

The Painswick Beacon

Vol. 23 No. 12

March 2001

Farewell to Bob Miles

A Service of Thanksgiving for the ministry of Revd Bob Miles, Vicar of Painswick from 1984, was held in the Parish Church of St Mary last Saturday, 24th February. The service marked the occasion of Revd Miles's retirement from the Painswick incumbency. He and his wife, Rachel, are to move to The Rectory at Wensley, Leyburn, in North Yorkshire in early March. Revd Miles's last service before leaving Painswick will be in the Parish Church tomorrow, 4th March at 9.30am. Tributes and presentations were made by a number of parishioners during the short service. There was laughter when Derek Hodges commented that Bob Miles had once said that, "whilst his faith was Christianity, his religion was cricket".

The occasion was perhaps best reflected in the prayer recited by the



Bob Miles relaxing with his wife Rachel and their four grandchildren, from the left: Noah, Joshua, Eleni and Hannah. Eleni was only a day old when this picture was taken

Officiant, Bill Varah. "We praise and thank you, God of the journey, for Bob and Rachel who are soon to leave us. We entrust them into your loving care, knowing that you are always the faithful

traveller and companion on the Way. Shelter and protect them from all harm and anxiety. Grant them the courage to meet the future, and grace to let go into a new life; through Jesus Christ our Saviour".

St Mary's Home gets a thumbs-down

Around 60 people came to the hastily convened public meeting on 21st February in the Town Hall to comment on the Severn NHS plan to develop the St Mary's Home site. Terry Parker, the Parish Council chairman, opened by explaining that the council would be meeting afterwards, and that a recommendation was required by Stroud District planners two days later.

The importance of the site in the village was such that he had felt it vital to

have wider opinion before their meeting. News had reached the parish council just before the meeting that the developer had changed one block of two dwellings, probably those in part of Stamages Lane, into three affordable housing units.

Keith Hardwidge, chairman of the council's planning sub-committee, outlined the overall proposal for the 19 two and three-storey properties, garaging and space for 38 vehicles, road changes and loss of trees and hedgerows (as

detailed in February's Beacon). Any developer would have to agree to pay for footpath widening, road works and replacing any felled trees. Additionally the NHS Trust had said that funds raised would be used on the Huclecote site and for other urgent projects in Stroud and Stonehouse.

Parish councillors had visited the area and produced a draft report that accepted development of this brownfield site, with provisos on access from the A46, the lack of affordable housing, that a mixed size development would be better, with some two-bedroom houses, and insisting on rigid parking restrictions around the site and more sympathetic building materials. Coun Hardwidge had described the proposed rough cast on the rear of the properties and the rubble-stone walls at the front.

Individuals had written to the council objecting to the high density, light pollution, height of the houses and the invasion of privacy from the proposed balconies.

Before moving to comments from the floor, Terry Parker said that Stroud District Council had received an emphatic statement from the Highways authority

No Show this year

Painswick Show Society has been forced to cancel this year's Show, because landscaping work being done in the Park of Painswick House make it impossible for the event to be staged.

The replanting this month, and later in the year, together with the earth-moving to create a sweeping vista up to the front of the house, greatly reduce the useable ground space and Painswick Show's Main Ring would disappear. There is presently no suitable alternative at the Park for the Main Ring to hold safe showjumping. This means that not even a truncated event could be held, and the Society, with great reluctance, feels it has to cancel this year.

Painswick Show is regarded as a high quality village show and has latterly been Gloucestershire's only two-day event. The Show Society is grateful for the support it has had from Lord and Lady Dickinson over many years, and latterly from Mrs and Mrs Rusty Elvidge, in making the Park available for the Show, and to its sponsors, members and helpers.

The Society remains committed to the long-term future of a quality show, and this postponement is a temporary measure only. The Elvidges are big supporters of Painswick Show and "very much hope that it will take place next year at the Park," they told the Beacon.

Continued on Page 3

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Council meeting on 21st February

Reported by Tony Crook

St Mary's Home development

The council convened immediately after a 90-minute public meeting called to discuss the planning application from the Severn NHS Trust for a two and three-storey development (as reported in last month's Beacon).

Coun Keith Hardwidge, chair of the council's planning committee, proposed that the NHS plan be accepted, with the reservations from his group, and taking account of comments made at the public meeting. Other councillors disagreed, saying that since council had some objections to the plan, then they must recommend refusal, stating all of the grounds for their decision, even though there was general support for some development of the St Mary's Home site.

Coun David Hudson said that the plan was in breach of District Council's B4 Built Environment statement, particularly in respect of the buildings down Stroud Road. Coun John Stephenson-Oliver said that the proposed A46 access was unsafe, and notwithstanding the statement from the county's Highways department that on no account could access be from Stamages Lane, council should insist that A46 access be rejected. Density was too high and the building materials inappropriate in matching the village's present stonework. He also said that the plan did not meet the District Council's draft Structure Plan.

Coun Malcolm Watts put forward a number of objections: The density was too high for the periphery of the village; it gave an unacceptable urban tone to the village approach; the A46 access must be avoided on safety grounds; there should be a greater variety of buildings, in size and affordability; some appropriate rede-

velopment would have support but the materials should be all stone, not rendering, and sympathetic with the village's current environment.

The council unanimously agreed to recommend refusal of the NHS application on the above grounds, adding that a more appropriate development was needed and might be acceptable.

Care Centre proposal

Coun Terry Parker said that the present outline application was not a fresh one, but Stroud District Council was seeking the Parish Council's views since the developer had asked for the original proposal (a 50-bed nursing home, with 36 dwellings in seven groups, to include 10 affordable units) to be reconsidered, even though this plan had not been approved previously and had been subject to a number of conditions that the developer had declined to meet. Terry Parker said he understood that negotiations were going on in the background between the developer and planners over the amount of land that could be available.

Keith Hardwidge felt council should stick to its original decision which was support for a nursing home, associated housing and 10 affordable units. Malcolm Watts thought this was unsatisfactory because councillors did not have any detail this time around, and Terry Parker believed this would have the effect of supporting the application going to the District Council even though parish councillors did not know what the proposal was.

The District Council, he said, had not responded to the specific question asked by the Parish Council for details of further land being asked for by the developer on the A46 site. David Hudson did not believe the parish council had ever supported such a large number of dwellings on the plot, and that if council were to respond properly, District must be more specific.

It was decided, on an amendment from Terry Parker, to adhere to the original decision to support, but stating that the Parish Council reserved its position pending details of any revised area of land being sought by the applicant.

Washwell Farm application

Despite the parish planning committee's approval of an application for a detached garage with holiday accommodation, John Stephenson-Oliver objected, saying that council could not approve this plan because it was partly outside the building plan area. Furthermore, he said, it was a misleading application in that it was really for a house with a garage underneath, not the other way around, as stated in the applications. Council decided by a major-

ity to ask the District Council to put the application on hold.

Casual vacancy

Since no request had been made for the election of a new councillor, council would now co-opt. A notice, inviting interested villagers to apply, would be put on the notice board and in the Beacon. (See Page 4).

District Council constitution

Terry Parker reported that councillors had been invited to a meeting on 6th March to discuss three options for constitutional change at Ebley Mill. Not one was the status quo. The three were: a Council Leader with a Cabinet; an elected Mayor and Cabinet; or an elected Mayor with a manager.

Footpaths committee

Malcolm Watts reported that he had taken over as chairman, but was not yet fully conversant with the tasks. One or two changes in procedure were planned and he had been in touch with Cotswold Wardens to provide labour.

Finance

Coun Johnny Johnston said that the precept for the FY2001-02 would be £45,520. The two estimates for the Town Hall roof repairs differed so widely that he felt a further estimate was vital before a decision could be made.

Spring Clean campaign

Throughout April, Stroud District was seeking a clean-up around all towns and villages, and volunteers were needed to pick up rubbish in the parish. SDC would collect the bags by arrangement. Volunteers will be entered in a free prize draw.

Miscellaneous

Revised speed limits would be introduced on the Gloucester road by the summer.

Council had been advised of the possibility of a parish constable who could patrol the village. Five years' service as a Special Constable was a prerequisite.

A Gloucestershire Medal of Courage was to be awarded. Proposals should be forwarded to Peter Grant, the Parish clerk.

Letters on traffic speeds in New Street, and on the Bulls Cross road into Slad were passed to the traffic committee.

Roland Beggan

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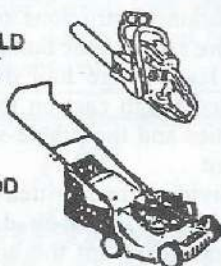
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St Mary's Home

From Page One

that there could be no access from Stamages Lane.

Among a score of different views expressed, the following points were emphasised: The developers' own consultants had said that traffic splays did not reach the proper safety standards.

The plan would add to the village's severe parking and traffic problems.

The designs seem to ignore the very fabric of Painswick's environment.

The density, height and proximity to the nursing home (if it is approved) would overload that end of the village.

The village must veto a Stroud Road entrance to the site; it is the exact spot of a previous fatality and more accidents are inevitable.

Stroud District Council would be going against its own Built Environment policy if the plan went ahead.

Should there not be an appeal to build the nursing home/care centre on the more appropriate St Mary's Home site?

The Conservation Society sought votes on several points: that the site was not defined in the Structure Plan for residential use; that it does not meet AONB policy; that the design and materials were out of character; and that the A46 access was too dangerous. It's a pity that the Conservation Society had not made the same objections to the nursing home plan, came one remark.

At the subsequent Parish Council meeting, it was unanimously agreed to reject the proposed development, while accepting that a more suitable plan might be agreed.

An Extraordinary Meeting of Painswick Parish Council will be held on Monday, 5th March at 7pm in the Town Hall. The single agenda item is the Council's response to District Council's letter of 18th January, 2001, requesting further comments on the outline application for a nursing home for up to 50 residents, with 36 associated independent living units to be provided within seven groups. The development shall include ten affordable units, new access from the A46 with related highway improvements and landscaping.

Pam Currier retires as Tawny Owl



Pam Currier (left of centre) with Patsy Ratcliffe and the Painswick Brownie pack on the day of her retirement

After thirty three years of involvement with the Cranham and Painswick Brownies, Pam Currier is to retire. On 12th February the Brownie pack organised a leaving ceremony and presentation for Pam who has been Tawny Owl for ten years. She started out with the Painswick Brownies and took over as leader when the Painswick and Cranham packs amalgamated. Pam will continue helping out on a more casual ba-

sis until the new team becomes established.

Since Pam announced her intention to stand down there have been many anxious moments. The future of the Brownie pack became uncertain and it looked at times as if it might have to close down. However, after months of anxiety the Brownies are delighted to announce that the position of Tawny Owl has been filled by Michelle Hurford from Upton St Leonards.

Any more wells please!

Was there ever a well in your house or garden? Helen and Wynne Roberts are researching the history of wells in Painswick and are very keen to hear from anyone who may be able to help. They are currently drawing up a map, pinpointing wells and water ways in the village.

From their previous article they have had some response, locating over twelve wells, but feel sure there are many more.

Before mains water came to the village

after the First World War many houses had a well in their cellar or kitchen. Peggy Perrins can remember when the stream at Tibbiwell was dammed with stones on Mondays in order to make a pool for dipping buckets on wash day.

Please contact Wynne or Helen Roberts on 813018 or call at their New Street home.

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Cycling and climbing overseas for charity

Painswick girl to help in Romania

Zarah Hible, from Wick Street, is one of a party of 30 from Cheltenham College, planning a cycle relay to Romania to raise enough money to renovate a school for gypsy children that has not been repaired since 1934. They also plan to provide a minibus for disabled youngsters in Fagaras.

The venture starts in July and is part of an ongoing programme that the college has had with Romanian children over a number of years. The aim is to provide youngsters with a chance to get directly involved with humanitarian aid. So far, the groups have decorated dormitories throughout in an orphanage, built adventure playgrounds, and provided new beds, rugs and some medicines.

The cycling event is being relayed live on the college's website and is expected to raise well over £30,000 in sponsorship. Each student has a target of at least £1,000. The route takes the cyclists via Portsmouth to Le Havre and on to Strasbourg, using canal paths where possible, through the

mountains to Munich and on to Salzburg. From Salzburg to Budapest, it uses the Danube Trail, then on to Vienna and Bratislava, over the Hungarian plains to Brasov in Romania.

Zarah has sponsorship forms at Painswick Post Office, the Library, Londis and the Shetland Shop.

District Nurse mountaineering in Morocco

Rachael Setters, District Nurse at Painswick surgery, will be putting on her boots in June and climbing an exhausting 14,000 feet - all in aid of Cotswold Care Hospice.

Rachael, 28, is one of a party of 18 local medical professionals and friends going to Morocco from 9th to 16th June to climb Mount Toubkal, expecting to raise at least £22,000, towards the £70,000 a year it costs to deliver palliative care in patients' homes. This Hospice at Home service is a valuable resource for District Nurses to help support their own service to palliative and terminal care cases.

In order to reach her sponsorship target of at least £1500, Rachael, a qualified reflexologist, is offering treatment where all proceeds will go to Cotswold Care Hospice funds. Reflexology is a natural holistic therapy, based on reflex points in the feet and hands. It can restore and maintain the body's natural equilibrium and encourage healing. For further information, call Rachael on 01242 250197. Domiciliary visits are available.

Mothers' Union gets a new banner

St Mary's, Painswick, branch of the Mothers' Union celebrated the Millennium and their 100 years by commissioning a new banner.

The design by Anne Shawcross had to be approved by the Gloucester Diocese Mothers' Union and the Vicar. Audrey Watts organised the embroidery, and her team was: Eileen Cottle, Nina Harris, Shirley Owen and Margaret Richards. Other members helped with stitchery (hidden) of some of the figures. Graham Ford carved the Maltese Cross from yew, and made the hanging pole.

The Mothers' Union is a world-wide Christian organisation, founded in 1896, especially concerned with all that strengthens and preserves marriage and Christian family life.

Jane Otway

PUBLIC NOTICES

Painswick Parish Council Painswick Ward

Casual Vacancy to be filled

As the District Council Electoral Officer did not receive any notice in writing from ten electors within the parish requesting an election to be held to fill the vacancy made by the retirement of Mrs J. Crook from the Council, the vacancy must now be filled as soon as possible by co-option.

Interested persons wishing to be co-opted on to the Council should write to the Clerk not later than seven days prior to the next Council Meeting (21st March), stating why they would like to be considered.

To be eligible, a candidate must: have attained the age of 21 years; be on the electoral roll of the parish; or during the whole of the past 12 months have either lived in the parish, owned or leased land in the parish, worked in the parish, or lived within three miles of the parish.

Resignation

Notice is hereby given that due to the resignation of Mr Keith J. Hardwidge, 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 in writing and must reach the Returning Officer, Stroud District Council, Council Offices, Ebley Mill, Westward Road, Stroud, Glos GL5 4UB not later than 5pm on Monday, 19th March, 2001.

Dated the twenty-seventh day of February, 2001.

Peter Grant, Clerk to the Parish Council

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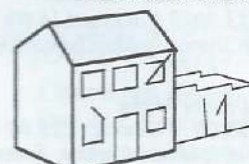
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Archway pair raise funds for India trip

Two former Croft School pupils, Laura Clifford and Michael Jones, will experience the trip of a lifetime when they visit India for three weeks at Easter. Laura and Michael are part of a group of 34 pupils and eight staff from Archway School, who will combine sightseeing with a stay in an ashram.

Here they will help the community in whatever way they can, living much as the locals do. They are being encouraged to take small gifts to the children - pencils, pens, crayons, small toys etc.

Their tourist trail involves three days in a game reserve, visits to the Pink City, Jaipur, Pachewar, Delhi and, of course, the Taj Mahal at Agra.

The link between Archway School and India goes back many years, with visits like these happening every three years or so. Pupils bear their own costs, and have been busy fund-raising with solo and combined events. Each pupil has to raise £1000. In addition, a reserve fund is being built up for emergencies, and this will be passed on to the ashram community if it is not used. Each pupil will have to carry his or her own back-pack, to hold practically everything from favourite snacks to medical supplies.

Laura and Michael would be pleased to be offered any contributions towards their costs, and guarantee a written report to everyone who contributes. Both are from Slad and can be contacted: Laura at The Orchard and Michael at Chantry Cottage (tel 814299).

At odds with the Diocese?

Readers may be aware that John Parfitt of New Street writes articles for the Western Daily Press. One recent article concerns the "the great church of St Mary's" and the increase in the responsibilities of the Vicar of Painswick. John wrote that fifty-one vicars had come and gone, two of them thrown out for backing the King in the Civil War; John Wesley had preached there in 1742; it had survived bombardment and arson in the Civil War; the partial collapse of the steeple in 1883; and German bombs in 1941.

Now Church and Vicar were threatened from a new quarter. Not from Cromwell, not the Germans, but the Diocese of Gloucester, no less. Thirty years ago there was one parish, one church, and one vicar - proud to 'have visited every house in his parish and had tea in most of them'.

"The rot set in in the 1990s. Without a by-your-leave another parish was added - and now our vicar is nearing retirement. Diocesan vultures swooped to say that we should take on three more parishes, our new vicar to look after all six. Help would, of course, be given. A part-timer two days a week!

"Comments were invited with the icy remark that 'it is not a matter of choice' and 'there must be an extremely important reason for us to refuse'. The old fiction, 'I'm from head office and I'm here to help you', has clearly taken root on our dear old C of E. It is not just the Church. It is the same attitude that takes away policemen and postmasters, and then wonders why communities start to unravel. But the answer should not be left to remote experts in diocesan offices. If we withheld some of their vast diocesan quota money until they do better, they might think harder - remember that Judas Iscariot was a bean-counter, wasn't he? But without new thinking, the Church will face decline into insignificance. Is that what it really wants?"

The Bishop of Tewkesbury and Chairman of the Diocesan Pastoral Committee, Rt Rev John West, responded to John's comments in a letter to the Western Daily Press. Bishop West says that "John Parfitt's article contained several misconceptions about the way the Church in Gloucester Diocese is planning its strategy for the 21st century. Mr Parfitt implies a heavy-handed approach to pastoral reorganisation. When the Diocesan Pastoral Committee proposed that three churches be added to the Painswick benefice, officials spent an evening with the Church Councils outlining the proposal.

"Members were receptive to what was being suggested," the Bishop said. "If smaller communities were to continue to have their own individual priest, this would be at the expense of urban mission. Contrary to the picture painted, the Church at diocesan level is wrestling with questions of how best to engage its ministry and mission to ensure healthy and growing churches locally."

Lent meetings

Churches Together Around Painswick has arranged weekly meetings throughout Lent to explore 'Prayer and Spirituality.' Thanks are due to the elders and leaders of the various local denominations for offering hospitality and for arranging speakers for the evenings. We look forward to the customary fellowship and urge everyone to join in if they can: 7th March, The Methodist Chapel, Sheepscotcombe; 14th March, The Friends' Meeting House, Vicarage Street, Painswick; 21st March, Christ Church, Gloucester Street, Painswick; 28th March, St John, Sheepscotcombe; 4th April, Church of Our Lady and St Therese, Friday Street, Painswick. All meetings start at 7.30pm.

County elections

County Council elections are to be held on Thursday 3rd May. The whole council is required to be elected every four years.

There are 63 seats and we will be electing a member to represent the Painswick Division which includes our own parish, together with the parishes of Cranham, Pitchcombe, Randwick, Upton St Leonards and Whiteshill.

The notice of election will be published on Monday 26th March. Nominations can be accepted after that date but must be received no later than noon on Tuesday 3rd April. The seat is currently held by Councillor Terry Parker.



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For the sixth time, we can report that the number of Beacon subscribers has exceeded 600, with 633 subscribing since this time last year. Our Treasurer is never relaxed about these things, but he does smile - as the whole committee does - when such a number is achieved. We would like to thank all who support us - subscribers, advertisers, our team of distributors, and everyone who takes the time and trouble to send us articles for publication.

It is with this March issue that we approach readers and invite you to subscribe, hoping that you will contribute towards matching or even surpassing the above figure in the coming financial year. As a small recognition, we offer subscribers a discount on personal advertisements ('mini-ads') and also enter them into the prize Christmas draw.

Most will be familiar with the nature of the Beacon, but a brief repetition might be worthwhile, especially for newcomers to the village. The Painswick Beacon is an independent community newspaper, produced on a voluntary and non-profit making basis, bringing news of local events - especially the activities of local clubs and

societies - to the attention of all Painswick residents. It is delivered free of charge to all households in Painswick.

Arrangements are also made to deliver to subscribing residents of villages nearby who wish to receive the publication; we arrange to post copies to those further afield.

Being independent, our only means of meeting production costs is the money raised through business advertising and personal subscriptions. Each is vital to our continued operation, and we are grateful for the tremendous support from both sources over the past 23 years.

Readers will find an addressed envelope (containing a payment slip) enclosed with this issue. If you wish to subscribe for 2001-2, please use these to send your subscription. Either post/deliver it to our Treasurer, or hand it in at Painswick Post Office. If you mislay the slip and envelope, simply write your name and address on a card, and place it with your subscription in an envelope addressed to the Beacon Treasurer at Longhope, Blakewell Mead, Painswick, GL6 6UR.

There is no set amount for subscriptions; we are grateful for any contribution, however small or large, but readers sometimes ask for guidance, and all we can say is that printing alone costs about 40p per copy (i.e. £4.80 per year) and that the average subscription is above £3. We do have specified rates for postal delivery to cover the high costs of postage and envelopes. For ex-villagers who are in residential care anywhere in the UK, we are pleased to mail the Beacon free of charge.

Whose tongue-in-cheek?

From the Grapevine (the parish church's weekly notice sheet), Dates to Note: Saturday 24th February at 11am in Painswick Church. A service of Thanksgiving that the Vicar is leaving...

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Applications

- * Pyll House, Jack's Green, Sheepscombe. Insertion of roof window.
- * The Stables, Greenhouse Court, Bull's Cross. Extension to provide dependant person's annexe.
- * The Bungalow, Pyll House Farm, Jack's Green, Sheepscombe. Renewal of permission for the extension of farm worker's dwelling.
- * Beechcroft, Jack's Green, Sheepscombe. Erection of extension.
- * Gyde Barn, Cheltenham Road. Variation relating to replacement doors on north elevation wagon way.
- * Washwell Farm, Cheltenham Road. Revised plans to include flat roof and balcony plus erection of detached garage with holiday accommodation over.
- * The New House, Friday Street. Conversion of part of ground floor from shop to one residential unit.

Revised plan

- * Spoonbed Farm, Gloucester Road. Construction of driveway to cottage below farmhouse, to include change of use of land in front of farmhouse to domestic curtilage.

Consents

- * Milton Cottage, Vicarage Street. Construction of additional car parking space.
- * Spring Bank, Stanbridge Lane, Slad. Erection of extension to dwelling to form extra bedroom and dayroom, with dormer window.
- * Church Orchard, Sheepscombe. Replacement of existing flat roofed double garage with small workshop.
- * The Lamp House, Victoria Street. Erection of doorway canopy and pilasters.
- * Holly House, Slad. Installation of dormer windows to front and rear to enable attic conversion.
- * Church Orchard, Sheepscombe. Retrospective application for erecting pergola and insertion of doorway to replace window.
- * Copse Cottage, Jack's Green, Sheepscombe. Single storey extension to form breakfast room and conservatory. Replace existing single garage with new double garage.
- * Cleverlys, Vicarage Street. Erection of single storey extension.
- * Ambleside, The Green, Edge. Regularly remove low branches arising from trunks of two lime trees at Ambleside.

Refusal

- * Clissold Farm, Jack's Green, Sheepscombe. Construction of dry stone wall to height of 1.45m, using reclaimed walling stone.

PAINSWICK PAPERS

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01453-764845 (Martin)
Allan (mobile): 07712-776470
Martin (mobile): 07808 722255

Return of the Chalfonts

A great evening's entertainment is in prospect at the Painswick Centre on Saturday 21st April, when the Gloucester-based singing duo, The Chalfonts, will be holding a charity concert.

In their younger days The Chalfonts, alias Ken and Barbara James, used to perform with top UK stars and at gigs all round the country, but nowadays they restrict their performances to fund-raising concerts for charity. All profits from the evening will go to the Cobalt Unit, Cheltenham.

The concert, which starts at 7.30pm, will include a fish and chip supper. Inclusive tickets, priced £10, are available from the Shetland Shop.

The pair made a great impression when they performed at a Harvest Supper concert at Christ Church last autumn. Don't miss this second chance to see them.

Diary changes for April's issue

Small changes in the layout of the Beacon are introduced from time to time, but a rather significant one will be coming in next month's issue. It will interest those who like to keep an up-to-date forward diary of events that are important to them.

In addition to our usual listing of events for the month ahead, we will publish dates of all others we hear about that are non-weekly for the following month and any dates, such as annual events, for several months ahead.

We are letting readers and organisers know of this change now so that we can get as many future dates as possible into the diary. Typically, Art Exhibitions, Theatre Club outing dates for the summer and autumn, Painswick Show,

Horticultural Society Show, Painswick Players productions, upcoming AGMs, are what we are seeking. Details will, of course, follow when their month comes around; we only want dates and the event for this section of the revamped diary.

While the Village Diary held at Painswick Woodcraft will remain a valuable point of reference, we know that various committees consider forward arrangements while they are 'in session,' not knowing what else is coming up.

Hopefully, if the Beacon publishes occasional events for, say, the next six months it will be easier to plan and stop chasing the same customers. For the best results, we need your help, so please let us know as soon as you can.

Letters to the Editor

Painswickians of the Year

We wish to thank the Beacon and its subscribers for our recent award for over forty years' service to the community. Although we never intended to stay for so long, the years have rolled by while we have endeavoured to make a living and bring up our family which has not ever been easy.

There have been times when we were bumping along the bottom, but through sheer hard work we have survived and now feel that the time to retire has come, and we are putting the property and business on the market.

It has been a fascinating way of life and a wonderful experience, tinged with the sadness of so many old customers passing away.

We have not made any definite plans regarding retirement but hope that it will be soon, and we are confident that we will cope when it happens. We would like to stay in the area because we enjoy village

life and would like to keep in touch with our many friends.

John and Barbara Hulme

What's VDS anyway?

I am led to believe that the turnout for the 2001 VDS Workshop event on 27th January was less than expected, and indeed disappointing. At the risk of being hypercritical, I am bound to say I am not surprised.

What on earth is VDS? Is it something vaguely connected with my television set or a tape deck in my car?

Whoever scribed the article must, first and foremost, realise that there are still a number of Luddites living locally. It is no use the scribe relying on the fact that the term VDS may have been described in a previous Beacon and is instantly recognisable to all. I filed the previous Beacon away, maybe only to be found

months later, so I could not cross refer to check what it was all about in January.

I still do not understand what they were trying to do, even having read the January article retrospectively. Will someone enlighten me, please? And in good old plain English.

Trevor Radway

Oh, dear! Sorry Mr Radway. There's another piece on Page 13 of this issue that I trust will help. -Ed.

Michael Davis

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Bags of style...



Did you notice your Beacon distributor when he or she delivered last month's issue? After much deliberation, the Committee decided it was time that our valued 'trekkers' should have something smarter than a plastic bag to carry round the goodies. Hence these green, water-proofed and stylish Beacon bags have been given to everyone.

The bags have a fold-over, fastening cover to keep the copies dry on wet and wintry days.

Here's June Stangroom, who does the Hyett Orchard round, modelling our new fashion item.

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The Return of Paddington Bear?

Those of you who connect Peru, a devotion to marmalade and a pleasantly rotund body with Paddington Bear should think again. For cuddly Kevin Parker, a Painswick Player of some stature, has taken up the challenge to raise £2,500 by walking the Inca Trail, 12,000 feet up in the Andes. The beneficiaries of this 100 km high-altitude slog are not - as some might have thought - Marmaladers Anonymous, but Scope - the charity for sufferers of Cerebral Palsy.

So, why is he doing it? Inevitably, it's all down to facing up to the Big Five O, that strange time of life when a not-so-young man's fancy turns to odder things. As Kevin himself puts it: 'I thought I ought to mark this milestone in my life by doing something special. A parachute jump maybe or a hot air balloon ride or a bungee jump or a day driving a Formula One car...'

Or travel halfway round the world to stagger, limp and crawl along a treacherous mountain trail that a few centuries earlier finished off most of the Conquistadors. For a couch potato with attitude like Kevin, who thinks nothing of striding resolutely to his car and driving up Vicarage Street to get his paper every Sunday, there could only be one answer. The Inca Trail or bust!

Mind you, reality is beginning to dawn. He is starting to realise just what he has

committed himself to do. Not only has he committed himself to raising £2,500 sponsorship for Scope but he also has to get himself fit enough, which means losing some 35 pounds of excess weight. And it would be pretty hard to uncommit himself now that it has been published in the Beacon, especially since he has promised the Beacon exclusive pictures and the full harrowing 'Tale of the Trail' for the October issue.

Still, he has until September to get fit and to sign up all the sponsors. And it will be a life-changing experience; Kevin reckons it will take him at least a couple of years to regain that weight and lose the fitness. More importantly it will raise a lot of money for Scope.

In wishing him luck on this quest for his inner self, let's give Kevin the last word:

'Fellow Painswickians, I need your help. First don't laugh or hurl abuse at me as you see me painfully jogging about the village over the next few months. Secondly, and more importantly, please help me help Scope. Any donations will be greatly appreciated and £10 from you will go a long way towards my £2,500 target.' Donations please to Scope c/o Kevin Parker, Rose Cottage, Vicarage Street Painswick, or call Kevin on his mobile - he's bound to be jogging - 07850 888624 for further information.

Bird Club goes behind the scenes



At the 13th February meeting of the Bird Club, Roger Jones began his talk by referring to his more recent work - as an artist. He showed how he often utilised a particular land/seascape several times and by modifying the colours and composition achieved considerable variation in mood.

He then described his earlier work as a senior producer at the BBC's Wild Life Unit at Bristol. He illustrated the problems, dangers and strategies involved in bringing nature to our screens. This entails a lot of careful planning and even

more waiting for the right shot! We were able to recognise some clips from earlier programmes and see previews of some to come. He emphasised that if viewers were unhappy with the content of such documentaries, including excessive use of brought-in personalities, they should aim their arrows at one person - the programme's producer.

The audience enjoyed this opportunity to go behind the scenes of these popular programmes.

Malcolm Cooper

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Painswick 100 years ago

In consequence of the mud-raking incident at Painswick, the town was getting quite notorious. Two representatives of the 'Pictorial World' visited Painswick, and took several photographs of "beauties and curiosities of the healthful resort". Through this popularity local owners were anticipating an increase in rateable value as a set-off against the probable rate for the forthcoming sewerage scheme.

On the 11th, Mr John Hodges, retired schoolmaster of Painswick, passed away suddenly. He had been actively connected with Church and social matters of Painswick. Of late years he had acted as lay-preacher at the Park Mission Room and took the services every Sunday. He was a Church Warden for the Parish. He was also Sunday School superintendent and conducted Bible classes for men.

It was believed that the much talked-of restoration of the Church bells was about to commence and would have started by this time but for the death of Mr Hodges in whose memory it was desired that a peal should be rung. The committee believed

that at last their many negotiations had come to an end, with a satisfactory agreement with an eminent firm of bell-hangers for the complete renewal of the frame and fittings of the bells. It was hoped that the work would be completed in four months.

A special meeting of the Painswick Coffee Tavern was held with members of the committee present - Miss Wemyss, Mr F A Hyett (presiding), Rev W H Seddon, Messrs E Reed, J Everatt, Skinner and others. Mr Hyett expressed great sorrow in the severe loss in their late colleague Mr Hodges, who had constantly served the institution ever since its establishment. Amongst other business, the Rev Seddon proposed a number of changes - that after Ladyday, the room then used as the

reading room be used as a club room; that subscribers to the club pay 1d per week, 9d per quarter, or 2s 6d per year; that after Ladyday the only newspapers taken to be Daily News, Standard, and Citizen and they be placed in the bar; and that the Coffee Tavern should not in future be opened on Sundays.

Painswickians witnessed a capital chase by Mr F H Croome's gifted pack of beagles and were treated to an exhibition of the latest improvements in methods of the 'noble science'. Beagles were naturally slow for the sport but by dint of high training and perfect fox-craft, Mr Croome's prize bred 'bow-wows' bowled master Reynard over in fine style. His 'reverence', a vigorous dog-fox, was started on Mr Croome's own land and the 'kill' was rapidly effected on the adjoining estate of Mr B W Cooke.

John Bailey

Outings to London and Bath

A few seats are still available on the coach to London on Wednesday, 21st March. The fare is £9.

An outing to Bath has been arranged for Wednesday, 25th April. It will leave Stamages Lane car park at 10am and return from Avon Street coach park, Bath at 5pm. The fare is £5.

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

A tribute to Valerie Funnell

Valerie Funnell died at the beginning of February, after a courageous fight against leukaemia, and having apparently made a complete recovery. Her determination to overcome the illness had been rewarded by her being able to return to work, and even to pick up her tennis racket again and to play the game she so enjoyed quite regularly, until a sudden relapse took its toll.

Probably the majority of people in Painswick who knew Valerie had got to know her across the counter at the library where she had worked part-time for about ten years. In this capacity, she was diligent, thorough and always helpful, both in dealing with library matters and enquiries from tourists. Others will have known Valerie from her long-standing membership of the tennis club, where she had been a member of various ladies' teams since 1980. From the opposite end of the court, she proved a doughty, tenacious opponent, but always fair, and a reliable, loyal team member.

In recent years, Valerie turned her hand to water-colour painting which, with her characteristic modesty, she pursued mostly for her own enjoyment, but had also exhibited some of her work. Although a very private person who enjoyed a close relationship with her daughter and two grandchildren, Valerie was well-informed

and well-read, and could express her own reasoned, intelligent views with eloquence and colourful use of the English language when she chose.

She was a mine of information on English literature which she taught at Stroud High School for a short time after she and her family moved to Painswick in 1970.

Valerie was also a caring, concerned person, always willing to help family, friends and neighbours when the need arose. Often self-effacing, but complimentary and encouraging to other people, she made light of her own problems and worries, particularly during some of the most difficult times of her illness.

Maggie Drake

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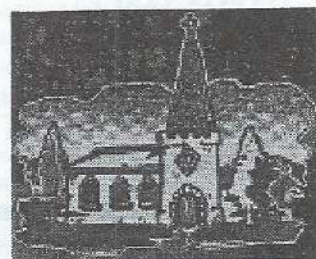
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CROFT SCHOOL NEWS

Year 5 pupils were asked to recount the story depicted by the well-known Willow Pattern on

crockery. Here are two of their efforts:

Once there was a man called T'so Ling the father of a girl called Koong She who was well treated. She met the gardener called Chang and immediately fell in love with him. When her father found out, he was very furious.

So he sent Chang away for ever and locked Koong She in a dark room on her own which had no escape. Her tears dropped into the river nearby that flowed past. There was a weeping willow tree nearby.

That night, before the wedding, Chang arrived in a boat and took Koong She away to a nearby island where they stayed for about two months. Koong She was chased by her father to the island but they just got away. Soon T'so Ling discovered them. He threw them into a maze where they died.

The gods knew how much the lovers loved each other so they changed them into doves so they could fly happily over the willow tree.

(by Aaron Underwood Class 5)

There was once, long ago, a very wealthy man by the name of T'so Ling who lived in a glorious palace with his beautiful daughter named Koong She.

Now, Koong She was always alone until one day she met the palace gardener, Chang. They became very good friends and soon fell in love.

But when T'so, the father, found out

he was very angry and sent Chang away never to be seen again. As for Koong She, it was arranged that she should marry a rich old man, who she didn't really love. So she was locked in a house at the bottom of the garden.

Then on the night before the wedding Chang arrived in a boat. They grabbed some jewels and ran over a bridge to escape the chasing father. Luckily they were much quicker than T'so Ling and escaped to a tiny island.

One day T'so Ling stumbled across the island and tossed them into a dark island and died slowly. But the gods took pity on the two and turned them into doves and they fly over the weeping willow where they first met.

(by Greg Gwilliam Class 5)

Faces

Faces are angry,
Faces are sad,
Faces are sickly,
Faces are sleepy,
Faces are sneezing,
Faces are crying,
Faces are laughing,
But the one and only face
Everyone wants is
THE HAPPY ONE!!!

(by Eleanor H. Class 3)

Congratulations to Chloe Temple, Kathryn Hyland, and Hannah and Charlotte Bolton who won the first round of the Stroud and district inter-school's nature competition, against King's Stanley, by an impressive 33 to 24 points. Good luck for the second round in March.

J. Sanderson

Fashion Show and cycle venture to aid CLIC

Three local women plan the challenge of their lives - a 400-kilometre cycle ride from the Taj Mahal to Jaipur, the Pink City, to raise funds for CLIC, the children's cancer charity.

Libby Graesser, a local physiotherapist, Andy Marsden, receptionist at an osteopath clinic, and Suzanne Temple are looking forward, not without some trepidation, to the adventure.

Suzanne, owner of the Blue fashion shops in Cheltenham and Nailsworth, is joining forces with Emma Wellington, a young hat designer from Newent to put on a Fashion Extravaganza at Cheltenham Ladies College on Wednesday, 28th March to raise money for children with leukaemia and for research.

Tickets are on sale at Painswick Fabric Shop at £12, to include a glass of wine.

Plea to help the children of Chernobyl

Terry Parker received the following unsolicited email and, since it is self-explanatory, the Beacon reproduces it here almost verbatim in case readers would like to help.

Dear Parker Terence,
We are writing to you with a sincere hope that you will consider our initiative and will help us.

The Board of the Leleka Fund is writing to organisations, to firms and to the persons with a hope that we will find a support and help in our work.

The Leleka Fund is an officially registered organisation, the registration number is 0037-97 in the Ministry of Justice in Kiev city. The fund unites citizens who wish to take part in help Ukrainian children.

The Board of our organisation has prepared a new project, "Clean Air," the main aim of which is organising recuperative trips for children and youth from the Ukraine who live in the area contaminated by radiation from the Chernobyl nuclear disaster.

We ask to pass our address to your readers and hope that it will help to find families or organisations which would be able to receive Ukrainian children for two to three weeks, and would give them an opportunity to breathe clean air and to eat fresh food, free from radiation.

It would be a great opportunity to meet your culture and traditions as well.

Anyone who can help should write to:

The Leleka Fund,
PO Box 328, KIEV-2,
02002, UKRAINE.
Fax: 00380445624119
email: leleka@alfacom.net

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Twenty times four equals fun at seven fifteen

Have you joined a team of four for The Quiz?

Quite a few have, and we look forward to more well before the 17th March, when the questions will be revealed from 7.15pm in Painswick Centre. We have room for up to twenty-four teams. The snack supper is organised for the interval, as in the six previous years, and the bar will be open at 6.45pm for those wanting to set them up and do some last-minute revision.

It would be a pity if we had to turn any teams away because of too many entries, so please help us and yourselves by getting a note through to Leslie Brotherton at Longhope, Blakewell Mead, as soon as you can. An entry form was in last month's Beacon.

For anyone who has not entered before, the quiz is run along these lines. There are eleven rounds of ten questions (one fewer round than last year), with enough time for each team to decide and write down an answer to each question.

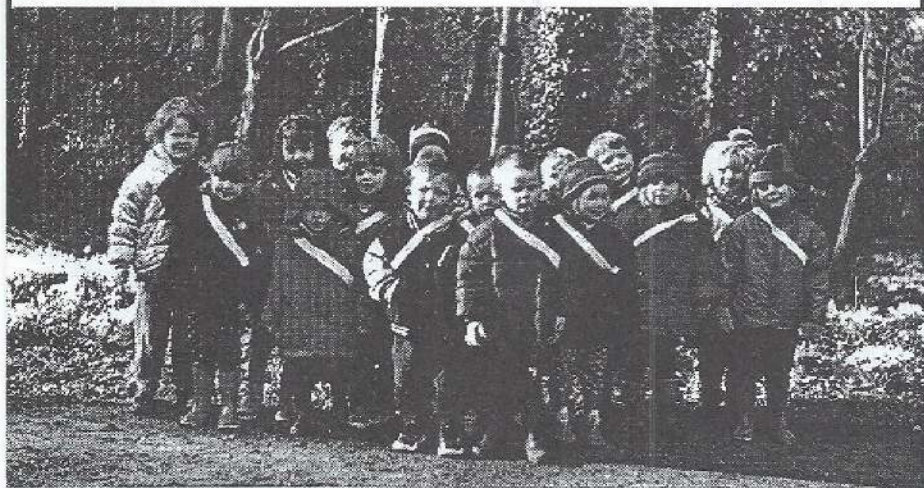
At the end of each round the answer sheets are collected, and while they are being marked the next round of questions is put. From time to time, the running total for each team is displayed on our scoreboard. So, although some teams do well on some kinds of question, others usually catch them up with answers on different topics.

Individuals are not embarrassed by their superior knowledge of a subject or frustration in recalling that on-the-tip-of-my-tongue answer. It is the team effort that matters, and that can also be the occasion of some merriment - if not amazement!

Some teams are drawn from neighbours and represent a street. Others come from local clubs and societies.

Which might you be? It's not too late to get a team together and enter.

SNOWDROP TIME AT ROCOCO



Early last month, the children from Painswick Playgroup enjoyed their nature walk in glorious sunshine, visiting the Rococo Gardens to wonder at the splen-

did display of snowdrops. This mischievous little group and the staff would like to say thanks to Claire and Paul Moir for a memorable outing once again.

Dog dirt still a nuisance

On a recent walk from the school up the footpath to Butt's Green, the playgroup children encountered quite a lot of dog mess, even though there is a dog bin at one end.

That meant a considerable amount of cleaning up to do when the children returned. Please could dog owners be rather more vigilant and responsible, say the playgroup leaders.

Dog owners might have noticed that a new dog litter bin has been installed in the St Mary's Churchyard, opposite the Town Hall.

This has been provided by members of Painswick Dog Training Club in the hope that it will encourage more people to pick up their dog waste and dispose of it safely.

Raising funds for sick animals world-wide

Gill Alder and Michelle Phillips have been raising money for the world-wide veterinary charity, Brooke Hospital, for many years. The cash is sent to help working animals in such places as Egypt, India and Pakistan where owners' average income is just 75pence a day, so they cannot afford vet bills.

Gill and Michelle are holding a bring-and-buy and coffee morning on Sunday, 1st April in the Town Hall. Books, bric-a-brac and small items of furniture are welcome - in fact anything you fancy if you are having a Spring clear-out. Gill is on 813329 and Michelle on 812340.

The Odd Spots kick off the new Rococo season

The Odd Spots, a songs and stories duo, much along the lines of Flanders and Swann, start the entertainment season at the Rococo Gardens on Tuesday, 29th May. The event will probably take place in the Orangery.

This will be followed by two Shakespearean plays, Henry V, presented by the Festival Players Theatre Company, on Wednesday, 13th June and Thursday, 14th June. This will be in a new location, and visitors will need their own seats.

Gloucestershire Drama Association, playing at the Gardens for the fifth year, are performing probably the best-loved of the playwright's comedies, Twelfth Night. The dates for this are: Tuesday, 17th to Saturday, 21st July.

Over the five evenings, 2,750 padded seats are available, in covered stands, at £10 each. There will be a wine and coffee bar, and the picnic area will be open from 6pm. The play starts at 7pm. Box office telephone is: 01453 844581 (before 6pm).

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It's getting tense at the top

Painswick 1st XV played near rivals Cainscross from Stroud on 10th February at Broadham Fields in a league match. Cainscross have not been having a good season and Painswick were firm favourites to take the two points.

This they duly did with a clear cut victory by 41 points to nil. Their success against Cainscross was followed by a sound performance in a rearranged league match against Bishopston at Bristol where they won by 34 points to 13. The match was another successful outing for the Bressington brothers, Nathan and Alastair, with both scoring two tries and Alastair adding a conversion and four penalty goals.

Painswick are now four points clear of Tewkesbury at the top of the Gloucestershire League Second Division, but their rivals have a game in hand. The crucial match between the two clubs should have taken place last Saturday (24th February) but Tewkesbury are having a tremendous run in the national Tetley's Bitter Vase competition and the game had to be postponed to enable the

north Gloucestershire team to play their quarter-final match against Gillingham which they won by 25 points to 15. Everyone in the county will be hoping that they can go on to the final at Twickenham. Painswick, it will be remembered, reached the same stage in the equivalent competition in 1997, when they lost in the semi-final to Crewe and Nantwich at Lichfield.

The Cherry and Whites, who otherwise would have had a blank day last Saturday, arranged a home game against Monmouth who play in Division 6 of the Welsh League. Although the difference in the two clubs' league status would have been expected to give Monmouth a comfortable victory, Painswick gave the visitors no quarter and were unlucky to lose through a controversial try which followed a wheeled scrum near their posts.

Alastair Bressington kicked a penalty goal for Painswick who lost the match by 7 points to 3. Painswick United played well at Broadham Fields in a Stroud Junior Combination fixture when, in a fiercely contested match, they overcame the Dursley second fifteen by 10 points to 8 and so move into the semi-final stage. The players were particularly pleased with the result as they had been trailing by 8 points to nil at half-time.

Painswick 1st XV were scheduled to play Minety in the Senior Combination Cup on Sunday 4th February but their opponents were forced to concede the fixture.

Results [(L) denotes league match]
Sat 3 Feb. Westbury 2nd XV 25 Painswick United 12.

Sat 10 Feb. (L)Cainscross 1st XV 0 Painswick 1st XV 41. (L)Painswick Utd 34 Cainscross 2nd XV 5.

Sat 17 Feb. (L)Bishopston 1st XV 13 Painswick 1st XV 34. Stroud Junior Combination Cup. Painswick Utd 10 Dursley 2nd XV 8. Painswick United 12 Old Cryptians 2nd XV 23.

Sat 24 Feb. Painswick 1st XV 3 Monmouth 1st XV 7.

Badminton on Fridays

This session of the Painswick Badminton Club is held at the Painswick Centre most Fridays from 8pm to 10.30pm. It is open to anyone who has played Badminton to a reasonable standard as well as to regular members. Those interested in joining the club are welcome to come along to meet members. If you have any enquiries, telephone the secretary, Judith Courts, on 813716.

Cricket Club's AGM

The Annual General Meeting of Painswick Cricket Club was held on Monday, 19th February. The following officers were elected:- Chairman: Terry Parker; Vice Chairman/Director of Cricket: Ian Hogg; Hon Treasurer: Bob Cook; Hon Secretary: Andrew Wise; Hon Fixture Secretary/Mid-week Captain: Simon Base; First Eleven Captain: Phil Jones; Second Eleven Captain: Rob Mitchell. Jim Parks, the Club's long serving wicketkeeper, was made an Honorary Life Member.

Indoor net practices, held between 8pm-9pm, start on Tuesday, 6th March at Archway School. The practices continue each Tuesday over an eight-week period. Potential members are welcome and should contact Andrew Wise on 01453-755202.

Where young bidders meet old biddies

Bridge continues to be a highly popular pastime in this area, and readers may have heard that several young players at the Stroud Bridge Club have recently been selected to play for the England Junior team. Bridge is one of those rare games where teenagers and octogenarians can happily meet in friendly rivalry and enjoy each others' company. Sheepscombe Club meets fortnightly on Thursday evenings and would welcome new members of any age! Please contact Barry or Joy Edwards on 812588 for more details. The next session is on 8th March at 7.15pm.

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Productive day at design workshop

Village Design Statement takes a step forward

The sun shone on Painswick, Sheepscombe, Slad and Edge on Saturday, 27th January when the Village Design Workshop took place; which made carrying out the photographic survey of the villages and surrounding areas a pleasure. Fifteen teams took part, seven for Painswick, three each in Edge and Slad, and two in Sheepscombe.

During the afternoon, all came to Painswick Town Hall and assembled most of the 1000 or more photographs they had taken and notes made during the morning. The afternoon concluded with all teams giving a five-minute presentation outlining their views on planning, conservation and maintenance of the areas covered. Stroud District Council Planning Department and Gloucestershire Rural Community Council were represented, and the whole

presentation was recorded on video.

The objectives of the survey deserve repeating. County and district councils prepare and consult on strategic and local planning policies and Stroud DC expect to complete their updating of the District Plan late this year. After consultations are complete, they are formally approved by the Secretary of State. District Plans specify all sorts of things, from the number of dwellings that may be built, where building may take place, standards to which developers must comply, and so on.

So, how do the views of villagers fit in? There are matters not dealt with by District Plans, not least those characteristics of a village appreciated and valued by local people. Villagers have that unique and special knowledge. The Countryside Agency has been encour-

aging all villages to draw together views on their environment (including but not only those which relate to planning matters) that they regard as important in the context of change.

While any report we do through the workshop and other consultations cannot prevent change or conflict with the District Plan, it can influence that change. Ways in which our environment can be improved, public transport, retail services and so on can form part of any such localised report, referred to as a Village Design Statement (VDS). In our case, this covers the whole of the civil parish, not just Painswick village.

All information received will be collated by the Design Team into a draft report that will be returned to each village for checking and comment. A draft will be displayed in Painswick Library, probably well into the summer. Any revised draft will go to Painswick Parish Council for approval, then on to Stroud District Council for their adoption; the report will then have the status of supplementary planning guidance. Completion is expected in October/November this year. Participants will be pleased to learn that Painswick's initiative is seen as leading the way countywide.

Thanks are due to Carolyn Luke and Leslie Brotherton for planning and running the workshop, and to Hilda Musty and Dulcie Brotherton for the endless cups of tea, coffee and soup. If anyone would like to contribute to the artwork for this report, in particular pen and ink drawings, and maps, please contact Leslie on 813101. Sincere thanks to all who took part and made it an enjoyable and productive day.

*Anne Smith
for the Design Team.*

MARCH POLICE REPORT

Incidents: 13.1.01 to 8.2.01

House burglaries: Painswick 1. Business premises: Painswick 1. Sheds: nil. Vehicles: Slad 1. Other: Slad (theft 4, damage 2), Harescombe (theft 1), Edge (damage 1).

Items stolen

Car, cash (3), mobile phone, cigarettes, statues, fireplaces and garden ornaments.

Security recommendations

We advise everyone, especially the elderly, to be on your guard for bogus callers who may try to distract you while an accomplice enters your home. Do not let anyone into your home without first checking their identity.

The other concern this month is the

number of thefts of property left unattended. eg items stolen from coat pockets. Keep your personal property secure.

Police Information Point

A Police Information Point (PIP) has been set up in Painswick Library. It consists of displays of current pamphlets on topics such as Crime Prevention. You can also leave written messages for PC Power as an alternative to reporting by telephone non urgent matters. Please leave your message with the librarian.

Although PC Power cannot guarantee to attend the PIP at set times, he will regularly collect any messages left, and will contact the people concerned.

PC Gary Power & Neighbour Watch Coordinator, 335674.

Lost a brolly?

On a wet night before Christmas a kind lady guided the chiropodist to the house of a new patient - and then left her umbrella in the chiropodist's car. If she will phone 01453 822083 and leave her name and address her umbrella will be returned to her as soon as possible.

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Kodaly to Bizet, and then the Nutcracker ballet

Twenty members of the Painswick Music Appreciation Group went to Cheltenham Town Hall on 25th January to a concert by the Orchestra of St John's, London.

The programme began with Dances from *Galanta* by Zoltan Kodaly (*writes Joan Truman*), an exhilarating piece with each dance faster than the last, and the whole work ending in a fiery and breathtaking prestissimo. This was followed by a severe contrast in the rendering of Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto in E minor. After the interval, the orchestra played Bizet's Symphony No 1 in C, a lively finish to an enjoyable evening.

After the memorable visit to Bristol to see *Swan Lake* in November, a full coach of 24 members and friends went to the Hippodrome for a performance of Grigorovich's *Nutcracker* by the Chisinau National Ballet (*writes Daphne Brown*). This was first performed in 1892 in St Petersburg and later by the Bolshoi.

Yuri Grigorovich is one of the outstanding contemporary Russian choreographers, and from 1964 he was with the Bolshoi, specialising in 'grand ballet.' The orchestra, conducted by Ion

Painswick Music Appreciation Group

Ianachi, together with a very good performance by the dancers and some excellent cameo items, sumptuous costumes and scenery all combined to create a most enjoyable evening with Tchaikovsky's glorious music depicting Hofmann's children's fantasy story.

Finally, a full house enjoyed 'Felix Mendelssohn,' ably presented on 15th February by Anne Leoni, with Alex Nichols as her ever-helpful barrel organ man. David Mellor called Mendelssohn "the least known of the well-known composers" and Ian Christians wrote: "He had the occasional gift of musical genius; it appeared fitfully and only exceptionally on demand."

Personally, I prefer his fellow composer Berlioz's description: "An admirable fellow and his performing talent is as great as his musical genius - I firmly believe that he is one of the highest musical talents of our epoch."

Our appetites were whetted in the first half by excerpts from some of the lesser-known early works: *Die Heimkehr aus der Fremde* (Son and Stranger); his lovely piano concerto No 1; his *Reformation* Symphony No 5, and the First *Walpurgisnacht* - very original and very Germanic - in honour of Goethe whose friendship he treasured.

After the interval, excerpts from Symphony No 1, followed by three of his greats, *Elijah*, *Italian* Symphony No 4 and the first movement of his popular Violin Concerto. Outstanding recordings all, and an evening to treasure.

A reminder of the March programme: Concert outing to Bristol (Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, waiting list); 15th March, Live Music, and 29th March, Desert Island Discs.

Ralph Kenber

Sorrel Quartet opens the Painswick Concerts

Another world-class season of concerts arranged by Painswick Music Society opens on Saturday, 24th March, and we are fortunate to welcome this brilliant young ensemble, the Sorrel Quartet. They have played at all the major events in Britain, have toured in Europe and world-wide, and made many acclaimed recordings. They will be performing works by Haydn, Shostakovich and Mendelssohn.

As usual, the concert is in St Mary's, starting at 3pm, with tea afterwards in the Church Rooms where there is the chance to meet the musicians.

Membership for the whole season, which offers great value for money, and tickets for this concert can be obtained from Hywel James on 812419, and from the Shetland Shop.

Naomi Dunn

Coffee morning for Stroke Association

Helen and Anne's Annual Coffee Morning will be held in the Town Hall on Saturday, 24th March from 9.45am to 11.30am. Each year it is planned to raise funds for Our Lady and St Therese, Father Franco in Papua, New Guinea, and one other charity.

The chosen charity this year is The Stroke Association. There will be a cake stall, raffle, general stall and a plant stall; with home-made biscuits accompanying plentiful tea, coffee and chocolate.

Father Franco visited a couple of weeks ago on his way from Italy to Papua, following his triple bypass operation. He was looking well and sends good wishes and thanks for everyone's support.

Any contributions of help, cakes, plants, or anything will be warmly welcomed. Telephone Helen Baker on 813091 or Anne Leoni on 812521.

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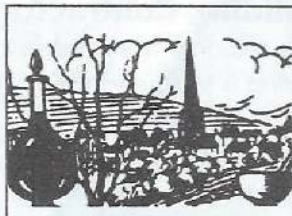
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Tips for everything – in the garden, that is

At the Painswick Horticultural Society's 14th February meeting, Peter Jones of Cheltenham gave us 'A Hundred Tips for the Garden,' and what a revelation it was.

He accompanied his wide-ranging hints with humorous remarks that ensured they remained in one's mind, and his advice was invaluable to both the novice and the experienced gardener.

We learned much about choosing the right plants for the right places, how to keep them happy once they were in situ and the best way to plant bulbs to ensure water did not seep into the tops and cause rot. Never will members' gardens have looked as lovely as this coming summer.

As for advice on ridding the gardens of foxes, badgers, rabbits and moles, although some of it might cause embarrassment to readers of *The Beacon* (do apply to members of the Society for the hint), those who follow Mr Jones's advice will have trouble-free gardens with no damage caused by predators.

Altogether, this was an informative and entertaining afternoon and we long to put the advice into practice.

Pauline Lamont

And handicraft classes for the show

Painswick Horticultural Society has decided its Handicraft classes for its show in September, and these are shown below to give members adequate preparation time. They are:

- * Child's knitted tabard
- * Lady's crocheted sleeveless top
- * A quilted cushion
- * Place mat and matching napkin
- * Embroidered picture of flowers (Not tapestry)
- * Guest towel with embroidered band
- * Greetings card using dried material
- * Photograph of an animal
- * Ground force - photograph of work in the garden.

Junior Section for children under 16:

- * Trick or Treat Hallowe'en mask
- * Desert island on a plate or flat surface
- * Cardboard clock with moving hands
- * A face made with seeds
- * Birthday card in any material

For further enquiries, call Philip Berry on 813227.

Barring a revue...

A Painswick Players committee meeting is a serious forum where decisions of great dramatic importance are reached through the cut and thrust of intellectual debate. Consider the following exchange...

'It's a Review!'

'No, it's not: it's a *Revue*, as in the French!'

'Review!'

'Revue!'

The revue (or review) in question was (and is) our next sparkling production on 5th, 6th and 7th April, intriguingly entitled *At Last! The Millennium Review (or Revue)*. The debate continued:

'I tell you it's *Revue*. Like Raymonde's *Revue Bar*...'

'Raymonde's *Revue Bar*? Raymonde's *Revue Bar* is where they have strip shows. Are you really planning to convert the Painswick Centre into a strip joint?'

'It won't be a strip joint! But it will be set out in cabaret style: a floorshow with lots of little tables with candles, bottles of wine, that sort of thing. Anyway, a *Review* is what they have in military academies when everyone passes out.'

Visions of a parade-ground full of fainting cadets prompted me to make a thoughtful contribution on the subject of French revues. I recalled that at the end of a French Naval Review (or possibly Navel Revue), the senior officer, resplendent in ceremonial uniform and tricolor sash, waves his hand and cries out to the assembled sailors,

'*A l'eau! C'est l'heure!*' (Literally: 'To the water! It is time!' or, more freely translated, 'Hello, sailor')

As one, the sailors wave back and reply,

'*A l'eau! Du quai!*' ('To the water! From the quay!') or, just possibly, 'Hello, ducky')

Curiously, no one seemed to see the relevance of this and the Most Organised One sent me out to make the coffee. So I never did find out whether it would be a

Review or a *Revue*. Whatever it turns out to be, it will be titillating, tuneful and terrific fun. It will be even more tuneful, if we can find another pianist to accompany a couple of the songs. Any offers, anyone? Call the most organised Jean Burgess if you you'd like to help.

Tickets at £5 each will shortly be on sale at Painswick Post Office and the Shetland Shop.

I returned with the coffee just in time to discover that our Summer production will be *Black Comedy* by Peter Shaffer (5th, 6th and 7th July) and that this most imaginative comic farce will be directed jointly by Lesley Wolowicz and...er... me. Apparently, according to *The MOO*, Lesley can keep me in order. Auditions will be held early in April. Watch this space for further revelations.

Finally. Finally, as I write this piece, I have just heard that Dorothy Cox, one of the original Painswick Players, has sadly died. We remember Dorothy as a sparkling actress, whose performances spanned most of the last century. She was last on stage in 1997, at the age of 88, when she helped to re-launch PaDS in the Acting Funny review. Predictably, she stole the show with what was supposed to be a walk-on part. She will be sadly missed not just for her acting but also for her generous spirit and her sheer love of life. I suspect that the after-life is now quite a bit livelier than it was.

Jack Burgess

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All our yesterdays at Senior Circle

John Millington, head of the Cotswold Wardens, told a most enjoyable story on film about Blockley to the January meeting of Senior Circle. Like Painswick, Blockley was once a thriving industrial village until history turned it into the peaceful, picturesque place it is today.

Blockley, between Broadway and Moreton-in-Marsh, had sufficient pure, clear and soft water in the 1700s to provide enough power to run 12 mills and a thriving silk industry. Sir John Rushout of Northwick Park, with his upbringing as the child of a Flemish weaver, was their mentor.

The silk moth, fed on mulberry leaves from trees, some of which can be seen to this day, provided the silk that was spun by the nimble fingers of six and seven-year-olds. Close proximity to Coventry where the silk was made into ribbon was useful, and all went well until fashions and life changed with the Industrial Revolution of 1860. By 1871, Blockley was poverty-stricken, yet soon new trades sprang up and by the 1880s that pure clear water had given them street lighting.

It was a lovely film, made by the Cotswold Wardens, and comparing the Blockley of today with photographs taken 100 years ago, there seems little outward change. The future is bright, the depression forgotten and the mills have become very nice houses and flats with gardens leading down to the river. Like our own village, it has weathered the storms of history. I don't think the 45 men of Blockley,

commemorated on the 1914-18 War Memorial, could they see it today, would be disappointed.

And I wonder if anyone in Blockley has tried to record its social history or trace their family tree? At our 9th February meeting, Lois Bird-Maddox showed us how to do this, and it was especially interesting for those of us who have already attempted to research family history for our grandchildren. The main source has to be through archives, wills and photographs with such help as can be gleaned from elderly relatives with good memories. Vital clues can be found in old letters and diaries, the fashion for which is now a thing of the past.

Families lived close together and trades were handed down the generations, but with today's employment situation, families are split and are often required to move away for work reasons. While researching, we might well find an unex-

pected skeleton in our cupboard, but such is the change in social behaviour that what was once shrouded in silence, for example, unemployment, bankruptcy and illegitimacy, is now sadly commonplace.

There is a Royal Bastard Club with 53 members, and for those with a family coat of arms, it is easier to trace one's ancestors. For the rest of us, the local Family History Society or the Public Records Office are good places to begin. It isn't easy; it's time-consuming but quite fascinating once you begin.

I like to think that my great grandchildren might be equally fascinated to learn that milk was once delivered by horse and cart, that their great grandfathers were honoured for their part in the world wars and what life was like for me as a child. I like to think that I can leave them a clue to their own family's social background. For all of us, it was a special afternoon.

Daphne Hudson

WI hear some travellers' tales

'Travellers' read Painswick WI's programme card for February, leaving members to draw their own conclusions as to what was in store. "An intriguing title," mused Vice President Audrey Watts, who conducted our meeting in the absence of President Barbara Thorley (on holiday abroad in February - sensible girl!).

Mrs June Chambers, who had come from Gloucester to speak at our meeting, told, predictably, of nomads, gypsies, hippies, music festivals, Glastonbury, and of social exclusions, leading even to emigration.

June has had first-hand experience of her subject, having lived on site alongside these folk in her own caravan, interviewing and writing on the spot. Sadly, she was bitten by a dog while she was researching. She told of the difficulties the folk have. For example, without a fixed home there are problems over registering with a doctor. Many sites have no refuse collection. Occasionally the people are refused water simply on account of prejudice. She recalled that a drinking water tap outside a certain village hall had been turned off permanently, "because of gypsies nearby".

Travellers tend to have a good diet, said June, enjoying, for example, fresh fruit and vegetables and yoghurt. They have no cold storage. They are loving towards children and usually want them to attend school. Their youngsters are advanced linguistically. The folk use can-

nabis but no hard drugs. Thanking June for her talk, Jane Otway remarked that we had heard about the sort of life that none of us had experienced. True!

During the business part of the meeting, notice was given of a walk around Bisley; our County Annual Council Meeting in Cheltenham Town Hall, and a drama festival at Maisemore, all in March. In April we are asked to help with the SDC's Spring Clean event (rubber gloves on!) and in June our National Federation of WIs General Meeting is in Cardiff.

Dorothy Binns

Wives' coffee morning

The Wives' Fellowship annual coffee morning will be on Saturday 31st March at 10am to 12 noon in the Town Hall. This year we are supporting the charity, Cloud Nine, which takes children with life-threatening diseases or ongoing disabilities on holiday to Disneyland, Florida. In November each year about 20 children and their volunteer carers, and always including a doctor, set off for a holiday of a lifetime.

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VILLAGE DIARY to SATURDAY 7 APRIL 2001

March

5th	Austerity Lunch: Hosts - Mothers' Union	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: G.M. Foods - Martin Ecclestone	Church Rooms	8pm
7th	Conversational French Classes (Advanced) - Wednesdays Conversational Italian Classes (Intermediate) - Wednesdays	Library Room " "	9.30 - 11am 11.30am - 1pm
8th	Cotswold Care Support Group Meeting	Ashwell House	2.30pm
9th	W.I. Market - Fridays	Town Hall	10am
	Senior Circle: The Tythings of Bisley - Caroline Luke	Town Hall	2.30pm
Sat 10th	Theatre Club Outing to Bath	The Falcon	12.30pm
12th	Austerity Lunch: Hosts - Tennis Club	Christ Church Hall	12.15 - 1.15pm
13th	Painswick Probus: 10th Anniversary of Club's Founding (with ladies) Transatlantic Yacht Crossing - Pat David	The Hill, Stroud	10.30am
	Mothers' Union: Talk by Ian & Frankie Marsh	Church Rooms	2.30pm
14th	Horticultural Society: Creating a Garden for the Chelsea Flower Show - Mr R Turner	Town Hall	7.30pm
15th	Music Appreciation Group: Live Music	Town Hall	7.30pm
Sat 17th	The Painswick Beacon Village Quiz Night	Painswick Centre	6.45pm doors open 7.15pm start
19th	Austerity Lunch: Host - Fred Semark	Christ Church Hall	12.15 - 1.15pm
20th	Local History Society: The Draw of Churches - An Artist's View - Aylwin Sampson	Croft School	7.30pm
	Painswick Bird Club AGM: Preceded by a talk on Garden Birds by Kathy & Maurice Bullen	Town Hall	7.30pm
	Jazz Evening: Local Musicians, no entry charge	Ostlers Room, Falcon	8.30pm
21st	Coach to London; Tel: 813965/813227	Stamages Lane Car Park	8.30am
	Parish Council Meeting	Town Hall	7.30pm
23rd	Senior Circle: Venture to the Interior - Dick Purdy	Town Hall	2.30pm
Sat 24th	Helen Baker & Anne Leoni's Annual Coffee Morning. Funds to Our Lady & St Therese, Fr. Franco in Papua New Guinea & Stroke Association	Town Hall	9.45 - 11.30am
	Painswick Music Society Concert: Sorrel Quartet	St Mary's Church	3pm
25th	COPY DATE: All items to Mrs Jillie Speed, The Old Carriage House, Edge, or Beacon Mailbox in New Street		
	Antique & Collectors Fair: Free Entry. If anyone has something to sell, please price it, bring it along and ask for the Organiser.	Town Hall	10am - 4pm
26th	Austerity Lunch: Hostess - Miss Pauline Lamont	Christ Church Hall	12.15 - 1.15pm
28th	Painswick Probus Club: Gloucester Cathedral, Problems & Solutions - Robert Choat	Ostlers Room, Falcon	10am

29th	DIARY DEADLINE: All items to Mrs Edwina Buttrey, 14 The Croft, or Beacon Mailbox in New Street		
	Music Appreciation Group: Desert Island Discs presented by Anne Smith Town Hall		7.30pm
31st	Painswick Wives' Fellowship - Annual Coffee Morning	Town Hall	10am - 12 noon
April			
1st	Bring & Buy Sale in aid of Brooke Hospital for Animals	Town Hall	10.30am
2nd	Calligraphy Day Workshop for Beginners/Improvers (Class full)	Church Rooms	10am - 4pm
	Austerity Lunch: Hostess - Mrs Margaret Hodge	Christ Church Hall	12.15 - 1.15pm
3rd	PCMS: 'Internet, Technology & Ethics' - Rev Jim Caterer	Church Rooms	8pm
4th	Horticultural Society: Outings Bookings Morning	Church rooms	10am - 12 noon
5th	Cotswold Care Support Group Meeting	Ashwell House	2.30pm
	Painswick Players Production: "At Last the Millennium Review" Tickets from Post Office & Shetland Shop or call 812167	Painswick Centre	8pm
6th	Senior Circle: Calligraphic Variations - Valerie Dugan	Town Hall	2.30pm
	Painswick Players Production: "At Last the Millennium Review" Tickets from Post Office & Shetland Shop or call 812167	Painswick Centre	8pm
Sat 7th	April Issue of The Painswick Beacon Published		
	Painswick Music Society Concert: Emma Johnson, Clarinet; John Lenehan, Piano.	St Mary's Church	3pm
	Painswick Players Production: "At Last the Millennium Review" Tickets from Post Office & Shetland Shop or call 812167	Painswick Centre	8pm
21st	The Chalfonts entertain. Charity Concert. Tickets: Shetland Shop	Painswick Centre	7.30pm
25th	Coach to Bath Tel: 813965/813227	Stamages Lane car park	10am

Rugby Fixtures

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

	<u>First XV</u>	<u>United</u>
Sat 3 Mar.	Cheltenham Saracens 1st XV (Home)	Dowty 1st XV (Home)
Sat 10 Mar.	(L) Smiths 1st XV (Home)	(L) Smiths 2nd XV (Away)
Sat 17 Mar.	(L) Old Elizabethans 1st XV (Away)	
Sat 24 Mar.	Frampton Cotterell (Home)	Coney Hill 2nd XV (Home)
Sat 31 Mar.	(L) Dursley 1st XV (Home)	(L) Dursley 2nd XV (Away)
Sat 7 Apr.	(L) Tewkesbury 1st XV (Away)	

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PROPERTY REPORT

Following on from last month's report there has been a frantic selling activity, and during the past month we have arranged 16 sales - this is possibly a record for this office. Unfortunately, on the other hand this leaves us with only a small register of properties still available to offer but hopefully with the daffodils coming up more people will feel inclined to sell.

Gyde House will soon be available to view - the Lodge House is being refurbished at the moment - have you seen the lovely landscaped garden? This will become the sales office for the Gyde House development and should be up and running by the end of March.

Painswick Heights will have its official opening in mid March but the show house, which has already been sold, is still available to view by appointment with us.

We are delighted to be offering a detached cottage in Sheepscombe with an attached annex and garden with stream of about one acre Also 11 Hyett Close is now available and should prove popular. Providence Cottage in Lower Washwell has exchanged contracts and will be completing at the end of February.

For a free market appraisal - do call us on Painswick 812354.

Staying fit with your GP's prescription

Mobile phones, email and pagers (so we are always accessible to colleagues and bosses), more traffic on the roads, unreliable public transport, pressures at work, poor personal time management, other people making demands upon us...no doubt you have your own list of factors that make for increased stress levels.

We all know that one of the finest ways of relieving stress is regular exercise. No, don't turn over! I would like to share with you how I have been helped with an initiative being run by Dr Jaques at Painswick Surgery.

I had developed high blood pressure. It is known as the 'silent killer,' because often people are not aware of it, until they have had a consultation with their GP or been to an optician, who can detect the signs as part of an eye examination.

I have seen people around Painswick, exercising their dogs and others going for brisk walks, and even the hardy types, running. But what I needed was a framework, a discipline I could adhere to and enjoy.

Being reasonably active and willing to give it a try, I was considered a good candidate for being referred to Stratford Park Fitness Centre. I paid the cost of a prescription and a reduced introductory fee to see if I liked what was on offer.

Having neglected attention to fitness for many years, I went with trepidation but with an inner belief that it would work. I needn't have worried; I received a

friendly, warm welcome and induction from Giles, a young, university-trained fitness consultant who specialises in GP referrals and is able to relate well to people of all ages.

My determination to improve and Giles's coaching and encouragement have worked wonders. My typical regime was 20 minutes on the treadmill after a warm-up, then press-ups and exercises on a variety of weighted equipment. I now have more energy, am stronger and feel healthier. I have lost weight and after six months am a fraction leaner. I have re-structured my life so that the visit to the gym has become an every-other-day event. To my surprise, I find the regular exercise both enjoyable and addictive.

Like many of the gym's customers, I am not svelte enough for designer keep fit wear - just cushioned trainers, loose fitting jogging pants and a tee shirt. Whilst exercising, one can day-dream, or take along earphones to listen to radio or pick up the sound from television screens. Also useful are a towel and a small bottle of mineral water... then you're away.

So, if you are considered suitable and offered this rather different kind of prescription instead of, or complementary to, medicines, why not give it a try? All that's needed is a good dose of determination to stick with it. Remember - if you think you can...or if you think you can't...you're absolutely right. It has certainly changed my life and I remain grateful that as in many other areas of health care, Painswick Surgery is so forward thinking.

The writer, who is known to the Editor, wishes to remain anonymous for medical reasons.

Firemen still needed

Recruiting new part-time fire-fighters for Painswick's station is still a headache for the county's fire and rescue services.

Although another member is leaving the Painswick station, the Assistant Divisional Officer, Simon McMillan, said this did not mean that it faced closure. "There are no plans for that, but there are constant recruiting problems, most especially for men and women who can be available during the day," he told the Beacon.

Anyone interested in helping should be under 55, and should get in touch with the Fire and Rescue Service recruiting officer on 01242 512041.

MINI ADS

Yew Dining Table, 60 x 36, and four chairs, of which two are carvers, with light green seats. Excellent condition. £350. Cane rocking chair, £15. 813169.

Rock, Cornwall. Well equipped comfortable bungalow, sleeps five. Available to let for holidays. 812832.

Rover 213SE, E-reg, 36,000 miles. One owner and immaculate condition. £750. 813730.

Painswick lady requires help with morning dressing, preferably soon after 9.00am. Terms negotiable. Please ring 813074.

Drawing Board, Rotring Rapid. 42 x 30cms. Straight edge with stop-go mechanism, £5. 813965.

Horse Manure. Well rotted, good quality straw manure. £22 load, £15 half load. Delivery free. Smaller quantity if required. 813744.

To let. One bed bungalow flat in quiet location in Pitchcombe. 812682.

Lanzarote, Costa Teguse. Luxury one bedroom bungalow on quiet beach-front resort with three pools. Equipped with full kitchen, Sat. TV, fans and safe. Restaurants and shops nearby. From £200pw. 01452 611873.

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.

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The Personal Column

Baby

Congratulations to DAN and RUTH BURGE on the birth of their daughter, Grace (weighing 3lb. and two months premature), on 24th January. Grace is a first grandchild for Ted and Elizabeth Burge.

Golden Wedding

Congratulations to RITA and JOHN JEFFRIES who will be celebrating 50 years of married life on 27th March.

Wedding

Congratulations to PENELOPE LANYON, who used to live at Yew Tree House, Vicarage Street, and GARY COURTIS, who were married on 10th February in Roseland Church, St Just, Cornwall.

Engagement

Congratulations to EMMA PYLE and PAUL CLEGG of Birmingham who announced their engagement on 16th February.

Get Well Soon

Best wishes for a speedy recovery to GRAHAM ANDREWS, at home after being in hospital with an ankle broken in a fall;

also to HILARY SIMPSON (a former Beacon committee member) who has had heart bypass surgery at the John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford.

Condolences

Our sincere sympathies to the family and friends of VAL FUNNELL whose sudden death came after a brave fight. She will be greatly missed at the library and on the tennis courts;

also to the large family and friends of DOROTHY COX who has died while recovering from stays in Gloucester and Stroud hospitals;

also to the family and friends of Col. AVERY BURDETT who died at the age of 97;

and the family and friends of JIM CLANCY whose funeral took place at Prinknash Abbey where he had been a member of the community.

Hail and Farewell

Goodbye to the POULDEN family who have left Tibbiwell House;

also to the BLACK family who have left St Peter's Cottage, Vicarage Street, to live in California;

and Dr and Mrs BEIGHTON who are moving to Cornwall from Swallows' Nest, Stepping Stone Lane;

and BRETT HAWKINS and KATE POPE and sons ASHLEY and JACK who have moved to Tewkesbury;

welcome to Mr and Mrs WINFREY, and their two small children, who have bought Tibbiwell House, but are occupying Bell House while Tibbiwell House undergoes alterations;

also to Mr SPARKS who is moving into Swallows' Nest, Stepping Stone Lane;

and ROBERT and MANDY GREEN and their children, HARRIET and TOBY, who are moving into St Peter's Cottage, St Mary's Street;

also to Mr and Mrs DREW, the new owners of Nettles, Kingsmill Lane;

and to Mr and Mrs HUGHES who are coming from Cheltenham to live at Applecroft, Pitchcombe.

Thank you

John Griffiths of Vicarage Street would like to thank the many friends and neighbours in and around Painswick for their kind thoughts, cards and gifts received during his recent stay in Standish Hospital. In particular, he would like to thank Gay, Joyce and Patsy for their tireless help with transportation, shopping, the tasty delicacies, running errands, washing and ironing.

Gus and Jenny Gauguin wish to thank the many kind friends who offered up prayers and sent Get Well cards and messages, following Gus's recent bypass operation. Their comfort and support were greatly appreciated. Gus reports that he is making a good recovery and feeling better by the day.

NEXT ISSUE

Publication Date
SATURDAY 7th APRIL

Items for publication to Jillie Speed*,
The Old Carriage House, Edge, by
SUNDAY 25th MARCH

Mini Ads to Leslie Brotherton,
Longhope, Blakewell Mead, by
SUNDAY 25th MARCH

Business adverts: Contact Liz Fisher,
Harebell Cottage, Blakewell Mead, by
THURSDAY 22nd MARCH

Diary items (only) to Edwina Buttrey,
14 The Croft, by
THURSDAY 29th MARCH

* 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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