

The Painswick Beacon

Vol. 23 No. 11

February 2001



Artist's drawing of the proposed development viewed from the west side of the Stroud Road (See also page 4)

Makeover plan for St Mary's Home

Severn NHS Trust has submitted a plan to develop the St Mary's Home site by erecting 18 new two and three storey houses, and converting St Mary's House to a single dwelling.

In essence, the application proposes leaving the older part of St Mary's House, replacing the large rendered block in Stamages Lane with a terrace of six three-storey homes with their roof line stepped down roughly to follow the fall of the road.

On the western side of the site, on the A46, the converted St Mary's House would have its front door, with a terrace of seven dwellings, two-storey at the front and three-storey at the rear.

A new access road is planned from the A46, leading into a large 'courtyard' area in which the remaining five properties would be sited.

So far, the NHS Trust has not chosen a developer but has submitted designs from Modus Architects of Bristol to indicate the type of materials, style and scale that they feel would be acceptable in Painswick, the Trust's Corporate Services Manager told the Beacon. The plan means significant changes to the line of the A46, its trees and hedgerows to provide visual safety for traffic, according to the report.

Having considered the proposal and examined the site, the Parish Council has decided to call a public meeting on Wednesday, 21st February at 6.30pm to hear residents' views. This meeting will be followed by the scheduled Parish Council meeting at 8pm, at which members will determine their recommendations to be forwarded to Stroud District Council. Residents are invited to forward their comments to the Parish Council before the public meeting if they wish.

The Parish Council's own planning committee is recommending that the Par-

ish Council accepts the need to develop this brownfield site and, in so doing, provide an opportunity for growth in the village, helping to sustain school, business, employment and services. The committee makes the following provisos:

Consideration be given to providing a mixed development with at least some two-bedroom units; providing some affordable housing on this site; no vehicular access on to the site from the A46; placing rigid parking restrictions on the surrounding roads, and insisting that all building materials used are sympathetic with this truly Cotswold village.

Painswick and District Conservation Society held a special meeting to consider the submission and afterwards put the following comments to the Beacon:

In general, the plan does not comply with the Draft Stroud District Plan since the St Mary's site is not designated for residential development and the proposal more than doubles the area of development on this site, and far exceeds the footprint of the original St Mary's buildings by extending down Stroud Road. In addition, the proposed number of houses greatly exceeds the number allocated to

Painswick over the Plan period. More specifically, the Society says, the site is adjacent to a conservation area where Government policy requires all of the following criteria to be met:

The siting of the development should respect existing open spaces, patterns of building layout, trees, hedges, walls and fences; the scale, design, proportions, detailing and materials used must be sympathetic to the characteristic form in the area, and be compatible with existing buildings and spaces; there should be no loss of historic features; and important views into and out of the area be protected.

The proposed development does not comply with any of the above criteria, maintains the Society.

Their report goes on to detail issues such as tree and hedgerow cover, the devaluation of St Mary's House as a landmark, vehicular access to the site, traffic safety on the A46 and the possibility of using a financial contribution from the developers towards affordable housing being used elsewhere. (The NHS plan falls short by one dwelling to reach the figure where they would be compelled to provide some affordable housing).

Meanwhile, the Care Centre...

Richmond Village Care Centre is asking Stroud District Council to reconsider the plan submitted last year which defined four areas where development could take place. This proposal asked for a nursing home with 50 beds, and 36 dwellings in seven groups on the site, to include 10 affordable units. Planners put numerous restrictions on it which Mr Keith Cockell, Richmond Care's managing director, could not accept. He told the Beacon: "We can only afford to have the 10 affordable homes if we get the development of the original four areas." The consultative team that Mr Cockell requested in December's Beacon met on 10th January. He is keen to ensure that his designers incorporate services that complement rather than conflict with those already in Painswick. Two options being considered are a film and DVD screen centre and a hydrotherapy pool.

Council Meeting on 17th January

Reported by Leslie Brotherton

St. Mary's Home site - full planning application *

The Council endorsed the decision of its Planning Committee, which met earlier that evening, on the detailed planning application received just two days before this meeting. A site meeting of the Planning Committee was to be held on Thursday 25th January. The formal committee meeting immediately afterwards was authorised to convey the Council's views to District Council, where there was a deadline of 1st February. The proposal is described in greater detail on Page One, together with the views of the committee.

It was suggested that the size of the project was such that local opinion should be obtained through a public meeting. The Council agreed with Keith Hardwidge, chairman of the committee, that it should first decide its own views arising from study of the proposals and having had the site meeting. A decision on a public meeting was deferred until 25th January.

Vacancy on the Council

The Council was surprised to receive the resignation, notified to the chairman the previous day, of Coun Jennifer Crook. She explained in her letter that the pressures of her recently extended working hours had led to her to conclude that she could not adequately attend to Council duties as well as she would wish. Mrs Crook has been a member since 1997, and chaired the Council's Footpath Committee for most of that time.

Accepting her resignation, Terry Parker, the chairman, and others expressed their regret that Mrs Crook was leaving and took the opportunity to praise and

thank her for her services. The District Council Electoral Office had been informed and a public notice issued by the Clerk of the Parish Council. If ten electors do not request, within 14 work-ing days, that is by 8th February, that they wish to hold an election, the Parish Council will co-opt a replacement.

Pitchcombe ward boundary change

The Council had been invited to comment on a Boundary Commission proposal that Pitchcombe be included within a new ward to be called Over Stroud, to include Whiteshill and Randwick. Pitchcombe Parish Council were against such a proposal since they felt neither social or geographic affinity with these two villages.

It was agreed to support the Pitchcombe PC view, drawing attention to ecclesiastical and other strong connections with Painswick and its valley.

Snow clearance and gritting

Several complaints had been received about the lack of treatment of a number of roadways within the village. Having contacted the Divisional Surveyor's office the Chairman reported that they would welcome information from the Parish Council indicating their order of priorities for gritting some side roads. The Surveyor had been unable to determine these priorities and had relied upon local knowledge to fix his gritting schedules.

Councillors identified roads such as Tibbiwell as being of special importance, and took note of an additional grit-bin recently located at the top of this road.

It was agreed to notify the Surveyor of priority roads and that David Hudson and John Stephenson-Oliver should immediately devise a listing for him. It was also hoped that residents would inform the Parish Clerk if bins needed topping up.

Painswick Beacon management

Malcolm Watts reported that a management scheme had been worked out for the whole of the Painswick Beacon through collaboration between Painswick Beacon Conservation Group and English Nature. This was now with Painswick Golf Club and, subject to their agreement, it was confidently expected that once implemented the plan would be in the best interests of all users of the Beacon.

Recreation Field golfing

Four letters had been received, critical of permitting golf to be practised on the field. These suggested that golf was not suitable for this location, that there had already been expensive damage to neighbouring property, and that people in gardens nearby felt vulnerable from erratic trajectories. Putting up signs to discourage

or limit the activity was pointless.

The matter was referred to the Recreation Field Trustees who met in private immediately after the full Council. (Readers may recollect that 12 members of Council are also Trustees.) The Trustees have decided that any use of golf balls on the recreation field is prohibited.

Recreation Field play area *

Malcolm Watts reported that the additional play equipment had now been installed and was proving popular, despite the recent poor weather.

Recreation Field - a Village Green?

The Council noted a suggestion from a local resident to the County Council that all or part of the Recreation Field be declared a Village Green, with the intent of applying legal constraints applicable to such greens. This was referred to the Trustees for initial comment. The County Solicitor had advised that, under the Commons Registration Act 1965, action was unlikely to be possible since the date for considering such a change expired in 1970. There were also other legal factors involved. The Trustees agreed that no action was needed.

Bus shelter for Cheltenham Road

A new cantilever-type bus shelter is shortly to be erected by the Council, at the expense of the developers of Gyde House, close to Lower Washwell Lane.

Bus changes

The hoped-for additional evening bus service to Cheltenham, reported last month, will not operate after all.

Car sales alongside the A46

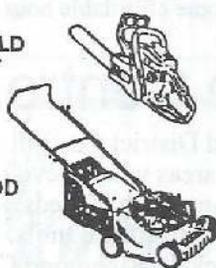
Further public comment had been received on the extent to which car sales along the stretch of Stroud Road above Salmon Springs was occupying the traffic lay-by opposite the sales areas, including damage to the embankment. There was also concern about sales-area floodlights dazzling drivers travelling north. Although this matter had been drawn to the attention of County Highways officers and the Police last November little seems to have changed; it was agreed to seek a report on any action that had been taken.

*Mentioned on another page

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New head for The Croft

The Croft School governors have announced the appointment of a new head teacher. He is Mr Roger Harding who is presently head of Coberley C of E Infants School. He starts at the Croft after the Easter break. Mr Harding lives in Abbeymead, Gloucester.

Angela gets her first legacy into print

Painswick is about to have another first-time author join its ranks when Angela Woodward's book, *The Legacy*, is published next month.

Angela, 46, from Gyde's Farm, Stroud Road, worked on the book in the evenings and at weekends for two years, because she had a full-time job at her husband's glazing business in Cheltenham. Angela has always loved horses and riding, and inevitably her book unveils love, hate, intrigue and murder in the world of horse-racing and big business.

She had the usual problems of a new author - 16 or so rejection slips before being taken up by the Scottish publisher, Cowan Publishing.

Angela spent her teenage years in Singapore where her father was posted in 1964 during service with the RAF. There she was one of only a handful of Caucasians to represent Singapore in national swimming competitions.

On returning to England and leaving school at 18, she went to work in a pathology laboratory. Her husband, Roy, at one time was an apprentice with Fred Winter's stables at Lambourn. They met playing badminton, not in a stable block, and moved to Gyde's Farm seven years ago.

"I've always wanted to write and now I can find some time to do so," Angela told the Beacon. And she's already half-way through her second book.



Emma Hodge of Christ Church presents gifts to Rowena Francis at the supper

Fitting farewell for Rowena

The Rev Rowena Francis, who takes up a new appointment in Coventry this month, has been minister of Christ Church, Painswick, for barely four and a half years, but in that time has made a huge impact on both the church and the wider village community.

It was fitting that the farewell supper for Rowena on 12th January was an ecumenical occasion with representatives from all of the local churches, and it was in keeping with Rowena's personality that she made sure it was a happy event, celebrating a stimulating period rather than a time for sadness.

Brief speeches were made by the chair of Churches Together Around Painswick, Jane Robinson, and by a member of Christ Church Council, Audrey Price. In their tributes to Rowena, they praised her ecumenical spirit, energy, dedication and leadership skills. Reference was also made to her work in a wider Christian context that encompassed national and even international institutions.

Churches Together and Christ Church presented gifts; these included a watercolour of St Mary's Street by Painswickian Len Taylor, and wooden artefacts by local craftsman Dennis

French. The Rev Bob Miles, Vicar of Painswick, rounded off the evening by thanking Christ Church for organising such a memorable occasion.

Looking back over the past few years, it is apparent that nothing was ever routine for Rowena. Whether preparing to address several thousand worshippers at last year's massive P2K event, or a modest gathering at Ashwell House, she gave the task meticulous care and boundless imagination. There was an element of surprise and freshness in every service or meeting that she organised. There was compassion and humanity, too, as vividly shown by her memorable choice of words when leading a funeral service last year in the most harrowing of circumstances. Rowena will be a hard act to follow.

Pamela and Alan Bamber

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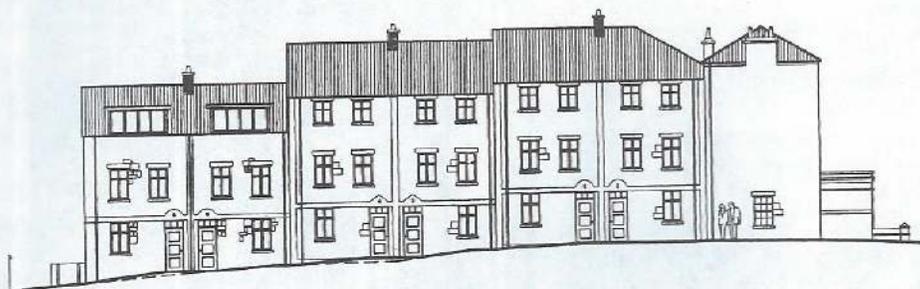
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Above: View from Stamages Lane car park of the NHS Trust plan for St Mary's Home. Below: The current property as viewed from the same location.

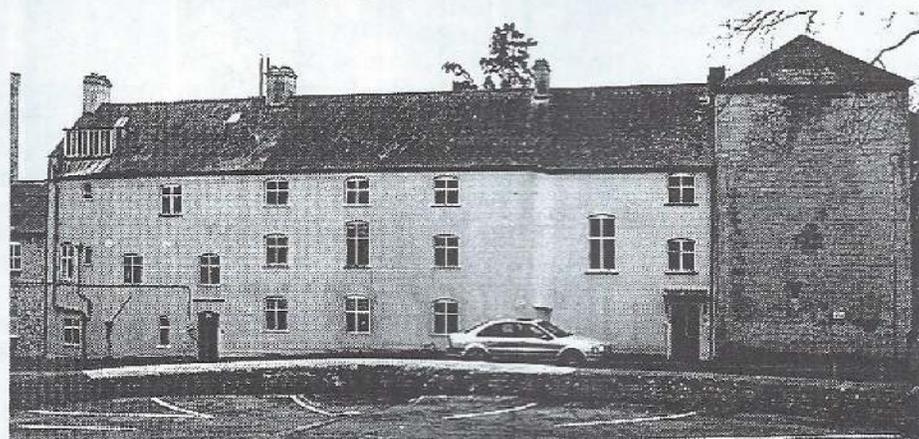


Photo: Hugh McGregor Ross

Vacant home put to good use

If you have parked your car recently in Stamages Lane car park and returned to find it surrounded by two police vans and a police car - as happened to a Beacon committee member - you would be forgiven for feeling apprehensive.

The explanation is less sinister. Police dog handlers are using the empty St Mary's Home for training their young dogs to enter a large and often complex building, searching for missing people or criminals who might be armed. Between three and six German Shepherds are being trained at one time at St Mary's. The house is not being used for illegal drug searches. Police have also used Gyde House and the Rugby Club grounds. "We are regularly in touch with estate agents around the county to find suitable properties we can use temporarily," dog handler PC Ian Anderson told the Beacon.

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PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Applications

- * Ambleside, The Green, Edge. Regularly remove small long branches from the trunks of two limes.
- * Edge Cottage, Edge. Erection of garden art studio/storage shed.
- * Damsells Mews, The Park. Fell one lime, one horse chestnut, one field maple and one ash.
- * Queens Mead. Renewal of permission S3765/1/A for erection of one dwelling with new access to Queens Mead.
- * Bayliss Cottage, Sheepscombe. Erection of stable/haystore.
- * Byeways, Stepping Stone Lane. Erection of extensions.
- * Olivers Mill Cottage, Cheltenham Road. Erection of single-storey extension to provide porch and conservatory.
- * The Lodge, Gyde House. Erection of two-storey extension, conservatory and internal alterations.

Revised plan

- * Cleverlys, Vicarage Street. Erection of two-storey and single storey extensions. Main changes: Two-storey extension omitted and loft conversion included.

Consents

- * A46. Erection of bus shelter opposite Green Acres.
- * Stoneleigh, Gloucester Street. Demolition of extension and erection of new single-storey extension.
- * The Stables, Greenhouse Court, Bulls Cross. Erection of extension to provide dependent person's annexe.
- * Meadowhill, Washwell Lane. Loft conversion and dormer window.
- * 4 Spring Cottages, The Vatch, Slad. Erection of single-storey extension.
- * 5 Spring Cottages, The Vatch. Erection of garage with hobbies room above.
- * Hyett Orchard, Hyett Close. Prune lime trees at rear of 8 Hyett Orchard.

Permitted development

- * The Stables, Gloucester Road. Replacement of existing timber windows with stone surround windows.

Appeal dismissed

- * Shutway Quarry, Jack's Green, Sheepscombe. Retrospective application for erection of one dwelling.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Parish of Painswick, Painswick Ward

Notice is hereby given that due to the resignation of Mrs Jennifer R Crook, a vacancy exists in the office of Parish Councillor for the parish of Painswick (Painswick Ward).

The vacancy will be filled by election if any ten local government electors for the said electoral area submit a written request to that effect in the manner prescribed below, and if no such request is made the vacancy will be filled by the Parish Council.

Any request for an election to be held to fill the vacancy must be made in writing and must reach the Returning Officer, Stroud District Council, Ebley Mill, Westward Road, Stroud, Glos GL5 4UB not later than

5pm on Thursday 8th February 2001

Peter Grant

Clerk to Painswick Parish Council

Parish skips

Stroud District Council have confirmed the following dates for skips to be located as follows:

Slad, 16th-19th March and 7th-10th September.

Edge, 23rd-26th March and 14th-17th September.

Sheepscombe, 30th March -2nd April and 21st-24th September.

Painswick, 6th-9th April (Stamages Lane car park) and 5th-8th October (Hyett Orchard).

CORRECTION

In the article about the 2001 Census in last month's Beacon, it was stated that the majority of questions "require only four answers." This should have read "require only 'tick' answers" (ie residents only have to tick the relevant boxes). The substitution of the 'tick' symbol by the word 'four' occurred as a result of an odd computer software quirk, but we should have spotted it and we apologise to readers and to Roy Welbourne for this unfortunate and misleading error.

Michael Davis

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Waste of doctors' valuable time

During December, a total of 39 people failed to turn up for their appointments at the doctors' surgery.

That's equivalent to six and a half hours of wasted time for the GPs and nurses there.

Practice manager Nicola Hayward says that this problem of no-shows is worse in winter, and although there are good reasons in a few cases for not being able to notify the surgery, the issue is

causing concern. "In winter it's difficult enough to get to see your own doctor, so we cannot afford to waste appointments like this. If we are told, even at short notice, we can put the appointment to good use in almost every case."

So if you cannot make your 'date with the doc' remember to let the surgery know, the earlier the better. Fine them all £10 for abusing the needs of others, one resident suggested to the Beacon.

Letters to the Editor

London Marathon

My daughter, Mrs Tabby Puzey, is running for the third time in the London Marathon, this year supporting Whizz-Kidz, a charity providing wheelchairs, trikes and walking aids for crippled children.

Tabby lives near Inverness and works for and with Korean Veterans (her father, Major Patrick Angier, was killed in the Korean War). She has found in helping the disabled how difficult it is to get suitable wheelchairs, and has pledged to raise £1500 sponsorship money for the charity.

If anyone would like to make a small contribution, I would be delighted to forward it to her. I also have raffle tickets. There will be a coffee morning and bring-and-buy sale at my home on Tuesday, 6th March from 10am to noon. All are welcome, and if you would like to meet Tabby to speak about the project, she will be visiting me on the 6th and 7th April for the 50th anniversary commemoration of the Imjin battle taking place at the Cathedral.

Diana Feilden
1 Hambutts Mead

Remembering Gladys

I had the pleasure and privilege of being a near neighbour to Mrs Gladys Home from the moment I bought my cottage in Tibbiwell Gardens in 1971. I grew to know

and admire her increasingly for her gardening knowledge and her devotion to birds, as described by Maggie Drake in January's Beacon.

But I remember her especially for two acts of kindness. She would often see me doing some very crass and unprofessional things to my garden. She never commented, but if ever I asked her for gardening advice, she would give it generously and meticulously. So did her friends, Rose Tranter and Freda Ireland. What elegance and neighbourliness.

Another memory was of her offering spontaneously but firmly to do my washing when I came home after six weeks in hospital. And she did so for months thereafter. A lasting quality was her faultless memory of past Painswick life - she could place people and events vividly and precisely, both orally and in writing. She was a very special person.

Eileen O'Sullivan

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Lots of fun with blooming numbers

Numbers and sums can often prove to be the dread of school children, but local schools, including the Croft, have produced some new teaching materials based on work done over the past year at the Rococo Garden.

The idea is to bring numeracy out of the classroom and apply it to a business, while making it fun for children as young as infants. The 60-page pack has lots of activities to be enjoyed at the Garden.

Nine local schools took part and the project was a collaborative effort between the Stroud and Mid-Gloucestershire Education Business Partnership and the Rococo Garden.

Already schools have tried out the activities, the children have had enormous



Teachers receive their certificates from Bob Eccles, centre, at the Rococo Garden launch. Gary Tucker of the Croft School, right

fun and the worksheets have proved very educational. The resource pack was written to coincide with the opening on 24th January of the Garden's new education

centre, where Bob Eccles, chairman of Stroud District Council, presented certificates of distinction to the Rococo Garden and to the schools.

Paul Moir, trustee of the Garden, said: "We were delighted when we were approached. It has always been our aim to show that gardens are not just about flowers," and Anne Hawkins, the project coordinator, said: "It seemed such an imaginative way to teach maths. Who would have thought of using a garden?"

An arresting concert!

It is about two years since the Gloucestershire Police Choir performed in Painswick, so it was particularly gratifying that their return visit should have been a complete sell-out at the Painswick Centre on 26th January. Every available chair was commandeered for the capacity audience and the 44-strong choir.

The choir, formed in 1970 and with a current membership of more than 100, sang a well-balanced programme of songs, choruses and arias that delighted their receptive audience. Starting with 'Another Opening of Another Show' from the musical, Kiss Me Kate, it included some of the long-established and ever-popular male chorus standards such as 'The Drinking Song' from The Student

Prince, the 'Chorus of the Hebrew Slaves' from Verdi's Nabucco and what is possibly now the best-known of opera arias, 'Nessun Dorma' from Turandot. Also included were songs from the new generation of musicals by Steven Sondheim and Andrew Lloyd-Webber.

On a lighter note, an arrangement of the nursery rhyme, 'This Old Man,' by the choir's competent conductor caused smiles and chuckles among the audience (as did the ingeniously improvised conductor's podium, hastily constructed from a set of steps filched from the dramatic society's props, on which he was precariously balanced, just). For sentimentalists, there was the beautifully harmonised version of the classic ballad immortalised by the late Matt Monro, 'Softly As I Leave You.'

All these were interspersed by a variety of other songs, including a spiritual, a Welsh hymn, a Barbershop number, and the very topical 'Who Wants To Be A Millionaire?' The choir's resident soprano soloist sang two songs by Ivor Novello, an Irish piece, and 'Wouldn't It Be Luvverly?' from My Fair Lady. The concert was rounded off with a foot-tapping rendition of 'The Rhythm of Life' from Sweet Charity and 'You'll Never Walk Alone' as an encore.

This was a polished, well-rehearsed evening's entertainment, thoroughly enjoyed and appreciated by the audience. Painswick Centre management committee extends its thanks to the choir, the audience, and to all those who have contributed to the Millennium Appeal since the beginning of the year.

Maggie Drake

Training closes surgery

On Wednesday, 14th February and Thursday, 15th March, the Hoyland House surgery will be closed to routine appointments between 1.30pm and 5pm for staff training. It will reopen as usual between 5pm and 6pm. If you need a doctor in an emergency during these closure times, please telephone 01452 812545.

Staff training is taking place throughout the Stroud area, involving every doctor's surgery.

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CROFT SCHOOL NEWS

Year 6 pupils were asked to write letters to the Prime Minister expressing their views on the Millennium

Dome. Here are two of them:

Dear Mr Blair

I am writing to inform you that I think the Millennium Dome should never have been built.

First of all the Millennium Dome has lost a lot of money which could have been spent more wisely on 48 new secondary schools. This would mean higher education and more education than the Millennium Dome itself.

I believe that four new hospitals could have been built instead of the Dome. As a result it would reduce the waiting lists.

Finally I think it was a disaster that only 6.5 million visited the attraction out of an estimated 12 million.

I hope this has convinced you that you will think again before you build another major attraction.

Yours sincerely

Harriet Bentley

Dear Mr Blair

I am writing to complain about the closure of the Millennium Dome.

First I have to draw your attention to how many people have lost their jobs due to your rash decision. Over 50 people are without their jobs and are not earning

money. It was also a brilliant source of entertainment for children and made a very amusing day out. I also think it is sad that parents who had been planning to bring their children to the dome in 2001 are now unable to. I believe that if the dome was still open it would be able to pay back some money.

Finally I believe you have made a mistake. Do you really want the country's most exciting attraction to be closed because of a few financial problems? Please consider my point of view very carefully.

Yours sincerely

Hannah Bolton

'And My Heart Soars' - a poem

The stars of the bright sky,
The skill of the sledgers,
speak to me.
The lightning flickering in the sky,
The complicated work on the computer,
The lovely food God gives us
speak to me.
The fitness of swimming lessons,
The kindness of parents,
The spirit of God
speak to me.
The brilliant school people give us,
The money we need for poor people,
The food people need
speak to me.
And my heart soars.

William Moir (aged 6) and
Nick Needham (aged 7)

Dizzy spins and log rolls for Painswick's youngsters

Three additional play items for children have been installed on the village recreation field. They are an elaborate Hog's Back made of wood and rope for climbing up and down, a Dizzy Spin for standing on as it rotates, and a Yukon Log Roll that turns as youngsters run on it while holding a rope. Safety matting surrounds the new equipment.

The expansion of the play facilities was made possible by a successful bid for a £ for £ grant from Stroud District Council up to a maximum of £4000 for each of the parties.

Painswick's sum was taken from the Damsell Bequest, a sizeable gift to the village made in the early 1990s when Mrs Damsell died, specifying that the money should be used for the recreation field.

Coun Malcolm Watts, prime mover behind getting the equipment in place, said: "The council hope that village youngsters will enjoy the new rides, and that they will take care of them so that future generations can have equal pleasure. It's thanks to the District Council and the late Mrs Damsell that we've been able to do it."

Urgent plea from the Brownies

Painswick and Cranham Brownies will close at the end of this month if new Guiders are not found now.

At present, there are 22 energetic and enthusiastic Brownies, with a waiting list of prospective members ready to join when they become seven years old.

There has been a Brownie pack in Painswick for more than 70 years, and it would be a huge loss to the community if it has to close. Obviously, if Brownies does close the Guide unit will almost certainly have to finish too.

If anyone would like to help or would like to find out more about Brownies or becoming a Guider, please call Patsy Ratcliffe on 813854 or Pam Currier on 813450.

Redeveloping historic towns

This is the subject of what promises to be a lively public meeting to be held on Saturday, 17th March at the Guildhall Arts Centre, Gloucester. The event will explore the amenity, conservation and urban design issues surrounding redevelopment in ancient towns and cathedral cities such as Gloucester.

The five speakers who will prompt the discussion are: Prof Ian Bentley from Oxford Brookes University Joint Centre for Urban Design, Peter Addyman, Director of the York Archaeological Trust, Jerry Spencer, Head of Planning Services at Gloucester City Council, Daniel Carter, Development Director of Arrowcroft PLC and Richard Sermon, Manager of Gloucester Archaeological Unit.

The meeting opens at 10am and finishes at 5pm, and there will be time for questions and answers. It is being organised by Gloucester Civic Trust, supported by the national Civic Trust, and sponsored by Gloucester City Council.

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FREE ESTIMATES

Farewell to Bob and Rachel Miles

A short farewell service for the Rev Bob Miles and his wife, Rachel, will be held at St Mary's Church on Saturday, 24th February at 11am. Everyone will be welcome. Both Bob and Rachel hope to meet as many friends there as possible. They will also be in the Church Rooms from 9.30am until 10.30am during which time coffee will be served.

POLICE REPORT

Incidents: 15th Dec to 12th Jan

House burglaries: Painswick 1. Business premises: Painswick 1. Sheds: Painswick 1, Sheepscombe 1, Pitchcombe 1. Vehicles: Painswick 2, Edge 1, Cranham 1. Other: Painswick 3 (theft, damage 2), Brookthorpe 1 (theft).

Items stolen:

From vehicles: Video camera, set of wheels, steering wheel locking bar, radio cassette and mobile phone.

From other places: Porcelain, silver ware, mobile phone, keys, electric plane, mountain bike, chainsaw, mower and hedge trimmer.

Security recommendations

There have been three garage break-ins this month and bike and garden machinery stolen. As previously urged, chain all garden machinery and pedal cycles together and to the structure of the building with a substantial chain and padlock. This should act as a significant deterrent.

PC Gary Power and the Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator

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February brings romance at the Painswick Hotel where you can enjoy a sumptuous four-course Valentine's dinner on Wednesday, 14th February, for £32 per person, including a glass of Champagne

To brighten those dull winter days, why not relax and enjoy a light lunch in front of the fire, every day except Sunday.
Prices start at £4.

Our series of Gourmet Evenings and Wine Tastings has begun again with another dinner planned in March. If you would like to be kept informed of events, why not call us on 812160 and join our mailing list

100 years ago - mourning continues for Queen Victoria

King Edward directed that Saturday 2nd February be observed as a day of general mourning for Queen Victoria who had died on 22nd January 1901.

Memorial services were held throughout the county. All the main pillars in the Parish Church were draped from top to bottom with black cloth. The pulpit was similarly covered, whilst at the back of the chancel the church banner was also covered in black relieved only with a white silver cross. The Royal Arms were edged black, suspended high over the chancel arch. The altar and communion kneelers were also hidden with black material. Despite the inclement weather, particularly in the evening, the Church was crowded. Funeral hymns were sung and the Rev W H Seddon preached at both services, devoting both to an eulogy of the virtues and example of the late Queen. Painswick publicans did not open until 4pm.

There was a dissenting voice, which made some wonder whether there was another Jacobite plot. An anonymous letter was sent to the Editor of the Stroud News:

"Whereas Albert Edward, Prince of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, has usurped the throne of England in succession to the late occupant, Victoria Alexandrina, Princess of Hanover and Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, it is hereby Protested and Declared that said succession is Utterly Null and Void and that the Lawful and rightful Sovereign of England is her Most Gracious Majesty, Queen Mary IV, heiress of the Elder line of the Royal House, whence God defend."

It was the 'Legitimists' who held this view and identified their claimant as Mary Theresa Henrietta Dorothea, Archduchess of Austria-Este-Modena and wife of HRH Prince Louis of Bavaria to whom they render homage as Mary IV and II of England.

At Stroud Police Court on Tuesday 11th, Alfred Birt (11), a schoolboy of Paradise, was charged by P C Jones with stealing 10d from a milk basin in the garden of Mr Frederick Monk, coachman.

The boy admitted the theft, stating that he spent 1d at Mrs Penley's, 2d at Mr Joyce's and paid 7d for a knife. Mr Charles Hall, milkman in the employ of Mr W H Dickenson, said that when he went to put milk in Mr Monk's basin, on the Sunday morning, there was no money. The bench thought it improper to expose money in the way it had been done, and the Chairman said that they did not intend to record any conviction against the defendant.

On Saturday the 9th, Painswick Brass Band celebrated their first appearance in their new uniforms. At 2.30pm members assembled and marched to the rugby ground. Here the footballers had rigged themselves up in various quaint costumes, representing Hats v Bonnets, a football match arranged by Mr E Lerner. A procession formed and they paraded the main streets of the village. Whilst the Band played the match proceeded, until the Bonnets gained a victory by 5 points to 3. The procession formed again, led by the Band under Band master West, this time headed to the Town Hall, where tea had been laid on, which was followed by an entertainment laid on by Mr B W Cooke of Brook House, who presided. The Band had existed in Painswick for over 50 years under the direction of Mr Benjamin Clissold, but when he emigrated the band broke up. The new uniform consisted of blue beaver material faced with white military braid, and caps to match. The evening concluded with dancing until 11.30 pm.

At Rock Mill, Mr Charles Paish had survived his 101st birthday by some six weeks, but passed away whilst asleep in his home on the 20th. He had been born in the year 1800, had eleven children and had a large number of grandchildren and great grandchildren. He experienced a life of hardship - earning from being a farm labourer barely sufficient to support his wife and an increasing family. Barley cakes often constituted his meals from day to day. He was buried in Slad churchyard.

John Bailey

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Alan bows out after 20 years

At a recent editorial meeting, members of the Beacon Committee paid tribute to Alan Bamber's commitment to the newspaper over some 20 years, most of that time as editor.

Last month's issue was his last. Members also expressed their appreciation of the tremendous support given to Alan by his wife, Pamela, over that period. "I'll now find out what it's like to have four weekends in a month," she has told committee members.

Here is Alan receiving an inscribed tankard from Rachel Taylor, one of the original committee members.



... and the show goes on

The news of Alan Bamber's wish to leave the Beacon committee was met with understandable dismay when he made it known last year, and much thought went into planning how the Beacon was to be produced in future. To find one person to fill Alan's shoes would be almost impossible, so it was decided to form an editorial team to share the tasks.

Tony Crook, whose working life has been spent in the newspaper industry, largely as an editorial executive on The Times and The Sunday Times, agreed to succeed to Alan's title of Editor - much to the committee's relief! And Alan has agreed to help in the changeover until the end of March. Other new members of the editorial team are Carol Maxwell and Iris McCormick who join the long-standing ones, Terry Parker, Rachel Taylor and Jillie Speed.

Carol will be responsible for generating and coordinating material from Painswick's clubs and societies, with Iris having a wider role in writing on general issues and events. Terry will still be responsible for sport but will have the added role of Assistant Editor, while Jillie will hold the new position of Editorial Assistant. Rachel, who was a member of the original committee, has agreed to continue writing The Personal Column, and Eddie Buttrey retains responsibility for the Diary.

The other three committee members, Liz Fisher, Arthur Lock and Leslie Brotherton, have agreed to continue with their responsibilities for business advertising, distribution and finance respectively. Tony lives in Queens Mead, Carol in Stepping Stone Lane and Iris in The Park.

Support for Three Choirs

It's time to look in the back of your china cupboard or attic for odd cups, saucers, plates, glasses, jugs etc belonging to sets that have now almost disappeared.

Bring them along (priced please) to the China Sale, being organised by the Friends of the Three Choirs Festival in the Church Rooms on Saturday, 31st March from 11am to 4pm. There, everyone can try to find other pieces that match existing sets

to buy and help the Friends' funds.

The committee hopes each year to donate to the Festival at least £15,000 to help with the enormous cost of putting on this great international event in August.

Offers of help will be most welcome, and there will be coffee available. For more details call Diana Feilden, 1 Hambutts Mead. Tel 812112 or Margaret Richards, Bank House, New Street. Tel 813685.

The Village Quiz - now's the time to enter

The annual Beacon Village Quiz is looming - an opportunity for local clubs, societies, neighbours in a street, or any other group with something in common, to form their teams of four and join us to pit their wits against our question-setters.

As well as our shield, awarded annually to the winners, there will again be prizes for the first, second and third teams, plus a prize for the team with the most eye-catching dress or mascot.

But regardless of prize-winning, we can assure you of a really fun-filled evening in which taking part and meeting friends is what it's all about.

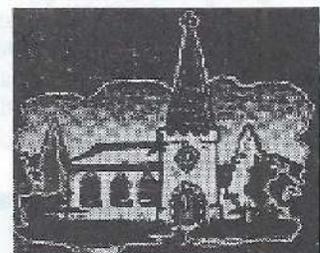
Because of space limitations we will appreciate hearing as soon as possible about entries. Included in the £12 per team (unchanged again) is a large half-time snack, so we need to order these also. The date is Saturday 17th March, starting promptly at 7.15pm in the Painswick Centre. Doors open at 6.45, as will the bar.

We're looking forward to seeing the current champions, Painswick WI, try to hold on to the shield. But could this be third time lucky for Painswick Players, runners-up for the past two years? Or have St Mary's Angels been receiving special coaching in an attempt to regain the trophy? Where else could you have a great evening's entertainment, including substantial refreshments, for just £3?

You will find a tear-off slip at the bottom of the diary. To be sure of a place, please send in your team's entry (and cheque) as soon as possible.

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Are you making full use of our Library?

Book Sale

There's still time to visit Painswick Library's non-fiction book sale, though a number of villagers have already been to snap up their favourites. Librarian Rosalind Davie told the Beacon that it's likely the sale will finish next week.

Story time

And for mothers with toddlers, don't forget the Friday afternoon Story Time sessions. They start at 2.10pm, and there is room for more pre-school children if you feel like a break from routine. On 2nd March, the library has its first Bed-time Stories session, again at 2.10pm.

'Golden Dagger' award

Every Year, the UK Crime Writers' Association award the 'Golden Dagger' to the best crime novel. The Award is considered the most prestigious for books of this kind. "We all love a good 'who dunnit' book, be it a murder mystery, crime or thriller," said Anne Morgan, of Gloucestershire's Reader Services. "So we asked readers from all local libraries to help us to identify what we called the 'Gloucestershire Golden Dagger'."

Holocaust Memorial Day

Although the 27th January was designated Holocaust Memorial Day, Stroud District Council and the local Jewish community organised a service two days earlier to avoid a clash with other events. The service was held in the St Laurence Church Hall, Stroud, for all denominations. Local school children, clergy, civic leaders and the Member of Parliament, David Drew, attended. Terry Parker, chairman of Painswick Parish Council, represented the parish.

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It was no surprise that the Inspector Morse books were nominated by many, as this series is equally as popular with readers as it is with TV viewers. The Way Through the Woods, written by Colin Dexter, the creator of Morse, came joint first with The Scolds Bridle by Minette Walters. This book is full of mystery, suspense and psychological elements. These two titles, plus a range of other crime books, are available at all public libraries.

The 'Golden Dagger' cards, on which readers nominated their favourite crime book, allow the library service to determine what book stocks to have in future.

And if you are a lover of crime fiction, the Crime Readers Group welcomes new members. The group meets at Cheltenham library on the first Wednesday of every month at 7.30pm, to swap books, discuss favourite authors and go on theatre trips to see crime-related plays. Ring Anne Morgan on 01242 532681 for further details.

Keep to the right!

A resident has written asking if we could remind Painswickians of the 'rule of the road' for pedestrians.

She says that in view of the number of busy lanes in and around Painswick that do not have pavements (Stamages Lane, Kemps Lane, Kingsmill Lane, for instance) it seems surprising that so many people choose to walk on the wrong side of the road. They do so at their peril. The rule, she says, is to KEEP TO THE RIGHT, i.e. directly facing the oncoming traffic.

The advantage of this is that pedestrians are more quickly aware of approaching vehicles on their side of the road and therefore can take evasive action. Also it is better for the motorists because pedestrians are less likely to make a sudden movement into their path.



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Painswick Beacon Conservation Group news

Painswick Beacon Conservation Group has re-elected Malcom Watts as chairman and Cedric Nielsen as secretary. The following items were decided at the last committee meeting.

The group has been accepted as an associate member of the Cotswold AONB Partnership.

A joint meeting with the Painswick Bird Club will be held again this year, following the success of the one on introducing the Red Kite to the Chilterns.

Paul Hackman of English Nature agreed to help with the information board designs through an AONB partnership contact.

English Nature had produced a draft Site Management Statement for the Golf Club. Several members had commented and Paul Hackman said these would be considered when finalising the SMS. Concerns centred on management of the 80 acres outside of the golf course, boundaries, protection of the Site of Special Scientific Interest, and definition of scrub.

The winter programme of scrub clearing was continuing, with the western ramparts of the hill fort now finished.

Duncan McKenzie

London outing

The next coach outing to London will be on Wednesday, 21st March, leaving Stamages Lane car park at 8.30am and setting down at Harrods, Knightsbridge at about 11.15am, and around 11.30am at the National Gallery, Trafalgar Square. Return will be from Trafalgar Square only at 6.30pm. The fare is £9.

Bookings by cash or cheque payable to Painswick L & B Outings should be made with Joan Truman, Little Place, Hollyhock Lane, Painswick GL6 6XH. Enquiries to Joan Truman (813965) or Pauline Berry (813227).

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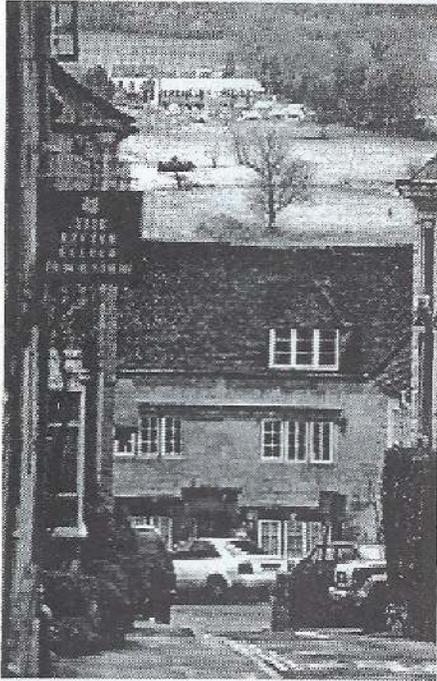
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Roof with a view



Ever since the "Goose-wing Grey" roof went on to the new properties at Painswick Heights (aka the Squash Club) there has been comment around the village about how unsightly it was and how it spoilt the view across the valley.

Complaints went to the Parish Council. The council contacted SDC, who had approved the roofing material, to check whether the developer had kept to the specification.

Marcus Whitmore, the SDC compliance officer, has informed the Beacon that the powder-coated metal roof meets the approved specification for colour and material exactly.

That's no comfort for residents who see the roof as it appears in our photograph above.

Did you hear? Helen Briggs and David Archard were on Radio 4 on 23rd December, talking about 'Customs in Painswick' - Puppy Dog Pie and the Clipping Service. The broadcast was one of those in the BBC's Open Country series.

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How did it all begin?

One version of the history of Valentine's Day goes like this: Mid-February was traditionally the time of the Lupercian festival, an ode to the God of fertility and a celebration of sensual pleasure, a time to meet and court a prospective mate.

In AD496, Pope Gelasius outlawed this pagan festival, but he was clever enough to replace it with a similar celebration, one deemed to be morally suitable, for fear presumably of raising the wrath of the populace. He needed a lovers' saint to replace the pagan deity, Lupercus.

The martyred Bishop Valentine was chosen as the patron saint of the new festival. He had been beheaded for helping young lovers to marry against the wishes of the mad emperor, Claudius. Before his execution, Valentine himself had fallen in love with his jailer's daughter. He signed

his final note to her "From your Valentine," a phrase that has lasted through the centuries.

Pope Gelasius didn't get everything he sought in this deal. The pagan festival had certainly died out but he had hoped, as a result, that people would emulate the pious lives of saints. Instead, they latched on to the more romantic aspect of Saint Valentine's religious life.

While not as immediately popular as the more passionate pagan festival, eventually the concept of celebrating true love became known as Valentine's Day. So they say.



Somewhere to go for half-term days out

If you have nothing planned to occupy youngsters for days out over the half-term holiday, here are some ideas that will prove interesting.

Weird, Wacky and Wonderful Writing
 20th February, 10.30am - 12.30pm. For 5 to 9 year olds.

A two-hour workshop investigates the wonderful world of writing, including solving and designing hieroglyphic puzzles, creating your own name plate in illuminated or copper plate lettering, and making a Celtic name pendant. Held at the Corinium Museum, Cirencester. Cost £3. Booking desirable.

Explore the Home Front
 21st February, 10.30am - 12.30pm. All ages.

If you can remember World War Two, and you enjoy talking it through with grandchildren (or children?), then Ampney Crucis Village Hall is the place to go. Handle real Home Front memorabilia from tin hats to tins of dried egg. Pass on your knowledge to younger folk while they take part in lots of activities exploring what life was like between 1939 and 1945. Free.

Roman Puppet Theatre
 23rd February, 10.30am - 12.30pm. For 5 to 7 year olds.

First the children can listen to the tales of ancient Rome, then choose their favourite characters and turn them into puppets. An absorbing two hours that is bound to enthuse children. Corinium Museum. £3. Booking essential.

Stitch in rhyme

A peep into the fascinating world of textile illustration by exquisite stitching and hand painting is promised in an exhibition running from 3rd February to 17th March at Cheltenham Art Gallery and Museum.

The exhibition of work by Belinda Downes will appeal to adults and children alike, illustrating nursery rhymes and fairy tales. Belinda has worked with several children's writers, such as Joan Aitken and Annie Dalton.

At the same location, from 17th February to 10th March, Cheltenham School Art offers an exhibition by young and talented artists from the region. No pose, no attitude and refreshingly direct works that will surprise and amuse.

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Onwards and upwards

Painswick first fifteen continued their drive for promotion to the first division of the Gloucestershire League with another outstanding performance last Saturday (27th January).

Playing at Kingswood, they defeated the Bristol side by the convincing margin of 22 points to nil. Mark Reed, Greg Beard and Paul Cunningham each scored a try with Alastair Bressington successful with two conversions and a penalty goal.

The result puts Painswick two points clear at the top of the table although Tewkesbury now have a game in hand as their league match was postponed because they had a Tetley's Bitter Vase game against Aylestone St John.

Tewkesbury won the match by 9 points to 3 and thus maintained a Gloucestershire interest in this national competition.

The Bressington name is rarely out of the local sporting news and it was good to see Nathan's name in the Gloucestershire Under 20's line-up to play against Cheshire at the Sandbach RFC ground last Sunday.

Results [(L)league match]

Sat 6 Jan. Painswick 1st XV 13

Longlevens 1st XV 17.

Sat 13 Jan. (L)Painswick 1st XV 20 Southmead 1st XV 12.

Sat 20 Jan. (L)Bishopston 1st XV v Painswick 1st XV - postponed (frozen pitch).

Sat 27 Jan. (L)Kingswood 1st XV 0 Painswick 1st XV 22.

Junior tennis thriving

Painswick Junior Tennis continues to thrive, with coaching available for children from 6 to 16 years old. A new venture is Short Tennis that started in January, coached by Peter Bolton. This is for 6-7 year olds and is held on Wednesdays from 4-5pm in the Rugby Club sports hall, with equipment provided by the LTA.

Coaching continues for older children on Thursdays from 4-6pm and on Saturdays from 9.30am-12.30pm. Most courses are now fully booked. Contact Nigel Barnett for further details. Tel. 813941.

The Spring Social will be a Wine, Food and Gambling Evening on Saturday, 3rd March at the Painswick Centre, from 7pm to 11.30pm. The evening will begin with a wine tasting, followed by a ploughman's supper, and then novelty horse racing. The bar will open after the wine tasting. Tickets are £10 per person from Ruth Smith (813693), Bill Lambell (813231) and Pat Andrew (812685).

Success for ladies

Painswick Ladies Hockey team were delighted to achieve their first league win of the season at Broadham on 20th January. Playing against Stroud Ladies 2nd XI on a difficult frost-affected pitch, each side had scored a goal when, with the final whistle minutes away, Sophie Hinds gave the Cherry and Whites victory with a well taken strike. Maggie Morse was Painswick's other scorer.

Chris departs in style

Local character and forester Christopher Leyland-Mawdesley, who died shortly before Christmas in a car crash close to his home at Dutchcombe Farm, was buried on 5th January.

In respect for Chris's views it was decided to forgo a traditional church service and instead his partner Joy, family and friends arranged a funeral that fitted his character and values.

They gave him a simple wicker casket as a coffin and buried him together with his chainsaws - the tools of his trade - at an ancient Long Barrow site in Edgeworth Woods. The funeral procession gathered at the Rugby Club where tributes were given by those who knew him well and a collection was made for his nine-year-old daughter, Sophie.

The casket was then loaded onto the back of his pick-up and escorted by friends on motorbikes, the procession made a long tour through the local villages passing many of Chris's favourite watering holes.

When the funeral party eventually arrived in Edgeworth Woods the coffin was carried the last part of its journey along muddy tracks to the burial site. Afterwards an enormous crowd of friends and family gathered at the Foston's Ash for the wake.

Chris was an extraordinary character and will be remembered for his generosity, dogged determination and tremendous sense of humour. He lost a leg in a motorcycle accident when he was 17 but his indomitable spirit meant that he never allowed this to diminish his life.

He even competed successfully against the able bodied in cycling competitions, winning many cups and trophies. He was also a naturally gifted mechanical engineer who could make or mend anything from chainsaws to motorbikes.

His grandfather, Robert Mawdesley, played the original Walter Gabriel in *The Archers*. He died in 1953 and Painswick was brought to a standstill for his funeral as it was for his grandson's on the 5th January.

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Penny, the high-flier

Painswick Army officer Penny Shanahan has been awarded three prizes for being top student on her helicopter flying course at Middle Wallop School of Army Aviation.

Penny, 28, the middle daughter of Robin and Stephanie Grayson of Brooklands, received her wings at a presentation in December. She was the only woman to complete the 15-month course, one of the Army's toughest. Penny admits that she was convinced she would never make it.

"But she's very determined and doesn't give in easily," said her mother. "She probably gets inspiration from her father." Robin was a jet pilot for 35 years and is head of flight operations at Rolls Royce.

Penny went to Archway School, graduated from Sandhurst in 1997 and was seconded to the Gloucestershire, Berkshire and Wiltshire Regiment, where she met her husband, Nick, who is also an Army officer. They married in Painswick two years ago and caused a stir in the village by riding down Tibbiwell Lane from the church to the reception in an open Army personnel carrier.

Penny and Nick live at Aldershot, but she will shortly take up a posting to Watisham, Norfolk, to start training on Lynx helicopters. Penny received the Blackwood Trophy for best examination



Penny with her trophies

results, the Smithson Trophy for best fixed wing student, and the Bob Bowles Trophy for best student overall.

Tom makes his century

Panting as I climbed the steep path to the front door, I was greeted by a sprightly and sparkly Mr Thomas Keck, who reached his one hundredth birthday on 3rd January. I had actually passed his house in Pitchcombe twice, but had decided that someone of such advanced years couldn't possibly live in so lofty a spot. I was wrong!

Mr Keck was born in Bourton-on-the-Water, the eldest of ten children, and has lived his whole life in Gloucestershire. The family moved to Gloucester not long after he was born. At the outbreak of the First World War, the 14-year-old Tom began work making deliveries with a horse-drawn butcher's van. Soon afterwards, he started his own butcher's shop in Southgate Street, Gloucester, and over the

intervening years opened three more shops in Gloucester and five in Swindon. He eventually retired when he was 80.

He married in 1946 and has a daughter, Alethea, but sadly his wife died very young and he did not remarry. He has two grandsons.

Mr Keck took up photography and painting as hobbies. He entered many photographic competitions and has a collection of fabulous black and white portraits he made of local characters in the 1940s.

One of the most striking things about Mr Keck is his independent spirit. He was still driving his car until he was 89. When I asked what he found difficult about reaching such an age, he said it was not being able to drive now that his sight was poor. He made no mention of the steep path to his house!

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Apologies

If you have had trouble getting through to the Beacon on 814500 in the last two weeks or so, we must apologise. It was not down to Beacon failure; British Telecom thought it was going to be simpler to put in the new line than it turned out to be. All's well now.

All wells that end well

The aim of this article is to invite readers to help us to produce a map of the wells of Painswick and publishing the findings.

When discussing recently the subject of wells with Mrs Peggy Perins, she said that the village was on a whopping great sponge, and that she remembered as a child "when the water came" and New Street was dug up for the first time (but not the last time!) in order to lay the pipes; before then it was water from wells.

We have a well under our kitchen, and our neighbour also has one at the same level only a few yards away. There must be many folk in the village who have similar ones near their house or other building. For example, Johnny Johnston of the Falcon tells us that the well in the Falcon car park is fed by a running stream, which we found intriguing as it raised the possibility of tracing the course of a stream via the wells down to the Wyck stream.

Hywel James, general secretary of the Local History Society, agrees that this would be an interesting exercise, and we hope Beacon readers will think so as well (ouch!).

We would be very grateful therefore if you would put pen to paper and tell us about your own well, or at least give us a ring. Our house is Cotswold House, New Street, with yellow double gates, bang opposite the end of Hollyhock Lane, and the letterbox is on the back of the left hand door. Better still pop in and tell us about it. We look forward to hearing from you and helping to build up the picture.

Helen and Wynne Roberts

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Season of plenty for the Music Society

24th March: Sorrel Quartet
7th April: Emma Johnson
21st April: Philip Moore and Simon Crawford-Phillips, piano duo
13th May: The Haffner Wind Ensemble of London

This exciting programme awaits concert goers in Painswick, following a record-breaking Millennium season when ticket sales and membership increased once again. The concerts this year are of exceptional standard, so if you enjoy live classical music, do come. Ticket prices are unchanged since last season and we urge members to renew subscriptions and newcomers to join or buy tickets in plenty of time for what will certainly be another popular season.

Our star this year is Emma Johnson, who is making her third visit to the Society. She is one of the few clarinetists to have made a full-time career as a soloist, performing world-wide and regularly playing to sold-out concert halls. Her accompanist, John Lenehen, is one of Britain's most experienced musicians. Their concert will be the second in the series and the programme will include works by Beethoven, Brahms and Rachmaninov.



Clarinetist Emma Johnson

The Sorrel String Quartet will open the season with a programme of Haydn, Shostakovich and Mendelssohn. This all-female ensemble, formed in 1987, now performs throughout the world, gives master classes and has a busy recording schedule. I heard them at the Cheltenham Festival last year and they thrilled their audiences with their excellent performance.

The Society gives a platform each year to young artists at the start of their professional careers. To this end, we look forward to the piano duo, Philip Moore and Simon Crawford-Phillips. They have played together since 1995, gaining many

awards, in particular the prestigious support of the Countess of Munster Musical Trust who will be sponsoring them for their Painswick concert. Their varied programme will include Debussy, Mozart and Schubert.

The Haffner Wind Ensemble of London will conclude the series. Now in their eleventh season, they have toured and broadcast extensively and are noted for their colourful yet carefully blended sound. Their performance includes works by Beethoven, Mozart and others. We are delighted to welcome back the brilliant oboist, Nicholas Daniel, director of this ensemble, who performed for us in our 50th season.

All concerts are on Saturdays at 3pm in St Mary's Church which provides a special, intimate setting for chamber music. We have excellent staging and lighting, and for all concerts with piano we hire superb Steinways. Our tradition of serving tea in the Church Rooms after the concert will continue and there is usually an opportunity to meet the artists.

Tickets: Membership, £24, includes tickets for all four concerts, a saving of £12 compared to the cost of four single tickets at £9 (students and children only £1). Look out for our brochures, posters and library display. Further details on membership and tickets from the Treasurer, Hywel James, tel 812419, or the Shetland Shop, Painswick.

Naomi Dunn

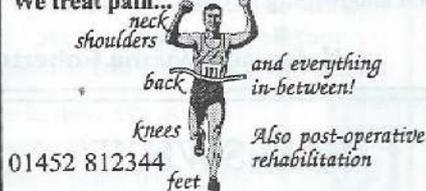
Forty thanks and more

The Beacon committee would like to thank all volunteer distributors of the Beacon. Come hail or shine, this village newspaper is carried to most households in Painswick, Pitchcombe and Edge.

Some distributors have delegated part of their round, and hence in all there are at least 40 volunteers who ensure you receive your monthly read. A big thank-you from the committee and, I am sure, from all households in the area.

Arthur Lock

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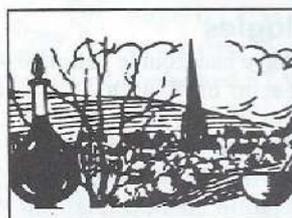
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The pig and Humpty Dumpty

For the first time in the history of the Painswick Local History Society a meeting of the Society started and ended with the reading of a poem. Both poems concerned the siege of Gloucester in 1643, the subject of the talk given by Mr Malcolm Atkin in January.

Mr Atkin is County Archeologist for Worcestershire and author of the book, *The Civil War in Gloucester*. As a prelude to Mr Atkin's talk Mr Paul Griffiths recited *The Pig Which Saved a City*, which recounted how the citizens of the besieged city of Gloucester duped the besieging Royalist army by leading the last surviving pig to different parts of the city's defences where they made the pig squeal.

This led the Royalist army to believe that the people of Gloucester had a large herd of pigs and consequently food to withstand a long siege; the Royalists therefore delayed making a final assault on the city, a decision which contributed to their ultimate defeat.

Whether such an incident ever happened was doubted by Malcolm Atkin. He explained that the English Civil War was not a romantic adventure, but was as bloody and traumatic as the civil wars that are waged today. 1643 was the first full year of the Civil War and, while other parts of the country switched support between the opposing factions when it was advantageous to do so, Gloucester remained loyal to the Parliamentary cause.

With the fall of Bristol to the Royalists in July 1643 most of the West country, except Gloucester, was under Royalist control. King Charles had then to decide whether to march on London without delay or to destroy any local resistance and then march on London.

Ignoring the advice of his Queen and his generals Charles decided to march to Gloucester. His army of 301,000 men

marched from Bristol through Painswick, where it was seen by a lookout, and then camped outside Gloucester.

Within the city defences was a garrison of 1,100 men, led by Commander Massey. The defences had been strengthened by putting banks of soil behind the existing walls and by digging very deep ditches beside the city gates; these ditches were probably dug by women and children. Suburbs outside the city walls were demolished, so that the besieging army had no cover.

The siege of Gloucester started on 8th August. The Royalists, however, did not put a tight 'ring of steel' around the city as the King, who disliked bloodshed, hoped the city would surrender without fighting. So low key was the siege at first that the citizens were able to graze their cattle outside the city defences; the cattle were lowered over the defences each day, then hauled up again each evening!

When the city continued to defy the king, the Royalist army bombarded it with powerful cannon and mortars and built trenches to provide cover to lay mines under the defences. Gloucester still did not surrender and, when reinforcements for the Parliamentarian army arrived in September, the Royalist army withdrew.

The successful stand against the king taken by the city of Gloucester 'turned the tide of the Civil War as it encouraged the people of London to raise an army to defend London against the king and there was no more talk of peace.

Mr Atkins ended his absorbing talk by reciting his version of the nursery rhyme 'Humpty Dumpty'. It is thought the rhyme which children learn refers to the siege of Gloucester; Mr Atkin has adapted it to describe, in coded form, the siege towers used by the Royalist army to storm, without success, the Gloucester defences.

The number and variety of the questions from the large audience at the end of Mr Atkin's talk showed how he had captured the audience's imagination and brought to life the momentous events in and around Gloucester during the late summer of 1643.

At the next meeting of the Society, Mrs Elisabeth Skinner, who has researched many aspects of the history of Sheepscombe, will talk about *Two Sisters of Ebworth*. The meeting will be held in Croft School on Tuesday, 20th February, at 7.30pm.

Postscript: The poem, *The Pig Which Saved a City*, was written by Henry Yates Jones Taylor who also wrote *Ye Ballad of Ye Three Old Men of Painswick* which is printed in *Barks and Bites from Bow-Wow-Land*, published by Painswick Local History Society. **Gwen Welch**

Popular operas and sonatas from Rossini

The Music Appreciation Group's meeting on 18th January was greatly entertained by Lawrence Turner's fascinating presentation of the life and works of Gioachino Rossini. He started with the well-known overture to the opera, *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*, and followed with two of the best known arias from it sung by Tito Gobbi and Maria Callas. Rossini was something of a child prodigy and we heard one of the delightful string sonatas that he composed when 12.

His first opera was *La Cambiale di Matrimonio*, from which we heard an aria beautifully sung by Joan Sutherland. We heard extracts from Lawrence's favourite opera, *La Cenerentola* (Cinderella), led by the magnificent singing of Teresa Berganza. A part of the Introduction, Theme & Variations for clarinet and orchestra with Emma Johnson, introduced us to Rossini's mature non-operatic music. He wrote his last opera, *Guillaume Tell*, when only 37 years old - we heard Pavarotti sing an aria from it - and for the remaining 40 years of his life he lived in Paris, composing only occasionally. We heard from one of his delightful piano pieces, *The Sins of Old Age*, and the arrangement by Ottorino Respighi for his ballet, *La Boutique Fantasque*. It was altogether a splendidly tuneful evening.

Alex Nichols

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Chris and Wally at Senior Circle

First, may I send greetings to the new Editor on following in the dedicated footsteps of Alan Bamber, whose generosity and kindness to amateurs like me was much appreciated. I often wondered if my efforts to portray Senior Circle not as a gathering of tea-drinking, distressed, elderly folk, but as an alert and interested group were ever read.

Judging by the kindly comments that I received after last month's piece I can assure other correspondents that the Beacon is well read and digested.

The bitterly cold weather of 12th January did not deter a goodly number of friends attending the first Senior Circle meeting of the New Year. Accidents on recent ice and illness depleted numbers, but several new folk joined us for a delightful afternoon of 'Nostalgia with Songs and Guitar.'

"Do you remember this one?" and "Who first sang this?" made a welcome

change to the usual community singing that I am afraid I had rather dreaded. It was a well-presented programme from a talented musical duo, Chris and Wally. They sang some of the lovely melodies of Mary Hopkins, The Seekers, ballads from The Beatles era, and even a delightful song by Lonnie Donegan before he introduced the world to skiffle and his dustman of a father.

This was a very polished duo, she with a pleasing and melodious voice, supported on the electric guitar by her husband who had an equally harmonious voice, obviously well used to singing together some of the lighter music of not so long ago. We did have to do our bit for a short while, but we enjoyed making music too. This was a light-hearted afternoon to start what looks like being an enjoyable year with some more serious topics for coming months.

Daphne Hudson

W.I. have it all buttoned up

"Hang on to your buttons, or take them to a charity shop," began Mrs Cynthia Hawkins briskly when she spoke at last month's Painswick Women's Institute meeting. She had come from Cheltenham to talk about Buttons Old and New, bringing with her an incredibly large collection to show.

All were carefully sewn on to boards, each board displaying a different type of button, using a coloured picture to complement the type. For example, a

typical Swiss snow scene stood alongside Red Cross buttons; a picture of animals and birds in the wild went alongside both Hunt buttons and buttons showing a fox in hunting pink.

We saw regimental buttons, fine service buttons (several from Liverpool had a liver bird on the front), old-fashioned tailor's buttons - no zips or press fastenings in those days! There were the tiniest imaginable buttons for babies' clothing, and others so large that they needed a loop rather than a buttonhole. There were mourning buttons of black jet made 100 years ago in deference to Queen Victoria who had just died.

Cynthia turned to our screen, remarking on its generous size, and showed many more examples: cut steel, shells, Dorset thread, crocheted buttons, Irish linen buttons with embroidered green shamrock leaves, and a 100-year-old button from Japan with hand-painted wisteria. We learned too that the Pearly Kings and Queens of London needed up to 30,000 buttons to cover one suit.

At this first meeting of the year, we were delighted to welcome back President Barbara Thorley after her stay in hospital. On the table stood Beth McDonald's skilful arrangement of pink and white with maroon, green and yellow foliage.

To cries of "Oh, there you are" and "Gracious! Is that me?" members enjoyed seeing the large collection of photographs, some from our Christmas party in the Town Hall, others taken at our 80th birthday lunch at Christ Church.

Dorothy Binns

Appreciating the influences on Chopin's works

Richard Farbrother led an illuminating evening on the music of Frederic Chopin at the Music Appreciation Group's meeting on 4th January.

Little is known of the early life of this great musician, composer and pianist who was born in 1810 in Warsaw. However, the people and situations that influenced his compositions were each clearly illustrated for us. Polish folk music and the riots in Warsaw quelled by the Russians in 1831 resulted in his Revolutionary Study; also a Bellini cantabile for its beautiful, smoothly singing melody, and the Bach style of clear melodic line as expressed through his preludes and fugues, and the methodic style of Mozart.

Chopin thoroughly understood the possibilities of the extended keyboard. He began composing etudes for practising the many facets of musical construction, and to give competence and technique to those pianists wishing to tackle his own more difficult and complicated compositions.

Following a performance by Chopin of an early work, Variations for Piano and Orchestra on the aria La ci darem from Mozart's Don Giovanni, Robert Schumann said: "Hats off, gentlemen, a genius!"

This was a fascinating evening of great interest and enjoyment. Our lecturer's enthusiasm and lively musical illustrations were much appreciated. Those wishing to enlarge on their knowledge of Chopin should note that Part 2 of this remarkable series is being planned.

Jane Percival-German

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The Painswick Beacon

VILLAGE DIARY to SATURDAY 3 MARCH 2001

February

Sat 3rd	Theatre Club Outing to Bristol	The Falcon	12.15pm
5th	Austerity Lunch: Hosts - Wives' Fellowship	Christ Church Hall	12.15 - 1.15pm
6th	Painswick Dog Training Club (Tuesdays) - Puppies and Beginners Intermediate Advanced Dogs	Christ Church Hall	9.30 - 10.15am 10.15 - 11am 11 - 12 noon
	PCMS: Media & Communications - Geoff Crago	Church Rooms	10.30am
	Mothers' Union: "Hospital Chaplains - Why?" - Revd Peter Minall	Church Rooms	2.30pm
7th	Conversational French Classes (Advanced) - Wednesdays Conversational Italian Classes (Intermediate) - Wednesdays	Library Room " "	9.30 - 11am 11.30am - 1pm
9th	W.I. Market - Fridays	Town Hall	10am
	Senior Circle: Family History - Lois Bird-Maddox	Town Hall	2.30pm
	Valentine's Party in aid of Croft School: Tickets £10 to include pork roast, bubbly & disco, available from school or Trudi (814415). Get in the mood by wearing red & black	Painswick Centre	8pm
12th	Austerity Lunch: Hosts - Catholic Church	Christ Church Hall	12.15 - 1.15pm
13th	Mothers' Union: Travellers' Tales - members' holiday experiences	Church rooms	2.30pm
	Painswick Bird Club - Beyond the BBC. Talk by Roger Jones	Town Hall	7.30pm
14th	Painswick Probus: Elgar - Dennis Newton	Ostlers Room, Falcon	10am
	Horticultural Society: Horticultural Ramblings - 100 useful hints to make you think. - Mr P Jones, RHS Lecturer	Town Hall	2.30pm
	Wives' Fellowship Members evening	Christ Church Hall	8pm
15th	Music Appreciation Group: Felix Mendelssohn, presented by Anne Leoni	Town Hall	7.30pm
18th	COPY DATE: All items to Mrs Jillie Speed, The Old Carriage House, Edge, or Beacon Mailbox in New Street		
	National Gardens Scheme, Open Garden: Snowdrops, Hellebores, Aconites and other Spring bulbs on show. Teas, plant sales Adults £1.50 (children free) No Dogs.	Trench Hill, Sheepscombe	11am - 5pm
19th	Austerity Lunch: Hosts - Senior Circle	Christ Church Hall	12.15 - 1.15pm
20th	Local History Society: Two Sisters of Ebworth - Elisabeth Skinner	Croft School	7.30pm
	Jazz Evening: Local Musicians, no entry charge	Ostlers Room, Falcon	8.30pm

VILLAGE QUIZ NIGHT

TO: THE PAINSWICK BEACON. (Please post/deliver to Leslie Brotherton, Longhope, Blakewell Mead, Painswick, Glos., GL6 6UR.)

Team:

We would like to take part in the Village Quiz Night on 17th March 2001 at the Painswick Centre.

I enclose £12 to cover the entry fee of our four team members (Cheques payable to 'The Painswick Beacon').

Name/Address/Telephone No. of team representative _____

Please indicate any special requirements such as vegetarian food



21st	NO Conversational French/Italian Classes today	Library Room	
	Parish Council Meeting	Town Hall	7.30pm
22nd	DIARY DEADLINE: All items to Mrs Edwina Buttrey, 14 The Croft, or Beacon Mailbox in New Street		
23rd	Senior Circle: From Couch Potato to Linford Christie - Anne Williams	Town Hall	2.30pm
26th	Austerity Lunch: Hosts - W.I. Markets	Christ Church Hall	12.15 - 1.15pm
27th	Music with Mummy (for 6 weeks)	Green Room, Painswick Centre	10.15am
28th	Painswick Probus Club: Edward Jenner, not just the smallpox man - Dr Malcolm Beeson	Ostlers Room, Falcon	10am
	Painswick Wives' Fellowship. Policing in Painswick Insp B. McGarry	Christ Church Hall	8pm
March			
1st	Music Appreciation Group: Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra Concert	Colston Hall, Bristol	
	Cotswold Care Support Group Meeting	Ashwell House	2.30pm
2nd	Women's World Day of Prayer Services: (preceded by Coffee 10am)	Ashwell House	10.30am
	Speaker at St Mary's Church - Mrs Alison Robinson	Sheepscombe Methodist	2.30pm
		St Mary's Church	6 pm
		St James, Cranham	7.30pm
	All welcome to the services, men and women. This year's service has been prepared by the Christian women of Samoa		
Sat 3rd	March Issue of The Painswick Beacon Published		
Sat 24th	Helen Baker & Anne Leoni's Annual Coffee Morning. Funds to Our Lady & St Therese, Fr. Franco in Papua New Guinea and the Stroke Association	Town Hall	9.45 - 11.30am

Rugby Fixtures

(L) denotes league match. Matches start at 2.30pm.

	<u>First XV</u>	<u>United</u>
Sat 3 Feb.	Hucclecote 1st XV (Home)	Westbury 2nd XV (Away)
Sat 10 Feb.	(L) Cainscross 1st XV (Home)	(L) Cainscross 2nd XV (Away)
Sat 17 Feb.	Cheltenham CS 1st XV (Away)	Old Cryptians 2nd XV (Home)
Sat 24 Feb.	(L) Tewkesbury 1st XV (Away)	(L) Tewkesbury 2nd XV (Home)
Sat 3 Mar.	Chelt. Saracens 1st XV (Home)	Dowty 1st XV (Home)

Advertisement

Painswick Property Report, February 2001

The property market seems to be going in the right direction again - lots of good buyers and many more properties now coming on for sale. There has been a run on the small cottages and terraced houses in Painswick in the last month and we have now sold out of that bracket, so if you are considering selling we may be able to introduce some good buyers quickly. There is also a frustration at the top end of the market where there is always demand for a country house with 5 bedrooms and some land. We have many buyers from across the country looking to relocate to the Cotswolds or alternatively looking for cottages for the weekends. So if anyone is considering selling in the Croft area of Painswick we have an excellent buyer who requires a property near the school.

We are delighted to be associated with Partridge Homes, who has just been voted the Housebuilder of the Year and we are offering two of their houses in Brimpsfield which are currently under construction - 5 bedroom detached houses in large gardens. One has already gone under offer but do ask for details of Plot 1. Also in Brimpsfield we are selling a Partridge Home that is about 12 years old - a delightful family house with a lovely outlook. In Brookthorpe, Robinswood Cottage has come to the market - a 5 bedroomed period cottage with a 1 bedroomed annex and also No. 1 Maitlands - a 4 bedroomed modern house in the same area. At Miserden we are happy to be offering Miserden Lodge - a distinctive country house with exceptional accommodation. Exchanges this month include Tibbiwell House in central Painswick, Swallows Nest in Stepping Stone Lane and Nettles in Kingsmill Lane.

If you would like details of any of the above houses or advice on selling your own please do give us a ring on 01452 812354.

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Players plan the Full Monty, then the red wine ran out...

First, a dramatic welcome to the new Beacon Editor, Tony Crook - might as well try to get into his good books! - and a fond farewell to Alan Bamber, with whom I have enjoyed many a battle, grammatical and dramatical. So on with the drama...

Last month, Painswick Players had a meeting to plan our comic review *At Last! The Millennium Review* (at the Painswick Centre on 5th, 6th and 7th April). A Painswick Players planning meeting tends to be a contradiction in terms and this one ran true to form. The objective was to put together a series of humorous sketches about Painswick down the centuries, a sort of historical comic strip (of which more later).

The meeting started off quietly enough, with the traditional opening of the last couple of bottles from our legendary stock of Waitrose Hungarian Red, legendary because no matter how much we consume, there always seem to be a couple of bottles left. As the Hungarian Red flowed, so did the ideas, first as a trickle and then as a torrent. Where should we start? How about an Ancient Greek chorus line from *OK Homer!*, the musical of the Iliad? Or should we go for a Neanderthal *Rock with the Caveman*? Or back further still to a line of high kicking dinosaurs? Or, why not go back the full 4.5 billion years or so? After all, the Big Bang would make a pretty good opener...

Director/ co-ordinator Jan Campbell decided to intervene and suggested that perhaps we should concentrate on the last 2000 years or so, "just to keep it manageable." Also, she thought we should stick to events with a definite link to Painswick. Thus focused, the meeting resumed. And it was truly amazing just how many times Painswick could be

linked to the major events of the last two millennia.

Did you know, for example, that the little known sequel to Shakespeare's *Richard the Second* featured a Painswick lass made good? *Richer Defurred* tells of a Painswickian lap dancer, one Gloria Summer, who achieved both fortune and a certain notoriety with the *Dance of the Seven Fur Stoles*. She then gave it all up to join a nunnery and the play concludes with the classic line: 'Now in the wimple of this convent, Maid Gloria Summer.'

Or, were you aware that the Earl of Cardigan (of Charge of the Light Brigade fame) was in fact knitted out of Painswick wool? Or that, if sea level in 1588 had been a few hundred feet higher, the Spanish Armada would have been spotted from Painswick Beacon and Sir Francis Drake could well have had his bowls match interrupted at the Institute instead of Plymouth Ho? Or that the water at Waterloo was chemically identical to that flowing in the Painswick stream at the time? Or that General Montgomery had a full English breakfast in Painswick before the D-Day landings? Admittedly, it was a dozen years before D-Day, but still...

It was at about this stage that the meeting started to go out of control. Baring (so to speak) in mind the idea of a comic strip, it was but one short anarchic step to the decision that Painswick was ready for *The Full Monty*. Thankfully, at this point, the Hungarian red at last gave out.

There is still chance for new would-be Players to become part of this hilarity. Just call the Most Organised Jean Burgess on 01452-812167. Believe me, it's going to be a riot of fun on the night(s) - 5th, 6th and 7th April. Even if (as Alan Bamber might have put it) it all does seem 'one dot short of an ellipsis'.

Jack Burgess

Alliance organises rally in London

The Countryside Alliance is organising a major rally in London on 18th March. Large numbers of Gloucestershire (and Painswick) people who support the aims of the Alliance are already committed to joining what is forecast to be one of the largest peaceful rallies yet in the UK. Every coach in the Cotswolds has been booked and the return fare to London will almost certainly be only £10, plus the price of a London underground ticket. Details from Michael Houghton, Dell Farm 813382) or Douglas Robinson, Vicarage Street - 812286).

Part-time secretary with W/P and office management skills required for three mornings a week (10½ hours) for the Benefice Office, St.Mary's Church, Painswick. Further information from Revd.Miles 812334

Hostess trolley for sale. Teak finish. Four glass dishes with lids. Warm cupboard etc. £30. 813815

1974 Mini Clubman 50,000 miles. One Painswick lady owner. Flame red, fair condition. MOT and tax. £350. Virginia Falconer, 814009

Rowing machine for sale. Tunturi R505, £60. 813815

Quarry tiles, brand new unused. 100cm x 100cm, black and red. Enough to tile a cloakroom/small hall. Offers. Virginia Falconer, 814009

Hi-Fi speaker stands for sale, £20. 813815

Rover 214si 1396cc G.reg. New brakes, new radiator. Tested November. Good condition. £850ono. 812488

Goatfood, ¾ sack going free. Apparently also suitable for rabbits and guinea-pigs. Virginia Falconer, 814009

Hi-Fi Tripod adjustable table for sale £40 813815

Super family gîte in the Dordogne, to let. Swimming pool and accommodation for up to two families. From £280 per week. Telephone David Allison 0033 5535 42291

To Let. One bedroom Bungalow flat in quiet location in Pitchcombe. 812682

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The Personal Column

Babies

Congratulations to VICTORIA and GORDON SOUTAR on the birth of their daughter, Emily Louisa, on 16th December;

also to CAMILLA and RICHARD POULDEN on the birth of their daughter, Valerie, on 12th January, a sister for Amaury and Gervase (and a granddaughter for the late Cdr. Edward Poulden and Mrs Valerie Poulden of Tibbiwell House;

also to ALISON and ALAN BULLINGHAM on the birth of their daughter, Ella, on 18th December, a sister for Toby.

100 years old

Congratulations to TOM KECK, of Pitchcombe, who reached his century on 3rd January.

Engagements

Congratulations to PETER BRADSHAW of Painswick and EMMA PEACHEY, formerly of Brockworth, who announced their engagement on Christmas Day;

and to NICHOLAS DENT, elder son of Janet Dent and the late Richard Dent, and ELAINE HEARD, daughter of Barbara Heard of West Glamorgan, who announced their engagement recently.

Get Well Soon

The recent wintry weather has resulted in a few admissions to hospital: DULCIE BURDETT has broken a hip, and CISSY HUXFORD, FRED A WOLKOWSKY, GLADYS HOBBS and MIKE FREEMAN have all had treatment.

GUS GAUGAIN has had a triple heart bypass operation at the John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford. Our best wishes for a speedy recovery to them all.

Deaths

The Royal Oak lost one of its staff, PERRY BURKE, whose death was very sudden, and HILDA HALE, who kept the Oak with her husband, Alf, for 25 years, has died recently. We extend sincere sympathies to their families;

also to the family and friends of GERALD LUSTY, MOIRA BARSTOW, FLORENCE MARSHALL and ERIC ALLARD.

Comings and goings

We welcome VERLE BURGESS who has moved to George Court, Victoria Street, from Huntingdon;

also Mr and Mrs TONY PHILLIPS who will be moving into Finchurst, Queens Mead;

also Mr and Mrs DREW who have taken The Red Stables, Yokehouse Lane; and Mr and Mrs GRAHAM ISAAC who have moved to Beech Lane House.

Change of House

Mrs JOANNA WEATHERHEAD has moved from Providence Cottage, Lower Washwell to No 9, Ashwell House.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Captain PENNY SHANAHAN, middle daughter of ROBIN and STEPHANIE GRAYSON, of Brooklands, on gaining her helicopter wings, and for winning awards for the best student on her course at Middle Wallop School of Army Aviation.

Thank you

Derek and Adele Lambert, of Vicarage Street, would like to thank the many kind people who have sent cards, flowers and messages, and who have visited and given practical help while Adele has been immobilised.

Dulcie Burdett is deeply grateful for the many cards, presents and visits she has had from her friends in Painswick, and regrets that she will not be able to thank them all personally.

Isabel Stanyon, of Mulberry House, Churchill Way, would like to say a very big thank you to all her kind friends and neighbours who visited, sent cards, flowers and other goodies during her long stay in Stroud Hospital. She will be delighted to see them now at home.

NEXT ISSUE

Publication Date
SATURDAY 3rd MARCH

Items for publication to Jillie Speed*,
The Old Carriage House, Edge, by
SUNDAY 18th FEBRUARY

Mini Ads to Leslie Brotherton,
Longhope, Blakewell Mead, by
SUNDAY 18th FEBRUARY

Business adverts: Contact Liz Fisher,
Harebell Cottage, Blakewell Mead, by
THURSDAY 15th FEBRUARY

Diary items (only) to Edwina Buttrey,
14 The Croft, by
THURSDAY 22nd FEBRUARY

* Articles for publication, and other items for the Beacon Committee, may also be placed in the **Beacon Post Box** in New Street (next to telephone kiosk). Items for publication are welcomed on computer diskette (returned to you after use) or by e-mail to: Painswick.Beacon@dial.pipex.com Please provide your name, address and phone number.

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