

The Painswick Beacon

Volume 30 Number 9

Sine praeiudicio



December 2007



*Christmas Greetings
to all our readers, and
Best Wishes for a
Peaceful and Prosperous
2008*



On other pages: the Village Quiz date fixed, Advent and Christmas services, the big Draw, our dining venues, anger over A46, a proposal for Trail interpretation, another telephone scam, fine new businesses open, the dwarves are in line, precept deferred, shiny new convenience, a seasonal fair at the Croft, the key to parking.

The Council stood in silent tribute at the commencement of the meeting in memory of the recent demise of two previous Members; Joy Shaw 1979-83, and Jack Hinds who was Chairman 1967-70.

PARISH COUNCIL

A46 Effect upon trading

John Pearson, proprietor of The Falcon Inn, addressed the Council to express his dismay at the seeming shortcomings in the contracted works to repair the A46, and the dramatic effect such is having upon his and other businesses in the village. He was at pains to point out that the contract, the start date for which is four months after the event, is falling short of the promised 24/7 working and sense of urgency publicly intimated by the County Council. He suggested, after having received independent advice from an engineer, that the on-site procedures of repeatedly moving spoil, not using conveyor belts, and mixing and pouring concrete into two piles daily, was prolonging the repair process. Meanwhile he gave details of lost bookings for his dining room and residence in the hotel, with losses exceeding \$60,000 already.

The Chairman, Terry Parker, undertook - with the strongest of support of the Council - to convey the strong feelings expressed at a meeting convened by MP David Drew on 23rd November.

Police report

Two police representatives attended and reported upon their recent activities in Painswick, not least matters associated with parking in Pullens Road.

The Council supported the proposal that a Police Information Point be created at the post office, in a manner already discussed with Annie Littler, at which the public could gain information upon current police activities in the area and be able to leave messages to exchange information upon matters of concern.

Members were reminded that the incidence of house-breaking offences customarily increased at this time of year. Police advice is that premises vacated for a period of time be securely locked, and lights be left on.

Emergency situations

The Council received a report upon discussions to date by the Working Party

set up to consider arrangements to be put in place to deal with unforeseen emergencies in the village. A provisional list, including focus of responsibility for action in an emergency, a loud-hailer in the case of a prolonged power failure, stand-by generator to serve a central emergency point at (say) the Town Hall, would now be shared with the District and County Councils in order to avoid duplication, and a further report made in due course.

A46 repairs

Further to the discussion earlier in the evening (see above) the Council received information that piling works should be completed by 14th December, and the carriageway restored by mid-February as previously announced. It was noted, however, that the County Council had not maintaining formal communications with the Parish Council as might have been expected within the joint Charter signed with GCC. Indeed, some suggested that relationships between these tiers of local government had deteriorated since that Charter came into existence. It was agreed to convey to the County Council, in strong terms, this dissatisfaction and that the Parish Council is considering whether to withdraw from its Charter obligations.

It was also reported that Stroud District Council had convened a meeting in conjunction with Painswick Parish Council to be held in the Town Hall on December 5th to discuss issues of concern arising from the closure of the A46. Invitations had been sent to 61 known businesses in the Painswick area. There was an open invitation to local residents.

Community buildings

The Council gave consideration to its undertaking to be responsible for initiating a feasibility study, in association with the Gloucestershire Rural Community Council, upon the utilisation of community buildings. It was, after discussion, agreed that setting such a study in train prior to there being clarity as to the future of the library premises, the Painswick Gateway project, was likely to have in-built shortcomings. It was decided to place the item on the agenda for the next meeting, by which time the County Council's response to the submission made by the Gateway trustees should be known.

Parish Council Greetings

The Chairman, Members and Clerk to the Parish Council wish all parishioners a peaceful Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Precept upon the District Council

The Council received a report from its Finance and General Purposes Committee, which had met on 10th and 24th October, setting out its recommendations for the precept for 2008-09. At its previous meeting the Council had determined aspects of financial strategy to be taken into account by the committee (see report page 3 last Beacon) and this was reflected in considerable detail in the recommendations of the committee, all clarified further by the Clerk Roy Balgobin. A precept which would equate to an increase in the order of £4.42 per annum for a Band D property was recommended. In reality this is a substantial increase and the Council agreed with the introductory observations by the Chairman that parishioners would be understanding of such if the justification were carefully explained.

Consequent upon urging by Peter Rowe, the Council again deferred until its December meeting making a formal decision upon the precept pending further scrutiny of existing expenditure and the extent and components of the reserves held by the Council.

Meanwhile it was decided not to increase charges for use of the Town Hall until at least October 2008, revise fees applicable to burial rights and interment at the cemetery, and approve grants to organisations - including Stroud and District Citizens Advice Bureau.

For those chaps who, from time to time, are 'caught short' while in the village, there is very welcome news indeed. The Council approved a recommendation of its Cemetery and Parish Maintenance and Town Hall Committee (CaPMaTHCo?) that a quotation received to undertake works to their toilet be approved!

National Trail -interpretation centre

The Council received a paper prepared by the manager of Painswick Gateway consequent upon one aspect of his researches in relation to that project.

The scope of the proposition to create an interpretation, study and management base in Painswick to serve the whole of the Cotswold Way National Trail is set out separately on page 3, opposite; copies will be available through the Parish Council office for those interested in the whole (single sheet) paper. The Council expressed considerable enthusiasm for the proposition as set out, recognising that a considerable amount of work would be necessary prior to 31st December if it were to be submitted in the manner required by the SWRDA. It was resolved, unanimously, to move this concept forward as expeditiously as possible along the lines proposed, but Councillors were mindful that its location within the village cannot be finalised until the Gateway negotiations are concluded.

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9.00 - Noon



Cotswolds away

Under this working heading the paper considered by the Parish Council last week (*see previous page*) sets out there being a South West of England Regional Development Agency responsible for leading the development of a sustainable economy. The SWRDA is custodian of funding percolating down from the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development. That programme has allocated £3.9 billion to England for a third period of such investment July 2008 to March 2014. Within this £28m of EU/Defra funding will be exclusively applied to Local Area Group (LAG) **projects which demonstrate area based approach of local partnership, bottom up approach, multi sectoral design, innovation and experimentation, inter-territorial and transnational co-operation and networking.**



The bottom line is that each LAG is expected to be **geographically orientated, serve between 5,000 and 150,000 population, require no less than £250,000 per year for 7 years, and meet 'regional fit' criteria.** With £28m available across 7 years, some £4m is available annually. At upwards of £250,000 per LAG it is clear that there will be a maximum of 16 projects across the whole south west region. The allocation is not per county; some may have several, others may have none.

The paper suggests that the proposition set out below is not refined or set in stone, additions or deletions are possible, but such is dependent upon views yet to be obtained from as many interested parties as possible from along the Trail.

- Create, preferably with new-build, a comprehensive **interpretation, study centre, and management base** located in Painswick for the Cotswold Trail.
- Recruit a cadre of **staff for the centre itself and for services along the route** of the Trail.
- Promote the centre as a **point of national and international reference** for all matters associated with the environment on and within a short distance of the Trail.
- Set up and maintain a **web site for the Trail**, including such as weather forecasts, hazards, obstructions, upgrading, accommodation changes, etc.
- Create a database for **annual publication of accommodation** within this 100 mile sector of the Cotswolds.
- Seek to draw all **interested individuals, agencies and authorities into a partnership** to advance these objectives and share in its management.
- Promote a vigorous **programme of education** upon all aspects of this sector of the Cotswolds and the Trail itself.
- Offer **talks to voluntary and other organisations** interested in any aspect of this Trail environment, across a range of topics e.g. historic, archeological, botanic, art, walking, camp-craft.
- Establish **applied research services**, not least with regard to economic impact, in collaboration with the University of Gloucestershire and others, including profiling of community life/activity, resource management, environmental matters, tourism associated with the area.
- Evolve and **maintain mini-bus transport** to facilitate access between small communities and the Trail along its entire length; this complementary to private sector and other agency provision.
- Seek **agency contacts for Trail maintenance** and groundwork enhancement from such as Defra and landowners, this through a team of dedicated staff with suitable logistic support.
- Initiate a **trans-European major footpath directory** and exchange of information - rolling networking

Our thanks to this year's cover artist for the Christmas edition



Angela Cash - local artist

Angela was born and brought up locally and after years of moving around the country the family has now settled in Sheepscombe. After an early career in nursing she began painting after the birth of her first child over twenty years ago. Going on to have four children she continued to paint whenever time allowed and started doing house portraits as commissions.

After success in local exhibitions she started to enter open exhibitions in London and elsewhere. She still regularly exhibits with The Society of Women Artists at the Mall Gallery and in Chelsea. Angela works predominantly in watercolour enjoying the translucency and freshness of the medium. Preferring to work out in the open, the Stroud valleys are a constant source of inspiration. Enjoying subjects such as landscapes, street scenes, interiors and architectural subjects, she also produces fine art giclee cards and prints.

Angela happily accepts commissions and is often asked to paint a favourite view, building or garden and has recently been commissioned to paint a garden party and a wedding.

Her paintings can currently be seen in the Burlington Gallery, Montpellier, Cheltenham and she plans to hold another Open Studio next summer – feel free to go along.



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The Gateway Trustees are keenly interested in this as it has strong elements consistent with their functions and attendant concern to advance matters which could affect the economy of the village and local area.

The Parish Council and the Gateway Manager will now be seeking the views of as many parish and town councils as they can along the Trail, agencies with interest in this sort of proposition, and so on.

Needless to say, local opinion will also be welcome, which should be directed to the Parish Council.

Guided Feast



This December, The Gloucestershire Guild of Craftsmen are staging a special exhibition for Christmas in the Guild Gallery in Painswick.



This **Christmas 'Feast'** will give visitors the opportunity to buy exceptionally fine designer crafts whilst, at the same time, being able to enjoy the sumptuous visual experience.

Beautiful, rich textiles will compliment fine furniture, glittering jewellery and individually designed ceramics. Expertly marbled papers will enhance notebooks and albums. There will be baskets and leatherwork, knitwear and prints and more to tempt you with this 'banquet' of treasures.

The Guild Gallery in Bisley Street will be open from 1st - 29th December, Tuesday - Saturday 10.00am - 5.00pm with special openings on Sundays 2nd, 9th and 16th December.

For more information contact the gallery on 814745 or visit the website, www.guildcrafts.org.uk

Jenny Ford

Parish Council Boxing Day walk



The annual Boxing Day walk will start from Stamages Lane car park at 10.00am.

The circular walk lasts approximately two hours and this year's route is via Painswick Mill, Greenhouse Court, Trillgate Farm, Downwood North Bank, Blackstable Wood, Dell Farm and Vicarage Street.

Everyone is welcome but dogs must be on a lead at all times. Stout footwear is necessary.

An Act of Kindness From Gloucester Journal 8th January 1897

'Amidst the whirl of excitement and pleasure during this festive season, it is refreshing to hear of thoughtful kindness for the poor.

On New Year's day a much welcomed gift, in the shape of home comforts, was sent to over sixty of the poor, in and around Painswick. Tea, sugar, bread, and - in the case of old men - tobacco, with a card expressing "Good wishes" for the New Year, comprised the neatly packed parcel. We believe that this is the second occasion that Dr Balfour Fergusson has brightened up the "hearths and homes" of many a Parish Patient at the opening of a new year.'

(Printed with permission of Gloucestershire Record Office)

Local History Teaser



All dressed up and looking rather serious. These Painswick children appear to be involved in a worthy cause but can you tell us when and what the occasion was? We would be pleased to hear from you as we do not know the answer. Who is the rather gracious lady in the forefront of the picture?

Last month's photograph, taken at Land's End, showed Jim and Elsie Mills, Godfrey and Ruby Pye (she was a stalwart of the Painswick Operatic Society) and Lionel Poole who was a tailor and always wore spats in winter.

If you have a photograph which you think would challenge readers we would love to hear from you.

... and Painswick Chronicle

Edition 10 of the Local History Society's annual journal should be on sale in time for Christmas - an excellent little present for anyone interested in Painswick.

Carol Maxwell



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Beacon Christmas Draw

Each year we make a draw from among our subscribers and advertisers and are pleased to say that this year's lucky ones are:

SUBSCRIBERS and receipt number:

279 **A bottle of whisky** Mrs B Dunn, Stepping Stone Cottage in Kingsmill Lane
407 **A bottle of sherry** Mr and Mrs G H Nixon, Copper Beaches, Woodborough Close
65 **Chocolates** for Mrs A Kemmett, 26 Upper Washwell, and
318 more **Chocolates** to Mrs F Chapman, Springacre in Lower Washwell Lane.

ADVERTISER

A bottle of Brandy to Chris Mercer, proprietor of 'The Chairman'.

Seasonal greetings to them all!

A New Shop in our Midst

On 30th October a new shop opened its doors making a welcome addition to Painswick's range of high class retailers. Approche is the concept of Pauline Roche and occupies the premises which for many years previously had been a tea shop.

There has been much speculation locally about what was happening behind the shutters for the last few months but, as Pauline explains, she wanted it to be absolutely right. The result is a delightful ladies' outfitters and wool shop.

Preparation has taken longer than expected for Pauline who found that sourcing some materials such as the wools was not easy. After exhaustive searches in this country she eventually found what she wanted in Italy and says that she will continue to buy her stock there.

Approche has an interesting range of goods on offer, all high quality and beautifully displayed. There is some lovely knitware, mainly cashmere or lambswool and much of it hand-knitted. Knitware can also be made to order. In the clothing line Pauline also offers coats, jackets, trousers, cardigans, blouses, tights, knee-highs and socks. Accessories have been carefully chosen and comprise a good selection of scarves and bags (some hand-made). A splendid display of jewellery, ranging in price and again some of it hand-made, completes the collection.

Apart from the clothes, Approche stocks a good range of quality knitting wools, all very attractive and not so easy to come by nowadays.

The shop itself has been very carefully converted from its tea room setting to a welcoming and pleasant space in which to browse this small but lovely collection. It has an exclusive feel to it, not least because all the items have been thoughtfully selected by Pauline specially for this individual shop. She explains that she wants to provide a personal service and that the Painswick setting is ideal.

Go and take a look for yourself at this special little shop where you can also buy gift vouchers. Now there's a good idea for a present.

Carol Maxwell

Coach to London

Seats are still available on the coach to London next **Wednesday, 5th December**.

It will depart from Stamages Car Park at 8.30am. Return journey is 6.30pm from Northumberland Avenue. Fare, only £12.



Bookings by cash or cheque payable to 'Painswick L & B Outings' should be made with

Mrs J Truman, Little Place, Hollyhock Lane, Painswick, GL6 6XH. Enquiries: Joan Truman 813965 or Pauline Berry 813227

Seasonal Market

It is not too late to order for Christmas: cakes, puddings & mince pies. The last market in 2007 will be 21st December when the usual cakes, savouries, preserves, free-range eggs, vegetables, crafts and pots of Hyacinths will be available for your last minute Christmas shopping and then have a welcome cup of coffee with a mince pie.

Our producers will have a well deserved rest and the market will re-open on Friday 18th January.

Patricia Davey



A massive 'thank you' to the 192 people who attended the Open Day at Richmond Painswick.

If you missed out and would like to view the facilities, please call
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Village Quiz 2008

Yes, there will be a Quiz in 2008, and the date has now been set so that you can put it into those brand new diaries.

Saturday 8th March
6.45 for a 7.15pm prompt start

More information later, but as there are limits to the capacity of Painswick Centre hall, and we would like the maximum of about 25 teams to take part, please consider sooner rather than later if your club, society, team, cul-de-sac, committee, or whatever grouping want to book a table for four.

Our organising genius this year will be Charles Dorman, and his contact number is 814548 or chasdorm@googlemail.com

The closing date for entries will be Saturday 1st March

Painswick Gateway

Could 'No news' mean 'Good news'?

This has to be the shortest report upon how the work of the shadow Trustees is progressing. We said, last month, that a 'formal offer - subject to contract' had been submitted to the County Council.

No reply has been received at the date this Beacon goes to press.

Leslie Brotherton Manager

Unrunners and a half

On a beautiful Sunday morning on the 21st October 15 Painswick Unrunners ran the Stroud Half Marathon. Thirteen miles is a long, long way to run, but we did it! Twelve of the Unrunners had never attempted a half marathon before and 4 had started from scratch last January, having never done any running before.

Was it easy? Not at all. Everyone who ran it gave it everything and there was a remarkable determination not to stop, not to give in to pain and to make it to the finish line. One Unrunner made it, having had bad asthma the day before and another with a small knee bone that had moved out of place. Sheer grit! The Marathon Runners were: Mandy and Rob Green, Marie Bellini, Annie Cima, Jennifer Barnett, Jenny Evans, Amanda Porter, Julia Churchley, Paula Whittaker, Samantha Twigg, Sally Knowles, Wendy Workman, Debbie Kedge, David Sanderson and myself.

Thank you for the support on the day from The Williams Syndrome Foundation and to all our sponsors. The money has been gathered and will be presented to The Croft School PTA and The Williams Syndrome Foundation, two very worthy local charities.



The Unrunners plan to keep on Running for Fun and Charity. Come and Join us for a Village Santa Walk/Jog on Sunday, 16th December. Meet 10.45am, top of Stamages Lane car park, for a walk to the top of the Painswick Beacon for mince pies and mulled wine. Walk or jog back with the Unrunners. This is a community event for everyone: families, dogs, old and young. (£2 adult and £1 child donation to Unrunners Charities). Don't forget to wear your Santa hat or outfit!

Should you too wish to have a go at a little gentle running, please contact me. I will be starting a beginners group in January with the aim of running a 3 mile race by the summer.

Rosemary Sanderson (Rosemary.Sanderson@gmail.com)

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Gloucester Choral Society Coach

Our next concert will be a performance of Handel's "Messiah" with Regency Sinfonia on Saturday 8th December in Gloucester Cathedral.

The performance commences at 7.30pm and, to hear this work, please book your seats now. The usual special inclusive offer including transport is available to Painswick residents. A Beavis coach will be waiting in Stamages car park for departure at 6.45pm returning around 10.00pm. Tickets are £22 (centre nave) of £17.50 (rear nave), inclusive of discounted seat prices and coach fare.

To use this service, please send a cheque (made out to Gloucester Choral Society) to Gordon Owen, Treasurer, Kemps Orchard, Kemps Lane, Painswick, GL6 6YB, providing your name, address, contact 'phone number and SAE.

Gordon Owen 812841



..and then there were none

Three little piggies
Standing in the grass
Drew smiling faces
From all who passed.

Late one night
They were taken!
We've guessed who,
Don't be mistaken.

Please return,
We'll bear no malice;
They all belong
To the family ALLISS.

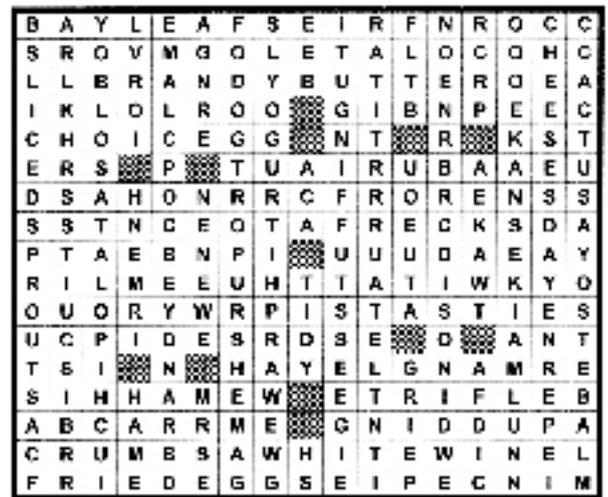
Joyce Alliss
2 Tibbiwell Cottages

We went underground again last month, and wonder if you found these 18 London stations in the J-Z range.

- KENTON
- KEW
- LEYTON
- MORDEN
- NORTHOLT
- ONGAR
- OVAL
- PADDINGTON
- PERIVALE
- PINNER
- PLAISTOW
- RICHMOND
- RUISLIP
- STOCKWELL
- STRATFORD
- UXBRIDGE
- WAPPING
- WIMBLEDON



No less than 25 examples of classic Christmas fare and beverage hidden here.



Sue Ryder - we do Care



The Christmas fair held on 10th November raised a final total of £1,116.97.

People waiting for a seat and not a mince pie left! Our thanks to all who gave donations, raffle prizes, gifts, baking and their time. A big thanks also to Michelle and everyone at Ashwell House for their support.

It was a welcoming and friendly atmosphere and a lot of hard work had gone into making the hall attractive but without your support on the day it would all be to no avail.

Our thanks again

A very happy Christmas and a healthy New Year. God Bless

Anne Leoni - on behalf of the group



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Fireworks and Lights

Painswick Playgroup has been busy celebrating Diwali, the Hindu festival of Lights. The children have been enjoying dressing up in Indian costumes and learning about the festival through role play. Because there are lights, fireworks and dressing up involved, this festival is always a great favourite with the children at Playgroup.

Activities have included a special 'child friendly' Firework Night on 5th November. A large crowd of children and parents attended for an entertaining but safe display. Our thanks go to everyone who worked so hard to make this evening a success and especially to Olivias Delicatessen who kindly donated the fabulous 'firework' cakes and biscuits. With the money that was raised from the sale of refreshments the Playgroup bought three new painting easels plus other new toys for the children to enjoy.

Over the next few weeks, the children will be preparing for Christmas with plenty of festive activities. With an 'all new' Nativity to prepare for too, there is plenty to keep the little ones occupied during the cold December mornings ahead.

Linda Yates Secretary



The Croft School Christmas Fair Sunday 9th December 2.00 – 4.00pm

Do come along and join us for our traditional Christmas Fair with raffle, bottle and chocolate tombolas and lots of fun and games

for the children. The Croft Playgroup will also be running an activity stall which the tiny tots will enjoy.

This year we hope to have a larger café area for you to sit down comfortably to enjoy tea, cakes, mulled wine and mince pies.

This is one of our biggest fundraising events of the year as well as enormous fun for everyone. If you are unable to come but would like to donate a raffle prize do contact the new PTA chairman, Julia Churchley on 814215.

And don't forget, Santa will be arriving at 2.00pm after a ride through Painswick in a pony and trap!

Thank you to everyone in Painswick for supporting our school.

Deputy play leader wanted

An exciting opportunity has arisen to join our after school club at the Croft Primary School. The Club provides care and fun activities for up to 30 4-11 year olds during term time only from 3.00-5.15pm.

A Deputy Play Leader is required to supervise the children, provide support to the Play Leader with all after school activities and supervise staff in the absence of the Play Leader. Ideally applicants will hold an NVQ2, or equivalent, qualification in childcare however this is not essential as training can be provided. If you are creative and hardworking with good interpersonal and organisational skills then this is your opportunity to join our team.

The rate of pay is £7.65 per hour.

For an application form, please contact Kate Perris, Club Committee Secretary on 814287 or post your CV to 5 Brookhouse Mill, Tibbiwell Lane, Painswick Glos GL6 6YA.



Notes from the School newsletter to parents

Children in Need

Congratulations to Class 1 and Mrs Hartley for a very successful spotty 'Children in Need' day. Thanks too to Caitlin Workman for running a raffle and sweet sale after school.

Healthy School status

We were delighted to receive the award of 'Healthy Schools' status at a celebration at the Hatherley Manor Hotel.

We took a display of work and photographs to show the work that we do here. We came back very proud of all that we have achieved and full of new ideas from other schools. The children who attended enjoyed watching a DVD that has been made to encourage schools to take part in 'Wake and Shake', especially when they saw last year's Class 2 and Mrs Greening on the screen. Congratulations to all who have been involved in gaining this prestigious national award.

Healthy Parents too!

Congratulations to the 'Unrunners' group who recently took part in the Stroud Half Marathon.

They have proved themselves to be impressive runners and a great deal of hard work and determination was involved in their training and preparation. Many thanks to you all, and especially to Rosie Sanderson for her inspirational leadership of the group. The group are raising money for our PTA and the Williams syndrome Foundation. If you have not had the chance to sponsor the group and you would like to make a donation, please send it to the school office for collection by Rosie.

Book Fair

Thank you for your tremendous support of our book fair. We sold books to the value of £672 and will receive 60% commission in books, which totals just over £400. The School Council will take a part in deciding which books to choose for the school library. They will also be involved in choosing books to be funded from a donation from the closure of accounts of the Painswick WI, given in memory of Doreen Boon.

Can you help in the school library?

If you are able to help with the cataloguing of books and the organisation of the library, please contact me or Mrs Towler. We would be very grateful of any help, either as a one-off or on a regular basis.

Janet Hoyle



Artist Jane Garbett

would like to invite Beacon readers to her studio in Vicarage Street, during the Christmas period.

A variety of new work; including small paintings and prints will be on show inspired by our beautiful landscape. You are welcome to browse; some work will be for sale.



Jane's work will also be on show at Kendrick Street Gallery in Stroud and Affinity Dental Care in Gloucester during this period.

Studio address: Dover Mews, Vicarage Street, Painswick. (next to the Friends Meeting House)

Opening Times: Weekend Afternoons 2.00pm – 4.30pm

Dates: December 1st and 2nd December 8th and 9th December 15th and 16th

Or any time by appointment: please telephone Jane on 812176

Jane is looking forward to meeting you.

ArchiTecs

Last month's lettering was from above the door of the old Bath House right in the centre of the village.



Staying with an element of architecture, but posing a different question this month. Where could these walkers be heading, and why? For those requiring an eliminating clue or two - it was not a dole queue, or a sale in Bisley Street.

We are pleased to welcome Malcolm Burley to the Beacon team; he will be letting us have other photographs on a regular basis.



Glasses

found on the Beacon

A pair of Giovanni prescription spectacles found in the woods next to the Golf Course - phone 812646

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Wildlife at home

Bird Club



At the last meeting of 2007 in the Town Hall, club members had the pleasure of listening to yet another excellent presentation from

Helen Williams, ARPS on the topic of "Gardening for Wildlife." Guests from the Painswick Horticultural Society were also in attendance for this youthful and popular speaker as usual enthusing, this time about the joys of developing an obviously much-loved half-acre garden from the wild, in the Forest of Dean. This has been planned to achieve a huge variety of flowering plants and shrubs with an organic approach and many zones for a relatively small area, even including a small meadow section.

A vital part of the enterprise was the pond with a carefully engineered marshy end to exploit opportunity for yet more flora and fauna - and to avoid accidental mortality! A paradise for frogs, toads and newts was thus created to the point of overcrowding! With the innumerable floral nectars all year, insects and beetles find themselves in quite the gourmet setting, as consequently do the birds!

All this was exhibited photographically with familiar consummate skill, the shots of butterflies eliciting particular admiration --- and all our gardeners will perhaps be vying to also attract their own marbled whites? (And I even thought I saw a young damsel emerging from the pond at one point?)

Members and visitors are particularly reminded that the next meeting in the Town Hall on Tuesday 19th February is an afternoon meeting at 2.15pm when Dr. Richard Sale returns to regale us with yarns of Wildlife Encounters in Antarctica and the Southern Ocean.

Wendy and Martin Addy

Women on Top



Husbands beware! The ladies of Yew Trees WI had the most enlightening lesson on how to succeed in life, when Dr Gillian White came to their October meeting to talk on 'Bess of Hardwick and Hardwick Hall'. Bess, a remarkably feisty lady, made a habit of acquiring husbands, each one richer than the one before! The habit stopped with husband number four, The Earl of Shrewsbury (England's Premier Earl and fourth highest in the aristocratic 'pecking list'). Having separated from him, Bess, by now a Countess, built herself a magnificent home (Hardwick Hall). She was one of the largest landowners in the country, the second richest woman in the Kingdom, (the first being her monarch, Queen Elizabeth I) and lived to the ripe old age of 80. Not bad eh?



We are delighted that several new members have recently joined Yew Trees and expect more to follow shortly. Remember, if you join now your subscription lasts through to the end of 2008! Please note that in December our meeting is on Tuesday 11th December, earlier in the month than usual, but at 7.30pm in the Town Hall, as usual. Kathleen Kear will teach us to make orange pomanders and cinnamon candles.

Prospective members are most welcome, but do ring Celia Lougher beforehand in order to obtain a list of items to bring with you, so that you can participate in this workshop.

Celia Lougher

Opportunities for Older People to carry out research

Gloucestershire Rural Community Council draw attention to this interesting opportunity.

A team of researchers from the University of the West of England, Bristol (UWE) is carrying out a local evaluation of the Gloucestershire Partnerships for Older People Project (POPP) in Gloucestershire. UWE are keen to offer older people the opportunity to take part in their evaluation as researchers. The two main opportunities are for older people to be involved are by:

§ Helping care home residents to complete a quality of life questionnaire; and

§ Carrying out in-depth interviews with older people about their quality of life.

Training will be provided to help older people carry out these research tasks and any travel expenses will be reimbursed.

If you would like to find out more about taking part in the UWE evaluation please contact:

*Simon Evans by telephone on 01173.281120
or by email at Simon.Evans@uwe.ac.uk*

Telephone Scam

In this scam, the caller provides YOU with all the information, except the one piece they want. They don't ask for your card number; they already have it.

The conversation goes something like this.

"Hello, I'm Jack Bloggs from VISA Security and Fraud Department. My Badge number is 12460. Your card has been flagged for an unusual purchase pattern and I'm calling to verify. This would be on your VISA card with XXX bank. (He might even tell you the VISA card number). Did you purchase (list of items) for £497.99 from ZZZ?"

When you say "No", he continues with: "Then we will be issuing a credit to your account. Before your next statement, the credit will be sent to (your address). Is that correct?"

You say "yes".

The caller continues - "I will be starting a Fraud investigation. If you have any questions, call the telephone number on the back of your card, ask for Security and give them this number." He gives you a six digit number. He then says, "I need to verify that you are in possession of your card. Turn your card over and look for some numbers. There are seven numbers of which the last 3 verify you are the possessor of the card. These are the numbers you sometimes use to make Internet purchases to prove you have the card. To confirm that you still have the card, please read those three numbers to me."

After you tell him the three numbers, he'll say: "That is correct, I just needed to verify that the card has not been lost or stolen, and that you still have it. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to call back".

He then hangs up, having all the information he needs to make a telephone or internet purchase.

Wally Walters, High Clouds, Queens Mead

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Advent and Christmas 2007

special services and events throughout the area

Churches Together Around Painswick

have co-ordinated information from all the churches which we hope will be helpful.



Saturday	December 8th	7.00 pm	Brookthorpe		Carols by candlelight
Sunday	December 9th	11.15 am	St. Mary's, C of E	Painswick	Family / Christmas service
		4.00 pm	St. James the Great, C of E	Cranham	Christingle service
Tuesday	December 11th	7.30 pm	Stroud Leisure Centre	Stroud	Ignition Carol Service
Sunday	December 16th	10.00 am	St. John the Baptist, C of E	Edge	Family service / Nativity
		11.00 am	St. John the Baptist, C of E	Pitchcombe	Readings and carols
		4.00 pm	Methodist Chapel	Sheepscombe	Carol service and mince pies
		7.00 pm	St. John the Baptist, C of E	Harescombe	Carol Service
Tuesday	December 18th	4.00 pm	Resthovea	Pitchcombe	Carols
Wednesday	December 19th	7.00 pm	St. John the Baptist, C of E	Edge	Carol Service
Friday	December 21st	5.00 pm	Painswick Carols - Part 1	Painswick	Richmond Village
		6.00 pm	Painswick Carols - Part 2	Painswick	Refreshments - Church Rooms
		7.00 pm	Painswick Carols - Part 3	Painswick	Carols around the village
Sunday	December 23rd	8.30 am	Our Lady & St. Therese, RC	Painswick	Mass for Advent
		10.30 am	Friends Meeting House	Painswick	Christmas Meeting + readings
		4.00 pm	Christ Church, URC	Painswick	Carols, lessons & mince pies
		6.30 pm	Methodist Chapel	Sheepscombe	Christmas service
		6.30 pm	St. Mary's, C of E	Painswick	Carol Service
Monday	December 24th	3.30 pm	St. John the Apostle, C of E	Sheepscombe	Crrib Service
Christmas Eve		4.00 pm	St. Mary's, C of E	Painswick	Crrib Service
		4.00 pm	St. James the Great, C of E	Cranham	Crrib Service
		4.00 pm	St. John the Baptist, C of E	Harescombe	Crrib Service
		5.00 pm	St. John the Baptist, C of E	Edge	Crrib Service / Nativity play
		11.30 pm	St. Mary's, C of E	Painswick	Midnight Service
		11.30 pm	St. James the Great, C of E	Cranham	Midnight Service
		11.30 pm	St. John the Baptist, C of E	Pitchcombe	Midnight Service
Tuesday	December 25th	8.00 am	St. Mary's, C of E	Painswick	BCP Holy Communion
Christmas Day		8.30 am	Our Lady & St. Therese, RC	Painswick	Mass of the Nativity
		9.00 am	St. John the Baptist, C of E	Harescombe	Family Communion
		10.30 am	St. John the Apostle, C of E	Sheepscombe	Family Communion
		10.00 am	St. John the Baptist, C of E	Edge	Family Communion
		10.30 am	St. Mary's, C of E	Painswick	Family Service
		11.00 am	Christ Church, URC	Painswick	Short Christmas Celebration
		11.00 am	St. James the Great, C of E	Cranham	Family Communion
		11.15 am	St. Mary's, C of E	Painswick	Holy Communion (shortened)
		11.30 am	Resthovea	Pitchcombe	Holy Communion
Sunday	December 30th	8.30 am	Our Lady & St. Therese, RC	Painswick	Mass
		10.30 am	Christ Church, URC	Painswick	Soul Call (see Note below)
		11am	St. John the Apostle, C of E	Sheepscombe	Post Christmas service
		6.30 pm	St. James the Great, C of E	Cranham	Carol Service

Note: The Soul Call is held in Dainton Church hall. It is contemporary, informal, usually focusing on the spirituality of Dainton

Prinknash Abbey: Details of Christmas services are not yet available. Please see the Abbey Notice Board in Our Lady & St. Therese church in Friday Street

An apology

I must apologize. Last month we were premature in two respects.

Firstly we had five sevenths or a possible six sevenths but definitely not seven sevenths in the Dwarves counting table.

And then that Act Two – well let us just say that it finally arrived in Lesley Wolowiec inbox on Sunday 18th November with the dramatist dramatising all sorts of feeble excuses for the delay. Again lets be kind and accept his explanation of “computer failure”. What’s that you say about a bad workman? Let me assure that we have a nervous workman here but certainly no bad one.

Snow White and the SNPTP (Seven Not Particularly Tall People) is a mine of laughter with all the old pantomime stalwarts, with references to contemporary life and with a new theme (are you familiar with gigglets and guffaws? – think about it). Anyhow let’s return to the Dwar.. sorry NPTPs. We had seven but like green bottles one somehow fell off and then half of one and then the half returned and a whole new one was found.

Got it? Good.



So now I am pleased to confirm WE HAVE OUR NPTPs and our Act Two. And we have only twelve rehearsal days until production week and much to do. Lines to learn, costumes to hire or make, try on and adjust, the set to build and paint, special effects, lights and sounds to organize, songs and music to learn, props to source or make ... the list never seems to end. There will be problems to be solved and difficulties to overcome. It will all finally come together though in production week and the work of all those involved, actors and backstage, will be there for your enjoyment and amusement when the show goes live.

Charles Dorman

In a shady nook - - - -

- - - - but not always by a babbling brook! Duncan Coombs gave our November meeting an excellent talk on "The Shaded Garden". Apparently there are several types of shade - dappled shade, part shade, full shade, dry shade and damp shade and it was interesting to find how many plants thrive in these conditions. We all know about primroses, bluebells, cyclamen and snowdrops, and that clematis like their feet in the shade with heads in the sun. However it was a surprise to hear that hydrangeas are shade loving plants as for me they conjure up visions of sunny days in Cornwall. Duncan's talk captured our imagination and instead of seeing shade as a problem he certainly made me look for different types of shade in our garden as opportunities - to fill with Turks cap lilies, azarums and brunnera to name but a few!

Our next meeting is on December 12th, our annual Quiz Evening.

Betty Harris

Painswick Horticultural Society





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Richmond Open Days

Almost two hundred people used the opportunity provided by the open days on 8th and 9th November to have a look round the facilities on offer at the Richmond development.

When complete there will be about a hundred residents though at present only the independent units and some of the service apartments have been sold. The main purpose of the open days was to demonstrate the ethos of the centre which focuses on the



idea that residents can avail themselves of as little or as much help as they desire. Or to look at it the other way round, they can enjoy as much independence as they choose.

David Reaves, the marketing manager, explains that it is "a community within a

community," being independent yet part of Painswick. There are organized events and activities within the centre but there will also be events open to the Painswick public. In addition there is a small auditorium which members of the public, especially groups and societies, are welcome to book for meetings. There is a small library and a communal lounge for visitors.

After Christmas the restaurant will be open to non-residents. Membership of the Wellness spa with its excellent treatment rooms, gymnasium and swimming pool will be offered to Painswick residents over the age of fifty.

David emphasises that if you live locally you are very welcome to pay a visit to look round at any time.

Carol Maxwell

It's big, it's green, and a challenge

UnLtd together with NESTA have launched The Big Green Challenge. Big Green Challenge is a £1 million prize fund to encourage groups of people to come up with new ways to tackle climate change. Run over two years, it challenges not-for-profit groups and organisations to demonstrate new and better ways to reduce their CO2 emissions by 60% in their communities.

Projects can be local, regional or more widely spread. The Big Green Challenge will seek to select ten finalists, once selected, they will have a year to show Big Green that they can turn their BIG ideas into action. The winner will be announced in late 2009. Eligible challengers have to be constituted not for profit organisation although newly formed groups can apply for this status later. The closing date for entering the challenge is the 29th February 2008.

*Claire Carter Jigsaw Consultancy
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Feeling Good with Chloe



Chloe Smith exudes youthful confidence and a refreshing attitude. She is a real enthusiast. Having moved into the former premises of the dental surgery at Hoyland House, she opened her brand new business, Revive, at the end of September.

Chloe is a beauty therapist with an impressive background. She studied for two years on a full-time course at Gloscat gaining a BTEC National Diploma in Beauty Therapy Sciences. This was followed by four years employment at Cedars Salon in Gloucester, the last eighteen months of which she was senior therapist. She regards her experience there as invaluable, learning and developing a wide and important range of skills. By the summer of this year she knew she was ready to set up her own centre.

Revive is a joint venture and Chloe is part of a team of three. Her partners are Dr Thornton MacCallum and Dr Ewart Lewis and their role is concerned with medical aspects of the treatments whilst she is involved solely with the beauty side. She points out that the services they provide are different but complementary.

Chloe is very serious about what she does. She is keen to explain that her aim is to provide a totally individual experience for each client, the main ingredient being a feel-good factor. She recognizes that people have different needs and that her role is to provide a very personal service. "It is important for us to have relaxation time, time for ourselves" she says. Chloe's range of treatments are beneficial in many ways, from relieving tension to making the most of one's appearance. She wants people to feel good about themselves and believes the treatments she offers can do this.

At present her clients are aged from fourteen to ninety four, which, as she points out, demonstrates that this is not necessarily about glamour. It is available to both men and women. Many of her former clients have already decided to come from Gloucester because they have such confidence in her.

Having lived in Cranham all her life she is very pleased to have been able to take over the rooms at Hoyland House. She feels it is exactly right - quiet, peaceful, fresh and welcoming. Chloe herself is a lovely, amiable and friendly young woman and both she and the premises provide a warm and relaxing atmosphere. It is not too big and the service is very personal.

Revive is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9.00am-1.00pm, and Wednesdays and Fridays from 9.30am-5.30pm. The entrance is at the back of the building where there is also separate parking. It's worth taking a look at the range of services on offer - you might enjoy it and you will certainly feel the benefits.

Carol Maxwell

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Where will you do your Christmas shopping?

Our local businesses really need your support more than ever this year. The A46 closure has hit all of them very hard, so before you head off to a big town and all the crowds why not have a good look at what's on offer in Painswick. You may be very pleasantly surprised at the wonderful range to choose from, much of it that little bit different.

The Post Office has a huge selection of good value charity cards, some lovely children's toys and games and many ideal interesting small gift ideas and stocking fillers.

Annie is keen to remind readers too that there are free cash withdrawal facilities, commission-free euros always available and that it is important to renew your car tax at the counter.

Painswick Woodcraft is special, offering as it does skillfully carved items in carefully chosen, exquisite hardwoods. The pieces range from the practical to the decoratively beautiful.

Painswick Pharmacy has a wonderful range to choose from. As well as very special Bronnley and Floris toiletries, there are health products, cameras, frames, cosmetics, toiletries, fun hot water bottles, scarf sets to name but a few.

Fiery Beacon is a little wonderland of beautifully crafted jewellery, ceramics, textiles, paintings, cards and clocks. The pieces, made by various artists, are individual and beautiful.

Ha'penny Pieces is a tiny shop packed with lovely, mostly vintage, linen, glass, cushions, pictures, mirrors, quilts, jugs, ornaments, cutlery, china, throws, jewellery and small pine furniture. It's a little treasure trove.

Little Fleece Bookshop has many special and fascinating second-hand and antiquarian books covering a wide range of topics for all ages and interests. There is a small selection of prints too.

Olivas offers its usual selection of delicious foods and drinks and in addition for Christmas there will be special hampers, loins of pork, Christmas cakes to order and a variety of sweet and savoury edible and decorative gifts.

Painswick Fabrics offers exquisite fabrics at reduced prices. The selection covers a wide range of uses and there are also sumptuous cushions, rugs, throws and tassels to be found too.

The Chairman is packed with a variety of new and antique items for the home including pottery, furniture, clocks, mirrors, toys, boxes, pictures, tree decorations and much more.

Approche offers ladies' clothes and accessories carefully chosen so you know they are not replicated elsewhere. The quality and style are matched by the very personal attention you will receive.

Londis is our quintessential village shop, offering a remarkable selection of provisions and magazines. Extra luxury goods especially chocolates and drinks are on the shelves for Christmas.

Patchwork Mouse is fun. You will find goodies to amuse, to charm, to admire. It's quirky but pretty, practical and decorative, a true mélange of potential gifts. The cards are amazing and you can enjoy good tea and coffee too.

Gloucestershire Guild of Craftsmen displays stunning pieces of artwork – ceramics, textiles, woodwork, jewellery, glassware, books, cards etc. This is the finest of contemporary craftsmanship rooted in the Arts and Crafts movement.

Our shops offer quality and individuality and are all a joy to visit. We don't want to lose them so do go and browse and you may find you don't need to go any further to solve all your Christmas present requirements.

Carol Maxwell

Beacon subscribers

20th November 2007	2007-08	2006-07
New or renewed after lapsing	121	144
Renewed from last year	489	495
Total including postal	610	639
Painswick village dwellings	1057	1057
Subscribing households	430	557
Percentage subscribing	41%	53%

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Painswick – a Foodie Place this Festive Season



This year we are spoilt for choice when it comes to eating out, so why not treat yourself and family and friends during the next few weeks? Painswick now boasts some excellent eateries all offering mouthwatering menus and good value over the Christmas period.

The Royal Oak offers a very good value home-made four-course Christmas party menu for lunchtime and supper throughout December. The cost is £20. The usual gastro pub menu with daily specials will also be available. Booking is advisable. Christmas Day opening is from 11.30-1.30 for drinks.

There will be a New Year's Eve party with a choice of special menu of home-made dishes or light snacks at the bar; fancy dress is optional but welcome for the party. With a Mummings evening on 16th December and the Pitchcombe Carol Barkers on 20th December the Oak promises some lively evenings.

Cardynham House Bistro has a special three-course Christmas party menu for December at £19.95. Booking is important. On Christmas Day a special five-course lunch with mulled wine on arrival and finishing with coffee and mince pies will be served from 12.30pm. The cost is £69 and booking is essential. A four-course dinner with entertainment is set for New Year's Eve from 7.30pm-12.30am. The cost is £75 and booking is essential. The Bistro will close for two weeks from 7th January.

The Golf Club is offering Christmas party lunches and dinners throughout December. Booking is essential. A three-course Christmas Day lunch with a complimentary drink is planned. The cost is £45 and booking is necessary.

There will be a New Year's Eve party with cold carve buffet and a disco for which booking is essential.

The Falcon is available for Christmas parties throughout December.

On Christmas Day from 12.00-4.00pm Christmas dinner will be served for families and groups for £35 per person. From 4.00pm a special Christmas dinner costing £10 will be served for people who are on their own for the day. Booking is necessary. The bar will be open in the evening.

A New Year's Eve dance with buffet and champagne will be held on 31 December at a cost of £10. There will be live music on 8th December.

Cotswolds88hotel will offer a special festive a la carte dinner menu and a set festive lunch during the weeks leading up to Christmas. On Christmas Eve champagne and canapés will precede a five-course banquet. The cost is £65 and booking is necessary.

The Christmas Day lunch consists of five courses and cocktails on arrival. The cost is £65 and booking is necessary. These occasions will be themed – nightmare before Christmas – and the décor will reflect this in sparkling black and white. The hotel has commissioned Claire Douglass, a Fellow of the Royal Academy of Art, to design and make the slightly outrageous but beautiful sets to create a great experience. The hotel will be closed from 31st December to 7th January inclusive.

St Michaels Restaurant will be closed for two months from 16th December.

The Rococo Garden Restaurant is happy to offer Christmas lunches for pre-booked groups until 19 December.

All of our restaurants also continue to serve teas and coffee as do the **Patchwork Mouse** and **Olivas**.

December could turn into something of a gourmet month for Painswickians!

Carol Maxwell

Phil's Quest

Philip Longuet-Higgins has undertaken a project with two distinct aims. The first is to raise funds for Children in Need and Breakthrough Breast Cancer, the second is to get the project into the Guinness Book of Records. He needs you to help him achieve these aims.

Phil, aged 20, is a student at Oxford Brookes University. He used to play rugby for Painswick and still plays cricket here. He and fellow students have organized this world record attempt not only to raise money for good causes and gain a place in the Guinness Book of Records but also to raise awareness of climate change.



Their mission is to provide the most trees to be planted in the UK. They need as many people as possible to sponsor a tree for this purpose and are asking for your help in this.

If you would like to take part in the project, and in particular have a tree planted this Christmas, simply telephone 02081.445326, or visit www.treededication.co.uk. The cost per tree of sponsorship is £9.99 and you will be issued with a certificate printed on recycled paper.

Carol Maxwell

Gloucestershire 1000 Years 1000 Trees for 1000 Years



Following the article in last month's Beacon, Laura Fleming, the Project Co-ordinator of Gloucestershire 1000, has asked us to publicise contact details for the Gloucestershire 1000 project, which celebrates the county's millennium. One of the initiatives launched is the planting of 1000 trees across Gloucestershire. This - and much else - appears on the website www.gloucestershire1000.org.uk, including children's competitions, writing competitions, exhibitions and historical facts. You can also search for local events happening in the Painswick area.

And if you don't have access to a computer, try the University of Gloucestershire in Cheltenham on 01242.714863.



Trick or Treat ?

'Caught' outside Hamptons a month ago - the picture tells it all, thanks to David Allott.

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The Arts Centre, Ludlow 10.00am - 5.00pm with special openings on Saturday, Dec 9th and 16th

Big Bang + Janacek

"Bang, Clang & Crash" was the most unusual title we have had so far for one of our meetings which was fascinatingly presented by Alex Nichols on 1st November. To put us in the mood, he started with Verdi's "Dies Irae" and then regaled us with drums, pipes, xylophone, Glockenspiel, Celeste and a Steel Band, ready for the interval! Then came a Hammer dulcimer, a cembalon, percussions, fortepiano and Wagner's anvils and cymbals. An earfull and a half, but exciting and stimulating.

Janacek's operas arguably represent the greatest series by any composer in the 20th century. This was why on 15th November Iain Cooper devoted the greater part of his presentation of this Moravian composer's highly original and unconventional music to them. The prelude to "The Makropulos Affair" gave us an excellent idea of their flavour and folk music themes were found in the other works: "Katya Kabanova" and "The Cunning Little Vixen" and ending with the joyful and overwhelming Glagolitic Mass.

Ralph Kenber

Messiah

Painswick Music Appreciation Group are offering another concert outing -- this time with a Christmas flavour -- to hear Messiah performed in Tewkesbury Abbey by the Schola Cantorum under their talented conductor, Benjamin Nicholas. Amongst the soloists is the renowned Stroud-based Mezzo Soprano, Sarah Connolly.



The date is Monday 17th December, commencing at 7.00pm with a coach leaving Stamages Car Park at 5.30pm.

Tickets are priced at £20, £15 or £10 with the coach likely to be a maximum of £6/£7, but less if more people subscribe.

Contact Stewart Price on 814241 for details.

'Toys 2 the Xtreme' ...for boys (and girls) on the web

Graham Stokes launched his Internet based business, Mataro back in January from his home in Stamages Lane. Rapid growth over the first few months led to establishing office and warehousing facilities in Cheltenham and the business is now set for a very busy first Christmas with customers from all over the UK and a growing market in continental Europe.

'Toys 2 the Xtreme' is how Mataro is branded, which – Graham explains – means a whole range of traditional toys and games (from train sets to snooker tables) as well as new products such as 'Blue Earth All Terrain Boards' and those for the more digitally and electronically inclined, all sold on-line via the www.mataro.co.uk website.

According to Graham, this year's big Christmas 'must haves' include indoor micro helicopters, infra-red controlled, and digital dart boards. The Boxing Day snooze is clearly under threat!

One interesting development has been the unexpected demand for 'big boys' toys, ie adult sports and golf equipment. Apparently, parents – usually fathers – who are drawn to the site, ostensibly in search of children's toys, end up ordering for themselves as well (or maybe, instead!). Another unexpected development has been the European dimension with customers from France, Germany and Portugal, in particular. The key to success is all about making sure that the right products are always available.

And, finally, why is the business called Mataro? 'Oh, that's just because Mataro is a suburb of Barcelona, where we have a villa!' explains Graham.

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Sue Bradley, on behalf of Gloucestershire First, has provided the following information for Beacon readers about the

A46 closure

HELP and support for Painswick's traders is coming in on several fronts following the closure of the A46.

Severn Bore Piling Limited has been contracted to repair the road, work on which should be completed by mid February.

Meanwhile Gloucestershire First, Gloucestershire County Council, Gloucestershire Highways, Stroud District Council and other agencies are working on a series of initiatives, some of which are being funded by the South West Regional Development Agency's flood recovery scheme.

They include:

- A two page feature on Painswick in the Citizen and Echo's Weekend magazine with supporting coverage from BBC Radio Gloucestershire.
- The possibility of a new visitors guide to Painswick to link with the re-opening of the A46.
- A bill board to be positioned in Stroud showing that Painswick is open for business, backed up with a media campaign.
- Free parking at the Stamages Lane car park until March.
- Affected businesses encouraged to contact Stroud District Council for advice on business rate evaluations.
- Maps showing diversions to Painswick and village attractions available in visitor centres and on tourism web sites.
- Video and audio podcast on Painswick on www.visitthecotswolds.org.uk
- Accommodation businesses offered discounts for SDC Quality in Tourism registration and 2008 visitor guide entry.
- Painswick featured in promotional video funded by SWRDA flood recovery funding.

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30 Years of Badminton ... a potty - sorry - potted history

We have been together now for 30 years...And for many of us it certainly feels like it!

Thirty years of chasing a plastic projectile around the hall at the Painswick Centre in the forlorn hope that it is doing us the world of good, and what a sight to behold dear reader. Yellow trainers, pink tracksuits, hair-bands and full make up and that's only the men!

The Ladies can only be described as "young gazelles". I am proud to know you. Bless your little pacemakers.

It is not widely known that when a small group of Painswickians first came together in 1977 there was another team already playing. Our Village Badminton Club, as they were known, were confined to the occasional Thursday evening. However I suspect pressure was applied and the first lot pushed off to Stroud.

We have four of the original members still playing and in view of the fact that they would be embarrassed to be named, I will refrain from doing so. They are Sylvia Steer, Eddie Buttery, Hilary Simpson and David Linsell our current Chairman.

With the increase in membership we began to play twice a week and about 12 years ago we started a third evening. Friday nights, open to Non Members.

One of our better decisions taken almost 30 years ago was to introduce a junior section which still thrives today. These boys and girls are coached by an Approved Badminton Association Player and their ability and discipline on the court is a credit to the younger generation of Painswick.

The Club has always had the enviable reputation for social enjoyment, it has been said (unfairly) that we are a drinking club Parties, you name it we've done it! (Well perhaps not all of it).

We celebrated our 30 year anniversary on the 6th October 2007 at the Painswick Golf Club. Past and present members attended and enjoyed the hospitality of the new Stewards Judith and Peter. (Have you recovered yet?). Plus live music from the Stuart Hall Band fresh from their tour of Nailsworth.

To say that a good time was had by all is a vast understatement. I am always surprised by members who, when playing, puff and pant by the point, yet put them on a dance floor and they can jive for England.

The toast was "Roll on the next 30" however, let's be sensible, ten at a time please. I am quietly confident of making our 40 providing the Nurse is available.

Keep Smashing.

Alan Hudson

Headway Charity Ball

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Tennis AGM

Painswick Lawn Tennis Club's Annual General Meeting was held on the evening of the 7th November rounding off what had been a highly successful year for the club. Painswick was awarded the title of Gloucestershire LTA Club of the Year 2006, the Men's A team won the Premier Division in the Summer League and the Ladies' teams had their best year ever. In addition, eighteen juniors have represented the county over the last twelve months.

Three junior trophies were awarded during the course of the evening. Sophie Hall was presented with the Maureen Connolly Cup, James Barnett the Boris Becker Cup and James Sidwell the Peter Bolton Cup. Although each was singled out for recognition for different reasons – Sophie for her improvement and determination over the last year, James for his achievements in both the junior, and this year, senior games and James Sidwell for his enthusiasm and spirit – all three demonstrate the qualities that make tennis the game it is.

It was a very positive evening with much evidence that the club is going from strength to strength with the future looking bright for Painswick LTC.

Jillie Speed



Pictured from left to right are Sophie Hall, James Sidwell and James Barnett

Rugby

November has been a very successful month for the Painswick Club. The first fifteen team has begun to play the standard of rugby which supporters always felt the players were capable of with outstanding league victories against the two Bristol clubs, Bishopston and Southmead. In the EDF Energy Junior Vase, Painswick had an exciting win over Upton-on-Severn when Will Leicester kicked a crucial penalty goal in the last few minutes to give the Cherry and Whites victory by a single point. Painswick have a very good record in this competition and they will be travelling to Plymouth in the next round on 8th December in confident mood with their sights on a Twickenham final.

Painswick United's exceptional season continues apace with Merit Table victories against Bream and Westbury. The United's Stroud Junior Combination Cup campaign got off to a fine start with a resounding victory over Wotton-Under-Edge first fifteen. Last Saturday both sides continued their successful run with the first fifteen winning their league match against Bream and the United beating Berry Hill in the Merit Table.

On 29th December the United will field a side against the first fifteen in what should be a strongly contested match. The match is at Broadham with a noon start.

November Results [(L) indicate league match, (M) Merit table]

Sat 3rd. (L) Bishopston 1st XV 0 Painswick 1st XV 48. (M) Painswick United 41 Bream 5.

Sat 10th. (L) Painswick 1st XV 28 Southmead 1st 0. (M) Westbury-on-Severn 2nd XV 5 Painswick United 54.

Sat 17th. EDF Cup. Painswick 1st XV 18 Upton-on-Severn 1st XV 17.

Stroud Junior Combination Cup. Painswick United 46 Wotton-Under-Edge 3.

Sat 24th. (L) Bream 1st XV 5 Painswick 1st XV 10 (M) Painswick United 46 Berry Hill 3rd XV 0

Fixtures

Sat 1st Dec. (L) Painswick 1st XV v Brockworth 1st XV. (M) Cheltenham North 3rd XV v Painswick United.

Sat 8th Dec. EDF Cup. Old Plymothionians 1st XV v Painswick 1st XV. Stroud Gothamites v Painswick United.

Sat 15th Dec. (L) Southmead 1st XV v Painswick 1st XV. (M) Painswick United v Westbury-on-Severn 2nd XV.

Sat 22nd Dec. Painswick 1st XV v Stroud Nomads.

Sat 29th Dec. Painswick 1st XV v Painswick United.

Sat 5th Jan. (L) Painswick 1st XV v Bishopstonj 1st XV. Painswick United v Bream 2nd XV.

Sat 12th. Painswick 1st XV v Drybrook 1st XV. Painswick United v Brockworth 2nd XV.

Message to our e-Contributors - Help!

We have come a long way in the last year or two, and almost all our copy now reaches us by Email. We receive upwards of 40 such messages a month, quite a few of which call for further Email exchanges. This line of communication is much appreciated, and it makes our lives much easier.

Your copy goes straight into our pages and in this way reduces the number of occasions when we need to come back to you to check spellings or phrases used.

This is just fine but sometimes, and last month was no exception, some messages just don't reach us. By definition, of course, we are not to know that; we now know there were about eight for the November issue. The first we know about it is when the Beacon is published and our telephones start to ring; and they sure do ring!

We have decided, therefore, immediately to introduce a process by which each and every Email will be acknowledged. If you do not receive an acknowledgement within a couple of days, the assumption must be that the message has not reached us, in which case, do please get in touch with us either by telephone or re-sending the Email until you do get that acknowledgement.

In anticipation - Thank you



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Letters



Smart Keyboards

Leonard Chittenden writes, responding to our front page item last month about the introduction of new ticket vending machines in Stamages Lane car park:

OK smarty, pants, how do you enter the whole of a car number plate on a numeric keyboard?

Keyboard wizardry

We just knew there would be one courageous reader who would admit to this latest of contemporary shortcomings.

Here we go!

There are two ways to deal with the matter, the first of which is fast, and which we highly commend.

1. Look around for a mini adult, this manifest as any member of the human race over the age of 5 but less than 12, and (if you can bring yourself to withstand the self-satisfied smirk on the little-up face) he or she can undertake the task on your behalf.

2. The second is to memorise your number plate and proceed as will be re-published by our District Council when charges for use of the car park are no longer suspended:

Entering Registration Number:

*Example: To print the following:
REG 2349*

§ Press number 7 three times for the letter R to appear.

§ Press number 3 two times for the letter E to appear.

§ Press number 4 once for the letter G to appear.

§ Press number 2 four times for the

The inclusion of letters in these columns does not imply that the Beacon committee endorses the views expressed.

number 2 to appear.

§ Press number 3 four times for the number 3 to appear.

§ Press number 4 four times for the number 4 to appear.

§ Press number 9 five times for the number 9 to appear:

Number Letters

1

2 A, B, C, 2

3 D, E, F, 3

4 G, H, I, 4

5 J, K, L, 5

6 M, N, O, 6

7 P, Q, R, S, 7

8 T, U, V, 8

9 W, X, Y, Z, 9

0

Press < to cancel the last letter/number entered.

Avis Wilkins, Business Support Assistant at Stroud District Council, tells the Beacon that "It has not yet been decided if the full registration will be required in future. The key pad has been altered to accept one key strike to activate it in all of the Pay & Display car parks in and around Stroud. The instructions are now simple, "Put in the required amount of money, touch the key pad once then press the green button for a ticket." Members of the public can still however enter their registration if they wish but it is not required, this will give them the opportunity to practice using the key pad ready for future development of the system."

Happy?

Philadelphian cleanliness

From Dick Jarrett, Edge Road:

Further to the "Cleanliness is next to Godliness" piece (last month's Beacon), Brewster's Dictionary of Phrase and Fable, notwithstanding, anyone living in Pennsylvania in the old coal mining days

knew that the true original version was: "Cleanliness is next to Godliness, except in Philadelphia, where it is next to impossible."

I should mention that I was an intern in Philadelphia in the 1930s.

Fear on Victoria Street

From Barbara Blatchley, Friday Street:

Please can we have a 10 mph restriction or traffic bumps on Victoria Street?

I am sick and tired of being nearly run over by 4x4s and transit vans who use the street like the M5. Many drivers have no regard for walkers or mothers with pushchairs.

Personally, I am truly frightened of using this street.

Gateway Gate

Janet Smithson writes from Knapp Cottage:

I believe the key benefits of the Gateway project would be improved access to the village and church, and a secure future for the library.

This is a one off opportunity because the proposal involves opening up a passage way through the existing church hall and library buildings.

When the A46 is busy, navigating the Lychgate is scary for anyone who is unsteady on their feet, or with toddlers and a pushchair, more than one child has had a near miss.

Painswick Gateway could create a traffic free footpath between Stamages lane car park and the church yard and would be safer for pushchairs and wheelchairs.

It would be a great advantage to open up a link - The Gateway - between Painswick's Public Car park, our magnificent churchyard and the village. This will make shops, restaurants and the church more accessible to visitors and villagers alike for many years to come.

Painswickian chosen

Our thanks for nominations, from which the Beacon committee has made a decision.

But we keep you in suspense until next month, in accord with our tradition. Could this be that person, in hiding?



Painswickian of the Year?



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Amorata at the Centre

Meeting the word 'amorata' for the first time conjures up all sorts of possibilities, all with what one might call 'cupidinous' overtones. Applied as the title to a group of six singers, that is not far from being a fair description of the programme presented by 'Amorata' at the Painswick Centre on October 27th. Having heard them, I can also say that their performance was strikingly well presented with 'cupidinous' impact upon a small but enthusiastic audience who thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

The six singers combined as a well balanced ensemble, giving their programme just the sort of pizzazz it needed. They had the voices, the movements, the polish and the charm to carry off numbers that are so well established and loved in one's memory by immortals the likes of Fred and Ginger. Starting with a genuflection to the classics of Johann Strauss, Offenbach, Bizet and the great Wolfgang, they launched into arrangements from Chicago, Les Mis. Duke Ellington, Gershwin, Lennon & McCartney and so on, you get the flavour! All expertly timed and drilled: none more so than the Razzle Dazzle from Chicago.

It is events like this, arranged by the Centre's management, that bring the Centre to life at weekends and well deserve wholehearted support from the village. Sadly it was not there. Where were you?

Maurice Maggs

Beacon matters

Horse paths. Our neighbours Upton St. Leonards, and their energetic group, USCAN, have financed and organised a new informal path and a length of 'Bridle Path' both to connect two existing bridle paths and extend to join the informal horse route behind our Wildlife Corridor. If we can extend this on the east side of the Beacon to the main Beacon car park where the Cotswold Trail Bridle Path is, we will have created a safe route that connects four Bridle Paths without need to cross a busy road. I hope the horse riders will respond positively to our invitation to join in with the work on the final stage of the route.

Firewood. As our working party season progresses we produce, as last year, a number of logs that might suit your fireplace or woodburner. They are available on a 'you collect' basis; for details of locations please ask me or John Rhodes on 812709.



Grazing on Painswick Beacon Common? We have been delighted to learn that recent rule changes mean that we may, at last, be able to organise temporary fencing of specific areas of the Beacon to allow four-legged-mowers – sheep probably – to graze the non golf course areas. We also have hopes of acquiring a new special mower that will enable safe mowing on slopes as steep as 40°, such as the Hill Fort ramparts where excess plant growth has smothered cherished flowering plants.

Topograph. The Cotswold Wardens have proposed a project to build an informative topograph 'around' the trig point on Painswick Beacon. They have asked me for our support. I have long thought the trig point a disappointment compared to what it could be. Compare Shab Hill, Coley Park, Dyrham Park. Local warden, Royden Hales, and I have had informal discussions, looked at local examples and now met with the County Archaeologist's team. We have prepared some preliminary sketches. More details at our AGM but if you have any suggestions for information content, design appearance of the base, do please pass them to me.

David Allott Chairman 812624

"A wildlife milestone"? Cud Hill Common

Painswick's Beacon Conservation Group has been working together with Upton St. Leonards' USCAN group for over two years to produce a major improvement in the wild flower and butterfly populations where the two Parishes meet. Upton's major contribution to that has been the clearing, fencing and walling of Cud Hill Common.

The wall is of special interest to us since it is built in Painswick Parish at no cost to Painswickians! I went to the windswept ceremony to unveil the memorial stone in company with Selena Blow representing Painswick Manor. USCAN's Mike Blanch, that steadfast driving force behind the project, gave an address at the unveiling, thanking the organisations and 40+ individuals involved. Some of the key points were: the rebuilt wall is 220 metres long and used over 120 tons of stone (costing the Blow Estate over £11,000), it keeps in the grazing cattle, provides a microclimate to shelter insects, butterflies etc; and is a thing of beauty. The 14 volunteer wallers all needed training; supplied by the Conservation Board.

Working on the exposed hilltop has often been cold and wet, but the camaraderie and stunning views made it worthwhile. When you are next in Seven Leaze Lane do admire the wall and the finely painted memorial plaque.

David Allott

Chairman, Painswick Beacon Conservation Group

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Reflections - from the Centre



Now that our centenary year has come to an end, I thought it might be worthwhile reviewing the various events which have been staged to mark one hundred years of the Painswick Centre. The first event, in December 2006, was the Edwardian Music Hall staged by the Painswick Players, and what a fabulous show that was - a really great start for our newly decorated Hall. This was followed by the Children's Christmas Party, wonderfully controlled by our guesting school teacher, Libby, who came complete with a whistle. The skittles was a firm favourite with the older children and the chocolate fountains proved irresistible. In February 2007 we had the Poetry Reading accompanied by a cream tea. Star of the show was undoubtedly Pauline Foreman.

This was followed on the May Bank Holiday by our first attempt at a Crafts & Antiques Fair (with home made cakes). One of the stall holders, Charlie Taylor has since been back for three 'Unique Sales' of her own. We plan to repeat the Fair again in May 2008.

Then the high point of the year, in July, the Edwardian Evening to Remember, which wound up a wonderful year. The auction in aid of Oxfam raised over £800 thanks to the generous donation of auction items from local businesses. We start another year with a fairly new team attempting to keep live entertainment to the fore. We can only hope that readers will give us the same wonderful support as they have during the past 12 months.

As you receive this magazine, the Gloucester Salvation Army Brass Band will be "tuning up" - they are giving a Christmas Concert on Saturday, 1st December, starting at 7.00pm - tickets (£6) available at the door.

We still need 3 or 4 more Trustees. If anyone is interested they should contact either myself or my colleague David Allott, who will be happy to tell you a little more about being a Trustee.

Incidentally, the December issue of the Cotswold Life (page 184) carries photographs of people who attended the 'Edwardian Evening to Remember'.

Ralph Drew

I once met ...

In September 1973, a friend and I were invited to stay with former colleagues who were attached to the British Council in Vienna. It was a music-based holiday, and on Sunday, while our hostess stayed home to prepare lunch, the rest of us went to Augustinkirche to hear a Mozart Mass.

When the British Council party joined us they brought with them Henry Moore who was working on a sculpture for Karlsplatz. It was probably because I was the only woman in the party that I

had the pleasure and privilege of walking from the church into the street discussing the architecture of Vienna with Henry Moore.

He invited us to join his party the next day, when he was visiting a quarry to select the stone for the plinth of his statue, but, sadly, that wasn't possible.

Joyce Taylor

PROPERTY REPORT for December from Hamptons International

The October and November market has eventually returned to normality following the floods in August and the credit crisis in September. The expected surge of properties coming to the market in the Autumn never happened which led to a much quieter period during September and the beginning of October. However, it seems that confidence in the market is returning and we are now seeing a large increase in offers and viewings which is unusual for the Christmas period. Those potential purchasers who are out there viewing seem to be a much more committed buyer than we have seen for a number of months. In a challenging marketplace this is where our network of 12 Cotswold and western region offices together with over 85 offices in total (18 in London) make such a difference because

we can match our properties to such an enormous database of buyers which is key to getting vendors the best price.

Buyers are continuing to express their frustration with regard to the shortage of property currently available and the lack of realism by some vendors that market conditions are changing. Vendors may not be offered the 'premium' price possible earlier in the year but a firm and sensible offer from a viable applicant requires serious consideration.

New Instructions: In Painswick:- Wynstowe, a detached bungalow, 1 Hambutts Cottages-a two bedroom cottage, Coach House, Hale Lane-a part period, part modern family home with fabulous views and an annexe, Upton St Leonards: 19 Bond End Road-a chalet bungalow with huge potential in a large plot, Painswick

Road, Gloucester:- a spacious 4/5 bed family home, Brockworth:- Greenacres: a 4 bed family house in 0.5 acres and Robecq: a 4 bedroom bungalow in a large garden, Birdlip:- a three bedroom terraced house with a large garden and garage.

Sold Properties (exchanged not just under offer): Bowden Hall Farmhouse in Upton St Leonards, Coombe House and Dial tryst on Vicarage Street, Kingsmill End in Queensmead, Highgrove Barn, 7 Stroud Road, and Marlowe in Edge.

I would like to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and prosperous New Year. If you would like a free valuation on your house please do not hesitate to contact me on 01452 812354.

Miranda Harding Branch Manager



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DECEMBER

Sat	1	<p>Coffee, Cake & Crafts for Christmas Gloucestershire Guild of Craftsmen Christmas Exhibition "Fest" Guild Gallery, Painswick daily until 28th December (see page 4) Annual Christmas Lunch for members & supporters of Constituency Labour Party (01452 814888) Salvation Army Brass Band - Seasonal Concert</p>	<p>Christ Church Hall Centre Stroud Town Hall Painswick Centre</p>	<p>10.00am to 1.00pm 10.00am to 5.00pm (Tues to Sats) 12.30pm 7.00pm</p>
Sun	2	<p>Painswick Beacon Conservation Group: Scrub clearance working party (location check 812700)</p>	<p>Painswick Beacon</p>	<p>8.30am to 1.00pm</p>
Mon	3	<p>Community Lunch: Hosts - Catholic Church</p>	<p>Christ Church Hall</p>	<p>12.00noon to 1.15pm</p>
Tue	4	<p>Dog Training Club (Tuesdays) Yoga: Beginners welcome - Tuesdays - contact Emma 01453 840305</p>	<p>Christ Church Hall Town Hall</p>	<p>9.30 to 12.00noon 10.00 to 1.15am</p>
Wed	5	<p>Coach to London £12. Enquiries 813885/813227 Theatre Club outing to Bath Bingo: Wednesdays - Tel. Ann, 813611/Liz, 813130</p>	<p>Stamages Car Park The Falcon Painswick Centre</p>	<p>8.30am 10.30am 7.30 to 10.00pm</p>
Thu	6	<p>Jolly Stompers Line Dancing: Beginners Experienced beginners - Thursdays Tea Dances - Thursdays Cotswold Care Support Group Christmas Dinner</p>	<p>Town Hall Town Hall Painswick Centre Painswick Golf Club</p>	<p>12.00 to 1.00pm 12.30 to 1.30pm 2.30 to 4.30pm 7.00pm</p>
Fri	7	<p>Country Market with coffee available (Fridays) Friday Club: Handbell Ringing - Steve Coleman</p>	<p>Town Hall Town Hall</p>	<p>10.00am 2.30pm</p>
Sat	8	<p>Coach to Cathedral 'Messiah' (see page 7)</p>	<p>Stamages Car Park</p>	<p>8.45pm</p>
Sun	9	<p>Christmas Fair (see page 6)</p>	<p>Croft School</p>	<p>2.00 to 4.00pm</p>
Tue	11	<p>Year Trees W1: Spicecraft - Katherine Kear</p>	<p>Town Hall</p>	<p>7.30pm</p>
Wed	12	<p>Probus: Making Music - Leslie Burgess Women's Fellowship Carol Service Horl.Soc.: Quiz Nile with refreshments (see page 11)</p>	<p>Shire Rooms, Falcon Ashwell House Town Hall</p>	<p>10.00am 7.30pm 7.30pm</p>
Thu	13	<p>Music Appreciation - Christmas Social</p>	<p>Cotswold Room</p>	<p>7.30pm</p>
Fri	14	<p>Friday Club: Christmas Lunch Christmas Bingo in aid of Cotswold Appeal Fund -</p>	<p>Town Hall</p>	<p>7.00pm - doors open 7.30pm - eyes down</p>
		<p>Stroud Choral Society Concert in aid of the Family Haven: St Mary's Church Tickets £10 / £2 U 18 from The Chairman or at door</p>	<p>St Mary's Church</p>	<p>7.30pm</p>
Sun	16	<p>Painswick Beacon Conservation Group: Scrub clearance working party (location check 812700) Painswick Singers Christmas Concert</p>	<p>Painswick Beacon Christ Church</p>	<p>8.30am to 1.00pm 7.30pm</p>
Mon	17	<p>Music Appr.: Messiah in Tewkesbury Abbey (see page 15)</p>	<p>Stamages Car Park</p>	<p>5.30pm</p>
Fri	21	<p>Country Market - last before 18th January (see page 5) Copy deadline for December Beacon</p>	<p>Town Hall</p>	<p>10.00am</p>
Wed	26	<p>Boxing Day Walk (see page 4)</p>	<p>Stamages Car Park</p>	<p>10.00am</p>
Sun	30	<p>Painswick Beacon Conservation Group - Scrub Clearance Working Party (location check 812700)</p>	<p>Painswick Beacon</p>	<p>8.30am to 1.00pm</p>

JANUARY 2006

Sat	5	<p>January Issue of The Painswick Beacon published</p>		
Wed	9	<p>Probus: Cotswold Canals - Bruce Hall Horticultural Society: Australasian Flora - Aubrey Wood</p>	<p>Shire Rooms, Falcon Town Hall</p>	<p>10.00am 2.30pm</p>
Thu	10	<p>Music Appreciation - Chopin</p>	<p>Cotswold Room</p>	<p>7.30pm</p>
Sun	13	<p>Painswick Beacon Conservation Group: Scrub clearance working party (location check 812700)</p>	<p>Painswick Beacon</p>	<p>8.30am to 1.00pm</p>
Tue	15	<p>Local History Society: A Briggs / Archard production!</p>	<p>Croft School</p>	<p>7.30pm</p>
Tue	22	<p>Year Trees W1: Women's life in Arabia - Eileen Brown</p>	<p>Town Hall</p>	<p>7.30pm</p>
Wed	23	<p>Probus: Building a Medieval Cathedral - Peter Petrie</p>	<p>Shire Rooms, Falcon</p>	<p>10.00am</p>
Thu	24	<p>Music Appreciation: Outing to Boummouth Symphony Orchestra, Colston Hall, Bristol</p>	<p>Stamages Car Park</p>	<p>5.00pm</p>
Sun	27	<p>Painswick Beacon Conservation Group: Scrub clearance working party (location check 812700)</p>	<p>Painswick Beacon</p>	<p>8.30am to 1.00pm</p>



FEBRUARY

Sat	2	and 3rd Painswick Players 'Snow White and the Seven Not Particularly Tall People' (see page 11) Theatre Club outing to Cheltenham	Painswick Centre The Falcon	2.30pm and 7.30pm daily 1.30pm
Wed	6	Probus: Air Force Blunders - Norman Brown	Shire Rooms, Falcon	10.00am
Thu	7	Cotswold Care Support Group Music Appreciation: Great Opera Houses of the World	Ashwell House Cotswold Room	2.30pm 7.30pm
Wed	13	Horticultural Society: the Derbyshire custom of dressing - Mr K Orchard-Robinson	Well-Town Hall	2.30pm
Tue	19	Bird Club: Wildlife encounters in Antarctica and the Southern Ocean - Dr Richard Sale Local History Society: Local properties and the work of the Croft School National Trust - Paul Rutter		2.15pm 7.30pm
Wed	20	Probus: Wine Tasting - John Storer	Church Rooms	11.00am
Thu	21	Music Appreciation: Hi-Fi	Cotswold Room	7.30pm
Tue	26	Year Trees Wt: The Grand Circle - Utah & Arizona: Bob Price	Town Hall	7.30pm

MARCH

Wed	5	Probus: Architecture of the Mogul Empire - Leslie Dalton	Shire Rooms, Falcon	10.00am
Thu	6	Cotswold Care Support Group Music Appreciation: Ballet Music	Ashwell House Cotswold Room	2.30pm 7.30pm
Sat	8	Village Quiz	Painswick Centre	6.45 for 7.15pm
Tue	11	Bird Club: Birds of Australia - Ged Cassell: followed by AGM	Town Hall	7.30pm
Wed	12	Horticultural Society: Take a Closer Look - Andy Purcell	Town Hall	7.30pm
Tue	18	Local History Society: The Railway that Never Was - Jill Simmons	Croft School	7.30pm
Wed	19	Probus: A look at Stained Glass - Richard Carr	Shire Rooms, Falcon	10.00am
Thu	20	Music Appreciation: Pictures in Music	Cotswold Room	7.30pm
Tue	25	Year Trees Wt: The history & work of The National Trust - Paul Rutter	Town Hall	7.30pm
Wed	26	Theatre Club outing to Cheltenham	The Falcon	6.30pm
Sat	29	Painswick Music Society Concert - Llyr Williams, Piano	St Mary's Church	3.00pm

APRIL

Wed	2	Probus: History of Junk - Roger Hennessey	Shire Room, Falcon	10.00am
Thu	3	Cotswold Care Support Group Music Appreciation: Donizetti	Ashwell House Cotswold Room	2.30pm 7.30pm
Wed	9	Music Appreciation Concert Outing: Welsh National Opera - Bristol Hippodrome Eugene Onegin Horticultural Society: Climbers, Ramblers & Scramblers - Mr R Tomlin	Bristol Hippodrome Town Hall	7.00pm 7.30pm
Sat	12	Painswick Music Society Concert - Ashley Wass (piano) & Alexander Chausian (cello)	St Mary's Church	3.00pm
Tue	15	Local History Society: Research Evening	Croft School	7.30pm
Wed	16	Probus: AGM	Shire Room, Falcon	10.00am
Thu	17	Music Appreciation: A Mystery	Cotswold Room	7.30pm
Tue	22	Year Trees Wt: The Story of Tea - Alan Hudson	Town Hall	7.30pm
Fri	25	Gloucester Police Choir Concert	Painswick Centre	7.30pm
Sat	26	Painswick Music Society Concert: Arpage Ensemble	St Mary's Church	3.00pm
Wed	30	Painswick & District Conservation Society AGM: Presentation subject: The Painswick Tombstone Restoration Project	Church Rooms	7.30pm

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In this way our forward listing of them all can be of maximum assistance to organisers anxious to avoid clashes of dates. Thank you.

The Personal Column

MINI-ADS

Babies

Congratulations to Elisabeth and John Lineker on the birth of their son Charles, a first grandchild for Naomi and Craig Dunn.

Congratulations

Well done ANGELA PAULL on gaining a BA Hons. degree from the University of Worcester in Early Childhood Studies; Angela is the daughter of Barbara and John Hulme,

and congratulations to GARY ROBINSON, son of Jayne & Geoff Robinson of Vicarage Street, on obtaining a Masters Degree (with Distinction) in Geotechnical Engineering from the University of Birmingham. His Masters thesis was on 'Soil Stabilisation in Railway/Road Embankments' – just what we need to tackle our little local (A46) difficulty!

also, many congratulations to MARGUERITE TREGLOWN on the occasion of her 80th birthday on the 17th November. With very best wishes from all the Members of the Painswick Short Mat Bowls Club.

Get well soon

Best wishes for a speedy recovery to CICELY BOREHAM.

Condolences

Our sincere sympathies to the family and friends of JACK HINDS, BILL DAVIS and JEAN FARLOW.

Welcome

We would like to welcome FRAN STRATTON who moves into Highfield in Edge Road on 14th December, and also to DAVID and LINDSEY NOTTINGHAM and their twin baby son and daughter, James and Imogen (19 months) to Queensmead from Cheltenham, and

also to Mrs JEFFREY who has moved into Richmond Painswick, as have Mr and Mrs FUNNELL and Miss WATKIN.

and welcome to MIKE and KATE BEDWELL, and sons Billy and Matt, who have moved into to 15 Gyde House

and ANDREW McGUCKIN who has moved into 4 Painswick Heights from Avening.

Moving around

Best wishes to JENNY and GUS GAUGAIN who are moving into Butt Cottage prior to their permanent home in Gyde House in April.

Professional and experienced carer, living in Painswick, available for emergency or respite bookings. Please call 812361 to discuss your requirements.

MINI-ADS - There is a flat charge of £5.00 for mini-ads, maximum of 30 words, paid for (by cash or cheque payable to 'The Painswick Beacon') in advance. Please send money with mini-ad to Dermot Cassidy, 1 Painswick Heights, Yokehouse Lane, GL6 7QS.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE BEACON NOW ACCEPTS OCCASIONAL COMMERCIAL MINI-ADS BUT, IF SPACE CONSTRAINTS APPLY, THE NON-COMMERCIAL ONES WILL HAVE PRIORITY.

Personal messages

The FARLOW family would like to thank all their friends and neighbours in Randall's Field for all their help and kindness during Jean's illness.

Rachel Taylor welcomes information for the Personal Column. Space limitations permit only a small amount of text and your assistance in this regard is helpful.

PLANNING MATTERS

A summary of information from the Parish Council.

NEW APPLICATIONS

High Voltage Overhead Line, CHELTENHAM ROAD Replacement 11.000 volt 3 wire line, poles and stay wires with a tolerance of 30m.
ALLWAYS, KINGS MEAD Erection of extensions. (Revised scheme following permission 06/2349/FUL)
LITTLEDENE, COCKSHOOT QUARRY, SHEEPSCOMBE Erection of a garden shed.
BEECHWOOD COTTAGE, SHEEPSCOMBE Installation of dormer window and dormer roof structure over French doors.
THE GRANGE, SHEEPSCOMBE Conversion of coach house to create ancillary accommodation.
EDGEMOOR INN, STROUD ROAD, EDGE Erection of rear extension to provide single storey garden room.
THREE GABLES, LONGRIDGE, SHEEPSCOMBE Erection of a 2 storey side extension and conversion of existing garage to habitable living accommodation.
Land adjacent to SHEEPHOUSE COTTAGE, STEPPING STONE LANE Erection of storage barn.
BEECH COTTAGE, KINGS MILL LANE Erection of an extension.

REVISED PLAN

BEECHWOOD COTTAGE, SHEEPSCOMBE Installation of dormer window and dormer roof structure over French doors. Main Changes: Only elevation orientations corrected.

CONSENT

DAMSELLS FARM, SHEEPSCOMBE LANE, PAINSWICK Retrospective application for refurbishment of dwelling.
LABURNUM COTTAGE, SHEEPSCOMBE Variation of conditions 4, 5, 6 & 7 of approved application 07/0278/FUL
TOCKNELLS COURT, CHELTENHAM ROAD Conversion of outbuilding to boiler house and fuel store.
VERLANDS, VICARAGE STREET Demolition of existing conservatory & garages and erection of new single storey garden room, garages & carport including alterations & conversion of flat roof to pitched.
HAZELBURY HOUSE, NEW STREET Rebuilding of stone entrance pillars.
OLIVERS FARM COTTAGE, CHELTENHAM ROAD Retrospective application for change of use of existing barn to indoor arena, construction of stable block and erection of a horse walker.

JENKINS FARM, JENKINS LANE, EDGE Erection of an extension.
Land to rear of EDGE COTTAGE, EDGE ROAD Erection of a greenhouse.
Garden at BUTTS COTTAGE, HAMBUTTS, OFF EDGE ROAD Erection of a dwelling and conservatory.
DETCOMBE HOUSE, BULLS CROSS, SHEEPSCOMBE Reconstruction of existing garage/workshop/storage shed.
CAPP MILL, KINGS MILL LANE Internal alterations.
STONELEIGH, GLOUCESTER STREET Internal alterations and replacement of garage window with doors.
YEW TREE HOUSE, NEW STREET Variation of 06/1023/LBC so as to agree with planning permission 06/2959/FUL – delete windows on the north east side of roof. Substitute conservation velux to south west side of roof.
RUDGE COTTAGE, BACK EDGE LANE, EDGE Erection of an extension and alterations.

PLAN WITHDRAWN

1 CANTON ACRE Conversion of garage to habitable accommodation.

NOTIFICATION OF APPEALS

LAWN COTTAGE, PAINSWICK COURT, SHEEPSCOMBE Retrospective application for the erection of outbuilding.
DAMSELLS MEWS Erection of coach house.



Local artist Tom Egerton (third from left) pictured with members of the Parish Council on the occasion of the presentation to the community of his abstract painting "Emotions". The painting is now hanging in the Town Hall. Tom is attending Stroud College studying over a two year period for a National Vocational Qualification in Wood Occupations.

NEXT ISSUE
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the Unique Raffle

Remember our front page last month, and our regret that we could not show the picture in colour.

We are seizing the chance now, and urge you to consider buying a ticket for this remarkable and valuable quilt from June Gardiner, or inviting her to one of your meetings for a few moments to display the workmanship - and her raffle tickets.



Beacon Committee
Co-ordinating Editor this month
 Leslie Brotherton 813101

Personal Column
 Rachel Taylor 813402
 rachel212@btinternet.com

Diary
 Edwina Buttrey 812565
 em-m.buttrey@virgin.net

Feature writers
 Carol Maxwell 813387
 Carolmaxwell@talktalk.net
 Jack Burgess 812167
 jack@painswick.net
 Leslie Brotherton 813101
 mr@lesliebrotherton.com

Advertising
 Dermot Cassidy 813737
 dermot@painswick1.freereserve.co.uk

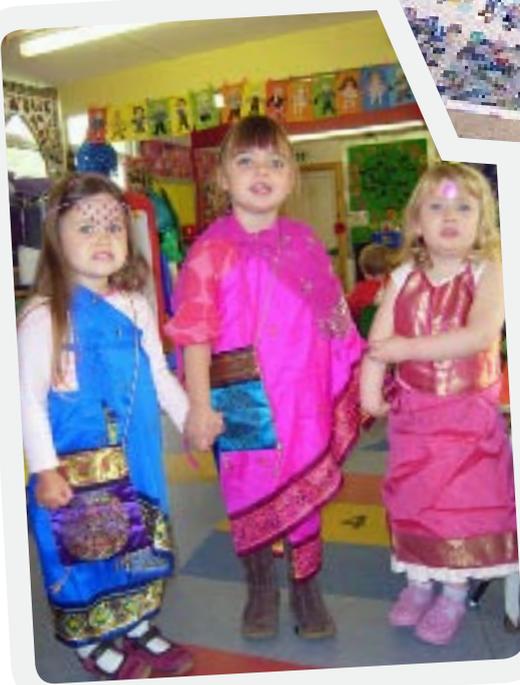
Distribution
 Celia Lougher 812624
 celia@lloydstone.plus.com

Treasurer
 Richard Aspinall 812379
 rgrasp@tiscali.co.uk

Subscriptions
 Shirley Clark 812378
 shirclark@talktalk.net

Directory
 Charles Dorman 814548
 chasdorm@googlemail.com

Sport
 Terry Parker 812191
 terence5545@btinternet.com



Painswick Playgroup

has been busy celebrating Diwali, the Hindu festival of Lights.

The children have been enjoying dressing up in Indian costumes and learning about the festival through role play.

Because there are lights, fireworks and dressing up involved, this festival is always a great favourite with the children at Playgroup.

To read more, see the Playgroup report from Linda Yates elsewhere in this issue.

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