solutions received at exactly the same time from two Year 6 students at Olveston School, JJ Thomas and Ben Bullock (pictured when they received their prizes from the Editor). Well done to them both!



Elberton Village Hall

The hall and surrounding grounds were gifted to the village in 2008 by Jeremy Hobbs, the former owner of the quarry at Elberton. Prior to the quarrying activities the building had been part of the vicarage allied to the parish church. The actual vicarage was demolished along with a road which had connected Elberton to Ingst.



The villagers formed a not-for-profit company, and nearly all the households are "members" of the company, which has the benefit of a 999 year lease on the buildings and grounds.

The affairs of the company are run by a small team of residents with the support of the wider community when the need arises. Back in 2011 an extension to the hall was completed with grant funding, but also with a substantial input by the people of Elberton.

The main user of the hall is Stepping Stones Pre-school who enjoy the garden and wooded area as part of their offering to the children who attend.

Recently the residents have conducted a sprucing up of the interior, assisted by a couple of local tradesmen - Kyle at KSW Floor Cleaning and Matt at MG Sealants. We are now setting about another major fund raising effort to repair the roof of the older part of the hall. The hall is available for hire at very reasonable rates - contact Pauline Ford on 416708.

Roly

A poem by Sandy Shaw



There is darkness and a sadness, we've lost a leading light.

Roly's life has ended but still we sense his might.

The message he delivered was true, good and strong,

With his undaunted strength no one could go wrong.

He spread his love of God to each and every one,

His faith and commitment still with us though he's gone.

His clowning days are over, the outfit, his painted face,

The slack rope or the juggling, no longer be the case.

The sermon with its message left us all in awe.

God's messenger and teacher - who could ask for more?

A friend so loved, so cherished for humour and sense of fun,

Loved by all of every walk, an amazing loyal chum.

He's sitting at The Banquet he told us all about,

Laughing with his God, of that there is no doubt.

Church will feel an emptiness difficult to fill.

With God's help and Roly's memory fill it we surely will.

Oh God, you have a treasure taken far too soon,

He will glow in your presence as brightly as the moon.

The suffering is over, no more pain or strife.

Bless you Roly for your grace, your love, your Christian life.

Springs of Hope - St Mary's Home and Away Appeal 2016-2017

On **Thursday 3rd November** we launch our new appeal entitled 'Springs of Hope - the Home and Away Appeal'. As you might have guessed there are two sides of this appeal. The home side is to support 'The Spring of Hope' Night Shelters for women which is run by the Crisis Centre Ministries in Bristol; and the away side is to fund a solar panel in at the Sachibondu Mission Health Centre in remote north west Zambia, once again through The Bridge Trust.

As always with our appeals we hope to make a difference to as many people as we can, and we hope that you will support us as we try to do this. The evening starts at 7pm with canapes and refreshment and then Val Thompson, the Spring of Hope Manager, and Ken and Claire Suckling will talk to us about both projects. Hopefully this will inspire you to get behind this appeal and help those both home and away.

Movies at St Mary's: Nov

Trevor Anderson



Greetings to all readers from the Movie Club Team at **St Mary's Olveston**! Our November programme features two terrific films, each one chosen to reflect the November theme of "Remembrance", but each one very different. One of them is a recent Award winner and the other is an all-time classic from 1969. As always, doors open 30 minutes before the films start, allowing you to

indulge in a glass of wine or soft drink whilst having a chat or waiting in your seat. (*In how many cinemas are you invited to do that?*).

Everyone is welcome (you don't need to be a Movie Club member) and there is no need to book. Admission is free, although a **donation** at the end towards expenses is always welcomed and appreciated.

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

Mon 7th Nov at 7.30pm: Col. Katherine Powell, a military officer in command of an operation to capture terrorists in Kenya, sees her mission escalate when a girl enters the kill zone triggering an international dispute over the implications of modern warfare. Starring Helen Mirren, this is a nail-biting thriller about the moral and ethical dilemmas involved in drone warfare. It's a film to think about for days, with little hope of finding a comfortable answer. (*2015, Cert 15*)

MONDAY MOVIES EXTRA (*'Non-mainstream' films and historic classics*)

Mon 21st Nov at 7.30pm: Few defining moments can change the outcome of war. But in 1940, when the outnumbered Royal Air Force defied insurmountable odds in engaging with German Luftwaffe, they may well have altered the course of history. Featuring a stellar cast including Michael Caine, Trevor Howard, Lawrence Olivier, Michael Redgrave, Christopher Plummer, Robert Shaw, Susannah York and Edward Fox, this is a spectacular retelling of a true story which shows courage at its inspiring best. (*1969, Cert PG*)



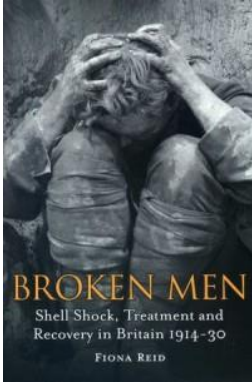
All the films are shown in **St Mary's Church, Olveston** and doors open 30 minutes before the start. Licensed bar with refreshments.

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

Broken Men?

Olveston Parish Historical Society - all welcome.

Wednesday, 2 November 2016, 7.30pm, Olveston Methodist Church



In this month of remembrance, Dr Fiona Reid will share her research on **Shell Shock, Treatment and Recovery in Britain, 1914 – 1930.**

We're familiar with images of shell-shocked men during the First World War. What happened to them afterwards? How were they viewed and what treatment did they receive? Was recovery possible and how was it brought about? Men and their families went through very real sufferings but some men managed to recreate meaningful lives for themselves after their mental collapse.

Testimony from ordinary shell-shocked soldiers is rarely heard – understandably, given the taboo about discussing mental breakdown. But through the people responsible for the care of these traumatised men, Fiona Reid is able to reveal something about the world of the shell-shocked, both during and after the war.

Open to all. £8 for annual membership (this and 5 more meetings). £2 to attend a single meeting. Both payable on the door.

www.olveston.com/historical-society

From the Registers of St Mary's Olveston

- Sept. 11th: Baptism at St Mary's of Demelza Alice Elizabeth, daughter of Tom and Alice Pullin.
- Sept. 12th: Burial of ashes, Geoffrey Healey.
- Sept. 12th: Burial of ashes, Catherine Healey.
- Sept. 19th: Funeral service followed by burial of ashes of Doris Patricia Willis-Stovold (Pat).
- Sept. 20th: Burial of ashes, Jean Micklewright.
- Sept. 23rd: Service in St Mary's followed by burial of ashes of Roland Davis.
- Sept. 24th: Marriage at St Mary's of Katie Amos and Lee Saunders.
- Oct. 1st: Marriage at St Mary's of Holly Steele and Edward Tellwright.
- Oct. 4th: Service in St Mary's, celebration of the life of Sandra Christine Jones.

Tockington Harvest Fayre

The gloriously sunny weather of September 17th brought record numbers of people to Tockington's Annual Harvest Fayre. It was the largest crowd that we have seen on the Green since the Fayre was re-established in the late 1960's. Our oldest Church member, ninety-four year old Mr Jack Vokes opened the

Fayre in splendid fashion and then went on to crown the Harvest Queen, Jessie Smale, with her 2 attendants, Olivia Lomax and Sophie Snook. He



then raised a rousing 3 cheers from the crowd for the Royal trio. A brilliant children's Fancy Dress Parade followed, with spectacular costumes based on characters from Roald Dahl books, while Mrs Elaine Thomas judged the children's art and flower competitions displayed in the Chapel.

Entertainment throughout the afternoon was provided by Thornbury's marvellous Ukulele Jam, and included dancing displays from Olveston



Rainbows and Brownies. Debbie Maidment demonstrated her amazing Hula-hooping skills which led into a very popular 'have a go' workshop for all ages! Thornbury's

Square Dancing group rounded off the afternoon.

Children had plenty of choice for stalls, and there were games, sweets and toys to buy. The Bristol Methodist Circuit Ark Bus was there, offering even more for them to do. Meanwhile Thornbury Round Table brought and supervised a huge colourful bouncy castle. The adults were equally provided

for with delicious cream teas, raffles, and plenty of bargains from the many stalls.

It was above all an amazing afternoon that truly brought a community together and helped continue the traditions of Fayres that have been held on this Green for centuries. The Methodist Church organisers would like to thank all their helpers for their splendid efforts and all of you readers and locals who were there, for making it a Fayre to remember – roll on Harvest Fayre 2017!

Friends of Daldry Gardens

John Ellis

We are delighted that June Robbins has accepted our invitation to be the Hon. President of The Friends of Daldry Gardens.

June has agreed to take over the position following the death of our beloved Rev Roly Bain, who passed away on 11th August.

We are honoured that another leading community figure will be closely involved with our group.

We get together every Tuesday morning for coffee and biscuits. All are welcome to join us and in fact several “non-residents” come along regularly for a chat and coffee.

Friends of St. Mary's

The prize winners in the October draw, held on 6th October 2016 at the Friends' Committee Meeting were:-

<u>Amount</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Name</u>
£150	384	Mrs S Slade, Olveston
£75	358	Mrs S Toft, Olveston
£25	206	Mrs G Olewicz, Olveston
£25	423	Dr D Cochrane, Olveston
£25	263	Mr A Bates, Olveston
£20	332	Mr R Garlick, Olveston
£20	342	Mr B Arkell, Olveston
£20	333	Mr R Garlick, Olveston
£10	324	Mrs M James, Olveston
£10	180	Mrs S Farr, Olveston
£10	171	Mrs C Healey, Olveston
£10	222	Mr T Watkeys, Old Down
£10	260	Mrs P Kerrison, Olveston

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

Oveston Parish Walks

The free leaflets detailing six walks in Oveston Parish have been proving very popular and more than 500 have already been distributed. Fortunately, copies are still available at shops, pubs and other locations in the villages. Just ask for a set where you see this poster which shows a picture of all six leaflets. You can also download copies from the Community and Oveston Parish Council websites.

The walks are:

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

OLVESTON PARISH WALKS



Six walks to enjoy

Leaflets detailing circular walks in Oveston Parish are now available free of charge at various locations in the villages, together with downloadable versions on the Community and Parish Council websites

Supported by 

Old Down Cricket Club

Tony Gardner 07889 727729

150 Club Winners October 2016:

£50	Martin Walker
£15	Bill Finch
£5	Mike Rowen

Latest £25 Bonus Ball Winner:

10/09/16	Paddy Gardner
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Diary Date:

A.G.M. Mon 31st October at Oveston Sports & Social Club 7.30pm

"Rock of Ages" Dance

Thornbury and District Cancer Research UK

Do you like listening to a great live band and having a dance? Then we have the evening just for you! On **Saturday 19th November** "Rock of Ages" band will be performing at the Armstrong Hall in Thornbury from 7.30pm. Local drummer Brian Henley will be playing and those of you who have heard this Band before know that they really can rock!

Your local Cancer Research UK Group are organising this event with tickets at £12 to include a cold buffet. There will be a Bar and a Raffle also and all in support of Cancer Research UK. It will be a fantastic evening so get in quick since Tickets will go very fast! Just call Jennie on 01454 415856 or call in at Thornbury Town Hall, Owens the Florist on the Plain or the Garden Shop off the High Street. Hope to see you there!

Handel for Haiti

Joss Gregson (01454 411652)

On November 12th there will be a "Come and Sing" at St Mary's Church, Thornbury covering all the choruses from Handel's Messiah. Scores will be provided if needed though bring a score if you have one. The event will start at 2pm and will be taken by Kate Phillipson-Masters with Joachim Schwander accompanying on the organ. Tea will be served at 3.30 and at 4pm there will be a complete run-through of the choruses to which the public are, of course, most welcome.

This event will be in aid of the terrible recent hurricane that struck Haiti recently, following on a devastating earthquake in 2010. After the earthquake a Come and Sing raised £1460 and we hope to do even better this time.

Old Down Sports & Social Club

We have cancelled our monthly quiz nights until further notice because of lack of support. There are junior football matches every Sunday morning on Old Down - why not come along & support the club? We are open for Tea & Coffee, and also a bacon roll if you are hungry. We are offering 50% off for Party bookings made between now and New Year 2017. Why not think of a Christmas Party?

Contact Barbara Lansdown, Secretary, tel.01454 415036 or email barbaralansdown@googlenail.com

RBL Women's Section

Our Secretary and Treasurer have resigned, so we are looking for two ladies who would like to take over these positions in our Branch.

If you are interested, please call Judy Bulley on 07967846759.

Littleton Apples and Cider

Littleton Apple Day - Sat 5th November, 1 – 7, the orchard behind the White Hart, Littleton on Severn

Come celebrate apples and orchards at our apple day in Littleton. Bring your own apples for pressing in the cider club's 150-year-old traditional press. Take part in apple arts and crafts. Singing with the Barley Rye Choir and Morris Dancing with Pigsty Morris. Learn more about apples, orchards and the fascinating role they've played in our heritage and their importance as a habitat for loads of plants and creatures. Apple-pressing and activities from 1:00, BBQ and cider tent from 4:00. Bonfire at 6:00 with fireworks at 7:00.



Traditional Cider-Making, Saturday 13 OR Sunday 14 November, Littleton on Severn

Interested in learning how to make apples into cider? Learn alongside the Littleton Lifesavers, who have for many years been making cider using traditional equipment. From picking to sipping, all will be explained. Choose from one of two day-long workshops. Spaces are limited.

For more information on this and our wonderful volunteer opportunities, please contact Katie on 01454 863 043 or at katie.scaife@southglos.gov.uk.



November Performances in Thornbury

Meeting Point has received news of a number of theatre or musical performances during November in Thornbury. Because there is such a lot of local material to include this month, space does not allow full descriptions. Here are sufficient details for you to learn what's on where and when, and an 01454 number (or a link) to contact for tickets:

'Clerical Errors' performed by Thornbury Methodist Players at Thornbury Methodist Church Hall, Nov 16th-19th 7.45pm. Tel 414749.

'Just a Song at Twilight', by revue group Three Mens Company at Cossham Hall, Nov 18th 7.30pm. Tel 412272.

Handel's 'Judas Maccabeus', by Thornbury Choral Society at Castle School, Nov 19th, 7.30pm. Tel 417865.

'Morten Tavern and Beyond', by Your Call Theatre Group (13 yrs and up) at Thornbury Methodist Hall, Nov 26th, 7.30pm and Nov 27th 2.30pm. Tel 413850.

Classical Concert (including works by Schumann, Tchaikovsky, Rossini, Britten and D'Angelo) by Thornbury Orchestra at Castle School, Nov 26th 7.30pm. Contact www.thornburyorchestra.org.uk.

Yours Faithfully

By Rev Pete Brazier

(Olveston and Tockington Methodist Church)

Christians & Halloween - Do we prefer the darkness?

I wonder how we all feel about Halloween. It used to mark the new year in this country and was called Samhain. The cold of winter brought the risk of death, so people felt it essential to dispel darkness and ridicule evil by lighting fires that blazed into the night.

When Christians inherited the festival and renamed it 'All Hallows' or 'All Saints' Eve, the connections with shining light into the darkness, death, resurrection and the casting out of evil, were obvious. On All Hallows Eve all of the darkness and evil could be brought out into the light and cleared away before the new year. Perhaps it has become over-commercialised, and few people truly celebrate it as either Samhain or All Hallows Eve. But maybe the true problem with Halloween is that the Church has lost the ground it once gained.

Centuries ago the people took the opportunity to show a seamless link between the old way of life in this country, and the new religion. Like Paul in Acts 17, Christians saw that the people of this nation were very religious, and they put a name to the unknown God. Centuries later we allowed our piety to become like the Pharisees with whom Jesus often argued. We started complaining about the very advances that we had made. We demonised Halloween and left it to others to decide what it would become.

It is often said that Halloween celebrates witchcraft. The irony is that Halloween would never have had any connection to witchcraft if Christians hadn't considered it to be one of the evils that needed to be cast out on all Hallows Eve. Halloween is, as it always was, an opportunity for Christians to engage on a level playing field with the spirituality of the people we meet. Perhaps we need to get involved in the conversation again, to light our own fires against the darkness, to declare the dying of the old life and the resurrection of the new life in Christ, to rail against the darkness, not against the people God has called us to serve.

There is so much genuine evil in the world, why spend time and effort trying to look for evil that isn't there? Is it because after all this time we still prefer the darkness?

Church News

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, OLVESTON

Nov 6	8am	Holy Communion	Rev Philip Rowe
	10am	Holy Communion	Rev P Rowe & Rev A Lloyd
	6pm	Memorial Service with Choir	Rev Philip Rowe
Nov 13	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Rev David Bone
	10am	Parade Service with Choir	Rev D Bone & Mr T Cook
	6pm	No Service	
Nov 20	8am	Holy Communion	Rev Ann Lloyd
	10am	Breakfast Club Thanksgiving	Paul Harrod
	6pm	Evensong	Trevor Cook
Nov 27	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Rev Ann Lloyd
	10am	Fourth Sunday	Paul Harrod
	6pm	Service of Light with Choir	S Shaw & E Mead

Information on services correct at time of going to press.

Rev Philip Rowe, 01454 613223; email: office@stmaryssevernside.org.uk

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 except 4th Wed when it is at Olveston Methodist Church

Morning Prayer 8.30am daily ex. Wed

CHAPELRY OF ST JOHN, AUST

Nov 13	10am	Remembrance Service	Rev Philip Rowe
Nov 27	5.30	Evening Service	Rev Ann Parker

Focal Minister: Rev Ann Parker, 01454 632329

e-mail annatdibley@btinternet.com

Church Wardens: Jon Burnett 633835 & Jenn Dickens 632035

ST MARY DE MALMESBURY, LITTLETON-ON-SEVERN

Nov 6	9am	Matins	Mrs Tracey Black.
Nov 20	9am	Holy Communion	Rev Nick Williams

Contact Mrs Tracey Black 01454 417660

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, ELBERTON

Nov 13	9am	Morning Prayer	Sandra Edgerton
Nov 27	9am	Holy Communion	TBA

Contact Mrs Tracey Black 01454 417660

OLVESTON AND TOCKINGTON METHODIST CHURCH

Nov 6	10am 6pm	Tock. Ch. St Andrews. .	Morning Worship led by Mr Peter Jones Evening Worship led by Rev Henry Lewis
Nov 13	10am	St Mary's. Ch	Remembrance Day Service
Nov 20	10am	Tock. Ch.	Morning Worship with Holy Communion led by Rev Pete Brazier
Nov 27	10am	Olv Ch.	Morning Worship led by Rev Sandy Williams

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

TOCKINGTON LUNCHEON GROUP meets at 12.15pm at the Swan on Thurs 24th November. To book please ring 613241 or 612112

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

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

HOUSE GROUP One led by Rev Sandy Williams on Tues 8th Nov at 6 Manor Close, Tockington and another on 17th Nov at 10.30 at 7 The Green, Olveston

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.

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

Nov 6	6.30pm	Tony McQueen
Nov 13	6.30pm	Neil Mobbs
Nov 20	6.30pm	Steve Loader
Nov 27	6.30pm	James Gulliford

Each Thurs at 7.30pm Prayer & PraiseTime

For further information please contact Jenny Parfitt jennyparfitt@gmail.com

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 rog3er2@gmail.com 01454 415035

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

Diary Dates for November 2016

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

1 st Tue	Friends of Daldry Gardens Coffee Morning R. B. L.(Women's Sect) Poppy Bingo	10.30-12.00 7.30pm	DGCL DGCL
2 nd Wed	Computer Clinic every week Holy Communion at Daldry Gardens Table Tennis O.P.H.S. 'Shell Shock'	10.00-12.00 2.30pm 7.00-8.30pm 7.30pm	MH DGCL PH OMC
3 rd Thu	Thornbury Farmer's Market Coffee Shop	9am-1pm 9.00-12.00	OST
4 th Fri	Thornbury Carers Support Group Computer Clinic every week O.P.A.G.A. A.G.M.& Social Evening.	1.00-3.00pm 7.00-9.00pm 7.00pm	Chy MH PH
5 th Sat	Coffee Morning Littleton Apple Day at White Hart Barbecue at 4pm and Fireworks at 7pm	10.30-12.00 1.00pm	MH
6 th Sun	Firework Display, Manor Farm, Aust Bingo every Sun at Sports & Social club	6.00pm 7.00pm	
7 th Mon	Computer Clinic every week Monday Movie	2.00-4.00pm 7.30pm	MH StM
8 th Tue	Friends of Daldry Gardens Coffee Morning Memory Café Aust Parish Council	10.30-12.00 10.15-11.45 7.30pm	DGCL TMH EVH
9 th Wed	Beat Surgery Table Tennis	10.30-11.15 7.00-8.30pm	OST PH
10 th Thu	Coffee Shop S. Glos Ladies Lunch Club	9.00-12.00 12.15	OST OSH
12 th Sat	Coffee Morning Coffee Morning Sing-along 'Messiah' for Haiti Cider Making Workshop at L-O-S	10.30-12.00 10.30-12.00 2.00pm 9.30-5pm	AVH MH StMT
13 th Sun	Remembrance Sunday		
15 th Tue	Friends of Daldry Gardens Coffee Morning W.I.	10.30-12.00 7.30pm	DGCL PH
16 th Wed	Table Tennis Bosom Buddies Talk at Swan Thornbury Th. Meth. Players 'Clerical Errors' -19th Jazz at the White Hart Olveston	7.00-8.30pm 7.30pm 7.45pm 8.30pm	PH TMH
17 th Thu	Thornbury Farmer's Market	9.00am-1pm	

	Coffee Shop	9.00-12.00	OS†
18 th Fri	'Just a Song at Twilight'	7.30pm	CH
19 th Sat	Coffee Morning	10.30-12.00	MH
	Talk 'Opposing the Slaves'	7.30pm	StM
	'Rock of Ages' Dance for CRUK	7.30pm	AH
	Thornbury Choral Soc 'Judas Maccabeus'	7.30pm	CS
21 st Mon	Monday Movie Extra	7.30pm	StM
22 nd Tue	Friends of Daldry Gardens Coffee Morning	10.30-12.00	DGCL
	Memory Café	10.15-11.45	TMH
	Olveston Parish Council	7.30pm	AP
23 rd Wed	Table Tennis	7.00-8.30pm	PH
24 th Thu	Coffee Shop	9.00-12.00	
26 th Sat	Coffee Morning	10.30-12.00	MH
	Thornbury Orchestra Concert	7.30pm	CS
	'Morten Tavern & Beyond', Your Call Th Gp	7.30pm	TMH
27 th Sun	'Morten Tavern & Beyond', Your Call Th Gp	2.30pm	TMH
	Aust Quiz Night at Boar's Head	7.30pm	
29 th Tue	Friends of Daldry Gardens Coffee Morning	10.30-12.00	DGCL
30 th Wed	Table Tennis	7.00-8.30pm	PH

Looking ahead to December

1st	Late Night Shopping with Music in Thornbury	'til 8pm	
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KEY: AC Aust Church; AH – Armstrong Hall; AMC – Alv Meth. Ch.; AMH- Alv Meth. Hall; AP – Alexandra Pavilion; AVH – Aust Village Hall; ; CH – Cossham Hall; Chy – Chantry ;CS Castle Sch. CTK Christ the King DGCL – Daldry Gardens Community Lounge; EVH – Elberton Village Hall; LVH Littleton Village Hall MH – Olv. Meth. Hall; OMC Olv Meth Ch OS – Olv. School; OS† – Olv. Stores; OSH Old Sch. Hall Alm; PH – Olv Parish Hall; StM St Mary's Church, Olv.; StMA Almondsbury Church StMtSt Mary's Thorn TCh Tock Chapel; TBCh - Thornbury Baptist Church; TMH – Thorn. Methodist Hall; ; WR – Wesley Rooms. URC United Reform Ch Th

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

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