

The Painswick Beacon

Sine praeiudicio

Volume 32 Number 11

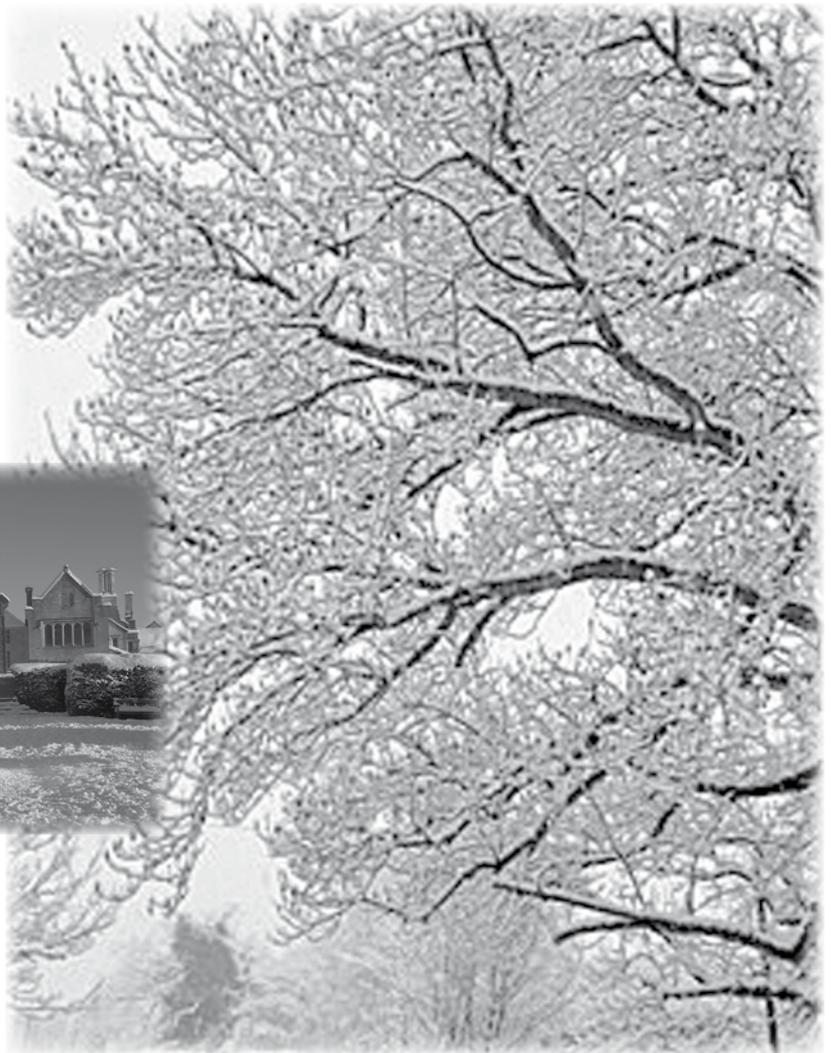
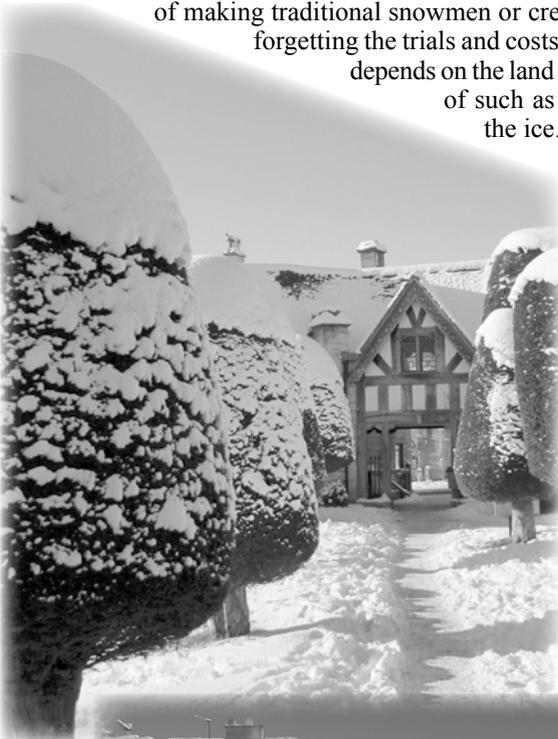
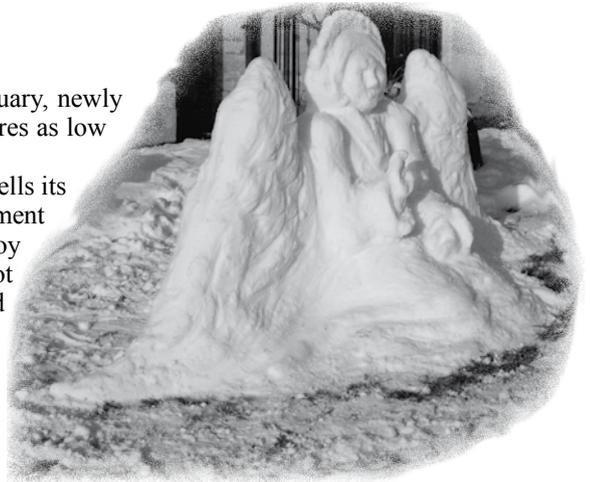
February 2010

Snowtime

Sudden, dramatic, beautiful and beastly - all at the same time. From 5th January, newly named 'White Tuesday', the snowfall was upon us accompanied by temperatures as low as -12°, with supplementary doses on 13th and 20th.

Many are the pictures, dozens in fact, which have come our way - and each tells its own story. We believe this small collection highlights how many saw our environment across those days. We are reminded of the sheer drama of the landscape, the joy of making traditional snowmen or creating a snow-angel, but not forgetting the trials and costs for those whose livelihood depends on the land itself and the consequences of such as cattle breaking a limb on the ice.

Need more be said?



On other pages this month - gas and road works starting next Monday, district strategy, an invitation to centre, snowdrop bulletin, digital TV information, wells compared, opportunity to use skills, special fortnight of trading, the advertising here, countdown to quiz.



The meeting was attended by 10 members of the public, Stroud District Councillors Frances Roden and Barbara Tait, County Councillor Joan Nash and PCSO Colin Drewett.

PLANNING

Washwell Farm

Chairman David Hudson reported that he had discussed with the owner the outline planning application for the erection of a dwelling. The farm is just outside the boundary of Painswick settlement, the erection of such a dwelling would be contrary to the Local Plan though SDC Planning Policy would allow approval of the application if there is an exceptional need linked to the farming business. The owner told David Hudson that the building would be for residential use for either himself or for his family. After some discussion, members agreed that a site visit was necessary which the chairman will arrange.

Old Lloyds Bank Building, Bisley Street

David Hudson told the meeting that the planning application for change of use to a restaurant was still outstanding.

PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Plan/Meeting Room Survey

Martin Slinger told the meeting that Ela Pathak-Sen was in the process of preparing a report on the revision of the Parish Plan which would be presented at a future date. The Plan would incorporate the Meeting Room Survey carried out on behalf of the Parish Council by Peter Rowe. Terry Parker thanked Peter again and pointed out that Painswick was the first Parish Council in the country to draw up a Parish Plan.

Allotments

Martin Slinger reported that progress had been delayed because of the recent

bad weather. Some potential sites were still undecided. The working group's next meeting was on the 15th February.

Stamages Lane Car Park

Terry Parker read out a letter from District Councillors Frances Roden and Barbara Tait to the Parish Council regarding the December Parish Council meeting when no mention was made or thanks given to them for the decision to suspend parking charges for five weeks when the A46 is closed for gas main works. He explained that he had not thanked them as he was unaware of their involvement and as they were not present at the December meeting. He also read out his reply and expressed the Parish Council's thanks and apologies to both District Councillors.

The Library

There was an extended discussion about the sudden closure of our library for "health and safety" reasons. Antonia Noble, GCC Cabinet Member for Libraries, said on the 21st December "We have always said that we do not want Painswick to lose its library service but we do have to review how that service is delivered. The library building is not suitable for a modern library service and since the community bid to run the library did not succeed, we have to look at other options but we will consult local people before any changes are made." Joan Nash, local County Councillor, said that GCC is in touch with SDC to make part of Stamages Lane car park available for a mobile library whilst the library building is closed but SDC Councillors Frances Roden and Barbara Tait were not aware of this.

Ann Burgess Watson said it appeared that the library was being closed by stealth. Ela Pathak-Sen queried that the state of the library building must have been apparent to the GCC and asked when a health and safety check was last carried out. She said that the closure was first explained on health and safety grounds and now the building was said to be unsuitable. Mike Kerton energetically queried whether local people were at all concerned with the closure and he said he was underwhelmed by the public response. He said the whole episode was marked by a sense of apathy and the closure had been slipped through at Christmas when most people would have been otherwise occupied. Joan Nash took exception to the implication that the closure was planned. She said the Library was closed because of a problem with the fabric of the building and that, in the long term, the building was unsuitable to be used as a library.

Ela Pathak-Sen returned to the discussion stating that the situation smacked of incompetence. She wanted to know what was going to happen to the library building and when would this be decided. Mike Kerton said that GCC had allowed the building to deteriorate and asked Joan Nash to find out what was going on.. He

asked whether the County Council was obliged to maintain a listed building. Barbara Tait said a conservation officer would be requested to look at the building.

The recent bad weather

Terry Parker read out a letter from a member of the public asking that the pavements and roads in the village centre be cleared of snow and gritted by the Parish Council. He clarified that the Parish Council is not responsible or liable for clearing snow or gritting roads or pavements. However, he added, the Parish Council had a small stock of grit and had refilled a number of grit bins and spread grit in the centre of the village. Ann Burgess-Watson suggested that householders should clear pavements/footpaths outside their house frontages and, if unable to do so, should call someone else to do it.

Terry Parker reminded the meeting, forcefully and repeatedly, that Martin Slinger, as a sub-contractor for snowploughing to GCC, only accepted instructions from that body. No other body or private individual could require him to snowplough elsewhere. Members pointed out that snowploughing should be followed immediately by gritting, which does not appear to have happened.

Ela Pathak-Sen called for a winter plan to be drawn up by the Parish Council and that this should be started now whilst the problems are current. Several members said that more grit bins were required around the village and wanted to know what the County Council's criteria were for the siting of bins. The Clerk told the meeting that in the past GCC had been asked for 15 bins but only one had been supplied. Another question was how many bins would GCC be prepared to fill.

Finally Terry Parker reminded members that it was illegal to use grit from Council bins on private property. Parish Councillors agreed to discuss the winter plan after the meeting.

A46 closure

Martin Slinger was due to meet Stagecoach on the 21st January about bus services during the road closure. He will also discuss with SDC arrangements for refuse and recycling collections.

Appointment of Assistant Clerk

The position will be advertised in the local press including the Beacon.

Recreation Field Pavilion

The meeting agreed that the care and maintenance of the pavilion was the responsibility of the Tennis and Bowls Club as specified in the original licence.

Traffic and road matters

• **Motorcycle noise.** Ann Burgess Watson complained about a very loud revving motorcycle on Gloucester Street. PCSO Colin Drewett will investigate. ►



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• **Residents Parking.** Ann Burgess Watson had noticed a commercial vehicle parked in Gloucester Street for many days over the Christmas period thus reducing the already limited number of parking spaces. She raised the possibility of residents parking bays being created. The meeting agreed that before such action, the Parish Council should check with residents.

• **Potholes.** The Clerk told the meeting of a useful website to report damaged roads – www.fixmystreet.com. The public can also phone 08000.514514 to report any Highway concerns.

• **Slad car parking.** Jackie Woof and Andy Cash are both concerned about car parking on the B4070 through Slad. Cars are parking on the white lines along the side of the road, which are advisory only, and they fear that sooner or later there will be a head-on collision. At its next meeting the Traffic sub-committee will consider asking Gloucestershire Highways to paint mandatory yellow lines.

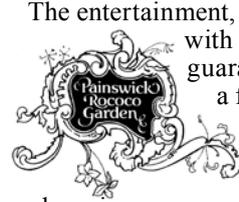
RECREATION FIELD TRUSTEES

Before the Parish Council meeting, the trustees met to consider an application by the Parish Council Working Group to use the Recreation Ground for allotments.

Martin Slinger said that he did not think it would be possible without disturbing the children's play area. However the trustees will arrange a site visit before arriving at a decision.

Georgian Garden Party

The Rococo Garden is going to be holding a special garden party on the 20th, 21st and 22nd August, the sort of activity that Benjamin Hyett no doubt would have enjoyed in the mid 18th century.



The entertainment, all those years ago, could have been slightly risqué, particularly with Painswick's close affiliation to Pan. However whilst we can't guarantee three days of ribaldry (that's up to the visitors!) we can offer a feast of activities and fun.

There will be a Gardeners Question Time hosted by BBC Radio's Johnnie Amos, cookery demonstrations by Celebrity Chef Felice Tocchini, Champagne and Cup Cakes in the Red House and various stalls and entertainment around the Garden including a plant swap, organised by our Friends Organisation.

Georgian costume will be encouraged, with free admission for those suitably attired, so get digging around in those dressing up wardrobes.

In 18th century gardens, water was a popular feature and often they would have real boats or models sailing across ponds and lakes to add to the illusion. We would like to take advantage of our ponds and were looking for a local person who can turn their hand to a bit of carpentry to create an 18th century boat. It could be a fancy full size rowing boat based on an old hull or just a model which we can float on the water. If you are interested in helping in this project please give Paul Moir a call on 01452 813204.

If anyone else would like to get involved over the three days or knows of someone who could please do get in touch. We are looking for musicians, singers, traditional craftsmen, and general stall holders themed on food.

Paul Moir - Rococo Garden 813204

Painswick Valley Radio moves



The Painswick radio hour on Stroud fm, 107.9 FM, will now be broadcast at lunchtime - 12.00noon to 1.00pm - on the second Wednesday each month.

As announced in January's Beacon, the last Tuesday morning broadcast was on the 2nd of February. If you did not hear it, here is what you missed:

Janet Hoyle of the Croft School on the urgent need for more childminders, Paul Moir of the Rococo Garden on snowdrops, Bill Taylor, regional manager digitaluk on the Digital Switchover, George Krasker on the Painswick Players, Charles Dorman on the Quiz, what's on in the Painswick valley, and an update on the gas roadworks. All interspersed with Stroud fm's eclectic choice of music.

For future broadcasts the Beacon will publish "The Painswick Radio Times" as below to give you a flavour of what's on - Wednesday 10th March 12.00 noon to 1.00pm

The Post Office and banking	Gardening tips
Parish Council headlines	Allotments update
Digital Switchover – help for the elderly and disabled	
The Beacon Quiz	The Village Agent
Gas roadworks update	Village networks in the Painswick Valley
Neighbourhood Watch and, of course, music.	News, weather and breaking stories

The Painswick Valley Radio show will continue to be broadcast monthly but as we receive more material and feedback from our listeners, we hope to broadcast fortnightly.

The Beacon's recording machine, Zoom Corp's H4n, has now arrived and the radio group are being trained in its use. If you have anything you want to record, if you have a good story for us, music requests or you want to join in, get in touch. It is your show!

Contacts are:

Steve Rowley on steve@artension.com or by phone 01453.763181 and 07803.052723
Martin Slinger on martinandmaryslinger@uk2.net or by phone on 07855.162676 or 01453.763105

George Krasker on krasker@gmail.com or by phone on 01452.864175

Charles Dorman on chasdorm@gmail.com or by phone on 814548

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Advertising in the Beacon

We know, from much feedback, that readers appreciate the display advertising we carry on most pages, and for this we are indebted to those who want to make their services known throughout the village.

What may be of interest is how we approach the whole matter of advertisements; our policy.

Firstly we do not let these cover more than 20% of column space. Many local newspapers positively encourage advertising to the extent that it overwhelms space for news and information of immediate interest. Each year at this time we write to all existing advertisers, whether they take space with us every month or irregularly, and invite them to continue for some or all months from April. Those letters are out now, and all have until 16th February to respond. We then sort responses, including new ones who may be in the 'queue' into those based in the civil parish and those from elsewhere. The local ones have definite priority as we set about allocating space for many months ahead. From the remainder we try to select those whose services are not locally provided, this so that a wider range of providers appears in our pages.

Our charges are highly competitive, if anything on the low side bearing in mind that this data reaches over 1000 village dwellings. Even so, our fees generate over half our income and keep the Beacon coming to you in the manner it does. The sizes are as you see, mostly limited to 8 or 5 centimetres high, and we are only too pleased to include art work provided to us (as those on these pages illustrate), and change limited wording as circumstances alter. Advertisers accept responsibility for the accuracy and indeed the legality of the content of their material, the Beacon giving no specific endorsement of products or services; we have been known to decline some coming our way.

Your observations upon what we do will of course be welcomed, and any traders keen to be included in the coming advertising year have until the 16th to get in touch with our Dermot Cassidy on 813737 or by post to 1 Painswick Heights, Yokehouse Lane, Painswick GL6 7QS.

Quiz 2010 – Don't miss it !

The first teams have already enrolled but there are still plenty of places. If you missed the article in last month's Beacon, the details are as follows:

This year the quiz will be on Saturday 13th March starting at 7.30. at the Painswick Centre. Doors open at 7 pm and, as always, there will be a light meal and full bar service.

Entries can be placed in the Beacon box outside Murray's estate agents or post to me; Charles Dorman, Tilling, Kingsmill Lane,

Painswick GL6 6RT or send me an email to chasdorm@gmail.com to reserve your place. Please send the name, postal address, email address and phone number of the contact person for the team. I will also need the Team Name and the group, club, society, family, or other odd-bods etc the team is representing.

The ticket price is unchanged - £4 per head or £16 per team – inclusive of a platter of refreshments in the interval to be paid in cash or by cheque made out to 'The Painswick Beacon' by the

end of February please.



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The gas works

The work to replace old gas pipes beneath the carriageway in Kingsmead, Edge Road between Kingsmead and the A46, part of Hambutts, and then on to New Street, will unavoidably be desperately inconvenient for many.

That said, it has to be acknowledged that renewal of these very old pipes has to be in the longer term interests of the community they serve.

The Beacon hopes that readers will find the information set out here is helpful, but urge each to reflect carefully upon how they are affected and could minimise journeys whether on foot or by car. We appreciate the assistance of the contractors, the Parish Council and SDC for assisting in the supply of information.

Emergency

Residents who find themselves with an emergency situation as a result of the gas main renewal scheme should call either Nikki Humphries on 01453.754455 or Roy Balgobin on 812722 or 01452.621688.

Stamages - parking

As was reported in the last issue of the Beacon, the Stroud District Council announced that there will be free parking during the road closures. They had pointed out that such will apply to residents as well as visitors to Painswick, all of whom will have free parking at the Stamages Lane car park when traffic access is restricted due to the planned gas works on the A46.

They recognise that during these works residents and visitors will at times experience major disturbance and restricted access to properties. SDC has decided to waive car park fees for the five week period when the A46 is closed. Subject to work progress it is anticipated that this will occur in late March.

Councillor Joe Forbes, Cabinet Member for Community Services at Stroud District Council said: "We recognise that these works will be a major inconvenience, so to minimise the disruption for residents and encourage visitors to come to the historic Cotswold town of Painswick, we made the decision that it would be in the best interests of all concerned to waive the car parking charges whilst access is restricted."

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Stage One - more detail

Edge Road to junction Blakewell Mead, including Kingsmead but excluding Blakewell Mead. New pipe alongside old in a trench.

Works commence: Next Monday, 8th February, being 'held' so that information through these pages and from others can be made known in advance.

Duration: This Stage One still expected to last up to 8 weeks; so may be until 5th April.

Pedestrian movement: This will be very restricted, so best avoided wherever possible.

Parents chaperoning children: Those walking to/from school from the southern part of the village are advised to use alternative routes whenever possible.

Parents driving to school: No through road or easy turn round. Essential that alternative routes are used.

Private car access for residents: There will be access to, or close to, each property from one end of the lane or the other at all times.

Business access - regular: Mail, milk, etc are making their own arrangements. Refuse and recycling arrangements set out separately; see report from District Council. There will for these be access to, or close to, each property from one end of the lane or the other at all times.

Business access - irregular: Where it is known that commercial or other vehicles may call, such as building contractors, delivery of ordered provisions, window cleaners, please ensure that drivers are made aware of the easiest or only access route.

Emergency vehicles: Please advise the service concerned, if/when called out. The gas contractors will be doing their utmost to enable direct access from whichever direction they approach.

Farmers: Access to all but two fields, Dry Knapps and Hambutts open space, from Edge direction only.

Infirm or elderly: The District Council is anxious to be informed in advance if elderly or infirm residents require assistance through Nikki Humphries on 01453.754455.

General advice: In reality the amount of traffic using the full length of Edge Road will effectively increase while these works proceed, this because the primary flow is usually between properties and the A46. Drivers will, in this single carriageway along its entire length, not only need to allow extra time for journeys but anticipate on-coming vehicles and rights of way on the two principal inclines.

The Beacon will update information monthly

Stage Two

New Street between Victoria Square and Edge Road after Stage One completed; April-May.

Information to supplement that previously published to be included in forthcoming issues of the Beacon.

Stage Three

Victoria Square to junction Gloucester Street complete closure during May; completion before the end of May. Approximately two to three weeks for laying replacement pipe alongside old in trench.

Information to supplement that previously published to be included in forthcoming issues of the Beacon.

Refuse collection

During the Gas Works Stroud District Council will strive to collect waste as normal throughout Painswick. However, where the works close sections of road, the immediate properties may experience disruption.

All properties affected will be notified by letter nearer the time. However, in summary the following changes will come in to force during each of the phases listed:

Phase 1 – Edge Road/Hambutts Lane

Crews will collect as normal wherever possible. Please continue to position refuse and recycling for collection as normal. Vehicles will enter Edge Road from Painswick and Edge in order to cover all properties. Should there be no vehicular access to your property, crews will endeavour to walk waste out.

Phase 2 – New Street (Edge Road junction to junction with Victoria Street)

No changes to waste collections are planned and no problems are envisaged.

Phase 3 – New Street (Victoria Street junction to junction with Gloucester Street)

Recycling collections for the properties immediately affected only, will be cancelled during the road closure. A mini recycling site will be installed in the vicinity at a location to be confirmed. Refuse collections will be made on the usual collection day from communal collection points, at either end of the road closure on New Street and in Hyett Close.

Should residents have any queries regarding the waste collection service over the intended works period please contact Stroud District Council on 01453.754424.

B Harte

*Customer Services Advisor
Stroud District Council*



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Gains and losses and opportunities

Huge losses

At Painswick Beacon Conservation Group's AGM on 10th December our guest speaker, Tim Wilkins from Plantlife, showed some sombre statistics at the start of his fascinating talk on Junipers. In the last 50 years there have been huge losses in the English Countryside. One in five wild flowers is threatened with extinction; on average each county loses one species every two years. 98% of Britain's flower-rich meadows have been destroyed in the last 60 years.

We have lost over 70% of the Junipers in Southern England too. The Juniper doesn't help itself much. Many of its berries are not fertile, they need two years to mature and a further two winters or more before they germinate; and they grow slowly. Worst is the 'predator' that gets into the flower and so into the seed without any external sign of damage. Much of the seed one may harvest looks fineuntil it doesn't germinate because it has been eaten from inside. Juniper berries appear to 'like' scrapes where the limestone is exposed. Quarry edges are good, as are rabbit scrapes, but the rabbit seems the most likely to eat the young plant when other food is scarce!

So we will have 3 or 4 man-made scrapes on the Beacon (and many more on sixteen other sites) some naturally sown, others artificially. Some will have protective cages to exclude rabbits and mice, some will be left more to chance. Smothering grass will be excluded or suppressed.

Great Gains

The Cotswold Conservation Board's "wonderful warden's" have made their mark on the Beacon. Their teams of over a dozen experienced volunteers have put in four full days of clearance work during December. This has enabled us to clear much of two important areas. One is an open, previously quarried area - Victoria Quarry - the one with the rusty car remains, on the Painswick side of Catbrain Tump. The other is a neglected former quarry nearer to the Golf Club house (beside 2nd hole's winter tee). Here the adjacent woodland had taken over with unmanaged trees over 40 feet high, excluding most light at ground level; - orchids, and flowers gone; replaced only with leaf litter and ivy. Both are potential Juniper areas and warm enough to favour several butterfly species. The clearance will also favour our previous limestone grassland and allow increases in the occurrence of our many important orchids.

Working Parties

By the time you read this we will have already had working groups out in January. You can come and join in on 13th and 27th February; details in the Diary. We have plans for some major works this spring. If you have any comments or queries, do let me know.

David Allott Chairman 812624

Zetland birds



Sadly, due to the correct prediction of snowfall, our field trip to Cotswold Water Park scheduled for 20th January was cancelled, so unfortunately we have no report to send you.

We hope quite a few readers will be interested in our next meeting on Thursday 11th February in the Town Hall. David Scott-Langley, who is vice-chairman of Gloucestershire Naturalist Society will give an illustrated talk on 'The Wildlife of Shetland'. David has led natural history expeditions for young people for many years in Shetland so this promises to be a very interesting evening. Visitors always welcome (£3.00, children free)

Martin and Wendy Addy

Fair Trade Fortnight



This year Fair Trade Fortnight runs from Monday, 22nd February to Sunday, 7th March. The Fair Trade Committee will be supporting three events during this period to continue to raise awareness of the need to enable those who produce our food to earn a fair return for their work.

On Friday, 26th February the Croft School will be holding a Fair trade Coffee Morning, starting at 9,30am. If you haven't been before I would urge you to go; it is a lovely event which enables you to support an excellent cause and also to meet some of the pupils, who look after their visitors with courtesy and enthusiasm.

Andy Harding and Club Pulse (formerly known as Sorted and The Vibe) will be welcoming Noel Sharp, a speaker from Traidcraft on Monday, 1st March for a Fair Trade Evening. There will be a food tasting session and other activities including, we hope, a fashion show of fairly traded clothes and a quiz.

The Women's World Day of Prayer Service at Ashwell House on Friday 5th March at 10.30am will be followed by fairly traded refreshments-another way to show our solidarity with people in other countries around the world.

Frances Watson On behalf of the Fair Trade Committee

Letters

The inclusion of letters, maximum 150 words, in these columns does not imply that the Beacon committee endorses the views expressed, or otherwise.

Cleevly

Randy Phillips sent this enquiry from Brandon in Canada:

I noticed the name of Painswick mentioned in an old Bible that was published in the 1700's and was written in with India ink back in the 1800s. I wondered if you were familiar with the last

name of Cleevly.

If anyone in your town that you might know personally might bear this name, could you forward them my email address? I have the Bible in my possession. It was found in an old trailer back in the 1980s. Much of the old ink is fading but I found names like William and Elizabeth Cleevly written therein. It is an old heirloom that belongs to a family of that name and I would like to return it to them. I live in Central Canada. This dates back a few centuries! Any help would be so appreciated. Thanks very much - chazacisa@@hotmail.com

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Snow drops and Snowdrops

For many years we have heard about Global Warming, but more recently this has changed to Climate Change. The prediction of England suffering from milder wetter winters has now changed to warnings of more snow and colder spells.

Certainly over the last 12 months we have seen more snow than in many years. This is a cause of great joy of the younger generation and to those older ones who just can't resist the temptation to get that woodworm eaten toboggan out of the garage roof.

But how does this snow affect the snowdrops that are the life blood of the Rococo Garden? If the snow falls in December or early January the main effect has to be in the timing of the so called 'season' which can vary by several weeks. It is interesting to look back previous years and to see peak visitor weeks, this shows when the snowdrop display was at its best. The earliest we have ever been was way back in 1989 when the best week was around 18th January, the latest was in 1991 when the peak week was the first in March, that shows a difference of 6 weeks.

The other question that is often asked is how snow actually affects the flowers. The answer is not that much. Snowdrops are very hardy despite the apparent delicacy of the flowering head. A covering of snow can also be very protective, almost creating an insulating blanket against the very cold air temperatures that exist at the same time. The only real risk is snowfall when the flowers are nearing the end of their cycle. It is then that the stems are at their highest and snow will flatten them. Once it is gone whilst most of the flowers will pop back up again many will not, pushing the overall display over quickly.

This year the snow fell at the right time and literally froze the growth of the bulbs in time, when it was over you could almost hear the collective sigh as they began to grow again. Many of the early flowers appeared soon after but we are expecting the main display to be in the middle of February, a similar time to last year.

What we are praying for is not to have further snow at the start of this month (February) like last year. It was just at the time we have many coaches booked in and probably half phoned to cancel. In the end it is not the snowdrops that are harmed by these drops of snow but those working here at the Garden who are trying to second guess the weather and worrying the impact it may have during these crucial few weeks.

Hopefully as usual we will lots of villagers during the snowdrop weeks, it is often a great relief to see a familiar face amongst the crowds!

Paul Moir



Richard Strauss

Iain Cooper filled his Surprise slot with a presentation of extracts from operas by Richard Strauss, on which he had cooperated with librettist von Hofensthal. The first was Elektra, composed in 1909 when Strauss was 45. Iain took us through the scene when Elektra recognises her absent brother, Orestes; it is dramatic and powerful. Iain then turned to der Rosenkavalier, a Mozart-type opera. It has some wonderful soprano scenes, sung with great lyricism, by the young Octavian, the lover of the aging princess; he soon falls for the charming young Sophie, to whom he presents the silver rose intended for the princess. Meanwhile a diversion is provided by the boorish Baron Ochs, who falls vainly for Octavian, disguised as a chambermaid. Finally, we heard extracts from Ariadne auf Naxos, originally intended to follow a performance of Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme, which included a lively foursome and a very melodious lamentation. It was an elegant and entertaining start to our 2010 Season.



Richard Burges Watson

Richard Burges Watson

Richard Burges Watson

The Garden . . . by Betty Byrom

A garden is a lovesome thing, God wot?
But if He wotted what was what
You'd think he'd be the first to spot
To quite a lot
It's not.

"Great oaks from little acorns grow,"
They ripen high, but sprout below,
I've pulled up fifty at one go,
And so
I know.

Some flowers bloom, but so do weeds
And compost feeds their greedy needs.
I've planted many breeds of seeds
But none succeeds
Like weeds.

I do love this unkempt spot.
If I were shot of all the lot
I should not mourn this irksome plot
One jot,
God wot!

Painswick Parish Council Vacancy Clerk's Assistant

Applications are invited for the post of Parish Council Clerk's Assistant.
9 hours per week: Monday, Wednesday and Friday 10am-1pm with occasional evening committee meeting attendance.

Applicants must be computer literate with an understanding of electronic communications. Office administration experience is essential.

Commencing salary will be £3,905 p.a. The position is pensionable. An application pack can be obtained from Mr Roy Balgobin, Clerk to Painswick Parish Council, Town Hall, Victoria Square, Painswick, Stroud, Glos. GL6 6QA. Telephone 01452-812722 or email: clerkpainswickpc@hotmail.com. Closing date for applications is Friday 5th March 2010.



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Buzzing away

Sincere thanks must go to Celia Lougher, who has written these reports with wit and verve for many years, and who is now enjoying a well deserved rest.

Did you think you had missed the chance to come to the lunch on 14th January in aid of Yew Trees WI Save the Bees project? Well you are in luck, as due to the inclement weather conditions this has now been rescheduled for 25th February in Christ Church Hall, 12 noon to 2.00pm. There are a few tickets left so ring Meriel on 814357 or Janine on 810919. For £10 you can enjoy a two course meal plus coffee which will be served with gay abandon and good humour, and the proceeds will go to WI and their Save the Bees project.

Honey bees are dying out, and as approximately a third of our human diet is directly dependent on bees pollinating crops, they are central to our existence. Bees are also responsible for pollinating around 90% of the wild plants which produce seeds and fruits on which wild life depends. Currently, honey bees are under threat from pests and diseases for which treatments are not fully understood or effective. This together with lack of flowers for food has meant that many bee keepers have experienced the complete destruction of their hives, and 3 out of the 250 species of bees in the UK are already extinct. At this rate bees could be extinct within 10 years, and the world's food supply will be totally insufficient for its needs.

So please support our fundraising lunch, and/or if, when you are planting for the spring and summer, plant bee friendly plants such as asters, sunflowers, foxgloves, hollyhocks and larkspur. Do you perhaps have room for a hive?

At our next meeting on 23rd February we look forward to a visit from Sarah Cook who will demonstrate to members how to "Plan a Wardrobe". So if you would like some useful tips and practical advice do join our friendly group at 7.30pm in the Town Hall, where you will be made very welcome.

Janine Clarke 810919



Life savers - extraordinary

Although the biggest fund-raising day of the year for the RNLI, their SOS Day, was last week, the Beacon feels we should draw attention to strong local interest and support.

John Couch, of St.Mary's Mead - 813848, became Chairman of the Cheltenham Branch last November, after ten years of fund-raising there and seven years as Vice Chairman.

John tells us that "We fund-raisers continue to be impressed by the generosity of the public, and their interest, in supporting the RNLI, particularly in times of financial restraint; and in fact the fundraising total of Cheltenham Branch in 2009 was the second highest of the last 10 years. Continual thanks are due to the many members, supporters, volunteers and fund-raisers who unselfishly contribute to the unrivalled success of the RNLI's Lifeboat and Lifeguard Service all over the country".

He goes on to remind us that "The RNLI is the charity which saves lives at sea, and relies wholly for its funding from public donation and legacies. Currently the daily cost of maintaining the service in the UK and Republic of Ireland amounts to £339,000. Each new Tamar Class state-of-the-art all-weather lifeboat, which we are gradually rolling out across the fleet, costs £2.7M, and the annual cost of training the 4800 volunteer crew-members nationally amounts to £ 1214 each".

In the New Year Honours, their Branch Honorary Secretary, Fay Harvey, was awarded a very well-deserved MBE for 37 years distinguished fundraising service to the RNLI. Early in this New Year, both the Branch Honorary Treasurer, Derek Poulton, and John were given RNLI bronze awards for their part in the continued success of Cheltenham Branch.



Just one more reminder



DASH - Delivering Aid to Stroud Homeless.

Marah, the Stroud charity which DASH works through, have written expressing very grateful appreciation of the £105 raised by people saving their small change. It will be spent on providing the small, but often urgent, necessities which homeless people need.

We are asked to continue to support them in this way so please go on putting any small change you can spare (5ps, 2ps & 1ps) in a jam jar. When it is full Alison Robinson (812286) or Frances Watson (812071) will be happy to collect it; and are authorised by Marah to do so on their behalf.

During the cold weather, the tinned food and cuppa soups were also very welcome and are always needed. There is a box at the back of St. Mary's Church or items can be taken in to Murrays Estate Agents or the Royal Oak during the week.

Douglas Robinson



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School report

Mostly verbatim extracts from Janet Hoyle's circulars to parents.

I am sorry that you were inconvenienced by school closures at the very start of term, but I hope that you also had some fun in the snow with your children!

Thank you very much to the parents who came armed with shovels to clear the paths and so helped to make the school a safer place to move around.

Big dates ahead

We have a series of great events planned for this term, including return visits from the Bristol Chemistry Labs' scientists and from the Carducci Quartet.

The quartet's last visit inspired several children to play stringed instruments and they were so pleased to hear about this that they have agreed to come again. Please come along on 2nd March if you are able to, as we are so fortunate to have such outstanding professional musicians to perform for us.

Wider opportunities music

Government funding for KS2 children to have class instrumental lessons is providing ten weeks lessons in percussion for Classes 3 and 4 this term, on Wednesday afternoons.

Towards the end of term both classes will be performing to the rest of the school and you are warmly invited to join us – look out for this in the term dates!

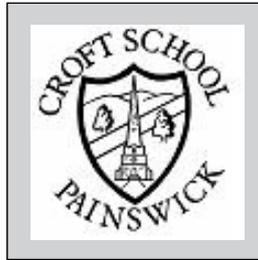
Lideta link

You will remember that Iris McCormick went to visit Lideta in Ethiopia before Christmas. She was very grateful for all the donations given to provide gifts for the children there. She has kindly agreed to come into school to talk to each class about her trip, to show photographs and answer the children's questions. This is an excellent opportunity for the children to learn about such a different part of the world. Look out for photos and displays of the children's work later in the term.

New school kitchen and Children's centre

You will begin to see building work going ahead in the next few weeks, although I am uncertain of the exact start date as the snowy weather has caused a bit of a hold up. The work will be in two stages.

Phase 1 will provide us with a new kitchen for cooking school meals. This has been long needed, as our current kitchen is very dated and in a poor state of repair. We have been successful in obtaining a government grant of £30,000 specifically for improving school kitchens and the local authority is also financially supporting us with the provision of new equipment. The



kitchen will be built at the front of the school, and will open via a serving hatch into the school hall. This will mean that school dinners will no longer need to be brought in a hot trolley across to the hall. It will also give us better facilities for the children to learn to cook, as they will be able to prepare food in the hall that can be cooked in the kitchen. This phase of work is planned to be finished by Easter.

Phase 2 will involve converting the old kitchen into a Children's Centre. This will not be a childcare provision, but an office base and meeting space for outreach of services for pre-school children in our wider area. This work has been totally funded by a specific government grant that the Local Authority has to use for this purpose. None of the school's budget will be used for the provision of the Children's Centre. We are hoping to make improvements to the school's entrance at the front, but the snow has interfered with meeting with architects, so I hope to be able to give you more news about this in the next few weeks.

Percussion assembly

I am pleased to confirm that Classes 3 and 4 will be giving a percussion performance on Wednesday 31st March at 2.30pm. You are welcome to join us even if your child is not in one of these classes. Class 5 will have their sessions after Easter.

A parent governor

Hello, I am Rupert Holmes, and I am a parent Governor at our Croft School and have been for 6 years. I have one daughter at the school in year 5, and one daughter who has progressed right through the Croft and now is in Secondary School. I try to be a committed Governor and rarely miss meetings, but sometimes pressure of work means it cannot be avoided.

I am the Link Governor, which means I keep the other Governors informed of, and arrange training courses for them.

I am Chair of the Resources Committee, which meets around four times a year, where financial decisions are discussed and made. We set and monitor the school's budget. This committee also looks at staffing and premises.

Child Protection is another role I have, ensuring that policy and procedures are set and followed so the safety of the pupils is maintained at a high standard.

As vice-chair of the Governing Body, I actually have very little to do, as Chris Hall, the chair, is a lynch-pin.

I used to enjoy participating in Golf and Cricket, but the closest I now get to those is listening to Test Match Special! I enjoy travelling and cooking – and a combination of the two is my ideal relaxation.

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Digital TV switch-over

An open meeting, complete with a presentation and opportunity to ask questions - and get answers - on Wednesday 24th February at 7.30pm in the Town Hall.

It is happening, so this is the chance to gain that extra information.

digitaluk

Disorder

Painswick Players' production of Alan Ayckbourn's five-part play 'Confusions' is now in rehearsal. It's an amusing, well-drawn set of five peeks at the way people behave and cause confusion.

You'll recognise, and smile at, the many characters who are each in their own way lonely and unaware of it. When it's performed at the Painswick Centre in early May, you might even identify someone you know!

George Krasker



Tracey the milk

During that spell of dramatic icy and of so many of the services we regard Higginbotham deserves our eternal my customers down," she says mo that first Thursday! If only there w

Tracey has now been delivering r years. Most people never see or h been and gone whilst most are still work [Cotteswold Dairy in Cheltenham says, "and generally am in Painswick. She divides her round into two, Wednesday and Friday, the other ha and Saturday. She usually finishes a few customers to deliver to on her but then she also modestly explain Sheepscombe, Cranham, Pitchcom she didn't quite make it to Sheeps of the snow and is very apologetic

This hard-working and dedicated of the need to be unobtrusive and q our streets in her open van (but a 4 the point of turning off the headlig order not to disturb anyone. Tracey pendence and feeling of freedom, a She has great respect for the compa of the fact that the milk she deliver she is fortunate in her job.

Overall, it is we in Painswick w thoughtful, utterly reliable and tot did have several notes left with the pleasure. Ask any of her customers - even though most have never met of reward and recognition.

Local History Teaser

Do you remember this business? Can you identify the location and when did it cease trading? Perhaps you had dealings there yourself. If you can tell us anything about it please get in touch.

Last month's delightful picture showed a real Painswick character. All we know about her is that



she was "Mrs Glastonbury of Painswick", being the words written on the back of the photograph. We think it was taken in the late 19th century and certainly the 1891 census names a Maria Glastonbury, widow, aged 76, living in Kemps Lane. We thank Richard Dickinson for the loan of this charming photograph.

If you have a photograph which would pose a challenge to readers, we'd love to hear from you.

...and the Local History Society

Ah, Those Allotments

At the January meeting Mr John Loosley gave a very informative and fascinating presentation on the background of the development of allotments, having himself researched the Gloucestershire movement for a national project.

Before 1830 few allotments existed but from then until 1914 there was a rapid increase. Riots and unrest due to mass unemployment in both agriculture and, in this area, the collapse of the wool cloth industry, were rife in the 1820s and 30s. The Labourer's Friend Society promoted the development of allotment gardens, considering that the keeping of an allotment would greatly improve the labourer's 'condition'. This Society was quite evangelical in its activities, visiting countryside areas to encourage both landowners and labourers to develop plots, and to promote the keeping of at least one pig and the growth of grain, root and mixed crops. This would enable the allotment holder to both feed his family and to sell any surplus. The movement was supported wholeheartedly by many landowners, not least because acquisition of a plot meant poor relief could not be claimed. In many areas this led directly to a reduction in the Poor Rate. Furthermore, 19th century law stated that when common land was enclosed provision for allotments had to be made.

All allotments were recorded in 1867 and noticeably in Gloucestershire most were clustered around cloth villages, Lord Bathurst's area and the south. It is believed that the very first allotments in England were in Long Newnton near Tetbury and John gave a few examples of highly successful schemes at Uley, Wotton-u-Edge, Cirencester, Brimpsfield and Syde. The Miles Report of 1839 talks of the success of allotments in the Stroud area and particularly regarding weavers who were, of course, in dire straits by this time.

So what of Painswick? It is known that Mr W. Hyett and the Rev. Robert Strong let 30 acres in Painswick, but the mystery is the whereabouts. The former undoubtedly offered land in the vicinity of Painswick House, which many members recalled from a few years ago. The Rev. Strong, however, may have let glebe land but, as many vicars of the time were very wealthy, he may have had his own private land to let.

There was certainly a frisson at the end of the meeting and the feeling that someone may just do a little digging (in the records) to try ascertain exactly where those 30 acres of allotments were.

At the next meeting on Tuesday, 16th February, Mr Alan Pilbeam will talk about old footpaths of Gloucestershire. Croft School, 7.30pm, everyone welcome.

Carol Maxwell

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Milk lady is Crème de la crème ... and so say all of you

White weather in January many Painswickians were left high and dry, bereft of milk as normal. Not so those among us who have our milk delivered. Tracey is a milk lady who thanks for her devotion to duty, not missing a single delivery. "I couldn't let my customers down and so Tracey promptly and quickly follows that with an apology for being later than usual on some days. There are more folk with Tracey's altruistic approach.

Tracey delivers milk to Painswick homes (and the school and the playgroup) for about seven years.

Tracey is a milk lady because she has a very fast asleep. "I arrive for my round [at home] just after 2am," she says. "I wake up by about 3 o'clock." Tracey works one half on Monday, one half on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday at about 9.30. There are other ways from Cheltenham, but Tracey's round covers the Cotswolds, the Edge. Actually Tracey comes to the beginning of the round about that.

Milk lady is very conscious of the quiet as she goes through the snow, even to the lights when appropriate in the winter.

Tracey really enjoys her job and especially her particular round. "I love the independence and I love seeing all the badgers and birds and wildlife early in the morning." Tracey is a family concern, which she feels is an excellent employer. She is proud that the milk is produced locally, the dairy being in Tewkesbury. In many respects then

Tracey is one of the lucky ones. Tracey is an amazing milk lady. She is considerate, fully dedicated to her customers. After the problem weather conditions she has emptied thanking her for such wonderful service and this gave her much praise about her and much truly deserved praise and appreciation will flow forth or even seen her! She never fails to deliver our milk and is certainly worthy

Carol Maxwell



Music Society's Spring Box



Once again Painswick Music Society opens its treasure chest of goodies for the coming Spring. We start with a cracker – Tasmin Little with her 1757 Guadagnini violin accompanied by John Lenehan at the piano. Tasmin was here in 1999 and 2005 and since her last visit she has reached even greater heights on the world's concert platforms with the world's most celebrated orchestras and conductors. She is in great demand and we are fortunate to have her again. John Lenehan is one of the world's leading chamber musicians, accompanists and soloists who has more than sixty highly praised CDs to his credit. If I say their programme is composed of works by Kreisler, Bach, Mozart and Delius, I think I will convince you that their concert is going to be a real treat, but there will also be a bit of Lenehan's and Little's own as added spice.

Our second concert has the Carducci String Quartet, making a return visit after astonishing the pupils of The Croft School with a spell binding demonstration of what sounds they and their instrument can produce. 2009-2010 sees them presenting over 90 concerts worldwide, in Washington's Library of Congress, in Spain, Portugal, Denmark, France and, of course, at home in the UK. Their programme of quartets will include one by Moeran (1894-1950) who is perhaps the greatest unsung genius of English composition. His music is a uniquely beautiful lyricism that captures feelings of rural landscapes in a way no other composer has.

The Talich String Quartet from Prague will present the third concert. Generally recognized as one of the pre-eminent ensembles in the quartet world, the Talich represents Czech musical art over the whole of Europe, the Americas and the Far East. Founded in 1964 by Jan Talich snr, the nephew of the founder of the Czech Philharmonic, Vaclav Talich, it is now led by Jan Talich who is maintaining the reputation won by his father.

Our season ends with a recital by the young pianist, Jayson Gillham, from 'Down Under'. Since being awarded third prize in the 2005 London International Piano Competition at the age of eighteen, Jayson has won an impressive number of other international competitions. His repertoire is already remarkable and his programme is to be an all-Chopin one that will thrill everyone and shiver your timbres.*

One of the reasons why these great artists come and come again to Painswick is because of our reputation for hospitality and the friendliness of our audiences as well as their evident appreciation of chamber music. It seems they like the contact they have with members of the audience they meet over tea and cakes after the performance. So, if you have not met any yet, why not do so this year?

Maurice Maggs

Beacon subscribers		
as at 21st January	2009 - 2010	This date last year
New or renewed after lapsing	80	64
Renewed from last year	492	521
Total including postal	572	585

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Football

The Twenty-somethings of Painswick and Sheepscombe met after Christmas for their annual Football Match. Painswick, in red, had a narrow win over Sheepscombe in black. Players included Tim and Jamie Morgan, Adrian and Paul Barrus, Ben and Tom Cash, Paul Johnson and Sam Horder.



Table tennis - changed day

The table tennis group has transferred to Wednesdays, meeting 7.00 – 9.00pm in the Main Hall, at the Painswick Centre. We have four tables plus a supply of nets, bats and balls. Charge per evening is £4. All welcome. Enquiries to 812464.

David Linsell and Jane Rowe

Tennis

... became tobogganing in the snowy conditions, with John Barrus and Nigel Barnett challenging each other down the Beacon slope on their sledges.



Rugby

Painswick were keen to put the earlier season's results against Bishopston behind them when they met the Bristol club at Broadham Fields on 23rd January. Bishopston had beaten the cherry and whites in a previous league encounter and also in the cup competition.

As expected the match was a closely fought affair with Painswick winning by a single point. Painswick's points came through Tom Mahendran who was successful with two penalty goals, a conversion and a drop goal. Painswick's other score came through Austen Smith who finished off a good move with a try.

Tom Mahendran had also been in good form the previous Saturday against Dursley when the stand-off half scored two tries, one of which he converted and two penalty goals. The match counted as both a league fixture and a Stroud Senior Combination Cup match.

Results [(L) indicates Gloucestershire Division 1 league match. (M) Citizen Merit Table.

Sat 16th January. (L) Dursley 1st XV 9 Painswick 1st XV 18. (M) Dursley United 8 Painswick United 5.

Sat 23rd January. (L) Painswick 1st XV 16 Bishopston 1st XV 15.

February fixtures

Sat 6th. Cainscross 1st XV v Painswick 1st XV. Painswick United v Bream 2nd XV.

Sat 13th. (L) Painswick 1st XV v Bream 1st XV. (M) Brockworth 2nd v Painswick United.

Sat 20th. (L) Old Bristolians 1st XV v Painswick 1st XV. (M) Painswick United v Old Centralians 2nd XV.

Sat 27th. (M) Stroud Junior Combination Cup. Stroud Nomads v Painswick United.

March 6th. (L) Painswick 1st v Brockworth 1st XV. (M) Painswick United v Chosen Hill 2nd XV.

The first sign of maturity is the discovery that the volume knob also turns to the left.



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Churchyard and Tombstones

A very big 'Thank you' to all the people who have supported the Tombstone Conservation Project in St Mary's churchyard. It is over seven years since a very generous legacy left by Roy Truman initiated the first major conservation project since Denzil Young and others carried out some conservation work in the 1970s.

It was obvious to churchwardens David Harley and David Ryland that the generosity of Roy Truman would be wasted unless a full survey was carried out on all tombstones and monuments and a structured approach made by firstly tackling those in the worst condition. There are 500+ monuments of which 160+ are 'listed' as Ancient Monuments of special note, but all of them form part of the famous churchyard that is part of the heritage of Painswick. The survey categorised the condition as from 'very good' to 'very poor'.

A detailed survey of the 38 'listed' monuments that were in a poor or very poor condition, plus a further 100+ unlisted monuments also at risk, convinced us that the project would cost approximately £70,000, necessitating a major fund raising exercise.

Roy Truman's legacy to the church also included a large archive of documents, drawings and photographs. The photographs, taken over 100 years ago, and the detailed architect's drawings of the carving and artwork provide an invaluable record of original detail and later state of the stone work, now largely lost through erosion and decay. The documents record the work carried out on the churchyard over the last 50 years.

Although large amounts of money were obtained from Heritage Lottery Fund, The Pilgrim Trust, Gloucestershire Diocesan Tombstone Fund, and Painswick Conservation Society, a very significant amount was raised from local fund raising, including the Painswick Fetes held at Painswick House, Abseiling down the Church Tower, various concerts in St Mary's church ranging from our local choirs to the visiting Voskresenije Choir from St Petersburg, flower festival, legacies and funeral donations, but above all, those individuals of Painswick and worldwide who became Friends, Patrons or Benefactors by donating funds towards the project.

I am now able to report that we have completed the entire programme of conservation work on the tombstones using the excellent masonry services of Mark Hancock and Centreline Architectural Sculpture, all the archive material is safely stored at the Gloucester Records Office, also display boards, a new booklet and related leaflets have been published by Richard Bryant and Carolyn Heighway of Past Historic Publications.

Our thanks to the advising architect Toby Falconer of John Falconer Associates, also to Peter Rowe for his help with production of our website www.painswicktombs.org.uk.

The entire project has cost £106,000. We thank everyone for contributing to helping conserve what is a major part of the famous heritage of Painswick. The churchyard should now be in a strong position to last for another 50 years. Thank you.

*David Harley
Project Coordinator and
ex Churchwarden*

Reinforcements

I am writing this as the snow has covered us yet again in its beautiful but frightening mantle. My children are in seventh heaven at the thought of missing school and going sledging and snow boarding but I've had enough! More importantly, I am worried that the services that are so important to many of you will be in jeopardy. Will the Care workers be able to reach the people who rely on them to make their breakfast, help them get washed and dressed, check that they are well and keeping warm? Will Meals on Wheels be able to deliver those excellent lunches that are now prepared by the WRVS? That meal might be the only hot food that some people will eat in the day. And of course it's not just the provision of the services that I worry about. Those people who call on a daily basis are often the only source of contact and conversation some people have. I and my other Village Agent colleagues are often called on when Meals on Wheels can't get an answer from a client to check that they are ok. Did you know that some people have the audacity to go out unexpectedly! What is the world coming to, and what a relief to discover that they're ok.

The previous two weeks of snow highlighted to me just what dedication so many people have in the "caring" professions, and what good networks we have in our communities, ensuring that all those who might need help, hopefully, receive it. However, if I get calls from people wanting to offer help in their communities, I can only direct them to the people who I know of. So, that's where you come in..... (there's always a catch, isn't there?). Would you like me to visit you so that I have a better picture of who might like a reassuring call or visit in times like these? I might not be able to help you directly if I'm stranded too, but I might be able to put you in contact with someone local to you. Perhaps you could let me know of friends, family or neighbors who you've been concerned about recently.

This might be a good opportunity to remind you about the role of the Village Agent. The services is provided primarily to older people, but always call me if you need help or information and I will do what I can to direct you appropriately. I am there to help you access the information and/ or support that you might need. Perhaps you are finding it increasingly difficult to get about your home? I can meet up with you and find out the various problems you are having and contact the people you need to make things easier. Are you finding it difficult to get yourself washed and dressed? We can talk about the possibility of getting Attendance Allowance which would help towards the costs of a Care Agency coming in to give you a hand? Is walking from your car becoming harder? Could you benefit from having a Disabled Badge for parking? Are you caring for someone and could do with some support, advice, or perhaps a break? I can talk things through with you and see who would be the right people to contact. If you want, and where it's possible, I can be there with you at assessments, trying out day centers, lunch clubs and the like. If you have use of the internet you can look up Village Agents on www.villageagents.org.uk. We work for Gloucestershire Rural Community Council (GRCC) which is a charitable organization in existence from the 1920's concerned with supporting people in rural areas. We are funded by the Gloucestershire County Council and Gloucestershire Primary Care Trust.

I'm there to help, so please call me on 07776.245767

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New Life at the Golf Club

Jean Kendrick is bringing a breath of fresh air to Painswick Golf Club. She has taken over the franchise for the bar, café and restaurant and changes for the good are already afoot. "I aim to get it up and running for the whole community," she says, and her energetic enthusiasm is there in abundance.

Over the last two years the club facilities had fallen into a considerable state of decline. An erstwhile supporter of the club, Jean decided enough was enough and took on the challenge. During the snow-filled weeks in January, many families came along with their toboggans and to play. Jean opened up the café and bar and the result was a great success. It proved very popular and, fired up by the positive responses, she is now determined to introduce a range of developments designed to appeal to all.

The premises, within a stone's throw of the centre of Painswick, are ideal, commanding glorious views across the valley, terraces on two sides and with a large, airy, comfortable space for dining, drinking and holding events. Jean intends to develop all aspects to appeal to a wider audience and



to encourage people to regard it as a perfect social centre for private functions, lovely meals, light lunches, drinks at the bar or just a relaxing place for teas and coffee.

Jean is fully supported by the club members and is proud of her staff whom she describes as an excellent team. There is certainly a very warm and welcoming atmosphere and a very positive buzz about the place. In the spotlessly clean kitchen all the food is freshly prepared and cooked, all home-cooked. Sunday lunches are already proving popular and there will be monthly cuisine specials such as Spanish, Thai, Chinese etc. Lunch is served every day, evening meals by prior arrangement though from April the restaurant will be open every evening. Jean has plans to hold regular blues nights at the club and musical events from time to time. The first of these is a Beatles Tribute Night on 27th February, to which she hopes all readers will flock. Something to look forward to in the depths of winter!

Painswick Golf Club is definitely worth a visit and with Jean's vitality, enthusiasm and positive determination it is bound to go from strength to strength.

Carol Maxwell

ArchiTecs

Last month we enquired, through these columns, whether there is continuing interest in our monthly photographic teaser.

We said that if we received many squeals of anguish at there not being any more environmental tests of this kind we would restore the item.

A couple of 'squeals' reached us, but we will wait to see if there are more before rousing our cameraperson.

Hugh and Michelle's Open Day

One of the many casualties of that white weather in January was the holistic therapies open day at the Three Gables Surgery in Cheltenham Road. Scheduled for 16th January it had, of course, to be cancelled for which Hugh and Michelle apologise.

It has now been rearranged for Saturday, 20th February, with the same aim, that is to encourage everyone to come along and find out more about their range of services. Simply drop in at any time from 9.30am onwards or telephone 814427 beforehand for an appointment time if you would like to try one of the therapies.

BEACO-DOKU

Derived from Sudoku, Beaco-doku replaces the numbers with letters.

		R		S	
S				R	I
	H	I			
I					S
	A		I		

Last month we used the letters from **W-I-N-T-E-R** but we inadvertently published the answers too!

We are dutifully served by a **P-A-R-I-S-H** Council. So see if you can fill the blank squares in the grid on the left so that each column, each row and each block of six squares contains each of the six letters PARISH without repetition.

R	E	W	N	T	I
I	T	N	W	E	R
E	W	I	R	N	T
N	R	T	E	I	W
T	N	R	I	W	E
W	I	E	T	R	N

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Zambezi trekkers' support local hospice care – for whole week

Trekkers on Acorns Children's Hospice's Zambezi Challenge in 2009 have succeeded in supporting a whole week's children's hospice care – now new trekkers are being invited to experience the awe-inspiring desert skies and scenery on Acorns' 2010 Sahara Trek.

In August last year, ten explorers from Birmingham, the West Midlands, and Worcestershire raised a total of £31,428 for Acorns Children's Hospice after completing a thrilling canoe journey along the Zambezi River, past hippos, crocodiles and elephants.

Lucy Shepherd, Treks and Challenges officer at Acorns who accompanied the Zambezi trekkers said: "It is deeply satisfying to have raised this tremendous amount to help the children at Acorns.

"This will cover the cost of running one of our three hospices for a whole week, the equivalent of 70 days' care for children who have life limiting or life threatening conditions.

"We are now recruiting participants to trek the Sahara Desert over eight days from the 4th September 2010. Our Sahara trekkers will enjoy incredible views of the landscape by day, and camp in palm groves under a magnificent blanket of stars. They also have the option of adding a 3-day community project to help disadvantaged children living in the area.

"Participants will cover around 100km of desert, on foot, assisted by fully-qualified guides. Groups who have trekked the Sahara in aid of Acorns have spoken of the night skies and sunsets that "turned the desert pink".

The Acorns Sahara Trekkers 2010 will journey through one of the world's most breathtaking landscapes, passing oases and tamarisk trees, and will also have a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to extend their experience - by joining an optional community project in Morocco.

Lucy added: "The Zambezi canoe trek was followed with volunteering in a project in Lusaka to help children with HIV, and we're delighted to be able to offer another project for the Sahara trekkers to consider."

The Zambezi group helped to transform small classrooms into bright, lively and cheerful spaces, and handed out donated clothing to create the school's first ever school uniform.

Acorns is currently caring for over 500 children who have life limiting or life threatening conditions and their families. It costs £450 per day for each child's care.

Acorns continues to rely on donations for the majority of its income but expects to achieve its aim of securing 30% funding through statutory sources over the next 18 months.

Anyone interested in the Acorns Sahara Trek 2010 is encouraged to register as soon as possible. To find out more go to: www.acorns.org.uk/sahara or email: events@acorns.org.uk or call: Lucy Shepherd on 01564.825023.

Core Strategy Consultation Alternative Strategies for shaping the future of Stroud District



Between Monday 8th February and Monday 22nd March, we all have a chance to comment on the future growth and development of Stroud

District. As part of a new planning framework, which will eventually replace the district's Local Plan, the District Council is producing a document called the Core Strategy. This will be a plan that sets out how much new development should take place across the district over the next 20 years and, in very general terms, what should go where.

The District Council is publishing a range of possible routes that it could take in order to accommodate around 2,000 additional homes by 2026, as well as encouraging the generation of about two new jobs for every new household built. The challenge facing the Council is to ensure that future growth is managed in a sustainable way, making provision for homes, jobs and community facilities, whilst at the same time protecting and improving our environment. Should there be an urban focus for development (e.g. around the Gloucester fringe, Stroud, Stonehouse, Cam and Dursley)? Would it be best to have just one or two big developments or would it be more sustainable to disperse new development around smaller settlements and rural areas? Or should there be a mixture of these various approaches?

Each of the seven "alternative strategies" offers a way for the Council to meet its targets, but every one of them has pros and cons. The Council is inviting anyone that lives, works or invests in Stroud District to take part in this consultation and to make their views known, so that it can refine the various options and come up with the best possible solution for the District. The Core Strategy will not be finally adopted until next year and there are several more stages of consultation before then – but this is possibly the most important stage, because it will shape the overall direction for growth and development.

If you have internet access, you can read the consultation documents and answer questions online from 8th February by visiting www.stroud.gov.uk/core

If not, documents will be available to view throughout the consultation period at all town and parish council offices that open to the public as well as public libraries across the district. They will also be available to view at the tourist information centre at the Stroud Subscription Rooms and the customer service centre at the District Council offices, Ebley Mill (there are computers for public internet access there as well).

You can get consultation response forms and a 'mini guide' to the seven strategies from any of these locations or call the Council's planning strategy team on 01453.754143 or email core@stroud.gov.uk. There will also be a series of public exhibitions across the district, where you can chat to officers involved, as well as events targeted specifically at the business community and young people. If you are interested in participating in either of these or to find out about dates and venues for the public exhibitions, see the council's website, the mini guide or contact the planning strategy team.

While dates and venues have yet to be arranged there will, additionally, be an afternoon/evening event in each of several parish clusters. Anybody can come along to any one of these, but one is to be specifically arranged for a 'cluster' described as Cotswold: Painswick, Bisley-with-Lypiatt, Miserden, Cranham and Pitchcombe

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Pozo de agua

David Archard informs me that there were many wells in Painswick, but most are redundant now and filled in.

After a detailed investigation by my technical department - Geraldine asked Maria Rosa, the owner of the shop and fount (pardon the outrageous pun) of all village knowledge. She was informed that El Contador boasts 10 wells and all working. This includes our well in the walled garden. Our domestic water supply however comes from a huge well just outside the village. Unlike many areas of southern Spain our little rural plateau has plentiful underground water resources. No romantic visions of the village pump though, we do actually have taps in the house. This well also supplies the fountain in the village square which becomes the source of "ammunition" for the annual water fight during the Fiesta in July. Now fully restored but not used, the village communal clothes washhouse used well water which ran down a channel through the centre of the building. The channel has sloping stone sides, carefully cut to form "washboards". Although drinkable and monitored regularly our water is very hard indeed, so we stick to bottled water for drinking.

The evidence for wells in Painswick can be found in the street names, Tibbiwell, Washwell. I seem to recall a survey - by, was it the Local History Society?

There are no such clues here, most of our street names are named after one Saint or another or something more practical. For example, the street where we live is called, roughly translated, "goat track to Vertientes". Vertientes being the name of our neighbouring village. The village has a spring, not unlike the one in Bisley and is much used by the older Contador residents who believe in its restorative powers. Elderly gents in battered ancient Seat Pandas disappear down the goat track and return with gallons of the stuff, strangely, looking younger than when they started out.....

Christopher Piper-Short

Painswickians are amazing

On Friday, 15th January, June Gardiner and Sue Coates attended an annual, and it must be said, truly heartwarming event, at the Royal Oak, Woodchester. This was the occasion when fund raisers for the Cobalt Unit from several communities presented their cheques and explained how the money had been raised. The list of events was endless

– rallies, raffles, garden parties, skittles nights, walks, dances, Kemble Steam Rally to name but a few. The efforts were superlative and recognition of the many helpers involved was emphatic. The atmosphere throughout the evening was contagiously positive and motivating. Mary Peterson, Regional Community Fund Raiser for Gloucestershire,

Herefordshire and Worcestershire for the Cobalt Unit, expressed her feelings of pleasure and indeed "privilege to work with such fantastic volunteers." Last year the breast clinic reached its million pound target – solely from volunteer effort. Amongst the many people present, June and Sue were especially singled out as "amazing", and quite rightly too. Their efforts are exemplary and boundless.

Carol Maxwell



PROPERTY REPORT for January from Hamptons International

Despite the snow doing its best to keep us all housebound, January has been a busy month for us at Hamptons in Painswick. The New Year has certainly brought with it a wave of optimism and activity in the housing market that has kept us on our toes.

The property market has bounced back to life after the sharp economic downturn of the last 18 months and the climate for those wishing to sell is now very favourable. Across our network of offices, whilst we have registered 79% more buyers than at this point last year, our stock of available property is down by 30%. This has been significant in enabling our vendors to achieve both quick sales and excellent prices in recent months in line with the Na-

tionwide Building Society's annual report which shows prices recovered by some 3.4% over the course of the last year.

Whilst we expect to see modest price rises in the region of 3-5% over the first half of 2010, it is unlikely we will see such favourable conditions remaining for long. We are therefore actively encouraging those thinking of selling in the short or medium term to capitalise now before things change. We are confident that we have seen the worst of the mortgage drought and, with time, rising consumer confidence allied to the end of "mortgage rationing" and increasing job security will bring about a full recovery in the housing market.

We have been very busy with the vol-

ume of new instructions so far this year, including 9 Berry Close, Painswick, a three bedroom semi detached house; 1 Hyett Orchard, Painswick, a first floor two bedroom retirement apartment; Riflemans, The Vatch, a five bedroom semi-detached house; 9 Staites Orchard, Upton St. Leonards, a 2 bedroom semi detached house; Woodstock, Upton St. Leonards, a three bedroom detached house; Norway House, Sheepscombe, a five bedroom detached house; and 37 Fox Elms Lane, Tuffley, a four bedroom detached house.

Recent properties now sold are Glen Rosa, Upton St Leonards; Double Gates, Edge Road; Beechcote, Longridge and Old Bakehouse, Colethorp.

Guy Tabony Branch Manager



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FEBRUARY

Mon	8	Short Mat Bowls - Mondays (contact 813627) Community Lunch: Hosts - Stroud District Council Yoga (Mondays) contact Kim 812623	Town Hall Christ Church Hall Sheepscombe Vill. Hall	10.30am 12 noon to 1.15pm 6.30 to 8.00pm & 8.15 to 9.45pm
Tue	9	Dog Training Club (Tuesdays)	Christ Church Hall	9.30 to 12.00noon
Wed	10	Yoga (Wednesdays) contact Kim 812623 Horticultural Society: Vegetable Growing - Roger Umpelby Table Tennis - Wednesdays (tel: 812464) Bingo: Wednesdays - Tel. Ann, 813911/Liz, 813139	Sheepscombe Vill. Hall Town Hall Painswick Centre Painswick Centre	9.30 to 11.00am 2.30pm 7.00 to 9.00pm 7.30 to 10.00pm
Thu	11	Yoga - All Abilities (Thursdays) Cotswold Room 812623 T'ai Chi: Thursdays - Contact 812344 Jolly Stompers Line Dancing: Beginners - Thursdays Experienced beginners - Thursdays Bird Club: The Wildlife of Shetland - David Scott-Langley	Painswick Centre Town Hall Town Hall Town Hall Town Hall Town Hall	9.30 to 11.00am 9.30am 12.00 to 1.00pm 12.30 to 1.30pm 7.30pm 10.00am
Fri	12	Country Market - Coffee available - Fridays Friday Club: Brass Bands - Mike Kerton Open Evening for Painswick Residents to see the Hall changes - Refreshments (<i>invitation page 19</i>)	Town Hall Town Hall Town Hall Painswick Centre	2.30pm 7.00 to 9.00pm
Sat	13	Painswick Beacon Conservation Group scrub clearance working party. (location check 812709)	Painswick Beacon	10.00am to 1.00pm
Mon	15	Community Lunch: Hosts - Falcon Bowling Club	Christ Church Hall	12 noon to 1.15pm
Tue	16	Local History Society: Old Paths of Gloucestershire - Alan Pilbeam	Croft School	7.30pm
Wed	17	Probus: You Will Remember This - A Musical Journey - Ron Nott. Joint meeting with the Ladies Parish Council Meeting	Church Rooms Town Hall	11.00am 7.30pm
Thu	18	Music Appreciation Group: A Good Blow - Robert Nichols	Cotswold Room, Painswick Centre	7.30pm
Sat	20	Copy dateline for March Beacon Theatre Club Outing to Cheltenham	Stamages Car Park	1.30pm
Mon	22	Community Lunch: Hosts - Conservation Society	Christ Church Hall	12 noon to 1.15pm
Tue	23	Yew Trees W I: Planning a Wardrobe - Sarah Cook	Town Hall	7.30pm
Wed	24	Digital switch-over explained (<i>see page 10</i>)	Town Hall	7.30pm
Fri	26	Fair Trade Coffee Morning Friday Club: Travels in Mongolia - Claire Burges Watson	Croft School Town Hall	9.30 to 11.00am 2.30pm
Sat	27	Painswick Beacon Conservation Group scrub clearance working party. (location check 812709)	Painswick Beacon	10.00am to 1.00pm

MARCH

Mon	1	Community Lunch: Hosts - Richmond Village	Christ Church Hall	12 noon to 1.15pm
Tue	2	Music Appreciation Group: Concert Outing to Birmingham Symphony Hall (<i>invitation on page 19</i>)	Birmingham	7.30pm
Wed	3	Probus: A World of Men - The Great White South - Ken Gibson Parish Council: Planning & Finance Committee	Shires Room, Falcon Town Hall	10.00am 7.30pm
Fri	5	Women's World Day of Prayer	Ashwell House	11.00am
Sat	6	March Issue of The Painswick Beacon published		
Mon	8	Community Lunch: Hosts - Sylvia & David Walker	Christ Church Hall	12 noon to 1.15pm
Wed	10	StroudFM Painswick Hour (<i>see page 3</i>) Horticultural Society: The True Cottage Garden - Kim Hurst	107.9 fm Town Hall	12.00 to 1.00pm 7.30pm
Thu	11	Bird Club: Islands of the Indian Ocean - David Cramp Painswick Beacon Conservation Group scrub clearance working party. (location check 812709)	Town Hall Painswick Beacon	7.30pm 10.00am to 1.00pm
Fri	12	Friday Club: Outing to Nature in Art & Gloucester Docks		
Sat	13	Beacon Village Quiz	Painswick Centre	7.00 for 7.30pm
Mon	15	Community Lunch: Hosts - Croft School	Christ Church Hall	12 noon to 1.15pm
Tue	16	Local History Society: Streetwise - Exploring Towns - Aylwin Sampson	Croft School	7.30pm
Wed	17	Probus: The Island of Arran and the Islay Whisky Trail - Ian Wilcox	Shires Room, Falcon	10.00am



Thu	18	Parish Council Meeting	Town Hall	7.30pm
		Music Appreciation Group: Strike up the Band - Michael Kerton	Cotswold Room, Painswick Centre	7.30pm
Mon	22	Community Lunch: Hosts - Park Residents	Christ Church Hall	12 noon to 1.15pm
Tue	23	Yew Trees W I: Wild Flowers of Gloucestershire - Rosemary West	Town Hall	7.30pm
Wed	24	Television - Digital Switch-over		
Fri	26	Friday Club: Easter Egg painting & Easter Bonnets - Adele Lambert	Town Hall	2.30pm
		Bingo for the Cobalt Unit	Town Hall	7 for 7.30pm
		"The Road to Calvary" - Passion Play by theatre group	St Mary's Church	7.00pm
		"Clydach" from Swansea		
Sat	27	Painswick Beacon Conservation Group scrub clearance working party. (location check 812709)	Painswick Beacon	10.00am to 1.00pm
		Painswick Music Society Concert - Tasmin Little (violin) & John Lenehan (piano) (see page 11)	St Mary's Church	3.00pm
Wed	31	Probus: Tragedy on the Thames - Peter Talbot	Shires Room, Falcon	10.00am
APRIL				
Thu	1	Music Appreciation Group	Richmond, Painswick	7.30pm
Fri	2	Good Friday Procession of Witness	Catholic Church	10.30am
		Painswick Singers will perform works for Good Friday	St Mary's Church	7.30pm
Sat	3	Theatre Club Outing to Cheltenham	Stamages Car Park	1.30pm
Wed	7	Parish Council: Planning/Plantation/Footpath Committees	Town Hall	7.00pm
Thu	8	Bird Club: "A Wandering Warden's Eye" - Andy Warren, Ecological Consultant	Town Hall	7.30pm
Sat	10	Painswick Music Society Concert: The Carducci Quartet	St Mary's Church	3.00pm
Wed	14	Probus: Islam - Richard Long	Shires Room, Falcon	10.00am
		Horticultural Society: Box, Yew & Topiary - Roger Turner	Town Hall	7.30pm
Fri	16	Friday Club: The United Nations and You - Christopher Dickenson	Town Hall	2.30pm
Tue	20	Local History Society: Research Evening	Croft School	7.30pm
Wed	21	Parish Council Meeting	Town Hall	7.30pm
Thu	22	Music Appreciation Group: Concert Outing to Colston Hall	Bristol	7.30pm
Sat	24	Painswick Music Society Concert: The Talich Quartet	St Mary's Church	3.00pm
Tue	27	Yew Trees W I: Bletchley Park - Kitty Smithies	Town Hall	7.30pm
Wed	28	Probus AGM	Shires Room, Falcon	10.00am
		Bird Club Field Trip: Morning stroll with Gordon Avery around Frampton	Vicarage Road, Frampton	10.30am
		Painswick & District Conservation Society AGM	Church Rooms	7.30pm
Thu	29	Music Appreciation Group: Members Night	Cotswold Room, Painswick Centre	7.30pm
Fri	30	Friday Club at Richmond: The Mitfords - Jonathon Moygne	Richmond, Painswick	2.30pm
MAY				
Sat	8	Painswick Music Society Concert: Jayson Gillham, Piano	St Mary's Church	3.00pm
Sun	9	Bird Club Field Trip: The Dawn Chorus at Ebworth Centre - led by Rob Palmer.	Ebworth Centre	4.30am (to be confirmed)
Wed	12	Probus: Women in Wartime. Poems & Readings - Philippa Roberts	Shires Room, Falcon	10.00am
		Horticultural Society AGM & talk followed by refreshments	Town Hall	7.30pm
Fri	14	Friday Club: Stone Masonry - Art or Architecture? - Mark Hancock	Town Hall	2.30pm
Tue	18	Local History Society: Annual Outing - details later		
Wed	19	Parish Council Meeting	Town Hall	7.30pm
Tue	25	Yew Trees W I: The Barn Owl Centre - Vincent Jones	Town Hall	7.30pm
Wed	26	Probus: Stroud Brewery - Gregg Pilley	Shires Room, Falcon	10.00am
Fri	28	Friday Club: early summer outing - boat trip on River Severn		
JUNE				
Wed	9	Probus: Life in the Abyss - Roger Jones	Shires Room, Falcon	10.00am
Tue	15	Local History Society: AGM	Croft School	7.30pm
Tue	22	Yew Trees W I: The Australian Outback - Bob Price	Town Hall	7.30pm
Wed	23	Probus: From One Language to Another - Tore Fauske	Shires Room, Falcon	10.00am
JULY				
Wed	7	Probus: The Severn Bore - Chris Witts	Shires Room, Falcon	10.00am



NEW APPLICATIONS

WINDYRIDGE, LONGRIDGE, SHEEPSCOMBE Extension of condition 1 for a further 5 years from planning permission S.04/1402/FUL. (The use hereby permitted shall cease and the cabin removed from site not later than 25/8/09)

THE OLD SURGERY, GLOUCESTER STREET Reduce height of silver birch by rear gate and to the right of the summerhouse. Reduce height and spread of flowering cherry.

GLENDALE COTTAGE, VICARAGE STREET Erection of single storey extension.

WASHWELL FARM, CHELTENHAM ROAD Outline application for the erection of a dwelling.

2 THE GREEN, SHEEPSCOMBE Replacement garage with studio above.

THE STONE BARN, GREENHOUSE LANE Erection of rear extension.

LLOYDSTONE, STAMAGES LANE Erection of replacement conservatory and 2 storey extension. Internal & external alterations.

CONSENT

Land at DOWN FARM, SLAD Erection of equestrian worker's dwelling.

OLD HOUSE, NEW STREET Internal and external alterations.

WEE COTTAGE, NEW STREET Internal and external alterations.

ST MICHAEL'S COTTAGE, PARADISE Two storey extension to rear of existing property.

RICHMOND VILLAGE CENTRE, STROUD ROAD Variation of condition 23 of Outline Planning Permission S.01/450 to allow construction of an overflow car park on area formerly used by contractors.

HYETT ORCHARD, HYETT CLOSE Works to lime tree.

MINI-ADS

Craniosacral therapy for babies - a gentle, powerful treatment particularly suitable for colic, sleep problems, etc. (I also treat big people!). Available at Three Gables, Cheltenham Road. Contact Hugh on 01285.821872

Private tuition for primary school age children who appear to be struggling with literacy and numeracy. Recently retired Deputy Head Teacher with CRB Certificate and references available. Phone 812075

MINI-ADS - Free to subscribers.

For non-subscribers there is a flat charge of £5.00. For commercial/business mini-ads priority and space constraints apply.

Text maximum of 30 words + payment by cheque in advance, to 'The Painswick Beacon', to Dermot Cassidy, 1 Painswick Heights, Yokehouse Lane, GL6 7QS

Planning Application comments

The Parish Council has asked us to say "It is important when forwarding planning application comments to the Stroud District Council to copy the comments to the Clerk to the Parish Council.

Parish Councillors can then take the comments into account when making their own recommendation to the planning department at Ebley Mill. Comments sent on line should be copied to clerkpainswickpc@hotmail.com".

Police phone numbers

To report crime call
0845 090 1234
or to call Crimestoppers
anonymously **0800 555 111**

Anyone for Brum?

The Music Appreciation Group again invites readers to join in their next Concert Outing to Birmingham Symphony Hall.

This is on Tuesday 2nd March at 7.30pm and features the Dallas Symphony Orchestra -- the programme features Samuel Barber Meditation, Prokofiev Piano Concerto No.3 and Rachmaninov Symphony No.2.

The coach will leave Stamages Car Park at 4.30pm (leaving time to eat at Birmingham) -- tickets are approximately £22 and coach £10 - £12 depending on numbers. To book, or for further information, contact me on 814241.



Stewart Price

Invitation to a Celebration

The Trustees are inviting local residents to see the changes at the Painswick Centre. Please join the Trustees and other supporters at our Open Evening from 7.00pm on Friday 12th February for a free glass of wine and nibbles.

You will be able to see for yourself the new oak floor and heaters, although you will have to take our word for the new under floor pipe work! We hope you will also feel the benefit of the warmth being redistributed by the three new fans hanging from the rafters between the main roof beams. Our objective has been to provide greater comfort to our hirers and also, crucially, to reduce our energy consumption which is charged at commercial tariffs.

We feel we have a lot to celebrate and would be delighted to show you around. Particular credit must go to Simon Graesser on the Trustee Board for all his hard work in planning these improvements and negotiating with suppliers and contractors.

No need to book for our Open Evening -- please, just drop in!

Jane Rowe, on behalf of the Trustees of the Painswick Centre



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The Personal Column

Rachel Taylor and Jenny Gaugain

Baby

Congratulations to KATE and BEN BEAMISH on the birth of their son, Thomas Edward Vere on 1st January, a second grandchild for Carolyn and Brian Musty.

Welcome

We would like to welcome CHRIS BOON, who has moved into 9 Stamages Lane and JENNIFER and HOWARD JONES to 26 Ashwell House.

Birthday

Best wishes to AUDREY MORELAND who was 90 on 26th January.

Get well soon

The recent freezing weather has led to some traumatic falls, among others being MARGARET TUBBS, ANNE LEONI and LAURA THOMPSON;

also KORRY SPENCER, who used to live in Painswick, but now lives in Winchester, broke her right wrist.

Very best wishes for a speedy recovery to LEN TAYLOR currently in Cirencester Hospital,

also to ARTHUR PERRINS who has been in and out of hospital over the past two months,

Thank you - snow people

We are all, readers and the Beacon committee, truly grateful for the heroic way in which the January issue was distributed. Casting our minds back to the weather conditions heightens that appreciation.

Volunteers offered to take over distribution where the not-so-nimble normally make their way around our streets, and many were the expressions of thanks for copies where even the national press could not reach. Even the process of getting bundles to distributors was quite an undertaking, so thanks all round seem fully justified.

and MARY HARRIS,
and JOYCE BRIDGEMAN.

Deaths

Our sincere sympathies to the friends and families of JEAN PARRY-WILLIAMS, and KATE LOW of Richmond Painswick, and who died recently.

Personal messages

A big Thank You

June Gardiner and Sue Coates want you to know that "We are both overwhelmed with the accolade 'Painswickians'.

Without the help of our neighbours and friends, who have always been willing to give their time and empty their wallets, all with good grace, our fundraising would never have got off the ground. Sue's family have always been there for us, and June's daughter, Sally, and her husband, Brett, have given most generously for every event we've ever held.

We would like to thank all those who have supported us and feel very privileged to have been given the honour of Painswickians of the Year. We shall keep you informed of all future events and look forward to your continuing support during the coming year."

NEXT ISSUE

Publication date

SATURDAY
6th MARCH

Dateline for all copy

including Mini-Ads - Display advertising - Diary - Club news - etc using E-mail or the Beacon post box

SATURDAY
20th FEBRUARY

E-mail address

beacon@painswick.net

Photographs

preferably original
at 600dpi in JPEG

Hard copy preferably typed

Beacon post box - New Street

Web site

www.painswickbeacon.org.uk

All copy must include

Author, address

and contact telephone number

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Fancy a challenge? where it all happens

If so, why not consider a steady job, real prospects, home based, no upper age limit, pensionable, unpaid but including expenses, helping the Beacon team?

We are dedicated to multi-tasking and the range is as listed on this page. Whether you could help, regularly or occasionally, with any of the tasks and help us directly by spreading the load, it is your choice. We think we are a pretty friendly and professional group, and there is huge job satisfaction whatever the contribution.

We can arrange to 'explain all' and await your verdict, but hearing from you in the near future would be helpful. Computing skills a real, but not essential, advantage. So, why not?

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