

The Painswick Beacon

Sine praeiudicio

Volume 34 Number 2

May 2011

Springtime this year will be remembered for its remarkable but short flowering.



On other pages this month: an eye on crime, exceptional sportswomen, bulk oil, library still booked, patient shame, cathedral choir, Simon remembered, Eileen too, Michelle farewell, the PC year, blooming summer, invitation to garage, Christian Aid moves, pavement parking, remarkable rugby, smiling at last, that cuckoo, those youths.

and our full colour spread as many celebrated **The Wedding.**

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS - by Charles Dorman

Reports upon meetings of the Parish Council cannot help but be selective, if only because of space constraints. We try to highlight points of wide public interest, based upon what we see and hear. The full minutes of Council and committee meetings are available for scrutiny at the Council's office and elsewhere.



The meeting on 20th April was attended by 9 members of the public and our County Councillor Joan Nash.

PLANNING

Parish Council planning procedure

Chairman David Hudson proposed changing how decisions were reached by the Parish Council on planning applications. Currently the yellow form with details of each application is circulated amongst councillors, comments added and the decision whether to support, oppose or remain undecided entered on the bottom of the form before the meeting. Cllr Hudson suggested that the decision should be added following a vote at the meeting. Members approved this change.

PARISH COUNCIL

Snow and ice clearance

Ian Crowther, a member of the public attending the meeting, asked what arrangements were being made to ensure that minor roads in the village were cleared of snow and ice. He has been in touch with Neil Carmichael MP who apparently suggested that this should be dealt with at a local level. Mr Crowther's concern is that there is no county wide plan to ensure that all roads are cleared as quickly as possible. Cllr Joan Nash responded that County was responsible for clearance and that they did the best they could with the available resources. If you live in a rural area you must expect difficulties when there is snow and ice, she said. The Assistant Clerk also confirmed that snow clearance of roads was carried out by County. The Parish Council, within its limited resources, gritted some pavements or the edge of the road when there was no pavement, in the village centre. The Chairman Terry Parker said that the Parish Council and the community had to work together to deal with snow and ice. Mr Crowther hoped his initiative would result in improvements in dealing with snow and ice.

County Councillor's report

Cllr Joan Nash reported:

The residual waste project will now go ahead and two bidders have now been selected. An Energy from Waste plant will be built at Javelin Park near Haresfield.

Cabinet supported a major push to achieve 70% recycling by 2030. District Councils will improve ways of collecting waste, encourage householders to separate their waste and reduce landfill. Televisions are 96% recyclable and about 5600 sets are recycled every month. Parish Councillors commented that the green sacks for garden rubbish which residents have to pay 60p for were being added to

landfill.

A trial of 65 LED street lights in Dursley is planned. These lights are cheaper to run and give improved quality of light. A further 2000 lights will be considered for conversion in 2011/12.

The charge for hot Community Meals will increase from £3 to £3.50. Frozen meals remain at £2.50.

Cheese rolling has been cancelled this year. The Organizing Committee has received threats from the public about the new format, charges and dates.

Gloucestershire has received an extra £2 million from government for pothole repair in addition to £1.6 million already received.

The number of people killed or seriously injured in the roads of the county is the lowest since 1974 – 27 fatal and 160 serious injury collisions.

Allotments

Chairman Terry Parker read out a letter from Cllr Ann Burgess Watson who was not present urging the creation of allotments at the Mop Tree site. Cllr Ela Pathek-Sen reported on a telephone conversation she has had with Andrew Morgan, the owner's agent. He reported that Richard Hinds, the owner, recalls accessing the site from the side road by Clattergrove when he was a child.

Cllr Pathek-Sen also reported that, according to Andrew Morgan, both owner and tenant would have right of vehicular access over the golf course to the field. However parking of cars by allotment holders on the field was not desirable and alternative arrangements for parking would have to be made. Cllr Pathek-Sen also said she understood that allotments were considered to be agricultural and not recreational by SDC Planning. Planning permission would only be needed for any sheds or other structures. She concluded her presentation by calling for the Parish Council to take legal advice on the points raised and to proceed with the allotments on the Mop Tree site as quickly as possible.

The Assistant Clerk said that she had started contacting the 32 people who wanted allotments to confirm their interest. A member of the Clattergrove community expressed his concern that the wishes of local residents were not being considered. Cllr Terry Parker assured him that the Parish Council was taking their concerns seriously and that, with access over the golf course, there would be less impact on Clattergrove. He was also concerned that no agreement had been reached with Selina Blow, owner of the manorial rights. At the conclusion of the discussion it was agreed to call for a meeting with Andrew Morgan, and SDC legal advisors to ascertain the legality of the points raised. Selina Blow would also

be invited but if she did not attend the meeting would still go ahead.

Parish Plan

Cllrs Ela Pathek-Sen and Jackie Woof reported on their respective public meetings where five and four people turned up respectively. The public appeared confused about what was happening and it was unclear whether the new plan would replace or run parallel to the old one. The meeting agreed to discuss the Parish Plan with members of the public attending the Parish Council AGM.

The Big Community

– Community Library

Cllr Terry Parker told that the meeting that there had been a misunderstanding concerning the community library. Mark Parker of GCC will require a separate bid from all interested groups wishing to host the library. Currently these are the Parish Council, the Painswick Centre and St. Marys. The proposed Arts Centre in the old library building has dropped out.

Each bid should include interim measures to host the library, what enhancements would be required to the building for permanent hosting of the library and a full business plan. The bids must reach GCC by the 1st June. A meeting was to be held at Shire Hall on the 21st April to discuss the issues.

The Big Community

– the Youth Club building

Cllr Terry Parker told the meeting that local members of the PSALMS charity which runs the youth club in the old rugby club pavilion on the Recreation Ground wanted to apply for funds to enhance the building. He stressed that the bid would not be from the charity itself but would be a Painswick initiative with local members in partnership with the Parish Council, which owns the building, the cricket and football clubs. Further clarification would be sought at the meeting with Mark Parker on the 21st April.

Information boards

The Parish Council has received a request from the Local History Society for £1500 to help fund 6 information boards to place around the village. The Society has already raised £4500 and hopes to raise more. The Society also asked if the Parish Council would take ownership of the boards in which case it would pass on the money raised so far. The Society had applied for planning permission. Members considered the request and agreed to make it an agenda item for the October meeting by which time more funds might have been raised. It also agreed to make a financial contribution but not to take on ownership.



TIC '11

One of the most visible and vital of voluntary groups in Painswick has to be the team which operates the Tourist Information Centre. We caught three of them setting up their modest corner in the Town Hall, a point where visitors can obtain maps, brochures, leaflets and Internet access as they readied themselves for Easter and the time of year when visitor numbers increase their exploration of the area we know so well.

Anne Smith 'leads' the team of ten who voluntarily undertake the entirely pleasurable task each week of making visitors welcome to the village and the countryside around us. The TIC is open Monday to Friday 10.00 until 4.00pm and Saturday morning only, right through to the end of October.

Many are the interesting tales they can tell about those who call in, and how much their advice is welcomed; this whether it be tracing memories, trying to make contact with a long lost relative, or wanting somewhere to experience a comfortable bed and breakfast on the following day.

We cannot let this column end without recording two points in particular. The first is that the team will greatly appreciate

others joining them, if only to spread the load of coverage of these many sessions - even they go on holiday sometimes! There is, as they will testify, enormous job-satisfaction in being helpful to others - and discovering that homely local knowledge is more important than having data at one's finger tips, although that data is readily accessed in that corner and hopefully soon to be in the same area as the library with its own comings and goings.

The other point to make is tempting visitors to stay a while, whether they only have an hour or so or several days to spare. As Anne Smith (812427) told us, "It would be magic to have a few more reserves to cover for holidays, illness, etc.; those on the rota we have at the moment all enjoy their time in the TIC". Most of our shops/retailers rely upon the top-up visitors

bring to their overall trading to stay in business - and it follows we would have even fewer of them if there was not this critical 'spend'. All the more important that visitors are welcomed and gently pointed towards shops, accommodation, events, and the environment which also means so much to us.



Extended Beacon

explained

When laying out the Beacon we adhere tightly to the closing date for copy, as published on the back page of the previous issue. Pleas of such as absent-mindedness, or reading the calendar for the wrong month, have been used many times, but our production cycle cannot, we are afraid, take such into account.

If we know in advance of the closing date of an item reporting an event a day or so later, and the number of words it is likely to require - we can sometimes make allowance.

This issue, as you can see, contains much news and information. It built up to 24 pages on the closing date - nice, but many photographs were smaller than we would have liked.

What we underestimated was the impact the Royal Wedding might have upon the village, and the colourful memories generated in street parties and other celebration of an historic occasion. Once our roving cameraman saw this public response we believe we had, despite being seven days after closure, to capture some of these images while they remained fresh in the memory.

So, for only the second time in our 33 years we have extended the Beacon to 28 pages, and hope you feel that the addition of colour in our centrefold is worthwhile.

Ed.

Painswick Neighbourhood Watch

There will be a Meeting for all Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators at the Town Hall on Thursday, 26th May, starting at 7.30pm.

Andy Fogden, Neighbourhood Watch Officer for the Stroud Local Policing Area, will outline the important changes that are to be made in the way Gloucestershire Constabulary is intending to support Neighbourhood Watch in future.

Officers from the Local Policing Team will also

be in attendance to deal with any general policing issues.

If there is no active Neighbourhood Watch scheme in your street and you would like to know how to set one up, please come along and find out what to do.



Wearable Art Festival

The Chairman told the meeting that the Parish Council had received a request for a grant and had suggested a loan/grant to be repaid out of gross profits with any shortfall being written off. This had been rejected by the Wearable Art Committee which requested unconditional funding.

Cllr Terry Parker said that the profits from the Wearable Art event go to charity and that this was an inappropriate way of using taxpayer's money. The Assistant

Clerk had also requested to see the organization's accounts. The meeting agreed that the Parish Council would make a loan repayable from the profits.

Neighbourhood Watch

There will be a meeting in the Town Hall on the 26th May, when Andy Fogden, a senior Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator, will make a presentation. All co-ordinators and those interested in becoming co-ordinators should attend.

Heating, Lighting and Locks in the Town Hall

Several members commented that lights and heating had been left on overnight and the Town Hall had been left unlocked possibly overnight too. Notices will be put up explaining how the heating works. Users will be charged if heating and lights are left on. The meeting agreed to fit a new external lock on the rear door (to the car park) and a new internal lock upstairs.

Leisurely Train and River Trip

**Friday
Club**

On Wednesday 29th June we have arranged a trip on the Avon Valley Railway.

We then transfer to a boat and return to the station along the River Avon.

Those who get hungry are asked to bring a picnic lunch but we will be having a cream tea on the boat. Anyone who would like to join us for a relaxing day out please contact Ann Williams 814344 - £29 includes tea and coach which leaves Stamages Car Park at 9.30am returns 4.30pm approx.



Jane Robinson 812590

Oil Do you use domestic oil for heating?

Roy Wallis, a local user of domestic oil, has been in touch with the Beacon with a potential money-saving suggestion.

He believes that an approach to local suppliers with a bulk buying strategy may achieve a better price.

As he says, "The price of oil is high and likely to increase. I would like to investigate the possibility of forming a syndicate in Painswick to enable a negotiated better buy price. If this is of interest, please write or email me with your approximate usage, capacity of oil tank and current price you pay and I will take it from there".

He has provided his full contact details, and we leave it to you to contemplate future fuel in your tank.

Roy Wallis wallismarketing@btinternet.com
Maple Cottage, Clattergrove, Painswick, GL6 6ST



Library news

Work continues on preparing the business case for County Council funding for the new library. The deadline is 1 June 2011 and we expect to hear whether we have been successful by the end of June. We have been awarded a small grant by the County Council to help with costs incurred. The CLIP team was featured in the Citizen on 5th April.

One of the factors which will help the success of our application is the tremendous support and encouragement we are receiving from the community. The County Council have made it clear that they are looking for a unified bid from Painswick and this can be delivered.



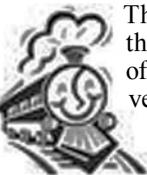
Volunteers are still required! Please let us know of your interest by giving us your name and telephone number or email address in an envelope addressed to Elizabeth McMeekan and putting it into the Town Hall letter box. We will then contact you.

We are planning to start assembling the library and training volunteers at the beginning of October.

As indicated in the last issue of the Beacon we will shortly be seeking your thoughts on what the new library should offer. Look out for the questionnaire which should be with you shortly. Your views are very important in helping to create a 21st century library in Painswick.

Peter Corley Chairman of CLIP

Smile Train



The Coffee Morning held on the 27th March raised a total of £566.00 with the help of two very generous donations.

Thanks also to the helpers, the people who supplied the cakes, raffle prizes and Bric-a-brac and some lovely books. A very heartfelt thank you to those who came on the day without whom it wouldn't have happened.

Thank you and God Bless

Helen Baker & Anne Leoni

DASH - Delivering Aid to Stroud Homeless

Now the warmer weather has come, there is no longer a need for warm clothing but instead we are asking for donations of tinned food that can be easily warmed up for a nutritious meal - tinned beans, tinned spaghetti, pot noodles, cuppa soups etc.

Items can be placed in the box at the back of St Mary's Church or the one in Murrays Estate Agency. And please keep saving up your small change (5ps, 2ps and 1ps) - over the past 18 months you have donated nearly £300 in this way and it has meant that Marah (the charity through whom we work) has been able to meet the small emergencies (e.g. a bus fare to a hospital appointment, some clean underwear) that can be such a problem for the marginalised of our society.

Please give whatever you collect to Alison Robinson (812286) or Frances Watson (812071) - or we are very happy to call round to pick it up.

Alison Robinson

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Super meadow

North Meadow at Cricklade was looking magnificent when eight members of The Painswick Beacon Conservation Group visited there. This was a follow-up to the talk Natural England's Anita Barratt (the Reserve's Manager) had given at their AGM last autumn. Members were fortunate to have Anita herself give them a delightful, leisurely and informed tour of the meadow on a sunny April day. The hundreds of thousands of delicate purple



and white Snake's head Fritillary plants, for which the meadow is famous, were an amazing sight, along with an abundance of other wild flowers and an accompaniment of sky larks and sedge warblers. Lunch at the Red Lion afterwards was pretty good too!

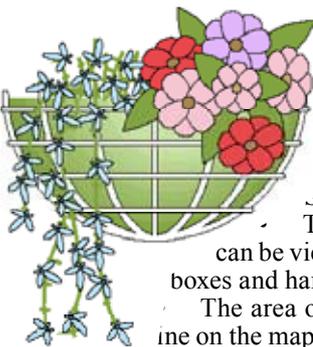
North Meadow maintains its remarkable status because it is strictly managed as common land by the Manorial Court Leat. This form of local government controls the August to February grazing, hay cutting etc. It is assisted by researchers who monitor plant populations, water levels etc. This results in a fine collection of detailed information which helps guide the management of the meadow.

The fritillaries will be largely over by the time you read this, but if you visit in June you will be rewarded with hay meadow colours: rich purples of greater burnet and common knapweed contrasted with the yellows of meadow buttercup and yellow rattle. Also ox-eye daisies, meadow rue, and meadow sweet; some of the 250 plant species present. And then there are hosts of beetles, butterflies, bees etc. For more information try www.crickladeinbloom.co.uk



David Allott

Painswick in Bloom 2011



Once again it is time to get ready show off all your hard work with containers and hanging baskets. Judging of these will take place in late July or early August.

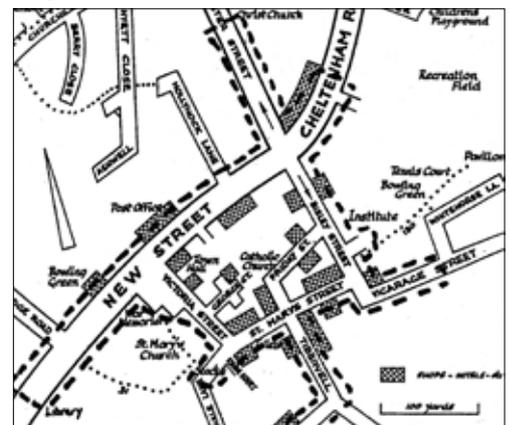
- The judge is chosen by the Painswick Horticultural Society and this year it will be Austen Perkins of Stonehouse.

The competition covers all plantings in containers that can be viewed from the road. These may be tubs, pots, window boxes and hanging baskets.

The area of the village that will be judged is within the dotted line on the map shown. Anyone outside this area who wishes to take part should contact Janet Crispin on 814818 by 4th July. There is no

entry fee.

- There is one class for residents and one for businesses with one winner in each class.
- The winner in each class will be presented with the Society's silver Trophy at the Horticultural Show on 10th September 2011. No winner will be awarded first place in two consecutive years.



- The results of the competition together with the judge's comments will be announced in the October Painswick Beacon.

Let us make 2011 the most colourful year yet, so clean up your containers and consider what you will plant to give the best show of design and colour. Good luck.

Coach seats are still available on four remaining summer outings, if non-members are interested.

7th June to Ryton Organic Garden near Coventry

29th June to Sandywell Barn House in Whittington

21st July The one and only Barnsdale Garden in Leicestershire and 18th August Gloucestershire gem Hidcote.

For the few remaining seats contact Philip Berry on 813227.

Janet Crispin



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PARISH COUNCIL Annual Report 2010-11

The year has been an interesting one with the council being particularly pleased to be awarded the Power of Well Being. This is an important award as it gives the council the authority to raise local taxes to provide facilities asked for by the local community. In the past the council was restricted to a very limited number of functions such as the provision of bus shelters. It is important to stress that there would be a requirement to consult with parishioners where an increase in tax was proposed. It does seem that the Government's intention is to see more decisions being taken at parish level.

Finance

The council has been able to keep within budget. The amount of money asked for in local tax has been kept to the same figure as last year but parishioners will have noticed a 0.5% increase which is because of variations in the tax base. Cllr Martin Slinger reports that with all the cutbacks being imposed it is going to be more difficult to keep within budget this year and if a request for finance is not within the budget it will not be agreed other than where it is an emergency. The statement of accounts for the year ending 31st March 2011 is available for inspection in the Parish Council Office.

Allotments

The council has continued to pursue the provision of allotments and it is intended to lease the Mop Tree field site when the various approvals have been obtained.

Library

The council has been very involved in the seeking to provide a Community Library. The council's proposal to lease the former Lloyds Bank building was not able to be taken forward. A public meeting was held in February from which a Community Library in Painswick (CLIP) group was set up. The group has been very active and is seeking funding under the County Council's Big Community Offer (BCO) with the intention of housing the library in the Upper Room at the Town Hall where it will share the facility with the Tourist Information Office.

Youth Club

The council has been working closely with the Painswick and Stroud Local Area Ministries (PSALMS) and with the cricket and football clubs to provide improved facilities at the Recreation Ground. A bid is being submitted under the BCO scheme from which it is hoped there will be sufficient finance received to greatly improve the Youth Club building.

Traffic

Cllr Ann Burges Watson reports that 2010/11 has been an eventful year. The extreme weather caused very serious deterioration of our roads. However, several rural roads near Sheepscombe have now been repaired. Gloucester Street has finally been resurfaced and half the pavements done satisfactorily and the other half very badly done with slurry cover. The road markings now define where driveways are in order to eliminate blocking garages. Coopers Hill is on target for completion in mid-May and is on budget. The snow caught us unprepared and we have now formed a Snow Group and with a group of volunteers (we need more), equipped with snow shovels and grit we hope to be able to clear and salt/grit pavements on selected streets when the need arises.

The 20 mph zone is up and running but it is not regularly adhered to. Please Painswickians take notice. We have a vulnerable, old (and perhaps) deaf population as well as young children and pets and in an accident at 20 mph or less the risk of serious injury is much reduced. The higher speeds can cause death or serious injury. This speed check is in everybody's interest.

Land and buildings

Martin Slinger reflects that the work load does not get any less. Our Parish Handyman, George Hodder's work matrix tells us that we cannot give him any more tasks and, if an emergency occurs, other work may have to be left for the slacker period of the winter. The Town Hall fees remain the same as last year. The council tries to keep the building self funding with some money put away to build up funds. The Cemetery fees have risen again due to the rise in running costs. We stated in last year's Annual Report that the cost of maintaining the St Mary's Street toilets at £4,500 per annum was an issue to be considered. It

has been suggested that the Town Hall conveniences might be enhanced and opened to the general public. This would allow the St Mary's Street toilets to be

sold. The Annual Parish Meeting may bring some reaction to this suggestion.

Planning

Cllr David Hudson reports a busy year with the council's planning committee having increased the frequency of its meetings to twice monthly. This is to coincide with the District Council's timetable for the return of the Parish Council's observations and to ensure that all applications are able to be debated and voted on with the public present. The Planning Committee Vice Chairman is Cllr Jason Bullingham.

The Plantation

Cllr Ann Daniels reports that at a meeting of the Plantation Committee in April, Mr Terry Fenton gave a comprehensive update on the progress with the Woodland Planning Grant. The grant is at the halfway stage. Mr Fenton is acting as the Parish Council's agent for this grant. The update can be viewed in the Parish Council Office. Work is ongoing with the help of George Hodder. Ann says that we continue to have squirrel damage. She says that she has seen deer in the Plantation during the last year. There has been no wall damage during the year. A dog bin is to be placed inside the Plantation at the entrance near the corner of Golf Course Road/Gloucester Road. Dog bags have recently been dumped there and this is not very pleasant.

Footpaths

The work done by the Footpath Inspectors in reporting problems is much appreciated by the Footpath Committee members. Records are kept of the footpaths' condition and serious problems reported to the County Council's Public Rights of Way Section. There was disappointment that the Parish Council's annual Boxing Day walk had to be cancelled. This was because of the icy conditions underfoot.

Parish Work Plan

Consultation meetings have been held in Painswick, Edge, Sheepscombe and Slad to hear the views of individuals, groups and societies on the issues and priorities that should be included in the work plan. Cllr Ela Pathak-Sen writes that the objective is to create a 'live' working document that will help the Parish Council to prioritise the actions needed to be taken over the next three years.

Broadband

The Parish Council continues to seek an improvement in Broadband speeds. Cllr Rob Lewis has been very active in this area and has had discussions with the Stroud Member of Parliament, Neil Carmichael in an endeavour to bring pressure on British Telecom to improve the service.

Ward reports

The Parish Council has twelve members. There are two members, Cllrs Andy Cash and Ian James representing Sheepscombe; Cllrs Jackie Woof and Caroline White represent Slad with Cllr Martin Slinger representing Edge.

The members report a busy year particularly in the areas of planning and highways. The issue that has affected everyone has been the very hard winter which has resulted in calls for more grit bins and the creation of a plan to deal with hazardous conditions. The possible housing development in the Slad Valley has provoked an adverse reaction from residents and Edge parishioners have expressed their opposition to the building of a motorway service station at Brookthorpe.

Appreciation

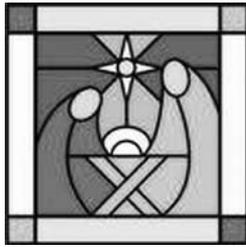
The Parish Councillors wish to thank the many parishioners who give their time freely in helping the wider community. Our thanks to Carol Novoth our Neighbourhood Warden, to Colin Drewett our Police and Community Safety Officer, to Lou Kemp, our Village Agent and to the local firefighters whose presence is much valued by residents. And finally, the Council members wish to express their appreciation for the support given them by the Clerk to the Council, Roy Balgobin, his assistant Irena Litton, and our Parish Handyman, George Hodder.

Terry Parker Chairman

Stained Glass Workshops open to all at the Art Studios

Claire Nayegon, the local resident Stained Glass Artist at The Painswick Centre, has recently set up a small teaching studio in the Art Studios and will be running drop in workshops from 5th May on: Thursdays 7.00pm to 9.00pm and again on Sundays 1.00pm to 3.00pm.

Claire will take you from design through to the finished piece. So if you've got a project in mind for your home or just want to learn something new, do contact Claire for more information and costs at 07900.606234 or at claire_nayegon@hotmail.com. Be warned though, places are limited so booking is essential.



Hidcote Manor

What a wonderful evening we had at the Horticultural Society on Wednesday 13th. Duncan Coombs returned with all of his enthusiasm and passion to talk on Hidcote Manor Gardens and its creator Laurence Johnston. He was born in Paris to wealthy American parents and it was his mother who bought the hamlet of Hidcote at an auction. Laurence drew his inspiration for the gardens from his travels to Europe, China, South Africa and America and used his own skill as an artist and painter in the landscaping and planting of the garden at Hidcote and his other garden in the South of France. Hidcote is a garden to visit or revisit and seats are still available for the horticultural society outing to Hidcote on August 18th from 2-7.00pm. For more details please contact Philip Berry on 813227 or Judy Stevens on 812254.



Our chairman, Philip Berry, also remembered Clare Haynes who sadly died recently. She was a valuable and conscientious member of the committee who will be very much missed.

Also for your diary there is an open day at Pershore College on the 1st Saturday in June, a chance to buy plants and see the students at work and possibly bump into Duncan Coombs again!

There are a few seats available for the trip to Rodmorton Manor in Cirencester on May 14th to be followed by supper at Miserden village Hall. Inclusive cost is £31 please contact Philip as above.

Lastly it is our AGM on Wednesday 11th May and afterwards a talk on "The Hedgehog Hospital" by Annie Parfitt with a real live patient in attendance so we look forward to seeing members and any visitors who will be most welcome.

Sue Kerton

Parish Council - Annual Report

The inclusion of the Council's report on the opposite page, is a service the Beacon is pleased to undertake, and thereby ensure it reaches every household in the village.

For the avoidance of any doubt, the costs incurred are met by the Council.

Ed.

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Beacon Clear-up - can you help?

Lots of us enjoy the Beacon in different ways and the wonderful weather over the last couple of weeks has brought out many more people wanting to enjoy the open space. Most of us come and go with little impact on the environment, but unfortunately a few cannot be bothered to take their litter home. The offenders are



few in number but create a disproportionate nuisance. Many thanks to all those who pick up litter while walking or golfing, but some gets blown into the quarries where it accumulates.

So once a year, under the aegis of the Parish Council, I am happy to organise a clear-up. Will

you come and help? There are usually about a dozen or so people willing to lend a hand. An hour of your time can really make a big difference. And I forecast it will be a gloriously sunny afternoon....

This year the Beacon Clear-up will be from 2.00 to 3.30pm on Sunday 15th May. We meet in the car park on the road across the Beacon near Catbrain Quarry. Litter-pickers, gloves, bags etc are provided by the Parish Council. For more details please get in touch.

Peter Rowe 813228

Police report

At around midday on 9th April a golfer at the Painswick Golf Club left his clubs unattended in the car park whilst he went to the club house. When he returned a few minutes later they had been stolen. Officers are appealing to anyone who witnessed the theft to call them on 0845 090 1234 quoting incident number 541 of 9th April. You can also report information anonymously to Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111 or via their website. The local policing team are also reminding people to ensure that expensive items are kept secure to avoid becoming the victim of an opportunistic thief.

Alexa Collicott



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A rare opportunity to hear the exciting Gloucester Cathedral youth choir

The Gloucester Cathedral Youth Choir will be performing a concert of religious and folk music in St Mary's church on the 21st May at 7.30pm. The choir consists of 30-35 young choristers aged between 13-19yrs. The choir will be accompanied by Ben Morris the Gloucester Cathedral organ scholar.

The varied programme will include The Coronation Anthem written by Sir Charles Hastings Parry, The Lord Bless You by John Rutter and Shenandoah.

The choir's main activities centre around the Cathedral where they participate at services during the church year including the Christmas Midnight Mass, the Vigil on Easter Eve, Ordination and Carol services. They have also sung in the Three Choirs Festival and performed on BBC radio and television.

Their opportunities to sing at outside venues are limited. This year their itinerary shows that they will only be singing in St Paul's Cathedral, Westminster Abbey and St Mary's Painswick. We are in good company.

The choir's conductor is Ashley Grote. Born in 1982 Ashley was a chorister in Kings College Cambridge. Under his youthful leadership the choir has scaled new heights of excellence. The choir will be giving up their Saturday afternoon and evening to entertain us and raise money for charity. Do come and support this exciting young choir for what promises to be a wonderful concert. The proceeds from the concert will be donated to the Marah Trust and The Family Haven. Ticket prices in advance from The Chairman, members of Church Rooms Committee or the Benefice Office, or by telephone 810935 £8, at door £10 (subject to availability).

Nigel Burt



66th Season

Manderling Quartet

For the second of its performances this year, the Society was pleased to welcome back the Manderling Quartet.

First, they played Mendelssohn's String Quartet No.1 in E flat major. Their playing was characterised by their unity: at times the four instruments seemed to merge into one, and by the clarity which they maintained throughout. Mendelssohn's Quartet ended with a lively finale. This gave the audience an easy lead into their next piece, Janáček's Quartet No 1, known as The Kreutzer Sonata. As explained in the admirable programme notes, this is the title of a story by Tolstoy about the unhappy love life of the heroine. Much of it is agitato, and in places dissonant. The Quartet's playing has been described in places as hard and edgy, and this piece seemed to require this approach.

Their third piece, Beethoven's String Quartet in C major, in contrast opens on a calm note. It was seamlessly played, and the changes in pace did not disturb the togetherness of the players.

The Quartet fully deserve their high reputation.

Richard Burges Watson



The Gould Piano Trio

Lucy Gould, violin, Alice Neary, 'cello and Benjamin Frith, piano, gave the third of Painswick Music society's spring concerts at St Mary's Church on Saturday 16th April.

We opened with Haydn's 1797 trio in E major, an energetic late-classical work with plenty for all three players to do, including much rousing work for the piano and whose occasional peeps at a more romantic style gave us an introduction to the afternoon which whetted our appetite for more.

Then something very different, the A minor trio from that prolific stealer of styles from other sources, Maurice Ravel. Four movements: the first with its mysterious special effects alternating with rousing virtuoso combinations, the second with some excited signs of oriental influence, a shorter and quieter third movement and a rollicking fourth movement which after a twinkling start gave us tunes from the strings supported by brilliant piano accompaniment passages, all rounded off with a final riotous orgy of sound and fury, followed by loud and well-deserved applause!

After the interval, Schubert's E flat Piano Trio: its opening allegro with fine showy passages for the strings, again accompanied by brilliant piano passages, then a quieter march-like andante and a happy scherzo-and-trio followed by another tour-de-force in the long boisterous final movement with more excitement from just three instruments brought a fine recital to its end. We must hope for a return visit one day.

The final concert of the season is at St Mary's at 3.00pm today, 7th May, with the famous King's Singers. It's bound to be popular so come early!

John Parfitt

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Calling ALL players and singers!

The summer Arts Festival in the village is taking shape, with an eclectic and impressive range of arts planned throughout July and August. Music will fill the air during this arts celebration. This is an opportunity for you, our local musicians and singers, to share your talent with us all.

What we have planned so far:

On Sunday 24th July from 12 noon, there will be a feast of colour and sound, as musicians, singers and artists perform and paint in St Mary's Churchyard. A peal of the famous bells will start us off, followed by choirs and musicians performing throughout the afternoon.

I am a local piano and flute teacher (you may remember the article about me in the January issue of The Beacon) and I was approached by the Arts Festival Committee to help bring music into the summer events. I am planning a gathering of musicians who would like to be involved in the above event on Wednesday 18th May in the Church Rooms. If you are a singer, classical musician, jazz musician or whatever your musical passion, please come along. The July 24th event is to be fun rather than competitive, so please don't feel intimidated about taking part. A wide range of musical expression is the aim.

Thank you and I hope to see you on the 18th May.

Emma Karran

em.karran@googlemail.com or call 07966.260874

The King's Singers

One of the world's most celebrated ensembles, The King's Singers, will perform the final concert of The Society's concert season in St. Mary's Church today, 7th May, at 3.00 pm. Their programme is as fascinating as it is intriguing. They will compare the products of some different types of artistic friendships and collaborations that have graced the history of British music. Beginning with two famous Renaissance relationships, the devotion of Thomas Tallis the pupil to William Byrd, the master who taught him, then, in the 20th century, Gerald Finzi, the most famous pupil of the renowned organist and teacher Sir Edward Bairstow.

A different kind of relationship exists between composer and poet and the King's Singers have chosen to illustrate this in the Queen's Music. Commissioned in the 21st century by The King's Singers, there have been collaborations between composers Joby Talbot, Howard Goodall, Jocelyn Pook and, respectively, poets Kathleen Jamie, Ursula Fanthorpe, and Andrew Motion. In the 20th century the famous collaboration between W. S. Gilbert and Sir Arthur Sullivan produced The Savoy Operas is another which the Singers will explore.

The King's Singers will end their programme in close harmony singing a selection of well known evergreen songs that so delight audiences wherever they appear. Something for the whole of Painswick to enjoy. The poems and libretti that form the programme can be found on the Music Society's web site.

Maurice Maggs



Richard Wagner

On 1st April Richard Burges-Watson presented a selection of music from Richard Wagner's tremendous cycle of operas - Das Ring von der Nibelungen. We heard extracts from the famous first complete recording conducted by Georg Solti plus one piece from a Bayreuth performance conducted by Herbert von Karajan. Wonderful music!

Alex Nichols



of music by six composers I enjoyed most those from "Orfeo", Monteverdi's great masterpiece of musical drama, and above all "Dido and Aeneas", that delightful English chamber opera by Purcell.

Ralph Kenber

Samuel Pepys

Wide ranging taste characterises our Group's choice of presentations.

The idea of selecting music composed in the 17th century was to some extent motivated by Jane Rowe's studies connected with the life of Samuel Pepys in that period. Most of the audience, myself included, had little acquaintance with this early music. We found it a refreshing change - pure clean music, uncluttered with complicated things and yet changeable and full of contrasts.

Out of Jane's masterly presentation on 15th April of recordings

Last night of the 23rd Season

The music appreciation enthusiasts plan their programme well ahead, and yet the unforeseeable plans of others can frustrate even the most diligent of efforts.

A double-booking of the Town Hall? No. Coincidence of a visit to Painswick by Cliff Richard? No. Electric power cut scheduled for that evening? No. A Royal Wedding? Yes.

Indeed, while the ceremony itself will be over, many of the members of PaMAG signalled that they would probably be involved in social events on the 29th April. So, with swift and decisive action the last evening of this Season has been postponed until Friday 13th May - usual time of 7.30pm, usual place at the Town Hall, usual last evening with wine and nibbles to accompany the individualistic choice of recordings.

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Painswick Surgery

The appointment system - and associated advice

The Beacon has received advance copy of a leaflet being prepared for patients, coupled with a request that we draw attention to its contents so that it reaches most of those who may be affected. So important are the matters raised that we have decided to print the information in full, and urge all who are so reliant upon the much valued services available close to our community to read it with care.

There is a little known factor revealed in these notes, that some patients are being disadvantaged by the actions of others who do not keep their appointments. We too highlight that fact.

At the time of writing this special newsletter, we are fast approaching a three week period of bank holidays. As a result of the Royal Wedding and May Day, combined with Easter, we are losing FOUR working days out of a possible 11. This has massively impacted on the availability of GP appointments – a resource we continue to wrestle with.

We cannot physically offer any more GP appointment time, but demand as ever, continues to increase. As an example, on Monday 11th April, despite having four doctors on duty, we had 21 patients needing to be seen without a booked appointment, as they could not wait for our next available routine appointment. All of these patients were seen and treated that same morning.

We are struggling to manage the demands of our population with the resources we have available, and as the NHS continues to suffer cutbacks, we thought it an appropriate time to raise this issue with our patients.

Booking ROUTINE appointments

Patients can book appointments with any doctor they choose as far in advance as we have available on our computer system – this is generally about 8-10 weeks in advance at any one time. This works very well for patients who want to schedule routine follow ups with the doctor of their choice for some time in the future. However, this has recently caused some concern as patients booking so far in advance can sometimes forget about the appointment and then don't turn up. This is incredibly frustrating, especially when we have so many patients who need to be seen and so we would urge patients to be vigilant about their appointments, and always either turn up, or ring us to cancel. It doesn't matter if you ring on short notice – we can almost always offer the slot to someone else.

Some patients may remember seeing posters up in the waiting rooms giving details of how many patients have failed to turn up in a given month.....our highest on record was 57 – this is equal to 14½ hours of wasted GP time – three days' worth of surgeries!!

What happens if you need to be seen urgently?

You may feel that you need to be seen urgently by a GP. If you request an urgent or emergency appointment and you tell the receptionist that you can't wait for the next routine appointment, the receptionist will ask you for an outline of the problem. In these circumstances, it is vital that we get some information from you – the reason for this is so that the doctor can 'triage' your emergency.....if you have severe back pain, you may be seen more quickly than an adult with earache for example. However, a child in severe pain or a patient with chest pain will take precedent. Patients on this emergency list will be seen in order of priority, NOT in the order they presented at the desk.

If you feel you need to be seen urgently, and there are no routine appointments available, you will be given a time to come in by the receptionist. You will have to wait, sometimes more than 20 minutes, but you WILL be seen. You may be seen

by the Practice Nurse in the first instance – she can deal with some problems herself such as wounds, bites, conjunctivitis, urine infections, etc., but if she feels you should be seen by a doctor, she will call in whichever doctor is free. You will not, unfortunately, be able to pick and choose which GP you see – but you will be seen and treated.

If you telephone in the afternoon asking to be seen, you will be asked if it is an emergency that you are seen that afternoon/evening. If you can wait until tomorrow morning, you will be given a time to come in.

We hope that patients will be able to use their judgement and not abuse this system.

The receptionists will never say to anyone that they cannot be seen – but we do need as much information as possible to give to the GP who will then make the appropriate assessments.

Emergencies

Please remember that Stroud General Hospital has a Minor Injuries Unit and can deal with emergencies. Additionally, Gloucestershire Royal has an Emergency Department. If you fall and hurt yourself, we will almost always need you to have an X-ray to check if anything is broken. It can save a lot of time if you go straight to the Emergency Department where you can be X-rayed. Children who have put foreign objects (like Lego) in their ears need to go to the Emergency Department – we just don't have the specialised equipment here at the surgery.

Anyone suffering with chest pains, tingling in the arms should really go immediately to the nearest hospital for urgent medical advice.

Other options for advice and help

remember that the Pharmacist is a really valuable source of information. He or she can provide certain medications over the counter which may help ease your symptoms. However, they will also tell you when it would be better to see a GP.

NHS Direct – 0845 46 47 www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk

a useful resource that is available all day every day – a trained receptionist will take your call and pass it to a health care professional for a response.

www.patient.co.uk - very helpful website giving not only health information, but also advice about benefits, medicines, carers information, how to find a doctor/dentist etc.

And finally.....

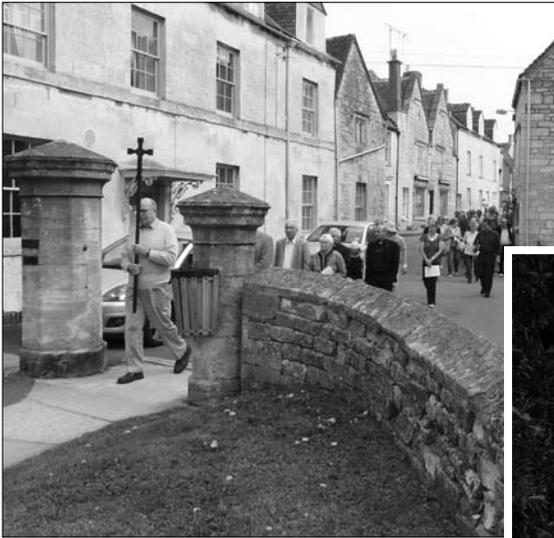
In an ideal world, it would be great to offer appointments all day, every day, 7 days a week – and it would fantastic if you could see whomsoever you wanted to, when you wanted to, at a time that suits you.....but we are living in the real world, working with limited resources in an environment that is suffering ever increasing cuts to services.

We are trying to do our very best to meet the needs of our 5000 patients. Sometimes that system lets us down. We hope that our patients understand that sometimes we struggle to work within such a system where bureaucracy and red tape seem to take over.

However, we sincerely hope that our patients appreciate the level of care and quality of care that we provide to everyone registered with us. We absolutely have your best interests at heart and will continue to provide the highest level of patient care that we possibly can, within the constraints that the NHS binds us.

Our thanks for your consideration

*Nicola Hayward
Practice Manager - On behalf of the Partners*



Good Friday procession of witness

This annual procession took place on 22nd April, with the Church of Our Lady St Thérèse as its starting and finishing point.



Front cover

Photographs taken locally inspired us to include this accompanying poem to reflect them in words.

April Rise

If ever I saw blessing in the air
I see it now in this still early day
Where lemon-green the vaporous morning drips
Wet sunlight on the powder of my eye.

Blown bubble-film of blue, the sky wraps round
Weeds of warm light whose every root and rod
Splutters with soapy green, and all the world
Sweats with the bead of summer in its bud.

If ever I heard blessing it is there
Where birds in trees that shoals and shadows are
Splash with their hidden wings and drops of sound
Break on my ears their crests of throbbing air.

Pure in the haze the emerald sun dilates,
The lips of sparrows milk the mossy stones,
While white as water by the lake a girl
Swims her green hand among the gathered swans.

Now, as the almond burns its smoking wick,
Dropping small flames to light the candled grass;
Now, as my low blood scales its second chance,
If ever world were blessed, now it is.

Laurie Lee

Allotments

The Beacon notes that the Parish Council is inviting expressions of interest in obtaining an allotment at the Mop Tree Field site with pedestrian access only. If any parishioner is interested they should contact the Clerk to the Parish Council on 812722 or by email clerkpainswickpc@hotmail.com



Cuculidae

Jane Rowe, breathlessly reported "Heard cuckoo at 4.57am this morning, 25th April, travelling rapidly up Painswick Valley towards Cranham/Sheepscombe.

Sadly it did not hang around.
Probably at least 10 days after Harold Wood (our usual correspondent on this most seasonal of topics) heard it".

But then he was away on holiday.



<p>Large and small projects</p> <p>Lakes- ponds - water features</p> <p>Planting - tree work</p> <p>Fencing - decking</p> <p>Stonework - patios</p> <p>Groundworks - drainage</p> <p>External plumbing</p> <p>Traditional building work</p> <p>Passionately undertaken</p>	<p>BEN LIVING</p> <p>B.L.C.</p> <p>CONTRACTORS</p> <p>Please contact Ben on -</p> <p>07702 984711</p> <p>01452 812036</p> <p>enquiries@blc.uk.com</p> <p>WWW.BLC.UK.COM</p>
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Youth Club

A meeting is to be held on Monday 16th May at 7.30pm in the Recreation Ground Pavilion to discuss plans for the development of the Youth Club.

Everyone is invited.

*Roy Balgobin
Clerk to Painswick Parish Council*

Salsa

Friday 10th June could be an extraordinary date for your diary.



A 'Salsa Night' has been arranged at Painswick Centre with the 'Tempesta' group, this as a fund-raiser for the Playgroup.

Tickets available from the Post Office or the Playgroup.

Hapless Mary

So impressed were the Painswick W I ladies by the talk given by Gillian White, a professional lecturer in medieval history, a couple of years ago that she was invited to speak again at our April meeting, this time on the subject of the beleaguered Mary Queen of Scots. With her profound knowledge of the times and vivid descriptions of the characters and events she speaks about, combined with a sense of humour, she makes them come alive and gives an enthralling talk. As she pointed out, a great deal is known about the hapless Mary, and her tragic, unfulfilled life, but there are also some significant gaps in that knowledge, which has led to much speculation and rumour over the centuries, creating an aura of enigma around her. Depending on how the known facts of her later life in particular are interpreted, Mary can be seen as either a tragic victim of circumstances beyond her control, or the instigator of plotting and intrigue to achieve her own aims. Her early years were plagued by a series of deaths of family members and close friends, resulting in her being exiled to France at the age of five, hardly the grounding for a settled and happy family life. All this, added to the subsequent complications of succession to the thrones of England and Scotland, a string of unfortunate or unsuitable choices of husbands and lovers, was almost inevitably bound to end in tragedy, as it did.



How fortunate it is that succession to the British throne is no longer dependant on which contender has the strongest army or is the most adept at removing the competition.

At our next meeting, on 24th May, Pat Harper and Felicity Ray will talk on the subject of 'Canal Women'.



Maggie Drake

St Mary's Reordering

'Be bold, be bold, be not too bold.' The words are cut into the stone of a pillar in the north aisle. Tradition ascribes them to the hand of a Civil War soldier around the time of the siege of the church in 1644.

No one is firing cannon at St Mary's now. Set in the middle of its famous churchyard, it is a place of worship and a central attraction in a village accustomed to drawing tens of thousands of visitors every year. But the PCC members know that it is their duty to adapt for the future as well as to conserve the past, and they are considering a plan for the interior that is – yes – a bold one.

The aim of the changes is to equip the church to offer better hospitality to congregations and visitors, and to make events such as concerts a more satisfactory experience, without affecting the essential calm and beauty of the interior in any way. A key proposal is to dismantle the existing organ and to build a new instrument within the case of the historic organ of 1814 (which still exists). This would stand on a gallery at the west end of the church, which was where it was sited when it was first introduced to the church nearly two hundred years ago. Accessible toilets, catering facilities and meeting space could then be discreetly built into the area vacated by the organ. The lighting would be renewed and some of the pews removed from the south aisle of the church to provide an informal gathering space for refreshments after services and at intervals in concerts.

These proposals received overwhelming backing in principle at the annual meeting of the parish in March. The PCC has been tasked to investigate costs, feasibility and the possibility of support from grant-funding bodies, and to report to a further general meeting of the parish in due course.

St Mary's is a much-loved and much-valued building in the village. The PCC believes that these changes would be good for Painswick as a whole, as well as for the worshipping community. Anyone who would like to find out more, to offer help or express concern, is welcome to contact the churchwardens, Margaret Radway (813440) or David Bishop (814205), who will be more than happy to do whatever explaining is necessary.

John Dickinson

Council Tax

The Parish Council has received several inquiries from parishioners about their Council Tax Bills. The question asked is why the Painswick (BA) element of the bill shows a 0.5% increase when it was the understanding as reported in the Beacon that the Parish Council was maintaining the amount of money required to be raised from taxation at the same level as the previous financial year.

The statement in the Beacon was correct.

The Parish Council is not seeking an increase from last year. The reason for the 0.5% increase stems from the District Council's need to recalculate each year the number of properties which are subject to payment of Council Tax. That total is then divided into the amount required by the Parish Council and the resultant sum, after allowing for Property Band Valuation, gives the amount required from each household. This year there has been a drop in the number of properties subject to the Council Tax and this has resulted in a 0.5% increase for the remaining households.

Roy Balgobin

Subscriptions

We greatly appreciate the early response - see the panel.

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Church Rooms refurbishment

Wine, cheese and coffee tasting and some competitive games made a focus for the Grand Social on 26th March. This was the way that St Mary's celebrated the refurbishment of The Church Rooms so far and enjoyed one another's company.



Painswick PCC decided to go ahead with the refurbishment now that the Gateway Scheme is not proceeding. Essential work has included a brand new heating system that is efficient and easily controlled. New toilets and washbasins, renewed flooring and redecoration in both cloakrooms have upgraded these areas. A team of twelve volunteers then redecorated the smaller room and the entrance hall and lobby and new, blue carpets were laid. The finishing touches are curtains in a beautiful William Morris pattern and comfortable, upholstered chairs. Matching chairs are now in the main hall, making 60 overall, and redecoration will take place here in August. We are really grateful to all those people who have sponsored the chairs and supported this redevelopment.

All this work has improved the Church Rooms substantially. They are now fit for a wide range of purposes, in addition to St Mary's worship, administrative and social activities. During the week there is a diverse and flexible use of the rooms for painting, dancing, theatre, dog training, Music Society teas and other social functions. It is hoped that the rooms will be used more in the future for Christening, Wedding and Funeral Receptions.

Bookings can be made for the smaller and large room at the Benefice Office at the Lychgate on 814795. The smaller room is now called the **Derek Hodges Room**, as it was Derek Hodges' study when he was the esteemed Headmaster of the primary school, and the large hall is to be called the **Assembly Hall**.

How fortunate we are to have such warm, light, and spacious rooms to serve Painswick's church and community needs for the future. Let's use them to the full!

Ralph Kenber

Chairman - Church Rooms Committee

Getting Arty at Richmond

Artist Mark Kelland is running another course of Art Classes, covering a variety of subjects at Richmond Village in the Auditorium. Classes started on Wednesday 27th April and run weekly until Wednesday 6th July with a 2 week break mid term. Materials are provided and the cost is £10 per session for non residents. If you would like further details on how to book your place on this popular course, please contact reception on 813902.

Richmond's Spring Fayre

Richmond are having a Spring Fayre in the Auditorium on Friday 6th May 2.00pm - 5.00pm. Clock Tower, Ladies and Gents Outfitters from Nailsworth, will be here with some of their select stock. We will also have a plant stall with plants supplied by Pound Farm Shop and a stall selling cakes made and donated by staff and residents of Richmond, proceeds of which will go to our Charity of the Year, Help for Heroes.

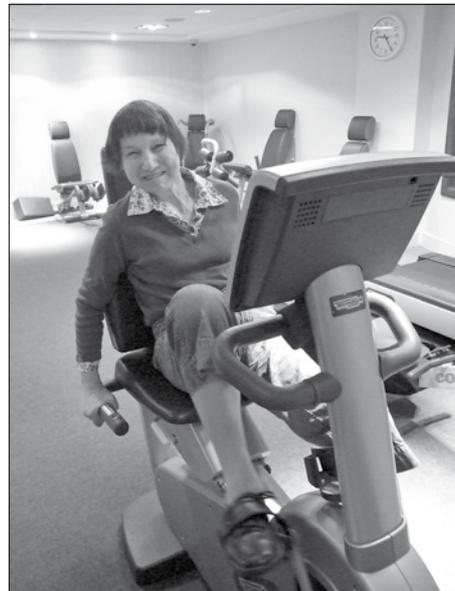
Charity Challenge

Richmond Resident, Ursula Daws, is raising money for our Charity of the Year, Help for Heroes, by cycling in the gym the equivalent of the Fosse Way - all 291km!

Last year Ursula raised more than £150 for Winston's Wish by cycling the length of the Cotswold Way (164km). If you would like to sponsor Ursula's Cycle Challenge, please contact us.

For more information or to book any of the above events please contact us at Richmond Painswick on 813902.

Catherine Moore
Activities Coordinator





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29th April 2011

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Gyde House



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– four generations and 100 years on

Painswick's oldest and most enduring family business, Goddard's Garage, this year celebrates its centenary year and, notwithstanding, goes on as strong as ever.

John William Goddard and his wife, Minna, set up the garage and haulage business in 1911, initially at the Falcon Hotel which itself had been in the family since the late nineteenth century.

The haulage side was based near the top of Gloucester Street on the site which was later to become the surgery. For the next forty years or so the Goddard family ran both hotel and garage/haulage business from these two premises.

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At the beginning fuel was sold in cans but later three pumps with tubes which swung out to the kerb were installed at the side of the Falcon near the pavement. Meanwhile, the haulage side grew and flourished with several lorries mainly delivering oil, coal and coke. As well as the garage and haulage elements, John William also successfully ran a taxi and chauffeur

enterprise from the very beginning, probably one of the first in Painswick to own a car. For many years this was also used to collect the mail and bring it back for sorting and delivering.

In the 1920s John William was joined in the business by his son Tom and later, after the Second World War, by his grandson, John Richard. Big changes took place in about 1950 when the Goddards ceased to run the hotel and also decided

to move to their current premises on Cheltenham Road. This had previously been a builder's yard and in the post-war spirit of optimism the family took the opportunity to move into the larger premises – so much better for the repair and maintenance side of the business.

Eventually, the haulage side came to an end, the Gloucester Street premises were sold for the new surgery and the garage and taxi service became the main focus. In 1983, John Richard's son, Robert, the current proprietor, joined the business. With his background of sound engineering training, Robert has been well qualified to enable the garage to keep abreast of all the many technical changes in the industry during the last few years. Despite competition from the big dealerships, Goddards remains independent and without doubt very competitive.



Robert's mechanic, Mark, has been with the business for seven years. Over the years, Robert has also participated in the training of several apprentices on two-year training schemes, recognising the importance of the apprenticeship system. At present the business is healthy and thriving, both the garage and taxi service, and looks set to continue that way.

Goddard's Garage is unquestionably central to Painswick's commercial life. It has many loyal local customers who wouldn't dream of going anywhere else. And why would they? After all, this is a long-established quality family business run on a highly skilled and competitive

basis. It offers a service second-to-none with regard to professionalism and courtesy and we offer all good wishes as it embarks on its next one hundred years of trading in Painswick.

Carol Maxwell

Centenary Year

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Local History Teaser

Looks like a special occasion with those glasses of something and the happy smiles. Can you name the occasion and date and give the names of any of the ladies in the picture?

Last month's photograph was a tease for real! Trevor Radway was quick off the mark on 1st April to spot that it was a spoof. As he pointed out, it wasn't actually a low-flying aircraft over Bisley Street – the picture had been doctored to make it seem so. Mr Radway explains "The photograph of Bisley Street was taken about 1935 or thereabouts. Superimposed on the image is a B52 Stratofortress in landing mode." This would have been after 1951. Oh dear, we were rumbled!

If you have a photograph which you think would interest or challenge readers do please make contact.

Carol Maxwell



... and the Local History Society Research Evening

On 19th April members presented summaries of some of the researches they have been carrying out recently. Barbara Blatchley talked about the many examples of elegant plasterwork that are to be found in some of the older houses in Painswick and showed us some excellent pictures.

Carol Maxwell explained how useful computers were in enabling researchers to summarise large amounts of detail, and how this enabled us to open up questions that we would not have been able to address without the benefits of computer analysis. She also explained the limits of this approach by talking about the summaries of Old Bailey trials which are now available on line and bringing to our attention the trials of men and women

who had been transported to America or to Australia but had then returned without permission.

Mike Wilson talked about the work he had done in restoring the wool drying tower which forms part of his property off Kemps Lane and the lengthy discussions he had been involved in with the planning authorities over the limits which restricted his ability to effect all the restoration and improvement works he had wanted to carry out. From old maps it appears that the tower may well have been constructed between 1820 and 1839; he also showed how the original builders had cut corners by using the side of the hill itself as part of the foundations instead of making proper level foundations all round.

Next month the society is organising a visit to the Westgate Street area of Gloucester, meeting at 6 o'clock on 17th May under the tower at the Cross in the centre of the town.

Hywel James

Butterflies and moths



The 14th April Painswick meeting proved special in several respects.

The audience at this joint occasion between the Beacon Conservation Group and the Bird Club, was entirely enthralled by the topic, "Warning Colours and Survival Techniques of

Butterflies and Moths!"

David Brown, Lepidopterist author and frequent F.S.C. leader came, illustrating his excellent talk with quite superlative shots of butterflies and moths to demonstrate contrasting survival techniques from curious larval postures to cryptic camouflage or brilliant patterns and mimicry of the imago showing visual dominance in avian hunt mode. Noted also was mitigation of injury risk, for instance with 'back to front' fuselage and of group mortality by unpalatability, even surface poisons (beware the cyanides of 5-spot burnett at Edge!) David Brown had certainly crystallised within the hour, the maxim of the



Field Studies Council (1946) charitable organisation set to engender an epidemic of knowledge and enthusiasm regarding the natural environment!

A series of Field Trips include the "Guided walk at Slimbridge" on Monday, 9th May meeting at reception at 10.45am (WWT entry fee applies) and "Songsters at Miserden" on Monday, 16th May meeting at Miserden school car park at 9.45am to visit the Miserden Estate and village and visitors will be welcome.

Martin and Wendy Addy

Some fly light as a laugh of glee,

Some fly soft as a long, low sigh

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Gold and Silver at the 2011 British Snowboard Championships

Kate Foster, from Painswick, was successful in the British Championships in Laax, Switzerland at the end of March, by taking the silver medal in the Snowboardcross and gold in the snowboarding blue ribbon event, the Halfpipe.

Tuesday was Snowboardcross championships, where Kate missed the gold medal by 0.3 of a second.

The Thursday was Halfpipe under sunny blue skies, and Kate led through the qualifiers and maintained that lead through the finals with a series of big airs grabs and rotations in the Laax Superpipe.

This is Kate's third British Halfpipe Championship title. She was quoted as saying, after regaining her breath, "It's really nice here at the Brits, in the World Cups it's a whole different kind of competition, but it's just as nerve-wracking here when you drop into the pipe because you've got all your friends here so you still want to ride your best"



Snowboardcross is when riders start 4 at a time and race down a track with obstacles, the first one finishing wins.

The Halfpipe is literally a Halfpipe cut into the snow, with a vertical height of 6m (22 feet), as riders go down they do a series of tricks, and are judged on their overall impression, complexity of the tricks and amplitude above the pipe lip.

Kate has had a crammed season both in the US and Europe, training, and hosting Animal Snowboard Camps in Austria, and Italy as well as coaching on the Why Ain't You Jibbin Camps based in the Aosta Valley.



Congratulations! Keep flying.

A Botanical Theme to Field Club's Trips and Talk

The Cotteswold Naturalists' Field Club's next botanical walk is to Cleeve Hill for spring flowers on Tuesday 24th May, meeting at 11.00am in the car park behind Cleeve Hill Golf Club. Optional late lunch available at the Golf Club. For further details, please contact Joyce Barrus (812942).

We also have two coach trips, the first to Greys Court, near Henley-on-Thames, on Wednesday 8th June. We visit the house, garden and estate, including the organic kitchen gardens. Some seats are still available, so non-members are welcome to join us, by contacting Anne Curtoys (812692). The second coach trip leaves on Thursday 23rd June at 12 noon for Flaxley to visit wild flower meadows and orchards. Our guide will be Dr Chris Parsons who has created this botanical haven. The outing is also now open to non-members and includes lunch at the Red Hart PH, Blaisdon. Full details from Jenny Jackson, 01242.230755.

The Field Club's next evening meeting will be on Wednesday, 1st June at 7.30pm, in the Town Hall, when Rosemary Westgate will give an illustrated talk on British Wild Flowers. Rosemary is leader of the volunteer Westonbirt Flower Group and takes parties on special wildflower tours. All welcome.

Jane Rowe Membership Secretary

Simon Wheatley

Many of us remember Simon Wheatley with great fondness and know how much he is missed by many people. He was a friend to the original Painswick Youth Club, which was run by Jenny Broadbank and Steve Miles and where his sons Darren and Jamie were members. On one particular occasion, he gave up a week's holiday to help us out by redecorating the Club and by encouraging the members to get involved as well and to give them some advice in case they were thinking of taking up the painting and decorating trade themselves.

As a mark of our appreciation of his kindness and support, the Original Youth Club Committee has purchased and erected a seat on the Recreation Field, in order that everyone can sit and enjoy the area and pause a while to remember Simon.

Please come along to the

Recreation Field on May 18th at 6.00pm

when the Rev. Longuet-Higgins will dedicate the bench in Simon's memory.

There will be light refreshment afterwards and we hope that as many people as possible will come along. Special thanks to David Morris for all his work in finding and inscribing the bench and to Bullingham Builders for donating the installation.

Jenny Broadbank

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The Christian Aid shop has moved to a new venue .. St. Mary's Church Rooms.

The shop hours have also changed to allow more people to attend, opening on a weekday evening, daytime in the week and daytime at the weekend – take your pick!

- Something New: Dinner in St. Mary's Church Rooms 7.30pm Thursday 19th, preceded by a shop preview from 6.30pm. Book early.
- The "Traditional" Christian Aid Shop: St. Mary's Church Rooms, Painswick, 10.00am-3.00pm on Friday 20th & Saturday 21st
 - o Morning coffee
 - o Lunch: Ploughman's Platter & Puddings
 - o Garden shop in rear courtyard
 - o Napkins & Fancy Goods
 - o Cakes & Preserves
 - o Raffle
- Bell Tower Tours: St. Mary's Painswick, 6.00pm-9.00pm Thursday 19th, 11.00am-4.00pm Friday 20th & 10.00am-2.00pm Saturday 21st. See the views, the clock mechanism & the famous bells up close and even ring one.

Dylan Davies

St Mary's church clock



Early on Good Friday morning there was a major failure in the chiming train with both cast iron weights and their chain breaking loose.

Regrettably the clock must now remain out of action until our horological contractors have examined the damage and made repairs.

The hands, at 2.06, will not be moved meanwhile.

Douglas Robinson 812286

Instead of counting your days, make your days count.

Marvellous Michelle

"She's lovely, marvellous. Ashwell will certainly miss her." So say so many of Ashwell's residents about Michelle Elliott who has been the manager there for the past ten years.

There is no doubt that she has been loved and appreciated during her time in charge, but now she has been promoted, and rightly too, by Stroud District Council. Michelle's new post as Supported Housing New Initiatives Officer, which is based at Ebley Mill, involves looking at new directions for the future of the service and especially the expansion of support for people within the community in their own homes. Her successor at Ashwell will commence duties at the end of May but she will not live on the premises as Michelle has done nor will she be a full-time manager.



up here," says Michelle "attending the old Painswick School. And my children have grown up here too, so it will be a real wrench when we finally move out." She talks proudly of Ashwell and its residents pointing out that over the years there have been some lovely people there. She, like the residents, describes it as a very happy and caring community where everyone pulls together. There is always a wide range of activities, including two lunch clubs, and many volunteers involved. But it's also the many little gestures which make it such a happy community and this, according to the residents, is all down to Michelle.

The management of Ashwell has to-date been in the hands of only Michelle and mum Margaret so the caring community it now is has certainly



been created by them. Ashwell is indeed fortunate to be able to boast such a wonderful atmosphere. "We'll miss that lovely infectious laugh," say the residents, "and her genuine caring approach." Michelle is going to be missed so much.

Carol Maxwell

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A new chapter opens

Neil Carmichael, MP, officially opened the Painswick Centre's refurbished front lobby and toilets. He was already familiar with the Centre, having recently held a surgery for constituents in the Green Room. He applauded the Centre's efforts to improve access for disabled users by installing a new door, ramp and handrail. This short ceremony was followed by the Painswick Centre's AGM.

Jackie Herbert, Chairman of the Trustees, reported that the first quarter of 2011 had necessitated momentous changes at the Centre. She extended a warm welcome to Jennie Barber, the Centre's new Manager. Jennie can be contacted on the Painswick Centre's new telephone number 07769.182229.

Jackie Herbert said that Jack and Rose Smith, our booking secretary, have been of incalculable value to the Centre over many years. Last year they decided the time was right to have more leisure and privacy to enjoy their retirement. The Trustees were also saying farewell to Paul Gray who has a new job in Nailsworth, plus a new shop opening very shortly. Jackie Herbert presented flowers and gifts to Rose, Jack and Paul for all they have done for the Painswick Centre.



Charles Dorman presented the Treasurers Report which showed in detail how 2010 was another progressive and successful year for the Centre. So much so that the Centre has been able to offer some reductions in hire fees to all our customers but in particular to our regular users who choose to become affiliated members. The Painswick Centre is very competitive in pricing now.

However, the Trustees are not complacent. The Centre's surplus may at first sight seem bountiful but in 2011 there will be reduced rental income, no further fuel rebates and increased management costs. In addition, there are essential improvements in the pipeline. The roof space above the Cotswold and Green Rooms and kitchen has been recently insulated and plans are

underway to replace the ancient heating system this summer. On average, 54% of all improvements are funded from net income and we expect this figure to increase as grants become harder to source, especially in the current climate. Unlike some of our competitors we have no other funds to fall back on for any such repairs or improvements.

Jane Rowe



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

WNO's Il Trovatore – another view *Sonia Jones writes from Hambutts Mead:*

I read with surprise the overwhelmingly negative criticism of the Music Appreciation Group's visit to the opera in Cardiff including the innuendo regarding the journey.

I disagree with several comments especially "cheap production, ugly entrance and uncomfortable seats".

The staging and the use of "tiny hammers" I considered innovative and interesting and I had no difficulty in reading the subtitles.

The venue is modern; the entrance unique, the foyer capable of hosting musical events; the auditorium obsessively designed to optimise acoustics in all areas. My seat was comfortable, accommodates long legs and designed to balance acoustics immaterial of the number of people present.

I thank the organisers for an evening unreservedly enjoyed without recourse to "dishing out the criticism" and I look forward to the forthcoming visit of the Theatre Club to Turandot.

Living with and beyond Cancer?

Find out about your local Village Agent

According to Macmillan Cancer Support (2008), there are approximately 2 million people living with cancer in the United Kingdom, and that total is rising by more than 3% a year. One in ten people (10%) over 65 are currently living with a diagnosis of cancer.

An increasing number of people are being cured of cancer or are in remission. Although this is good news, Macmillan knows that the impact of a cancer diagnosis does not suddenly stop when treatment is over and this is when your local Village or Community Agent may be able to help. A Village Agent or Community Agent is someone who is locally based, provides face-to-face information and support, and signposts and helps with access to a wide range of services.

Community Agents are also available to provide this service to people whose first language is not English.

With the support of funding from Macmillan Cancer Support, Village and Community Agents are now trained to support people living with and beyond cancer in the community. They can help with access to financial support and advice, cancer and cancer survivor information and signpost people living with and beyond cancer, their carers and families to the most appropriate information and care to help improve the quality of their lives.

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A very 'good Friday' had by the pirates of Painswick....

The Friends of Croft School ran a fantastic Pirate themed event on Good Friday to raise money for outdoor projects at the local school. The Pirate Treasure Trail was held at the Rococo Gardens.



The event was visited by children/families from far and wide, who took advantage of the hot weather to enjoy fun activities such as walk the plank and pets corner. Our very own Jack Sparrow took up residence in the Red House to hand out chocolate coins for those who completed treasure trails.

"Shiver me timbers! It was a really super day" said event organiser Jo Weatherall, "so many people came that the tea shop ran out of ice creams!"

Gate sales were split between the two charities; organisers, Friends of The Croft School and hosts, The Rococo Garden Trust, with Barclays Bank generously match funding the amount raised by the Friends, to bring the total raised to an amazing £1600!

The Friends of Croft School would like to thank local businesses who generously supported this event, Hamptons International, Richmond Village staff & residents, The Painswick Chemist, Painswick Post Office, Olivas, Best One, Morrisons, Staples, Angel Pets and the Heliwells.

A special thank you to the same loyal core of volunteers who always manage to pull it out of the bag, all be it a pirate one this time, it was a great result. And many thanks to all of you who supported the event for both charities.

'Captain' Marc & 'First Mate' Jo Weatherall



Eileen O'Sullivan

A number of parishioners who knew Eileen have expressed an interest in her life because she was a very private person not given to saying much about her background. We are indebted to Eileen's nephew, Michael Farmer, for allowing us to print an extract from the tribute given by his brother, Simon, at their Aunt's funeral.

Eileen was born in 1915 in Simla, India. In the time of the Raj children were usually sent back to the UK after their first few years and Eileen was no exception. Mike's Mother and Eileen were admitted to Cheltenham Ladies College and, from what they have said, Mike believes this was one of the happiest periods of their lives. Eileen then went on to attend the Sorbonne in Paris. On the brink of the war in 1939 she was offered a place at Oxford to study modern languages – turning it down in favour of joining the Wrens. She went on to serve in Alexandria in Egypt. Later in the War she became secretary to Winston Churchill and became one of the elite group in Downing Street around the Prime Minister, called to this day the Garden Room Girls.

After her spell with Churchill, in 1947, Eileen was employed as the private secretary to Baron Phillippe de Rothschild at the Chateau Mouton Rothschild in Bordeaux. She returned to international affairs in the early 1950s, joining the Foreign Office to serve in a series of difficult roles in Romania and Belgium. Eventually in 1961 she was transferred to the British

Legation in Beijing under Percy Craddock. She managed to pick up working Mandarin after a very intensive course at Cambridge given by Dr Jonathan Mirsky. It might be worth mentioning that picking up the basics of Mandarin after a mere six weeks is an extraordinary linguistic feat. She was a fine linguist who also picked up Cantonese in Hong Kong, was bi-lingual in French and knew Spanish, some Romanian and Russian. Even a few years ago she was busy learning Italian at a class here in Painswick.

She was in Beijing for some years in the early 1960s until the persistent assaults by the Red Guards meant that most of the Legation were withdrawn to Hong Kong. Eileen returned from Hong Kong after an epic two month rail journey around China on her own, and joined the British section of the Franco-British Council. From its inception the Council has worked non-stop to improve the relationship between our two countries and, in recognition of her efforts, Eileen was admitted to the Ordre National du Merit in 1978.

Sadly Eileen suffered two very serious accidents locally in the late 1980s and was in hospital and out of action for many months. She faced these awful times as indomitably as she had faced all the other challenges in her life. Eileen had lived for many years in Painswick having been deeply involved in politics as a Liberal and a committed member of St Mary's congregation. She was loved by her relatives and many friends who will miss her enormously.

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Rugby Football

Painswick were denied a place in a Twickenham final when last Saturday they travelled to St Albans to play the London side HAC. The match was a semi-final game in the RFU National Junior Vase.

It was a very exciting match with the scores tied at ten points apiece when the final whistle blew for the end of normal time. Into extra time Painswick went ahead through a penalty goal only to be beaten in the closing minutes when the London side scored an unconverted try.

In the quarter-final match played on Saturday 2nd April at Broadham, Painswick were the hosts to Risborough who were the first to score when Painswick conceded a penalty. This seemed to galvanise the home team who put pressure on the visitors leading to winger Josh Bridgman scoring the first try. Painswick were now starting to play some excellent Rugby with the off-loading in the tackle particularly good. This resulted in three more tries for the home side by Josh Bridgman, Ben Andrew helped by a superb break by Russell Thorton, and by scrum half Tony Bebbler. Two of the tries were converted. Seconds before half-time Painswick lost a man to the sin-bin and Risborough were able to kick the resulting penalty still leaving Painswick well ahead at half-time by 24 points to 6.

In the second half Risborough with the slope advantage and against 14 men were able to put pressure on the home side leading to an unconverted try. However Painswick came back with two converted tries by Sam Gabb and Drew Britten. Just before the end of the game Risborough scored a converted try under the posts. Painswick ended the game emphatic winners by 38 points to 18.

On Saturday 23rd April Painswick played their last league game of the season against Cotham Park when they beat the Bristol club by 28 points to 19. The result sees Painswick finish in third place in Gloucestershire Division 1.

Football - Croft has new strip

The arrival of the Croft Football Team team strip has caused great excitement around the school. Mike Dandy, of John Dandy Motors, the team's sponsor officially handed over the new kit on 7th April.

Mr Dandy was presented with a signed ball as a thank you from the very grateful players.



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Painswick U11s Rugby County Cup Semi-finals

Painswick U11s 5 pts Longlevens U11s 15 pts

Painswick opened the game scoring their first and only try; the ball was won by the pack and then quickly passed through the backs and out to the wing, beating a very determined Longlevens defence. Longlevens came back quickly with a hard won and determined try that saw Painswick tackle time and time again, but Longlevens just kept pushing through Painswick's defence to score. During the second half Painswick lost momentum and conceded two more tries, Painswick seemed unable to get back into this game due to Longlevens closing them down defensively every time they had the ball, and subsequently losing possession, a very hard defensive game.

Play off for 3rd and 4th County Cup Final

Painswick U11s 30 Drybrook U11s 5

Painswick dominated this game from start to finish, with open play and great skill being shown as they passed the ball. They scored the first of five tries in emphatic style, and whenever they had possession of the ball they always looked liked they would score.

This was an excellent team performance from all players. Painswick were able to win scrums and time and again pass the ball quickly out to gain advantage over Drybrook. A fantastic game of rugby was played.

Painswick U11s have won the Gloucestershire RFU Fair Play award, this was presented to the U11s for their behaviour throughout the tournament for the players, coaches and parents, for their fair play and excellent conduct on and off the pitch.

Maybe next year they can win both!

Golf

New membership deals are available at Painswick Golf Club for any aspiring golfers. Highly competitive rates are on offer to those wishing to join part way through the season. Full details are available at www.painswickgolf.com or at the clubhouse.

In addition to benefiting from the use of this unique course, new members are welcome to take part in matches against other clubs in the area and can play a wide selection of courses in over twenty counties at greatly reduced rates through the Gloucester Golf Union Inter-County Card Scheme. Golf lessons are also available for learner to scratch players from our own PGA Professional. Why not try a taster session for free now.

The Seniors' section completed their winter fourball competition with the winners being Alan Fisher and Roy Henderson who had an aggregate score of 234 from their five best rounds. The Texas scramble on 24th March was won by David Warren, Roger Anthony and Henry Cownie with a net score of 49. Our team matches against other clubs tend to follow a pattern of winning at home and coming second away. And so it was that we beat Puckrup Hall at home and lost to Cotswold Hills playing at their course.

The Senior's Open will take place on Wednesday 18th May. All golfers (over 55) are welcome to play. There is a fee of £12 which covers entry, the raffle and prizes for twos. Good food is available. For further details please contact Richard Wright on 01452.552578.

Tennis

International tennis success for Alicia Barnett

With the aim of obtaining an under 18 world ranking, Alicia Barnett, a local girl from Painswick, travelled to Kenya with TeamBath tennis academy to play in two International Tennis Federation (ITF) tournaments. In the first week, held in Mombasa, Alicia beat Kozub (Poland) 6.1, 6.4. Playing in 30C heat her second round win 6.2, 6.7, 6.2 was a very difficult match against the number 4 seed Shestakava (Ukraine) and lasted over 4 hours. This match took its toll and saw Alicia losing in the quarter finals to the eventual tournament winner Matteucci (Italy).

More success came in the doubles for Alicia and her partner, Brigit Folland when they won their first ITF tournament taking the final 6.4, 6.4. The second tournament held in Nairobi saw further wins in singles and doubles.

On returning to the UK Alicia played in the County Cup for Gloucestershire winning all her singles and doubles matches against East



Scotland, Hereford & Worcester and Lincolnshire. This helped Gloucestershire to win promotion.

A week later, Alicia flew to the Morocco ITF played on clay, and won both her qualifying matches and the first round of the main draw. She eventually lost 5.7, 6.2, 5.7 in a very competitive match to a Swiss player.

Travelling directly from there to the Oslo ITF, Alicia began with a tough draw against the number 4 seed from Russia. The first two games went against Alicia but she began then to find her range of shots and dominated the rest of the match, winning 6.4, 6.3. The next 2 rounds were against a Norwegian and then a Swede, which resulted in very professional wins. The semi final was against a talented Swedish player, the girl could not

cope with Alicia's power and consistency and the Swede lost the first set, and subsequently retired injured. The final was against Odegard of (Norway) who is 421 in the world. Although Alicia fought for every point she lost the final 0.6, 2.6 to clearly the best player in the tournament.

Alicia's final tournament was at the Nottingham ITF where she reached the semi final and finally lost in 3 set to the eventual tournament winner. Following these successes Alicia's world ranking at under-18 level has climbed to 420.



Win for Painswick winter team

The Painswick "C" Team had a successful winter season winning the Gloucestershire winter mixed league div.3. The team pictured Ruth Smith, Robin Hall, Ness Fair (capt), Sarah Scott, Jamie Morgan, and Gill Willoughby. Also played were Adrian McDowell, Alison Pritchard, Nigel Barnett, Stu Hall and Caroline Denny.

New Season Starts

The Club has re-painted 4 courts down at Broadham ready for the summer season. Anyone interested in joining the Club are welcomed to come along to Broadham at 7.30 on Tuesdays and Thursdays or telephone Ruth Smith on 813693.

Cricket

Painswick Cricket Club is looking forward to the new season

The cricket club have been preparing vigorously for the 2011 season. Our top two teams will play in the West of England Premier League, a high standard with a competitive edge! We will also continue to have two sides in the Stroud League with a laissez-faire feel and a strong focus on youth player development. We will also be playing in the Sunday Village league and the Mid-Week league which is an enjoyable 20/20 smash about. Our Ladies side will be playing games of 20/20 and 35 over games in a league structure this season. Our developing youth section will run 5 age groups including an Under 11 girl's side. So we will be as busy as ever. To help the club has made some notable improvements. We have some new covers and a new mobile net bay, great assets.



The club would just like to highlight in the Beacon that one of its stalwarts

Mr Daniel Cave (our Head Groundsman) was recently awarded Young Leader of the Year under the Stroud

Sports and Physical Activity scheme. Dan has been a star on and off the pitch for a number of years and the club is delighted that his efforts have been recognised. Here he is dressed as the chief pixie!

Here are some useful early season dates and times regarding the clubs matches and activities:

Our first league match is against Charlton Kings at Broadham on 7th May at 1.30pm.

Youth training for boys and girls (Friday evenings)

U11 and U13 age groups starts at 1730 -1845

U15 and U17 age groups starts at 1845 till 2000

TBC but we expect Senior training night to be on Tuesday evenings starting at 1800.

If you are at all interested in playing or becoming involved then please do not hesitate to contact one of the following;

Main Contacts:

Match Secretary: Mr Ian Hogg straight.spinner@hotmail.com

Youth Leader: Dominic Barnard domroller@yahoo.co.uk 07952.738954

Finally, we would like to thank all our supporters and wish everyone a wonderful summer. Please do come and watch whenever you can, all are welcome,

Steve Pegram Chairman Painswick CC



Cricket Cup

Painswick had a convincing victory last Sunday in The Persimmon Village Cup when they beat Leonard Stanley FC by 215 runs. Painswick 305 for 4 (J.Griffiths 100 not out, J.Cook 81, D.Cave 75 not out)

Leonard Stanley FC 90 all out (D.Cave 3-6). Painswick will be away to Marshfield at the Gloucestershire area quarter-final stage of the competition.

May News



As I write this article we have been having the most splendid steaming spring and I hope that like me, your winter blues are fading fast.

There have been some major changes made in April to the Bus Pass Scheme. The scheme is now operated by the County Council and all applications for new, or the renewal of the Bus Passes can only be made at a local library or online at www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/travelpass. If you visit a library the librarian can help you and will take a suitable photo. You will need proof of your address. If you use the website you will need a suitable photo of yourself which you can scan or are able to upload or have a webcam available. The only libraries where you can apply in our area are at Stroud, Dursley, Quedgeley and Nailsworth.

Your pass can still be used on all local bus services in England and is also valid on Park and Ride services into Cheltenham and Gloucester. However, it can only be used between 9.30am and 11.00pm Monday to Friday and unlimited on weekends and Bank Holidays. But in certain areas where there are infrequent bus routes free travel before 9.30am is permitted. The County Council website gives details of these routes or you can ask at your local library or ask your me to check.

Please note that if you currently have Stroud District Council Bus Tokens they will only be valid up to 31st March 2012.

For further information contact the County Council on 01452.426265.

If any of you have tried to get in contact with your local Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB), you may have found it a frustrating experience as it's been very difficult to get through. I also know that the majority of older people who I come across needing the service are unable to make the journey into Stroud and wait until they can be seen. There is good news now; CAB have been given some funding to enable a dedicated telephone line for older people who find it difficult to visit in person. The number is 07815.166143 and will be answered from 10.30 Monday to Friday.

Please call the number below to discuss any query you might have regarding this article or anything else which is causing you a problem. I will be happy to arrange to visit you in your home.

Lou Kemp 07776.245767

Painswick Puffins

Due to the planned siting of the Library, together with the Tourist Bureau, in the Upper Room of the Town Hall, we are moving to the Church Rooms on the 7th September this year and will remain there for the foreseeable future.

Jenny Oakley

BEACO-DOKU

Last month we set the seasonal word of **F-L-O-W-E-R** and it seems to have defeated some. Success!

R	E	F	O	W	L
L	W	O	F	E	R
E	F	L	R	O	W
O	R	W	E	L	F
W	O	R	L	F	E
F	L	E	W	R	O

Staying in the garden, we will test you further with **P-A-V-I-N-G**. Can you find the full set of 42 combinations of this word?

G		P		I	
A					G
		A		V	
	G		N		
	V		A		N
P		N		G	

PROPERTY REPORT for March from Murrays

The last month has been a very positive one for the property market and we have seen a lot more property coming to the market than expected. This time of year is always one of the best historically to start marketing your house as the weather is starting to get better, the gardens are looking nicer and generally people are feeling more upbeat and ready to look for new houses so that they can be in before the summer and more importantly before the start of the new school year in September. Our London Office in Mayfair plays a lead role here as we are seeing a large increase of people moving out of London to the countryside because of the amount of high ranking schools that we have in our region. Unlike many other estate agents with "London offices", who only concentrate on the London market, we actively specialise in country property and prospective buyers are able to go into our office, register with Murrays, book viewings and actually pick up the details of all our properties there and then. A service that no other local agent is able to provide. My brother Richard and I also spend time in the London office so that we can give a personal service and advertise our properties to the full, which may be something that you bear in mind when choosing your agent!

We have taken on many new properties recently including Ashcroft House a large 4 bed detached house on the outskirts of Painswick, Hambutts Mynd a substantial semi detached 5 bed on Edge Road with stunning views, Orchard Cottage a chalet bungalow in Blakewell Mead, Museum Cottage a newly refurbished cottage on Vicarage Street, 2 Vicarage Street a contemporary 1 bed cottage, 9 The Croft a detached 4 bed near the school in Painswick, Jenkins Barn a newly renovated barn in Edge with its own cottage and panoramic views, Highcroft a large Cotswold detached family house also with great views in Edge, Maple House a newly built contemporary detached house in Cranham, Hillcrest a 3 bed cottage in Pitchcombe, The Frith a substantial family house which is split into 2 houses in Slad and Stillpoint a well presented 3 bed in The Colony in Whiteway.

Properties that are currently under offer are Loveday's Cottage by the church, Greenways in Pitchcombe, Lorely also in Pitchcombe and Bisley Farm on the Cheltenham Road in Bisley and properties that have now sold are Green Banks on Blakewell Mead and Maurica in The Colony in Whiteway.

James C Murray Partner

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MAY			
Fri	6	Friday Club: An Afternoon with "NIP" - Robin Shotter	Resthaven, Pitchcombe 2.30pm
Sat	7	Painswick Music Society Concert: The Kings Singers	St Mary's Church 3.00pm
Mon	9	Short Mat Bowls - Mondays (contact 813627) Painswick Bird Club Field trip "Springtime at Slimbridge" - meet at Reception area Yoga (Mondays) contact Kim 812623	Town Hall 10.30am Slimbridge 10.45am Sheepscombe Vill. Hall 6.30 to 8.00pm & 8.15 to 9.45pm
		Painswick Community Choir - Mondays (Enquiries Adrian 07855404147)	Painswick Centre 7.00 to 8.30pm
Tue	10	Bingo: Tuesdays – Tel. Ann, 813911/Liz, 813139	Ashwell House 6.30 to 9.00pm
Wed	11	Yoga (Wednesdays) contact Kim 812623 Probus: The Changing Face of the Media - Ian Mean Horticultural Society AGM, followed by talk: The Work of the Hedgehog Hospital - Annie Parfitt Cotteswold Naturalists Field Club Lecture: A Taste of America - Philip Mugridge. Details 813228	Sheepscombe Vill. Hall 9.30 to 11.00am Shires Room, Falcon 10.00am Town Hall 7.30pm Town Hall 7.30pm
Thu	12	Yoga - All Abilities (Thursdays) Cotswold Room 812623 T'ai Chi: Thursdays - Contact 812344 Dog Training Club (Thursdays) Jolly Stompers Line Dancing: Beginners - Thursdays Experienced beginners - Thursdays Annual Parish Meeting	Painswick Centre 9.30 to 11.00am Town Hall 9.30am Church Rooms 9.30 to 12.00noon Town Hall 12.00 to 1.00pm Town Hall 12.30 to 1.30pm Town Hall 7.30pm
Fri	13	Country Market - Coffee available - Fridays Music Appreciation - last night of season (new date)	Town Hall 10.00am Town Hall 7.30pm
Sat	14	Centenary Celebrations (<i>see page 16</i>) Horticultural Society Spring Social Event: Rodmarton Manor, Cirencester & supper at Uley Village Hall	Goddard's Garage 10.00am to 2.00pm Stamages Car Park 2.00pm
Sun	15	Painswick Beacon Clear-up (<i>see article</i>)	Catbrain Quarry Car Pk 2.00pm
Mon	16	Painswick Bird Club Field trip "Songsters at Miserden" - Martin Wright, Guide Youth Club meeting about development (<i>see page 14</i>)	Miserden School Car Pk 9.45am Youth Club 7.30pm
Tue	17	Local History Society Annual Outing: A Guided Tour of Gloucester	The Cross 6.00pm
Wed	18	Planning and Annual Meeting of the Parish Council	Town Hall 7.00pm
Thu	19	Christian Aid Shop & Dinner (7.30pm) St Mary's Church Bell-tower Tours for Christian Aid	Church Rooms 6.30 to 9.00pm Church Tower 6.30 to 8.30pm
Fri	20	Friday Club: Two Years in the Antarctic - Ken Gibson Christian Aid Shop & Lunches St Mary's Church Bell-tower Tours for Christian Aid	Town Hall 2.30pm Church Rooms 10.00am to 3.00pm Church Tower 11.30am to 4.30pm
Sat	21	Copy dateline for June Beacon Christian Aid Shop & Lunches St Mary's Church Bell-tower Tours for Christian Aid Cathedral Youth Choir	Church Rooms 10.00am to 3.00pm Church Tower 10.30am to 1.30pm St Mary's Church 7.30pm
Tue	24	Yew Trees W.I.: Canal Women - Pat Harper / Felicity Ray	Town Hall 7.30pm
Wed	25	Probus: A Taste of Iceland - Theo Stening	Shires Room, Falcon 10.00am
Thu	26	Neighbourhood Watch Meeting (<i>see page 3</i>)	Town Hall 7.30pm
Tue	31	Theatre Club Outing to Cardiff W.N.O. Painswick Players Playreading 'A Chorus of Disapproval' - all welcome	Stamages Car Park 3.00pm Green Room, P. Centre 7.30pm
JUNE			
Wed	1	Cotteswold Naturalists Field Club Lecture: British Wild Flowers - Rosemary Westgate. Details 813228	Town Hall 7.30pm
Fri	3	Friday Club: Badgers - Tony Dean	Town Hall 2.30pm
Sat	4	June Issue of The Painswick Beacon published	
Tue	7	Painswick Bird Club Field Trip: "Wildlife at Thistledown" near Nympsfield - meet at entrance (SO 811007) Horticultural Society Outing to Ryton Organic Garden, Coventry, Warwickshire	Nympsfield 9.45am Stamages Car Park 10.00am
Wed	8	Probus: A Career in Policing - Tim Brain Cotteswold Naturalists Field Club Excursion to Greys Court	Shires Room, Falcon 10.00am



Thu	9	Rococo Gardens Friends' Outing to Abbey House Gardens, Malmesbury	Rococo Gardens	10.00am
Fri	10	Salsa Evening with Nigel May in aid of Painswick Playgroup - tickets £5	Painswick Centre	8.00pm
Wed	15	Parish Council Meeting	Town Hall	7.30pm
Fri	17	Friday Club: A Newcomer to Painswick: Jane Jennings-Taylor	Town Hall	2.30pm
Tue	21	Local History Society AGM	Croft School	7.30pm
Wed	22	Probus: Humpty Dumpty - Malcolm Watkins	Shires Room, Falcon	10.00am
Sun	26	British Red Cross Open Gardens: at least 5 gardens open: Teas/Ice Creams/free parking: Adults £5, children free	Painswick	2.00 to 6.00pm
Tue	28	Yew Trees W.I.: My Life in the Fire Service - Ray Drew Painswick Players Playreading 'Boeing Boeing' - all welcome	Town Hall Green Room, P. Centre	7.30pm 7.30pm
Wed	29	Friday Club Summer Outing by Train & River to Bath Horticultural Society Outing: Sandywell Barn House, Whittington, Glos.	Stamages Car Park	2.00pm
Thu	30	Theatre Club Outing to Oxford	Stamages Car Park	11.30am

JULY

Wed	6	Probus: The Edwardians - Malcolm Lewis Cotteswold Naturalists Field Club Lecture: Butterflies - Sue Smith. Details 813228	Shires Room, Falcon Town Hall	10.00am 7.30pm
Sat	9	Dog Show Lakeside Concert Band outdoor concert in aid of Sue Ryder - Leckhampton Court Hospice. £4, children free Victorian Costume Ball - for info. Tel. 01453 833150	Recreation Field Sheephouse Painswick Centre	10.30am 3.00 to 5.00pm 7.30 to 11.00pm
Sun	10	Wearable Art Painswick 2011		
Thu	14	Painswick Players production: "Duets" by Peter Quilter (also 15th & 16th)	Church Rooms	7.30pm
Fri	15	Friday Club: History of Ballet Music - Maurice Maggs	Town Hall	2.30pm
Wed	20	Probus: Ladies Summer Luncheon Parish council Meeting	Edge Village Hall	7.30pm
Thu	21	Horticultural Society Outing to Barnsdale Garden, Oakham, Leicestershire	Stamages Car Park	9.00am
Tue	26	Yew Trees W.I.: The Auction Business - James Taylor	Town Hall	7.30pm
Fri	29	Friday Club: President's Meeting	Town Hall	2.30pm

AUGUST

Thu	18	Horticultural Society Outing: Hidcote Manor Garden, Chipping Campden	Stamages Car Park	2.00pm
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SEPTEMBER

Fri	2	Friday Club: A Walk in The Alps - Anne Burges-Watson	Town Hall	2.30pm
Wed	7	Probus: The Extraordinary Life & Death of Edward 11 - Peter Petrie	Shires Room, Falcon	10.00am
Sat	10	Horticultural Society Annual Show	Painswick Centre	2.30 to 5.30pm
Fri	16	Friday Club: Textile Art - Gill Allen	Town Hall	2.30pm
Sat	24	Friday Club Autumn Outing to Malvern Show		
Mon	26	Painswick Bird Club Residential Field Trip to Oxfordshire, Blenheim & The Thames	Oxfordshire	
Tue	27	Yew Trees W.I.: Presentation by Waitrose	Town Hall	7.30pm
Thu	29	Theatre Club Outing to Stratford	Stamages Car Park	10.00am

OCTOBER

Wed	5	Probus: National Parks - Anne Saunders	Shires Room, Falcon	10.00am
Thu	6	Painswick Bird Club / Glos Naturalist Soc. "Sense & Non-senses of Birds - Dr Timothy Seller	Town Hall	7.30pm

Entries for the Village Diary should be sent direct to **Eddie Buttrey at em-m.buttrey@virgin.net**

Annual Parish Meeting

While matters of immediate concern can be raised with the Parish Council at any time, there is of course the yearly event at which they report in some depth upon their endeavours (*set out on page 7 at their request*), and the public can most readily enter into dialogue upon their actions. This can be the most influential of meetings and residents are always encouraged to attend to express and test opinions.

Thursday 12th May in the Town Hall at 7.30pm.

Admit your errors
before someone
else exaggerates
them



The Personal Column

Rachel Taylor and Jenny Gaugain

Wedding

Our best wishes to JAMES McCULLAGH and YORIRIA SILVER-VELAZQUEZ who are to be married on May 14th in Yucatan, Mexico followed by a Blessing at St Mary's Painswick on June 4th.

Congratulations

Congratulations to GREGORY CAIN and KAREN CAULFIELD who are to be married on Friday 13th May at St Mary's Church; also to STEPHEN HARRIS and ANNABELLE MILNE marrying on 21st May at St Mary's Church; also to MARK MAY and DENISE LIGGINS who are to have a blessing of their marriage at St Mary's on 30th May.

Personal messages

FRAN BRIDGEMAN would like to thank all her friends in the Painswick area who sent cards and best wishes following her recent operation for a total knee replacement.

JACK and ROSE SMITH would like to thank the Trustees of Painswick Centre for giving us a pleasant evening on our retirement. We wish everyone to continue the good work at the Centre, and wish Jenny Barber and Paul Gray good luck in their new ventures.

PLANNING MATTERS A summary of information from the Parish Council

NEW APPLICATIONS

GYLEEN, Edge Road. Removal of existing upvc porch. Addition of entrance porch in new location. Replacement of existing garden door with French doors. 13 UPPER WASHWELL. Erection of a two storey side and rear extension. LONGRIDGE MEEND, Bulls Cross, Sheepscombe. Demolition of existing house, studio and outbuildings. Construction of new house and detached garage with new drive and entrance gates. BROOKLANDS COTTAGE, Sheeps-

combe. Erection of detached garage. Demolition of existing garage.

CONSENT

STONELEIGH, Gloucester Street. Restore original glazing bars to all windows on front elevation. THE NEW HOUSE, Friday Street. New windows to rear and resite of satellite dish. HAMPTONS INTERNATIONAL, Bisley Street. Installation of 1 non illuminated timber fascia sign.

Proud Painswick

The Parish Council was pleased to receive a letter from a Devon visitor to Painswick in which he writes how impressed he had been with the general tidiness and condition of the buildings and the church area.

However he goes on to say how dismayed he and his partner were by the number of vehicles, some very large, parked everywhere and all over the pavements causing them to have to walk in the streets and dodge cars!

Ann Burges Watson, who chairs the Parish Council's Traffic Committee, re-

sponding to the letter, points out that some parking does show a lack of consideration for pedestrians and asks that drivers give consideration to those on foot. The matter will be discussed at the next meeting of the Traffic Committee.

Terry Parker

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Ancient Society in Countryfile

The Beacon was pleased to have its attention drawn to the extensive article upon church bells in the April edition of *Countryfile*, the BBC magazine to accompany the popular television series.

Much pride exists among our Ancient Society of Painswick Youths that their endeavours and St Mary's tower were central to the article; hardly surprising as they are the exemplars of a tradition here which goes back to 1686.

The author reminded readers of the original significance of bells in church towers, single bells conveying the time of day, calls to worship, curfew and other messages to the community around. To underline that purpose all were silenced during the Second World War, only to be rung in the event of an invasion. Since medieval times additional bells brought peals and indeed the tuning of the bells themselves.

The article, and its accompanying photographs and diagram, focused first upon the belfry itself, the location of all 14 bells - 10 of which were cast in the 1730s. The clarity of



the explanation of these heavy bells and how they are controlled is outstanding, including mention of that fateful day in 1883 when the steeple was struck by lightning and much was wrecked. The relationship between ringers, the rope they pull and how the bells respond is set out in concise terms,

and goes on to explain the techniques which enable complete peals to be rung, sometimes involving over 5000 changes. In the ringing chamber itself are carefully kept records of



past achievements recorded for posterity, with (maybe) pride of place for a Grandsire Cinques of 17,687 changes taking well over 11 hours!

Angela Newing and David Bishop provided guidance to the author for local information to be used in *Countryfile*, and tell us they would be only too pleased to introduce others, as is mentioned in the article, to getting "exercise and enjoyment while filling the surrounding area with joyous sounds". We would add, while applying great concentration and taking pride in the companionship of those also dedicated to true tradition.

NEXT ISSUE

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or hard copy - preferably typed

Beacon post box - New Street

All copy must include author, address and contact telephone number. Photographs and advertising art work original at 600dpi in JPEG

web site - about us

www.painswickbeacon.org.uk

for current issue and archive, our history and aims, the annual directory, village maps and the current weather forecast

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