

# The Painswick Beacon

Vol. 25 No. 3

June 2002

*In commemoration of the Golden Jubilee, the Parish Council has sent the following greeting to Buckingham Palace:*

The people of Painswick, from their annual parish meeting, send their best wishes to Your Majesty on the occasion of Your Majesty's fiftieth anniversary of accession to the throne

## District Council elections

Conservative Councillors Mr John Stephenson-Oliver and Mrs Barbara Tait were returned with convincing majorities when both Painswick Ward seats were contested at the Stroud District Council elections on 2nd May.

Painswick normally has a higher than average turnout, and this year was no exception with 50.4% of approximately 3,400 electors casting their votes, compared to an average of 40% across the whole district. Interestingly, whereas the district-wide average showed a 4% increase on the corresponding election turnout in May 2000, the Painswick Ward return showed a very small decrease with 50.85% voting at that time. The gains made by the Conservative Group at Ebley Mill mean that they will be able to form

an administration without the support of another party as was the case with the outgoing Council. By comparison with past years, the election was a seemingly low-key affair, with very few posters being displayed. In addition, some residents expressed surprise that they had received no personal details from any of the candidates and that this had hampered their decision making.

### Result

Fontaine, Wendy (Green) 288.  
Mutton, Sandra (Green ) 315.  
Nichols, Henrietta (Labour) 251.  
Rhodes, John (Labour & Co-op) 234.  
Stephenson-Oliver, John (Conservative) 1,129.

Continued on Page 8

## Jubilee Dance on 8th June at the Centre

There will be a Jubilee Dance to celebrate the Queen's Golden Jubilee at the Painswick Centre on Saturday 8th June. Tickets are £12 for a double and £6 for a single; this includes a pig roast roll and jacket potato.

The dress theme for the evening will be red, white and blue or a combination of all three to represent the Royal Theme. There will be a firework display at the end of the evening.

Tickets will be on sale around different village venues and we hope for a good turnout on the night.

**The Jubilee Dance Committee**

**Report of the meeting on 15th May by Iris McCormick**

**Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman, Committee and other representation**

Terry Parker announced that Martin Slinger was unable to attend the meeting as he was recuperating from a knee operation and would be out of action for some weeks.

Terry Parker was nominated as Chairman by John Stephenson-Oliver and this was unanimously agreed. David Hudson was nominated as Vice-Chairman and this was agreed unanimously. Committee representation is unchanged. It was decided to reinstate the Cemetery and Parish Maintenance Committee, with Martin Slinger as Chairman and Ann Daniels, Jacky Woof and Johnny Johnston as members.

Parish Council representation on other bodies was agreed as follows: David Hudson as representative to the Gyde Charity; Tony Crook to The Painswick Centre; Terry Parker to the Recreation Sports Pavilion Committee; Ann Daniels to the Painswick Educational Foundation; Jacky Woof to the Elliot Nature Reserve Management; David Harcup to the Sheepscombe Primary School Governors; Martin Slinger to Edge Village Hall Management Committee; John Stephenson-Oliver to the Painswick Chamber of Trade and Commerce; Malcolm Watts to the Painswick Beacon Conservation Group; Martin Slinger to the Croft School Board of Governors; Ann Daniels and Malcolm Watts to the Gyde Almshouses; John Workman to the Hambutts Field Trust.

The Broadham Fields Trustees have been replaced by the Painswick Rugby Football Union Council. The Parish Council is represented on the Painswick Rugby and Sports Club Management Committee by John Stephenson-Oliver. Since he had not been receiving details of meetings, it was agreed to write to the Management Committee Chairman to ask for clarification of the Committee's status.

**Jubilee Arrangements**

David Hudson agreed to give maximum publicity to the Jubilee Ball on Saturday 8th June. It was agreed that a brass plaque should be made to commemorate the erection of a Golden Jubilee Lamp outside the Town Hall. It was agreed to plant a Copper Beech as a commemorative tree in the Recreation Ground. The Youth Club are to be invited to plant it. Terry Parker agreed to liaise with Bill Lambell of Cranham Parish Council and Amoury Blow over the lighting of the beacons. Following a request from the Senior Circle, a donation of £100 has been made towards their Jubilee outing.

Ann Daniels reported that the metal round table for the Plantation was ready and was to be installed. The maker, Simon Hunter, has donated £100 towards Jubilee funds.

**Special Meeting on 1st May**

The meeting had been called to enable members to consider a claim for compensation in regard to the Parish Council's granting of burial rights to two families for the same plot. The error came to light when members of the family that had been given exclusive rights some years ago visited the cemetery and discovered that their plot had been used for a burial.

The family alerted the Parish Council to the mistake and the Parish Council clerk, realising the error, immediately wrote to apologise and offer them an alternative burial site close by. This was not acceptable to the family who referred the matter to solicitors. It transpired that the family was prepared to discuss provision for compensation and there was a protracted exchange between the Council's and family's solicitors. The Council decided that, given the sensitivity of the matter, the settlement terms of £2,000, together with costs and a new plot, should be agreed.

**Affordable Housing**

David Hudson reported from the last Gyde Charity meeting that the affordable housing idea, proposed by the Parish Council for the plot of land between The Surgery and Gyde Barn, had been discussed. It was thought that some of

the trustees did not appreciate the need for affordable housing in the village. They did not think it worthwhile talking to the Charity Commissioners. Terry Parker pointed out that this land was not in the Local Plan for development and would not be considered again until at least 2011. They were, therefore, looking at a possible £25,000 per acre for exceptional development (for which affordable housing is considered) instead of £3,000 for agricultural use. David Hudson suggested that the matter might be raised at the Annual Parish Meeting.

**New Model Code of Conduct**

All councillors have signed the new Declaration of Office but some members had yet to complete the Register of Members' Interests. Terry Parker attended a meeting at The Barbican in London about the New Model Code of Conduct for Parish Councils. He said that the meeting had not been particularly helpful as there were so many unanswered questions about the new scheme.

**Road Closure between Sheepscombe and Painswick**

Johnny Johnston announced that the road between Sheepscombe and The Park would be closed for two weeks in order for eight passing places to be put in place. The work will be financed by the owners of Painswick Lodge who are developing their farm buildings.

**Lych Gate Crossing**

There will be a site meeting to discuss the pedestrian crossing at the Lych Gate and other matters on Wednesday 12th June at 2.30pm.

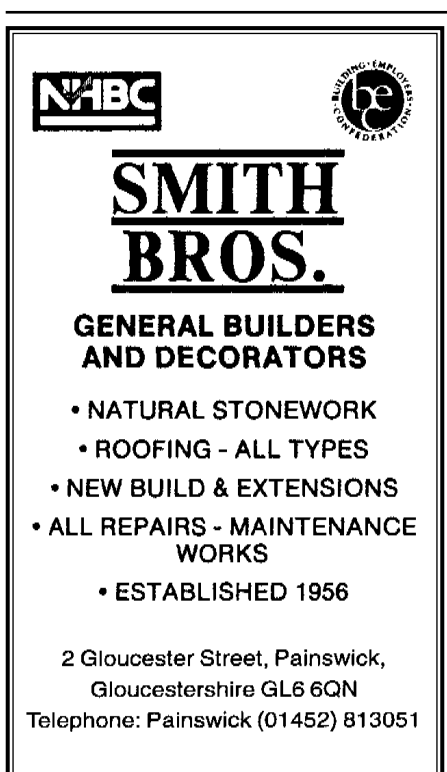
**Finance**


The accounts for the financial year April 2001-April 2002 were adopted and approved. It was agreed to appoint Mr Iain Selkirk as Internal Auditor.

**Miscellaneous**

Ann Daniels asked the Parish Council to write to the County Council to have the passing places in Wick Street properly reinstated.

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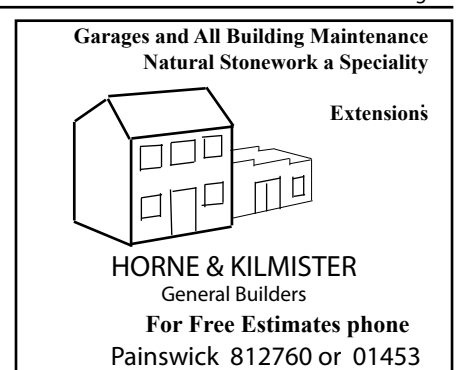
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**SMITH BROS.**

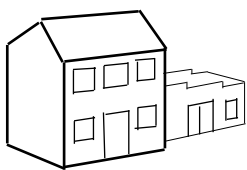
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Continued from Page 2

It was agreed to invite the area Youth Officer to attend next month's Parish Council meeting in order to give the Parish Council a proper response to their letters in regard to the Youth Club.

There was notification of the change of licensee for the Londis shop to Mr Balwant Singh Kang.

Malcolm Watts reported that the play area in the Recreation Field had been recently inspected. There were some recommendations for safety.

Strange holes have been noticed around the Recreation Field. It emerged that a team of young metal detector enthusiasts has been under the mistaken impression that the field was common land and could be used for this purpose. Everyone was urged to find out the names of the people responsible so they could be contacted to stop further problems.

The Parish Council have given permission for the Recreation Field to be used for parking on Victorian Market Day, 13th July, weather permitting.

Malcolm Watts agreed to write to The Historic Environment Countryside Advisor in support of the proposed repair scheme for the Beacon. It was agreed to consider their request for funds at the next F&GP meeting.

Ann Daniels reported that the Frederick Gyde Trust was offering money to the Parish Council for the maintenance of the Victorian Lamp which was deteriorating.

Jacky Woof reported that the chevrons were in place on the approach to Slad.

The next Manorial Meeting with Amoury Blow will be 3rd July at 6.30pm.

Arrangements have been made to reseed the bank along Gloucester Road in



## New 'posties' settling in

Annie and Tony Littler, the new faces at the Post Office, had looked around various parts of the country before they settled on Painswick. "We were looking to make a major break in our lifestyle," said Annie, "and we wanted to take over a Post Office because we saw it as the focal point of a community and a vital part of it. That's how we saw our future."

"Painswick really appealed because when we walked around the village, the first thing we noticed was how clean it was after London suburbs, and what pride the people had in keeping it that way," said Tony, a former art director in an advertising agency. "Just the sort of place we were looking for."

Annie, a clothes designer, and Tony lived in Ealing for 12 years before deciding on this move. Their younger daughter, Clemency, now nine, was born there. Harriet, her 15-year-old sister, has stayed behind for the time being, because it was a difficult time in her schooling to move away. Clemency is settling into The Croft School and has already made a number of friends.

Both Annie and Tony (above) are artistic, and keen gardeners. They are looking forward to becoming integrated into village life "just as soon as we can," and have their eyes on joining the Conservation, Horticultural and History societies, particularly, Tony says, to learn a little more about the Post Office building itself. "We

are also keen to improve services to the village," says Annie. "Many people don't realise just how many things you can do in your local Post Office, whether paying Council Tax, telephone bills or utility bills, or collecting pensions, among lots of others. And we expect that various additional services will be available shortly."

The familiar smiles of Pat and Barbara will still be there for everyone, of course. "We have been very grateful for the extra time they have both put in to help us get started," said Tony, but Annie is looking to recruit a couple more staff to cover holidays and the like. If you are interested in helping at the Post Office, Annie or Tony would be pleased to hear from you on 812303, or call in.

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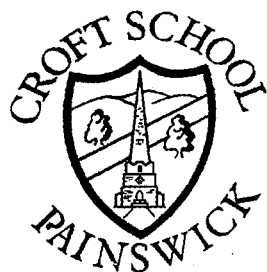


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**Class Six have been writing in the style of Gillian Cross based on 'The Great Elephant Chase':**

Before anyone could react, it lifted her high into the air. The girl's mother shouted loud: "Get my child down from there, she'll break her leg! She can't walk without crutches!" The elephant was completely out of control.

"Khush," shouted his owner, "put her down this instant, this is not a good way to behave! Now put her down!" Before he could say another word, the girl's mother had fainted and was being steadied by the people in the front row. Then everything happened at once. Khush dropped the girl, she fell to the ground. All was safe. But luckily the girl was not harmed. Everyone was very relieved.

Khush, the elephant, with his master chasing after him, ran down the street, ashamed of what he had done.

**Jenny Browne**

Before anyone could react, it lifted her high into the air. "Somebody get me down from here," she screamed. The crowd just watched, horrified at what Khush was going to do to her. But the elephant just calmly put the girl down.

Tad ran forward to see if she was all right. He handed her her crutches. But the elephant just knocked them out of his

hands. "She needs those," Tad shouted at Khush. The girl stood up, "I'm healed" she cried. Everybody stared at the girl as she danced around singing, "I'm healed, I'm healed!"

**Joanna Longuet-Higgins**

Before anyone could react, it lifted her high into the air. Her crutches clattered onto the pavement into the gaping crowd. The elephant lifted her over his head and onto his neck. By now the crowd were screaming in fright and anger. But the girl wasn't scared. She just sat there and laughed in glee. And suddenly without warning the elephant ambled down the street.

He stopped as the girl's mother ran to a halt in front of him and shouted up to her daughter. Then the elephant lifted her up too! Soon the elephant had loaded many people on his back and they all paraded down the street laughing.

**Hannah Gornall**

**A selection of work inspired by 'The Hobbit':**

Bilbo entered the tall, dark, spooky cave, determined to see what was down there. His small, grazed hand trembled from rock to rock. Still he had no idea of where he was or where he was going. Not knowing he was heading for trouble. There was a little glimmer of light ahead of him. He hoped that meant food and water after such a long journey.

There came a smell of burning and the floor got hotter and hotter as he got closer to the light. Now it got too hot and Bilbo slowed down, dragging his feet behind him. The light also got lighter and lighter and now too bright to see.

Now all Bilbo could see was gold, nothing but gold and there was a long, orange dragon lying guarding the gold. Lots and lots of things were going through Bilbo's mind. Bilbo just wanted to dive in but it would not be a very good idea with a dragon. The smell was horrible and steamy with sweat. You could tell the dragon was hungry because its tummy was rumbling and gurgling.

**Kitty Ratcliffe**

The door shut behind him with a mighty bang as he walked into the darkness. He didn't even have a torch with him. His legs nearly gave way. As he was walking he noticed that the wall was about to crumble. Suddenly a big round rock came rolling down the cave. Bilbo ran as fast as he could, but then things got even worse. Four gigantic, thirsty spiders were after him as well. He jumped into a small gap and the rock went rolling way down the cave with the spiders.

Bilbo was then safe so he kept on

walking. He saw a twinkle of sunlight ahead. He ran with excitement because he thought there was a way out to the other side of the cave. When he reached the sunlight he was filled with joy. The twinkling light was treasure dropping down from the ceiling. Jewels and gold glinted in the darkness. He looked up and he saw a hole where the treasure had dropped down from. He climbed up and when he got to the top he was amazed. Rubies, diamonds, gold, pearls and emeralds lay all around him.

Bilbo picked up a large diamond, when suddenly Smug the dragon roared at him. He knew he must escape or he would die! He raced through the cave until at last he saw daylight. He had escaped, exhausted, but penniless.

**James Thornton**

Lodo crept along the cave. He called it a cave but it was more like a tunnel. He heard a noise, a sort of hiss. Lodo turned a corner and saw it. The guardian. It had the head of a dog, the body of a snake and wings like a dragon. Its eyes were closed but you could see its nose quivering as it breathed.

Lodo was scared. He considered running back but knew that the dwarves would be very displeased. Then he saw the treasure. There were rubies, emeralds, pearls and other stones. There were piles of gold and millions of gold and crystal necklaces. Lodo was gobsmacked. He had never seen such riches before. He was so enchanted by the gold he didn't see the monster stir from his sleep.

Lodo felt a wind on his face and was horrified to see the monster flying. The monster made a gurgling, growling sound and slowly flew towards Lodo.

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## Jubilee pictures

Lots of celebrations and Jubilee parties will doubtless take place over the next few days, and the Beacon would like to capture some of those unique moments for publishing in the July issue. So, if any readers would like to take photographs of their events, black and white or in colour, and pop a print into the Beacon box in the village centre, showing the names of people on the pictures, plus a contact name, we would be delighted to print them. We cannot promise to use them all, of course, but we will publish as many as we can. Thank you.

## Play-helpers needed

The Croft School is seeking two play-workers and one play-leader to work in the new After-School Care Club, hopefully opening in September. The club will be well equipped and offer various activities after school for up to 30 children. Interested? Please collect an information pack from The Croft or ring Jackie Gray on 814766. Closing date for applications is 7th June.



## 'Bowled over' by your generosity

Just before they left the Post Office, Heather and Ray Appleby were given a surprise presentation of this large engraved rose bowl, a parting gift from villagers, following a collection of donations organised by Paul Gray of The Shetland Shop.

Valerie Dugan, who engraved the bowl, is seen making the presentation.

Heather and Ray emailed the following message to the Beacon:

*Many, many thanks to everybody for their best wishes on our retirement from Painswick Post Office. We were both overwhelmed by the many gifts, cards and*

*messages of affection and gratitude shown by so many customers. The engraved glass bowl was also a complete, but wonderful surprise and has pride of place in our new home.*

*We are gradually getting our new life under control and we would be very pleased to see any of our friends from Painswick. Just phone us on 01452 528768 or call in at 1 The Paddock, Maidenhall, Highnam, GL2 8DJ.*

*Thanks again to everyone for making the last 10 years such a pleasure for us.*

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## Edge Green 'double'

This month Edge Village Green is the site for two celebrations: On Monday 3rd June at 12 noon, it will host the Edge residents' Jubilee picnic (not 1st June as shown in last month's Diary). And is there a better way of celebrating an England win on 30th June than visiting Edge Fete afterwards at 3pm? There's food, bar and vintage cars.

## Jubilee bargains

Somewhere between Granny's attic and a car boot sale, though all under cover in the Fiery Beacon gallery and garden, a few 'treasures', much bric-a-brac, some furniture, odd pictures and designer clothes, shoes, handbags and jewellery. On Jubilee Monday, 3rd June, from 11am to 4pm.

## Have you overlooked subscribing this year?

### Beacon subscribers - at 20th May

	2002-03	2001-02	2000-01
New (or returned)	64	80	91
Renewed	552	552	542
to date	616	632	633

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# Mix of views on the care village

A meeting of the Parish Council's Planning Committee took place on Wednesday 15th May to determine a response to the detailed plans submitted by the developer for a nursing home complex together with 20 associated ancillary dwellings. The planning committee chairman, Malcolm Watts, opened the meeting with an explanation of the plans. Many letters had been received from the public, both in support of the plans and against in equal numbers.

Some committee members expressed their reservations about the height and density of the proposed development and its proximity to houses in Cotswold Mead and Queens Mead. Alan Shearer said there should be a reduction in the number of ancillary dwellings and that the whole site should be moved up the field a little to relieve the pressure for space around the housing nearby. He said a two-storey building was proposed for a site 17 yards from the wall of a neighbouring dwelling.

David Hudson suggested offering more land in return for adjusting the plans to reduce the intrusion of the proposed service area so close to houses nearby. John Stephenson-Oliver suggested the service areas would be better located near the main road (A46). Tony Crook commented on the potential long-term problem of such a building if the nursing home venture were to fail.

Terry Parker, who supported the development, believed the plans had been carefully worked out by the developer and District Council to meet the latest standards for nursing homes.

Ann Daniels expressed her support for the architectural design of the buildings, but was opposed to the siting.

After some discussion the following resolution was put by David Hudson: 'The Painswick Parish Council regard it as essential that the care village should harmonise with the adjacent houses and the AONB status of the site. The Council recommends that the revised boundary to the permitted development should be extended, but on condition that the developer first adjusts the location of all or the major part of the service area and staff car park so as to minimise the inconvenience to the neighbouring houses, and secondly reconsiders the reduction of three storeys to two storeys.

'The Parish Council therefore rejects the planning application as it stands, but recommends most strongly that these revisions should be considered by the District Council in conjunction with the developer.'

Six voted in favour of the proposal. Terry Parker and Johnny Johnston voted against and Ann Daniels asked to abstain.

On the separate matter of the estate road being constructed outside the development



*Above is the old surgery in Gloucester Street with its replacement, Hoyland House, below. Bottom is the clubhouse at Painswick Golf Club.*



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# Changing faces of Painswick

During the 50 years that have passed since Queen Elizabeth the Second's accession to the throne there have been many changes to the Painswick scene.

Since the mid-sixties when there was considerable housing development, particularly at The Croft, there have been no major housing schemes, but that position is set to change with various projects either approved or the subject of planning applications. The St Mary's Home development and the application for the care village are two such examples.

The Gyde House conversion, although not affecting the external appearance of this imposing building, has also significantly increased the number of residential units in the village.

The sporting community has probably seen more changes than any other area of village life. The Broadham Fields complex, the Painswick Golf Clubhouse, the Falcon and Painswick Bowling Clubs' pavilions have provided facilities in which the local community can take considerable pride.

However, the closure of Painswick Squash Club was a disappointment to a number of local sportsmen and women.

Interestingly, there is a connection with Painswick's traffic problems and the sporting scene as both the Golf Clubhouse and the Broadham Fields complex lay along the route of the proposed by-pass.

It was not until the Department of Transport withdrew the scheme from its list of road improvements that Painswick



*The Victorian building that was the Stroud Road school, now the library, and below, The Croft as it is today*



Rugby Club could proceed with the Broadham development and the Painswick Golf Club could submit plans for its new clubhouse.

Other significant events have been the move of The Croft Primary School from the site now occupied by the Public Library in Stroud Road to Churchill Way, and the various moves of the surgery which have culminated in the building of the excellent facility below the Gyde Road. There have been many other changes such as the building of the New Street flats on the site of the former Horne's garage, and the closure of the Baptist Church with its

change of use to the antique centre.

It would be of interest to hear the thoughts of readers on what they regard as changes of importance over the years.

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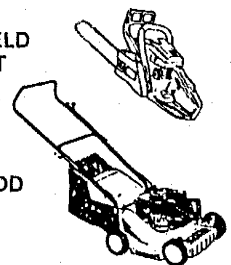
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## Rococo play almost sold

Tickets for Shakespeare's Merchant of Venice, staged by Gloucestershire Drama Association at the Rococo Garden from 16th to 20th July, are almost sold out.

Once again by kind permission of Lord and Lady Dickinson, the Garden is the setting for this pleasant evening's entertainment, with picnicking on the lawn from 6pm. The play begins at 7.30pm. All seats are under cover and padded, and the wine and coffee bar provides refreshments. Car parking is free.

For enquiries about tickets (£10), please call 01453 832547.

## Model of nursing home could be the way forward

### LETTERS

#### Stamages Lane: only one in 12 tickets taken

I was very surprised to read in the May edition of The Beacon that there are proposals to allocate the top section of Stamages Lane Car Park to residents. Currently, 12 season tickets are available from Stroud District Council, but only one had been sold and that expires in June.

**Mrs D.E. French**  
Painswick Woodcrafts

There are clearly unresolved doubts still surrounding the plans for the care centre, in particular the size of the nursing home itself. I, for one, would be most interested to see a scale model of the current plan. It is very important that the village should understand exactly what is being proposed, and this seems to me to be a good way forward.

**H.J.Hoyland**  
Clarelands, Golf Course Road

#### Thanks for the vote of confidence

Barbara Tait and John Stephenson-Oliver would like to thank all of those electors who supported them in the recent District Council elections. It was a good turnout and a very positive result. We are, however, here for all electors. Please feel free to contact us on the following numbers: Barbara 812743, John 812232. Our sincere thanks for putting your trust in us again.

**John Stephenson-Oliver**  
and **Barbara Tait**

Continued from Page 1

## District Council elections

There will be District Council Elections again next year in some wards but not in Painswick. The next Painswick Ward scheduled election will be in May 2004 when Councillor Mrs Tait's seat will be contested, provided that there is more than one candidate. At that time an election will also be called for all 12 Painswick Parish Council seats. The Parish Council election was postponed from May 2003 until May 2004 because of restructuring to District Council ward boundaries.

County Council elections are scheduled to take place in May 2005 although there

is a question mark over the future of county government with the possibility of regional government being introduced.

Should that happen, it seems likely that the County Council and District/Borough Councils would be disbanded and replaced by unitary councils. A unitary council would have responsibility for all those areas of local government currently administered by both the County and District Councils. The expectation is that Gloucestershire would then have two major councils, one covering the west of the county and the other the east.

## Annual Parish Meeting report

The Annual Parish Meeting took place on Wednesday 22nd May. Reports were made by Terry Parker as Chairman of the Parish Council, David Hudson for the Traffic Committee, Malcolm Watts for the Planning Committee, Alan Shearer for the Footpaths Committee, Ann Daniels for the Plantation Committee, Peter Grant for Finance and on behalf of Martin Slinger, who is councillor with responsibility for the Cemetery, Recreation Ground and Youth Club, as well as representative for Edge, Johnny Johnston who represents Sheepscombe and Jacky Woof who represents Slad. There were also reports from County Councillor Joan Nash and

District Councillor Barbara Tait.

Joan Nash said that new speed limits were to be put in place on the Whiteshill Road (40 mph) and Gloucester Road (30 mph) at Edge. There has been a number of bad accidents at Edge in the past year including one fatality.

Barbara Tait announced that she was taking part in a Radon testing programme set up by the District Council. She said that Painswick was an area identified as at risk.

The Parish Council invited questions from the general public. There were complaints about charging for parking in the Stamages Lane car park. It was noted by local residents that the car park was mostly empty, and that charging was counter-productive as it simply encouraged people to park in the streets. David Hudson explained that the Parish Council had been opposed to the parking charges imposed by SDC. Barbara Tait agreed to ask for a review.

A number of Painswick residents expressed their frustration at the length of time it was taking to get planning agreed for the nursing home/care village

## Art exhibition at Town Hall

Valerie Dugan and Ian Shearman will once again be exhibiting their work in Painswick Town Hall on Saturday 29th and Sunday 30th June, 10am to 4.30pm.

Valerie is a highly experienced calligraphic artist who specialises in working in a variety of media and lettering styles. Working mainly for commissions, her recent works have included embossing in metal and plastic to create unusual and decorative pieces. She has recently expanded into fine botanical painting.

Ian lives and works from his home in Hyde near Chalford. His work is extremely varied, from atmospheric acrylic landscape paintings of the Cotswolds and Cornwall to pottery and sculpture. The Jung potters and rich Celadon and Chung glazes have helped to influence his recent ceramic works.

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## Costume Ball to round off the Victorian Market Day

The Victorian Market Day on 13th July is going to finish with a Victorian Costume Ball at the Painswick Centre. We hope that this will be a carefree and happy event where you can come along and enjoy an evening of music and dance.

There will be dances on the programme that even non-dancers will be able to do, and we are sure that at some time everyone will have done such dances as The Barn Dance and St Bernard's Waltz.

Although we have called the event a Costume Ball, please do not be put off if you cannot manage to get Victorian style costumes, a long dress or skirt and top would be appropriate for ladies and white shirt with bow tie for gentlemen.

This event will precede our final tea dance of the current season, as the Centre will be used by the Guild of Craftsmen during late July and August, but we will be returning in September to continue the Wednesday afternoon tea dances in our now established format of Ballroom, Latin and Sequence dancing. The starting date will be in the August edition of the Beacon.

We hope that you will come and support the Ball which, if successful, will become an annual event to extend the Market Day activities. We would be willing to put on some basic tuition a few days before the Ball if there are enough people to make this viable, but we would need to know by 20th June to enable us to arrange a date and time, so please let us know if you would be interested in this or any other aspects of the Ball itself by calling Geoff and Joy on 01453 833150.

Tickets for the Ball are £6 each, including refreshments, and are on sale from the usual outlets in the village, at our Tea Dances on Wednesday afternoons (12th, 19th and 26th June, 3rd and 10th July), or direct from Geoff and Joy by phoning the above number.

Joy and Geoff Codd

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# Painswick Show

After a year's absence the annual Painswick Show will be held on Saturday August 10th in the grounds of Painswick House, by kind permission of Mr and Mrs Elvidge and Lord and Lady Dickinson. This year the show will be on one day only, but will still include the enormously successful combination of horses, dogs, horticulture, and everything involved in country living.

Following the Foot and Mouth outbreak last year, many shows have

ceased, with the result that Painswick Show is one of only a few village country shows remaining. We hope you will become a member, and give us the basis upon which we can provide continued entertainment for all, and help keep going a Painswick tradition.

If you are interested in supporting the Show by becoming a member or would like a schedule, please contact the secretary, Mrs Samantha Pyle, 31 Bustler's Hill, Sherston,

## Handicraft and Photography Classes

### Photos:

- 1 A Cartoon
  - 2 Painswick in Bloom
  - 3 Playtime – adults or children at play
  - 4 A Doorway
  - 5 Water
  - 6 A Pet or Pets (Juniors only).
- Photographs may be black & white or colour, and must be no more than 260mm sq. The Spanogue Cup will be awarded to the winner of class 4 – A Doorway.

### Handicraft:

- 1 A pincushion in any medium. Space allowed up to 200mm
- 2 An example of cross stitch embroidery
- 3 A painted card to celebrate an anniversary
- 4 A garment for a child under six

years old

- 5 A novelty draught excluder. Up to 1 metre x 250mm
  - 6 A home-made toy, hard or soft.
- A space, 450mm square, will be reserved for your exhibit unless otherwise stated above or you request more.

We have included a class for a planted patio pot or trough in the Open Flowers section, with a space allowed of 1m square.

There will be a class for local WIs, entitled 50 Glorious Years, which is to be the work of more than one person. First prize is £5 and a silver cup.

Schedules will be delivered to those who entered the competitions in the last Show, and will be available from local shops in June and July.

Enquiries to Janet Dent, Horticultural Show Secretary, on 812974.

*Those of you who have Internet access may like to see the web page advertising the Victorian Street Market on 13th July. It includes pictures of past Markets. See if you are on there? Go to [www.painswick.co.uk](http://www.painswick.co.uk) and click on the link at the top of the page. Simple!*

Sylvia Marden

## Friends of Cotswold Care coffee morning

The Friends of Cotswold Care thank the people of Painswick for their support of the coffee morning held on 27th April. The total raised was a staggering £650. We are so grateful.

Our next venture is a dinner to be held in St. Mary's church rooms at 7.30 pm on Saturday 6th July to celebrate Her Majesty's Golden Jubilee. The guest speaker is His Honour Alistair Macduff QC. For tickets (£10.50), please ring Paula Woodcock on 812845.

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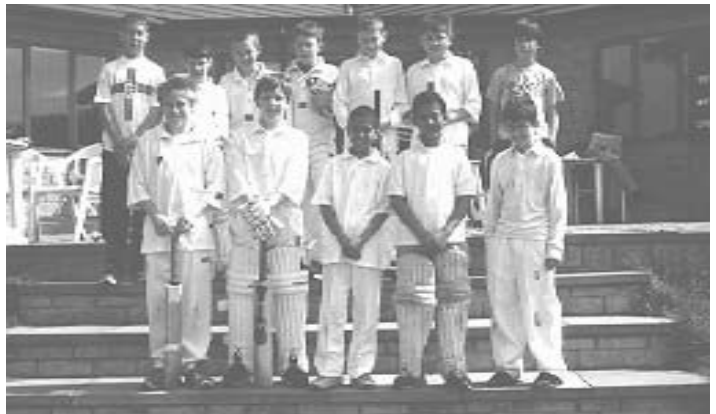
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Painswick Cricket Club went out of the National Village Club Championship when they lost their second round match at home to Slad Exiles. The Exiles are a competent side with strength in all departments, and their total of 226 for 5 wickets was always going to be a challenging one for Painswick who were dismissed for 105 runs. Painswick lost their league match against the Slaughters, which was a little surprising as they had beaten the Slaughters United side in the first round of the Village Championship.

**Results** (Saturday matches all league games: \*indicates not out).

Sat 4 May. Painswick 1st XI 192 Dowty Arle Court 74 (S Base 3-14, S Golding 3-16, I Hogg 3-16).

Sat 11 May. Painswick 1st XI 173 (W Jamieson 46 W Neville 56) Churchdown 1st XI 163 (I Hogg 5-37).

Sun 12 May. 40 Overs National Village Club Championship. Slad Exiles 226 for 5 wickets (S Base 3-58) (C Pritchard 70, D Tarrington 46, G Thomas 41 S Base 3-58). Painswick 105 all out.

Sat 18 May. Painswick 1st XI 189 (E Bressington 56, C Loveridge 46) Slaughters 190-7.

Sun 19 May. Painswick 125 (I Hogg 66) Randwick 130-6.

Sat 25 May. Huntley 2nd XI 140-8 Painswick 2nd XI 98 (J Telling 74).

*Painswick's Senior side, above left: Back row (l to r) Stuart Wilshaw, Aidan Bradley, Russ Hopkins, Chris Loveridge, Simon Base, Julian Tilling. Front row Dominic Barnard, Steve Golding, Ian Hogg, Eddie Bressington and Simon Cook. The Under 13s team, above right: Scott Reece, James Morgan, Max Royal, Michael Goddard, Nick Collins, Paul Stewart, James Sidwell, Max Radford, Thomas Young, Nikhil Sen, Ishaan Sen and Cosmo Pauling.*

## Rugby Club news and AGM



*Y-e-e-s! Celebrations all round after winning the Stroud Senior Cup at Fromehall Park*

At the Annual General Meeting of Painswick Rugby Football Club, Roger Turley was re-elected Chairman, Peter Haines Secretary, Ian Hogg Fixture Secretary and Steve Steele Treasurer. Steve Vines retained the first XV captaincy with Julian Mitchell elected to lead the United and Peter Bradshaw the Adders. Wayne Lee continues as coach.

The club held a successful dinner and dance at the Broadham Clubhouse recently with approximately 140 people present. Among the guests was the former Gloucester and England forward, Mike Teague, who presented the club with the shirt he wore and the one worn by

his opposite number, Peter Whitmore, in his final match which was against the Harlequins. The dinner was also the occasion of the club presentations for the 2001/2002 season.

The following awards were made: Young Players of the Year, Andy Baxter and Matt Coombes. Most Improved Players, James Reed and Jas Fox. Best Forward, Steve Vines. First Fifteen Player, Chris Hall. Second Fifteen Player, Matt Coombes. Laurie Steele award for Clubman of the Year, Johnny Griffiths. The Erith Shield for services to the club was presented to Mick and Sandra Gardiner.

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# Playgroup's 'Wear Red' for Red Cross

The Playgroup children have been looking this term at mini-beasts that has involved much rummaging outside to find worms, snails, woodlice and other creepy crawlies. They have made hedgehog paintings, butterfly cakes and insects out of salt dough.

Throughout the Playgroup year, the children have been taking one letter each week and bringing items beginning with the "letter of the week" to put on an interest table. They have now completed the whole alphabet in this way and are moving on to look at numbers.

On Friday 10th May, the Playgroup participated in the Red Cross 'Wear Something Red' day, as seen here. For a small fee, each child was invited to wear something red, raising money for the work of the Red Cross. Playgroup was decorated with red balloons supplied by the Red



Cross, which the children were able to take home as a memento.

Playgroup is now looking forward to its own celebrations for the Golden Jubilee, when a party will be taking place, with the Playgroup building decorated in the traditional way to mark such an occasion.

A report of the party is expected for next month's Beacon.

Playgroup is now full for the rest of this year, but if anyone would like to enquire about places for next year (from September), please contact Beaty Bell on 813316 between 8.30am and 12.30pm.

## POLICE REPORT from PC John Breakwell

### Reported incidents, 15th April to 14th May

House burglaries: None.

Business premises: Harescombe 1.

Sheds: None.

Theft of vehicles: Pitchcombe 1.

Theft from vehicles: Painswick 4.

Thefts from gardens and open spaces: Painswick 7, Edge 1.

Damage: Painswick 1.

Total 15.

### Items stolen

Electrical tools, moped, handbag and contents, power tools, radio, camera, stone ornaments and artefacts.

### Report

This month has seen a lot of stoneware and artefacts taken from residents' gardens and open spaces. The figures above are not a true representation since some thefts have not been reported. Because of local residents' vigilance, a good deal of evidence has been obtained about the offenders,

and police enquiries are ongoing. If you have further information please call me on 01453 882224 or 07799624643 (Mobile when on duty).

### Police Information Point

I will be at the PIP in the Library on 6th, 18th, 27th June and 16th July, from 10.30am to 11am.

### Mobile Police Station

If you haven't visited the mobile station yet, it's well worth calling in on PC Reuben Wyatt who will show you around its advanced technology. You can report incidents, hand in lost property, seek advice, produce documents, if requested, have post coding on site, and speed checks on request. It also carries a range of reports of brochures.

Approximate times of visits are:

14th and 25th June; Edge Bus Stop 10.10am. Pitchcombe House 10.25am.

Wick Street 10.40am. Painswick Town Hall 10.50am. Cranham Scout Hut 12 noon. Sheepscombe Hall 12.45pm.

## Free fitness check at Town Hall

In just 15 minutes you can have a free six-point health check in a new fitness tour initiative from Stroud District Council's Leisure Services. On Tuesday 11th June, from 10am to 3pm, you can call in at the Town Hall for a check on blood pressure, weight and height ratio, lung efficiency, exercise recovery time, grip strength and body fat percentage.

The tour goes to ten locations in the district as part of a fitness and healthy living campaign.

## HOLISTIC THERAPIES to balance and nurture

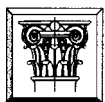
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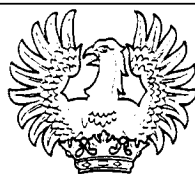


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# Into business, feet first for Sue!

Sue Oakley has recently started a reflexology, Indian head massage and therapeutic massage clinic from her home in Painswick.

For the uninitiated, reflexology is an ancient practice documented as early as Egyptian times. Reflexologists believe that the feet are a direct mirror to the rest of the body, with reflexes corresponding to all the major organs, glands and body parts. From an anatomical viewpoint, each foot has many joints and nerve endings. Through the manipulation and massage of specific areas in the foot a trained reflexologist can stimulate the nervous system, which in turn strengthens and rejuvenates, and releases tension. The treatment induces a tranquil, relaxed state that encourages the body to heal itself.

Sue's interest and involvement with holistic therapies developed after being diagnosed with the debilitating ME

and she began to look at other ways to help herself. She tried various forms of complementary therapy, and was particularly struck by the benefits she received from the use of reflexology. Now, with her daughter, Laura, starting school, Sue has decided to pursue her interest in complementary medicine. She recently completed her training as a reflexologist at The Cheltenham Therapy Training Centre, and has set up her practice at her cottage

The treatment is especially suitable for helping with stress-related conditions. Stress and everyday pressures are a part of everyday life but persistent stress can affect the body's immune system. Skin complaints, weight problems, headaches, menstrual and pregnancy problems, digestive complaints and respiratory conditions can all be treated with reflexology.

The treatment helps by improving circulation, cleansing the body of toxins and impurities, as well as stimulating creativity and helping to develop a sense of inner peace.

If you would like to contact Sue to arrange an appointment or discuss the



Sue at work in her treatment room. Whose feet? Well, that would be telling, wouldn't it!

## PLANNING MATTERS

Summary of information up to the last Parish Council meeting. Locations are in Painswick unless indicated.

### New Applications

PARADISE HOUSE, PARADISE. Retention of timber chalet.

LAND AT LOWER HAZLING, SLAD ROAD, STROUD. Resubmission following refusal per cladding existing agricultural building and construction of a verandah

YEW TREE COURT, FAR END, SHEEPSCOMBE. Erection of two-storey extension

THE CROFT, WOODBOROUGH CLOSE, KNAPP LANE. Two metre high boundary wall/retaining

12 CHURCHILL WAY. Erection of two-storey extension.

THE COVERT, SLAD Erection of store room.

### Revised Plans

THE LANTERN, KINGS MEAD. Erection of two-storey extension, car port and garden shed.

### Consents

BEACON HOUSE, NEW STREET. Erection of balustrade to part of the roof to rear of flat roof extension.

SNOWS FARM, SLAD. Alterations to utility room/study involving installation of two casement windows at ground level, provision of concrete floor at ground level, rendering to internal walls & provision of a staircase.

DOWN FARM, SLAD. Change of use from

agricultural to agricultural & equestrian. THE TOP FLAT, YEW TREE HOUSE, NEW STREET. Insertion of four conservation type windows in rear roof.

3 WORDINGS MOUNT, SHEEPSCOMBE. Erection of two-storey extension. Demolition of conservatory & replacement.

HOPE SPRINGS, FAR END, SHEEPSCOMBE. Erection of extension to the property.

BOPOTO, SLAD. Retention of development already carried out for erection of conservatory.

BROOKLANDS COTTAGE, SHEEPSCOMBE. Enlarge bay window.

### Plans Withdrawn

12 CHURCHILL WAY. Conversion of roof space & insertion of front and rear dormers.

### Refusal

BARNCROFT, BLAKEWELL MEAD. Outline application for erection of one dwelling.

BLACKSTABLE HOUSE (formerly Tulleyfield), LONGRIDGE, SHEEPSCOMBE. Retention of development already carried out for erection of roof pitches.



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# Painswick Four donations reach £14,200

Back in December the four Painswick cyclists asked others to "help us to make a difference," being a reference to the lives of those affected by the four charities they nominated to support. They completed the Land's End to John O' Groats marathon cycle ride, exactly as scheduled, on Monday 13th May, having cycled 819 miles in 11 days.

We have been able to follow their progress from their daily reports on the web site, [painswickfour.com](http://painswickfour.com), complete with photographs. They were buoyed up by the many messages they received and the friends meeting them in the early stages. As the pain set in, they always had Ken Gibson to complain to, and he has been a key factor in their success as support driver and with his meticulous planning.

The evening gathering to compose their daily report had often to repair to the local pub, usually a good source of comfort and inspiration - one kind Painswick gentleman very thoughtfully gave a gift for beer money which was very much appreciated.

It is still too early to give final totals for the donations to the charities and for expenses but at the time of writing £14,200 has been contributed for the charities, much of it with the benefit of gift aid tax recovery that adds 28 per cent to the total. We continued fundraising in their absence



*Cheers! We made it - the intrepid four reach John O'Groats, undeterred by cold and fog*

with the 'abandoned wives' coffee morning contributing a staggering £1,250, but what was just as rewarding was the enormous fund of interest in their progress from all age groups.

Reflecting this was the contribution of £300 from the Croft School from their tuck shop, run by each class with the support of teachers and governors. PADS offer of an opportunity to hold a raffle during their run of *Stepping Out!* had the double benefit of enjoying a truly wonderful production and £277 to the charities.

Painswick folk, as individuals and businesses and organisations, have been immensely supportive as have many others from far and wide. Families and

friends of the team have made outstanding contributions in many different ways. We have been overwhelmed by the generosity of all concerned, and because of the sheer number of donors, we will not always be able to acknowledge them individually.

Please accept the thanks of Jon Unwin, Rob Goddard, John Gardner, Paul Moir and the rest of the team for your support of Cot Death Research, Cheltenham Cobalt Unit, the James Hopkins Trust, and the Fire Service Benevolent Fund.

Donations continue to arrive; final results will be given in due course and there will, I am sure, be other happenings to report.

**Jim Hodge**

## PROPERTY REPORT at 25th May from Hamptons Painswick agency

The property market in the Painswick area mirrors the rest of the country with demand outstripping supply. A major factor is that people are tending to stay put in their current home and often extending, rather than going through the hassle and expense of moving. There is a scarcity of houses now available in the village and those that come to the market seem to be going overnight.

Recent new instructions in Painswick include: Lantern Cottage, Tibbiwell; 39 Ashwell, which because of the interest has gone to best offers; Staveley in Lower Washwell, which has now exchanged within three weeks of initial instruction. In

Slad we have Lynwood, a period terraced cottage, and Down Court, a beautiful period house in idyllic surroundings, that was sold within two days of its launch. Springside is a two- bedroomed cottage in Cranham; The Coach House at Coopers Hill and The Landers at Little Witcombe are both substantial period cottages with large gardens. If you would like a separate annex then Pastures Green on Upton Hill will offer this facility together with three acres of land.

Other exchanges in the past month include: 4 Brookhouse Mill which we sold for Mrs. Bavister who has now gone up to Gyde House; Clematis in Tibbiwell Lane;

two new houses, one in Queens Mead and the other in Woodborough Close, both not yet finished; Hillfoot on the edge of the village; High Warren in The Highlands and Briarbank at Edge, both went under offer within a week of going on the market; and Camp House at The Camp.

All this activity has left us with very little to offer in Painswick and we have a list of hot applicants waiting to buy. If you are considering selling in the near future, we may be able to make the process easier. Please call in or telephone us on Painswick 812354 and we will be happy to advise on any property-related matter.

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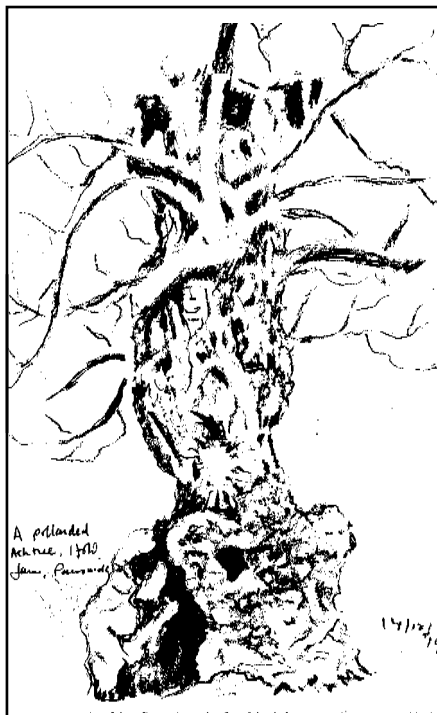


## Farewell, old friend!

Painswick's bottle ash is now a memory. Damaged by a fire started within its hollow trunk, pyre-like its logs were piled to await the end. Standing on the Cotswold Way above Broad Ham, its misshapen form was a compelling feature for passing walkers. For many of its six centuries, it provided Painswick's commoners with fuel for their hearths. A product of our feudal past, its strange silhouette found an echo in St Mary's gargoyles.

Patrick Daly

*The pollarded bottle ash, sketched by the author in December 1994*



## Afternoon of enchantment

*Man by nature inherits the love of flowers* **B. Maund**

A statement clearly at one with the Senior Circle who turned out in force to hear Cedric Nielsen's illustrated talk, *The Flowers of the Cotswolds*. Opening with a review of the seasons as they were and as they now seem to be, he showed an arresting shot of the Cotswolds in high summer,

heavy in leaf and taken before Dutch Elm disease altered the landscape forever: an uncomfortable reminder of what we have lost as a result.

The many and extensive commons in the county give the botanist and nature-lover endless delight, though it is something of a battle to safeguard the flora against competing uses. All so different from pre-war days when children could roam at will, and parents happy for them to do so, when flowers could be gathered in quantity for high days and holy days, and when one could draw a line between the seasons.

While Cedric took us through the countryside with his camera we reminisced, admiring his faultless naming of specimens, and sitting a little straighter when he spoke about the Gloucester but-tercup.

For those who can no longer wander through the fields or over the commons, this was a refreshingly open window, and indeed it was for those who can, but pass through it without the botanist's eye or the memory to recall a name.

Patrick Daly

## Busy times ahead for the bellringers

On 26th March, the Ancient Society of Painswick Youths held its Annual General Meeting, and the Reverend John Longuet-Higgins was welcomed as the new chairman. We all look forward to working alongside him over the forthcoming year. Among the issues discussed were the continuing good progress of our learners, our hopes to be able to ring on Sundays again before too long, and the many special ringing events we have coming up this year. The meeting concluded with some excellent honey-cake and wine that Craig very kindly brought us back from his recent holiday.

Tomorrow (2nd June), we are ringing the bells for the ecumenical service to celebrate the Queen's Golden Jubilee. In addition, July and August are to be very busy months for weddings, so the bells will be heard on most Saturdays during that period.

We have also, for the first time in quite a while, had many requests from visitors from other towers, including a band from St Buryan and Penzance in Cornwall, who will be ringing in Painswick on the afternoon of Saturday 27th July and for the morning service on Sunday 28th. We look forward to welcoming them and all our other visiting bands.

Last, but by no means least, we would like to take this opportunity to extend our warm thanks and best wishes to Patsy. Her tireless and quietly efficient work as Tower Captain over the years has always kept the Tower running with amazing smoothness.

We have also valued her excellent ringing skills, her ever-present smile, wonderful sense of humour and the hours of entertainment and lovely food and drink often provided at her house. Many thanks again, Patsy, and all the very best from us all!

Andrew Watson

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# The last of the audience steals away... The last of the audience steals away...:

The last glittering A List celeb has stepped out from seeing *Stepping Out!* The last stretched limo has pulled away from Painswick's premier prestigious performance venue, the legendary Painswick Centre. The last of the paparazzi has jetted on to Cannes, LA or even Nailsworth. In short, the show is over: *Stepping Out!* has stepped out.

Was it a success? I shall leave that judgment to the razor sharp intellect of the Beacon reviewer (See below). However, it certainly seems to have struck a chord with the citizens of Painswick: *Stepping Out!* has drawn our biggest audiences for 17 years.

Even before opening night, trophy hunters were out in force, spiriting away our banner from the Merry Walks footbridge in Stroud, and a

## Painswick Players

display board from the A46 at the corner of Cotswold Mead. Police are seeking a tap-dancing burglar with impeccable taste. Doubtless both the banner and the board will turn up at some future Sotheby's auction for showbiz memorabilia and be sold for thousands.

I shall stop writing this drivel immediately: it is clear that I am having a severe attack of what is known, in this Dram that we call Am, as the PADDIES - Post-production Am Dram Directors Inflated Ego Syndrome.

Future plans. Our next production will be 28th-30th November. What exactly it will be is still the subject of dramatic debate. *Daisy Pulls It Off!* was a strong contender, thereby continuing our success

with exclamation marks.

However, since it has just opened in the West End, it seems unlikely that we will be granted a performing licence. This is quite understandable: what sort of West End production would want to risk competition from Painswick's finest?

One distinct possibility is a pantomime, which I personally favour. My back end of Daisy the Cow is celebrated wherever thighs are slapped and fame and fortune sought: I once received the Unigate Award for Best Udder Control, whilst beautifully upstaging Jack's attempt to scale the Beanstalk.

Or perhaps we should do a whodunit? Just to put the frighteners on whoever nicked our banner and display board. Watch this space.

## STEPPING and tapping OUT!

As one of about 450 who watched and listened to this Painswick Players' production, staged across four evenings last month, I was among audiences that enjoyed the show enormously. The most effective of advance publicity for any event carries with it the risk that there is a catch, and begs such questions as "Are they having difficulty in selling tickets?" or "Have they over-stretched themselves this time?"

Few would deny that amateur productions have an in-built 'buzz' all their own; this when compared with professionals who rely upon years of working together and a full-time commitment to create illusions. In this production, we received the definitive example of the very best that amateurs can prepare and offer. To single out any one individual for their performance or other contribution towards the completeness of the performance would, certainly in this instance, be unfair on all others; there was a totality of inter-dependence which ensured that our attention was concentrated upon the stage, the script,

and the movements of an all-dancing cast to the exclusion of all other influences.

The suburban 'Middle England' location of the late 70s devised by Richard Harris for his story to be portrayed required that the cast persuade us that we were certainly not in Painswick, and this they did with remarkable conviction. Add to that the fact that the entire cast should be proficient in tap dancing to a standard which convinced the audience that all had career qualifications in the art was no mean challenge, and yet we all came away knowing that there are some 'lovely movers' in our midst.

The attention to detail from all behind the scenes was essential if the production was to hold the audience, and we were to become focused upon those proscenium curtains and the ten Scenes that unfolded. We were led through the experiences and personal joys and problems of people coming together for, it seemed, relief through a shared interest in tap dancing, and on to stage a production as part of the Silver Jubilee celebrations of 1977. Management of the Front of House, light and sound control, the design and construction of the sets, through to the tuition given through numerous dancing classes, all played a critical part; not overlooking the skill of the off-stage live piano accompaniment to synchronise with the on-stage piano and dance routines.

This was a faultless production, one which we must hope is the first of many with musical elements and which continue to tax the skills of all willing to participate - not least the courage of the director. I suspect the other 449 share my view.

Leslie Brotherton

**Painswick Local History Society AGM** will be at The Croft School on Tuesday 18th June at 7.30pm. After the agenda business, Mrs Joyce Thacker will give a talk on the Whiteway Colony. This is the last meeting of the current programme, and will be an opportunity to hear a review of the year, and the future plans.

Gwen Welch

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# Beethoven, Williams - with Walton as a finale

'How composers and performers express their imagination' was the subject at our February meeting of a fascinating presentation by Gordon Collins, a professional pianist specialising in accompanying rather than solo work.

He has worked for EMI and has a Steinway Grand. Contrast in interpretation, concept and colour could be said to characterise his choice of a great number of recordings, with emphasis on technical skill and musicianship and on excellence of piano accompaniment of classical, light and film music and jazz.

The second half concentrated on the piano, comparing music from different countries and the finale, the third movement of Beethoven's first piano concerto provided a magnificent ending, rewarded with prolonged applause.

**Anne Kenber**

On our final concert visit of the season to Bristol's Colston Hall on 21st March, the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra played an all-English programme, conducted by the respected Owain Arwel Hughes.

They began with Vaughan Williams' 'Fantasia on a Theme by Thomas Tallis'. This atmospheric work has a local connection, having been commissioned for the Three Choirs Festival and given its premiere in Gloucester Cathedral in 1910. From our well-placed seats, we had an excellent view of the stage and the arrangement of the players on it to form

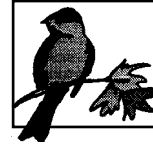
## Painswick Music Appreciation Group

the solo string quartet and the double string orchestra for which this piece was specially written. Next, Elgar's Cello Concerto. When he wrote this work in 1919, Elgar was wearied and disillusioned by the events of the cruel Great War and the music reflects his unhappy and tortured spirit.

These days, there are so many notable interpretations on CD of this final Elgar masterpiece that opinions are bound to be divided on the soloist's treatment of the work. So it was with us: some felt that Ralph Kirshbaum could have been more assertive in the first movement, but his confidence returned for the later movements which he played with great sensitivity.

After the interval came William Walton's Symphony No. 1. This is a highly charged and demanding orchestral piece, with the final movement revealing Walton at his best. A splendid performance, ending a first class evening.

**Jane Rowe**



**Painswick  
Bird Club**

## Cold and windy first field trip to Ashleworth

Ignoring the forecasts of a wet morning on 28th April, we gathered at Ashleworth Bird Sanctuary. Apart from a cold and strong wind there was little sign of rain. At first the outlook from the hide was unpromising, but as time passed several species of duck, geese and nesting swans emerged from the shelter of the reed-beds.

The Warden, Mike Smart, proved to be very friendly and knowledgeable, and suggested that we leave the shelter of the hide and proceed along the lanes that skirted the reserve. There was much competitive bird song and brief sightings in the wind-swept hedges. Herons took off from the fields and this was accompanied by the liquid calls of curlews. A most rewarding morning, enjoyed by all.

There was talk of returning in the winter when the area would be flooded and greater numbers and varieties would be seen, although on some of the lanes we might be up to our necks in water!

## Resolutions for Brighton meeting

Members certainly needed to get their thinking caps on at our May meeting. It was the day for discussing resolutions to be put forward at our organisation's General Meeting in Brighton in June. First came the resolution urging the Government to support existing small abattoirs, in order to minimise stress for animals, reduce the risk and spread of disease and encourage the availability of locally produced meat. We learned, incidentally, that supermarkets sell 75 per cent of all meat bought in this country. Following ample discussion, questions and answers, members voted in favour.

Then followed a resolution calling for stricter import controls on foodstuffs in the interests of health. We heard of lorries of meat and of live animals arriving from abroad; and even of meat being smuggled into the country concealed in containers of fruit and vegetables. Meat may well be uninspected owing to a shortage of inspectors. Meat products are smuggled through airport terminals where controls need to be improved. Following ample discussion, a majority of members voted in favour.

Afterwards most of us were glad of some refreshment and then to spend time admiring the beautiful craft items

## Painswick WI

brought to the meeting by Dorothy Daniels. These covered three long tables and had been made by her mother, the late Mrs Esther Beard of Cainscross WI. Mrs Beard had joined craft classes of all sorts. We saw vases, dishes, cushions, lace, crochet, embroidery, drawn-thread work, canework. Carefully turning over an embroidered table cloth, it was difficult to tell which was the right side and which the wrong. A large hinged picnic basket had been made in fine canework.

It was no surprise to hear from Dorothy that she herself was made a WI member at the age of 11!

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# The Painswick Beacon

VILLAGE DIARY to SATURDAY 6th JULY 2002 and FORWARD DATES FOR 2002

June			
Sat 1st	Paradise House Open Day (off A46 behind old Adam & Eve)	Paradise	2 - 4pm
2nd	Churches Together: Jubilee Songs of Praise, followed by Tea and Celebration Cake in Town Hall	St Mary's Churchyard	6.15pm
3rd	Grand Jubilee 'Attic' sale: (Bric-a-brac, designer clothes etc. All of them bargains)	Fiery Beacon Gallery	11 am - 4pm
	Edge Jubilee Picnic (Please note corrected date)	Edge Village Green	12 noon
4th	Painswick Dog Training Club (Tuesdays) - Puppies and Beginners Intermediate Advanced Dogs	Christ Church Hall	9.30 - 10.15am 10.15 - 11am 11 - 12 noon
5th	Traditional Tea Dance - Wednesdays	Painswick Centre	2 - 4pm
	Wives' Fellowship: Library Services - Malcolm Tarling	Christ church Hall	8pm
6th	Cotswold Care Support Group Meeting	Ashwell House	2.30pm
7th	W.I. Market: Fridays	Town Hall	10am
9th	Bird Club: Tim Fretter will lead a walk around Cannop Ponds, Forest of Dean	Speech House	10.30am
11th	District Council Fitness Checks	Town Hall	10am - 3pm
	Mothers' Union:AGM	Church Rooms	2.30pm
12th	W.I.: Queen's Jubilee Garden Party	The Garth, Chelt. Rd.	2.30pm
	Probus Meeting: WASPS - Mr A H Brockman	Ostlers Room, Falcon	10am
14th	Senior Circle: How to be utterly evil - John Sharwood-Smith	Town Hall	2.30pm
15th	Crack Cancer Campaign Coffee Morning: Cakes, Books, Plants, Raffle	Town Hall	10am - 12.30pm
17th	Conservation Society - Walk along the Cotswold Canal with Bruce Hall	Stamages Car Park	9.45am
	Mothers' Union Outing to Abbey Gardens, Malmesbury	Malmesbury	6.30pm
18th	Local History Society: AGM. Speaker: Joyce Thacker on the Whiteway Colony	Croft School	7.30pm
	Jazz Evening: Local Musicians, no entry charge	Ostlers Room, Falcon	8.30pm
19th	Parish Council Meeting	Town Hall	7.30pm
	Wives' Fellowship: Cats Protection League - Anne Walden	Christ Church Hall	8pm
20th	W.I.: Vaccination and Edward Jenner	Town Hall	2.30pm
23rd	<b>COPY DATE: All items to Mrs Jillie Speed, The Old Carriage House, Edge, or Beacon Mailbox in New Street</b>		
26th	Probus Meeting: Islam - Mr K Barber	Ostlers Room, Falcon	10am
	Theatre Club Outing to Bath	The Falcon	12.30pm
27th	<b>DIARY DEADLINE: All items to Mrs Edwina Buttrey, 14 The Croft, or Beacon Mailbox in New Street</b>		



28th	Senior Circle: By seaplane to Iceland - Bill Bird Maddox	Town Hall	2.30pm
29th-30th	Valerie Dugan and Ian Shearman Art Exhibition	Town Hall	10am – 4.30pm
30th	Edge Village Fete	Edge Village Green	3pm
<b>July</b>			
2nd	PCMS: AGM	Church rooms	8pm
4th	Cotswold Care Support Group Meeting	Ashwell House	2.30pm
5th	Founders' Day Luncheon: Address by Stanley Messenger on 'Rudolf Steiner & Hawkwood' Tel: 01453 759034	Hawkwood College	12.30pm
Sat 6th	<b>JULY ISSUE OF THE PAINSWICK BEACON PUBLISHED</b>		
	Friends of Cotswold Care dinner. Speaker: Alistair Macduff QC	Church Rooms	7.30pm
10th	Conservation Society Visit to Chastleton House (coach leaves)	Stamages Car Park	9am
Sat 13th	Victorian Market Day	Village	All Day
	Woodturning demonstration by Dennis French. Admission free	Painswick Woodcrafts	10am - 4pm
	Victorian Costume Ball: for information Tel: 01453 833150	Painswick Centre	8 - 11.30pm
16th	Creative Coterie: Exhibition & Sale of Members' work including Crafts. Admission free - Donations to a registered Charity. (Until 21st)	Library Room	10am - 6pm daily
27th	Gloucestershire Guild of Craftsmen Annual Exhibition & Market daily until 26th August	Painswick Centre	Daily
<b>August</b>			
1st	Conservation Soc. Evening visit to Woodchester Mansion (coach leaves)	Stamages Car Park	6.30pm
3rd - 11th	Mary Bingle Art Exhibition	Town Hall	Daily
10th	Painswick Show	The Park, Painswick House	
15th - 18th	Mary Hosler Art Exhibition	Town Hall	Daily
<b>September</b>			
Sat 14th	Horticultural Society Annual Show & Exhibition	Painswick Centre	3 - 5pm
30th	Calligraphy for Beginners & Improvers - 'Introducing/Revising the attractive Carolingian Script'. Details from James Skinner; Gloucester 611614. (Also 7th & 14th October). Fee £39 for three workshops	Church Rooms	10am - 4pm
<b>November</b>			
21st - 24th	Paul Gray Exhibition	Town Hall	Daily
Sat 30th	Sue Ryder Coffee Morning	Town Hall	9.45am - 12 noon

Do you have an event that should be being advertised here?





# Eimer trio closes season with some delightful Haydn

The young Eimer piano trio, Nicola Eimer (piano) and the Gloucestershire husband and wife team of Matthew Denton (violin) and Emma Denton (cello) gave the final concert of Painswick Music Society's season at St Mary's Church on 4th May.

They opened with Haydn's E flat major trio. The piano plays a big part in the early part of the work, with a fluent underpinning of the strings by the piano before the strings gradually assert themselves as the work progresses, and the trio took it along nicely to an impressively energetic finish.

Then something in a very different idiom by the early 20th century English composer, Frank Bridge. A prize-winning work written at the age of 27, it must have seemed revolutionary at the time and well worth listening to. Unlike the Haydn, the strings play on equal terms with the piano throughout, and very well they did too, from the mysterious opening, whose first few bars marked its 'Englishness' via a pastorale style movement to some showy

## Painswick Music Society

extravagances later in the five-part work. Good stuff and ideal for playing between the two more conventional works of the recital.

Finally, back to the early 19th century with Schubert's B flat trio, written shortly before his early death. This is tuneful; no sense of doom here, with some beautiful cantabile passages which the players really did make sing, and some pianistic fireworks in the third and somewhat eccentric fourth movement with a few musical japes as afterthoughts. After that, we didn't want to let them go, so they gave us a bit more Haydn to send us on our way.

It was good to see how this local talent has prospered. You can hear them at Leonard Stanley Priory on 29th June. Confidently recommended for chamber music *aficionados*.

# Andalucian adventures

My wife, Betty, and I have just returned from a holiday in Andalucia. We spent five nights in each of two National Parks, the Cork Tree Park (can we ever have used so many corks?) and the Pinsapo Tree Park. The latter tree is credited with being the oldest tree, dinosaur dated, yet found a mere 30 years or so ago, and only in three places in the world - two of them in Spain.

Our weather was pretty stormy for the first few days, but rapidly improved. This was obviously the best time of year if one is interested in nature. The ubiquitous cuckoo and green woodpecker were much in evidence vocally, but in the verdant valleys they were outnumbered and out vocalised by the continuous singing of the nightingales.

We were quite smug about the fact that having celebrated our golden wedding in March we stayed the full course of over 100 miles and climbed to 4000 feet on ancient smugglers' paths and mule tracks.

Griffin vultures wheeled over our heads, repeatedly hoping, no doubt, for the pickings if two of the oldest members of the party of 12 should happen to drop out. We saw eagles, black kites, shrikes, blue rock thrushes, hoopoes and many other types of birds.

The flowers were too beautiful to convey in words, many rare orchids, lilies - too many to list here, although many were identified and corroborated by our leader's knowledge. On one walk we were confronted by a huge brown bull who came charging up a slope, growling and snorting. We diverted through a barbed wire fence on to rough scrubland and had to add a good two miles to our trek.

I cannot conclude without paying tribute to our group leader, whose knowledge of botany, ornithology and local history and habits were superb. His name is David Lanfear, and if anyone is interested contact me for details.

Harold Wood

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## Painswick & District Conservation Society

We will be visiting Chastleton House on Wednesday 10th July, leaving Stamages Lane Car Park at 9am. Tickets are £8 from The Patchwork Mouse. You can buy your own lunch at The Red Lion Inn at Little Compton.

Dawn Mallinson

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# The Personal Column

## Weddings

Our congratulations to CHRISTOPHER RICH, from Paradise, and ELIZABETH WILLIAMSON who were married at Boxgrove Priory, Sussex on 11th May;

to CHARLES MORRISON and SOPHIE NELLIGAN who married in London on 18th May;

and best wishes to CHARLOTTE HUDSON and WILL SMITH who are to marry at St Mary's Church, on 8th June.

## Golden Wedding

Congratulations to TED and ELIZABETH BURGE who will be celebrating their Golden Wedding anniversary on 5th July.

## Sapphire Wedding

Congratulations to JANE and FRANCIS OTWAY who will have been married for forty-five years on 15th June.

## Welcome Back

We would like to welcome back DAVID and JAN HASLAM who have moved into Greenaway House, Lower Washwell, after a temporary stay in Stroud;

SARA and SIMON HEWER and family who moved back to The Croft, Wood-

borough Close, last week after being away for eight weeks during building work.

and ELIZABETH FOX who is here on her annual visit from Palm Springs, California.

## Condolences

Our sincere sympathies to the fam-

ily and friends of ZOE JONES, TRUDY LATHAM and IRIS HILL who have died recently.

## Get Well Soon

Best wishes for a speedy recovery to ISABEL MANNERING, MARG SHEA, ANNE HOOPER and DEREK CHAMBERLAIN.

## Thank You

Rosemary, Jonathan and Jessica Jones wish to express their sincere thanks for all the messages of sympathy following the recent death of Zoe Jones, Pitchcombe. Also our gratitude to wonderful friends (who kept up a constant rota of visiting throughout her spells in hospital) and the doctors, district nurses and all the staff at Painswick Surgery. With many thanks,

**Jonathan Jones**

I would like to thank all of you who have given my wife, June, and me so much support during my recent unexpected long stay in hospital. The many visits I received, together with cards of good wishes, were greatly appreciated, as were the lifts June was given when visiting.

Painswick Red Cross Centre is most grateful for the support given by the people of Painswick during Flag Week 2002. Contributions received from house-to-house collections and in the village centre amounted to £566.93. Sincere thanks to all the collectors and to everyone who gave so generously.

**Joan Ashton**

## NEXT ISSUE

Publication Date

**SATURDAY, 6th JULY**

Items for publication to Jillie Speed, The Old Carriage House, Edge, by **SUNDAY, 23rd JUNE**

Mini Ads to Leslie Brotherton, Longhope, Blakewell Mead, by **SUNDAY, 23rd JUNE**

Business adverts to Liz Fisher, Harebell Cottage, Blakewell Mead, by **THURSDAY, 20th JUNE**

Diary items (only) to Edwina Buttrey, 14 The Croft, by **THURSDAY, 27th JUNE**

Letters and articles for publication are welcomed on computer diskette (returned after use) or by email to: [painswickbeacon@supanet.com](mailto:painswickbeacon@supanet.com)

Items to be published, and other mail for the Beacon Committee, can also be placed in the **Beacon Post Box** in New Street (next to the telephone kiosk). Please provide your name, address and a contact phone number.

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# The lady with the dogs

Linda Evans and her beautiful border collies are well-known around Painswick, but few people will know that horses were, in fact, her first love. Horses, however, don't fit very easily into vicarage life, so she decided to have a dog instead. "I'm very much an outdoor person," she says, "and with dogs you get lots of exercise."

She lost her heart to a blue merle collie puppy in 1976. She called her Jo and together they went to the local dog-handling club...and that's where it all began. In 1980 she started in Obedience competitions with a puppy called Sian.

Now she goes to shows all over the country (thinks nothing of driving up to Edinburgh in a day), and her dogs have so many awards that she has lost count. But, however famous they become, first and foremost, they are part of the family.

When her husband, Eric, was appointed Dean of St. Paul's she was told in no uncertain terms, by one of the canons' wives, that it would be quite impossible to keep dogs in London. This idea didn't suit Linda at all and, to prove her point, a litter was born in their first year at the Deanery.

It must have been a nightmare trying to exercise dogs in the City of London. Their house had no garden, so each morning and evening she would bundle them into the car for a run in St. James's or Battersea Park, and many is the time, after an evening engagement, she could be seen in her ball-gown, giving them a late-night trot up Leadenhall Street.

For eight years she was a member of the Brixton dog training club, and is now President and Show Manager. She spends much of her time ferrying Craig Gamble, her protegee, to shows, and is very proud of his achievements. She gave Daisy, a third time Crufts prize-winner, to him and looks after her while he is at college.

**Paula Woodcock**

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## DENTIST

As with the death of President Kennedy, I suspect that most people can recall their first visit to a dentist. For me, it was an unequal encounter with a large, balding man with a thin smile, in a white coat, who reassured me that there was nothing to worry about, and then proceeded to use techniques of torture only otherwise encountered during interrogation in some of the dodgier republics of the Third World. That memory haunted me as I went to meet Dr Les Robinson, along with his wife and business partner, Michelle, who have just celebrated their first five successful years as Painswick's resident dental service.

The Robinsons are, of course, a couple of generations away from the 'drill/fill/drill/fill' dentists of my youth. The combined effects of fluoridisation, better health education and more dietary awareness, coupled with major advances in technology, have transformed the way dentistry is delivered and created new demands, based on higher added value preventive and cosmetic services.

Patients no longer ask, 'Can you fix it?' but 'Can you fix it and make it look good?' The answer, thanks to technology, is usually, 'Yes.' But at a cost. Les explained that creating and equipping the present state-of-the-art surgery at Hoyland House involved a six-figure investment. Such investment needs to be paid for and leads inevitably to higher charges. It is the step change both in patient expectations and consequent treatment costs that have led to the current controversy regarding the split between NHS and private funding of dental services.

Quite apart from the cost involved, the decision to start a dental practice from scratch in Painswick in May 1997 was a risky one. There had been no dental practice in Painswick for some years. The last dentist had been a Wimpole Street dental surgeon who moved to Painswick to retire, and continued a limited local practice until failing eyesight caused him to quit permanently. I tried to blot out a disturbing mental picture of a visually challenged dentist running amok with his drill as Les continued the story.

At the time, he was a locum working in the Bristol area. He had recently qualified at Bristol Dental School, where he had also met his future wife, Michelle, a qualified dental hygienist. Together, they had a joint ambition to create their own high-value dental practice, committed to

providing a holistic dental service. They scanned the Bristol/ Gloucester area for a population centre, not properly catered for, with the critical mass to support a new practice. Painswick emerged as the front-runner, following some DIY market research which revealed that a substantial proportion of the 4 - 5,000 patients registered with the Hoyland House medical practice used the resident medical staff as the first port of call for tooth problems. They then had to be referred to Gloucester, Cheltenham or Stroud.

What clinched the decision for Painswick was the opportunity to co-locate and build a synergy with the existing Gyde Road medical practice, in what had been the cellar/ basement of Hoyland House. Developing the practice from nothing took a little time and for the first couple of years, Les and Michelle spent a peripatetic existence, splitting their time between Painswick and their exiting locum responsibilities.

As Les tells it, it was a frantic period in which he relied a lot on his mobile phone and the dedication of the two receptionists, Eve and Jenny. However, by 1999, the viability of the business had been proved, the practice had attracted over 1,500 patients and the Robinsons were able to settle permanently in Painswick.

Although using the best available technology has been important in establishing the practice, Les believes that the real key to their success has been in taking the time and trouble to establish a rapport with their patients, many of whom are nervous, even traumatised by previous experiences. Time, patience and a warm sense of empathy are prerequisites for good dentists. Indeed, it was these qualities and the need to interact with patients as human beings that first attracted Les to dentistry. Originally, he had trained as a microbiologist, graduating from Newcastle University in 1989. However, as a naturally gregarious Geordie, he soon discovered that microbes have very little conversation and no sense of humour!

And what do the Robinsons think of Painswick? Les is emphatic: "It's a lovely place to practise. We're very happy here and we've enjoyed taking the pain out of Painswick!"

Dentist or not, it's impossible to dislike a man who can make bad jokes like that.

Herewith some rugby, tennis and cricket news. If you have space the cricket fixtures (which have just been printed) are as follows:-

Cricket fixtures (All Saturday games are league matches).

Sat 1 June Painswick 1st XI v Arcadians (Away).

Painswick 2nd XI v Gloucester Civil Service 2nd XI (Home).

Sun 2 June v Painswick XI v Cranham (Home).

Tue 4 June v Stroud/Rockhampton (20 overs knock-out).

Wed 5 June Midweek league v Haresfield (Away).

Sat 8 June Painswick 1st XI v Corse and Staunton 1st XI (Home).

Painswick 2nd XI v Dymock 2nd XI (Away).

Wed 12 June v Frampton (Home).

Sat 15 June 1st XI v Ruardean Hill 1st XI (Away).

Painswick 2nd XI v Ryeworth 2nd XI (Home).

Sun 16 June v Painswick XI v Dave Emery's Touring Side (Home).

Sat 22 June Painswick 1st XI v Poulton.  
Painswick 2nd XI v Old Richians 2nd XI (Away).

Sun 23 June v Painswick XI v Ampney Crucis (Home).

Mon 24 June v Painswick XI v Essex Plough Boys (Home).

Wed 26 June v Kings Stanley (Home).

Sat 29 June Painswick 1st XI v Rockhampton 1st XI (Home).

Painswick 2nd XI v Cheltenham Civil Service 2nd XI (Away).

Mon 1 July v Painswick XI v Brasted Chart & Invicta.

Wed 3 July v Rockhampton (Away).

Sat 6 July 1st XI v Dowty Arle Court 1st XI (Home).

Painswick 2nd XI v Westbury on Severn 2nd XI (Away).

Sun 7 July v Painswick XI v Stanway (Home)

Terry P.

