

The Painswick Beacon

Sine praeiudicio

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Olympic Torch awaited

A moment of history is scheduled for us all when the Olympic Torch, symbolising the Olympic spirit, passes through the village this month. The torch relay consists of about 1000 communities hosting separate legs. Stroud and Painswick are two of these communities and host the relay on day 5 of its 70 day journey around the UK. Each leg is carried by a small number of Torchbearers chosen on the basis of their "personal achievement and/or contribution to the local community". Carrying the flame through Painswick are scheduled to be 42-year-old Andy Hart, from Cheltenham, Ann Poulson, 47, from Dursley, Hayley Mowbray, 26, from Cheltenham and 13-year-old Megan Jephcote from Gloucester. Megan's father has told the Beacon that Megan is very much looking forward to her Olympic Torch leg in Painswick. Megan started rowing at the age of ten and in the last three years has won almost every indoor rowing championship across the UK and Europe. She has also raised money for charities and supported fun days to raise money for various charities.

The procedure appears to be that each Torchbearer is brought to his or her allocated position in a Torchbearer shuttle bus. The Painswick leg is due to start at St Mary's Mead at approx. 5pm, and to finish at the foot of The Highlands at 5.10pm. Beacon photographers will be setting their watches for this fleeting occurrence and we hope to include as many photographs as possible in our June edition. After Painswick the Torch gets put on its carrier and the Torchbearer convoy heads off to Brockworth en route to Cheltenham Racecourse.

Page 7 carries the timetable of events, giving details of road closures, parking and the Festival of Games at the Recreation Ground. Painswick Parish Council is also seeking help from residents to make Painswick a 'sparkling diamond' village.

The Royal Oak - see p 16



Painswick prepares to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee

In addition to various local "street parties" that are being organised, The Beacon has been made aware of a number of Painswick events below that are being planned for the Jubilee weekend at the beginning of June. Other ways of celebrating the Jubilee are given in page 6 and 7.

- **Friday 1st June.** The Parish Council is sponsoring free tea/coffee and a Jubilee Celebration Cake at the Painswick Country Market in the Town Hall from 10 am to 11 am.

- **From Saturday 2nd June until Monday 4th June** a "Celebration of Flowers" to mark the Jubilee will be staged from 10 am to 4 pm each day in the Catholic Church in Friday Street. Cream teas will be available.

- **Sunday 3rd June** – The **Big Jubilee Lunch** in St. Mary's church and churchyard. All are welcome to join in for some or all of:

- At 11 am in St. Mary's Church there will be a service organised by Churches Together Around Painswick to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee. The church choir will be joined by the Painswick Singers for this occasion.

- At noon on the Memorial Ground and in the Church Yard a **Jubilee photo** of all residents and visitors. To be taken by the same photographer and in the same manner as the Millennium photograph 12 years ago. You will be able to buy copies of the photograph – details on the day and in the next edition of the Beacon.

- From about 12.30 pm all are invited to bring their own lunch and have a picnic, perhaps joining up with friends and neighbours, in the churchyard. Some proper seating and tables will be provided, primarily for those whose joints are not as flexible as they used to be, but it is hoped that most will be able to bring their own picnic chairs and/or blankets etc.

- Tea, coffee and orange juice will be available free of charge. For those who wish to just turn up, or wish to supplement their picnic, it is hoped to be able to provide sandwiches **, hot dogs, soft drinks and ice cream for sale. (** Olivas Delicatessen will provide packed lunches for £5 each if pre-ordered by ringing 814774 before Wednesday 30th May. Limited supplies of such lunches will be available on the day at £7.)

- A group of Painswick ladies are getting together to make a large **Jubilee Cake**. It is hoped that the cake will feature in the photo. Cutting of the cake and distribution will take place from around 1.15 pm.

- There will be some musical background provided by local talent. Two sets of volunteers have come forward already – more will be welcome for 10 or 15 minute slots. An electric piano will be provided.

- At 3 pm our church bells will be rung for 10 or 15 minutes – as part of a nationwide Jubilee ringing of all manner of bells.

- In addition there is scope for side events. Plans already in hand include a) Teddy Bear parachuting from the tower which will be organised by the bell ringers from about 1.30 pm to 2.30 pm; b) A Fair Trade stall; c) A Treasure Hunt around the churchyard and d) Screening of Thames Pageant TV broadcast in the Church Rooms.

- If the weather is wet the church service and photo will go ahead whatever but it may be necessary to split the lunch and other events between the Town Hall, the Church Rooms and the Church.

- Any offers of help, particularly with the side events or from musicians wanting a slot would be very welcome. Please phone Karen Goddard on 812240 or David Bishop on 814205.

- **Monday 4th June – evening** – lighting of fiery beacons across the country including one in the Painswick Beacon area. Further information will be given on notices around village.

On other pages this month: Parish Council election, **Beacon clear up**, Parish Council Annual Report, **Painswick in bloom**, Wearable Art, **Open studios**, Other Jubilee celebrations & commemorations, **Sparkling diamond village**, Olympic torch timetable, **Community library**, Community lunches, **Christian Aid week**, Cupcakes for carers, **Centre news**, Kerry Newell, **Stroud Choral Society at St Mary's**, Woodwind at St Mary's, **Yew tree sponsorship**, The Falcon one year on, **Local History Society & teaser**, Fireworks - an apology, **Good Friday procession of witness**, Playgroup Easter egg hunt, **Painswick Music Society reviews**, **Bird club report**, WI report, **MP's surgeries**, Moulton Haus, **Field club reports**, Sport

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS 18th April meeting by Mike Kerton

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.



PLANNING COMMITTEE

The Chairman opened the meeting and moved quickly on to matters requiring a decision. There were eight applications to be discussed. The Council supported four of the applications, objected to two and deferred two to the next meeting. Councillor Martin Slinger again raised the issue of the work on Shepherds Patch in Edge. The work had now been completed in spite of the fact that the Parish Council had not been invited by the District Council to comment upon the revised plans that had been submitted. The Chairman agreed to take this matter up with the District Council and report back to the Council.

District Councillor Barbara Tait confirmed that the District Council were still required to advise the Parish Council when they did not support the Parish Council's recommendation on Planning Applications.

PARISH COUNCIL

A member of the public asked whether the restriction on quarrying had been lifted as a JCB had been seen working in the quarry. The Chairman stated that work to clear loose stone material from the south facing base of the quarry was being undertaken to allow the erection of a storage shed. The public present said that the JCB had been seen working on the side of the quarry, apparently quarrying. It was resolved that the Council would contact the Enforcement Officers at both the County and District Councils asking them to investigate and report.

Despite there only being a short agenda the meeting did not conclude until 9.45pm with the majority of the time being spent on the issue of the Allotments.

Minutes of Special Meeting held on 28th March 2012

At this meeting the Council agreed to take part in the Portas scheme – see report in April Beacon. The Council will know by mid May whether or not the bid was successful.

Allotments

Members of the public had been invited to a "Public Consultation" Meeting on the evening of the 13th April. The meeting had been well attended and a paper on the questions/concerns raised at the meeting had been circulated to the Council. One question referred to possible problems over security of the allotments. The Clerk, who has experience of running other allotments sites, stated that there had not been any security issues at those sites. Councillor Martin Slinger confirmed that the proposed site would be clearly marked out so that residents could see the area involved.

The Chairman read out a letter of support received from David Crispin but said that the Council had also received a petition with 151 signatures opposing the allotments being sited on the Recreation Ground. The Conservation Society had also written objecting to the proposed siting of the allotments. Councillor Rob Lewis stated that other petitions opposing the allotments on the Recreation Ground were circulating in Painswick.

There then followed a long, and at times, heated debate on the next steps to be taken. It was pointed out during the discussion that the Parish Council had a statutory duty to seek to provide allotments if requested by the local community. Finally a proposal that a soil analysis of the area be carried out and if the report did not disclose any adverse features then a planning application for a change of use be submitted to the District Council. As part of the planning process the District Council would seek views from the local community thus extending the consultation period. This was proposed by Councillor Caroline White and carried by a majority vote with one Councillor voting against the proposal.

County Councillor's report

Joan Nash reported that as the call centre for Gloucestershire emergency service was to remain in Gloucester, the Council had bid for Government money of £1.8m and had been successful. The money will be available in the next few weeks but it will take several years to update the system.

The Council's Cabinet Member for Education has written to the Minister for Further Education expressing concern that students were not aware of the system for Student Finance. Council were seeking improved communication with both students and schools.

The Council has saved £700k by helping schools go green. Carbon emissions have been reduced by 4,600 tonnes. A "Low carbon conference for schools" is to be held.

The Olympic Torch is due to be carried through the County when students are sitting their GCSE exams. As it is important that students arrive at school on time the proposed road closures are being discussed with the police and highways.

DIY repairs to Damsells Lane had been carried out by persons unknown. The loose stones used were a potential hazard and GCC were urgently inspecting the area. An action plan would be produced.

The Cheese Rolling event would take place on the 5th June. Discussions on traffic arrangements on the A46 were being held.

NOT AN APRIL FOOL! The Government had issued in April a white paper on a "more flexible approach to mend pot holes". GCC Highways will be holding workshops to implement the changes.

District Councillors report

Barbara Tait reported that a dog control order was out for public consultation. The core strategy had been completed and had been passed to outside consultants to check the figures.

Providing there is easy access, all residents will be issued with a new Wheely Bin – see explanatory letter from Councillor Tait.

The Icelandic Bank have now returned £2.5m to the Council. There is a further £500k still with a bank in Iceland.

Olympic Torch/Jubilee Celebrations

The Chairman advised the Council that following various meetings it had been decided that the number of Marshal's needed had been reduced to 10. The Marshal's would now meet at midday in the Town Hall on the 23rd May. To date nobody from the public had volunteered

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NCCA MEMBER

to be a Marshal.

The road closures were still being discussed but roads would probably be closed 30 minutes before the torch was due.

There was a "Christian Bus" with bands on board travelling from Cornwall which would travel through the village 2 hours before the Torch was due.

The bundle of Olympic Flags supplied by the District Council would be delivered 14 days before the event. There was a need to purchase suitable flag holders.

The District Council would be cleaning the Streets both before and after the event.

It was proposed that the children be presented with a "Jubilee Medal". The Council were asked to consider contributing to the cost. However, it may be possible that Croft School could apply for a grant to cover the cost.

GRCC Vibrant Village of the year 2012

As the closing date for applications to be made is the 28th May it was agreed to defer this matter for consideration by the new Council.

Renewal of Fair Trade Status

The Council confirmed its commitment to Fair Trade and the use of Fair Trade produce throughout the village.

Ward Reports

Councillor Ela Pathak-Sen expressed concern over the closure of the Royal Oak and the impact this would have on St Mary's Street which was already experiencing problems with both the Shetland Shop and Kingsley House closed and under repair. Councillor Rob Lewis said that work was due to recommence on the Shetland Shop and a retail business would be opened. Similarly work would be finalised on Kingsley House and again a retail business would open.

Councillor Ela Pathak-Sen proposed that a letter be sent by the Parish Council to all households in the centre of the village asking them to plant their front gardens and keep the area tidy to assist with the Olympic Torch and Jubilee celebrations. Also invite children from Croft School to assist households needing assistance. This was agreed.

Councillor Ann Daniels had received a request from the Alms House Committee seeking financial support for a Jubilee party. Unfortunately the Association had missed the deadline to apply for a grant. To be considered.

At the conclusion of the meeting, retiring Chairman Terry Parker thanked District Councillor Barbara Tait, who was not seeking re-election, for her hard work on behalf of the Parish. He also thanked those members of the Parish Council who were not seeking re-election for their hard work in support of the local community.

Parish Council Election

The following were returned in an Uncontested Election:

Painswick (Painswick Ward)

Jason Bullingham
Ann Daniels
Rob Lewis
Ela Pathak- Sen
Anne Smith

Painswick (Edge Ward)

Martin Slinger

Painswick (Sheepscombe Ward)

Ian James

Painswick (Slad Ward)

Caroline White.

As a result of the uncontested election two vacancies exist for the Painswick (Painswick) Ward, one vacancy for the Painswick (Sheepscombe) Ward and one for the Painswick (Slad) ward

It is intended to fill these vacancies by means of Co-option, a method of electing councillors by selection by the Parish Council; this will be undertaken by the Council during a special meeting on the 6th June 2012.

If you are interested in becoming a Parish Councillor by co-option you will need to submit a letter of interest and a Curriculum Vitae (CV) to the Parish Council Clerk by noon on the 5th June 2012.

For more information, including a booklet on the role and responsibilities on being a Parish Councillor please contact me on 01452 812722.

Roy Balgobin, Council Clerk

Beacon clear-up - can you help?

The Beacon is a great open space that many of us enjoy – whether walking, riding, taking our dogs for a walk, golfing and other activities. Most of us come and go leaving no adverse impact from our visit. A few, less considerate sorts, leave their drinks bottles, snack and food containers, plastic bags, barbecue remains, and other litter, and there are one or two who cannot be bothered to take larger items to the council recycling centres and instead fly tip on the Beacon.



I would like to thank all those who pick up litter during the year – this really makes a difference. But rubbish can get blown off the well walked paths – particularly into the quarries round Catbrain.

So once a year, I am happy to organise a Beacon Clear up, under the aegis of the Parish Council. 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 3.00pm on Sunday 13th 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 (Tel 813228)

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Painswick Parish Council – Annual Report 2011/12

The year has been an eventful and productive one with a number of issues resolved. The Council received a grant of £49,000 from the County Council's Big Community Offer (BCO) which enabled major improvements to be carried out to the Town Hall. The improvements were necessary to meet the required standards so that the Community Library might be located in the Upper Hall. The Council has expressed its appreciation to the Community Library in Painswick (CLIP) Trustees for their achievement in bringing the project to fruition. There was further good news when the Youth Club BCO bid led by the Painswick and Stroud Local Ministries (PSALMS) team was approved. The grant will enable considerable improvements to be made to the Youth Club building which is owned by the Parish Council. Painswick Football Club will also benefit from the improved facilities. The Parish Council as well as the wider community was delighted to learn that its application for the Olympic Torch to be carried through the Village had been approved. The intention was that the Tourist Information Centre (TIC) would be located with the Community Library. However this did not prove achievable and the TIC is now located in the Parish Council's outer office.

Finance

Council Vice-Chairman Martin Slinger reports that the Parish Council has again managed its income and expenditure so that there has been no increase in the Council's local tax requirement for the 2012/2013 financial year. He expresses his thanks to Roy Balgobin who is responsible for maintaining the Council's finances. The audited accounts for the year ending 31st March 2012 are available for inspection in the Parish Council Office.

Planning

Cllr David Hudson reports that in 2011 the Planning Committee dealt with 107 planning applications of which the committee supported 80, objected to 18 and remained uncertain about the remainder. This year to 1st April the Council has received 34 applications of which total 25 were supported, 5 objected to with 2 uncertain and 2 still to be dealt with. The majority of the applications have concerned new building, extensions and the like. In the summer the Council was involved in trying to persuade the authorities to halt the excavating in Catbrain Quarry, however without success. The work has now been brought to a halt and the owner has been told to re-plant trees and hydro-seed the quarry face. The District Council as of 1st April has ceased to circulate planning applications and these will have to be viewed on the Web. Previously the plans were circulated amongst Members. However, it is more satisfactory to be able to study the actual drawings which always present a clearer picture.

Traffic

Cllr Burges Watson reports that 2011/12 has been an uneventful year end and that "the winter passed off smoothly, notwithstanding our preparedness. Hopefully the shovels and salt spreaders will continue to be ornaments in our sheds/garages! Highways did some investigation on the pavement in Gloucester Street with the aim of locating cellars. Hopefully they will now go ahead and complete this work. Patching work on the B4070 Slad to the Salt Box and surfacing dressing on Kings Mill Lane and Golf Course Road has been completed. Footway schemes were completed in White Horse Lane and on the A46 between Pincot Lane and Pitchcombe. A retaining wall on the B4070 in Slad was completed and on the routine maintenance front, grass cutting, gully cleaning, reinstatement of road marking/signage and pothole patching continued". Ann goes on to say that she wishes her successor well and is grateful for the good relations which have been established with the Highways Department. She says that she has "enjoyed the challenge".

Allotments

Councillor Caroline White reports that the Council continues to seek to provide allotments within the Parish. The proposed leasing of the Mop Tree site is on hold, pending the Parish Council's investigations into using a small section of the Recreation Ground to the east of the Youth Club building for allotments. Suitable soil testing and assessment, together with a planning application for Change of Use, is required prior to proceeding further.

Plantation Committee

Councillor Ann Daniels reports that at the Plantation Committee's April meeting, Mr Terry Fenton gave a comprehensive update on the progress with the Council's Woodland Planning Grant. The work is now halfway through the grant. Mr Fenton is acting as the Council's Agent for the grant. Work is ongoing with the help of the Parish Handyman, Mr George Hodder. This update can be viewed in the Parish Office. Squirrel damage continues. Ann says that she has seen deer in the Plantation during the past year. There has been no wall damage this 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 which is not very pleasant. Ann says that she hopes residents will continue to enjoy walking in the woods.

Footpaths Committee

The Parish Council continues to be grateful for the interest shown by parishioners who act as footpath inspectors and draw the Committee's attention to problems. The Committee has been discussing with the County Council's Public Rights of Way Department the introduction of stiles that

will be more walker and dog friendly.

The Committee Members wish to express their appreciation to Mr Douglas Robinson who has recently stood down as a co-opted member of the Committee.

Land and Buildings Committee

Councillor Slinger reports that the Cemetery is in good order with a considerable amount of work having been carried out to the trees. The Council has resolved to spend a limited amount of money in improving the St Mary's Street conveniences. The previously referred to improvements to the Town Hall include a new stair lift and the modernising of the toilets.

Parish Work Plan

Councillor Ela Pathak-Sen has continued to lead the Parish Work Plan team. There is an expectation that the new Parish Council will wish to continue to develop the plan with the aid of the local community.

Council Membership. The Parish Council has twelve seats. There are two members representing Sheepscombe, two Slad and one Edge. Councillors Caroline White and Jackie Woof represent Slad. Councillor Ian James currently represents Sheepscombe. Ian's colleague, Councillor Andy Cash had to resign his seat at the beginning of 2012 as he was temporarily moving away from the area. Councillor Martin Slinger represents Edge. Currently the seven Painswick Ward members are, Councillors Jason Bullingham, Ann Burges Watson, Ann Daniels, David Hudson, Rob Lewis, Terry Parker and Ela Pathak-Sen.

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. The Council members wish to express their appreciation for the work carried out by the Clerk to the Council, Roy Balgobin, his assistant Irena Litton, and our Parish Handyman, George Hodder.

This is my final report as Parish Council Chairman and I wish to thank my Council colleagues for the support they have given during the past four years. My particular thanks to the retiring Members, Anne Burges Watson and David Hudson who have chaired two of the most exacting committees, namely Traffic and Planning. Parish Councillors have an important role to play in the community and I am sure that the new Council will continue to provide a valuable, indeed, essential service to the local community.

Tery Parker, Chairman

Painswick In Bloom 2012



Now is the time to plant up your containers for a magnificent display in the months to come. 2012 is a year when most towns in the Country will be very colourful for the Olympic and Jubilee Celebrations.

Painswick is fortunate to have the Olympic Torch being carried through its streets on 23rd May. This will mean that there will be a lot of visitors lining our streets and possibly TV cameras covering the occasion. We should all try to make the Town as attractive as possible, whether we are on the torch route or not, so clean off your containers, hanging baskets and window boxes and get planting!

As most Painswickians know, the Horticultural Society has a Painswick in Bloom Competition each year for residential and commercial properties. This should give the extra incentive, if needed, to do your bit for Painswick. Judging will take place in July or early August. The Judge will be Jayne Morriss who judged last year's competition.

The priority at the moment is to make a really good splash of colour for the end of May and beginning of June for the Olympic and Jubilee celebrations.

Janet Crispin

Short Story Writing Competition

I very much regret that we are obliged to cancel the Short Story Competition. Unfortunately, we have received only two entry forms and one of those was from someone living in Gloucester! This is very disappointing. Whatever happened to all you budding authors?



Steve Friar

Painswick Open Studios

The Artist Studios in The Painswick Centre will be open on the weekends of 12th-13th May and 19th-20th May as part of Stroud Valley Arts 'Site 2012 Festival'. You can meet the artists in their studios and see an exhibition of their work upstairs in the Cotswold Room and Green Room.

Wearable Art Painswick = Art Couture Painswick

Some of you may have heard that there has been a change at Wearable Art Painswick; it has been renamed as Art Couture Painswick.

A new exciting name which we hope encapsulates the vision, ambition and inspiration of this premier annual event hosted by the Painswick community.

Under this new identity we hope that the event, taking place on Sunday July 15th, will be even more spectacular than last year.

SATURDAY 14TH JULY

Art Couture Painswick can announce here that on Saturday 14th July, there will be a mouth-watering festival-opening taster event taking place in St Mary's Churchyard, in the evening from 5:30 pm – 9:30 pm. You are invited to come along, to dine on some of the excellent local fayre on offer and enjoy an evening of fabulous local entertainment.

THE PRICE OF FRIENDSHIP

Where would we be without friends?

Art Couture Painswick is run by a growing band of local people, all donating their individual skills, commitment and vision to this project, for the benefit of Painswick. As well as relying on this army of dedicated Painswickians, we rely heavily on the generous support of our Friends, who through their generous annual Friend donations of £25 (single) or £40 (joint), help pay for all those unglamorous costs involved in putting the event together.

As well as the good feelings of local involvement and support for this fabulous event, Friends occasionally get invited to local get togethers, the next one being our not-to-be-missed cocktail party in May, again being sponsored and hosted by our very own incomparable Cotswolds88Hotel.

ART COUTURE STORAGE

We are still in increasingly urgent need of an on-going storage room in Painswick, for our growing body of Art Couture creations.

If you have an unused bedroom or similar dry space which we can put to good use, we would love to hear from you! We can provide hanging rails for the outfits and would just need occasional access when they are needed for exhibiting to promote Art Couture Painswick.

ENTRANTS

Even if you have only small creative stirrings within you, it is not too late to let them lead you down a path of inspirational creativity! The Art Couture competition is still open for entries for all our categories under our themes of 'Circus!', 'Food For Thought', 'Rough Diamond' and 'Head Candy'. The final entry deadline is 1st June and there are some amazing prizes to be won!

STALLS

July the 15th promises an exceptional array of amazing stalls around our streets and in the Painswick Centre, selling a dazzling mix of fantastic art, craft, produce and food. If you know of someone who would like to take a stall for the day, please make contact through the website below or come and see me at The Chairman shop for more details.

MUSIC AND ENTERTAINMENT

If you play beautiful music, sing, dance, juggle or are generally entertaining, why not make contact as we may have a slot for you at the show.

SPONSORSHIP

We are always looking for Sponsors to get involved with Art Couture Painswick. Local sponsorship is vital to keep the show on and this fun, creative, edgy and inspirational event could be a great promotional opportunity for your company.

HELP, HELP, HELPERS

More and more local people are joining the Art Couture Painswick group and many hands do indeed make lighter work! We always need more, however, to help with the seemingly endless amounts of planning and organisation required to put on the show, and to help with the myriad tasks needed to make the days run like clockwork. Whatever you can do to help in whatever way will be greatly appreciated by everyone.

THE WEBSITE

The new website address and beautiful new website is at www.acpfestival.co.uk and is your first port of call for any information you need and to make contact. If you prefer, you can also pop into The Chairman shop, Olivas or Painswick Fabrics and have a chat!

Chris Mercer

Other Jubilee celebrations and commemorations

The Queen's Lodge continued.....

You may remember that in the April edition of the Beacon the Friends of the Rococo Garden announced that they were intending to build a willow folly within the wooded area of the garden as a contribution to the Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations. Well.... we did it!

The designer and experienced willow sculptress Julie Starks erected the main skeleton of the 'building' early on the morning of Good Friday and then left a team of willing volunteers to complete the task. We worked hard throughout the Easter weekend and by the end of Easter day we had finished, thus avoiding the appalling weather on Easter Monday! During the process William Aspinall who is a documentary film maker, completed a time lapse record of the event so it can be seen to be literally growing out of the bare ground and it is hoped that this will be able to be shown to visitors to the garden.

The Lodge is sited in the garden's Nature Trail which also houses the newly introduced collection of species Ilex. This location was chosen as it sits outside the historic boundary of the original garden and is ideal for such a natural construction. Willow has been used for the structure because it is hoped that the main stems will root allowing it to develop into a 'living building' which will survive for many years.

This is the first new structure to be built in the garden since its original conception in the 1740s and we hope that everyone will take a detour through the woods to experience and enjoy the effects of nature on an apparently solid structure.

Vicky Aspinall

Fit For a queen

Join Gloucester Choral Society on June 2nd 2012, in the splendour of Gloucester Cathedral, to celebrate the 60th anniversary of Her Majesty the Queen's coronation in June 1953. In a vivid and varied programme, the starburst of Handel's Zadok the Priest complements Parry's glowing "I Was Glad", with its stirring shouts of 'Vivat! Vivat Regina!'. Movements from Vaughan Williams' Mass in G Minor, looking back hauntingly to Tallis, contrast with Walton's glitteringly modern Coronation Te Deum. Fanfares of burnished brass (Castle Brass provide the honours) set off the plangent beauty of S.S. Wesley and Herbert Howells. We close with Britten's striking setting of the National Anthem, a single, sweeping, soul-stirring crescendo.

Ashley Grote plays the organ and Adrian Partington conducts. A concert honouring both an extraordinary reign and the dappled splendour of English choral music. A perfect evening in a perfect setting.

Box office: call the Everyman Theatre on 01242 572573, Monday-Saturday 9.30am-8pm, or go online to <http://www.gloucesterchoral.com> and follow the links.

Rhoda Bamford, Publicity Officer

Jubilee Street parties - in the rain?

The Painswick Centre has advised the Beacon that The Beacon Hall and Green Room are available for pre-booking at discounted

prices by neighbourhood groups who may be worried that their Jubilee Street parties may be rained off. All deposits will be returned if the weather is fine. Tables will be set up in advance. Contact Jennie Barber on 07769182229.



Planting an oak tree in the grounds of Gyde House to commemorate the Queen's Jubilee.

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Your help is needed to make Painswick a 'Sparkling Diamond' Village!

Painswick Parish Council invites you to.....

Mark the Olympic and Diamond Jubilee celebrations by planting up your front gardens and window boxes, tidying up your road and creating a focal point of interest. If you live along the route and want to hang out bunting or the Union Jack please contact the Parish Council as we have some to distribute. There will be a special prize from the Parish Council for the best decorated house and front garden. Entry is free and is open to the whole village. If you particularly want us to come and look at your house please let the Parish Clerk know at clerkpainswickpc@hotmail.com or call 812722.

The theme is: A sparkling diamond!

Ela Pathak-Sen

Your Olympic Torch timetable Wednesday 23rd May

4.00 pm

approx: A46 closes between Pitchcombe and Brockworth. It is important to get parked before this time as cars will not be allowed through. Parents with school children do check with your schools what the arrangements are for school busses.

Free parking in the Stamages Lane Car Park and Recreation Ground. Disabled parking and Blue Badges are suspended for this period in the centre of the village and along the route.

4.30 pm School children and public arrive to line the route
Music, bell ringers, refreshments

4.45 pm

approx: Convoy and torch arrives

5.30 pm Festival of Games begins at the Recreation Ground
- all ages welcome

Sumo Suits, gladiator duel, various sports challenges from local clubs, tug of war, hog roast and much more!

To participate or run an event contact: Andy Harding, psalms.uk.net/ 07845460163



IF YOU WANT TO HELP IN ANY WAY PLEASE CONTACT ONE OF THE TEAM Terry Parker (812191), David Bishop (814205), Vicky Aspinall, Karen Goddard (812240), Ela Pathak-Sen (07595905414) Martin Slinger (07855162676) or contact the Parish Clerk (812722)

Ela Pathak-Sen

Painswick Lunch Club

Tired of eating alone? Why not join us at the Painswick Lunch Club on Tuesdays

and Thursdays at 12 noon. The meals supplied by the WRVS must be pre-booked and cost £3.50. Please call me on 813091 for further information.

Helen Baker



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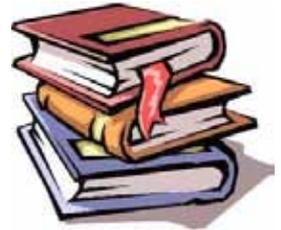
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Getting closer - Community library update

Considerable progress has been made over the last month. All the books from the old library have been unpacked and shelved. With considerable help from volunteers work has also started on processing your generously donated books so they can also be added to the county catalogue and then go on to the shelves.



If everything goes according to plan the new library should be opening in June. Now may be a good time to search for your Gloucestershire library card. If you haven't used it since the old library closed it may need renewing. The county library service offers the following advice :

Use the online update form on www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/libraries: phone the Libraries and Information helpline on 0845 230 5420 or visit a GCC library. If you are a new member you can use the online joining form on the above web site or follow the other routes given.

Look out for the opening date in the June issue of the Beacon.

Pat Francis, CLIP Trustee

Community Lunches 2011-2012

Thank you to all who have supported the lunches held each Monday from October to Easter at Ashwell House Centre from 12noon to 1.15pm. Special thanks go to the 20 different village clubs, societies and groups of friends who have provided the homemade soups, fresh bread and cheese each week.

Our Treasurer, David Linsell, says that there has been £1250 raised this season - similar to last year. This money will be distributed to the two local charities - Stroud & District Mencap Homes Foundation (to help upgrade their local homes to cater for the ageing residents) and Painswick Playgroup, in the grounds of Croft School (to help maintain their supply of toys & educational resources) - as well as to Christian Aid which has received support for over 30 years.

Although numbers supporting have not always been as great as in bygone years, we do think this 44-year-old village initiative should continue - and we hope to resume at the beginning of October. We would also like suggestions for 2 more local charities or good causes to support - with YOUR help.

*Rita Bishop (814205)
& David Linsell (812464)*



**Week - 13 to 19th May
Events at St. Mary's
Church Rooms:**

Salmon Supper 7.30pm Thursday 17th May
Tickets £12.50, including complimentary glass of wine, advance purchase necessary, call 812966 to book
CA shop open from 6.30pm
Morning Coffee, Ploughman's Lunches & Puddings
10am - 2.30pm Friday 18th May
Afternoon Cream Teas
1.30 - 4.30pm Saturday 19th May

CA shop open at the above events: Garden shop in rear courtyard - Napkins & Fancy Goods - Cakes & Preserves - Raffle

This year the UK Department for International Development (DFID) will match every £ raised in CA week, up to £5million, see more on: www.christianaid.org.uk. One more reason to come along!

Dylan Davies

Cupcakes for carers

We had a cheerful meeting on Tuesday 17th April during which Chloe from Revive gave complimentary hand massages to half a dozen participants amidst gales of laughter. I think she probably acquired some new clients because of this - so if there are any other therapists or beauticians in Painswick who would like to treat our carers to a taste of their skills, please volunteer and you may do yourselves some good too in the process!! We all hope Chloe will come back soon.



We now have quite a lively group of carers and friends from the village, and we all enjoy rummaging through the astonishing pile of useful tools that Andrea brings each time to help make some caring jobs easier. Dear reader, do drop in for a cup of tea and a cupcake and a chat with our carers, even for fifteen minutes at any meeting. They are purely sociable and involve no commitment. We love to see new faces, maybe make new friends.

The next meetings are in the Green Room at the Painswick Centre (which kindly subsidises the rent for us) on Tuesday May 25th, June 12th and July 10th from 1.30- 4.30.p.m. If you are a carer who finds these times inconvenient, please phone me or Andrea Linsell on 812464 as we could perhaps start a morning coffee group, if there is enough demand.

Patricia Burrows 813326

The future use of the Gardiner Room: ideas please!

In 2013, the Painswick Centre's ground floor Gardiner Room will become vacant when the retail outlet of the Gloucestershire Guild of Craftsman moves to new premises within the redeveloped Cheltenham Museum and Art Gallery. We will be sad to see the Guild leave, although we are pleased that they still plan to hold their Summer Exhibitions in the Beacon Hall.



The Trustees are considering how best to use this space for the benefit of the community taking account of its size and advantageous position. We would like to hear from any person or organisation with ideas and/or views on possible future use(s) of this space. Please contact Kate MacDuff (tel. 813718) with your views, ideas and comments.

Skittle Alley Improvements

In addition to being the home of several League Teams, including the Young Farmers and the Wickians, the Skittle Alley is increasingly being used by clubs and private parties for social events. The Trustees have plans for a range of improvements to this room and, therefore, we are very grateful to TalkTalk for their generous donation of £600 towards the costs. Bookings can be made on tel. 07769 182229

AGM News

At last month's AGM on 17th April, Jackie Herbert delivered her final Chairman's report before standing down after six busy years. She reported that the Trustees took some risks by reducing hire fees in 2010 but fortunately bookings in 2011 had increased and a healthy bank balance was achieved throughout the year. The Painswick Centre is wholly dependent on the income brought in from room bookings, bar receipts and tenancies, plus the fund-raising efforts of its Trustees and Friends. She observed that the Painswick Centre has additional expenses compared to our competitors in maintaining administrative standards in line with the national 'Hallmark' scheme, and holding full entertainment, music and alcohol licenses.

David Allott paid tribute to Jackie Herbert for the remarkable number of improvements achieved by the Trustees and Friends under her leadership, including a complete overhaul of the heating systems throughout the building, roof insulation, secondary glazing, new blinds and redecoration, new wooden floors and carpets, new chairs in the Beacon Hall, and new toilets at the front of the building. Jackie Herbert also thanked the Trustees who have worked with her, including Jacek Wolowiec, Simon Graesser and Charles Dorman who were also standing down after lengthy terms of office.

New Trustees have joined the Board of Trustees which now consists of David Linsell (incoming Chairman), Sue Lendon, Judie Hill (Treasurer), Kate MacDuff, Jane Rowe, John Rohrbeck, Mike Steed and Mike Hill.

Jane Rowe

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Kerry and the running ladies

Kerry Newell has impressive experience in the running business and now she is keen to bring it to Painswick for the benefit of local women. Over the last five years she has run with almost 500 ladies, many of whom had never run before. So why, and what are the benefits? As Kerry points out, many have been motivated initially by health or weight reasons but do not know how to begin. Kerry is highly qualified and is certainly the right person to get you started.



No matter what the initial motivator is, Kerry says that in the majority of cases 'her ladies' find that the benefits are numerous and wide-ranging and tend to have a positive effect on the whole of their lives. She likes to see their self-esteem develop as well as knowing that running is beneficial to women of all ages – flexibility, bone density, weight control, strength, general health etc.

Kerry's involvement with running follows two strands. She is a UK Athletics and Endurance coach and tutor. She coaches middle-distance runners at Gloucester Athletic Club some of whom she believes are probably the next batch of British Olympians. This is serious training for serious athletes requiring in-depth knowledge and planning skills. Kerry herself started running at age 13 with Cheltenham Harriers and five years ago completed a leadership and running fitness course with UK Athletics.

Her second strand, running with her ladies, is on a different level but requires as much knowledge on her part. She is happy to run her ten-week course with individuals or pairs of ladies on a one-to-one/one-to-two basis, but also likes to set up group classes – in April 40 arrived for her new course. Kerry plans the whole exercise carefully, understanding that many people are self-conscious and unsure at first. It is for women only and she emphasises the fact that the atmosphere is always open and friendly with a good balance of both social and focussed activity.

Kerry, who lives in Cranham with her husband and two children, would very much like to develop a daytime course in Painswick. For anyone wishing to get going on a one-to-one basis Kerry will design a personal programme. For a group course she proposes either Monday or Tuesday morning meetings starting with a gentle introduction.

Kerry is closely involved with Run England – an arm of UK Athletics – to get people running. She already runs the Cheltenham and Tewkesbury groups, is insured and supported by UK Athletics. The Painswick group would work to a totally professional exercise plan. If you are interested, you can contact Kerry on 813611 or newell.kerry@gmail.com. Come on, ladies, get running with Kerry and experience all the benefits for yourself.

Carol Maxwell

Stroud Choral Society at St Mary's

For many years, singers from Painswick and the surrounding villages have featured regularly in Stroud Choral Society.

This summer, they have the pleasure of returning to home territory with a concert in St Mary's Church on Saturday 16th June at 7.30pm. They will perform Faure's ever popular Requiem, as well as the Cantique de Jean Racine, together with the Dvorak Mass in D Major.



In recent years, the choir enhanced its quality and reputation under the inspirational leadership of Ben Nicholas, who has now been appointed as Director of Music at Merton College, Oxford. But the standard is continuing with the similarly professional and experienced conductor Huw Williams, formerly organist and choirmaster at St Paul's Cathedral.

Tickets priced at £10 (£2.50 for juniors) will soon be available from choir members or by phoning Stewart Price on 814241.

The Beacon archive

In this month, we reported

10 years ago

Unidentified heavy lorry knocks down the small round tower at the junction of Stamages Lane and Castle Hale Drive. The tower is thought to be the original feature of the fortified manor house.

Painswick Rugby Club put the icing on the cake of their promotion winning season by winning the Stroud Combination Senior Cup competition against Cirencester 15:0.

20 years ago

The Horticultural Society show will stage its 40th annual show on Saturday 12th September.

How old are the yew trees in the churchyard? "A history of Painswick" by St Clare Baddeley suggests 1792 was the year the first trees were planted however Samuel Rudder in a "New history of Gloucestershire" published in 1779 when referring to Painswick states "Yew trees laid out along handsome gravel walks in the churchyard"

30 years ago

Inconsiderate parking in Tibbiwell holds up traffic. No police officer available from the Pullens Road police station to sort the situation out.

Painswick Playgroup, which has been in existence since 1963, finds itself with no 3-year-olds this year for the first time. The Playgroup had recently moved to Gyde House and is concerned about numbers for future years.

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Woodwind at St. Mary's



After three near sell-out concerts in St. Mary's Church, the Music Society's final concert this season offers a rare opportunity to hear seldom performed woodwind music played by really top rated musicians – The Rose Trio – who made an acclaimed debut in The Wigmore Hall last year. They are, unbelievably, three sisters playing clarinet, oboe and bassoon.

Their programme of music starts with Mozart, who had a fascination with woodwind and wrote more than thirty pieces for various combinations of these instruments. It ranges through the music of seven other composers who likewise had a particular fascination for woodwind. They may not all be household names but they all occupy honoured places in the history of music. One, Benjamin Britten, whose intriguing *Metamorphoses after Ovid* for solo Oboe poses six conundrums as to the precise nature of the transformations he was creating – he might even have been teasing! Another is a contemporary composer, Edmund Jolliffe, who wrote *Call Me for The Rose Trio*; and yet another British composer is Gordon Jacob who wrote over one hundred pieces of music that are well known to student musicians and a number of authoritative books on composing. A rare occasion, not to be missed, particularly students of these instruments.

The concert, at St. Mary's, is on May 12th at 3pm; tickets £14, children and students £3, are available at the door.

Maurice Maggs



The Falcon - one year on

David and Viv Nott took over The Falcon on 23rd May last year and just to celebrate they have arranged for the Olympic Flame to go past the front door on the same day a year later. No they haven't, but what a great coincidence and a focus for a special first anniversary.

Little did they think, according to David, 'that The Falcon would become a buzzing hub within Painswick so quickly.' He adds that, thanks to the wonderful support of the local community, they have been able to invest considerably in the hotel over the past year both on the ground floor, the eleven bedrooms and indeed Shires where events and meetings are commonplace.

David would also like to thank his kitchen brigade, rooms team and those at the sharp end. Essentially, the team is more or less the same as it was when they first arrived. David proudly points out that they are special people who work tirelessly, have a total commitment to moving The Falcon forward and have enjoyed the challenge of watching it grow week by week.



From both a national and an international point of view they know they have also gained much support and many friends as can be seen from the reviews on sites such as 'Trip Advisor'. They are, of course, grateful to guests who have regularly submitted good reviews of their very positive experiences at the Falcon and this has encouraged more people to come and visit The Falcon and indeed Painswick.

On Wednesday 23rd May music has been arranged from 5.00pm. Do feel free to go along and join the birthday celebrations.

Carol Maxwell

Yew tree sponsorship 2012

Many thanks to all our sponsors! 96 trees have now been sponsored. To celebrate the success of the scheme may I remind you that all sponsors are invited to attend a reception on 11th May in the Church Rooms. The lunchtime reception will commence at 12 noon and the evening one at 7.00pm.



Nigel Burt

"Paws for Thought"

The Canine Art Society proudly present their first ever exhibition - to be held in the Cotswold Room, The Painswick Centre, Bisley Road, Painswick from 2nd - 9th June.

Seven artists from the Gloucestershire area have produced a varied collection of artworks, in a variety of mediums, depicting dogs of all kinds ...from pedigree breeds to foxes and wolves. All of the work is for sale and the exhibition is open 10am - 5pm everyday.

Chris Sinden

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Local History teaser

We pose two questions about this rather interesting photograph. First, are you able to name the couple standing in front of the house? Second, do you recognise the house? The name written on the back of the photograph is probably different from the current name, if indeed the house still exists. We should love to hear from you if you can offer any information.

Last month's picture was kindly provided by Mrs Betty Wixey and showed her father, Reg Mitchell, who lived in Vicarage Street, wearing the distinctive blue uniform of the Painswick Band. What happened to the instruments when the band ceased to exist remains something of a mystery.

If you have a photograph which you think would present a challenge to readers please do get in touch.



Romans, Telegrams and Lost Landscapes

The April meeting of the History Society was research evening when three members presented their findings on three very different subjects.

Barbara Blatchley, quoting the saying 'Scratch Gloucestershire and find Rome', based her talk on the many beautiful remains of mosaics and villas known about throughout the county. There is a wealth of Roman villas including several close by such as Witcombe and Woodchester, and, of particular relevance to Painswick, Ifold which was excavated in the 19th century and again by St Clair Baddeley early in the 20th century. Subjects depicted in the mosaics range from animals to gods to the seasons and in Cirencester the Romans even had a training school for mosaic production. There is, of course, the possibility that there are many more yet-to-be-discovered villas with their mosaics and Barbara's own theory is that most of the building materials from the villas were used long ago in the subsequent building of houses, including many in Painswick.

Trevor Radway gave a fascinating account of the history of telegrams, illustrated with some of the surprisingly beautiful designs used for greetings telegrams. In 1869 the Post Office was granted the exclusive right to send telegrams, charging 1/- for 20 words. Trevor showed a range of examples, including one from the Titanic, and also explained the vital significance of the service during both world wars. In 1935



greetings telegrams were introduced to emphasise the message that telegrams could bring good news as well as bad. They were delivered in gold envelopes and were very decorative. Different artists were commissioned to produce new designs which changed every few weeks and sadly very few remain. From time to time special one-offs were issued such as on the occasion of the Coronation in 1953. As modern communication systems gradually spread the telegram became less popular and eventually the service was put to rest in 1982.

Carolyn Luke gave an interesting demonstration of how the combined use of different sources of information can help to draw more valid conclusions about the landscape of the past. Focussing on the Washbrook, she used the 1839 Tithe Apportionment Survey to show how old field names can explain much about former activity and occupation. The 1820 Parish Survey shows various mills, now not visible, and indicates some uses such as either corn or cloth. Research by previous historians and analysis of earlier censuses also provides information about the locations and functions of former mills. By careful use of this range of resources it is possible to see the development of an area and to identify the extent of land and property ownership over a period of time.

On Tuesday, 15th May, the Society will visit Gloucester for another guided walk around this fascinating if somewhat neglected historic city. Meet at 6.00pm at the Cross – please inform us if you would like to come.

A Display for the Jubilee

As part of the Diamond Jubilee celebrations, Painswick Local History Society would like to mount a small display in the Town Hall during the celebrations. If you have any memorabilia, newspaper cuttings, anecdotes, photographs etc relating to any previous Royal Jubilees (Queen Victoria's, Queen Elizabeth II's etc) or the Coronation, which could be copied or borrowed for the occasion, please contact me (813387 or carolmaxwell@talktalk.net) or any member of the Society's committee.

Carol Maxwell

Fireworks display - an apology

I WRITE TO APOLOGISE PROFUSELY AND SINCERELY FOR THE DISTRESS THAT WAS CAUSED IN THE VILLAGE BY THE ABOVE EVENT – AND REALISE, TO MY COST, THAT IGNORANCE IS NOT BLISS!

I would like to say that Linda Lloyd (my partner) did not organise or plan the display – it was part of a surprise package I planned for her 50th birthday celebrations and the personal comments by your contributors should not be directed to her.

I circulated 120 letters under the name of Ms Lloyd, who is the owner of Court House, by way of giving notice to immediate neighbours and now realise that this was far from adequate or indeed within any bounds of what should have been sought or applied for. The professional company I engaged proved that they held all the relevant licences etc., their contract barred them from igniting fireworks after 11pm., and the display would be within the required UK guidelines. However, what ensued was beyond anything I had imagined or expected !!

I have left a message of apology to Mr Phillip Berry by telephone and offer the same apology to the others in the farming community. I can only hope that this will go some way to redeem my poor judgement.

THE PARISH COUNCIL AND THE VILLAGE AT LARGE CAN REST ASSURED THAT I SHALL NOT PLAN ANYTHING OF A SIMILAR NATURE EVER AGAIN! The only modicum of comfort has been the expressions of enjoyment by some people in the village, but for all that, I can only reiterate my apologies - the lesson has been learned and inwardly digested.

*Max Banham
Court House – Painswick.*

Editor's note: In view of the concern expressed by many readers in the March Beacon as well as by the Parish Council we considered it appropriate to print the above communication in full.



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Good Friday annual procession of witness

It was most heartening to have so many people gathering on the sunny Good Friday morning. About 70 people processed from Our Lady & St. Thérèse R.C. church, through St. Mary's churchyard to the roadside Cross by the Lychgate. Rev. Andrew Leach led the short service and this year the upgraded sound system was able to accompany our singing with organ music. We then processed up New Street, down Bisley St., St. Mary's St. to St. Mary's Church Rooms where hot coffee and tea and fresh hot cross buns awaited.

We are most grateful once again for the assistance of our Neighbourhood Warden, Carol Novoth.

Rita Bishop,

Secretary to Churches Together around Painswick.



The cross at the cross

Our thanks to Trevor Radway for the photos



Good Friday The Painswick

Every year The Painswick music in St. Mary's Church substantial audience follows music provides the ideal fra

This year The Singers' prog Williamson's Procession of Palm Sunday's events, foll of the Easter story in his Finzi's festival anthem Lo, t truly caught the contrasts a celebrations of Easter day.

This was a challenging un Singers are to be congratul themselves so well. They choir in recent years and thi anthem with all its difficult Etheridge, bass, a previous soloist, Julian Elloway mast organ and Andrew Hopwooc

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A leap of faith

Coincidentally, Pete Llewellyn sent us this superb photograph of a Roe deer stag, which he gave the title 'A Leap of Faith' with the following message: "We are very lucky to have such wonderful wildlife in the area and the title is more about protecting our environment ie, the faith our wildlife should be able to have in us for the protection of their habitat. I know its not normally something you would print or possibly be interested in but it shows a Roe deer stag at its magnificent best."

The photograph was taken near his home in Butt Green, Painswick on 28th March.

Record Numbers at Wonderful Wonderland

The Painswick Playgroup held its annual Easter fundraising event on Good Friday at the Rococo Gardens, welcoming a record amount of visitors from all over Gloucestershire, on a beautiful Spring day! The 'Alice in Wonderland' Easter Egg Hunt, in association with Hamptons, was co-ordinated by parents Emma Smith and Jules Rodgers, and has proved to be our biggest success ever, with a truly amazing £3,047 raised, the most ever achieved. Playgroup parents and Leaders delighted the large crowds with such delights as a superb Easter trail, 'The Mad Hatter Cake Stall', Face-painting, Chocolate tombola, raffle and many more exciting activities. There were also star performances from Tweedle Dum, Tweedle Dee and The Mad Hatter, who welcomed visitors with typical antics, while the White Rabbit was last seen running through the Maze with a large slice of carrot cake!

We again wanted to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to all the parents and staff who worked so hard to put on the event, but particularly to the local businesses, whose continued support in the form of sponsorship, time and use of facilities, is so vital to the Playgroup - we simply could not put on such an event without them or hope to raise such life changing amounts. So a BIG thank you to Lloyds Bank who have a matching scheme with us, Hamptons our sponsor, Rococo Gardens, Brand-In-A-Box, The Falcon, The Post Office, Moulton Haus, Cotswold 88, Painswick Beauty & Holistic Therapies, Painswick Golf Club, The Edgemoor Inn, The Richmond Salon, Jennie Barber and many more for your generosity and support.

The Painswick Playgroup is a non-profit making organisation with charity status, so fundraising is key to our continuation and ability to better the facilities. This year our focus has been a new roof for our classroom, and this amount of money is going to make it happen much quicker than we could have possibly hoped for. Thank you all so much, and here's to planning an even bigger and better one for next year! No pressure Mummies!



Mad Hatter Sharron

From photo by Chris Jack

Lizzie Gordon (parent)

with Rock Singers

Singers present a programme of seasonal choral music on Good Friday evening that attracts a large audience. This comes at a time of reflection and a new framework for such reflecting.

The programme consisted of three works: Malcolm Arnold's 'The Palmers', which had all the exaltation of the 'The Palmers' followed by William Lloyd Webber's telling cantata 'The Saviour', then finally Gerald Finzi's 'The Full Final Sacrifice', a trio of pieces that capture the starkness of events that lead up to the

undertaking for any choir and The Painswick Playgroup attempted on attempting it and upon acquitting themselves have become an ever more accomplished choir. The group showed in their ability to tackle the Finzi's complex rhythms and discordant passages. Brian Barber, conductor of the choir, was an outstanding conductor who overcame the complexities of Finzi's score at the end of the concert.



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Emma Johnson entrances

St Mary's Church was full for the opening performance (on 31st March) of the Society's 67th Season given by Emma Johnson, clarinettist accompanied by John Lenehan at the piano. Emma looked lovely in a black and white scalloped top over black trousers with boots which did justice to her petite figure. Her first selection was Premiere Rhapsodie by Debussy, a very dreamy piece, enlivened by almost mischievous passages. It had been set as an exam piece by Debussy and he made it very difficult. He then had the pleasure of judging the exam.

Emma continued with three Romances by Schumann. These were written for oboe and piano but work equally well for clarinet and piano. When he wrote them he was suffering from mental illness, and in places he seems to drift into a dream-like world of his own. Emma seemed at times to dance to the music, a Pan-like figure.

Next came a Duo for clarinet and piano by Weber. The clarinettist showed great breath control and it was a wonderful performance challenging both the pianist and the clarinettist with the continual inter-play. We were told it was very difficult for both artists.

Emma came on for the second half in a stunning new flame-like creation designed by an Australian representing coral. A clarinet sonata by Copland followed dedicated to a friend of Copland's who was killed in WWII. Bedtime Stories for Clarinet and Narrator took us all by surprise. Our programme said Tom Johnson (no relation) was a minimalist composer. Emma told a very short story and followed it by a very short illustration on the clarinet. The audience was entranced.

Her final piece, the Scaramouche Suite was originally written for two pianos. This was a grand finale and much enjoyed by everyone. A very popular encore followed by Gershwin. An excellent concert enjoyed by all.

Richard Burges Watson

Fountain thrills

The Painswick Music Society's second concert of 2012 was given on 14th April by the pianist Ian Fountain. We began with four pieces by Brahms from Op116 and 118 to give us a foretaste of an afternoon of bravura performances. A fiery opening made us sit up and listen and his swift changes in the romantic fashion from measured to virtuoso whetted our appetite for what was to come.

*Painswick
Music
Society*



Then Schubert's late sonata in C minor: again we opened with a rivetingly aggressive first movement before a more sombre adagio, a jolly but eccentric minuet and more hard pounding in a finale which was one long gallop up and down the keyboard which might have brought a standing ovation from a less restrained audience.

Many of the society's amateur pianists must have had a go at Mozart's E flat sonata K282. We got a lesson from Mr Fountain: his polish showed it up as a serious work of art and his final movement, taken at a (for most) breakneck speed has probably got a few old music cases opened.

Then something quite different, a composition by the modern Hungarian Zoltan Kocsis: a piano arrangement based on scenes from Wagner's fantasy opera 'Parsifal' with its religious and cultural overtones. Written as a show piece and beautifully played it was an attractive addition to the usual fare.

Finally Chopin's Scherzo in B minor. More sonata than scherzo it alternated fast and furious with slow and measured, contrasting melodies in the second part and another of those virtuoso endings. We didn't really want to put Mr Fountain down so he gave us a little Rachmaninov before he left. We liked it -- all

The final concert is at St Mary's on 12th May with the Rose Trio

John Parfitt

Birds of Cleeve Hill and far beyond



For a decade, Arthur Ball, local bird recorder, has studied avian populations at Cleeve Hill. On April 2nd at the Town Hall, he recounted his experiences and displayed quite delightful photographs of the many species to be expected in such varying terrain from areas of rough grazing, sloped or flat, to old quarries and copses, even a dew pond. Due emphasis was given to ecological factors determining populations, such as number and diversity of insects and spiders and of the seed-bearing flora, shallower gorse for the safety of stonechats et al. The yellowhammer has been so much less seen there and is down by 50% in a decade nationally and is thus "red-listed," sadly like 20% of UK birds!!

Lovely surprises were sightings of the goldcrest, high-ground hunting over horizontal spiders' webs, the sudden rise and dive of the singing skylark, the soft bubbling cry of the female cuckoo-or 300 rooks en masse, surely a raucosity, not a murmuration? And all this, was to be re-enacted on the Cleeve Hill Field trip with Arthur Ball on Monday 23rd April! "Songsters at Daglingworth" will be the subject of our next field trip on Monday 14th May at 9.45am, meeting at the Church (SO993051) when Martin Wright will lead us. The next excitement will be the residential trip to the Aberdovey Estuary (Friday 25th-Monday 28th May) Full details obtainable 01452-813823/813094.

Martin and Wendy Addy

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Gordon does it again!

It was Gordon Collins' eighth(!) visit to our Group on 12th April and it became clear once more why he has become one of our favourite presenters and a fixture in our programme. Not only his truly professional presentation of the highest quality of well researched recordings of music of a wide variety: some well known classical with others some of us had never even heard of before, but all most interesting.

A good deal of music for the piano - e.g. Ashkenazy playing Liebesfreud and Brendel Mozart's Piano Concerto in A; the violin with Jascha Heifetz playing Glazunov's Violin Concerto; and orchestral delicacies such as "In a Country Lane" from Eric Coates' "Summer Days Suite". Not forgetting some lovely singing: Ella Fitzgerald Gershwin's "By Strauss" and Kiri te Kanawa, accompanied by Andre Previn, Kurt Weill's "It was never you" - and what about Thomas Hampson singing "My yearning, my dreaming" from Korngold's opera set in the 19th century "Die Tote Stadt", unknown to most of us, but superb!

Roll away the months to Gordon's ninth visit!



Ralph Kenber

Herbs and spices give pleasure

Even those members of the WI at its March meeting who could be described as having a more adventurous taste, were pleasantly surprised by the innovative use of herbs and spices described by Natalie Hunt, the Speaker, who, as she admitted, has become passionate about them, and ways in which they can be used to further the business, the Selsley Herb and Spice Company, which she runs in partnership with her husband. Natalie is the innovator and 'test cook', responsible for introducing new and unusual flavourings in preserves, cakes and biscuits, (and gin!), which are sold at Stroud Farmers' Market, and posh shops in London, including Harrod's and Fortnum's. Throughout the most informative and enthusiastic talk, samples of the company's merchandise were passed around the audience, provoking remarks of pleasure and surprise at the ingredients. Natalie had used in them, to create tantalising and imaginative combinations. Natalie also gave a brief history of how herbs and spices had gradually been imported to this country from far-flung corners of the world, how at one time, peppercorns had almost literally been worth their weight in gold, and nutmeg having been in use the longest of all known spices. In the Middle Ages, the British and Dutch were vying for possession of the island of Rum, off the coast of Indonesia, because as the only known place where cloves grew, it was the most valuable real estate on earth. How the place of everyday products that we now take so much for granted has radically changed over the intervening centuries!

The WI's next meeting is on the 22nd May in the Church Rooms, when Anne Weare will give a bookbinding demonstration.



Maggie Drake

Royal Oak to close?

At the end of last month, due to the poor financial performance of The Royal Oak Keith Ayres was forced to close the door to the pub. He hopes that someone will buy the lease and re-open the pub for the community. Keith says that The Royal Oak is an old building that is steeped in history in a beautiful Cotswold town and asserts that Landlord after Landlord has sold it as they cannot make money running it. He asserts that the owners have failed to invest money in the maintenance and upkeep of the building, and it is now showing its age. Leaseholders/Pub Landlords have instead had to undertake repairs. His final hope is that the community of Painswick could buy the freehold.

Keith Ayres writes: "I have enjoyed my time at The Royal Oak and fell in love with the pub, my customers, Painswick and the area. I will miss it dearly. May I thank those who supported the Pub. I have been overcome by the love that has been expressed by many for me and the pub once they have learned that we have closed. I will leave behind many friends that I have made in the 26 months in Painswick.

"Blame for the failures is spread around a number of culprits, ranging from poor Pub Landlords, the Government, Cheap Booze in the Shops, the Smoking Ban and the Tied System run by Breweries and Pub Go's. However, there is really only one cause for a Pubs failure and that is 'YOU did not come into the Pub enough'. A local pub can only succeed if the Locals support the Pub. In simple terms the Pub will continue to fail and ultimately close forever because the locals do not care enough about the pub.

"This and other Pubs across the country have suffered from no investment or maintenance for over 30 years. To be successful The Royal Oak desperately needs to have money spent upon it to bring it up to standard.

"The future offers a means to save the Pub; the community needs to band together and buy the freehold. But again, do the residents care enough about the Pub? I hope you do or you will lose this historic Pub forever. If you want to be involved ring me on 07910253296".

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MP's Surgeries

Generally speaking, I hold a surgery once a week, either on a Friday afternoon or Saturday morning. I can, occasionally, also accommodate people at other times if they make an appointment but, obviously, this is less easy when Parliament is sitting.

The office in Stroud is a useful and popular venue. Not only is it centrally located in the constituency but it helpfully has all the facilities required including access to files and office equipment. It is also the base for the staff team.

I have also held surgeries in other centres of population, including Dursley, Nailsworth, Painswick and Stonehouse. These, too, are usually fully booked but often attract people from all over the constituency rather than just the local residents. To aid people to find the venue, maps are available on my website and we have a mobile sign to highlight the appropriate building.

Each surgery runs for two hours with eight fifteen minute slots. Most discussions end with a set of actions agreed, normally involving a letter to be sent to a minister, local authority or an agency. There is a wide range of possible subjects to cover and almost without exception at least one surprising issue or experience is brought to my attention during each session.

Recently, I have also started to do roving surgeries around the villages and smaller communities. These take place normally on Saturdays and involve three or four villages with predetermined meeting points. Pubs feature in this itinerary as well as village halls and car parks. These sessions are more often opportunities to discuss policy and politics as opposed to formal surgery session but are, nevertheless, just as valuable.

The roving surgeries are advertised on our website and information is made available through Parish magazines and other publicity outlets as available. I intend to do a roving surgery every month, having divided the constituency into four areas for organisational purposes.

It is essential that Members of Parliament are accessible to constituents with surgeries being an important mechanism for this to happen. If you would like to discuss the issues raised above, please contact me on 01453 751572 or visit my website – www.neilcarmichael.co.uk.

Neil Carmichael

Moulton Haus at Hoyland House

Moulton Haus, an independent estate agency, has established a brand new office on the ground floor at the back of Hoyland House. It is a family business, with Rod Moulton as Managing Director, sons Hugo and Tobi as Director and Negotiator and Caroline Crawford as Office Manager.



The team is proud of the fact that they offer a very personal service, tailor-made to suit the individual whether seller or buyer. They see themselves as a very local business – they live in Painswick too – and can offer great flexibility. Interested in the total range of properties, that is selling, buying and letting, they are happy to negotiate fees rather than work on an average fee basis. And, as far as possible, they use local contacts and businesses when necessary.

As a local independent business they know that immediate attention can be paid to every detail without the need to consult with other offices. As Hugo points out, 'It helps take the stress out of the buying and selling experience', which for many is, of course, a very important element. Everything is done in-house.

The business is established with considerable experience. Rod has an extensive background in mortgage financing so can give advice on all the financial aspects. Hugo is a qualified estate agent with formal training and prior experience elsewhere. Tobi is currently completing his training and Caroline organises the office, the PR and marketing. Furthermore, as an interior designer well-known in Painswick, she is on-hand to offer advice on presentation.

They are keen to develop more involvement with the Painswick community and are sponsors of the Art Couture first prize and the Cricket Club's new kit. They are also extremely pleased with their new premises at Hoyland House which they feel offer excellent consultation facilities and a welcoming atmosphere.

Carol Maxwell

Letters



The inclusion of letters, maximum 150 words, in these columns does not imply that the Beacon committee endorses the views expressed, or otherwise. Please supply the Beacon with your full name and address although such details will not appear in the Beacon unless you so request.

Keep us "Queen of the Cotswolds"

Audrey Timpson, a resident for 54 years, writes:

This summer is going to be an exciting one in Painswick, and lots of hard work is being done to welcome visitors to our lovely area. What a pity there are a couple of places which detract from our image as "Queen of the Cotswolds". Residents must be very fed up with the empty neglected shop in St. Mary's Street, and visitors unimpressed. Local traders need their custom, and without it Painswick will fade away even more. The Oak has closed, though I hope only temporarily, and the old bookshop is still vacant. When the new Council meets in May, can they put our future prosperity at the top of their agenda!

Recycling and wheelie bins

Cllr. Barbara Tait writes:

I think I need to clarify the statement in the April Beacon on the March Parish Council report concerning recycling, in that under the new scheme due to commence later this year, everyone will receive a wheelie bin, unless a) they have nowhere to store it, b) there are access difficulties, c) the location would be unsafe d) where the contractors could not access the site. In these cases a reusable sack would be provided. Disabled residents will continue to receive assisted collection.

More details will be given on this new collection process nearer the time.



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Industrial Painswick Walks

Twenty five Members and Guests assembled at (my house,) "Millcroft", Painswick, on Tuesday, 10th April for an Industrial Archaeology Walk: Rise and Fall of Painswick's Cloth Industry. This was led by Carolyn Luke of the Stroudend Tithing Educational Trust. We walked along Kingsmill Lane in bright sunshine to Kings Mill. We had been permitted to stand in the courtyard to see the building layout: Where the water was channelled to power the machinery. Kings Mill became a cloth mill making scarlet hunting cloth and billiard cloth until 1858. It then became a pin mill until after the First World War.

We walked back above Skinners Mill which incorporates a medieval hall. There were two water wheels and by 1787 a substantial three-storey structure. We know it was used as a flour mill in 1845 but by 1847 became rather dilapidated. By 1885 it was using steam power until the 1920, milling cattle feed.



Outside Kings Mill looking at Historical maps of it in the 17th and 18th Century - handed round by Carolyn Luke

We reassembled at Painswick Mill and were astonished to have sight of John Bailey's old photographs showing a dwelling house with a large mill with chimney in behind. There were two stocks, spinning house, dyeing house, furnace and tenter racks. By 1824 it had a 10hp steam engine three gig mills, a wool stove and seven floors for machinery. From being a cloth mill, it was used for making hook and eyes, silk and finally pin making until 1920.

We realised mills were very much part of Painswick's life and wealth, to the point of most of them ending in bankruptcy. We returned for a welcome soup and roll lunch, thanking Carolyn for enthusiastically giving us so much information on what is on our doorstep.

On Tuesday 10th April there will be a further Industrial Archaeology Walk: Rise and Fall of Painswick's Cloth Industry. This will be again led by Carolyn Luke. This walk also starts near "Millcroft", Stepping Stone Lane, Painswick, at 10.00am - actually at the junction of the Kingsmill Lane with Stamages Lane which is the road coming down from the carpark.

There will be a soup and roll lunch on our return to enable us to ask questions of Carolyn and discuss the mills and their history.

Joyce Barrus.

Excursion to the Dewstow 'Rock Landscape' Gardens and Caldicot Castle

On Wednesday 25th July, the Club has an excursion to Dewstow Gardens in Monmouthshire, which were originally designed in 1893 by James Pulham and Son, famous for such gardens as Buckingham Palace, Sandringham, and the RHS Garden at Wisley. The distinctive rocks around the old lily pond, pictured, are still to be seen today. After the original owner's death, the gardens became overgrown and buried by soil. In 2000, the discovery of steps leading down to a grotto and other evidence hinted at the garden's complexity. Subsequent excavation revealed far more than was ever imagined making Dewstow one of the most exciting horticultural finds in recent years. The spectacular gardens have been restored to an intricately landscaped network of rock gardens, ponds, water features, and grottoes. These fascinating gardens are featured in a fabulous new book 'Rock Landscapes - The Pulham Legacy' due to be published later this year. This garden visit is combined with a look around nearby Caldicot Castle, which was founded by the Normans and later expanded into a medieval stronghold. Today, the castle lies in a tranquil country park. The trip costs £24 (£27 non-members) and includes morning coffee and afternoon tea, with coach travel departing from Stamages Lane Car Park (9:20 am). Further details are available from tel 812692.

The Field Club's trip to Gloucester Cathedral and the former Dominican Priory at Blackfriars on Wednesday 9th May still has some spaces available. Coach travel from Stamages Lane car park (leaving 9:05 am), guided tours and lunch are all included in the price of £25 (£28 non-members). Further details tel 814570.

Shortly after, on Saturday 12th May, a walk with a geology theme follows, with a visit to Beachley Point on the River Severn, just below the first Severn crossing. In the afternoon, we move to Tidenham followed by a visit to a short section of the magnificent Lower Wye Gorge. For further details and travel information, contact me on 813228.

Jane Rowe

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Painswick Bowling Club One hundred years old

On the 11th May 2012, Painswick bowling Club, situated in the heart of Painswick village becomes 100 years old. The bowling green was constructed on land granted by a grand old lady, Mrs F S Williams, in 1906. She decreed that part of the land situated at the bottom of Bisley Street was to be used for the construction of the spacious Working Men's Club and Institute and a bowling green for the working men of Painswick. Mrs Williams also donated additional land to provide other recreational facilities such as rugby and cricket. To make room for the institute building, several old cottages had to be demolished – a decision which today might not have been without protest.

Both tranches of land were controlled by a Board of Trustees the one for the Institute and Bowling Club being chaired, until very recent years, successively by the current vicar of St Mary's Church, Painswick. It was some years before the Bowling Club had a proper club house so it was a convenient condition of being a bowling member that you also had to be a member of the Institute – not least so that bowlers and their opponents had suitable liquid refreshments in the Institute bar after the game, with the Institute benefitting from greater bar profits. There was always therefore a close relationship between the Bowling Club and the Institute but, with the changed circumstances of the Institute in 1998, the bowlers were able to have their own mini bar (built by a member) in the new pavilion, which had been completed in 1997.

Although the grant of land was made in 1906 the green was not opened until May 1912, partly due, no doubt, to the mammoth task of constructing it on a steeply sloping hillside without the benefit of modern machinery. The opening ceremony was carried out by the Club's first President, Mr F A Hyett, who in traditional manner bowled the first wood.

The bowling green and its surrounds were quite bare early on as no changing room, flowerbeds or 'the usual facilities' existed. Fortunately there was a patch of green at the rear of the green and, some years after the opening, bowlers were able to erect a small wooden hut on this patch so that they had somewhere to change their shoes (still very important) and take shelter when it rained. During the very early years, it was likely that the green



was cut by scythe – probably only once a week – by an expert who would charge a premium rate.

Although Edwin Budding, an engineer who lived in Stroud, had invented his first mowing machine as early as 1830, they were not in common use until the 1920s and Painswick is thought to have acquired its first mower (wholly manual) between the wars and it was not until the early 1960s that an enterprising bowler fitted a small electric motor to the machine. The improvement turned the blades but forward motion still required a strong back and pair of legs. Top dressing (a sand and humus mix applied to produce a smooth and level playing surface) was not readily available but there was an abundance of soot obtainable from local chimney sweeps – this was used as a cheap fertiliser.

During the '1939 – 1945 war, all citizens were encouraged to 'dig for victory' by growing vegetables in their gardens or on an allotment. This national campaign led to Painswick bowling green being earmarked for division into allotments. Fortunately the gallant ladies of Painswick, many with their men away at war, came together and formed a ladies' bowling section, thereby fighting off any such idea. It is said that one male member, seeing ladies bowling on the 'hallowed turf', remarked that it would have been better if vegetables had been planted!

Since those early days there have been many improvements within the club's boundaries: flowerbeds and paving have been added, a pop-up sprinkler system installed and, to crown all, a lovely new pavilion with a raised walkway was built in 1997.

The bowling club are making sure that

their centenary will be properly celebrated by arranging a special match with their neighbours – the Falcon Bowling Club – on the 11th May 2012 the anniversary of that first game. This will be followed by a celebration meal attended by current and 'retired' members. Three more special matches will take place during the summer involving 18 other clubs in the area.

Painswick Bowling Club prides itself on having good facilities and being a very friendly club. Anyone interested in joining is encouraged to try bowling for themselves and we have our own qualified Instructors. Please contact the Club Secretary – Mr Peter Ross on 01452 725310.

Rugby

Painswick win promotion in exciting win over Brockworth. Painswick 22 Brockworth 15

Painswick clinched promotion from Gloucester Division 1 with an exciting win over Brockworth in front of a huge crowd at Broadham. They must wait to see if their neighbours win their remaining fixture at Cheltenham Saracens to see who wins the league title.

Playing uphill Painswick started positively and a superb lineout drive from the forwards created the space for skipper Aussie Gidley-Smith to race over for a try converted by Njk O'Neil. Brockworth fought back well and sustained pressure led to 2 penalty goals. Painswick stormed back up field and fly half Dom Barnard spotted a huge hole in the Brockworth midfield and passed to Gidley Smith who powered through the gap and although tackled well 5 metres out forced his way

Rugby continued

over for an excellent second try which O'Neil converted superbly. Painswick extended their lead when alert hooker Ripper Russell, took a tap ball at the front of the lineout, committed his opposite number and fed Matt Coombs on the burst on the blindside allowing the flanker to score a trade mark try in the corner, giving Painswick a 19-6 half time lead. To their credit Brockworth battled back in the second half but were unable to breach the Painswick defence in which the backrow of Coombs, James Hall, and Paul Craddock were outstanding. They secured 3 penalties to 1 from Painswick to give the visitors a valuable bonus point whereas Painswick were unable to score a fourth try in their quest to secure an extra point for the league title.

In an exciting and evenly matched game in most areas it was the strength and penetration of centres Gidley-Smith and Jake Saunders that made the difference for Painswick.

Badminton

The 2011/12 Annual Tournament was held on Monday 26th March.

Twelve players entered - seven men and five women.

Following the 14 round robin mixed matches the best man and second woman played the second man and best woman. After a close, best of three games final, Djon Parrotte and Debbie Towersey overcame Roy Woodward and Julia Richardson (see photo).



Painswick Golf Club

The summer golf season is now in full swing, even if the weather has yet to catch up! We have seen some excellent days for golf in March, even if April has become a little colder. If you would like to try out the unique golf course in Painswick, you will be most welcome - please contact the professional Marc Cottrell (01452 812615) for details. If you are over 55, you will be most welcome to join the seniors section - please contact Peter Rowe (813228) for more details.

For the seniors, the last competition of the winter season was completed with the last round of the "winter fourball" - in which one round of golf takes place each month from October to March. The best five scores count and the winners were Mike Carter and Pete Cruse with a total of 244 points, with Nigel Barnett and John Courts runners up on 238 points. On 5th April, the seniors section held their annual Arthur Paget Trophy - a stableford competition which Duncan Toase won with a score of 37 points. Congratulations to all the winners.

Tennis

Painswick Tennis club celebrates its 50th anniversary this year starting as a small village club with two courts on the recreation ground to one of the largest clubs in the county boasting 8 courts with the six at Broadham Fields floodlit and a recently built Clubhouse also at Broadham.

The Club caters for all abilities with a selection of club nights and afternoons and a range of tournaments throughout the year. The Painswick Tennis Academy provides junior and adult coaching to suit all ages.

This season the club has entered 6 men and 6 ladies teams in the Gloucestershire summer league and junior teams covering the various age groups in the Gloucestershire junior leagues.

The Club also arranges social events during the year ranging from BBQ's to more formal dinners.

New members

Now is an excellent time to come along to see what is happening with no commitment. Just ring Ruth Smith on 01452 813693 or pop along on a Tuesday evening at 7.30 with your racquet. Prospective juniors should contact Sharon Hall at the Tennis academy on 07766 73239.

Anniversary Ball

To celebrate the 50th anniversary we are holding a ball in a marquee at Broadham on Saturday 15th September. Everyone is welcome. Please contact Joan Griffiths on 01452 812804 for details and tickets.

Cricket

Painswick Cricket Club wishes to express its appreciation to the estate agents Moulton Haus for their sponsorship, and also to Paul Morris and Valley Trading who have sponsored new 2nd XI shirts, as well as to Solicitors Leigh Young (3rd XI shirts) and the Painswick Pharmacy (4th XI shirts).

The new season is underway with the second eleven at home to Cinderford today and the first eleven away at Cheltenham. The 3rd eleven has a match against Minchinhampton. Tomorrow brings the first round of the Village Knock-out Cup with Painswick at home to Bredon. Next Saturday Painswick has a league match against Winsley. Prior to the game the club is hosting a Vice-Presidents' lunch.

Chairman Ian Hogg, tells the Beacon that the club has engaged a new overseas player. Alex Antoine is an all-rounder from the West Indian island of St Lucia. Painswick players and supporters wish Alex a successful season.

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I thought it might be helpful this month to do a catch up on local news of "what's out there". In these times of cut backs I am really happy to tell



you that Stroud District Council have some budget available to be able to fund free loft and cavity wall insulation and there is some funding (typically 40%) towards external wall insulation. The scheme is being managed by "Warm and Well" who will organise a free no obligation survey for you and the work is being carried out by Domestic and General. Call 0800 500 3076 to find out if you could qualify.

There is an exciting new project starting in conjunction with G.C.A.B (Gloucestershire County Association for the Blind) and GDA (Gloucestershire Deaf Association) who will be running joint clinics together in the Stroud Area. As you can imagine this would have a huge impact on the lives of people who find it difficult to travel to Gloucester or Cheltenham, especially the elderly.

You will be offered hearing aid maintenance, advice on listening equipment and the services provided by GDA. GCAB will be offering advice and guidance to the visually impaired. There is no charge for this service, however donations are very welcome. The clinic will be held at the Subscription Rooms in Stroud Thursdays 10am-1pm; 3rd May, 7th June, 5th June, 5th July, 2nd August, 6th September, 4th October, 1st November, and 6th December.

Do you long for the dreamy sounds of a big band on a glorious summer's day? Wait no more because I am very pleased to tell you that Saturday 16th June will see a Grand Jubilee Tea Dance at Churchdown Community Centre with a live 18 piece big band and an indoor street

party atmosphere to celebrate the Jubilee. The event has been organised by Alzheimer's Society and is open to anyone

with or without memory concerns, their family and friends. Following hot on the heels of Dementia Awareness Week it is hoped that many people will be able to come along with their families and enjoy an afternoon out together. The event is being held between 2-4pm, and you don't even have to dance if you don't want to, just go along and soak up the atmosphere. Tickets are £5 for adults and £3 for children, to include an afternoon tea served at your table. Free parking is available at the centre with easy access for wheelchair users. You can get tickets from the Gloucestershire office of the Alzheimer's Society.

Last and not least is a plea on behalf of the Lunch Club held at Ashwell House in Painswick on a Tuesday and Thursday. At the moment the club is attended by 4 gentlemen who would love more company. This has to be a win win situation! I know all 4 men and I can guarantee you that if you are willing to take the plunge, you will be very welcomed, be in great company, with good conversation. So ladies and gentlemen, please join them so that the club can continue to provide such a great service. It costs £3.50 which needs to be paid in advance. If you feel a little nervous about going alone or need to arrange transport, please give me a call.

Lou Kemp: Tel 07776 245767

BEACO-DOKU

Last month's word referred to change in the weather, as it had **W-A-R-M-E-D** up a little.

D	E	W	R	M	A
A	M	R	W	E	D
E	W	A	D	R	M
R	D	M	E	A	W
M	R	D	A	W	E
W	A	E	M	D	R

What followed, apart from much needed rain, was a blooming of many a **F-L-O-W-E-R**. Can you find the eighteen hidden sets of the word across/down/in the inner boxes?

		R			E
	O		R		
		E		W	
W				E	
			E		
		L			

Warm and Well: 0800 500 3076
GCAB 01242 221070
GDA 01452 372999
The Gloucester Alzheimer's Society 01452 525222.
Painswick Lunch Club, Helen Robinson 01452 813091

PROPERTY REPORT for April from Murrays

Murrays have had a particularly successful last couple of months after rather a slow start to the New Year. We have seen a huge increase in new instructions and many of these going under offer within the first week of marketing! We are also delighted to announce that we are expanding our lettings department and taking on the premises next door to our Stroud Office.

The housing market has definitely picked up around Gloucestershire and is looking very hopeful for the year ahead. Nationwide have announced that there has been a drop in house prices in March of 1% but they blame the end of the "stamp duty holiday" for first time buyers that was confirmed in the recent budget. Up until the end of March first time buyers did not have to pay stamp duty on a property of up to £250,000 but now they do which has put the odd buyer off. However they have also announced that 7 out of 13 UK regions including Gloucestershire have recorded annual price growth, which due to the amount of activity that we have seen recently certainly reflects this.

We have taken on a lot of new property recently including 3 Hambutts Cottages, a pretty 2 bed in need of work in Painswick (already under offer), 8 Canton Acre, a well presented 3 bedroom with large garden (already under offer) 2 Sunny Terrace a pretty

2 bed cottage off Vicarage Street, Torwin, a newly renovated and extended 4 bed on Cheltenham Road, 7 Stroud Rd, a well presented 3 bed with stunning views, Englewood, an immaculate modern 4 bed in Cotswold Mead, Woodcote, a spacious modern 4 bed in The Highlands with lovely garden and views, Green Bank, a spacious detached 3 bed bungalow with large garden on The Green in Edge, 2 Foxbury Cottages, a 3 bed cottage in need of modernisation in Sheepscombe (already under offer) Bunnage Farm, a lovely detached 5 bedroom house close to Sheepscombe, Lytham Cottage, a spacious bungalow in Cranham with lovely views and 2 Staites Orchard, a substantial 4 bed family house in Upton St Leonards.

The properties that are currently under offer include 8 Canton Acre, 3 Hambutts Cottages and Woodham Cottage in Tibbiwell, all in Painswick, 7 Church Close in Cranham and 2 Foxbury Cottages in Sheepscombe. The properties that have now sold are 2 Hill View on Gloucester Street Painswick, 8 Churchill Way in Painswick, 32.5 acres of land at Holcombe and 7 Callowell Cottages in Callowell.

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MAY			
Sat	5	Drama Workshops run by Red Dog for Painswick Players - details Tel: Jean Burgess, 812167	P. Centre, Cots. Room 10.00am to 1.00pm
Mon	7	Short Mat Bowls - Mondays (contact 813627) Yoga (Mondays) contact Kim 812623	Town Hall 10.30am Sheepscombe Vill. Hall 6.30 to 8.00pm & 8.15 to 9.45pm
		Painswick Community Choir - Mondays (Enquiries: Sophie 01453 298138)	Painswick Centre 7.00 to 8.30pm
Tue	8	Bingo: Tuesdays – Tel. Ann, 813911/Liz, 813139	Ashwell House 6.30 to 9.00pm
Wed	9	Cotteswold Naturalists' Field Club Guided Coach Trip: Gloucester Cathedral & Blackfriars. Enq. 814570 Yoga (Wednesdays) contact Kim 812623 Probus: The Improbable Story of the Gutenberg Bible - Chris Arnison Table Tennis (Wednesdays) - Enq. 812464 Horticultural Society: AGM, followed by talk: The Pyrenees in June - Sue Smith/Sue Dodd	Stamages Car Park 9.05am Sheepscombe Vill. Hall 9.30 to 11.00am Painswick Centre 10.00am Painswick Centre 7.00 to 9.00pm Town Hall 7.30pm / 8.00pm
Thu	10	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 Music Appreciation Group: Members' Night & AGM	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	11	Country Market - coffee available - Fridays Friday Club: Late Spring Outing - Malvern RHS Spring Show	Town Hall 10.00am
		Salsa Classes - Fridays. Info. Tel: 01242 708067	Painswick Centre 8.00 to 10.00pm
Sat	12	Joint Field Club & Glos. Geology Trust Walk: Beachley Pt., Tidenham & Lower Wye Gorge. Enq. 813228 Painswick Open Studios & Exhibition - Stroud Valley Arts 'Site 2012 Festival' (Also Sun. 13th) Painswick Music Society Concert: Rose Trio	Stamages Car Park 9.00am for 10.00am Painswick Centre Daily St Mary's Church 3.00pm
Sun	13	Painswick Beacon Clear-up: Details Peter Rowe 813228 Christian Aid Service	Catbrain Quarry C. Park 2.00pm Cranham Church 6.30pm
Mon	14	Bird Club field trip: Songsters at Daglingworth with Martin Wright. (SO 993051)	Daglingworth Church 9.45am
Tue	15	Cupcakes for Carers Local History Society - Annual Outing	P. Centre, Green Room 1.30 to 4.30pm Gloucester 6.00pm
Wed	16	Annual Meeting Parish Council	Town Hall 7.30pm
Thu	17	Christian Aid Salmon Supper & Shop	Church Rooms 6.30 to 9.00pm
Fri	18	Christian Aid Coffees, Lunches & Shop	Church Rooms 10.00am to 3.00pm
Sat	19	Copy Date for June Beacon Painswick Open Studios & Exhibition - Stroud Valley Arts 'Site 2012 Festival' (Also Sun. 20th) Christian Aid Cream Teas & Shop	Painswick Centre Daily Church Rooms 1.30 to 4.30pm
Tue	22	Cupcakes for Carers Yew Trees WI: Book Binding Demonstration - Anne Weare	P. Centre, Green Room 1.30 to 4.30pm Church Rooms 7.30pm
Wed	23	Probus: Fools & Corsets - Lorraine Parsloe Olympic Torch passes through Painswick Village Festival of Games: All ages welcome	Painswick Centre 10.00am New Street 4.45pm approx Recreation Ground 5.30pm
Fri	25	Friday Club: Computers - Age UK Bird Club Residential Field Trip to the Aberdovey Estuary - details Tel: 813823 (01452)	Town Hall 2.30pm
Sat	26	Horticultural Society: Spring Event to Ridleys Cheer, Mountain Bower, Chippenham & Supper at Miserden	Stamages Car Park 2.00pm
Tue	29	Painswick Players Playreading	P. Centre, Green Room 7.30pm
JUNE			
Fri	1	Country Market: Free Tea / Coffee & Cake	Town Hall 10.00 to 11.00am
Sat	2	June Issue of The Painswick Beacon published	



		"Paws for Thought" - The Canine Art Society's 1st ever Art Exhibition. (From 2nd to 9th daily)	P. Centre, Cots. Room	10.00am to 5.00pm
		Celebration of Flowers to mark the Jubilee. Also Sun. 3rd & Mon 4th. (Friday Street)	Catholic Church	10.00am - 4.00pm daily
Sun	3	Churches Together around Painswick Jubilee Service Big Jubilee Lunch - Stalls, Activities, Jubilee Photo, Jubilee Cake etc.	St Mary's Church St Mary's Churchyard	11.00am From 11.00am
Wed	6	Cotteswold Naturalists' Field Club Guided Coach Trip: Coughton Court & Ragley Hall. Enq. 01453 873419	Stamages Car Park	9.05am
		Probus: Gertrude Bell, Forgotten Heroine of the British Empire - Jan Long	Painswick Centre	10.00am
Fri	8	Friday Club: Diamond Jubilee Tea Party - President's Meeting	Town Hall	2.30pm
Tue	12	Cupcakes for Carers	P. Centre, Green Room	1.30 to 4.30pm
Wed	13	Cotteswold Naturalists' Field Club Lecture: Cotswold Quarrying: Painswick to Nailsworth - Arthur Price (813228)	Painswick Centre	7.30pm
Mon	18	Bird Club Field Trip - Cotswold Water Park: 'Hobbies at the Water Park' with P. Williams. Spine Rd junct./A419	Gateway Centre	10.00am
		Cotteswold Naturalists' Field Club Butterfly & Botany Walk at Daneway Banks GWT Reserve. Enq 812942	Daneway Banks	2.00pm
Tue	19	Horticultural Society Outing to Pershore Horticultural College	Stamages Car Park	1.30pm
		Local History Society AGM & talk: Previous MPs for the Stroud Constituency - David Drew	Croft School	7.30pm
Wed	20	Probus: Hidden Wonders of Korea - Matthew Jackson	Painswick Centre	10.00am
Fri	22	Friday Club: Floral Art on a Budget - Jayne Morriss Sheepscombe Ball	Town Hall	2.30pm
Sat	23	Theatre Club Outing to Bath	Stamages Car Park	11.30am
Sun	24	Croft School Summer Fair	Croft School	
Tue	26	Yew Trees WI: Environmental Health - Keith Tett Painswick Players Playreading	Church Rooms P. Centre, Green Room	7.30pm 7.30pm
Thu	28	Horticultural Society Outing to Berry' Place Farm, Churcham & Westbury Court Garden	Stamages Car Park	12.00noon

JULY

Wed	4	Probus: Right People, Right Time, Right Place - American Museum in Bath - Judy Grant	Painswick Centre	10.00am
		Cotteswold Naturalists' Field Club Lecture: Gloucestershire's Wildlife - Philip Mugridge. Enq. 813228	Painswick Centre	7.30pm
Fri	6	Friday Club Summer Outing to Weston-Super-Mare		
Mon	9	Cotteswold Naturalists' Field Club Botany & Conservation Walk, Painswick Beacon. Enq 812942	Cemetery Car Park	10.00am
Tue	10	Cupcakes for Carers	P. Centre, Green Room	1.30 to 4.30pm
Sun	15	Wearable Art Painswick	Village	
Wed	18	Probus: Ladies Summer Lunch		
Thu	19	Theatre Club Outing to Oxford Painswick Players present 'Last Tango in Painswick' - also 20th & 21st	Stamages Car Park Painswick Centre	11.30am 7.30pm
Tue	20	Friday Club: A Presentation by Waitrose	Town Hall	2.30pm
Tue	24	Yew Trees WI: Wild Flowers of Cyprus - Rosemary Westgate	Church Rooms	7.30pm
Wed	25	Cotteswold Naturalists' Field Club Guided Coach Trip: Caldicot Castle & Dewstow Gardens. Enq. 812692	Stamages Car Park	9.05am

AUGUST

Sat	11	Friends of Rococo: Picnic in the Garden	Rococo Garden	6.15 to 9.30pm
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Entries for the Village Diary should be sent direct to **Eddie Buttrey at: em-m.buttrey@virgin.net**

While we are only too pleased to publish dates of forthcoming events as far into the future as organisers wish, and space permits, we may in future delete those which refer to recurrent weekly meetings at the start of the next month if such prevents us from including periodic events many months hence.

We urge those organising weekly events/meetings to use our other columns to make short reports and highlight their having frequent events.



PLANNING MATTERS

A summary of information from the Parish Council
NEW APPLICATIONS

WHYTEWALL END, Stamages Lane. Proposed orangery and loft conversion.
THE OLD VICARAGE, Edge Lane, Edge. Single storey side extension.
NUTGROVE HOUSE, New Street. Proposed refurbishment of existing apartments including minor demolition and rebuilding, and extension and refurbishment of existing outbuilding.
4 COLDSTREAM COTTAGES, Sheepscombe. Retrospective application for the removal of an internal wall.
THE MALT HOUSE, The Green, Sheepscombe. Extension to kitchen signal level, raise roof line to west elevation to main building, and continue roof line of main house to end of southern elevation.
BAY TREE HOUSE, Far End, Sheepscombe. Reduce height of Alder tree by 10' and allow to grow as screen.
GRAYS, Far End, Sheepscombe. Willow - Re-pollard. Sycamore trees - Cut remaining poles to ground level.

CONSENT

THE STABLE EDGE FARM, Edge. Installation of a new stone-framed casement window to the north face façade in the stable block.
BUTT HOUSE, Butt Green. Revisions to approved application S.11/1235/LBC - log store, flue to living room; rooflights and solar panels to rear elevation; opening between existing entrance hall and reception enlarged with double doors and part demolition, reconstruction and part repairs to front boundary wall.
BUTT HOUSE, Butt Green. Revisions to approved application S.11/1234/HHOLD - Revised external works to entrance and garden, introduction of bin store, log store, flue to living room; rooflights and solar panels to rear elevation; opening between existing entrance hall and reception enlarged with double doors and part demolition, reconstruction and part repairs to front boundary wall.
LULLINGWORTH, Stroud Road. Revised application following S.10/1819/FUL. Conversion of former disused telephone exchange to dwelling including site works and extensions.
HIDEAWAY, Stamages Lane. Erection of rear balcony and conversion of first floor rear window to sliding doors.
MILLCROFT, Stepping Stone Lane. Proposed extension to form double garage.

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Joyce Barrus, Millcroft, Steppingstone Lane, Painswick GL6 6RU

CAROUSEL, Slad Road, Slad. Extension to north side of existing dwelling, raise ridge height of existing roof and re-configuration of vehicular hardstanding.
RAMBLER COTTAGE, Sheepscombe. Norway Spruce. Complete removal. Tree is too large for its position.

Police Report

Alexa Collicott, Media and Communications Officer for Gloucestershire Constabulary reports that Police patrols are increased around Painswick Beacon, following a series of grass fires there earlier in March. Hugh Beamish, Inspector of Ancient Monuments for English Heritage, said: "As a Scheduled Ancient Monument Painswick Beacon is protected under the 1979 Scheduled Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act". The fine for damaging the special interest of the SSSI can be up to £20,000. Officers would like to hear from anyone with information about these incidents. Anyone who can help the investigation should ring 101 quoting incident number 144 of March 9. Information can also be given anonymously via Crimestoppers on 0800 555111 or via www.crimestoppers-uk.org.

She also reports that between 5th and 10th April metal heras fencing was stolen from a building site on the Stroud Road in Painswick. Anyone with any information about the theft is asked to call the non-emergency number, 101, quoting incident number 48 of April 12.



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Mark Hammond invites his friends to celebrate the sounds of the sixties. At the Beacon Hall, Painswick Centre, Friday 11th May. Featuring a live act and disco. Bar 8pm-midnight. Period dress optional

John Lewis Guest Bed - Single bed with extra single bed on castors beneath. Includes 2 mattresses £80. Call 07773 795 072

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The Personal Column

Jenny Gaugain

You could help Jenny Gaugain, if you would relay information about those you know and for whom a mention in the Personal Column would be appreciated.

Condolences

Our sincere sympathies to the family and friends of GEORGE WARREN and JOHN WATSON who have died recently

Engagement

John and Diane Longuet-Higgins are delighted to announce the engagement of their eldest son PHILIP to KATHERINE HOLDEN of Aller Park, Devon. The wedding will take place in Painswick in September 2013.

Personal messages

JOAN WOOD of Gyde Road would like to thank her family in Canada and all her friends and neighbours for all their lovely cards and gifts on her ninety fifth birthday, "I am so grateful to you all"

Personal messages cont.

GILLY PADBURY would like to thank all her friends in Painwick for their kind expressions of sympathy on her mother's recent death.

Nora M Regan writes: I was very saddened to hear that our much loved DR CANDY JANSEN is to retire early. We have been so fortunate in Painswick to have had so many dedicated and outstanding Doctors ~ such as Dr Tinker and Dr Hoyland and many others ~ Dr Jansen is there amongst the very special ~ held in high esteem and affection ~ she is irreplaceable and will be greatly missed ~ I am sure we all wish her every happiness in the future.

Lucy helps in Uganda

This summer Lucy Speed will be flying out to Uganda for a month to take part in Leeds Uni's RAG Uganda Project in collaboration with the charity Soft Power Education. The charity's primary objective is to work with communities in Uganda to improve quality of life through education, and every single penny donated to Soft Power Education goes towards refurbishing and upgrading schools in Uganda.



the Ugandan Government that when they build an extra classroom, the government will try and provide an extra teacher.

Whilst in Uganda Lucy will be helping to build these classrooms, and any money she raises will go directly towards covering the cost of the building materials required, so any donations no matter how small will be greatly appreciated.

Making a donation is easy; just go to www.justgiving.com/lucy-speed. This is a simple, fast and totally secure way of giving, and Gift Aid is reclaimed on every

eligible donation by a UK taxpayer. Money donated this way goes directly to the charity. Alternatively there is a collection tin in the Post Office (where Lucy sometimes work during the holidays).

Lucy would thank you so much.

Joyce Barrus

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

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