

# The Painswick Beacon

*Sine praeiudicio*

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January 2007

## The Falcon Inn

For over 400 years Painswick has enjoyed, as have numerous travellers, this landmark hostelry in its prime position on the main road and overlooking the churchyard. Times have gone since horses needed to be changed or watered on journeys between such as Bath and Cheltenham on a primary 'spa' route, or passengers and coachmen required sustenance. Nowadays we have a highly regarded hotel, with travellers continuing to find their way to this retreat from all over the world, while its appeal to local people is retained.

Ownership changed hands at the start of last month, John and Bo Pearson being the new hands-on proprietors. Retiring from business last year, but with no previous experience in the hotel trade, they are certainly enthusiastic about what they are taking on and they needed to 'hit the ground running' with the Christmas and New Year clientele full of their own expectations. John and Bo, pictured here, are anxious to retain the character of the hotel while undertaking what Bo described as "progressive redecoration and upgrading" of rooms. They propose to retain the restaurant in much the same style as at present, including pricing.

Anyone who can help them piece together the history of the Falcon, with photographs or other records, will receive a particular welcome as they hope to display material wherever possible and refurbish rooms in character.



## and the Royal Oak and Butchers Arms

Johnny and Hilary Johnston have decided to give up directly running their inns, and this will undoubtedly impact locally. They feel that after their longest stay (fourteen years) in one location they want to find time and space to be nearer their family in south Buckinghamshire and for Johnny

to pursue his wider interests in engineering consultancy and the International Sailing Federation for both of which he travels all over the world.

Johnny told the Beacon that it is a characteristic of the hotel and hostelry trade that commercial information is particularly sensitive, and the gap between exchange of contracts and completion is often a matter of hours instead of weeks. This meant that he was unable to take his many loyal staff and patrons into his confidence until the last moment, a particularly distressing aspect of their moving on.

Johnny and Hilary reflected to the Beacon upon their experiences here, not least effectively rebuilding the Falcon Inn while redeveloping their several other holdings in the area. He has enjoyed his involvement with the Parish Council, especially its non-political structure, but must now resign as he is no longer resident in the Painswick civil parish. Our picture shown the couple behind the bar at the Butchers Arms, and staff and patrons will be wishing them well in their future.

The Butcher's Arms has been sold to a small consortium of pub owners, and new managers Mark and Sharon Tallents will be moving up from their present Somerset base during the next week or so. The Beacon understands that no significant changes in the style of operation, with the restaurant appealing to patrons from a large area, are contemplated.

Meanwhile, the Royal Oak here in Painswick is (as we go to press) on the market, so further news is awaited.



## Post Office

The future of the post office has become slightly more clear in December.

The first thing to note is that we, a great many of the general public, have failed to exercise one particular course of action we might have done to greatly improve the prospects, the viability, of any form of Post Office in our village by using this facility to substitute for many of the most used services previously available at the LloydsTSB Bank - withdrawing cash and paying in cheques. Withdrawing cash is as straightforward as using a 'cashpoint' - present your debit card, type in your PIN, collect cash and a receipt. Banking cheques does require that one holds a supply of envelopes printed specifically for this purpose; in the case of LloydsTSB these can be forwarded to you if you telephone 0800.0562951.

The second thing to note is that the property remains on the market for sale. It has to be hoped that a prospective purchaser will seek to operate a Post Office there and, in evaluating whether to do so or not, the extent of profitability will be the key factor. All the more reason for our using it now, thereby increasing profit margins and enhancing the chances of someone being interested.

The third factor has been that there is as yet no clarity as to whether the policies recently announced by HM Government 'pulled the plug' on Painswick having a Post Office at all. The Government considers it a priority to maintain a national network with national coverage and is seeking views on its proposals to achieve this. There is a period of consultation which runs to 8th March. The consultation seeks view on:

. The Government's proposals to introduce national access criteria for access to Post Office services.

. The proposal to include particular criteria to help safeguard access to Post Office services in deprived urban and rural areas.

. Proposals for innovative ways of maintaining services to small and remote communities by extending the use of outreach arrangements.

. Suggestions as to how services might be better delivered through the Post Office network.

Readers are urged to examine the 40-page consultation document which is available on [www.dti.gov.uk/consultations/page36024.html](http://www.dti.gov.uk/consultations/page36024.html), to which responses may be by individuals or organisations by 8th March. The Beacon will greatly appreciate copy of your views.

**On other pages this month:** important 'library' meeting, our Painswickian of the year, Fred skyward, bridge without fear, that Music Hall, club up the creek, Edge dumping, appeal for seafarers, new local jobs.

# PARISH COUNCIL NEWS - by Leslie Brotherton

Reports upon meetings of the Parish Council cannot help but be selective, if only because of space constraints. We try to highlight points of wider interest. The full minutes of Council and committee meetings are available at the Council office and elsewhere.

## PLANNING COMMITTEE

### Old Barn, Stroud Road

Members were informed that concerns they had expressed at a previous meeting that permission had not been sought prior to apparent demolition of the small barn above the entrance to Broadham Field; not required as the structure is not listed.

### Energy conservation - private dwellings

Members decided to enquire as to whether the District Council had a policy with regard to the possible proliferation of 'domestic' wind turbines; devices now readily available from DIY stores and commended by those advocating 'green' energy. There was concern that any planning guidance should be made known to the public, not least in conservation areas.

It was also agreed that there was an increasing disparity between existing planning guidance which disapproves of any type of double or secondary glazing for listed properties and the encouragement of energy conservation. It was pointed out that old listed properties were usually the least well insulated, and therefore particularly in need of discrete insulation. It was agreed to raise this subject with the District Council.

## PARISH COUNCIL

### Youth Club

The Chairman, Terry Parker, reported that despite every effort having been made there was currently no assurance that the Youth Club sponsored by the Parish Council was likely to attract sufficient numbers in the near future to warrant reopening. The Council reluctantly accepted the Youth Committee's recommendation to close but resolved to reopen if sufficient interest was expressed in the next six months.

### Library premises

The Chairman of the Working Party set up to consider action regarding the future of these premises and the library, David Hudson, reported upon the latest position. In particular he advised the Council that the County Council had refused a request from the Working Party to postpone until the spring the deadline for completion of a business plan, but had offered the end of January. Mr Hudson was optimistic that a structural survey of the premises, an essential precursor to the compilation of even an interim plan, could be completed by mid-January. The Council decided to recommend to the Working Party that it defer the public meeting scheduled by them for just before Christmas until a suitable date in late January. (See report and new date on page 6)

### Impending resignation

Mr Johnston informed the Council that consequent upon his decision to move out of the area, when the sale of his hotel and two public houses is completed early in January, he would have to resign from the Parish Council. He indicated that this he would do by letter in the next few weeks, but spoke of his pleasure serving on the Council and the many friendships he had established and enjoyed in Painswick village and Sheepscombe. The Chairman paid tribute to Mr Johnston and the service he had rendered the Council and the business community and wished him well in the future.

The Council noted that the vacancy would be advertised and if sufficient electors sought an election such would be arranged, failing which nominations for co-option would be invited.

### Local Government White Paper

The Council received an internal paper on this government document together with verbal reports from Terry Parker and Martin Slinger.

The implications of the White Paper are of noteworthy significance in two particular respects (1) the idea that unitary authorities might be created which would have the effect of either making the County Council all-embracing (unitary) in its services, with the demise of District Councils, or vice versa, and (2) considerably enhancing the extent to which powers and associated budgets might be devolved to Parish Councils, especially those who had achieved 'Quality Parish Council' status.

It was reported by the Clerk, Roy Balgobin, that there was reason to expect that Painswick PC should achieve QPC status by April this year, a prospect which was welcomed by the Council.

Public and council comment upon the White Paper may be made by 25th January and the Council will consider its response this month. Legislation could start in June.

### Stroud North Bus Link

The Council noted that the subsidised funding of this now well used service expires in February but that The County Council is in discussion with a sponsor considering funding its continuance in a new format, likely to be less like the taxi-type service operated to date.

### Traffic matters

Speaking to the minutes of the Traffic Committee of November its Chairman Ann Burges Watson expressed her particular disappointment that the request to extend the 30mph speed limit to the junction with The Highlands on Cheltenham Road had been turned down by the County Council despite the overwhelming support from residents in the area for the proposal, coupled with the removal of the short stretch of 40mph which extends to an otherwise insignificant location on that road. The reasons given by GCC officers were that under density rules there needed to be 3 houses on that road per 100 metres and in fact there are only 2.5. *As one resident has since pointed out to the Beacon, regard seems to have been given to adjoining 'estate' traffic in the south, but not the north.*

The GCC had given further undertakings to repair the interactive speed warning sign at Paradise, and investigate the delay in introducing one on the Whiteshill Road in Edge.

On the proposal by the Parish Council that a 20mph speed restriction apply throughout the Painswick village envelope the County Council is currently formulating policy rationalisation, including such on 'A'-classified roads.

A review of all signs is to be carried out to ensure that a minimum are retained.

The County Council has provisionally agreed funding four bus shelters for Painswick across the next four years. These, sequentially introduced, may be opposite Pullens Road, New Street opposite the existing stone shelter, and each side of the road at Cotswold Mead/Broadham.

The committee will soon consider the obstruction of pedestrians caused by bushes permitted by residents to grow in pavements immediately outside their properties in Painswick. One councillor undertook to provide photographs of unobstructed footpaths in recent times.

### Scattering human ashes by rocket

An incident of this practice was reported having taken place on the Beacon. The practice will be reviewed by the Manorship.



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# Painswickian of the Year

**Michael Buttrey** is not one to blow his own trumpet but according to you he has given and continues to give exceptional service to many people in Painswick. For that reason he is our Painswickian of 2006. He is the epitome of good neighbourliness.

Michael spent his early childhood in Halifax, later moving to Staffordshire. On leaving school he became a student apprentice with English Electric. He became chief design engineer of hydro-electric generators with GEC.

In January 1974 the Buttreys – Michael had married Eddie in Liverpool in 1965 – came to live in Painswick when Michael took a job with CEGB in Gloucester. They had a seven year old son, Andrew, and Eddie was pregnant with daughter, Fiona. Why Painswick? “It had everything,” says Michael, “all the facilities and it’s on the Cotswold Way.”

True to character, Michael became involved in village life immediately. He joined the PTA of Croft School, became a Sunday School teacher and member of the PCC. Shortly afterwards he became assistant scout leader, organising all the local and district outdoor activities. He did this for ten years and is typically modest about his own leadership role. He also served on various governing bodies of the Downfield schools, a role which he relinquished only recently after many years.

His involvement with St Mary’s Church has been a significant influence. Originally part of a link group formed to help people in need of practical assistance, Michael began to build many relationships. His activities have mushroomed out beyond the Church and over the years he has been of enormous help to many people. This has taken many forms from removing dead birds from the back of chimneys, to driving people to hospital, to organising systems and official procedures for people often elderly or living alone who are daunted or baffled by such necessities. The range of good deeds is endless. Michael enables people to cope with various situations. He claims that 90% of what he does is “just little things” but of course for those he helps it is far from little. Michael is also a sort of odd-job person for the Church – he looks after the heating, is a server, a Cross bearer, sets up the Church for funerals, banner carrier at Clipping and is the Church electoral roll officer. He can also be found clearing up debris and leaves around the churchyard. He has delivered Meals-on Wheels for a long time. He is Chairman of PCMS and a trustee of Gyde Almshouses.

Being neighbourly is important to Michael, but according to you his actions, modestly and quietly undertaken, go way beyond the norm. To quote you, ‘Grand gestures may be laudable and make headlines but a constant and caring presence is a great comfort to the many with whom Mike has come into contact.’

*Carol Maxwell*



# End of another era

Disappointment was still very much part of the conversation when numerous residents who had banked with LloydsTSB here in Painswick all their lives called in on the final day of business on 28th November. Withdrawal of direct banking with one of the 'big boys' has been a bitter pill to swallow, although their own staff decided that it should be sweetened.

Carol Parker, photographed just after she had received a basket of flowers from one appreciative customer, and colleague Julia Anderson had invited anyone in the village that morning to join them for a glass of wine and cake, and there was a constant flow of people taking up that opportunity. Many were the compliments about staff helpfulness and interest in any and all of their customers, and it was pleasing to hear that their personal initiative to make these arrangements had, after a little 'pressure' had been exerted, been funded



by the bank itself.

We believe a very large number of people who have hitherto banked with LloydsTSB will join in our wishing these helpful staff the very best in their future careers.

While some of us may contemplate whether to retain our accounts with LloydsTSB, it is right to remind ourselves that most of their

services and others from the top league can be accessed through the Post Office.



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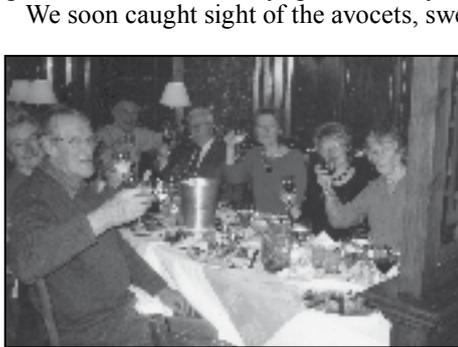
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# Avocets (and more) on the Exe Estuary

## PBC afloat

On Sunday 10th December, seventeen members of Painswick Bird Club met up at Starcross in Devon to embark on an Avocet Cruise organised by the RSPB on the River Exe estuary. Despite high winds and fallen trees threatening to prevent some people (me, anyway!) from getting there in time, we all made it and set off at 11.15am. It wasn't long before we were treated to excellent views of oystercatchers, brent geese, red-shanks, curlews and red-breasted mergansers, among many other birds - and we were helped further by the highly informed commentary from our RSPB guides, who would always point out any birds they could see.



We soon caught sight of the avocets, sweeping their distinctive upward-curved bills in the shallower water, and what a wonderful sight they were! Flocks of dunlin could also be seen all over the sandbanks, along with grey and golden plovers, sanderlings, lapwings, shelduck and even a bar-tailed godwit - a very rare sight! All too soon, it was time to head back to Starcross, but with plenty more birds to be seen on the way, and also a brilliant rainbow!



Unfortunately, I was unable to go on the boat trip and walk the next day, but I have been informed that they were both also wonderful, and that a flock of greenshank

were seen on the walk - another rare sight! A brilliant experience and one that I hope to repeat in the fairly near future - many thanks to Bill and Joy for organising the trip!

The next Bird Club meeting will be in the Town Hall on Tuesday 20th February at 2.00pm (note the time). This will be a talk and slideshow on 'Birds and Other Wildlife of the Forest of Dean as well as Lesbos and the Galapagos Islands' by Terry Wall, who is a professional wildlife photographer. We hope many of you will be able to join us for this slideshow - non-members are always most welcome.

*Andrew Watson*

## Painswick map revision

Local resident David Haslam published and distributed a map of the village in 1997, as he has done for Bath, Oxford and Stratford-upon-Avon and elsewhere, and is considering updating it for 2007. The map clearly identifies several places of interest, accommodation, shopping and pubs and restaurants.



Maps rapidly become out of date, and at first glance such is certainly the case with this one. David is inviting anyone with comments or ideas regarding the map to contact him, "especially if there are really important landmarks or buildings that were left off the first edition". His contact is 812293.

*This retailed and important map should not be confused with the straightforward street map available free from the Parish Council and elsewhere. Ed*

## Painswick Hotel Moving into the Future

A major transformation is on the way for the Painswick Hotel. In order for the work to be undertaken the Hotel will close for four months commencing 8th January.

Marchella de Angelis, the new owner, has a truly stunning vision for this beautiful building and the changes will be breathtaking.

Marchella would like to take this opportunity to offer a huge thank you to Barbara Tait, Martin Slinger and the Parish Council for helping to resolve what had seemed to be an almost insuperable problem with rubbish disposal.

Meanwhile, watch this space for news of exciting developments.

*Carol Maxwell*

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The Chairman, Members and Clerk of the Parish Council wish all parishioners a very happy and peaceful New Year.

## January opening

*The Fiery Beacon 'slipped' through our centre-page spread last month, but they do have a New Year message.*

The Fiery Beacon would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year and to celebrate we are having a special post Christmas weekend event.

On the weekend of Friday 5th Saturday 6th and Sunday 7th of January we will be offering a 10% discount off all purchases over £10 so call in and enjoy the wide selection of crafts and jewellery.

*Janet Groves*

### Notice to Electors PAINSWICK PARISH COUNCIL

A vacancy has occurred for a Painswick Ward Councillor. A bye-election to fill the vacancy will be held if, within the 14 working day period, between noon on the 5th January and noon on the 25th of January, ten electors for the ward give notice in writing claiming such an election to the Returning Officer. The address of the Returning Officer is Electoral Services Department, Stroud District Council, Ebley Mill, Stroud, Gloucestershire GL5 4UB. If no such notice is received the Parish Council will advertise the vacancy to be filled by co-option immediately after the 25th January 2007 deadline has passed.

Any elector who would like to be considered for co-option to the Parish Council should inform the Clerk, in writing, giving a brief CV as soon as possible after the vacancy for co-option has been published and no later than noon on Friday 16th February 2007.

*Mr Roy Balgobin, Clerk to Painswick Parish Council, Town Hall, Victoria Square, Painswick, Gloucestershire GL6 6QA. Dated 5th January 2007.*

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## Fearless Bridge

Sheepscombe 'No Fear' Bridge Club is for anyone who wants to play and improve their bridge in a relaxed and friendly situation. It is attended by bridge students, ex-students and people returning to bridge who 'played bridge years ago'. Most participants do not feel ready for a 'proper' Bridge Club. Partner not required, just turn up and play. There will be time to discuss each hand if you want to with advice and commentary available.

Re-starts Thursday 11th January at 7.15pm and then fortnightly at Sheepscombe Village Hall (alternating with Sheepscombe Bridge Club).

To find out more contact Hugh Tarran 814081 or mail [sheepbridge@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:sheepbridge@tiscali.co.uk). Or go to <http://www.sheepscombe.bridgeteacher.co.uk/> else 'just turn up'.

## Parlez-vous Français, Painswick?

Residents of Painswick have been brushing up their French at the Painswick Centre. The group meet every Wednesday morning for a relaxed introduction to French language and culture. Many of the students holiday in France and wanted to enjoy their visits more by learning a little of the language. Sandra and Stuart Lee are extra keen to learn because like many Brits, they own a house in France.

They all agree that attending the class is much better than learning from a CD. "We enjoy the stimulation from the teacher and each other and we have lots of laughs!"

Classes start again on Wednesday 17th January. The group welcomes beginners and improvers. For more information call Stroud College on 01453.763424.

## Costly reclaim

Caught on our camera on 18th December, the District Council's clearance team removing no less than 5 double beds and eight single beds, all dumped off Jenkins Lane in Edge.

Two men, two lorries, several hours, journeys, access to the recycling centre all costs those of us who do not dump our unwanted materials a great deal of money.

If you see anything like this happening - and there is a lot going on - please report immediately to the District Council Waste Collection Section, telephone number:

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# The Library et al

At the meeting of the Parish Council in December the Chairman of the Working Party (WP), which has been considering the report of the Core Group (*published on pages 8-9 in the October Beacon*), David Hudson, gave a report.

Mr Hudson said that there were significant aspects of their deliberations upon which the WP could not yet present as precise a report as they would desire, and this included a survey of the entire premises on the site. Representations had been made to the County Council for an extension to their imposed time limit of December for receipt of copy of a business plan illustrating feasibility of the village assuming responsibility for these premises, and that 31st January had been agreed.

In these circumstances the Parish Council recommended to the Working Party that it postpone a public meeting to consider a plan until the survey had been completed. As can be seen, from the notice printed here, the WP accepted that recommendation.

The Beacon enquired as to the aspects of the potential future of this site which had been examined by the WP, and we were informed that deliberations had included

- arranging for a structural survey funded by the Christ Church and St. Mary's if support from the Helen McKee Trust is not forthcoming
- examining the usage and economic viability of other meeting places in the village, including the Town Hall, part funded by the Parish Council
- drafting a Business Plan
- examining sources of funding for three phases of development viz. purchase, initial refurbishment, longer term development

**There can be little doubt that the public meeting on 23rd January will be a milestone in resolution of the way ahead and that, whatever the weather conditions that evening at 7.00pm, it will be important that the public attend in order to signify its concern and its interest in the way ahead - whatever that may be.**

## Virgin flight on Fred's 91st birthday

Fred Arthur of Vicarage Street took to the skies at the end of November, the 30th to be precise, to celebrate his birthday.

Having never flown before his granddaughter Caroline Stone arranged for him to take a pleasure flight in an R22 helicopter courtesy of "Heli-flights" in Staverton. The flight was a complete surprise and certainly gave Fred a birthday to remember. He took his place in the two-seater helicopter along side the pilot "Julian" who took him across Cheltenham, and towards Painswick, where Fred has spent the majority of his life.

Fred was overwhelmed with his flight opportunity as he missed out during the War due to medical issues.

He returned safely to the ground after a half an hour at 2000 feet with (as he quoted) memories of a fabulous and unforgettable day. He then enjoyed a lunch in the Aviator restaurant, which is on the Staverton Airport site where the proprietors Richard and Pat made him very welcome. Fred proved to us, that it's never too late to fulfil an ambition. He said all being well he would like to take another flight next year.

## Public Meeting

### LIBRARY & SCHOOL ROOMS PROJECT

The public meeting called by Painswick Parish Council, previously scheduled for Thursday 21st December, has been moved to Tuesday 23rd January 2007 in St Mary's Church Rooms at 7.00pm. Please attend.

The Gloucestershire County Council has granted an extension of their deadline on the Library to the end of January - this month.

This will allow a more comprehensive presentation of proposals to consider purchase of the Library building, together with plans to redevelop the old school buildings - Library and Church Rooms. The results of a full structural survey on the buildings will also be available.

This is the last opportunity to determine whether the people of Painswick want to save the Library building for the future community use of Painswick, or allow it to be sold to a property developer and lost forever.

**MARK THE DATE - 23 January  
in your diaries and come along.**

**Your views are essential.**

*David Harley for Working Party*





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## Local History Teaser

Our fine photograph displays a scene that was a regular sight well within many people's memories. Who was the man in the picture and what was he doing? A close look will probably enable you to recognize where the photograph was taken and can you also work out approximately when? Our thanks to Paul Griffiths for providing the picture.

Last month's photograph of the band of pierrots elicited no responses from you. We do not know when it was taken or what the occasion was but the names as far as we know are Maurice Phipps, Stanley Phipps, Harry Winn, ?Chappelowe, Nellie Burdock, Edie Birt, Harry Brinton or possibly Bruton. If you are able to provide any information about our photographs please let us know.

*Carol Maxwell*



## Centre News

Well, the Centenary got off to a fabulous start, as anyone who saw the Painswick Players' Edwardian Music Hall will know! The production was great - so many quality acts. Perhaps we should encourage them to make this an annual event, only next time I suggest that Jack Burgess is promoted to Admiral! Now that the tappers have finished their routines, we can paint the stage!



The second Centenary event was the Children's Christmas Party on 17th December. Over 30 children enjoyed two hours of non-stop fun and entertainment – lots of games (with prizes), followed by a feast from the two chocolate fountains, then Mr Fizz, that extraordinary magician, finishing with more games and some disco dancing! Everyone went home tired, full and happy. We have some photographs of the Party if any parents are interested in copies please telephone me on 814070.

We now look forward to other events between now and the end of the Centenary in September. The next date to remember will be the Cream Tea and Poetry Reading by Pauline Foreman on Saturday 3rd March, which is also being presented by the Painswick Players.

Following that will be another first for the current Trustees, when they propose to stage an Antiques & Craft Fair at the Centre on Bank Holiday Monday, 7th May, between 10.00am and 4.00pm. We hope to fill the Hall not only with quality antiques but some 'bric-a-brac', as well as local crafts. For just £14 exhibitors can reserve a sales table, and with free entry to the Fair, there should be lots of people

just ready to buy. If you are interested in reserving a table, please contact me.

As many of you will know, the Hall has been re-decorated, and Wayne Lee has done a magnificent job. However, when the original fire retardant was applied to the walls some years ago, it was not done well and, as a result, a good bond with the new paint is difficult. "Blu Tack" is a

particular No, No, so please, if you use the Hall don't use Blu Tack! During the coming weeks we plan to add more notice boards. We also plan to hang lots of "period photographs" illustrating 'old Painswick'.

*Ralph Drew*

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# Centenary Hit

With no less than twenty-two separate scenes, a cast of 60 wearing over 90 costumes between them, Painswick Players, under the Director Alistair Anderson, entertained no fewer than 351 people over four performances to The Centenary Music Hall in Edwardian Style last month. Everyone who enjoyed the occasion will be carrying memories to last for a very long time indeed.

The Players, without exception, projected a new maturity in this production, characterised by a real sense of team spirit. Painswick, and that must include the Players, has much talent and many outstanding 'characters'. Blending that character and talent with others to create a spectacle, to amuse, to hold an audience in awe, requires a selflessness which has the effect of raising the collective impact upon an audience, and this was moved close to the ideal in this production. One is not confining that appraisal solely to the 60 or so performers - the front-of-house and backstage tasks were managed in a manner which helped greatly in setting the Edwardian scene; whether being greeted on arrival, brought supper in the interval, devising the layout of the programme, operating with precision the lighting plot, the wardrobe, or accompanying with live music, each contributed to our experience in the Painswick (Institute) Centre.

To make mention here of individuals could be quite iniquitous. That said, others who also enjoyed the production enormously may well feel that Alistair's positive direction required, and received, the services of a quite outstanding Master of Ceremonies in Roy 'The Voice' Wellbourn, his first time on stage for more than 20 years and his first shot at compere-ing anything. The entire production was brought even closer to the hearts of all present by the youngest members of the Company - every single YIPPIE - who caught and retained the attention of the audience and were rightly acknowledged by thunderous applause.

We were treated to a first class show, by first class performers. They have laid down yet another standard within their eighty years of existence which, if maintained, enhances still further an institution of which the village will continue to be proud. Well done!

LWB



## Ode Time Music Hall

Excitement abounds on the ninth of December  
A night of enjoyment, a night to remember  
Stars brightly shine, Jack Frost in the air  
Winter is coming and Christmas is near.

To the Centre of Painswick, folk make their way,  
A hundred years on from that first Centre day.  
Marking the moment a Grand Music Hall  
Arranged by the PeePees, the YIPPIes and all.

Coats, hats and gloves are hastily shed;  
Guests sit at tables and wait to be fed.  
Bunting festoons the bright tinselled hall  
The audience awaits the first curtain call.

Hair parted, moustached with gavel in hand,  
The M.C. directs audience, players and band.  
The curtains draw back to a full throated chorus.  
A pageant of history is laid out before us.

Tappers and Flappers and Cider with Rosie,  
Solos, duets and an Opening Ceremony,  
Offenbach's Gendarmes and buttons and bows,  
Maid of the Mountains and GI Joes.

Among the ensemble, two vicars or three,  
Enough to give blessings to you and to me.  
A dressing gowned vicar helps Chris with his  
prayers  
While another young man reflects on the stairs.

The interval comes, bread and cheese is brought  
out,  
Friends and neighbours are greeted and agree it's  
a rout.  
Finkelstein's frolics keep us amazed  
As a thunderous mortar is wheeled on the stage.

We wondered, what next? We were all held in thrall  
For a volunteer YIPPIe was Fink's cannonball.  
Into the mouth of the mortar hopped he,  
Cheerfully, joyfully, one, two, three.

Disappearing from view to loud acclamation  
Bang, smoke and flashes: complete devastation.  
Up through the roof, up through the tiles  
Out into orbit for miles upon miles.

Returning at last with a thump like a bomb,  
He picked himself up with regal aplomb,  
Brushed himself down, slicked back his hair,  
Ascended the stage, just glad to be there.

Too soon came the end of this musical treat,  
The final tableau brings us all to our feet.  
It was back to the start - yes, 1907  
Just a century ago? It seemed like heaven.

It was Faith, Hope and Glory. The M.C. called  
time  
We sang round the homeland, we sang Auld Lang  
Syne.  
Crowds cheered, flags waved as in the good days  
of yore  
Seven years later, we all were at war.

What to do now though in two thousand and six?  
Sweep up the floor, stack up the chairs, wash up  
the crocks, pick up the sticks:  
No more to be said;  
Home, hot water bottle, night cap...and bed

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## Vigorous WI

Yew Trees WI held their second annual meeting in November and with it came a change of President and Committee. Many expressions of gratitude were made to the outgoing President, Christine Fellows, for all her hard work, as well as congratulations for getting the WI set up and running so successfully. Thanks too were given to Jean Harley and Margaret Richards, who retired from the committee, and to the three members remaining on it. Maggie Drake, President, and three new committee members were elected to serve in the place of those retiring. When all the formalities were over, members were pleased to be able to relax by learning how to make Christmas cards under the expert tuition of Andrea Linsell. The success of her teaching could be seen in the very splendid cards members took home with them.

December is party time and Yew Trees made no exception to that. Mulled wine and seasonal culinary goodies were on hand to sustain members as they racked their brains to find answers to various quizzes. Our own version of 'Call my bluff' made us see each other with different eyes. Each member made two statements about themselves one that was true and one false. Invariably, the most unlikely proved to be the true one. So if you want to find out a number of unlikely things about some of the ladies of Painswick, join Yew Trees WI and find out!

New President, Maggie Drake, is hoping that we will have a number of new recruits in 2007. Yew Trees is a very friendly WI and there are a lot of very interesting speakers booked to come to our monthly meetings. On Tuesday 23rd January, Bruce Hall, Chairman of the The Cotswold Canal Trust will be the speaker. His illustrated talk will be about the Stroud-water Canal and will include details of the proposed renovation of the canal between Stonehouse and Brimscombe. He will also tell us about the implications of Defra cutting British Waterways' income. We think this should be such an interesting evening that we are opening it to all; so ladies do come along and bring your husbands, partners, family and friends - 7.30 pm in the Town Hall - visitors £2.

*Celia Lougher 812624*



## Historic photographic bonanza

At the November meeting of the Painswick Local History Society Mr Howard Beard gave a fascinating presentation based on some of the postcards from his breathtaking collection of 15000. He explained that what is now a collecting obsession began as a family history interest.



His theme for our evening was life around Stroud circa 1910. This was the period when posting cards was at the height of its popularity and some of those which he showed were indeed a wonderful social record of the era, including agricultural and town scenes, local industries, shops, schools, transport, fire brigades, buildings and people. Many of the pictures had been taken by professional photographers of whom there were a surprisingly large number in this area at that time.

Mr Beard has transferred over 5000 of his pictures onto CD and reminded us that a picture is a secure and valuable historic record only when there is more than one copy and it is annotated.

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday, 16th January at 7.30pm in the Croft School when Helen Tinlin from Gloucestershire Record Office will give a talk on 'The Poor are always with us.' Everyone is welcome.

*Carol Maxwell*

## Village diary

The 2007 VILLAGE DIARY is available in Painswick Woodcrafts. The purpose of this being made available there is so that anyone with an up-coming event can enter it for all to see, and sometimes realise that a clash of dates is on its way! The Beacon not only receives equivalent information direct, but checks with that source as well.

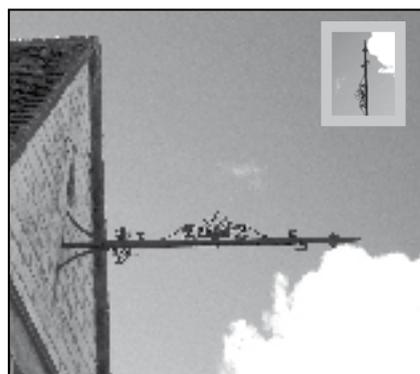
The Painswick Woodcrafts are open Wednesday to Saturday 9.30 until 5.00pm, 4.00pm in January and February.

## ArchiTecs

Do you know where this King's initials are particularly visible?



Last month we asked if you knew where the prominent piece of worked metal (inset) was fixed. The Bath House was the answer.



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## Christmas Fair

Gale force winds, hail showers, plummeting temperatures - altogether a classic Painswick recipe for a fantastic turn out in support of the Croft School on the first Sunday afternoon in December.

Almost impossible to move and, by any standards, deserving of the highest praise for organisers, children and parents for their support and considerable efforts. In one of her newsletters to parents Janet Hoyle said "I'd like to give a huge thank you to everyone who was involved in the organisation of the Christmas fair last Sunday, and to those of you who came along to have a good time and spend your money. It was superbly organised and there was a wonderful atmosphere. I don't know the final figure raised yet, but I believe that it is around the £1,000 mark, which is a great result".



### Book Fair

"Thank you for your support of our book fair", writes Janet Hoyle to parents and other supporters. "We took £442 and received the same amount in commission. This means 80 new books in the classrooms and library."

### Silence can be Golden

We couldn't resist extracting this from a November circular to parents:

"Congratulations to Class 1 and Miss Davies for a very successful 'Children in Need' day. £145.50 was raised from their cake sale and collection.

Caitlin Workman, Evie Whittaker and Louise Davies Boulton raised £77 by carrying out a sponsored silence on the same day."



The Beacon notes that the Croft School require a

### Meal time

#### Supervisor

1¼ hours per day.  
Supervise during lunch + playground afterwards.  
Work is in teams of two.

Contact the Headteacher for information/application form.

Closing date next Monday, 8th January

### Old carpet needed

The school now has a fenced area built to contain the vegetable patch that they will be digging in the spring.

They need some more pieces of old carpet (any sizes, shapes or condition acceptable) to put on the ground for the next couple of months to kill the grass. If you have old carpet or off-cuts, please get in touch with the school.

### After school clubs, this term

Football, netball and country dance clubs will run on the same days as last term.

Board games club will be run on Thursdays for infant children.

# CLOCK

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### Croft: Open the Book

Two small groups of volunteer adults, with help from volunteers from different classes on each occasion, lead the assemblies on alternate weeks - one from St Mary's Church and one from Christ Church. Over-dressing is not required, neither is the learning of lengthy speeches.

The impact of these cameo performances, for which the total rehearsal time might be no more than ten minutes, is considerable. The assemblies are performances of the stories in the Lion Storyteller Bible.

The Beacon caught Moses as a babe in a wicker basket being handed over for safe upbringing, and the King (aka John Longuet-Higgins) vigorously instructing enthusiastic soldiers upon the slaying of every male child within sight.



The Playgroup Nativity Play on the 12th/13th/14th December was one of the highlights of the term, with Beaty, Sharron,

Sarah and Caroline working their magic behind the scenes to produce what was a fantastic performance from the little ones, some as young as 2 years 9 months!

The dress rehearsal was attended by the residents of Resthaven who thanked the children by buying the playgroup a musical book, and photographers from the local papers came to take some of the children's pictures.



The Wednesday production sported the greatest number of children ever (28 in total!). The Innkeeper was very tired and a few angels were rather shy. However, the Three Kings won over the audience with their loud and clear lines!"

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# Cranham where things never stand still

With six changes of Benefice structure in the last 30 years the Church bears its share of change. Now at the departure of the Rev Helen Sammon we reflect on the last four years and her influence in the parish. We have been privileged to see growth and development in so many areas of Church activity including new initiatives such as 'Open the Book' in school, 'Cranham Praise' services, family Holy Communion with Sunday school and regular house group meetings. Not least amongst this renewal is how a village with a local ministry team has become a local ministry parish with so many people involved in all aspects of Church and community life. Having had a team for twelve years with no greater aim than to make church-going a normal activity for ordinary people it seems the ground was prepared for Helen's ministry. We look back with great appreciation of her time with us and look forward to continuing her work from the strong foundations that have been established. Thank you Helen.

*Cranham Local Ministry Group*

# Letters

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

## Music Hall

*Anne Leoni wrote:* I would like to say how much we enjoyed the last night of the centenary Music Hall. Congratulations to everyone on and off the stage who must have put a lot of hard work in beforehand. I hesitate to name names but the combination of Graham Luker and John LH had to be seen. I wish I had seen the same song performed by Graham and Peter Minall on Thursday night! The singing was infectious and we showed our age by joining in without the aid of the written word.

It was also great to see so many young people taking part and obviously enjoying themselves.

A happy and light hearted evening.

*and Jack and Rose Smith too:* What a show, well done.

We know everyone involved must have worked hard to have given us such a wonderful evening of entertainment. The hard work from the team who produced a lovely Ploughman's Supper too; not much left on any plate. A pat on the back is deserved!

## Beacon abused

*Caitlin Workman, aged 9, writes from Cheltenham Road:* Me and my Mum walk up the Beacon nearly every day with our dog and are disgusted to find a lot of litter lying around. On Saturday 16th December we found lots of old boxes and bin bags. Painswick has a wonderful countryside that is being destroyed, and soon there won't be any left because careless people just dump their litter and this ruins the atmosphere. The Beacon means a lot to me and it's like a second garden, so please don't let it go to waste.

## Richmond-Painswick

*Douglas Robinson writes:* Richmond Painswick has sought support for their Phase III by sending a questionnaire to local households and inviting comments to be sent to the Electoral Reform Services. The findings go direct to Stroud District Council - no doubt then available on request - and may give a considerably better measure of opinion on this proposal than the often quoted survey of 1997.

Phase III would also need planning permission and an application has long been promised. Currently, further development would increase the number of units beyond the 20 dwellings indicated in the District Local Plan (policy HN2) and considerably reduce the area required for open space.

I therefore urge fellow residents of all persuasions to examine the application when it arrives (no doubt to be exhibited in the Town Hall) and, to help reach a solution, give their views to Stroud District Council Planning Department.

# Mozart

Beryl Bailey gave us a well-illustrated talk on 30th November, mainly about Mozart's operas and choral works. She played first an aria from the relatively little heard Idomeneo sung by a rising Russian singer, Anna Natrevko, whose clarity and control set the standard for subsequent arias from The Marriage of Figaro.

Cecilia Bartoli sang beautifully; Kiri Te Kanawa didn't sound remotely Italian. From Don Giovanni, we again heard the excellent Cecilia; but Bryn Terfel couldn't stand the pace of his Champagne aria. After a choral interlude, we went on to the fickleness of Cosi Fan Tutte, offset by the severity of the Magic Flute, The Queen of the Night sung by a splendid Hungarian soprano and Zoroastro by Rene Pape, a faultless bass.

Beryl then reminded us of our mortality with an extract from Mozart's Requiem, but ended on the lighter note of Exsultate Jubilate - Alleluia.

This was Beryl's first presentation to the Group: it was a relaxed and enjoyable evening.



*Richard Burges-Watson*

## Musical social

A light-hearted music quiz has become the feature of our annual Christmas Social to which we look forward with anticipation mixed with trepidation! This time, on 14th December, a record audience was rewarded with two quizzes, presented of course by Father Christmas personally, aka Leslie. Competition was fierce and slow thinkers like your reporter had little chance, despite - or perhaps because of - liberal intake of delicious finger buffet and wine.

Our next event is the music of Dvorak on 11th January. New members are always most welcome - and under no obligation to do a "presentation" - unless they'd like to have a go!

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# Job opportunities

## Richmond Painswick are recruiting

The Beacon is carrying an advertisement this month, indicating that Richmond Painswick are at the stage at which they are about to take on many staff (see page 3).

Realising that attracting local talents can only be to the advantage of any residents hereabouts interested in obtaining the sort of jobs which will be on offer, we sought a little additional information from the Manager, Susie Oakley. She confirmed their desire to recruit as locally as possible, and will appreciate anyone drawing these vacancies to the attention of relatives and friends living in this part of the county.

Their Recruitment Fair across two days 26th and 27th January will, we are told, enable anyone interested to find out more about the varied career opportunities available. Susie advised that initial recruitment will be in several areas including:-

- care and nursing
- catering and hospitality
- administration and reception
- property and grounds maintenance
- housekeeping and laundry
- beauty therapy
- transport

Susie Oakley said that "Some apprenticeship programmes will be available, and there is a commitment to staff learning and development through the provision of E-learning, NVQs, workshops, on and off the job training, seminars and nationally recognised qualifications. At the Fair details of individual jobs and career paths on offer, training opportunities and much more can be obtained".

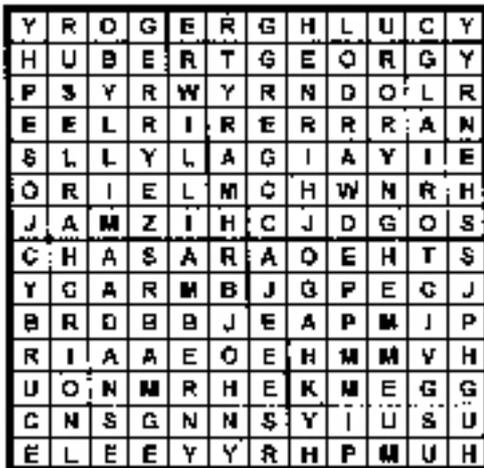
## Beacon subscribers

21st December 2006	2006-2007	2005-2006
New or renewed after lapsing	144	116
Renewed from last year	495	483
<b>Total including postal</b>	<b>639</b>	<b>599</b>
Painswick village dwellings	1057	1057
Subscribing households	557	416
Percentage subscribing	53%	40%

## Directory updating

Readers are reminded that while we can not include updating information on these pages, the Directory is regularly 'corrected' as we receive new information in its on-line version.

Just visit our web site (see back page) and follow the links.



This month we are looking at the names of our monarchs since 1066. The reality is that there are only 13 names across all those years, one of which we have not used.

Last month, in our 50th WordSearch, we invited you to find sixteen fish of the freshwater variety to be found in Scottish lochs or rivers, and which two are included twice? It was not quite as simple as many might think.

ARCTIC CHARR  
 ARCTIC SALMON twice  
 COMMON GOBY  
 EUROPEAN EEL  
 FLOUNDER  
 GOLDEN MULLET  
 LAMPREY  
 MINNOW  
 PERCH twice  
 PIKE  
 ROACH  
 SEA BASS  
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## Tennis

### Peter Bolton

Members of the tennis club were very sad to hear of the death of Pete Bolton on November 22nd. Pete was a big, and very special, part of the club. He joined the coaching team over fifteen years ago and was instrumental in setting up the extensive evening coaching programme. Mini tennis was set up for the youngest of the children, many of whom, having started with Pete, have gone on to play for the county. He was immensely proud when his U14 team won the County District Championship last year. But his proudest moment of all was winning the Gloucestershire LTA Coach of the Year Award for his services to tennis in 2005.

Pete's strengths as a coach lay in making anyone, of any age, enjoy their tennis, no matter what their standard. He had an ability to make a child feel good about themselves through encouragement and enthusiasm (and always with a Pete 'high five'!). There are so, so many children in and around the village who have benefited from Pete's unique style of coaching and he leaves behind a huge

legacy for the future. He and his wife, Jan, have donated the Peter Bolton Cup to the Painswick juniors which will be awarded each year, on his birthday, to the junior who has shown the most determination and enthusiasm.

To quote one of the juniors "Pete is a legend". He will be greatly missed by all, and remembered for a very long time.

Just two weeks after Pete's death, Painswick was awarded

the title of Gloucestershire LTA Club of the Year for 'efforts and contribution to the provision of tennis in the county over 2006'. Head coach, Lorraine Ristic, recalling the event said, "we had no idea Painswick was going to win and my immediate thought was that it was such a shame Pete was not with us to accept the award since he had made such a huge contribution to the club's success". Club President, John Courts, accepted the award on behalf of the club and, in his subsequent speech, dedicated the honour to Pete Bolton. A fitting tribute to a lovely man.



## Painswick LTC's Award

Painswick Lawn Tennis Club has been chosen as the Gloucestershire LTC Association's "Club of the Year 2006".

Pictured at the presentation of the award are, from left to right, Joan Griffiths, John Courts, John Barrus and Gill Willoughby.

Well done Painswick!



## Rugby

Painswick's first fifteen are looking to the new year to bring a change of fortune as losing to Aretians earlier in December has not helped their position in the Gloucestershire Premier Division.

They have reason for optimism as the first two fixtures in 2007 are against Old Colstonians and Longlevens, sides they have beaten earlier in the season. Painswick have begun well in the matches they have lost and against both Cirencester and Aretians they were ahead at half-time. Painswick United put in an excellent performance against old rivals Cainscross winning by 42 points to 15.

December results [(L) indicates league match. (M) Merit Table.

Sat 2nd. Painswick 1st XV 10 Cirencester 1st XV 18.

Sat 9th. Painswick United 42 Cainscross 2nd XV 14.

Sat 16th. Painswick 1st XV 10 Aretians 1st XV 26.

January fixtures

Sat 6th. (L) Old Colstonians 1st XV v Painswick 1st XV.

(M) Old Patesians 3rd XV v Painswick United.

Sat 13th. (L) Painswick 1st XV v Longlevens 1st XV.

(M) Stow-on-the-Wold 2nd XV v Painswick United.

Sat 20th. Painswick 1st XV v Gloucester Civil Service 1st XV.

Painswick United v Drybrook 2nd XV.

Sat 27th. (L) Drybrook 1st XV v Painswick 1st XV.

(M) Gloucester Old Boys 2nd XV v Painswick United.



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## Tennis Juniors

Repeated item from the December issue.

Painswick Juniors were very successful at the Gloucestershire County Closed Tournament held at the East Gloucestershire Club in Cheltenham at the end of August.

The finalists pictured here were:-

James Barnett - U18 Singles Runner-Up (RU), U16 Singles RU, U16 Doubles Winner. Freddie Speed - U16 Plate RU.  
 Ed Williams - U14 Singles Winner, U14 Doubles Winner.  
 Dan Omnes - U14 Singles RU. Lucy Moir & Sarah Thomas - U16 Doubles Winners. Alicia Barnett & Chelsea Warrington - U16 Doubles RU. Chelsea Warrington - U14 Plate Winner.  
 Annabel Sidwell - U18 Singles Winner.  
 Annabel Sidwell & Judith Thomas - U18 Doubles RU.  
 Alicia Barnett - U14 Singles RU. Alex Duncliffe & Robert Sidwell - U12 Doubles Winners. Alex Duncliffe - U12 Singles Winner. Jake Roberts - U16 Plate Winner.  
 Megan Butterworth - U12 Plate Winner.  
 Joe Milnthorpe & David Reid - U16 Doubles RU.

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## Craig Stock's Cricket School

Craig Stock tells the Beacon that he is offering winter cricket training for club playing children.

Having represented Wales at Under 12 to Under 15 level and played in the National Tournament for the West of England at Under 15 level and played for Glamorgan Under 17s as well as being an English Cricket Board Coach, he feels that he has a lot to offer young, enthusiastic, talented cricket players.

If you are interested in the taking part in the training, Craig can be contacted on 07725.337902.

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## Golf Club news

### Golf Course

The Head Green Keeper, Duncan Smith, and his staff are doing their utmost to protect the course during this wet spell without causing complete interruption to play. Congratulations to Duncan who along with another greenkeeper from Cotswold Hills played in a Greenkeepers Golf Tournament at Bath last week and gained first prize.

### Horses on the course mystery

Most horse riders and cyclists who cross the Beacon area are very responsible and use only the bridle paths but at the moment there are a large numbers of hoof prints on areas of the course far away from the designated paths, in fact, on some of the areas which are particularly vulnerable to damage. The bulk of these prints seem to regularly appear late on Saturday afternoons. Some of the prints are clearly those of a pony but at times show that the pony has been accompanied by an adult. Hopefully children are not being left to ride wherever they wish without correct guidance.

### Matches and competitions

The Winter 4-ball has managed to run all of its Autumn rounds without interruption by weather conditions e.g. fog. The Club Social Christmas Competition was won by Roger Herbert and Pete Bayliss with 47 pts. The Seniors/Ladies Christmas Texas Scramble was won by a 3-ball: Jim Hodge, Phil Jennings and K. Pang with 57.5 pts. Closely followed by a 4-ball team of: Meg James, Pete Cruze, Brian Webb and Mick McGarr with 57.75 pts. The Seniors Christmas Competition was one by Peter Roe and Terry Coleman with an amazing 51pts.

### Junior members

The effort to encourage Junior Golf, Painswick G.C. has started to pay off. The free membership to those Juniors who are brought along by adult members to play has brought the number of Junior Members up from 3 to 18.

### New Steward and Stewardess

We welcome Valerie and David Connelly to the Golf Club. They now have Sunday Lunches and other meals well under way. They have returned to the U.K. from Malta where they have been for the last 3 years. They are no newcomers to Golf Clubs as they have previously worked at Cheadle and Alderley Edge Golf Courses in Cheshire.

### Meet and Greet-Morning

On Wednesday 10th January all members, guests and previous members are invited to meet Valerie and David for a glass of Sherry from 11.00am onwards. The Wednesday Carvery will also be starting again on that day. Any Painswick resident who wishes to come up and discuss any interest that they have in the club, course or merely wish to look round and see our facilities are also welcome to come and meet committee members on that day.

## Into 2007

The Friday Club looks back on a very successful year in which we have enjoyed a series of very interesting talks on a surprisingly wide range of topics. They were brought to a fitting end of the season by a talk and demonstration of 'Flowers for Christmas' by our chairman, Anne Smith. We watched as, before our very eyes, she wove her spells amongst leaves and sprigs and bits of things but with magic fingers to produce wreaths and table decorations of exquisite delight, even one using the hull of a cabbage as its base core! The mind boggled. It also boggled at another highlight of the year, and an innovation at that, – the President's Tea Party. This followed the AGM in November when, business done, the metaphorical carpet was 'rolled back' and the entertainment began. The surprise of the day was the appearance of an expert 'Come Dancing' pair giving us a live, close-up and beguiling taste of dance hall grace. But, and here's the rub, they got us all going. What, you do not believe me? We were given the choice of 'Doing the Salsa' on our feet or sitting down: we split 50:50. Man Friday had thought 'salsa' was something to do with cooking and eating but apparently its to do with body parts. We 'salsa'd to the left and sook, we salsa'd to the right and shook we rumba'd forward, we rumba'd backwards, we shook our tops, we shook our bottoms (that was the easy bit), wait a minute, I thought, I've done all this before – we were doing, more or less, what amounted to the Okey Cokey and calling it the Salsa. *Toujours le change . . . . .*

We start the New Year on 12th January with a talk by Ian McGuire on the Barn Owl 'Ghost of the Night'. Twitching in the Town Hall with tea and biscuits! Then on 26th Jan we have 'Extended Exercises' with Helen Barry; now I wonder what they might be but who cares, after Salsa-ing we can do anything.

*Man Friday*



## Mission to Seafarers

Have you any unwanted paperbacks including back Readers Digests?

The Mission to Seafarers can put them to good use. There will be a box in St Mary's Church for them from 2nd January or please contact John Parfitt at 813444



## Father Tom

Many readers will recall Father Tom Curtis-Hayward who was the Parish Priest at Stroud for some fifteen years and was a regular visitor to Painswick.

Each week he wrote his reflections on the Sunday readings in the church bulletin, and 100 of these commentaries have been published in a book entitled 'Words of Encouragement' which also has photographs of Father Tom and some of his paintings.

The book, which is priced at £4.95 can be obtained from The Little Fleece bookshop in Bisley Street. Alternatively telephone 812264.

## Native primrose

### Primula vulgaris

Ros Harris dropped a note to the Beacon on 29th November to say that she had just found two of these plants, in bloom, together with a clump of Celandine leaves pushing their way into sunlight. Bearing in mind that the flowering period for this primrose is March to May . . . . .

A record? Or an omen?



## PROPERTY REPORT for January by Murrays

We at Murrays have had yet another busy month selling, much more than this time last year and also taking on many more properties. It has also been surprisingly busy for viewings and valuations, ending 2006 on a high. Property prices held their own right up to the end of the year, which can only mean that the market will be looking bullish as we start 2007, putting ourselves in an even stronger position with plenty of buyers waiting for fresh property as this calendar year commences. Christmas preparations didn't seem to deter anybody from buying or selling. We look forward to the New Year with great optimism with the knowledge that we have a focused and enthusiastic team behind the helm.

New instructions include 2 flats in Haresfield Court, a contemporary apartment in Painswick Heights, a spacious and extremely well appointed house in The Camp, Byways in the centre of Painswick with a large garden and views, Craythorne and Woodside on Coopers Hill, Stoneways commanding fantastic views in Edge and a house which combines contemporary and period living in Pitchcombe.

Properties that have gone under offer include The Little Property on Vicarage Street, which was snapped up straight away, The Coppins, a charming house in Sheepscombe, and Willowmead, a large modern house with a swimming pool in Upton St Leonards.

Recently sold properties include Angels Roost on Vicarage Street, Cotswold Villa on Gloucester Street and Carousel in Slad.

Congratulations go to Jennifer from our office whose budding talent and magical skills helped to make the Painswick Players Centenary Music Hall a great success. We may have a star in our midst!

I would like to take this opportunity to hope that you all had a lovely Christmas and will have a joyful New Year, and that it brings you health, happiness and prosperity.

*James Murray*

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## JANUARY

Sun	7	Painswick Beacon Conservation Group scrub clearance (location check 812709)	Painswick Beacon	10.00am to 1.00pm
Tue	9	Dog Training Club (Tuesdays) Yoga: Beginners welcome – Tuesdays - contact Emma 01453 840395	Christ Church Hall Town Hall	9.30 to 12.00noon 10.00 to 1.15am
Wed	10	Bingo Club Probus: Everyman Theatre – Ms Sally-Ann Rhodes Horticultural Society: English Garden History - Barbara Drake	Ashwell House Ostlers Room, Falcon Town Hall	6.30pm 10.00am 2.30pm
Thu	11	Music Appreciation Group: Antonin Dvorak Jolly Stompers Line Dancing: Beginners Experienced beginners – Tea Dances – Thursdays Fearless Bridge re-starts (see p.5)	Cotswold Room Town Hall Thursdays Painswick Centre Sheepscombe	7.30pm 12.00 to 1.00pm 12.30 to 1.30pm 2.30 to 4.30pm 7.15pm
Fri	12	Country Market re-opens with coffee available Friday Club: Barn Owl 'Ghost of the Night'	Town Hall Town Hall	10.00am 10.00am
Mon	15	Austerity Lunch: Hosts CTAP	Christ Church Hall	12.15pm to 1.15pm
Tue	16	Local History Society: The poor are always with us	Croft School	7.30pm
Wed	17	Parlez-vous Français (see p.5)	Painswick Centre	
Sat	20	<b>Copy dateline for February Beacon</b>		
Mon	22	Austerity Lunch: Hosts Tennis Club	Christ Church Hall	12.15pm to 1.15pm
Tue	23	Yew Trees WI: The Cotswold Canal Trust Public Meeting re. Library premises (see p.6)	Town Hall Church Rooms	7.30pm 7.00pm
Wed	24	Probus: The Sinister World – Mr P Petrie	Ostlers Room, Falcon	10.00am
Thu	25	Music Appreciation Group: Jazz in the 30's	Cotswold Room	7.30pm
Fri	26	<b>and 27 Recruitment Fair</b> Friday Club: 'Extended Exercises' - Helen Barry	Richmond Painswick Town Hall	
Sun	28	Painswick Beacon Conservation Group scrub clearance (location check 812709)	Painswick Beacon	10.00am to 1.00pm
Mon	29	Austerity Lunch: Hosts Puffins	Christ Church Hall	12.15pm to 1.15pm
Wed	31	Women's Fellowship: Opening Service	Friends Meeting House	7.30pm

## FEBRUARY

Thu	1	Cotswold Care Support Group meeting	Ashwell House	2.30pm
Sat	3	February issue of The Painswick Beacon published		
Sun	4	Painswick Beacon Conservation Group scrub clearance (location check 812709)	Painswick Beacon	10.00am to 1.00pm
Mon	5	Austerity Lunch: Hosts Yew Trees WI	Christ Church Hall	12.15pm to 1.15pm
Wed	7	Probus: Well, Whatever Next – Mr R Shotter Theatre Club Outing to Malvern	Ostlers Room, Falcon dep. The Falcon	10.00am 1.00pm
Fri	9	Friday Club: Cheese making and tasting Music Appreciation Concert (Birmingham) Tennis Club/Badminton Club Barn Dance with The Downfielders	Town Hall	2.30pm
Mon	12	Austerity Lunch: Hosts Croft School	Broadham Christ Church Hall	7.30pm 12.15pm to 1.15pm
Wed	14	Horticultural Society: RHS Garden at Harlow Carr Maurice Everett. Plant Sale Women's Fellowship: Bee Keeping C&N Dunn	Town Hall	2.30pm
Tue	20	Bird Club: Birds & other wild life of the Forest of Dean, Lesbos and the Galapagos – Terry Wall Local History Society: A David Archard/Helen Briggs Production	Christ Church Hall Town Hall	7.30pm 2.00pm
Wed	21	Probus: Drug Awareness & Education – Mr A Wood	Croft School Ostlers Room, Falcon	7.30pm 10.00am
Thu	22	Music Appreciation: Variations on a theme of Variations		
Fri	23	Friday Club: Memories of Japan	Cotswold Room Town Hall	7.30pm 2.30pm
Sun	25	Painswick Beacon Conservation Group scrub clearance (location check 812709)	Painswick Beacon	10.00am to 1.00pm

## MARCH

Thu	1	Cotswold Care Support Group meeting	Ashwell House	2.30pm
Fri	2	Horticultural Society Special Event: Evening with David Howard – Head Gardener at Highgrove	Painswick Centre	7.30pm
Sat	3	Theatre Club Outing to Cheltenham Cream tea and Poetry Reading	dep. The Falcon Painswick Centre	1.30pm
Sun	4	Painswick Beacon Conservation Group scrub clearance (location check 812709)	Painswick Beacon	10.00am to 1.00pm
Wed	7	Probus: Cider with Rosie Country – Mr J Fern	Ostlers Room, Falcon	10.00am
Thu	8	Music Appreciation Group: Franz Joseph Haydn	Cotswold Room	7.30pm

Fri	9	Friday Club: Snowhill Manor today and yesterday	Town Hall	2.30pm
Sat	10	<b>Village Quiz</b>	Painswick Centre	6.45 for 7.15pm
Wed	14	Horticultural Society: Pruning – Sue Gibson	Town Hall	7.30pm
Tue	20	Local History Society: Hugh Conway-Jones – Gloucester Docks	Croft School	7.30pm
Wed	21	Probus: The Long Bow – Brigadier I Shapter	Ostlers Room, Falcon	10.00am
Thu	22	Music Appn. Group: Two for the price of one	Cotswold Room	7.30pm
Fri	23	Friday Club: Creative Glass Art	Town Hall	2.30pm
Sat	24	Music Society Concert: Felicity Lott & Graham Johnson	St Mary's Church	3.00pm
Sun	25	Painswick Beacon Conservation Group scrub clearance (location check 812709)	Painswick Beacon	10.00am to 1.00pm
Tue	27	Bird Club: The Wildlife of Trinidad & Tobago - Bob Axworthy	Town Hall	7.30pm
Wed	28	Horticultural Society: Outings booking morning	Church Rooms	10.00am to 12 noon
<b>APRIL</b>				
Sun	1	Painswick Beacon Conservation Group scrub clearance (location check 812709)	Painswick Beacon	10.00am to 1.00pm
Wed	4	Probus: Walking across America – Mr C M O'Brian Flower Guild: Cookery demonstration by Rob Rees	Ostlers Room, Falcon tba	10.00am tba
Thu	5	Cotswold Care Support Group meeting Music Appreciation Group: Film Music	Ashwell House Cotswold Room	2.30pm 7.30pm
Wed	11	Horticultural Society: British poisonous plants - Michael Leech. Plant sale	Town Hall	7.30pm
Sat	14	Music Society Concert: Daniel de Borah	St Mary's Church	3.00pm
Tue	17	Local History Society: Research Evening	Croft School	7.30pm
Wed	18	Probus: AGM	Ostlers Room, Falcon	10.00am
Thu	19	Music Appreciation Group: Members Night	Cotswold Room	7.30pm
Fri	20	Friday Club: Painswick Tombstones	Town Hall	2.30pm
Sat	28	Music Society Concert: Kungsbacka Piano Trio	St Mary's Church	3.00pm
Sun	29	Painswick Beacon Conservation Group scrub clearance (location check 812709)	Painswick Beacon	10.00am to 1.00pm
<b>MAY</b>				
Thu	3	Cotswold Care Support Group meeting	Ashwell House	2.30pm
Fri	4	Friday Club: 'My Gran's a Gypsy'	Town Hall	2.30pm
Mon	7	Antiques and Crafts Fair	Painswick Centre	10.00am to 4.00pm
Wed	9	Horticultural Society: AGM – followed by Painswick in Bloom – Philip Berry (plant sale)	Town Hall	7.30pm 8.15pm
Sat	12	Music Society Concert: Rasumovsky Ensemble	St Mary's Church	3.00pm
Tue	15	Local History Society: Outing	Croft School	7.30pm
Fri	18	Friday Club: The History of Twinning's Tea	Town Hall	2.30pm
Wed	23	Annual Parish Meeting	Town Hall	7.30pm
Thu	24	Friday Club: Outing to 'Peter Pan on Ice'	Everyman	tba
<b>JUNE</b>				
Fri	1	Friday Club: 'Luggage Label Experiences of...'	Town Hall	2.30pm
Thu	7	Cotswold Care Support Group meeting	Ashwell House	2.30pm
Mon	15	Friday Club: Kennet and Avon canal trip		tba
Tue	16	Local History Society: AGM	Croft School	7.30pm
Fri	29	Friday Club: President's Garden Party Broadham Ball	Broadham Fields	tba 7.30pm
<b>JULY</b>				
Thu	5	Cotswold Care Support Group meeting	Ashwell House	2.30pm
Fri	13	Friday Club: Whiteway colony	Town Hall	2.30pm
Sat	14	An Edwardian Evening to Remember	Painswick Centre	7.15 to 11.30pm
Thu	26	<b>to 29th</b> Flower Festival The Cappella Singers in concert	St.Mary's Church St.Mary's Church	tba 7.30pm
Fri	27	Friday Club: Working Life on the Severn	Town Hall	2.30pm
Sun	29	CTAP Cricket Match	Broadham Fields	2.00pm
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>				
Fri	7	Friday Club: Canine Partners	Town Hall	2.30pm
Sat	8	Horticultural Society Annual Show	Painswick Centre	2.30pm to 5.30pm
<b>OCTOBER</b>				
Fri	5	Friday Club: outing 'Autumn Colours - apple ...'		tba
Fri	19	Friday Club: World Authority on Handcuffs	Town Hall	2.30pm
<b>NOVEMBER</b>				
Fri	2	Friday Club: AGM+ Experiences of a Town Crier	Town Hall	1.45pm
Fri	16	Friday Club: outing Filkins Cloth Mill and .....		tba
Fri	30	Friday Club: 100 Years of Life in Painswick	Town Hall	2.30pm



## PLANNING MATTERS A summary of information from the Parish Council.

### New applications

WELL FARM, WICK STREET Installation of secondary glazing  
 GRAVEL HILL HOUSE, SLAD ROAD Erection of a 2 storey extension, replacement of single storey garden room with single storey building & new window to 1st floor playroom.  
 1 TOCKNELLS COTTAGE, CHELTENHAM ROAD Installation of wind turbine.  
 LITTLE ACRE, KEMPS LANE Erection of a shed  
 4 CHURCHILL WAY Erection of front porch  
 CORVARA, COTSWOLD MEAD Erection of a conservatory.  
 THE WITHYHOLT, PAUL MEAD, EDGE Remove existing flat roof to 1st floor & replace with low pitch tiled roof.  
 CHURCH ORCHARD, FAR END, SHEEPSCOMBE Replacement of existing conservatory, construction of pergola and conversion of existing store into a garden room.  
 COURT HOUSE, HALE LANE Construction of dry stone wall.  
 GREYSTON COTTAGE, PINCOT LANE. Erection of 2-storey side extension.  
 COURTSIDE, HALE LANE. Erection of part single storey & part 2 storey extension linking existing house with outbuilding. Erection of single storey extension to the outbuilding. Internal alterations.

### Revised plans

DALEGARTH, COTSWOLD MEAD Erection of an extension. Main changes: Inclusion of the utility room on proposed north east elevation.

### Consent

HAMBUTTS COTTAGE, CHURCHILL WAY Erection of 2 storey side extension & garage  
 2 ROSEBANK COTTAGES, SLAD Installation of an oil fired boiler, conversion of a bedroom to a shower room & bathroom, addition of waste pipes from bathroom to external drain.  
 TOWYS, TIBBIWELL LANE Erection of extension and internal alterations.  
 ALWAYS, KINGS MEAD Erection of a 2 storey extension.  
 6 ST MARY'S MEAD Works to horse chestnut

### Refusal

DAMSELLS FARM Refurbishment of ancillary building.

### Plans withdrawn

MIRADOR, CHELTENHAM ROAD Replacement dwelling  
 ABBEY BARN, SLAD LANE, SLAD Erection of garden shed and greenhouse

### Corrected information

New application (December)  
 KINGS MILL HOUSE, KINGS MILL LANE Replace 2 sash windows. Construction of en-suite bathroom.

## Carl Moreland

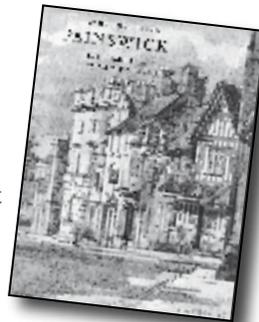
Carl Moreland loved Painswick. On retiring after well over 20 years from the RAF in 1963 with the rank of Squadron Leader, he bought a plot of land in Castle Hale and with his wife, Molly, planned and built his home there. Carl derived much pleasure from the house and its beautiful garden. Before the War Carl's career had been in banking, some of it spent happily in Switzerland. During the War he was on active service mainly in North Africa, and acknowledged that the situation enabled him to see many fascinating places. Subsequently he was posted to Germany and Vienna where he played a key role in the setting up of the European Community.

When Molly became ill, Carl nursed her devotedly until her death.

In retirement, Carl became very interested in antiquarian maps and eventually co-authored a book on the subject which is now a standard reference book of international standing. It was in the course of this work that he met Audrey. He was immensely proud of the new family he acquired when they married – Richard and David, his sons and his grand-daughter, Sally. This was the source of great happiness for Carl.

In 1996, in association with the Local History Society, Carl published a book, Painswick: Time Chart of a Cotswold Village. His valuable contribution is much appreciated by the Society and indeed by many others.

*Carol Maxwell*



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**Crime figures for November**

Criminal damage 3  
 Theft from motor vehicles 6  
 Theft of motor vehicle 0  
 Assault -  
 Theft 1  
 Burglary from dwelling 2  
 Burglary from non-dwelling 1

**TOTAL 13**

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**Village Quiz**

A reminder, so that club committees and friendship groups can plan well in advance - the annual Village Quiz is scheduled for **Saturday 10th March**

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# The Personal Column

## Babies

Congratulations to SUSAN and GILES CHAMBERLIN on the birth of their son, Daniel Joseph, on 1st November at Warborough, Oxfordshire, a first grandchild for Anne and Joe James' also (amending last month's notice), our congratulations to AIMEE COLLINS and MATTHEW CLUTTERBUCK on the birth of their daughter Esme, Elizabeth, Zia Clutterbuck, a granddaughter for Pamela and David Collins and a great-granddaughter for John and Barbara Hulme.

## Get well soon

Our best wishes for a speedy recovery to DOREEN BOON and PEGGY GREVETT.

## Nonagenarians+ - combine to 562

Birthday wishes to RUTH DE COURCY IRELAND who was 101 on 11th December, LIONEL HUXTED who was 90 on 31st December, BARBARA LEIGH-SMITH who was 96 on 15th December, JOHN MARFELL who was 94 in December, and JEAN BARCLAY who will be 90 on 9th January, not forgetting FRED ARTHUR 91 on 30th November (*see page 6*).

## New address

RENÉE HILL has moved to Abbots Barton Nursing Home near Winchester, Mr and Mrs VICKERS left Chapel

Cottage in Edge,

Mr and Mrs ROBERTS moved on to Cheltenham from Laurel Cottage in Slad, Mr and Mrs WHITTENBURY to Oxford from Coppers Beech in Knapp Lane, sisters EILEEN and VIVIEN KRUSE from Downage in Cotswold Mead to Cheltenham, and Mr and Mrs THORLEY from 14 Canton Acre to Stroud.

## Welcome

A welcome to JOHN and BO PEARSON to The Falcon, Mr and Mrs ASHBY to 14 Canton Acre, Mr and Mrs LYNALL to 14 Gloucester Road, Mr and Mrs KAYE to Edge Cottage, Edge, Mr and Mrs SCHROEDER to Ivy Cottage, Slad, Mr and Mrs KHOSTAM to Laurel Cottage, Slad, Mr and Mrs NIXON to Coppers Beech in Knapp Lane, and Wing Commander and Mrs BARTLETT to Chapel Cottage, Edge.

## Change of house

MICHAEL and SHARLA DANDY, Emily and Austen, have moved from Churchill Way and are on their way to Downage in Cotswold Mead.

## Condolences

Our sincere sympathies to the family and friends of FREDA COX, CARL MORELAND and DIANA RADWAY who died recently.

## Farewell, dear Freda

Last month Freda Cox died. From Portsmouth to Painswick she came as a bride, 60 years young, to join her adoring husband Laurie, 15 years her senior. They enjoyed eleven wonderful years of marriage before she was widowed. Wisely, Laurie had encouraged Freda to become actively involved in village life. Such was her tremendous commitment to the community that in 1993 she became Painswickian of the Year.

Many village groups and individuals benefited from Freda's care and practical help, one example being Puffins. As a founder member of the senior fitness group she took it upon herself to put out chairs before each session, and was treasurer, secretary and events organiser. When she was unable to continue a committee had to be formed to cope with all the jobs done quietly and efficiently by our Freda.

In her ninetieth year she was housebound but content to be at home thanks to the tremendous support she received from neighbours, in particular Pam Collins and Jo Brazier.

Small in stature, with a big heart, Freda was an inspiration. Farewell, dear friend.

*Margaret Hodge*

## NEXT ISSUE

Publication date  
SATURDAY 3rd FEBRUARY

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