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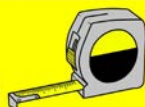
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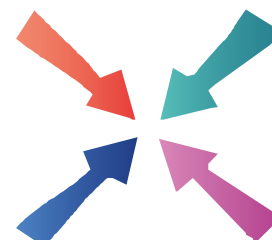
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Meeting Point

Volume 51, Number 2, November 2026

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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Publication date
1st of each month
Material for December 2026
to the Editor or Assistant Editor
by November 2nd 2026

From the Editor

As our cover reminds us, this is the month of Remembrance and there are details within the magazine of the church services that will be held locally. Additionally, we have got an article that explores the history of the poppy as a symbol of remembrance and focus for charitable fundraising for those who have suffered, or are still suffering, the effects of war.

November is also the month of Guy Fawkes' night, which these days is celebrated rather differently to how it was when I was younger. I was very moved by our Yours Faithfully contribution, in which the author remembers the Aberfan disaster of 1966 and its impact on him as a schoolboy and how it changed his planned 'Bonfire Night' celebrations.

It is no surprise that this month sees the start of events that are leading up to Christmas. I'm glad to see that the Friends of Olveston School are still selling Christmas trees – such a good way to support the school.

Marelin

Cover photograph by Lisa Helyar

Meeting Point Founded in 1976 by the Anglican and Methodist churches in Olveston, near Bristol.

**Meeting Point magazine and Meeting Point Directory are online at the
Community Website: www.olvestonandaust.com**



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Merry Christmas from all of us!



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Olveston Parish Wildlife Group Meeting

On Tuesday October 6th the Olveston Parish Wildlife group was delighted to hear local naturalist Ed Drewitt (pictured below) speak on ‘Small Steps for Wildlife Make a Big Difference’. It was a very informative talk from a real local expert who led the bird, insect and bat walks earlier this year.

Before his talk we were treated to a series of fabulous photos of wildlife of all sizes taken within the Parish by group members. We met some real rarities as here in Olveston Parish we have some great examples of scarce habitats, thanks to careful management by landowners and farmers. Their denizens include the Hornet Robber Fly [just be glad it’s only 25mm long and only a threat to other insects]. This is its only known site in Avon. And on some of our roadside verges we still have glow-worms, which are in serious decline across the country.

Earlier we were reminded that we were one of the first parishes to set up a Local Nature Action Plan [which has evolved into a Local Climate and Nature Action Plan] and since 2017 there has been an active working group of the Parish Council working to support nature locally. The Plan for 2024-28 was launched two years ago and one arm of this has been to record what we have here.



Aren’t we lucky? Lucky in our wildlife and lucky to have a far-sighted Parish Council and caring landowners.



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Tockington Harvest Fayre Beverley Pepall

A Heartfelt Thank You from Olveston and Tockington Methodist Church for a Wonderful Harvest Fayre.

On Saturday 19th September, Olveston and Tockington Methodist Church held their Harvest Fayre on Tockington Green, bringing people from across the local community together for a wonderful afternoon of celebration, friendship and fun. The Fayre offered something for everyone and thanks to your incredible generosity, enthusiasm, and hard work, it was a resounding success. We are pleased to announce that the total raised for the ongoing running costs of Olveston and Tockington Methodist Church was £3116.42 less some expenses and a donation made to Bristol and Weston Hospital charity on behalf of the Ukeholics.

The Green was a hive of activity with stalls, live music, and delicious homemade cakes and cream teas, children's activities, games, crafts, plants, toys, tombolas and more. Children looked resplendent as they arrived for the fancy-dress parade dressed as animals on a theme of 'Our Wonderful World'.



It was truly a day to remember, and it could not have happened without an amazing team effort.

The Fayre was opened by our Minister Rev. Dr. Simon Edwards who crowned Eloise as the Harvest Queen with her attendants Jessica and Amalie. They also awarded all the children's competition prizes.

Cont/.....

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Rev. Simon Edwards with compere Charles Patterson and the Ukeholics

Thanks must go to:

The dedicated team who arrived early to set up gazebos, manned the stalls all afternoon and stayed late to leave the green spotless. The generous bakers, who provided a bounty of stunning cakes and scones and those who donated great prizes for our raffle. The washer uppers and table clearers and so many other roles undertaken to make it all happen.

The talented Ukeholics, Parish Players and Music with Hannah and the Brownies who kept our toes tapping during the afternoon.

The Cheacker family for bringing and taking back the pews and all the lifting they helped with.

The Lanfear family who brought along their lambs for the afternoon.

Everyone who came out to support, eat, play games, and donated goods for sale.

Cont/.....

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Harvest Queen Eloise with her attendants Jessica and Amelie

Thank you again for making the Green the heart of our Church community reaching out and creating opportunities for people to meet, share and enjoy being together.

Teas on the Green

Thanks also go to all those who came along on August Bank Holiday Monday and enjoyed cream teas. Thanks to all the bakers who donated cakes and scones. Thanks to those who helped in any way. £1033 was raised.

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Allotment Society AGM

The Olveston Parish Allotment and Gardeners' Association will be holding its AGM at 7.30pm on Friday 6th November in Olveston Parish Hall.

After the brief AGM we will have a speaker – Victoria Wright, PhD, M.B.P.R., a professional horticulturalist who will speak on 'Gardening with Peat Free Soil'.

All are welcome to join us; refreshments will be served and there will be a bar. If you are not an OPAGA member we would be grateful if you would let us know if you would like to come. Please email: janwinterolveston@gmail.com

Almondsbury Christmas Fair

Saturday 21st November from 10am - 2pm

Almondsbury Old School Hall.

There will be stalls, children's craft activities, a raffle and refreshments. Entry is free.

Thornbury Choral Society

The first concert of the new season will be held at St. Mary's Church, Thornbury, on Saturday, November 28th at 7.00 pm. (Please note the earlier starting time.)

This will be the first concert directed by our new Musical Director, Gareth Daffydd Morris. Gareth is a tenor with the Welsh National Opera, a prominent soloist and the conductor of the Tabernacle Morriston Choir.

The programme will include Requiem - Faure, Quatre Motets - Durufle, Fantasia on Christmas Carols - Vaughan Williams and other Christmas items. Soloists are Claire Hampton (soprano) Philip Lloyd-Evans (baritone) Jeffrey Howard (organ)

Tickets £18 (pre -booked) £20 (on the door) £5 (under 18s) available from members or from Horders (stationers) from November 16th and from tickets@thornburychoralsociety.org.uk We look forward to seeing you at this event.

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Monday Movie Club

Monday 2nd November

This month's film* has been called the best British film of 2026. It stars Hugh Jackman as an especially caring shepherd. Living in a caravan in remote countryside, Hugh loves his sheep and they love him too. Apart from all the normal chores faced by shepherds everywhere, Hugh has a very special and somewhat unusual habit of reading.....to his sheep.

Every evening the sheep gather around the caravan as the shepherd sits down and listen to 'Whodunits' and murder mysteries (of the Agatha Christie kind). He always reads a chapter or two before retiring, which frustrates the sheep as they are desperate to know the outcome of each story.

One morning, however, Hugh is found dead, murdered. Who will solve this particular mystery? Not the police, but the sheep themselves, who have been indoctrinated with how to interpret the clues always left behind by a villain.

The reviews for this film read as follows:

"Clever without being overwhelming, playful without dipping into laziness"
Script Magazine

"Drolly funny" Rotten Tomatoes

"Sweet natured family comedy" The Guardian

"A shear (sic) delight" Anon

"Very sweet and often quite moving" Reddit

"Shear (sic) brilliance" Sub stack

"A smart, woolly whodunnit" Rendy reviews

Venue: St Mary's Church, Olveston. Doors open at 7pm, film starts at 7:30pm.
Free entry, though donations are always welcome, tea and coffee, licensed bar. Everyone welcome.

*Our licensing agreement does not allow us to publish the name of the film.

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Stone Stiles within Olveston Parish, Part 2

Martin Gibson

Readers may remember the article in the September edition from Tony Turnbull and me about the stone slab stiles in the Parish. We had identified seven and asked if there might be others we didn't know about.

Imagine our surprise when we received emails from Stella Chick and a gentleman in Pembrokeshire who had seen the article and knew of another stile. It is located along the footpath leading from Elberton Road (just north of the last house). Apparently it had been covered in ivy and other overgrowth for countless years, but some good soul had recently cleared all that away. It is a fine example and well preserved because the access to the footpath has been diverted to the side of the stile. The footpath leads from Olveston to Elberton church and has a link to the Old Down Manor estate. Paul Godwin also contacted us and told us of yet another stone stile. This one is at Church Hill Farm, to the right of main driveway entrance. It no longer seems to serve a purpose, as the footpath has long gone.

We have further information about the time of installation of the stile in Tockington which accesses the Church Path from the lane leading from The Green. In an edition of the Parish Magazine of 1866, a forerunner of Meeting Point, there is mention of:

Another improvement in our village is the erection of a new stile in the Church path leading from Tockington, which has been paid for out of the feoffee money. We are sure that the Tockington Church-goers will find this a great convenience".

All but one of the stiles within the parish were erected using massive sandstone slabs, so it was a puzzle why this should be used instead of our local limestone. In his booklet "The Building Stones of Thornbury", Charles Hiscock found that sandstone was extensively used as a building material in previous centuries in Thornbury and surrounding area. We contacted Charles regarding the source of the sandstone used for the stiles, and he believes that it is:

"Pennant Sandstone (now called the Mangotsfield Formation) which is very widespread in the Bristol area, Forest of Dean and south Wales valleys. The name comes from the Pen-nant area of the south Wales Coalfield. It was laid down in the Upper Carboniferous Period at the top of the Coal Measures.

Pennant Sandstone in the Bristol Coalfield was extracted from large local quarries in the Fishponds and Stapleton area and in the Avon valley between Hanham and Netham. It can be seen in most of the buildings of Rangeworthy and Iron Acton where it frequently shows encrustations of haematite - iron ore.

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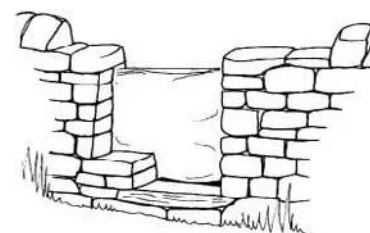
A particularly fine sequence of the red/maroon sandstone can be seen in the Frome valley at Snuff Mills. In the Forest of Dean, the grey/greenish variety is quarried and cut at Cannop Ponds. It has been used for the plinth of the Millenium display beside Thornbury Town Hall. Carving of the stone was a massive industry in the 19th and early 20th centuries. Flagstones for flooring, tombstones, memorials, gateposts, walls and stiles are widespread in our area."



So, it is most likely that the sandstone of our stone stile was obtained from quarries in the Bristol area, being more convenient than those in the Forest of Dean. There are also many sandstone gateposts in the parish, so in all probability they came from the same source.

Stone stile at the end of the houses on the way out of Olveston on the Elberton Road

We hope you enjoyed this excursion into our local history, and if you come across any stiles we may have missed, please let us know.



Right: Stone stile at the entrance to Church Farm



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Bevin Boys: The Forgotten Conscripts

Jenny Newley

Olveston School, Elberton Road, Olveston, Wed 4th Nov. 7.30pm

Many coal miners signed up for armed service in the Second World War. By 1943, therefore, the country's coal supply was becoming critically low. Ernest Bevin, Minister for Fuel and Power, came up with a scheme to address this. If you were between 18 and 25 when you registered for National Service, the last digit of your registration number suddenly became very significant! We're very grateful that Jackie Swift is coming from Barry to tell us just how Bevin managed to get coal mined at sufficient capacity for the country's war needs. It's a surprising story and one that's not often told. And you may be shocked to learn that their war work went unrecognised for a very long time.



Bevin Boys at Ystrad Mynach, South Wales. Jackie will share photos of Bevin Boys from all over the country, as well as wartime film clips including a Pathé News item.

Refreshments *before* the start of the meeting. Parking in school playground.

Annual membership: £10 in total (for all monthly evening meetings, October to April). Visitor fee for a single meeting: £3. Both are payable on the door (cash only, please). Fee includes refreshments. All welcome!

Olveston Parish Historical Society: www.olvoston.com/historical-society



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Olveston and Tockington W.I.

After exercising our handicraft skills last month, making articles woven from natural fibres, WI members will need to exercise their little grey cells this time, as Sue, our secretary, is going to test us all with a quiz. We'll see who can remember what we did - and heard and saw and learnt - in the year we've just had. This is because it's our AGM this month, when instead of having a speaker, we look back over the year and sort out who's going to do what job for the next year. We hope it'll be an equally successful and enjoyable year.

One of many things that has really thrived this year has been our Knit and Natter group. They have made all the different animals for charity that I've written about in a previous article. Inspired by one of our members, they are also the backbone of our work to make a second drape of poppies for Remembrance, which will be sited near the Parish Hall as we had originally imagined. This is appropriate as the Remembrance Parade starts and finishes there, and it is nicely positioned between our villages. The drape - made up of well over 800 poppies - will complement the one on Tockington Green and one in St. Mary's church. I'd like to point out that in making it we have been helped by so many people in the community who are not WI members. It's lovely to feel the community support for our initiative. They have knitted dozens of splendid poppies, making a wonderful contribution. We're not even sure of all their names, but we're really grateful; thank you very much - and we hope you enjoyed doing it.

Of course, WI covers loads more topics than just knitting. If you're interested, you'll be very welcome. Tuesday November 10th at 7.30 in the Parish Hall. Ring me, Angela Green, 615222, if you'd like any more information.



Autumn Supper

The 2026 Autumn Supper will be held on Saturday 14th November at the Parish Hall. Doors open at 6.45pm. Catering will again be provided by AHM Caterers. There will be cash/card bar together with entertainment. The ticket price is £22.00.

Please contact Pat Savage on 07703 281625 or patsavage1948@icloud.com

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St Mary's Bells Restoration Appeal

A Skill Like No Other

Julie Jackson
Deputy Tower Captain

Bellringing is one of Britain's oldest living traditions. Unlike most instruments, the bells stay still while the ringers move them through carefully controlled full-circle swings, producing beautiful mathematical patterns rather than tunes. New ringers continue to learn at St Mary's, helping to ensure that this unique skill survives for future generations. We now have around 12 members in our new band and everyone is progressing well.

Earlier this year, the tower was out of action for several months. Fortunately, the repairs are now complete, enabling us to resume practices at St Mary's. We are now hoping to ring twice a month on Sundays.

In early September, the Gloucester & Bristol Diocesan Association completed a Quarter Peal of 1,250 Bristol Surprise Major at St Mary's. It was a pleasure to host them in the tower, and visiting bands of ringers love the opportunity to ring our very fine Taylor eight-bell ring. Several of our ringers also attend the Rural Branch Practice.



Recently, we visited Gloucester Cathedral to ring on its 12 bells. This was a first for us and a wonderful experience, joining some of the very experienced ringers from across South Gloucestershire.

Restoring the bells is about much more than repairing equipment. It is about protecting a living tradition that belongs to our whole community.

A huge thank you to everyone who organised and supported our Auction of Promises in October. As this goes to print, it is too early to share the final result, but hopefully by the time you read this we will have less than £57,000 still to raise.

Our restoration project will cost £90,000, and every donation – large or small – brings us closer to securing the future of St Mary's bells and ensuring that they continue to ring out across our village for generations to come.

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- ✓ Backup & security setup (iCloud, antivirus)

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Friends of St. Mary's

The prize winners in the October draw, held on 1st October 2026, were:

Amount	Number	Name
£150	489	Mr I Lyons, Oldbury-on-Severn
£75	728	Mr B Farr, Olveston
£50	272	Ms A Chick, Redland
£25	639	Mrs C Waites, Olveston
£25	599	Miss J Davies, Olveston
£25	468	Mr G Clark, Olveston
£25	480	Mr D Skinner, Sneyd Park
£25	363	Mrs J Hahn, Olveston
£20	199	Mr P Haworth, Olveston
£20	382	Mr J Cryer, Alveston

If you are not yet a member and wish to join the lottery, please telephone Andy Phillips on 01454 614890 or andisp28@hotmail.co.uk.

Tongue in Cheek



Gilbert and Sullivan meet Tom Lehrer in a feast of musical satire, served up by Michael Lunts.

Actor, pianist and singer Michael Lunts pays tribute, with his tongue firmly in his cheek, to those masters of satirical song writing, Gilbert and Sullivan and Tom

Lehrer, who had more in common than you might think. Hilarious send-ups include The Ruler of the Queen's Navee and Lehrer's setting of all the elements of the Periodic Table to the tune of I Am The Very Model of a Modern Major General.

An experienced expert in his field, Michael's expertise is known throughout the UK. Expect a torrent of patter and a sprinkling of satire alongside some memorable memories for a wonderful evening.

The performance takes place at the Cossham Hall, Chapel Street, Thornbury on Saturday November 14th 7.30pm.



Tickets £20 from AAGThornbury or call:
01454 850933 .

Fundraiser for the Jessie May Trust.



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News from The Armstrong

The Armstrong community was recently delighted to hear that alongside Sanderson Weatherall, the building surveyors for our renovation, we are a finalist in the Insider Southwest Property Awards 2026! Our venue has been shortlisted for the Sustainable and Social Impact Award. This category highlights "projects that have shown a strong commitment to making a significant, positive social impact on their local community and area". The award ceremony is in early October so watch this space to see how we fared.

We also hope that by the time you read this, many of you will have taken advantage of our reception mornings. Going forward, we will be open every Wednesday and Thursday from 10am – 12noon to welcome visitors, answer any questions, take bookings and provide a Box Office service for our upcoming events.

And we have some very exciting events planned for November including two connected with significant November anniversaries.

- On November 10th, the multi-talented Peter Gill brings his one-man historical play, *Meet Tommy Atkins*, in which he explores the life of a British soldier through World War I and beyond.
- Then, on Remembrance Sunday (November 8th), The Armstrong, in collaboration with the British Legion and Thornbury & District Museum, will offer hospitality and a warm welcome to those involved in Remembrance Day events.
- National Theatre Live returns on November 19th with the much-acclaimed *Golden Boy*, a searing revival of Clifford Odets' knockout American classic which has received many accolades. It is such a wonderful opportunity to see great theatre in a local venue at a fraction of the London ticket prices.
- Watch out for AAG's presentation of Michael Lunts' show, *Tongue in Cheek* when Gilbert and Sullivan meet Tom Lehrer (what a combination!).
- Jigsaw's *Spud and Sparkle Quiz Night* on 21st November which promises to be a fun evening of food, quizzing, laughter and community spirit.
- Our regular *Comedy Night* returns on Friday 27th November with a festive vibe and free mulled wine.

There will be a wealth of Christmas festivity here at The Armstrong in December, including a wreath making workshop, the return of the fabulous Bristol Concert Wind Band, a Christmas concert from the fabulous Songbirds,



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a children's Christmas show, *Mrs Claus' List* and for the first time, a New Year's Eve Party featuring the amazing *Ride the Edge* band.

For more details, go to our website www.thearmstrong.co.uk/whats-on and look out for more information in next month's magazine, the local press, Thornbury Radio and social media.

Special Services at St. Mary's Church, Thornbury

There are three special services at St. Mary's Church, Thornbury, between the beginning of November and Christmas.

The first of these is a special Memorial Evensong for All Souls, when we give thanks for all our family and friends who have died. This service is on Sunday November 1st at 6.00pm

On November 29th, we celebrate the start of Advent, looking forward to Christmas. with a Festival of Light, a beautiful candlelit service. Again, this service starts at 6pm and will be followed by mulled wine and refreshments.

Finally, the annual service of Lessons and Carols will take place on Sunday 20th December at 6pm as we celebrate the Christmas season. Again, mulled wine and mince pies will be served after the service.

Do come and join us at one of these special services You can be assured of a warm welcome. For further details contact www.thornburybenefice.org.uk

Thornbury Art Club

Tuesday 24th November Club Night. No demonstration this month.

Our November Club Night and early Christmas event is going to be extra fun this year, involving us in a 1940s themed Murder Mystery. Members only as spaces limited. 7.15 - 9.30 pm St Mary's Church Hall, Eastbury Rd, Thornbury

For more information contact: www.thornburyartclub.co.uk
www.facebook.com/ThornburyArtClub or email publicrelations.tac@gmail.com

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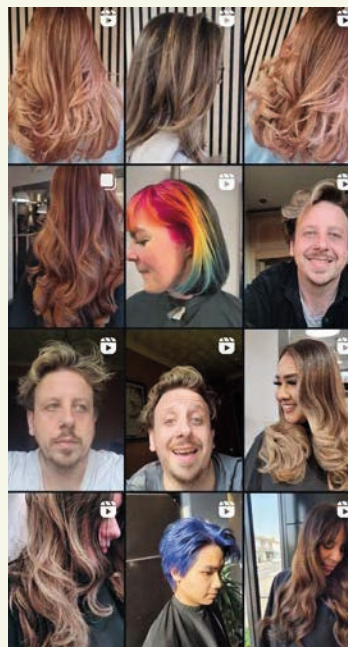
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News from St Mary's

Sunday November 8th 10am

Service of Remembrance with uniformed organisations.

Act of Remembrance 11am at the war memorial.

Saturday November 28th 5pm

Salvation Army concert and toy service.

We are delighted to welcome back the band from Easton again. This is always a lovely event as we start to prepare for Christmas.

Donations of new toys will be much appreciated, which the Salvation Army will distribute to underprivileged children in Bristol.

From the Registers of St Mary's

Thursday October 8th

The funeral of Jeanne Margaret Loadman



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Thornbury u3a Coffee Morning Saturday 14th November
from 10:30 – 11:30 in Porch House, Christ the King, Castle Street.

Members and non-members are welcome. Some u3a groups will be represented and will be happy to answer questions. There will also be refreshments. Please do come along to meet other people and have a coffee and chat. NB: For members with no email address only, the Autumn Newsletter will be available to collect.

For further information visit our website: *Thornbury u3a* or for membership enquiries please email membership@thornburyu3a.org.uk

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Date for your diary: November 30th is ESG day. (Governance Environment Social). This serves as an annual checkpoint for worldwide businesses, governments, and individuals to move past talk and turn sustainability pledges into measurable climate solutions.

Old Down Cricket Club *Tony Gardner*

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Poppies and Remembrance

Nick Fear

One of the symbols associated with Remembrance Day in November is the red poppy. A Canadian military doctor, John McCrae, had penned his famous poem 'In Flanders Fields' in 1915 whilst serving in the battlefields near Ypres. Legend has it that as he emerged exhausted from a concrete bunker used as an operating theatre, he saw bright red poppies blooming in a nearby cemetery. The soil had been turned by burials, and it seems that poppies often germinate naturally after their seeds are moved in newly disturbed soil. This was well demonstrated in the 1990s when lines for the high-speed French railway trains were cut through old battlefields. From a distance dense, eerie bright blood red scars could be observed in the landscape for miles. On closer examination these were poppies in full bloom.



The poppy symbol was adopted by Earl and Lady Haig in 1921 when they set up a charity to support ex-service men and their families. The original poppies had a black central button embossed with the words, 'Haig's Fund'.

McCrae and Haig are the people most often linked with the poppy for remembrance, but there is another person who also deserves recognition. Anna Guerin was a French teacher and humanitarian who, in 1920, had proposed the adoption of the poppy symbol for charitable fund raising by

all the allies in The Great War.

Guerin's personal aim was to support French widows and orphans of the war. She succeeded in this and received many French and international awards for her work. She became known as, 'The Poppy Lady from France'. In 1935 the French nation eventually chose to adopt a blue cornflower as its symbol of remembrance - the colour forever associated with that of a French soldier's uniform in the Great War.

Cont/.....



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Anna Guerin

Whilst always having red petals the design of remembrance poppies has developed over time and across the world. English, Welsh and Irish poppies have two petals, often with a green leaf behind them, whilst the Scottish flower had no leaf and a four-lobed design. Australian, New Zealand, Canadian, Singaporean and American poppies use different designs and materials for the main theme. In 2006 a purple poppy was inaugurated to remember all the animals killed or injured in war. In 2012 the main war museum in Ypres was refurbished and reopened with a theme of peace not war at its core. A white remembrance poppy was sold with the word 'Peace' in a green circle at its centre.

Trevor Cook



We are very sad to report that Trevor died unexpectedly on 21st September. Trevor was Meeting Point Editor from 2005 to 2007, following two years as Assistant Editor.

Trevor's retirement as editor coincided with the time when we had decided Meeting Point should be on-line as well as on paper. He agreed to stay on the committee as Web Consultant to support this, and his son Christopher set up the *olveston.com* website. Trevor continued involvement with Meeting Point and went on to write a number of interesting and well-illustrated articles for the magazine on birds and wildlife seen in the locality.

Trevor was a pleasure to know and work with. Mild mannered and modest, with a dry sense of humour; in all a lovely man.

Trevor's faith led him to take an increasing role in local church life and for the last few years he has been the Focal Minister at St John's, Aust, where his loving and caring character was greatly appreciated by the congregation.

Trevor will be much missed by all who knew him. We send our sympathy to his family.

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Severn Vale Flower Club

Our Christmas Open Evening on Tuesday 3rd November is a demonstration by Angela Turner, entitled A Natural Christmas. Angela is a national demonstrator and a floral designer. She has been flower arranging for several years and has also competed at Chelsea, winning gold.

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in the "French Coffee House" sound of Django Reinhardt, comedy "hokem", jump live and Latin rhythms along the way.

These multi-instrumentalists weave together the musical history of their songs along with tales of life working along the road.

For details see

www.hotfingers.co.uk

Tickets £20 from AAGThornbury@gmail.com or 01454 850933

Horse Racing Night at Marlwood School

The Friends of Marlwood School are hosting a fun-filled evening of horse racing on Friday 20th November, from 7pm until late. Come along and enjoy an evening of friendly competition, with the opportunity to place bets on the night or buy a horse in advance and cheer it on to victory.

There will also be a bar, food and a raffle with prizes to be won. Tickets are just £3 per adult, and everyone is welcome. Join us for a great community evening and support Friends of Marlwood School at the same time.

Tickets are available now: <https://www.zeffy.com/en-GB/ticketing/annual-gala-7146>

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Rev David Lloyd
St Mary's Olveston

*'Remember, remember, the 5th of November,
Gunpowder, treason and plot.
I see no reason why gunpowder treason
Should ever be forgot.'*

November is the month for remembering; All Saints, All Souls, Armistice Day, Remembrance and on November 5th Guy Fawkes' failed attempt to blow up Parliament in 1605.

When I was a child in the days leading up to bonfire night a group of us would sit outside our local shops with our home-made Guy, looking like an old scarecrow, 'Penny for the Guy' we'd call, and if we were lucky a few pennies, a threepenny bit or even a tanner might come our way from generous shoppers. By Bonfire Night we usually had enough to buy plenty of fireworks! Yet the year I most clearly remember is the one when we *didn't* have fireworks.

Sixty years ago, on 21st October 1966, a colliery spoil tip slid down the hillside above the Welsh village of Aberfan, engulfing Pangtglas Junior School. 116 children and 28 adults died. It was a terrible tragedy that moved the nation, not least many of us who were the same age as the victims in the Junior School.

We'd already collected a good amount from our 'Penny for the Guy' efforts, but we all agreed not to celebrate that year, instead we decided to send our firework money to the Relief Fund. Our teacher helped us buy a postal order and write a letter to send with our donation. Later a reply of thanks arrived from Aberfan, which our Headteacher read out in assembly.

Ever since that fateful year when November comes round again, I think of those children of Aberfan, who never got to grow up, or become parents, or grandparents, or live full lives as I and my friends have. May they, along with all those we remember at this time, live long in our memories. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.





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Church News

ST MARY the VIRGIN, OLVESTON

Nov 1st	10am 6pm	Holy Communion. All Saints Memorial Service - Choir	Rev David Lloyd Rev Ann Lloyd
Nov 8th	10am 6pm	Service of Remembrance - Choir No Service	Rev David Lloyd
Nov 15th	10am 6pm	Morning Prayer - Choir Celtic Communion	Janet McBride Rev Ann Lloyd
Nov 22nd	10am 6pm	Holy Communion - Choir Reflective Evensong	Rev Ann Lloyd Janet McBride
Nov 29th	10am 6pm	Advent Sunday Holy Communion - Choir Compline	Rev David Lloyd Rev David Lloyd

First Sunday of the month during term time, **Messy Church** 9am.
 Every Saturday (term time) **'REFRESH'**, 4.30-5.30 - Fun, relaxed church.
 Every Wednesday, Holy Communion, 10am.
 NB Clergy may change.

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

CHAPELRY OF ST JOHN, AUST

Nov 8th	10am	Holy Communion	Rev David Moss
Nov 22nd	10am	Morning Prayer	Rev David Moss

Contact: Rev David Moss, 01454 415190

Church Wardens: Jenn Dickens 632312 and Jon Burnett 633835

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, ELBERTON

Nov 8th	9am	Morning Prayer	Rev Ann Lloyd
Nov 22nd	9am	Holy Communion	Rev David Moss

Contacts: Church Wardens: Catharine Gunnery 413225 and Cheryl Meredith 411065



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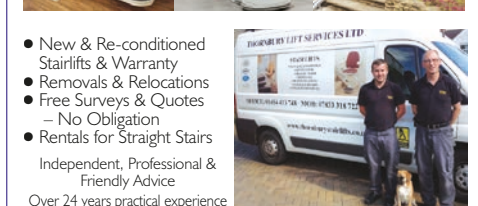


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ST MARY DE MALMESBURY, LITTLETON-ON-SEVERN

Nov 8th	3pm	Evensong	Rev David Moss
Nov 22nd	3pm	Evensong with Holy Communion	Rev David Moss

Contacts: Tracey Black 417660 and Tim Pyper 416422 /07802 419451

OLVESTON AND TOCKINGTON METHODIST CHURCH

Nov 1st	10am	Olv Ch	Morning Worship led by Miriam Sitch
Nov 8th	10am	StM	Remembrance Sunday
Nov 15th	10am	Olv Ch	Morning Worship led by Rev David Deeks
Nov 22nd	3pm	Olv Ch	Afternoon Worship led by Rev Simon Edwards
Nov 29th	10.30am	AMC	Morning Worship

Contact: Rev Dr Simon Edwards 418176 Simon.edwards@methodist.org.uk

THE VINE House of Prayer, Pilning Street, Awkley BS35 4HL

Meeting at 11am every Sunday and on the 1st and 3rd Weds at 2.30pm.

Contact: 01454 612084, thevine_awkley@hotmail.com

THE OASIS CHURCH, OLD DOWN

Services at 6.30pm every Sunday. All are welcome.

Contact: Neil Mobbs, cnmobbs@hotmail.com

AUST EVANGELICAL CHURCH Service 11am every Sunday

LITTLETON EVANGELICAL CHURCH Service 5.30pm every Sunday

Contact: esther@thebamfields.co.uk

RC CHURCH OF CHRIST THE KING, Thornbury

Mass on Sundays at 9.00 and 10.30am

Contact: 01454 412223, <https://ctkandholycross.org.uk>

SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS), Thornbury

Contact: Chris Willmore, chriswillmore@blueyonder.co.uk

THORNBURY UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

Services are every Sunday at 10.45am Rev Neil Thorogood

Diary Dates for November:

Information believed to be correct at going to press.

1 Sun	Litter picking	10a.	OPH
2 Mon	Monday Movies	7.30pm	StM
3 Tues	Citizens Advice, every Tues Thornbury Art Club painting studio, Every Tues Severn Vale Flower Club: Christmas Open evening Demo WRBL meeting	10-12pm 1.30-4.30pm 7.30pm 7.30pm	TTH SMCH OPH DGCL
4 Wed	Table Tennis every Weds Olveston Parish Historical Society	7pm 7.30pm	OPH OPS
5 Thurs	Thornbury Farmers Market Coffee Shop, every Thurs Good afternoon choir, every Thurs Thornbury Art Club painting Studio, every Thurs.	9am 9.30-12pm 1-3pm 1.30-4.30pm	StM URC SMCH
6 Fri	Haven Memory Café every 1 st &3 rd Fri Tockington Community Café Friday Monthly Music Night Allotment Society AGM	10.15-11.45am 10-12pm 7.30pm 7.30pm	URC TMC CTK OPH
7 Sat	Park run every Sat Volunteer Xmas tabletop sale Thornbury Round Table Fireworks	9am TBC 5.30pm	MPF TMCH MPF
10 Tues	Thornbury Memory Café every 2 nd & 4 th Tues Olveston & Tockington WI	10.15-11.45am 7.30pm	URC OPH
14 Sat	Coffee Morning Thornbury u3a coffee morning Autumn Supper	10-12pm 10.30-11.30am 6.45pm	OMC CTK OPH
15 Sun	St Mary's Music	4pm	StMT
19 Thurs	Thornbury Farmers Market	9am	
20 Fri	Horse Racing Night at Marlwood	7pm	MSch
21 Sat	Almondsbury Christmas Fair Charity Christmas Fayre	10-2pm 10-2pm	AOSH TA

24 Tues	Thornbury Arts Club Night	7.15pm	SMCH
25 Weds	Alveston Local History Society talk	7.30pm	AMC
28 Sat	Thornbury Choral Society Concert	7pm	StMT
30 Mon	Severn Vale Flower club: Practise	1.30pm	SMCH

Looking forward to December:

31st Thurs - New Years Eve Party with Ride the Edge - 7.30pm - The Armstrong

KEY: **AMC** - Alveston Methodist Church, **AMH** - Alveston Methodist Hall, **AOSH** - Almondsbury Old School Hall, **AVH** - Aust Village Hall **CS** - Castle School, **CH** - Cosham Hall **CTK** - Christ the King, **DGCL** - Daldry Gardens Community Lounge, **ECVH** - Easter Compton Village Hall, **EVH** - Elberton Village Hall, **FVH** - Falfield village Hall, **JHA** - Jubilee Hall, Alveston **LVH** - Littleton Village Hall **MSch** - Marwood School **MPF** - Mundy playing fields **OC** - Oasis Church, Old Down, **ODE** - Old Down Estate **OMC** - Olveston Methodist Church, **OMH** - Olveston Methodist Hall, **OPH** - Olveston Parish Hall, **OTF** - Olympus Theatre Filton **OPS** - Olveston Primary School **PHT** - Porch House, Thornbury **QAMP** - Queen Alexandra Memorial Pavilion, Old Down **RHVH** - Rockhampton village hall. **StH** - St Helen's Church, Alveston. **StHSc** - St Helen's School **StM** - St Mary's Church, **StMB** - St Mary's Berkely **StMT** - Thornbury St Mary's Ch, **StP Sch** - St Peters School, Pilning **SMCH** - St Mary's Church Hall **SBVH** - Severn Beach Village Hall, Thornbury, **TA** - The Armstrong, **TGC** - Thornbury Golf Club, **TCC** - Turnberries, **TOT** - The Olympus Theatre **TMC** - Tockington Methodist Church, **TMCH** - Thornbury Methodist Church Hall, **TTH** - Thornbury Town Hall, **URC** - United Reform Church **WADCA** - Winterbourne & District Community Association

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

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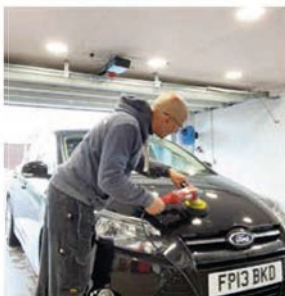
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