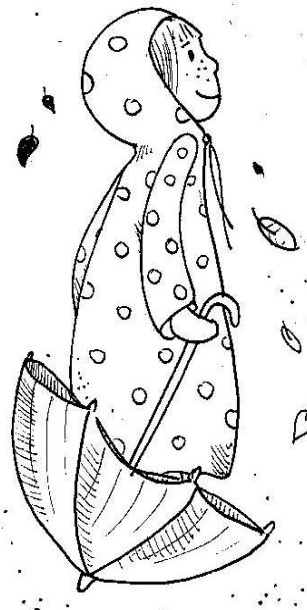
4-ward

October 2025



"Come said the wind to
the leaves one day,
Come o're the meadows
and we will play.
Put on your dresses
scarlet and gold,
For summer is gone
and the days grow cold."

- *A Children's Song of the 1880's*

4ward
Community magazine for
Oldbury, Shepperdine, Kington, Rockhampton & Hill

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Editorial

I was delighted to finally meet one of our contributors, Pete Hazelwood, in the Shop on a Saturday morning to get my copy of his book "*The Local Patch*" signed. It's a truly fascinating record of every bird species he encounters, 56 on the first day of January alone….

What astonishes me is his staggering commitment. Pete lives 7 miles away; he gets up early every morning, and, without even having breakfast, drives over to walk around his "patch" at dawn, almost every day of the year barring Sundays, winter and summer. It turns out he's not the only one; as well as fellow birding fanatics, he often meets a small group of local ladies who gather at 6am to walk to the power station and back again, and have been doing this for several years. I'm someone who can just about stagger as far as the kitchen to make a cup of tea at that time of the morning, which I then take back to bed, where I snuggle under the duvet again.

Tea having been drunk, and still in bed; this is the time of day when I answer my correspondence (email mostly now of course), and work on the mag, and idly look up things on the Internet. Recently I've been getting rather more letters through the post than usual, getting more and more threatening that the bailiffs would be coming unless I paid (you've guessed it!) a disputed parking fine. Well, that would make a good article for 4ward I thought, it might even make the heady heights of the "*Western Daily*"!

I had, of course, followed all the correct procedures, appealed online, and sent evidence, which in this case was actually a valid parking ticket (well ok, so what if I got one of the numbers wrong, I still paid?!) I tried emailing and phoning the company *Group Nexus* and *Direct Collection Bailiffs* on the numbers given but no one ever replied and the letters kept coming and the fines kept increasing. So, one morning I started scrolling on the Internet to see what more I could do. I came across an online forum discussing cases such as mine, and the recommendation - which had never occurred to me - was to try appealing to the actual landlord if the offence occurred on private land.

My offence occurred at Symonds Yat, and it didn't take me long to find out it is owned by *Forestry England*, which actually has a designated email for parking enquiries. A reply came almost straight away asking for details, letters, etc. I had to get my daughter Arilda to help me send it electronically, as by this time there was quite a file, but as soon as we did, an email came from Jessica at *Forestry England* saying that in this instance they would instruct *Group Nexus* to cancel the charge as a gesture of good will.

So, I'm sharing this in case you ever find yourselves in the same situation, of a parking dispute on private land; good luck, and in future I'm going to be very careful keying in my car registration!

Chris

Hall Matters

September has been a very busy month for the Hall, with a number of events being held.

The first event was our Wine and Cheese Evening, organised by Jan and Dave. As we took a tour around Europe without leaving Oldbury on Severn, we were guided through the tasting of several iconic cheeses, each paired with a complimentary wine. Both Jan and Dave worked hard preparing the event and their efforts certainly paid off, as it was a great night. I believe there were one or two people who were slow to get started on the Sunday morning, but hopefully those who attended will have left with a new-found knowledge of the different cheeses and wines of Europe.

Our next event was the Oldbury Produce and Craft Show organised by Matthew Riddle, Penny Pearce, Katherine Vowles and Amelia Sorrel. When Matthew first suggested this event at the beginning of the year, I thought it would be a wonderful opportunity to bring the community together. However, this was mixed with some concern as to how it was going to be received and how many people would engage with the show. I need not have worried, as the response was fantastic, both in terms of businesses and individuals donating cash and prizes to support the event, and individuals entering exhibits to be shown. There was a wide range of classes and I was staggered at the quantity and quality of the exhibits - I would not have wanted to be a judge! The weather on that Sunday was horrible, but the support for the event was amazing; over 150 people came to see the show and over £900 was raised for the Hall. A truly magnificent result. I would like to thank all the people who took part in the event, whether they were sponsors, organisers, judges, exhibitors, helpers, or spectators.

Our third event (I did say it was a busy month) was our Open Mic night, organised again by Marg. It's an evening where the local folk can just get up and enjoy singing or making music. By now I should not be surprised by the amount of local talent we have, but with each event more people come forward to be part of the night. Marg, as ever, was at the centre of the evening co-ordinating the performers. The show ran for three hours, and by the reaction of the audience, the performance of the artists was well appreciated.

In between these events we have been screening as many of the England Women's Rugby World Cup games as we could. As the competition progressed, so the quality of the rugby improved.

Moving forward to events occurring in October, our first will be on the 4th when all the family are welcome and can be involved in a Games Night! Hopefully it will be a night of fun and games, with a ploughman's supper laid on.

On the 18th October we have yet another new event for us, an '*Evening of Magic*'. We have engaged the services of '*The Big Foolini*' (a member of the Magic Circle) who will be providing some magic fun on the night. The bar will be open and light refreshments are included.

Don't forget our monthly line dancing evening on the 28th of October - or just come along and socialise at the bar, if line dancing seems a little too energetic for you. This event is pay on the door.

As always, event tickets are on sale at the village shop by cash or BACS transfer, or by going to the QR code on the posters, or by logging on to *https://bookwhen.com/memorialhall* for online booking.

I would also like to draw your attention to the annual Themed Dinner on the 8th November, the theme of which is yet to be confirmed.

Chris Jennings

Oldbury on Severn - Memorial Hall 100 Club Draw Winners

September Draw		
1st prize.	£20	Carolyn Watkins
2nd prize.	£15	Derek Smith
3rd prize.	£10	Marg Abbott
4th prize.	£10	Royston Hopkins

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Experience and see amazing magic at close range, some of it happening in your own hands, followed by a stage show with a range of illusions. Mind reading, vanishes, illusions, escapology and a finale involving everyone. You will see magic, involving fire, smoke, liquids, ropes, Rubiks cubes and … fruit. Entertainment and amazement are guaranteed with a fast-paced show that delivers a variety of knock-out magic and fun. Don't just take my word for it… come along and see for yourself! [*See next page for full details!*]

'AN EVENING OF MAGIC'

Oldbury on Severn Memorial Hall

Saturday. 18th October 7.30pm (Doors Open 7pm)

Tickets £10 (which includes interval refreshments)

'A member of the Magic Circle and Holder of a 'Close Up Magician of the Year Award'

Tickets available in The Village Shop

Remembering Brian Proctor - born 13 July 1935 - died 1 April 2025

Brian was born in Birmingham but while he was still a schoolboy his family moved to Corner House in Oldbury, as his dad had been offered work on a local farm. Brian attended Oldbury Primary School where Mr Parry was the head teacher. Brian was a quiet, well-behaved boy and didn't feel Mr Parry's cane as many of his classmates did. His first job when he left school was at Allan Knapp's building firm. Brian was called up for National Service, and served in Korea. Afterwards Brian returned to the family home in Oldbury, but got a well-paid job with Arnold B Johnson laying tarmac, and he bought his first motor car.

Brian was 24 when he first met Joan, when he went to M G Symes Hardware Shop in Thornbury, where she was working as a shop assistant. Joan was 19 at the time, but she says it was love at first sight because they were instantly attracted to each other, and it wasn't very long before Brian found an excuse to go back into the shop, and this time he asked Joan out to the pictures. Brian took her into Bristol to watch *South Pacific*. Joan had a very unhappy home life and knew her mother would try to stop her seeing Brian, so she was desperate to leave home as soon as possible. They made a plan for Joan to move to Bristol to stay with Brian's Aunt and Uncle. Joan had to smuggle her clothes out the week before she moved by wearing them two at a time. The young couple were very keen to marry, but in those days a bride under 21 couldn't marry without parental consent. Eventually her mother accepted the situation and Brian and Joan were married in Thornbury, at the registry office, on 19th December 1959. It was a very quiet wedding - Joan remembers it raining heavily and no photos being taken.

Mr & Mrs George Hedges owned a small empty farm cottage along Oldbury Naite and they offered it to the young couple. Brian and Joan had to spent a lot of time cleaning and painting it, but eventually moved in, with friends welcoming them, and a cake baked by Brian's Aunt. Joan says "*This was the beginning of a new life for us. We had two lovely baby boys – Nicholas, born December 1961, and Christopher, born October 1963. Now we were a complete happy family. We loved each other so much, and that love never died. We had over 64 years together until Brian died on 1st April 2025*."

Brian's funeral service took place at St Paul's the Hackett Church and the building was full, as Brian was so well liked by everyone. He was buried at Thornbury Cemetery, Kington Lane, along with the ashes of his younger son Christopher, who had predeceased him.

Church Road, Oldbury on Severn, S. Glos BS35 1QA
Tel: 01454 501090

Opening hours

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Thursday
9 am to 1:30 pm

Friday
9 am to 3 pm

Saturday
9 am to 2 pm

Sunday
9 am to 1 pm

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As well as a great range of basics at competitive prices, we stock many local products. These include: fresh veg, meats, ice cream, honey, jams, eggs and cakes.

We also sell newspapers, Hobbs House breads, plus award winning wines & beers.

Come and see. You may be surprised!

Shop Spot

Hi all! The Shop has been very busy in the hot weather as has our air conditioning!! Human and Doggy ice cream were the big summer sellers!

We also have a new free-range egg supplier in Fenton Farm Eggs. They come highly recommended and our customer feedback has been very positive. We are also supplying their mayonnaise, which everyone is raving about.

The Committee have also been busy making a number of additional donations, nearly all to local charities. A summary is below.

Unfortunately, one of the Shop's supporters and helpers Lyn Robbins sadly passed away recently, and volunteers connected with the Shop will really miss her. In her memory, we have donated £500 to a charity based in Bristol called *Womankind*, supporting women across the whole of Bristol.

Oldbury Cricket Club were recently broken into, with the thieves causing a lot of damage to doors, windows, and the ceiling. The Committee decided to offer our support, recognising support to the local community has been a major part of our ethos from day one. A donation of £500 is being given.

We have also given £500 to each of these Charities: *SARA* (based at Sharpness), *GWAAC* (the local Air Ambulance based at Almondsbury), *Thornbury Food Bank*, *Oldbury Memorial Hall*, *St Peter's Hospice* (based in Bristol), and to two local Thornbury charities, *Jigsaw* and *Brain Tumour Support.*

With Voucher and Hamper donations, this brings the total of our 2025 donations to over £19,000. This is a fantastic achievement, and a massive thanks must go to all our customers, suppliers, and importantly our volunteers! Let's hope that our success continues and that we can make more donations in 2026.

Thanks, Chris Awde

Oldbury on Severn Power Station – Update for September 2025

John Alderton, Site Director, gave a very comprehensive update on the work being undertaken at Oldbury, covering a number of areas.

Following on from the successful demolition of the Oldbury Technical Centre that was completed earlier this year, attention has turned to demolishing a number of buildings constructed of wood, that served as a laboratory, storage facilities and offices. This includes a bridge that connected the turbine hall to the main reactor building. These buildings are beyond repair, and are surplus to requirements, hence the reason for their demolition.

At the last meeting John reported that the switch-off of the positive ventilation system used for the cooling pond area continues to be monitored, and its air quality is well within the control limits agreed with the Environment Agency. This is saving a considerable amount of electricity, which supports the site's environmental and sustainability targets.

The work on the Early Fuel Element Debris Project continues; this is where a significant amount of low-level waste has been stored in five storage areas. To establish where the waste can be separated, and sent to the correct storage facility, or else to be recycled, a reasonable cross section of material has to be removed for assessment. This is done robotically, thus removing any risk to people. So far two of the five areas have been assessed, and the plan is to complete a second two by 2027. Once the waste has been assessed, a plan can be drawn up to retrieve the remaining bulk material and dispose of it safely as well as economically.

The Turbine Hall is now fully isolated with no services connected. This is a significant building, and along with associated buildings, is the size of two football pitches, with the base level being nine metres below the surface. The next stage is to go out to tender for its demolition. In order to do this, a full assessment of the project has to be scoped. Although there are no radioactive concerns, there are other major safety issues, including the presence of asbestos. To gain approval to approach the supply chain, the project is required to be presented to the NDA. Once approval has been received, it is planned to issue the tender documents to the market at the end of October. Contractors will not mobilise until later in 2026 / early 2027.

The one thing that it is clear to see, is that decommissioning/demolishing a Nuclear Power Station is not quick!!

Work on lagoon three continues, albeit a bit slower than planned. The project revolves around completing the sealing of the outflow so that the water table can adjust to the seasonal conditions. This will establish what type of 'wetland' will evolve.

John expanded on the nuclear industry's commitment to sustainability, including interaction with the local community. The site encourages interaction with schools and Further Education colleges, and a number of visits have taken place with these institutions. This also helps 'fly the flag' for a potential career opportunity. This has been successful, as John was pleased to announce that five apprenticeships have been awarded.

Oldbury Pumping Station Tour – EXTRA DATE due to high demand!
Wednesday 15 October – EARLY Advance Booking ESSENTIAL

Lower Severn Internal Drainage Board (LSIDB) opened their doors to the public for the first time as part of the Heritage Open Days festival on Wednesday 17th September. There was huge interest, and capacity on the free guided tours of the Pumping Station and Service Yard was soon reached, leaving some potential visitors disappointed. Due to this, the LSIDB have now arranged an additional date for tours, on Wednesday 15th October.

Advance booking for this event is ESSENTIAL so please contact Vicky Bailey **as soon as possible** for details of the available tour times. Once your tour booking has been confirmed, please meet at the designated time on 15th October in the car park at the front of the Lower Severn Internal Drainage Board, Waterside Buildings, Oldbury Lane, Oldbury-on-Severn, BS35 1RF.

Call Vicky Bailey on *01454 413340* or
email: *vbailey@lowersevrnidb.org.uk* for more details.

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A SERVICE FROM PLANNING TO COMPLETION

Oldbury Cricket Club

And just like that, Summer evaporated into Autumn……...Renee Ahdieh

And so, the cricket season is over for another year.

Now the Oldbury team and supporters can reflect on the passing summer, and as an 'aide memoire', here are the stats for the 2025 season:

Midweek:	Played 8	Won 3	Lost 5
Saturday:	Played 16	Won 12	Lost 4
League position:	2nd and promoted		
Sunday:	Played 14	Won 10	Lost 4

Won the *Rockhampton Sixes* tournament

Top Bats:
Alex Riggs....1,003 runs. Pete Banks....623 runs. Tom Pullin....578 runs.
Top Bowlers:
Dan Hicks.... 21 wks. Darren Banks....20 wks. Arron Banks....17wks.

Well done Alex for getting over a thousand runs in a season.

On the whole, a very successful year, but maybe the Wednesday game skipper was wrong to adopt the Paul Hogan picnic style of play (*see cricket report in September's 4ward*).

In August both Rockhampton and Oldbury cricket pavilions were broken into. Although only small amounts of cash were taken, thousands of pounds worth of damage was caused by the perpetrators. The village shop committee have generously donated £500 to Oldbury CC to cover incidental costs not covered by their insurance. The club are extremely thankful for their support in this matter.

Gerald Porter

Severn Vale Crib League 2025/2026

Life is like a game of cards. The hand you are dealt represents determinism; the way you play it is free will…… Jawaharial Nehru

The 2025/26 crib season has at last got under way, with *Sporting Oldbury* losing their first game convincingly against the *Pier View*. Disappointment for the team, but it is early days and they will be looking to improve in their next match. The *Shipwrecked* on the other hand have got off to a flying start, winning both of their opening games. Their keen rivalry will no doubt be fully tested when they play each other in mid-October.

Gerald Porter

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Central Pook is a hidden gem nestled in the beautiful hamlet of Northwick.
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Food served until 2.30 everyday

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Hill & Rockhampton WI

Report of Meeting – 9 September 2025

Our President, Jill Bryant, welcomed members back to the hall after our Summer break. It seemed a long time since we were last here. In fact, our last meeting in the hall had been in June for our 1970's themed night. The meeting in July had been at Elmore, we could not have chosen a colder or damper night for an outside talk. We thanked Maggie James for the flowers for the President's Table.

This month our meeting was led by Geri Worcester who introduced us to the skill of making felt animals. We had a choice of an owl, lamb, or rabbit kit. The evening was great fun, although the buzz of conversation and laughter was occasionally punctuated by yelps of anguish from people who had accidentally stabbed their finger, or whose needle had broken by too enthusiastic stabbing. The process was quite therapeutic, the stabbing motion could relieve stress, or with a darker purpose in mind, the stabber could imagine they were sticking pins in their worst enemy. Most people managed to finish their animal, and those who did not took them home to complete.

Once our felting was complete, we moved on to Institute business.

Jill, Patsy, Ann and Margaret attended the Avon Fed AGM, and displayed our Post Box Topper, on 23rd September. Please carry on knitting poppies for our meeting in October when they will be given to the Royal British Legion to sell on their stalls. Safety pins in the back would be much appreciated.

Lunch Club was at The Birdcage, Charfield, on 17th September, and next month our speaker will be from the Royal British Legion.

Any Other Business: Josie Wilson's Cream Tea had raised £3,700 by time of writing. Absolutely fantastic, well done to Josie and her team of helpers for such a lovely afternoon, and for raising so much for good causes.

Ann Jones, Hill & Rockhampton WI Secretary

Winners of the September Rockhampton 100 Club Draw were:

Tony England
Melanie Price
Mrs Irish
Rob Watkins

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RNLI

CHARITY TALK
by
CAPT. ANDY WYATT

(Retired Squadron Leader
RAF RED ARROWS TEAM)

Date: SAT. 1ST NOVEMBER

Venue: THORNBURY SAILING CLUB
Oldbury-on-Severn, BS35 1QA
Time: 14.00 to 16.30 Hours.

Cost: £5pp. All goes to the RNLI.

Liquid refreshment and nibbles in interval.

All welcome
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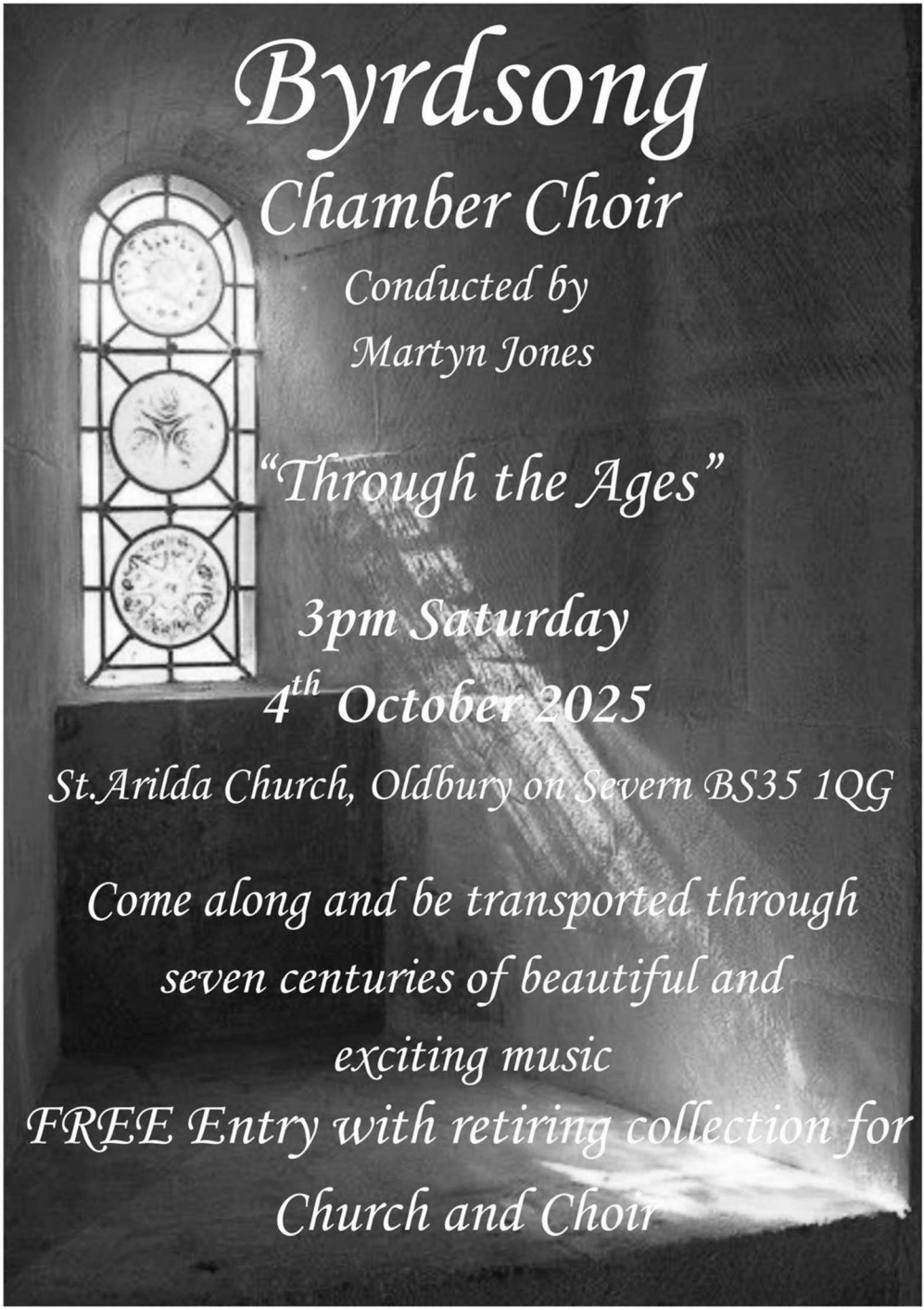

Byrdsong
Chamber Choir
Conducted by
Martyn Jones
"Through the Ages"
3pm Saturday
4th October 2025
St.Arilda Church, Oldbury on Severn BS35 1QG
Come along and be transported through seven centuries of beautiful and exciting music
FREE Entry with retiring collection for Church and Choir

Refresh!

A service for ALL ages at St Arilda's Church starting with refreshments at 3pm.

Sunday 5th October
Harvest & Mini-Fete

Sunday 2nd November
Don't Forget!

Sunday 7th December
Follow the Star!

St Arilda's Church Harvest Mini-Fete!

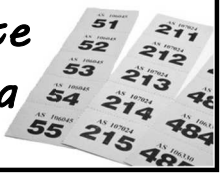
Sunday 5th October 2-3pm at St Arilda's

Refreshments!

Preloved Books

Bottle Stall

Chocolate Tombola



Church Services for October 2025

St. Mary's Thornbury

5th 10.30am
All Age Harvest
Holy Communion

12th 10.30am
All Age Service

19th 10.30am
Holy Communion

26th 10.30am
Holy Communion

St. Arilda's Oldbury

5th 3.00pm
Refresh!
Harvest

12th 6.00pm
Holy
Communion
with hymns

19th 6.00pm
Evening Prayer

26th 6.00pm
Evensong BCP

St. Mary's Shepperdine

Open as a place of pilgrimage and prayer.

For details phone *01454 260316*

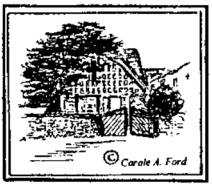
No Regular Sunday Service During Winter Months

St. Oswald's Rockhampton

Please check locally

Liz Cullimore churchwarden 01454 412208 or 07876352680 email cullimorel@aol.com

26th 10.30am
Holy Communion service



Catholic

Christ the King, Thornbury.
Sunday Mass
9.00am
10.30am

www.ctk-thornbury.org.uk

Holy Cross, Wotton Under Edge
Saturday
(vigil Mass) 5.00pm

Morton Baptist

Morning Service
Every Sunday
at
10.30am

See https://mortonbaptist.org for details

Thornbury Quakers

Chantry Community Centre on Castle Street

Sunday
10.30am

Further details contact Sheila Waters on *07738495776*

Christian Comment

As the fields are gathered in, and the colours of autumn begin to glow, we find ourselves once again in the season of Harvest. It's a time of beauty and abundance—but also of deeper reflection. With so much uncertainty in the air and opinions flying as freely as flags, Harvest offers a moment to pause. What really matters? What kind of community do we want to be?

Harvest is about more than full barns—it's about full hearts. It's a chance to remember what we've been given, and to ask how we might give in return.

St Mary's Shepperdine celebrated Harvest on Sunday 28th September, the last service of the year at Shepperdine, except for Christmas, and the little church was packed as the community came together to rejoice and sing the traditional harvest hymns.

The school celebrate their own Harvest at St Arilda's on Friday 3rd October. It is lovely to see the school gather together and walk up through the new school gate which now leads directly from the school playground into the church yard. It was installed over the summer, and paid for by the PCC who were delighted to provide safer access for the school, completely avoiding the need to walk along the road, and making our connection even stronger.

If you are reading this in time, we'd love to see you at our Harvest Refresh! at St Arilda's, on Sunday 5th October at 3pm following the church mini-fete from 2pm—a time to come together in joy, song, and thankfulness.

Encouraged by our environment champions, many people choose to make their Harvest offerings something with the Fairtrade symbol, as we aspire for a fairer global economy. The gifts will be going once again to our local food bank. Please do give generously.

This season, may we find joy not just in the gifts of creation, but in how we share them. Let's make this Harvest more than a tradition—let's make it a way of life.

Now more than ever, may we choose to be a true harvest community: thankful, generous, and rooted in hope.

Revd Joy

St Marys Music Concert
Sunday 19 October at 4pm at St Mary's Church, Thornbury

The final Sunday afternoon concert of the 2025 series will be held on October 19th at St Mary's Church, Thornbury. We are delighted to welcome "*Panache*" as our performers. As usual the concert begins at 4pm, and is followed by refreshments. Admission free. Donations go to St Mary's music.

Oldbury Produce and Craft Show 2025

The Oldbury Show held on Sunday 14th September proved to be a great community event and raised £983 to help with the upkeep of The Memorial Hall. Local residents were able to display their garden produce, cookery, photos and handicrafts, and a wide variety of children's classes were also well supported. The first 'Fruit and Flower Show' was held in The Memorial Hall in 1927, a few years after the Hall had been built and opened, so it was good to host the show there again so near its centenary.

We would like to thank sincerely everyone who entered the various classes, and also those who allowed their items to be sold; there is obviously a lot of skill and talent in the area. Also, a big thank you to our judges: June Lyons (June first judged in the Oldbury Show in 1977), Terrian Bennett, John Hughes, The Revd Helen Hill, and Stephen Sprackman, and also to all the Show Stewards who helped out during the day. Thank you to all those who came during the afternoon and supported the show through buying the local produce and draw tickets, and enjoying teas, cakes and the bar.

A big thank you to the Show Sponsors who donated prize money, gifts and vouchers, especially the *Oldbury Community Shop* who not only donated prize vouchers but also sold draw tickets and received back the entry forms. The other Show Sponsors included: *Shepperdine Riding School*/Jean Ward, *Front Row Fencing* in Oldbury, *Moor Farm Sport Horses* at Kington/Robin and Trudi Irish, Jim and Mary Nichols, Howard and Claire Newsome, *Oak Leaf Nurseries* in Oldbury Lane/David Price, Nick Thornely and Sally Christensen, *Pinkers Country Store* at Latteridge, Terrian Bennett, *Country Dogs Boarding Kennels* at The Naite/Andrew Gazard, *The Mower Doctor*/ Adrian Hutton, *The Memorial Hall*, *Old Down Country Park*/Katya Banks, Valerie Hall, Philip Pearce, Matthew Riddle, Kathryn Vowles and *Wolfridge Alpacas* at Alveston.

The prizes were presented by Show President Gerry Dyke, the Winners of the various Sections were: **Preschool**, 1st Prize and *The Herbert Gerrish Trophy*, Dorothy Pearce, 2nd Freddie Sorrell; **Reception to Yr2**, 1st Prize and *The Pat Winstone Cup*, Esme Sorrell, 2nd Lilly Griffiths, 3rd Flynn Mann; **Yr3 to Yr6**, 1st Prize and *The Junior Challenge Cup*, Aoibhinn O'Leary, 2nd Theo Sorrell, 3rd Ella Terrett; **Yr7 to Yr11**, 1st Prize and *The Secondary Challenge Cup*, Joint 1st Freddie and Lucy Barker; **Vegetable Produce**, 1st Prize and *The Allan Knapp Challenge Cup*, Colin Keedwell, 2nd Catie Mahoney, 3rd Josie Wilson; **Fruit**, 1st Prize and *The Douglas Winstone Cup*, Jim Nichols, 2nd Katya Banks, 3rd Tom Frost; **Floral**, 1st Prize and *The Park Garden Nursery Cup*, Matthew Riddle, 2nd Josie Wilson, 3rd Tracey Beecher, **Cookery**, 1st Prize and *The Phyllis Rugman of Vine Farm Cup*, Daphne Howell, 2nd Matthew Riddle, 3rd Heather Harding; **Handicraft**, 1st Prize and *The Sue Keedwell Cup*, Tess Sullivan, Joint 2nd Andrew Meachin, Gillian

Nelmes and Jane Welsh, 3rd Sally Christensen; **Photography**, 1st Prize and *The Glynn Poole Cup*, Matthew Riddle, 2nd Kerry Lloyd, 3rd Peter Riddle. **Most Points in the Show**, 1st Matthew Riddle, 2nd Josie Wilson, 3rd Colin Keedwell.

Please do let us know if you can help us with the preparations for next year's show and also let us know how we could improve it for next year! We have already had a request for a 'Sloe Gin' class, so please get picking those sloe berries now, for next year's show! STOP PRESS: the date of next year's show will be SATURDAY 5th SEPTEMBER 2026 at The Memorial Hall.

Matthew Riddle, Kathryn Vowles, Penny Pearce, Liz Nichols & Amelia Sorrell

oldburyshow@gmail.com

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Birthdays

Rockhampton CC Presentation Dinner

Held on 13th September 2025 at Boundary Field, Rockhampton

Following a record-breaking season of 90 adult and junior home games, plus 27 days of County cricket played at the Rockhampton grounds this season, over 60 members attended a presentations evening at Boundary Field Pavilion.

Appreciation and thanks were given to the ground's teams for both fields, and the club coaches and volunteers for the youth, girls and ladies' weekly sessions.

After a scrumptious roast dinner by Susie Harris our caterer, beautifully organised by Deborah our Social Secretary, the Chairman and Team Captains presented the annual cricketing awards.

Batting Awards:	**Bowling Awards:**	**Young Player Award**	**Club Volunteer 2025**
1s Sam Long 2s Brendan Hughes 3s Mike Dent 4s Liam Storer	1s Finn Sherred-Isles 2s Pierre Bell 3s Mike Dent 4s Alfie Young	Louis Warren **Players' Player Award** Will Driver	Dave Lane

Also, special thanks were given to both Dave McCabe and Mel Orchard, who together made the first summer season of the Ravens (the girls' team) such an amazing success.

It was a really great evening at the club, and congratulations to all those above, and a massive thank you to everyone who made the 2025 season possible, the players, committee members, volunteers, and members.

For more details on the winter season social events and activities, Senior, Junior (Girls & Boys), and Ladies cricket, please visit our website or contact us by phone or email using the details below.

Contact Details: *Rockhampton Cricket Club,*
Boundary Field Cricket Ground,
Rockhampton, Berkeley,
Gloucestershire, GL13 9DR,
https://rockhamptoncc.com/contacts/
07771548306 *missisles@live.co.uk*

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Bristol Care Homes Supporting Charities Through Summer Fundraising

Bristol Care Homes is proud to share the success of its summer fairs held across Glebe House, Beech House, Quarry House, and Field House, which together raised a remarkable £2,166.70 for local and national charities.

These events are more than just summer celebrations – they reflect our ongoing commitment to supporting the wider community while also creating meaningful opportunities for residents, families, and neighbours to come together.

Each home chose a charity close to their hearts:

- Quarry House raised £526.84 in support of the Alzheimer's Society, contributing to vital research and support services for those living with dementia.
- Beech House raised £500.64 for Mind, helping to improve access to mental health support across the UK.
- Glebe House raised £533.70 for Macmillan Cancer Support, funding services for people affected by cancer and their families.
- Field House raised £605.52 for The Parish of St Mary's & St James, supporting a valued local community organisation.

A Celebration of Community Spirit

Each fair combined fun activities, stalls, raffles, and entertainment, creating lively and inclusive occasions enjoyed by residents and visitors alike. The funds raised are being directly donated to the chosen charities, reinforcing our belief that care homes are an integral part of the communities they serve.

Bristol Care Homes are committed not only to providing high-quality care but also to playing an active role in building stronger, more supportive neighbourhoods. These fundraising successes demonstrate the generosity of their teams, residents, families, and friends – and the impact they can make together.

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Musicians from The Bristol Ensemble return to Thornbury on Saturday 25 October at 7.30pm at the United Reformed Church

Presented by *"Classical Masterpieces by Candlelight"*
Roger Huckle, violinist, leads the Ensemble musicians in a programme of enchanting movements by Mozart, Chopin and Shostakovich.

ACTION ARTS GROUP

- Mozart Marriage of Figaro Overture – brilliant and energetic
- Chopin Piano Concerto No.2 – lyrical, elegant orchestration
- Mozart Piano Concerto No.21 in C major – emotional depth
- Shostakovich Gadfly Suite – lyrical, sweeping melodies

Bristol Ensemble Soloist – Viv Mclean

Roger Huckle set up the musicians' collective in 1994. This prestigious orchestra performs classical, popular, jazz and contemporary concerts around the country. Their performances are stunning, uplifting and not to be missed.

The concert is on Saturday 25th October at 7.30pm at the United Reformed Church, Chapel Street, Thornbury BS35 2BA.

Tickets, to include an interval drink, are £20, available from *AAGThornbury@gmail.com* or *01454 850933.*

Thornbury Young Musicians 10th Anniversary Concert Sunday 9 November at 3pm at the United Reformed Church

ACTION ARTS GROUP

Join us for one of the highlights of the musical year for many in our AAG audiences. This will be the 10th year of the Thornbury Young Musicians' Concerts, started in 2016 by local musician and actor Michael Lunts to showcase the immense amount of young musical talent in the locality. The concerts have grown in popularity year on year, such that they are now regularly sell-out events.

To mark this 10th year Michael has invited some old faces back alongside the new (though the old faces are still very young!) and there will be a wide variety of instrumentalists, singers, and musical performers, sharing their talents in a non-competitive, celebratory atmosphere. An uplifting way to mark Remembrance Sunday.

An Action Arts Group presentation at the United Reformed Church, Chapel Street, BS35 2BA.

Tickets cost £7.50 or £5 for under 16 years.
Tea and cakes will be served in the interval.
Contact *AAGThornbury@gmail.com* or *01454 850933.*

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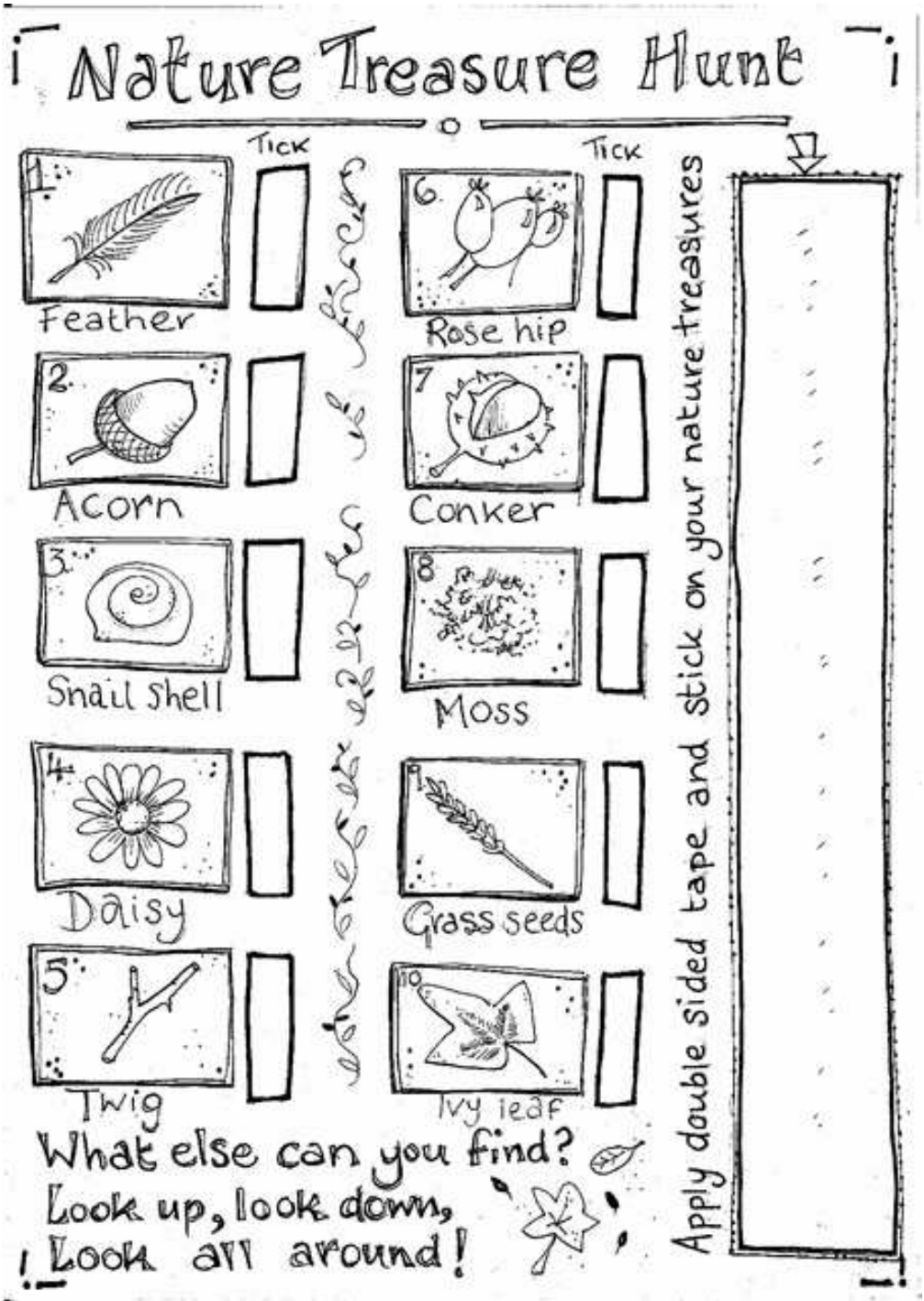
oneyou.southglos.gov.uk for more information

Treasure Hunt (for young or old!) kindly created for us by Lorna Page



Tide Table: Inward Rocks, River Severn

October 2025

Day	High	Low	High	Low	High	Moon	Sunrise	Sunset
Wed 1	2:06 AM BST / 7.65 m	9:15 AM BST / 3.49 m	2:39 PM BST / 7.45 m	9:53 PM BST / 3.44 m			7:11 AM BST	6:47 PM BST
Fri 3	5:02 AM BST / 7.30 m	11:49 AM BST / 3.32 m	5:36 PM BST / 7.73 m				7:14 AM BST	6:43 PM BST
Sat 4		12:27 AM BST / 2.86 m	6:11 AM BST / 8.05 m	12:57 PM BST / 2.69 m	6:36 PM BST / 8.69 m		7:16 AM BST	6:40 PM BST
Sun 5		1:28 AM BST / 2.16 m	7:02 AM BST / 9.12 m	1:53 PM BST / 1.94 m	7:22 PM BST / 9.88 m		7:18 AM BST	6:38 PM BST
Tue 7		3:08 AM BST / 0.75 m	8:24 AM BST / 11.45 m	3:29 PM BST / 0.58 m	8:44 PM BST / 12.13 m	Full Moon	7:21 AM BST	6:34 PM BST
Fri 10		5:19 AM BST / -0.08 m	10:23 AM BST / 12.98 m	5:39 PM BST / -0.04 m	10:45 PM BST / 12.91 m		7:26 AM BST	6:27 PM BST
Sat 11		6:02 AM BST / 0.19 m	11:06 AM BST / 12.58 m	6:23 PM BST / 0.28 m	11:29 PM BST / 12.21 m		7:28 AM BST	6:25 PM BST
Sun 12		6:46 AM BST / 0.71 m	11:51 AM BST / 11.76 m	7:10 PM BST / 0.84 m			7:29 AM BST	6:22 PM BST
Mon 13	12:17 AM BST / 11.14 m	7:34 AM BST / 1.41 m	12:42 PM BST / 10.66 m	8:01 PM BST / 1.53 m		Last Quarter	7:31 AM BST	6:20 PM BST
Fri 17	5:04 AM BST / 8.02 m	12:21 PM BST / 2.62 m	5:37 PM BST / 8.42 m				7:38 AM BST	6:12 PM BST
Sat 18		12:58 AM BST / 2.10 m	6:13 AM BST / 8.49 m	1:26 PM BST / 2.10 m	6:39 PM BST / 9.04 m		7:40 AM BST	6:10 PM BST
Sun 19		1:55 AM BST / 1.64 m	7:06 AM BST / 9.20 m	2:17 PM BST / 1.65 m	7:27 PM BST / 9.78 m		7:41 AM BST	6:08 PM BST
Tue 21		3:20 AM BST / 1.17 m	8:26 AM BST / 10.59 m	3:36 PM BST / 1.20 m	8:43 PM BST / 11.01 m	New Moon	7:45 AM BST	6:03 PM BST
Fri 24		4:55 AM BST / 1.37 m	10:06 AM BST / 11.33 m	5:10 PM BST / 1.36 m	10:23 PM BST / 11.24 m		7:50 AM BST	5:57 PM BST
Sat 25		5:26 AM BST / 1.58 m	10:37 AM BST / 11.08 m	5:42 PM BST / 1.57 m	10:55 PM BST / 10.82 m		7:52 AM BST	5:55 PM BST
Sun 26		4:59 AM GMT / 1.85 m	10:09 AM GMT / 10.60 m	5:17 PM GMT / 1.86 m	10:27 PM GMT / 10.21 m		6:54 AM GMT	4:53 PM GMT
Wed 29		6:59 AM GMT / 2.96 m	12:04 PM GMT / 8.49 m	7:27 PM GMT / 2.95 m		First Quarter	6:59 AM GMT	4:48 PM GMT
Fri 31	1:47 AM GMT / 7.54 m	9:02 AM GMT / 3.28 m	2:26 PM GMT / 7.64 m	9:39 PM GMT / 3.02 m			7:02 AM GMT	4:44 PM GMT

Could you Share the Care?

South Gloucestershire Council is looking for caring, community-minded people to become short break foster carers through its Share the Care service.

Short break carers offer disabled children fun, safe experiences—while giving families a much-needed rest. Breaks can be anything from a few hours to a weekend, and make a real difference to local families.

Share the Care is a chance to make a real difference in a child's life, to support families, and to be part of something truly rewarding.

Interested? Visit *fostersouthglos.org.uk/share-the-care* to find out more, or reach out to Jackie at *Jackie.dyer@southglos.gov.uk*

Introducing *Byrdsong*

Byrdsong began in 2016 as an informal group of friends who enjoyed singing together. There are now sixteen of us and we have welcomed Martyn Jones as our Musical Director.

Based in the Usk area, we perform sacred and secular music, largely unaccompanied. Our repertoire of anthems, motets and part-songs ranges from the sixteenth to the twenty-first century. Our name itself is a nod to the well-known composer of the English Renaissance, William Byrd, whose work is often included in our programmes.

We have sung at various fundraisers, concerts and church services in venues and churches around South Wales and Gloucestershire, and have also taken part in the Usk Choral Festival. We especially enjoyed singing at Oldbury in July 2024, and are looking forward to singing in the beautiful church of St Arilda once again, at 3pm on Saturday 4th October.

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Grant-Giving Programme 2025/6
Thornbury and District League of Friends

Thornbury and District League of Friends has now celebrated FOUR very successful years of community grant awards and support. Since the closure of Thornbury Hospital at the end of 2018, we have also continued to support the Outpatients in St Mary Centre.

Examples of grant recipients to date: Jigsaw; Haven Memory Café; Krunch; Great Western Air Ambulance; Thornbury Community Permaculture Project; Thornbury in Bloom.

This year's grant-giving programme encourages local organisations to apply for a grant towards any wellbeing or health-related project supporting our charitable aims, for which our financial assistance might be needed. We welcome your interest and will consider all requests carefully.

The 2025/6 programme will operate as follows:

8 October - 10 November 2025: Grant Applications to be submitted;
10 November: Last date for Grant Application submission;
14 November: Announcement of Grants awarded.

Please contact Andrea for further information regarding the above programme.

(email: *abates1101@msn.com*)

The last event of the year will be our AGM on Friday 21 November at 3pm, at St Mary's Church Hall, Eastbury Rd, Thornbury, BS35 1DR, when there will be a talk by one of our previous grant recipients, and light refreshments.

We need more active members to help us put on future events, so if you are interested in assisting in ANY way please contact Paul.

(email: *paul.wilkinson53@outlook.com*)

We look forward to another rewarding year of supporting health and wellbeing in our local community.

NB: for news of future events / updates please see our Facebook page.

Thornbury Musical Theatre Group

'Oklahoma!'

29th October – 1st November at the Olympus Theatre, Filton

Thornbury Musical Theatre Group will be back this October with '*Oklahoma!*'. The fantastic cast and crew are well underway with rehearsals and preparations for what is shaping up to be an unmissable show.

'*Oklahoma!*' is Rodgers and Hammerstein's classic musical, bursting with romance, rivalry, and showstopping songs. Set on the American frontier, it follows the spirited farm girl Laurey, charming cowboy Curly, and brooding farmhand Jud, in a love triangle that plays out against the backdrop of a community on the brink of change.

Packed with unforgettable tunes like *Oh, What a Beautiful Mornin'*, *The Surrey with the Fringe on Top*, and *People Will Say We're in Love*, the show made history in 1943 as Rodgers and Hammerstein's first collaboration, revolutionising musical theatre with its blend of story, song, and dance.

The production will be staged at the Olympus Theatre, Filton, located at South Gloucestershire & Stroud College (WISE Campus), New Road, Stoke Gifford, Bristol, BS34 8LP, from 29th October to 1st November inclusive.

The performance time is 7.30pm on the 29th, 30th and 31st of October. There will be two performances on Saturday 1st November at 2pm and 7pm. Tickets are available at *www.tmtg.org.uk/tickets* and start at £16.

This production is suitable for all ages, however, parental discretion is recommended for younger audience members. If you would like more information about any aspect of the show, please contact us at TMTG on *07516 270140* and we will be happy to help.

Thornbury Volunteer Centre Christmas Table Top Sale
Saturday 8 November, 10am-1pm at Thornbury Methodist Church Hall

Visit us to find that elusive Christmas present!

Choose from vintage goods, cards, local produce, hand-made gifts and crafts.

Try your luck in our giant Christmas raffle.

Also serving teas, coffees, and homemade cakes.

Free entry!

www.volunteer-thornbury.co.uk
Email: *mail@volunteer-thornbury.co.uk*

TUBE ALLOYS

Thursday 13 November at 7.30pm at St Mary's Church Hall BS35 1DR

ACTION ARTS GROUP presents a talk by Professor Gareth Williams.

The story of the British scientists who built the first atomic bombs.

Their names are mostly forgotten but they changed the course of history. Without them, the Manhattan Project and Los Alamos would never have happened, and no atomic bombs could have been made during the Second World War.

In his new book, Professor Gareth Williams unearths the remarkable story of the top-secret British nuclear programme, set up in 1940, and code-named "Tube Alloys". *The Impossible Bomb* is a gripping true-life scientific thriller which sheds new light on the birth of nuclear weapons – and reveals how and why Tube Alloys was written out of history.

"Superb" – Daily Telegraph

"A thrilling human drama – Williams writes with the clarity and pace of John le Carre" – Daily Mail.

Professor Gareth Williams' talk, "Tube Alloys", takes place at 7.30pm on Thursday 13 November at St. Mary's Church Hall, Eastbury Road, BS35 1DR. Tickets are £7.50, with tea/coffee and cake, from *01454 850933* or *AAGThornbury@gmail.com*

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Saturday	9.30-12.30
Sunday	OPEN ACCESS

*Except Bank Holidays

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Friday 3rd October - 2pm
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Children's Events

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Suitable for all children 0-5

Rhymetime — **Fridays 9.30-10**
Suitable for all children 0-5

Lego Club — **Saturdays 9.30-10.30**
Suitable for all children 4-11

Half Term Crafts

Wednesday 29th October
10:30-12

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Active Libraries

Calendar Dates for Oldbury

4th	Oct	Sat	Games Night, Memorial Hall
5th	Oct	Sun	Mini Fete, St Arilda's Church, 2pm – 3pm
17th	Oct	Fri	Line Dancing, Memorial Hall 7.30pm
18th	Oct	Sat	'The Big Foolini' (a member of the Magic Circle), Memorial Hall
1st	Nov	Sat	Charity Talk, Sailing Club, 2pm
8th	Nov	Sat	Annual Themed Dinner, Memorial Hall
28th	Nov	Fri	Line Dancing, Memorial Hall 7.30pm
19th	Dec	Fri	Line Dancing, Memorial Hall 7.30pm
2026			
5th	Sep	Sat	Oldbury Produce and Craft Show

OVCC Film Show, second Friday of month, Memorial Hall, doors open at 7.15pm

If you have any more local events that you would like to include in this diary, please email the magazine at **4wardmag@gmail.com**

Oldbury Elders Luncheon Club

Meet at 11.45am in the dining room, lunch served at 12noon,
on the last Tuesday of the month.
Thanks to Mark Sorrell and the team at the Anchor.
Any enquiries to Janet Astle *07747 198878*

Oldbury Whist Drives, first and third Saturdays

of the month, at 7.30pm in the Westmarsh Lane Pavilion.

New players always welcome!
If anyone would like to learn the game or brush up on their skills, please feel free to contact me - Matthew Riddle - 07877 413 298
matthewriddle1967@googlemail.com

Rainfall

August		
2025	**2024**	**2023**
23.0mm	67.5mm	53.5mm
0.91"	2.66"	2.11"

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