

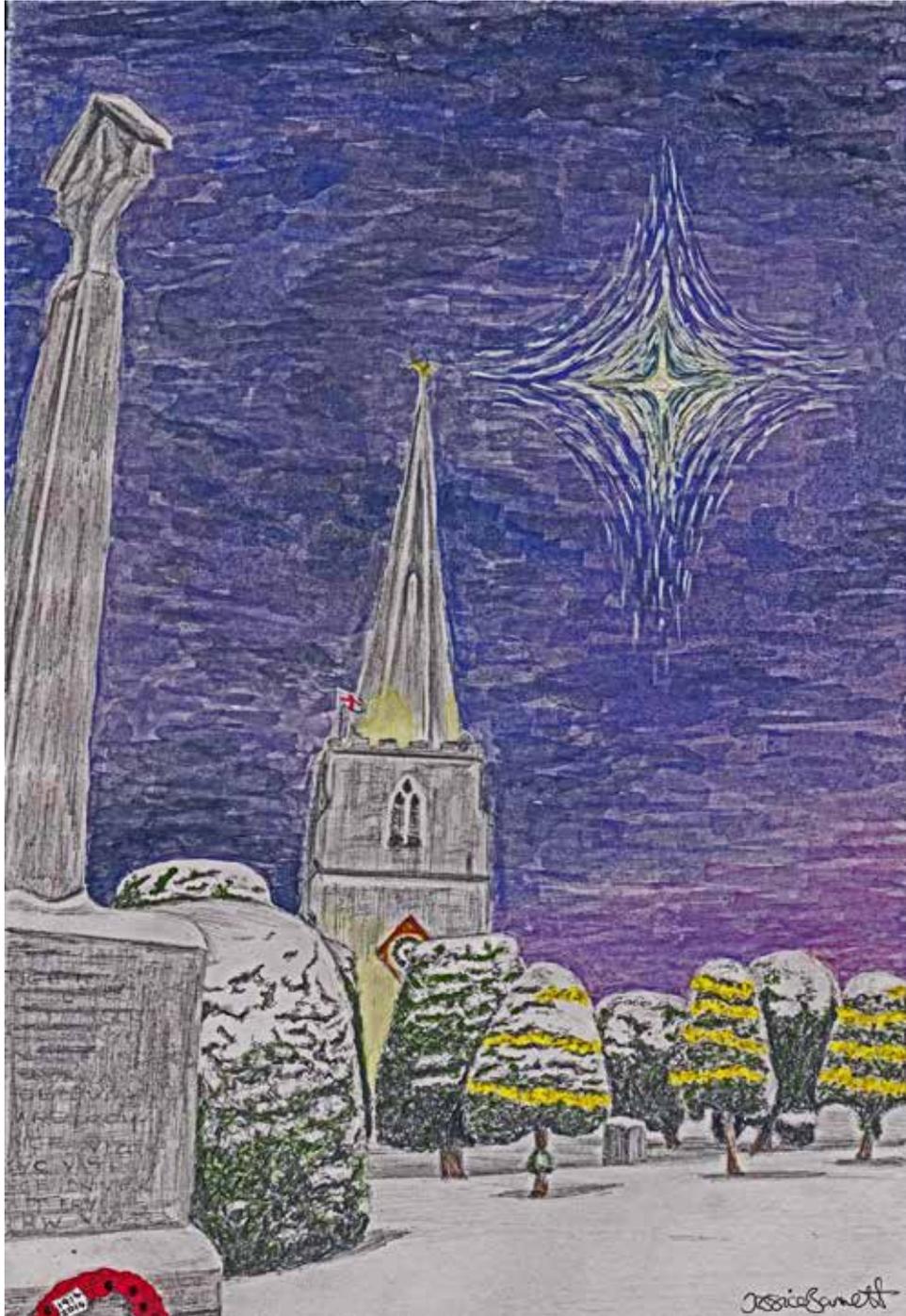
The Painswick Beacon

Sine praeiudicio

Volume 37 Number 9

December 2014

*Christmas Greetings
to all our readers*



and Best Wishes for 2015

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS 19th November 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 widest 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

As there were no questions from the public, Chairman Rob Lewis opened the meeting. Apologies had been received from Cllrs Roey Parker and Ben Nicholls. After the minutes from the previous meeting had been agreed the meeting moved on to:

Matters requiring a decision

Although there were six matters requiring a decision one had been withdrawn on the day of the meeting. The Council agreed to support all the applications:

- Holcombe Folly. The erection of an agricultural storage barn
- The Coach House, Sevenleaze Lane. Retrospective application for single storage timber building.
- Communication Station at Painswick Golf Club for T Mobile.
- Home Cottage, Plough Cottage and Pippins Cottage, Well Farm, Wick St. Variation to conditions to allow lettings for a longer period than 28 days.
- The Bungalow Barn at Hill Farm. Conversion and extension of existing barn to dwelling. This was a Listed Building Application submitted prior to a full planning application.

PARISH COUNCIL

Before the meeting there was a presentation to the Council by the Rev Mike Holloway and David Bishop on the St Mary's Church project. Rev Holloway advised the meeting that this was a "New Vision" with the intention of making the church a better place for the Community. David Bishop outlined the proposals which would involve a new organ being installed in its historic position on a west end gallery, moving the stone reredos to the tower vestry for public display, developing the current organ space to provide toilets and a meeting room and clearing the south aisle pews to create a flexible meeting and display space. The project would take years rather than months to implement and would involve a projected expenditure of £475k.

There were several members of the public present and in the time allocated to public questions one member praised the hard work of Cllr Abigail Smith, Chair of the Traffic Committee. However, concern was expressed that the proposed sites of the three VAS cameras would be outside the 20 mph speed limit zone. Particular concern was expressed that both New Street and Gloucester Street would not be covered by the VAS cameras. Cllr Abigail Smith explained that all proposed sites had to meet four laid down criteria before VAS cameras could be installed. Unfortunately only the proposed sites met all the criteria. The Council were however looking at other methods to reduce the speed of traffic in the centre of the village. During

the recent speed checks carried out in October, 221 vehicles had been detected exceeding the speed limit. Based on this information the police were being pressed to take enforcement action.

Chairman Martin Slinger then read out a letter that had been received from David Allott. The letter made specific reference to the poor acoustics in the Town Hall and the difficulty members of the public had in following the discussions between Councillors at Council Meetings. The letter requested that a "good loop system" be installed and alluded to the 2010 Equality Act which expects that "reasonable adjustments" be made for a meeting that was open to all – the public. Mr Allott went on to again request that the Council should reconsider the layout of the tables for the meeting – a semicircular layout would greatly assist members of the public in hearing the discussions. A copy of this letter is published in The Beacon.

Cllr Steve Morris responded to the question and advised the meeting that a quotation had been obtained to install a loop system the lower hall. However, the Council were considering the different needs of the organisations who met in the Town Hall. Cllr Morris stated that it could be between 1.5 and 2 years before a loop system was installed.

The Chairman then formally opened the meeting. Apologies had been received from Cllrs Roey Parker and Ben Nicholls

Matters of urgency

Chairman Martin Slinger advised the meeting that he had received correspondence from the local MP, Neil Carmichael with an update on the new "wide mouthed" post box. The MP had written to the Chief Executive of Royal Mail on the 13th October seeking an update. The Chief Executive had replied on the 3rd November stating that "he was looking into the situation". The MP will be following up this issue.

Co-option of Councillors

The Clerk, Roy Balgobin, advised the Council that two applications had been received for the Council to consider for the outstanding vacancy on the Council. One applicant had withdrawn that day. It was proposed by Cllr Rob Lewis and seconded by Cllr Ian James that Mike Fletcher be co-opted onto the Council. The proposal was unanimously agreed by the Council. Mike Fletcher was duly co-opted onto the Council.

County Councillors Report

Although County Councillor Jason Bullingham presented a written report to the Council he highlighted the important

points. County residents aged between 40 and 74 are urged to take advantage of a free NHS Health Check to ensure that their heart is in good condition. For more information on the free NHS Health Checks visit:

www.nhs.uk/Conditions/nhs-health-check/Pages/NHS-Health-Check.aspx
The County is now using the latest technology to treat food waste and turn it into green energy. A new anaerobic digestion waste facility is being built at Wingmore Farm near Bishop's Cleeve. This is part of a larger plan to prevent food waste ending up in land fill.

District Councillors Report

District Cllr Nigel Cooper advised the Councillors that in future either he or District Cllr Julie Job would attend the Parish Council Meeting. He thanked County Cllr Jason Bullingham for his assistance during discussions with Stagecoach.

The new version of the District Plan was to be discussed and agreed at the December Meeting of the District Council. It would then be available for public discussion and the District Council hoped to have the plan "in place" by the end of 2015.

Recommendations of the Traffic Committee

Cllr Abigail Smith, Chair of the Traffic Committee, advised the Council that the Traffic Committee were seeking a contribution from the Council towards permanent VAS signs. The contribution not to exceed £3000. After some discussion it was proposed by Cllr Ian James that the Council contribute £3000. This was unanimously agreed by the Council. Cllr Caroline White queried why the VAS system was to be in fixed positions. If portable they could be used throughout the Parish area. Cllr Abigail Smith responded by stating that an old portable VAS had been found. It was currently being tested and once it was fully operational it would be used in the other Wards.

The Love Painswick Business Group

Cllr David Oxendale advised the meeting that the number of visitors to Painswick had increased during the Summer A "Branding Meeting" had been held for the Business Community and a feed back meeting was being held on the 27th November. Social Media now played an important role with 300 followers on Facebook and 200 on Twitter. Other Wards were being encouraged to be involved in developing Social Media sites.

Fireworks

Chairman Martin Slinger read out a statement following discussions that had been held between several Councillors,

the Clerk and the local Environmental Health Officer who is responsible Noise Nuisance. This was following several complaints made about fireworks by members of the public. It is not an offence to discharge fireworks before 11pm, however, it would be considered as unreasonable if they were discharged from the same location on a regular basis. If members of the public are concerned then they should contact Mr Stephen Bartlett at Stroud DC during normal working hours. If concerned out of working hours the matter should be referred to the Police by ringing 101. Fireworks are categorised into four groups, 1-4. All fireworks that fall into category 4 can only be sold to and used by professional firework companies.

Responsible Financial Officers report

The Clerk confirmed that a request had been received for funding towards the upkeep of Holy Trinity Churchyard, Slad. As an amount of £333.33 had been included in the Precept for such maintenance the Council unanimously agreed the request.

Ward Reports

Cllr Rob Lewis reported that two families had experienced difficulties with restoring telephone landlines, one with BT and the other with the Post Office. The problems also involved Broadband connections and had lasted for over 6 months before being reconnected. The local MP had also been involved.

Cllr Ian James requested an update on providing a defibrillator in Sheepscombe. It was to be fixed to the pub wall. The Clerk confirmed that it should be available in earl 2015.

Confidential Agenda – Post Office Update

For the third time the Parish Council deemed discussion of this item to be confidential and held the meeting in

camera. As members of the public and the press were asked to leave they were left in the dark room being unable to either see or hear the discussions on this very important item.

David Allott's letter of 19th November to the Parish Council

As one who occasionally attends Parish Council meetings and often fails to hear what is being said to whom, can I ask for more help?

I have expensive hearing aids but the Town Hall acoustics are poor and Members, quite naturally, use conversational tones when speaking to each other. I don't favour the complication of microphones, but can we have a good "loop" system installed very soon? I believe that the 2010 Equality Act expects "reasonable adjustments" to be made for a meeting that is open to all (the Public). Have we waited nearly 5 years?

Can I again request you reconsider the layout of the tables at the meeting? A semicircular layout could greatly assist the audience - your parishioners. The democrat in me says that you should do that. Little name boards to identify who is who would help, especially for those who only attend occasionally.

Need for Loop System

The thorny question of the acoustics in the Town Hall is a serious issue. Both a member of the public and myself had to interrupt the meeting at different times as we were unable to hear the points being made. Taking 1.5 to 2 yrs to install a loop system? Grants are available and they run the risk of being reported for being in breach of the infamous Equality Act!!

Mike Kerton

Following the discussion at the Parish Council Meeting and subsequent discussions with the Post Office the Parish Council has issued the following notice

Exclusive

An "Outreach" Post Office Service is to commence in Painswick in February 2015. The facility will be located in the Parish Council's outer office at the Town Hall and managed by Mr Shreyas Patel who is the Postmaster at Upton St Leonards. It will be open initially on Wednesday and Friday mornings between 9.30 and 11.30am. There is to be a three to four weeks' consultation period during which residents will be invited to give their views on the proposed service. The negotiations which have resulted in the creation of the Service reflect considerable credit on Parish Councillor David Oxendale and Parish Council Chairman Councillor Martin Slinger who have not been deterred by the difficulties faced in achieving the Service for Painswick. Further information about the consultation period and the services to be provided by the "Outreach" facility will be published in the Beacon in due course.

*Roy Balgobin,
Clerk to the Parish Council*

Boxing Day Walk

The Parish Council's annual Boxing Day walk will start from Stamages Lane car park at 10am. The circular walk is planned to take approximately two hours. Stout footwear is necessary. Dogs are welcome but must be on a lead at all times.

The cover picture

The painting on the front page is by Jessie Barnett. This followed our invitation to readers to submit a drawing, painting or photograph. Jessie's drawing was felt to fully represent Christmas, Painswick and the 100 year anniversary of the First World War. It was good to have other possibilities, which this time were all great photographs, and our thanks to readers who offered them for our consideration. One photograph submitted by David Haslam is featured instead on the back page.

It was fitting to have the painting from Jessie as her mother, Jennifer Barnett who died earlier this year, was at one time a member of the Beacon Committee and had also produced illustrations for The Beacon in 1996 and 2009.



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Beacon Village Quiz

The annual village quiz will take place next year on Saturday 7th March as usual in the Painswick Centre.



The Christmas period is perhaps an ideal time to discuss putting together a team of four for this enjoyable event which could come from a club or society, local street or just a group of friends.

If you wish to reserve a table then a quick email to barrusjp@yahoo.co.uk will prompt an acknowledgment. The cost per team including light refreshments will be £18.

Christmas 2014

special services and events throughout the area

compiled by

Churches Together Around Painswick

Friday	December 12th	7.30 pm	Painswick Centre	Painswick	Christmas Brass Band Concert in aid of Mencap
Tuesday	December 16th	7.00 pm	St. Mary's, C of E	Painswick	Croft School Carols
Wednesday	December 17th	7.30 pm	Village Hall	Sheepscombe	Carols
		8.00 pm	Woolpack Inn	Slad	Carols at the Inn
Thursday	December 18th	6pm- 8pm	Carols around village - in aid of Christian Aid/Ebola	Painswick	Meet at Falcon Inn at 6 pm
Saturday	December 20th	7.30 pm	St. Mary's, C of E	Painswick	Painswick Singers Xmas Concert (Tickets £8 on door)
		8.30 am	Our Lady & St. Thérèse, RC	Painswick	Mass
Sunday	December 21st	10.30 am	Friends Meeting House	Painswick	Christmas Meeting
		4.00 pm	Methodist Chapel	Sheepscombe	Carols & mince pies
		4.00 pm	St. Mary's, C of E	Painswick	Service of Lessons & Carols
		5.00 pm	St. John the Baptist, C of E	Edge	Carol Service
Tuesday	December 23rd	3.00 pm	Holy Trinity C of E	Slad	Children's Nativity
Wednesday	December 24th	4.00 pm	St. John the Apostle, C of E	Sheepscombe	Crib Service
4.00 pm		St. Mary's, C of E	Painswick	Crib Service	
4.00 pm		St. John the Baptist, C of E	Edge	Crib Service	
Christmas Eve		11.30 pm	St. Mary's, C of E	Painswick	Midnight Service
		9.00 am	Our Lady & St. Thérèse, RC	Painswick	Mass of the Nativity
Thursday	December 25th	9.30 am	St. John the Apostle, C of E	Sheepscombe	Family Communion
		9.30 am	St. Mary's, C of E	Painswick	Family Communion
		10.00 am	St. John the Baptist, C of E	Edge	Christmas rejoicing service
		11.00 am	Holy Trinity, C of E	Slad	Christmas Eucharist
Sunday	December 28th	8.30 am	Our Lady & St. Thérèse, RC	Painswick	Mass
		9.30 am	St. Mary's, C of E	Painswick	Benefice Communion
		10.30 am	Methodist Chapel	Sheepscombe	Morning service
		6.00 pm	Holy Trinity, C of E	Slad	Carols by candlelight

For details of services at St Peter's Grange / Prinknash Abbey see www.prinknashabbey.org or the notice board in the foyer of the RC Church in Friday Street, Painswick

Christmas Blessings to one and all

Wednesday Ashwell Group

Our ten members have enjoyed a varied programme to include a strawberry tea, visits to Highfield and Blooms Garden Centres, cruise along the canal with the Willow Trust, arts and crafts sessions, and a film afternoon. In the Festive season we look forward to our annual Christmas lunch and a party the following week.

Our thriving group is dependant upon voluntary helpers and drivers. If anyone could spare an hour once a month to assist serving the lunches, or as a driver, helper please contact me for further information.

Sandra Glass 01452 814186

Wassailing Saturday 17th January

Come and cheer up the post-Christmas blues with some live music, warm food, cider and of course our magical awakening of the Orchard Trees. Details to follow.

POPPY APPEAL 2014



I would like to thank all the volunteers who again walked and stood out in all weathers to collect for this year's Poppy Appeal. I am delighted to record that well over £4000 was collected around Painswick, Pitchcombe, Edge and Harescombe (final figures not yet available as some still coming in). Thanks also go to local shops and businesses for the support they give by taking and displaying the collecting boxes. Last but by no means least, thanks to so many of you for the generous donations you gave that have made the RBL 2014 Centenary Appeal another record-breaking year!

Russ Herbert

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Painswick Valley AONB threat

Many readers will remember that, 17 years ago, in 1997, the Painswick Valley was threatened with a major development of 2,000+ houses between Beeches Green, at the edge of Stroud, and Wades Lane which runs from Pitchcombe to Wick Street, well within the Painswick Parish Boundary. Through the efforts of the Painswick Valley Group and the generosity of many local residents Stroud District Council was persuaded to exclude this land from the development proposals in the Stroud Local Plan that then took another 8 years to finalise.

However it was appreciated that this threat might recur at some future date and this has now happened, albeit on a smaller scale.

In a nutshell house-builder Charles Church has announced that it will shortly submit an application for Planning Consent to build 90 new houses on land at Grange Fields which lie to the north of Stroud's "gateway" roundabout at the corner of Stratford Park. This land is within the Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, established in 1966, under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949, to protect our beautiful countryside from just such development.

Charles Church suggests that this does not matter and that the failure of Stroud District Council to identify other land to satisfy the need for housing locally coupled with this government's presumption in favour of sustainable development means it should be allowed to have its own profitable way. This is a dangerously modest proposal because, if granted, it is likely to serve as a precedent for the development of other naturally beautiful land, not only in the Painswick Valley but also elsewhere in the Cotswolds and other AONBs.

A group now known as Save Grange Fields AONB has been formed by residents of Uplands to challenge this proposal and they now have the full support of Painswick Valleys Conservation Society (PVCS) which, while recognising the need for more housing believes that this should be on brown field sites and/or outside the AONB. Their website can be seen at: <http://savegrangefieldsaonb.wordpress.com>

Beacon readers who share this concern are invited (if not already members) to join PVCS by contacting our Membership Secretary, Leonard Chittenden (address: 3, Prospect Terrace, Tibbiwell, Painswick GL6 6XZ, phone: 01452-814854, email: leonard.c@btinternet.com) The annual subscription is £4 single or £6 double.

Mike Little

PSALMS Annual Christmas Quiz Night!

Do you know who said - 'Everybody is a genius. But if you judge a fish by its ability to climb a tree, it will live its whole life believing it is stupid'



Hopefully that has whet your appetite for a quiz!?! Not long now to the annual Club Pulse Quiz night! Different members of the Hewitt family have won all 4 competitions so please come and make sure they don't retain the cherished trophy. What you need to know is:

Monday 15th December. 7.30pm-9.00pm
At the Painswick Youth & Community Pavilion
All ages welcome; £1 entry
Teams sorted on the night
Light snacks and refreshments

See you there!

Fiona Gill, fiona.gill@psalms.uk.net

Hello Painswick!

The Painswick Players wish you a very happy Christmas and New Year. 2015 will start a new year too for our Executive Committee, some new but most importantly some members who have been with us for years, - an eclectic mix who all wish to "raise the phoenix."



We need like minded people (age 16+) and complete beginners to make a new production happen. Whether you are interested in acting, selling tickets, back stage, painting sets, props, lighting, promotions, learning/improving your acting skills, producing or prompting there is something for everyone. We also enjoy monthly play readings on the last Thursday of each month except for August and December.

We will holding a coffee evening on Wednesday 21st January 2015 at 7.30 - 9.30pm in the Derek Hodges room of the Church Rooms to welcome new members. Please come and join the fun.

For more information please contact Jill Walford 01452 810888

Sue Leighton-Boyce, Secretary 01452 676723

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That time of year is upon us again! The weather has finally gone cold and the nights are well and truly drawn in, the halls are decked and tis' the season to be jolly!



We have had lots of events in the Centre over the year, such as, The Beacon Quiz and one of our ever popular Attic sales in March, our D-Day commemoration evening 'Normandy 44' in June where we raised £716.38 for Combat Stress, The Victorian Ball, the ACP festival and The Painswick Arts Festival in July and August, The Fantastic Beatles night in September, another Attic sale and spooky Halloween Party in October and The Goodwill Evening in November and we still have a few more events to come in December!

We have also hosted several Weddings and seen the Beacon Hall decorated beautifully for them all and look forward to more in the new year.

We are planning several upgrades in the Centre for the New Year, the first of which will be new secondary glazing in the hall, making it warmer and much more economical to heat. There are always things that need repairing and replacing due to the age of the building but we are constantly striving to improve and modernise the fantastic facilities that we have on offer. A few of the other things that are on our 'wish list' are – New audio/visual system throughout the Beacon Hall, new kitchen in the Beacon Hall, Replace ceiling in Skittle Alley and Develop a new outer entrance foyer to the Beacon Hall to incorporate cloakroom and joint bar for Hall and skittle alley. A long and expensive list I think you will agree! So all fundraising ideas and help welcome!

What's On December

Just For Fun Quiz Night 6th 7-11pm – 4-6 per team, £7 per person, curry & rice included (vegetarian option available on advance request), Raffle with 3 wonderful hampers for prizes and a prize for the most 'fun' team mascot! So book your team in quick!

MENCAP Brass Band – 12th 7-10.30pm, contact Gill Gyde 01452 812587

February

ABBA Night – 14th 7.30-11pm, further details TBC

Lastly, the trustees and I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

*Jennie Barber 01452 814567,
jennie@painswickcentre.com*

Painswick Gardening Club Quiz and Social Evening Starts at 6pm

Well, it's mid November now and I'm sat here writing this and marvelling at the unseasonably mild weather but then, of course, we can't have everything....it's pouring with rain again and the broad bean seeds will have to stay in the packet a bit longer! By the time you read this the temperatures may have tumbled!

Despite the weather we had a great turnout for our November talk and we are delighted with the support we are receiving from everyone with renewed and new memberships; many thanks to you all. Philip Aubrey's talk was packed with down to earth (pardon the pun!) information, practical tips and humorous anecdotes - something for everyone. He kindly donated a plant to the raffle which was much appreciated. I don't know about anyone else but his tool demonstration has solved one Christmas present dilemma!

Our next meeting on the 10th December (now starting at 6pm) will be a festive fun garden quiz evening with wine, soft drinks and nibbles. Those competitive souls amongst us will be pleased to know that there will be a trophy for the winning team and there will also be a special raffle with a few treat prizes. Come along to the Church Rooms for a 6pm start and join us for laughs and chat....and if you haven't yet subscribed it's not too late! We look forward to seeing everyone on the 10th.



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Brass Band Christmas Concert in aid of Stroud Mencap Society

Those who came to the Gloucester Brass Band Concert in September 2013 enjoyed a wonderful evening of music with some amusing chat by the conductor along the way. On Friday 12th December they will be playing Christmas music and I'm sure there will be some more amusing incidents related as well. There will be a light supper and the bar will be open.

Do come and join in the pre-Christmas festivities at Painswick Centre and at the same time help your local society to care for people who have learning disabilities.

Tickets £10 are available from Jenny Barber at the Centre- telephone 01452-814567 and John Rohrbeck, 01452-812934.

Marion Sadler

Thank you

Beacon subscribers		
<i>as at 21st November</i>	2014- 2015	<i>This date last year</i>
New or renewed after lapsing	50	41
Renewed from last year	454	448
Total including postal	504	489

If you would still like to subscribe and have lost the form or envelope please contact Wol on 01452 813295. The Beacon post box is on the corner outside Murrays. No stamp required! Cash or cheque.

Warm items sought

DASH (Delivering Aid to Stroud Homeless) works through Marah and the Food Bank to channel aid to the homeless and deprived of Stroud. At this time of year, the need is not so much for tinned food as for warm socks, gloves and woolly hats (mainly, but not exclusively, men's) as well as for toiletries (soap, toothpaste, shaving cream etc). Any items you donate will be most gratefully received; there are boxes at the back of St Mary's Church or at Murrays Estate Agency. We are also still collecting small change (1ps, 2ps, & 5ps) which enables Marah to meet unexpected needs (bus fares to hospital etc). Since Easter we have raised over £170 this way and it really has helped to make a difference to people's lives. Alison Robinson (812 286) and Frances Watson (812 071) are happy to come and collect any bags of change, big or small, that you have saved.

Alison Robinson

Castles and Gaols

At the November meeting of the Society Phil Moss gave a comprehensive and stimulating presentation on Gloucester castle and gaol. Illustrated with photographs and some superb drawings he pointed out that both castle and gaol had, in their time, been of great national importance.

The first castle was a Norman motte and bailey built close to Blackfriars. The second, slightly to the west of the first, was a much larger edifice completed c1140. Gloucester was at this time of great political importance equal in status with London and Rochester and certainly the castle was very popular with Henry III. A Thomas Robins drawing shows magnificent gardens. Despite two ferocious sieges in the 13th century it continued to be a royal residence until c1400.

By the 18th century the castle, now used as prison, was in dire condition. It was overcrowded – over 100 men and women spent their days in a dayroom measuring 10ft x 12ft – with a high death rate from typhus. A new airy gaol was built in 1791 for 207 prisoners who wore a uniform, were given jobs making a range of goods and had three meals per day. It was reforming and humane. It was extended in 1826, a treadmill installed in 1835 and A and B wings were added in 1844. The last building was erected in 1985 when archaeological excavation revealed some interesting historic features.

Hangings originally took place on the causeway at Over. The prisoner, sitting on his coffin, with the rope to hang him round his neck, was brought to the gallows by horse and cart. Over 100 were hanged between 1730 and 1790, most in public. After this, 121 were executed in the prison, only murderers being buried in situ.

Gloucester Prison was closed in March 2013 and put up for sale by the Ministry of Justice.

The Society does not meet in December. The January meeting will be on 15th January when John Lovell will talk on the history of local newspapers.

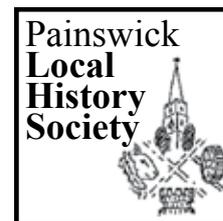
Carol Maxwell

Painswick Christmas Fayre hosted by The Friends of The Croft Friday 12th December



Please join us at The Croft School on the evening of Friday 12th December from 6 to 8pm for our spectacular indoor Christmas Fayre. There will be a range of stalls selling Christmas gifts and goodies, delicious hot food, a fully stocked bar including mulled wine and hot chocolate, Christmas music, and loads of exciting festive games and activities to entertain all the family. And of course we are hoping for a visit from Mr Santa Claus himself, so come to our magical grotto to tell him your Christmas wishes and he may even give you a gift to take home! Entry is £1 per adult, children free and of course free entry for the whole family if you have a Friends of The Croft School membership card. We look forward to seeing you there! Ho ho ho!

The Friends of The Croft School



Painswick Chronicle

The new edition of Painswick Chronicle, the History Society's annual publication, is now available. Including a good range of subjects from the serious to the light-hearted, it adds yet more to our knowledge and understanding of our fascinating small town. There are articles on the fondly remembered St Mary's Home, the great benefactors Frederick and Edwin Gyde, the changing purpose and look of 'Jumbo's Den' (the Memorial Gardens), Painswick families' coats of arms, Detmar Blow's connection with Stonehenge, a young land army girl's diary about her experience in Painswick in 1916 and a list of ghostly hauntings in and around Painswick recorded over the years.

This is issue number 17 and can be purchased in Painswick Pharmacy, Cotswold Care charity shop in Bisley Street, Best One or direct from Carol Maxwell tel.813387 or Gwen Welch tel.812540. Previous editions, except numbers 1 and 2 (if you know of any unwanted or spare numbers 1 or 2 we would be pleased to hear from you), are also available and as a collection now offer a very comprehensive view of Painswick's history.

Carol Maxwell

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Christmas shopping – Painswick first

Jostling with the crowds in a big town whilst Christmas shopping is not a particularly joyful experience. It's definitely worth considering therefore the calmer option of browsing in Painswick's shops. You can be sure of finding goods which are just that little bit special as each of our shops is unique.

In New Street Painswick Pharmacy has a surprisingly large range of lovely goods including extra special toiletries, warmers, gift sets and edibles, for all ages. Painswick Woodcraft has beautiful and skilfully crafted indigenous wood items, both decorative and practical. Dawn's Shed is crammed full of lovely, quirky and intriguing goodies and some excellent charity cards.

Painswick Fabrics has a stunning range of beautiful silks, cottons, velvets and linens plus an assortment of related items such as tassels and throws. In Meggies, behind the Falcon, you will find some lovely Cotswolds hand-made items including jewellery, home-ware, gifts and cards.

Cotswold Care, our charity shop in Bisley Street, offers something for all ages - party wear, games, tableware, decorations, bric-a-brac and charity cards including local scenes. Kate Rich's little gem of a shop in Tibbiwell is packed with delightful and lovely items of china, glass, jewellery, pictures, ornaments, linen etc both vintage and contemporary. Olivas has a tempting array of scrumptious foods and wines perfectly packaged for the festive season. Best One can always be relied upon to stock a wide range of provisions and magazines but also has wines and a large selection of confectionary.

From 8.30am to 11.00am on Friday mornings in the Town Hall car park Pete will be selling his top quality fish up to 19th December. Christmas specials include whole sides of fresh salmon, packed smoked salmon, hot smoked salmon, dressed crabs, crab meat, king prawns,

salmon, hot smoked salmon, dressed crabs, crab meat, king prawns, fresh Scottish scallops and pates. Orders taken from the beginning of December.

Eating out is also a joy in Painswick. The Bistro is offering a special 5-course lunch on Christmas Day and a special dinner with live music on New Year's Eve. Booking is essential. Christmas parties can be catered for from 1st to 24th December, again booking is necessary. The Bistro will be closed for three weeks from 5th January. The Royal Oak offers its excellent high standard traditional pub fare, so unusual nowadays, throughout the festive season. Opening hours are normal except as follows: 24th December 11.30am-late; 25th December 11.00am-1.00am, drinks only; 26th December 12noon-late; 31st December 6.00pm-late; 1st January 12 noon-6.00pm. The Falcon opens as normal until 24th December when last orders are at 8.30pm. Opening on Christmas Day, bar only, is from 12.00-2.00pm. Lunch is fully booked as is dinner on 31st December. Opening on 26th December and 1st January is 11.00-4.00pm. A Christmas menu is available throughout December.

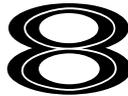
Our shops, restaurants and pubs are special and do offer something a little different from the usual high street chains. So, before setting off to shop elsewhere do explore Painswick's outlets first. You may be pleasantly surprised. Our shops need your support.



Carol Maxwell

Come and see Eight

'Eight' by Ella Hickson is being performed on the 2nd - 4th January 2015 at Open House in Stroud. The play is a series of monologues exploring the extreme values of our society through the eyes of its young people. Funny and moving, this production features a host of talented young artists from the local area and is being directed by Painswick's own Rebecca MacDuff. Make sure you don't miss out. For more information and ticket sales, please don't hesitate to call 07909 915791.



Wreaths for the making

Making your own festive decorative door wreath is both an interesting creative challenge and a gratifying accomplishment. It can also be a lovely social event and that is exactly what Emma and Holly of Painswick-based Wedding Florist are planning for their popular December workshop.

Two three-hour sessions are to be held in the Church Rooms and are open to everyone. All materials will be provided as well as mulled wine, tea, coffee and mince pies while you work. No special skills are necessary as Emma and Holly will give as much instruction and guidance as required.

This is an excellent way to start the festive season and as places are limited booking is essential. The sessions will take place on Thursday, 11th December at 7.30pm and Friday, 12th December at 10.30am. To book a place telephone or text Emma on 812662 or mobile 07798 672227, or email info@thebespokeflowercompany.co.uk.

Carol Maxwell

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I am hoping that this article will be the first of a regular report in the Painswick Beacon regarding matters I think worth drawing to the attention of the Beacon's readers. I emphasise that the items are those that strike me as important, although what is important really depends upon an individual's need. Rather fuller information will be available in our monthly newsletter available online.

Flu and shingles

The first thing is to ensure you have had your flu injection. Influenza can be fatal for vulnerable groups ie if you are diabetic, have asthma, heart, lung or kidney disease, are over the age of 65. We still have a few flu vaccines available. Phone for an appointment!

Shingles vaccine is also available for eligible patients (ages 70, 78 and 79) but can be purchased privately if patients are outside those ages for £110 each.

Electronic prescriptions

Many of you know that we can generate an electronic prescription for you here at the surgery. It is signed electronically by your GP and then forwarded via a secure Internet connection to a pharmacy of your choosing and you have a right to choose. It can be here in the village, a pharmacy near your office perhaps, or even one further afield! The advantages of such a service are that within seconds of being signed by the GP, your prescription has winged its way to your pharmacy. Equally, you don't need to worry about coming to the surgery for your prescription – just go

Painswick surgery news

straight to the pharmacy. Additionally, if you go away on holiday (in the UK) and lose or forget your medication, if you can find a local pharmacy that is electronically enabled, we can forward a prescription directly to them for you.

Online Access to medical records

We are now able to accept registrations for patients who would like access to their medical records. Once registered for this process (and this includes all patients) you will be able to view your list of repeat medications, your allergies and any adverse reactions that have been reported. From January 2015, we hope to be able to offer you the ability to book/amend/cancel your appointments with the Doctors online.

Anyone wishing to use this facility should, in the first instance, complete a registration form which is available either from reception or via the surgery website (see the New Registrations section) and then bring the form into the surgery together with photographic ID, and proof of address – this could be a utility bill, bank statement etc. We can then proceed with your online registration and provide you with the necessary paperwork so you can complete your own online account.

Healthy living

We are very pleased that our local pharmacy in Painswick has been accredited as a Healthy Living Pharmacy. Mike and his team are able to offer a wealth of

information and advice for many minor conditions. Additionally, they can offer help with stopping smoking (and this may be part of your New Year's Resolution list!) and referrals to Slimming World. So please remember to use your local pharmacy. Please speak to Mike or a member of his team for more information on the additional services they are now offering.

Possible Telephone 'Scam'

A couple of patients have received unsolicited phone calls from a company calling themselves the Margaret Rose Trust (or Foundation). They state that they have been given your telephone number by the 'mobility database' and may ask you if you are having any problems with your walking, or possibly mobility issues.

There is NO Margaret Rose Trust or Foundation that I can locate, nor is there a mobility database. It would appear that this is therefore some sort of scam, and I'm assuming that the aim is to get vulnerable patients to spend money on mobility aids that they probably don't need, or could certainly get via other, official routes. If you are called by this company, please just put the telephone down.

Please remember to order your prescriptions in time to collect by 18th/19th December so you have enough medication to see you through the Festive Season.

*Nicola Hayward,
Practice Manager*

Painswick Singers carol concert

The Painswick Singers' annual Christmas Concert will take place in St. Mary's Church on 20th December this year at 7.30 pm. It will take the usual form of familiar and not so familiar carols for choir and audience, solos and readings. The latter having come from the hand of our singing muse, Angela Newing whose droll verse always amuses the reindeer. Christopher Boodle will be at the organ. Of particular note will be the inclusion of some sections of Ralph Vaughan Williams' Christmas Cantata 'Hodie' (This Day). Here, Vaughan Williams mixes Scripture with texts of a number of writers, including Milton, Hardy, and his daughter, Ursula Vaughan Williams. The full work is a mixture of poetic texts and gospel narrations from Mathew and Luke, the latter being set for boys' voices and lasts about 50 minutes. The Singers will perform two substantial extracts and be without boys. For the rest, the Christmas repertoire is an abundance of tuneful Christmas carols to which composers find themselves continuously inspired to add. There will be some old ones and some new ones making what will be an entertaining and relaxing evening on the way to Christmas. Tickets for the Concert, including a glass of wine, are £8 from The Patchwork Mouse or at the door.

Maurice Maggs

Patient transport for essential hospital appointments

Patient transport is yet another resource that has been eroded over the years, so any additional help for patients is great news. It is incredibly difficult to get transport for patients unless they are wheelchair bound, or going to hospital for chemotherapy/cancer treatment. The Beacon has been informed that Cheltenham-based charity, Third Sector Services, working with local volunteers, is partnering with Arriva Transport Solutions to help transport dialysis patients across the county to and from two dialysis units on the Gloucestershire Hospital site. To find out more about community transport please call Bev Hemming at Third Sector Services on 01242 244635. To find out more about the patient transport service provided by Arriva Transport Solutions please call 0845 600 6068 or email arrivatransportsolutions@arriva.co.uk.

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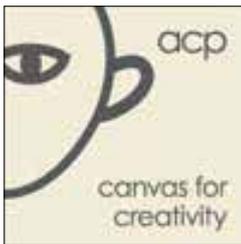
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ACP - Our aims and future plans



ACP is a unique charity, run by a small group of volunteers, dedicated to providing a range of opportunities to all those who wish to participate. Our twin aims are to

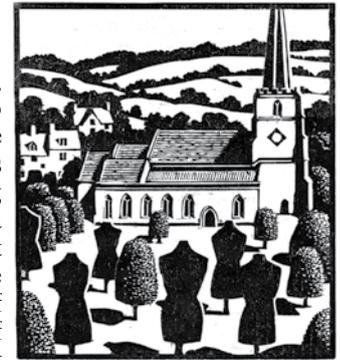
- Support creative arts, particularly for young people
- Promote Painswick as a cutting edge artistic venue

Because of the wow factor, ACP is constantly asked for their presence at events throughout the county – and beyond – giving frequent opportunities to raise the profile of both Art Couture and Painswick.

These promotional events, together with the ACP Festival, Gallery and Educational Outreach programmes have provided:

- A platform for artists to showcase their work to leading luminaries in the world of art and fashion
- An audience for budding local musicians and photographers
- Work experience for local students
- Work placements for local students Abigail Garbett with Nancy Parker Studios and with Savannah Miller, Mila Harris with The British School of Millinery and Rhianne Baxter with Lewis and Wood.
- We have also secured offers of work placements for other students with Superdry, John Lewis Partnerships, LK Bennett, Talking Tables and ACP
- The involvement of the local community through voluntary help with the ACP Festival and in the Gallery
- The economic benefit to the local community that comes from attracting thousands of visitors to the ACP Festival and Gallery
- Creative opportunities through ACP workshops held at the Painswick Centre
- And much more

As a charity, our aim is, ultimately, to provide financial support to aspiring art students. Although we are a long way from achieving this aim, we've made an encouraging start! Merchandise created from a wonderful wood cut by local artist Andrew Davidson is available in the ACP Gallery, and a percentage of the revenue will form the basis of the 'A.D Bursary' to support an art student, with the remainder of the profits going to the ACP charity for further educational outreach programmes. The cards, mugs, tea towels, signed limited edition prints and cushions make fabulous presents, as do the other wonderful items on sale, so please support us. The Gallery, open Thursday to Sunday 10-4, is staffed mainly by volunteers, or by students wishing to enhance their CVs and receive a small remuneration. The Andrew Davidson Merchandise can also be purchased at the Patchwork Mouse.



Andrew Davidson's woodcut

We are always ready to receive feedback, and to act on it. We recently delivered 1000 feedback leaflets around Painswick and have sought opinions and advice from all Festival participants and visitors to the Gallery. We would like to thank all those who replied, and we're absolutely delighted at the overwhelmingly positive responses and for the suggestions for improvement.

Two dates for your diary:

Oct 24th 2015: Celebratory Concert in St Mary's Church
July 16th / 17th 2016: Our next ACP Festival

Throughout 2015 we will celebrate the success of the past five years with some smaller but equally fabulous events, all of which will continue to promote creative art, Painswick and ACP.

Judie Hill

ZERO SIX PAPA TWO (Painswick fire engine's call sign)

A seriously injured person was rescued from a car by Painswick Fire crew assisted by the crew of the Stroud Rescue Appliance, paramedics and the Ambulance Service on the A46 last month. Painswick Fire crew also covered for Gloucester while crews from Gloucester attended a ten-pump (ten fire engines) major industrial fire in Tewkesbury. Mark Hancock has passed his five day emergency response driving course and is now qualified to drive the Painswick Fire Engine on a Grade 1 response, (blue lights and sirens). Painswick Fire crew also took part in a HASMAT (hazardous materials) exercise involving procedures and practices dealing with toxic chemicals involving gas-tight chemical protection suits and a mobile de-contamination unit.

As Christmas approaches maybe you have extended a welcome to friends and relatives for the festive season. It might be helpful to think briefly of your responsibility towards your guests: what would you do if your smoke alarm activated in the middle of the night? Do you have an escape plan? It is very important that you tell your guests how to quickly get out of the house in the event of a fire. Please use this opportunity to check your smoke alarm and tell your visitors your evacuation plan. For further information and help please contact our community fire safety team on telephone number 01452 753333 or visit http://www.glosfire.gov.uk/ysafety_christmas.html

Andy Robinson, who has been a member of Painswick Fire Crew for ten and a half years, is leaving the service this month. He has been an asset to the service and will be greatly missed by all at the Painswick Fire Station and across the Brigade. We are very pleased with our new recruit James Weatley's progress through his training programme and expect him to be operational by early December.

We still have further vacancies and are always looking for suitable men and women from all walks of life to join our team. If you would like to train to be a firefighter, learn new skills and help protect your local community and in the process, then please visit http://www.glosfire.gov.uk/recruit_ff_retff.html for more information. Alternatively, contact me as below.

Mark Hancock, mark.hancock@glosfire.gov.uk or 07967 3160



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The Opening of the Painswick Hairdressers & Barber

The butterfly slowly emerges from its cocoon.

The Beacon is delighted to record the "Grand Opening" of the salon on the 14th of November, well attended by Gilly Hill's family, friends and others from the village. It is so pleasurable to see a shop being opened rather than one being closed and left to decay.

Gilly writes "It was humbling that so many took such interest in the salon, for which we would like to extend a heart felt 'thank you' for this show of support. While the 'Man Cave' and beauty room remained under wraps, they are due to emerge very shortly, and bookings will be taken for both The Man Cave and Beauty Room as of 1st December. The 'Man Cave' will offer all barbering and grooming services, with the beauty room and the Natural Heath section offering you full beauty, massage and natural health treatments, to say nothing of our Nail Bar for your Christmas, special occasion or just because the lady loves... bookings for all services can be made through the salon on 01452 668519. Don't forget you can book your nails in with your hair appointment!"

Gilly says that in December she will be offering amongst other things special Moroccan oil products, gift vouchers and SantaPaws products to pamper family pets.

So, as Gilly writes if you do want to put the heart back into the village do go in and browse where she says you will be most welcome.



Mustafa, the stylist, with client

Margaret's initiative – first of its kind

With over 30 years experience in the legal profession Margaret Young certainly has extensive expertise in matters of law. Having decided to retire as a solicitor she has now set up her own business, Collaborans Ltd, offering a different sort of legal service.

Margaret's partnership with Cheryl Leigh, established five years ago, has been so successful it attracted the attention of one of the country's top legal firms which has now taken it over. Margaret decided to use the opportunity to concentrate on a service she believes will be of benefit to many. Operating under the rules of a retired solicitor and as a qualified mediator she can give sound advice and signpost people to the appropriate experts regarding any sort of legal problem.

Essentially, it is about helping and directing, thus avoiding the stress associated with trying to deal with the legal world. Margaret is so well-connected locally in this regard because of her experience that she can point people in the best direction. She can help clients to understand core issues and to see the possible routes in order to resolve problems most effectively. Additionally of course, this makes resolution more cost-effective especially as Margaret, "not having to operate with all the red tape of the SRA", has no overheads and can reduce the expense. It is a very practical, common sense approach to problems.

In this advisory role, Margaret stresses that control is kept in the client's hands and gives personal choices. She can plan on the client's behalf and explains that she wants to help people to achieve resolution rather than become embroiled in fights. She can also give advice on legal and official documentation, as much or as little as required and it can all be done in a relaxed environment obviating the tension of an office. Margaret works from home and is happy to visit a place of the client's choosing.

This is a no-frills service, offering an advice service based on broad and qualified experience. It is also unique being the first of its kind locally. Margaret can be contacted by telephone 01452 260307 or email m.young@collaborans.company and there is a website www.collaborans.company.

Carol Maxwell





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Well grazed!

Within a few days our grazing cattle will leave Painswick Beacon and return 'home' to Hardwicke: we shan't see them again till next August. Our mentors, Natural England have expressed themselves very pleased with the changes to the two large areas grazed this year. Much of the long, thick grass has been eaten off, making way for more short stemmed flowers next year. These may be supplemented in future thanks to the Magnificent Meadows project. This will enable local flower seeds to be harvested on the Beacon to be used to accelerate the return to flowery meadows of the grazed paddocks that have been neglected for over 50 years. Eleanor Reast, who spoke at our AGM, and who is running the scheme from the Cotswold Conservation Board's H.Q. in Northleach will welcome volunteers to help with harvesting seeds in Painswick next summer.

Volunteers are also always welcome to join our Saturday work parties. Tools and guidance are all provided, just wear old clothes, bring gloves and a flask for the all important coffee break. Dates for the December working parties are 6th and 20th. Dates for 2015 work parties are Saturdays: January 10th and 24th, February 7th and 21st, March 7th and 21st. Location details and more guidance are available from Hon. Secretary David Little (813734).

David Allott Vice-Chairman, Painswick Beacon Conservation Group (812624)



Volunteers enjoying a hard earned break

“ Roman medicus” and Westonbirt House

John Putley, wearing sandals, wool tunic, pouch and chatelaine, held the attention of the WI as he introduced Roman medical practices.



If Romans were ill they would first offer gifts to household gods and then make votive offerings at the temple of Jupiter. Ritual objects were often clay legs or other parts of affected bodies. Finally they would question a doctor.

You would be considered ill if the four humors of Hippocratic medicine (black bile, yellow bile, phlegm and blood) were out of balance. Treatments were based on natural substances adjusting this imbalance and included herbs, honey, fish sauce, vinegar, tree sap and peppercorns.

Paraphernalia from the Gloucester Archives introduced us to a brass cup for bloodletting, tools for trepanning a skull, and scalpels for eye surgery and tonsillectomy. None of this was for the faint hearted but it did give us some insight into the skill and ingenuity of Roman doctors.

Also in October members explored the gilded ceilings, silk wallpaper and carved wood of Westonbirt House and the glorious autumn colours of the garden. A cream tea topped off an excellent visit.

On December 16th the WI Christmas Gathering will take place at 7.00pm in the Church Rooms.

Janet Jenkins

Christmas Draw

Each year we put the receipt numbers of our subscribers into our high tech "hat" - a random number gizmo. The first four numbers to come up define the lucky recipients of our prizes. Even before this edition has reached their doorsteps we hope to have delivered:

A **bottle of whisky** to James & Kate Millar, the first subscribers out of the "hat". A half **bottle of liqueur** of repute to the second fortunate winner, Donald Merrylees

and **boxes of chocolates** to Andrea & David Linsell and Rosemary Alder who were third and fourth in the subscriber department.

A **bottle of brandy** to Wick Street Security, the advertiser who, among the many we value, had drawn lucky.

Happy Christmas, and thank you all



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Merry Christmas

Anne-Marie Randall
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We did remember them

The customary Act of Remembrance was held at the War Memorial at the traditional time of 1100 on the 11th November. This year there was added poignancy given that the First World War started 100 years ago, although nowadays all service men and women who died in conflict are remembered and not only those who died in the First World War.

The service was of course non-denominational. It was introduced by Rev Mike Holloway and the Parish Council chairman, Martin Slinger, read the lesson. Rev Mike in his address emphasised that the purpose of the Remembrance Day Service was to recall the names of those in our community who had lost their lives fighting in the two world wars, that their sacrifice might never be forgotten and to remind everyone,



particularly the young, of the horrors of war and the need to strive for peace. The prayer was led by Rev Bogdan Wasylikiw from the Roman Catholic Church. Wreaths were laid by representatives of various organisations and individuals.

Any organisation wishing to lay a wreath at next year's Remembrance Day Service should contact the Clerk to the Parish Council on 812722 or by email at clerkpainswickpc@hotmail.com



Gloucester RFC and its players during the Great War

On Wednesday 29th October, Painswick Mens Probus was given a fascinating talk by Martin Davies on Gloucester Rugby Club and the Players at the beginning of the 20th Century and their individual contribution to the 1914-1918 War.

Initially no-one in Great Britain believed that war was inevitable and life and rugby carried on as normal. However on the 4th August 1914 everything changed and the young men of Gloucester were called to the colours. Most of the Gloucester Players joined the 5th Gloucester Regiment and trained at Chelmsford. During this period the more famous and international Players were used on recruitment posters stating that 90% have enlisted and urging every man to join up. Later County Cricket Club Players were used in a similar poster. During their time at Chelmsford the Players formed an intercompany competition proving, once again, the lure of rugby football.

On completion of their training the Battalion moved across to France, marched up to the Belgium border where their war began in earnest at The Battle at Mons. Even then they organised matches behind the lines on any flat piece of ground, the biggest problem were the shell holes!



After fighting on all fronts Gloucester Players found themselves on The Somme to face a 142 day offensive, which began in June 1916. On the first day over 19,000 soldiers lost their lives, it was also a sad day for the ex-Players, 11 were killed during this conflict. In the four years, 30 men of Gloucester Rugby Club lost their lives. There were many medals awarded including DSM, DSO, MM and MC.

Immediately after the war the club committee worked hard to re-establish the game and by September 1919 they were almost back to normal with a first season of 33 games.

The Kingsholm Stadium War Memorial was unveiled in 2013 and can be found near the main reception area, it shows the names of the 30 men who fell. A final tribute to the very special Players of Gloucester Rugby Club.

Mens Probus is held fortnightly on a Wednesday morning at the Painswick Centre commencing 10.30am (10,00am for coffee). New members and guests are very welcome. See The Beacon Diary for details.

Alan Hudson

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Roco Reflections

With the Garden closing for the season at the end of October, it is always the time we look back and contemplate on the year we

have had. The heavy rain in January and February certainly threw us a googly, not because of the continual wet days but more the medias interpretations of the effects it was having. Not a night went past without the message being given out that the whole of the South West was underwater and our more normal phone request of "Are the snowdrops at their best?" was replaced by "We assume we cannot get to Painswick as all the roads are flooded" - not very helpful!

However, as often is the case with the seasons, things balance out and the generally very good summer and autumn helped to lift our spirits.

A brief review of highlights brings to mind the amazing HandleBards and their frenetic interpretation of Shakespeare's As You Like It and Macbeth. I have never seen The Scottish Play performed in such a lighthearted and entertaining way.

Later in the summer, whilst all the filming was taking place in the village, we hosted a clandestine BBC recording of a new gardening competition to be screened in the New Year. We are under strict guidelines not to give too much information away and as soon as the week's filming was over we had to strip the site and remove any evidence that they had been here. However we were able to make full use of any materials left and that has enabled Steve, our Head Gardener, and his team to create new beds and plantings around the Garden and an exciting new bamboo plantation in the Nature Trail.

During 2013 we restored the planting around the Plunge Pool and this year we have seen this splash of new colour come to fruition, transforming the view from when you first walk into the Garden. The Plunge Pool itself was called into use on several occasions as staff and volunteers took part in the Ice Bucket Challenge that made the news this year. The logic was the Plunge Pool was not as cold as a bucket of ice water - in reality we should have thought a bucket is a bucket, the plunge pool required total immersion!

Now as winter draws in, we have embarked on a list of maintenance work that just cannot be done whilst we are open, and our attention is transferring to 2015.

Finally can I on behalf of the Trust thank everyone who has supported us throughout 2014 whether as a visitor or volunteer, without you our work would be impossible.

Paul Moir

Bird life - poles apart

Dr Michael Leach (wildlife photographer) returned to Painswick to a gathering from Gloucestershire Naturalists' Society and the Bird Club. The topic, "Poles Apart," conducted in usual animated, often humorous style, was superbly illustrated – a story of extremes?



Arctic waves up to 60 ft., temperatures down to -40 degrees C. and an icecap a mere 2 miles thick, yet the tern sees more sunshine than any other bird! The Arctic tale is of immense diversity, the Antarctic's rather the reverse, bird species few. Snowy owls (greater than 4ft wing span) grab lemmings below Arctic snow surface, polar bears, the seals through 6 inches of pack ice! Mighty is the moose (all 7ft height and horns) so too the polar bear (3m and 800kg) "endangered" from climate change with extended summer and dangerously long starvation period. The 'Ryme of the Ancient Mariner' did not feature but the albatross did (11 ft span) even with flights of 6,000 miles per day, hunting food for chicks. Contrast crustacean krill size at 4cm yet Antarctic aggregates reach 20 miles. Vitally krill – a huge part of the food chain for many marine species – is under threat, supposedly 70% reduced in mass, Homo sapiens contributing to predation. Questions at the end of the meeting were of our role too in climate change.

The next occasion is a field trip to the WWT Slimbridge on Tuesday December 9th meeting in reception at 10.45am. Visitors welcome, normal admission charges apply. Sturdy footwear advisable."

Martin and Wendy Addy

Resthaven Nursing Home expanding

The Trustees of Resthaven Nursing Home are delighted to announce that, following a successful recent planning application to Stroud District Council, work is to start on 24th November on a seven bedroom extension with a completion date of June 2015.

The new extension will comprise seven bedrooms with en-suite wet rooms of which three rooms will be on the ground floor, with their own patio area, and the other four on the first floor. The new extension will adjoin the west side of the existing building with views of Pitchcombe Wood and down the Painswick valley towards Stroud. In addition to the new rooms there will be a new nurse centre.

The extension, which has been designed by Gloucester architects, astam and will be constructed by Town and City Builders Ltd of Hempstead, will give Resthaven a total of 42 rooms to continue its tradition of providing homely nursing facilities to residents from Gloucestershire and beyond. The Home has now been a charitable, i.e. not-for-profit, trust for 50 years and is one of a dwindling number of smaller independent nursing homes within the Stroud and Gloucester area.

Peter Hewlett, Trustee

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Resthaven Nursing Home Limited is a Limited Company registered in England & Wales (No. 805664) and a Registered Charity (No. 235354)

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.

Call for speed bumps

Jonathan Choat writes from New Street:
There is a psychological condition called 'wilful blindness' which disables normal emotional or rational judgement for a variety of causes. The worthy attempts to control the chronic speeding through the centre of Painswick are all concentrated on persuasion not prevention and will fail because motorists do not care. Prevention is by the installation of the unmentionable -suitable speed bumps. The County Council's Roads officer, Daniel Tiffney, apparently needs an accident black spot to be created by more numerous local road deaths or maiming, for such measures to be considered. The Parish Council and Councillor Bullingham ignore the possibility or are inarticulate. Let us remove the scales from their eyes. Appropriate speed bumps are the only preventive solution. Discuss – but sensibly please.

Not a dog's toilet

Audrey Timpson writes on behalf of her neighbours:

With reference to the report from Hambutt's Field Trust in the November issue, I would like people to know that my drive, opposite to the Field, is not an area designated as a dog toilet either.

Every year when evenings lengthen we, the inhabitants have to spend time and energy cleaning shoes and carpets from our drive. It's very unpleasant, and unhygienic, and we hope you will remember to carry torches and poo bags and take them home with you if the bin is full.

PROBUS WOMEN

On 10th October a large turnout of Probus Women were delighted to have as their Guest Speaker the well-known local, romantic novelist Katie Fforde who started writing in 1995 and has written well over 20 books. The Probus donation for her talk as well as all the proceeds from a few books she had with her, which she sold and signed, went to Gloucester Young Carers at Katie's request.

Katie read a few pages from her new book entitled A Christmas Feast - indeed, a feast of short stories. She then explained how her creative process works. How she is strict with herself in order to put down at least one thousand words a day. Many questions were asked from the floor regarding her stories and her characters and she answered them all fully and with that sparkle of familiar humour so much associated with many of her characters and her particular way of writing. Very much enjoyed by all who came along.

All our meetings commence with coffee at 10.00am for a 10.30 start and are held in The Church Rooms on the second Monday of the month. Guests always welcome @ £3. Come along and sample one of our meetings and find out what Probus Women is all about. You would be more than welcome

delia Mason

Painswick Community Speed Watch – the results and consequences.

10 trained volunteers carried out morning and afternoon speed checks at 6 different locations along the A46 and B4073 within Painswick during the week commencing 27th October. Over just 15hrs a remarkable total of 221 full registrations of vehicles exceeding the ACPO speed limit, were recorded. 148 vehicles were recorded in the 30mph zones (on the A46, outside Gyde Barn and Richmond), with the majority of these horrifyingly exceeding 40mph! Within the 20mph zone, 72 vehicles were recorded at speeds in excess of 24mph, despite the parked cars, narrow roads and footways, access and side roads. (NB: The difference in numbers, i.e. 72+148 vs 221 is due to a small number of full registrations not being fully recorded).

These figures and the recorded registrations were welcomed by our local Neighbourhood Police team, who will be writing to or visiting a selection of offenders, particularly those who are local. Further, this has provided the evidence to support some additional police enforcement checks.

My thanks goes to all the volunteers for their enthusiasm and commitment and specifically to Alan Hudson for his impeccable organisation. In our campaign to establish a "speed aware" reputation for Painswick, we will be hitting the streets again in the coming months.... So keep an eye on your speed!

Finally, I would also like to use this data to agree some designated sites for the Police Camera Enforcement Unit speed van. Unfortunately, we don't have any laybys or suitable parking bays, so may be reliant on private accesses. If you have a wide access with good visibility within the 40, 30 or 20mph zones and would be willing for it to be used by the Speed Enforcement Van, please get in touch (abigailsmith275@btinternet.com or 0771 807 9435)

Cllr Abigail Smith, Chair of Traffic Committee, Painswick Parish Council.

Police Report

Under the Painswick Parish there were eleven substantiated crimes recorded for the month of October.

Dog Attacks:

Under the Home Office guidelines dog attacks on people are recorded as violence offences. There were two incidents recorded of dog bites on people in October resulting in minor injury. Painswick is a popular area for dog ownership and dog walking and dog owners are reminded that any incident reported to Police where a dog attacks a person causing injury either in public or private is potentially a crime recordable offence. Police are required to record any such offence and investigate accordingly. Potentially a dog owner could risk a Summons to Court for such an incident and the imposition of a variety of Court imposed sanctions as a result.



Community Speed Watch:

During the month of October The Painswick Community Speed Watch group conducted their first week of roadside speed checks after receiving instruction earlier in the month from PC 1008 WOOD. The group were active at a number of sites throughout Painswick during the week of 27th to 31st October 2014. The Community Speed Watch initiative is a great way for communities to be seen raising the awareness of speed issues, highlighting to motorists the issue of speed and of taking an active ownership of the roads in their own communities. The group are planning more checks in the New Year so remember to give them a wave when you see them.

May we wish all the residents of Painswick Parish a Happy, Safe and Enjoyable Christmas and New Year on behalf of Gloucestershire Constabulary.

*PCSO Colin Drewett
& PC 1008 David Wood*

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Sports reports

assembled by John Barrus

Golf Club

As I write this, the weather has turned, and wet and windy weather is with us. It does not stop the golf, but the sunnier days are much more enjoyable. Painswick is fortunate in having a course that drains well and rarely closes because of waterlogging.

The Seniors' section held their AGM on 6th November, and elected Terry Coleman as their captain for the coming year, and John Courts as vice-captain. The last month has been a busy one in the section. The November stableford competition was won by Ian Pringle with a score of 37 points. Henry Cownie achieved the same score, but had a worse "back nine". Duncan Toase, the Seniors' Competitions Secretary also organised a number of social competitions during the month. The first, a Texas Scramble, was won by Anthony Fisher, Mike Little and David Walker with a score of 55.67. The second, a greensome competition – in which players play alternate shots after choosing which drive they wish to take, was won by Duncan Toase and Peter Sibley with a score of 46 points. A third competition, a Bowmaker, will be played shortly after submitting this report.

A Texas Scramble organised by Sylvia Walker was held on 18th November. Teams of four were selected from the Ladies' and Seniors' sections, and the competition was won by Lesley Wylde, Henry Hall, Roger Anthony and Norman Pullin with a score of 56.25 points. Congratulations to all the winners.

The club has just set up "facebook" and "twitter" page. Peter Rowe who is developing them (as well as learning about social media) would appreciate it if any facebook and twitter users among Beacon readers were to "like" or "follow" the sites.

Painswick Golf Club welcomes visitors and new members are welcome throughout the year. Visitors are also welcome in the clubhouse for refreshments or meals, and the venue is excellent for Christmas lunches. Please contact Mike or Tom Horton for details and opening times (812180).

Peter Rowe

Tennis

Painswick LTC held its Annual General Meeting on the 10th November. The annual awards were presented at the meeting.

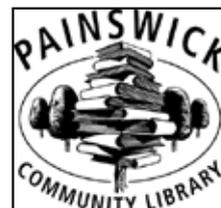


From left to right: David Ions - Pete Bolton Cup; Hannah Watkins - Maureen Connolly Cup; James Carmichael - Most improved player; Erin Wright - Boris Becker Cup; Vanessa Roderick - Player of the year; Mike Hall - Member of the year.

If anyone is interested in joining the tennis club please contact Ruth Smith on 07919 246386

Community Library news

Opening hours over the Christmas period:



In December, the last opening day before Christmas will be Monday 22nd December, 2:30pm – 5:30pm, We will then be closed until the New Year, and re-opening on Friday 2nd January 2015 10.00 – 1.00pm and 2.30 – 5.30 pm

Normal opening times after that. Return dates for books will take into account library opening.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all our customers!

Painswick Book Clubs

In November we welcomed representatives from eight Painswick book groups at an open evening in the library. A discussion followed on how each group operated, how books were selected and additional activities groups had tried such as literary walks or lectures. All the groups found their own systems worked well, whether it was super organised or rather haphazard!

Each group nominated their favourite books and these recommendations have been listed on the library website. It was good to see such enthusiasm for book groups in the village, with friendship, nice nibbles and 'putting the world to rights' common threads across the groups. If your group wasn't invited and you would like to know about any future events, please leave your contact information at the library desk for the attention of Julia Churchley.

Surrounding villages

We have copies in our reference section of the news magazines from the villages around Painswick, as well as The Beacon ie in Village Voice - Edge, Sheepscombe News, Cranham Parish, Around the Lamp - Painswick

So there's no excuse for now knowing what is going on in the whole of the Parish!

Family History

A reminder that if you log on via the library computers, you can have free access to two of the most popular family history websites – ancestry.co.uk and findmypast.co.uk

Dates have now been fixed for another Family History Course with Peter Rowe. 2 pm on Saturdays January 10th, February 14th and March 14th. There are still places left – call in at the library for an application form.

Ian Cridland

Sale at Pitchcombe Village Hall on Saturday, 6th December, 11 - 2 pm.

Items of house clearance, furniture, soft furnishing, books, clothes, toys, equestrian dispersal and much more. Donations welcome. Free admission and car park. Tea and cake for sale. There will be signs by the A4173 at Pitchcombe to guide you to Pitchcombe Village Hall and Car park. Proceeds towards the upkeep of Pitchcombe Village hall.

Liberal Democrats

Painswick Liberal Democrats hosted the Stroud Constituency Liberal Democrats Annual Dinner at Hortons at Painswick Golf Club on Friday 14th November. The guest speaker was Lord Teverson, the former MEP for Cornwall and West Plymouth who at one time lived at Haresfield.

Painswick theatre club

We are a group who enjoy the theatre and travel together.

This year we have seen 6 productions - Black coffee, The Mousetrap, Sense & Sensibility, Two Gentlemen of Verona, The Hypochondriac and Calamity Jane; 5 matinees and 1 evening event; located at Bath, Cheltenham, Newbury, Stratford and Malvern.

If you would like to join us, please contact Diana Barclay, Chairman on 01452 812332

*Sue Leighton-Boyce Secretary
Painswick Theatre Club*

British film music

Listening to some exciting and glorious music we became aware of the enriched effect the orchestra has on the words and story of films. Ian Hiscock enabled us to listen with fascination to music composed for famous British films such as Bridge on the River Kwai, Belles of St. Trinians, Murder on the Orient Express, Brideshead Revisited, Tinker Taylor Soldier Spy and several others.

An unusual and exceptional experience.

PMAG are organising a matinee concert outing to Symphony Hall Birmingham on Tuesday 19th February to hear Schubert - Unfinished Symphony, Strauss - Horn concerto No. 2, Dvorak - Symphony No. 7

Coach transport will be provided from Stamages Lane carpark leaving mid morning. Anyone who would like to join this outing please contact John Herbert on 01452 548194. Reservations must be made before 18th December and the cost will be approximately £39 to be confirmed when final numbers are available.

Ralph Kenber



Art exhibition, Painswick Town Hall.

Saturday, 6th and Sunday 7th December

Valerie Dugan and Paul Grey who used to live at The Shetland Shop, are returning to Painswick with an exhibition of their work in the Town Hall on 6th and 7th December, open 10:00 – 4:30pm each day. Valerie, of course, is remembered for her Botanical Art and Paul for his framing and fossils. They are joined by Ian Shearman. Valerie and Paul would welcome friends to come and have a chat.

Joyce Barrus

Christmas preparations



Painswick's Country Market will be open every Friday, from 10 to 11 am, until its final market of 2014 on Friday 19th December, when pre-ordered Christmas baking can be collected. We can provide Christmas cakes and puddings, mince pies and other seasonal baking, plus decorative goods such as wreaths and mistletoe. Please check the Christmas display table for samples of the seasonal produce available for ordering. The latest market at which we can accept orders for Christmas baking is next Friday, 12th December. Alternatively, please contact the Market Manager, Pamela Westcott on tel. 812471. We can also take orders for honey and free range eggs to tide you over the holiday period.

After a well-earned break, our bakers and other producers will be back on Friday 16th January 2015 when we re-open. Until then, the Market's officers, helpers and producers all wish you a Happy Christmas and peaceful New Year.

Jane Rowe, 813228

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With Christmas in mind and thinking of giving and receiving presents I thought it might be useful to look at some local schemes available to help individuals and groups.

Village Agents are managed by GRCC (Gloucestershire Rural Community Council) which gives all sorts of support and advice too numerous to list here, but ranging from providing IT training for carers, helping with parish plans, or managing a new grant called the **GRCC Community Activities Grant**. The grants available range from £300-£1,000 and are aimed at small local community, or voluntary or self-help groups. The objective of the grant must be to create NEW activities. Examples might be purchasing equipment to start or increase a new sports activity, paying hire charges of a venue, or a grant to an existing luncheon club to create a new after lunch activity.

The group must be established for charitable purposes, have a bank account and the grant has to be used within 1 year. The next applications deadline is Wednesday 7th January 2015. If you want to know more details, call me or contact GRCC (details at the end of this article).

Our own Stroud Council has various grants available to help homeowners and tenants in their homes and some loan schemes to help homeowners with housing repairs, energy efficient improvements, and reusing empty properties.

Empty Homes Loan: An interest free loan of up to £15,000 may be offered to assist an owner with renovation costs to get the property back to use for affordable housing.



Healthy Homes Loan: This is an interest free loan of up to £15,000 for essential repair work to a home. Applicants must be homeowners and the property must be banded in A,B,C, or D under council tax.

Rent in Advance and Deposit Bonds : Funding to help people access property in the private rented sector. Helpful for those that can afford to rent privately but do not have the upfront cash to secure a deposit or rent in advance.

Disabled facilities Grant (DFG): This is financial assistance of up to £30,000 to adapt a property to help people stay in their homes.

Target 2050: This is a loan to enable homeowners to carryout energy efficiency improvements, and install renewable technologies. There is a fixed interest of 5% per annum (typical 8.9% APR. (This is our version of the governments Green Deal loan which is more expensive).

I hope you find this information useful, and I would like to send you all seasonal greetings and look forward to hearing from you in 2015.

GRCC: For information about the Community Activities Grant call 01452 528491 or email Barbara Pond b.pong@gccc.org.uk

Stroud District Council: Susan Phelps, Housing Renewal officer.01453 754449 or susan.phelps@stroud.gov.uk

Lou Kemp 07776 245767

PROPERTY REPORT for November from Hamptons International

As 2014 draws to a close it is good to be able to look back over the year past and to speculate on what 2015 may have in store for us. Overall, the Painswick property market has behaved with confidence and strength during the course of the last year and, although it is true to say there have been some highs and lows, our volume of transactions looks set to finish the year some 50% up on last year and at a level not seen since 2006.

Looking ahead, the UK economy remains strong with the International Monetary Fund expecting the UK to be the fastest growing large developed economy in 2014 and the latest Bank of England Credit Conditions survey showing that building societies are in a mind to lend and are chasing market share on the back of more favourable economic conditions. The “known unknown” for next year will be the impact of the General Election. Although I expect by the end of 2015 things will have balanced out, experience would suggest that activity levels will fall in the immediate run up to the Election. Taking this into account, along with the statistics produced by Rightmove that highlight peaks in activity over the Festive Season, it could be prudent advice to instruct an agent in the sale of your property before the end of 2014 in order to ensure you benefit from any “early bird” activity over Christmas or first months of 2015.

If you are considering selling your property in 2015 why not give Hamptons a call to discuss your requirements and benefit from the advice of an office whose staff have worked through these events previously and have a proven track record in all

market conditions.

As part of Hamptons’ continued growth strategy, I am pleased to report that by the end of 2014 we will have opened nine new offices including offices in Salisbury, Sherborne, Taunton and Stratford-upon-Avon confirming our commitment to provide our customers with a complete UK property service as we head into 2015.

Finally, we are proud to announce that once again Hamptons will be supporting The Croft Primary School’s Christmas Fayre which will be on Friday 12 December from 6-8pm.

In brief, we have recently taken instructions on: 2 Hillview Cottages, Russell House, The Watch House and Green Ridges in Painswick; Robinswood Lodge and Redwell House on Robinswood Hill; Forge Cottage in Pitchcombe, East Barn in Brookthorpe; and Rosewood House in Birdlip.

Sales agreed recently include: Washwell Cottage, 3 George Court, Elmer Lodge and Jasmine Cottage in Painswick; Steps House in Upton St Leonards; Badger House in Brimpsfield; East Barn in Brookthorpe; and Shard Cottage in Elmore. Properties that have now sold include: 5 St Marys Mead, 18 Gyde House, Knapp Corner House, Tithe Cottage, The East House and Gerrans in Painswick; 22 Churchfield Road, Steps House and The Coach House in Upton St Leonards; Dial House in Sheepscombe; East Barn in Brookthorpe; and Hillside in Edge.

Guy Tabony, Branch Manager

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DECEMBER

Sat	6	Painswick Beacon Conservation Group scrub clearance working party: location check 813734 or 814205	Painswick Beacon	9.00am to 1.00pm
		Just for Fun Quiz Night	Painswick Centre	7.00 to 11.00pm
Sun	7	Holy Communion (BCP)	St Mary's Church	8.00am
		Mass	Catholic Church	8.30am
		Sung Eucharist	St Mary's Church	9.30am
Mon	8	Painswick Valley Toddler Group - Mondays (school term time only)	Pitchcombe Vill. Hall	9.50 to 11.30am
		Women's Probus: Quiz - Quiz Master Ellie Harper: followed by lunch at The Falcon	Church Rooms	10.00am
		Short Mat Bowls - Mondays (contact 813627)	Town Hall	10.30am
		Community Lunch - Hosts - Wednesday Ashwell Group (Ashwell Centre off Churchill Way)	Ashwell Centre	12noon to 1.15pm
		Yoga (Mondays) contact Kim 812623	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
		Have Your Say' Group - Mondays 8th & 15th: contact Roger Leigh 01452 536325	Cotswold 88	7.30 to 9.30pm
Tue	9	Zumba Gold dance fitness class for Seniors: £5 pp Tuesdays. Tel: 07766 101790	Painswick Centre	10.00am
		Bird Club Field Trip to Slimbridge WWT	Slimbridge	10.45am
		Health Walk (One Hour) - Tuesdays: Enq. 813228	Town Hall	1.45 for 2.00pm
		Cupcakes for Carers: Support group for helpers of homebound through illness: Tel 813326	P. Centre Green Room	2.00 to 4.30pm
Wed	10	Bingo: Tuesdays - Tel. Ann, 813911 / Liz, 814890	Ashwell House	6.30 to 9.00pm
		Yoga (Wednesdays) contact Kim 812623	Sheepscombe Vill. Hall	9.30 to 11.00am
		Painswick Toddler Group - held at Painswick Children's Centre: Wednesdays	Croft School	10.30am to 12noon
		P'wick Gardening Club: Social Evening & Gardening Quiz	Church Rooms	6.00pm
		Table Tennis - Wednesdays	Painswick Centre	7.00 to 9.00pm
		Probus: Christmas Dinner with the Ladies	The Hill, Merrywalks	7.00 for 7.30pm
		Parish Council Meeting	Town Hall	7.30pm
Thu	11	Yoga - All Abilities (Thursdays) Cotswold Room 812623	Painswick Centre	9.30 to 11.00am
		T'ai Chi: Thursdays - Contact 812344	Town Hall	9.30am
		Dog Training Club (Thursdays)	Church Rooms	9.30 to 12.00noon
		Jolly Stompers Line Dancing: Beginners - Thursdays- tel. Julie - 01453 752480	Town Hall	12.00 to 1.00pm
		Experienced beginners - Thursdays	Town Hall	12.30 to 1.30pm
		Music Appreciation Group: Christmas Party	Town Hall	7.30pm
Fri	12	Country Market: Coffee available - Fridays	Town Hall	10.00am
		Christmas Fayre hosted by Friends of Croft School	Croft School	6.00 to 8.00pm
		Christmas Brass Band Concert in aid of Stroud & District Mencap	Painswick Centre	7.30pm
Sun	14	Holy Communion (BCP)	St Mary's Church	8.00am
		Mass	Catholic Church	8.30am
		Informal Holy Communion	St Mary's Church	9.30am
Mon	15	Psalms Annual Christmas Quiz Night	Youth & comm. Pavilion	7.30pm
Tue	16	Yew Trees W.I.: Christmas Gathering	Church Rooms	7.00pm
Fri	19	Christmas Country Market (last in 2014) - coffee available	town Hall	10.00 to 11.00am
		Christmas Carol Party & Tea: Anyone welcome & transport can be provided (tel 814242)	Church Rooms	3.00 to 5.00pm
Sat	20	Copy Date for January Beacon		
		Painswick Beacon Conservation Group scrub clearance working party: location check 813734 or 814205	Painswick Beacon	9.00am to 1.00pm
		Painswick Arts & Crafts Market	town Hall	10.00am to 2.00pm
		Painswick Singers Christmas Concert: Main work - 'Hodia' by Vaughan Williams	St. Mary's Church	7.30pm



Sun	21	Holy Communion (BCP) Mass Sung Eucharist Service of Lessons & Carols	St Mary's Church Catholic Church St Mary's Church St Mary's Church	8.00am 8.30am 9.30am 4.00pm
Wed	24	Crib Service Midnight Mass	St Mary's Church St Mary's Church	4.00pm 11.30pm
Thu	25	Family Communion	St Mary's Church	9.30am
Fri	26	No Country Market (re-opens 16th January)		
Sun	28	Benefice Holy Communion	St Mary's Church	9.30am

JANUARY

Sat	3	January Issue of The Painswick Beacon published		
Wed	7	Probus: Rail & Road through East Germany - David Thorp	Painswick Centre	10.00am
Sat	10	Painswick Beacon Conservation Group scrub clearance working party: location check 813734 or 814205	Painswick Beacon	9.00am to 1.00pm
Mon	12	Women's Probus: 50 years Before the Mast - Liz Hall / Life in Malaysia in the early 50's - Sylvia Steer	Church Rooms	10.00am
Tue	20	Local History Society: History of Newspapers / Citizen Newspaper - John Lovell	Croft School	7.30pm
Wed	21	Probus: Commercial Energy Efficiency - A Common Sense Approach - Mike Brain, Severn Wye Energy Painswick Players Coffee Evening	Painswick Centre Church Rooms	10.00am 7.30 to 9.30pm
Sat	24	Painswick Beacon Conservation Group scrub clearance working party: location check 813734 or 814205	Painswick Beacon	9.00am to 1.00pm
Thu	29	Painswick Players Play Reading contact Jill 01452 810888		7.30 to 10.00pm

FEBRUARY

Wed	4	Probus: Discovering a Family Tree - Dennis Halliday	Painswick Centre	10.00am
Sat	7	Painswick Beacon Conservation Group scrub clearance working party: location check 813734 or 814205	Painswick Beacon	9.00am to 1.00pm
Wed	11	Bird Club: Garden Birds - Top Ten Facts - Edward Drewitt: joint afternoon meeting with Horticultural Society	Church Rooms	2.30pm
Sat	14	Theatre Club Outing to Oxford Theatre	Stamages Car Park	11.00am
Thu	26	Painswick Players Play Reading contact Jill 01452 810888		7.30 to 10.00pm

APRIL

Sat	18	Ceilidh (barn dance) in aid of Psalms. £10 which includes a Ploughman's Supper	Painswick Centre	7.00pm
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Entries for the Village Diary should be sent direct to **Eddie Buttrey** at: mikeandeddie@thebuttreys.com

Painswick Midsummers Ball

Painswick Summer Ball Committee kindly invite the residents of Painswick and surrounding villages to The Midsummers Ball at Broadham Fields - Friday 26 June

With a new Committee, new caterers, band and supporters we want to make the event as inclusive as possible. We will also be supporting the The Door Youth Project, based locally in Stroud helping local children, youths and their families, through a charity auction. <http://www.thedooryouthproject.org.uk>

- Three course dinner
- Champagne and Wine bar
- Live band
- DJ set
- Disco Charity Auction
- Magician
- Photographer
- Plus other entertainment

We are keen to focus on local providers and groups and will feature local musician Steve Twigg and his band Mango Jam. We also have already had offers of kind support from local businesses including The Falcon, Core Lighting and Anne Marie Randall Photography and Andrew Lovell. We are keen to secure further sponsorship to allow us to add further to the event and also, separately items for the Charity Auction.

With committee members from their 20's to those who are entering their 6th decade we are keen to make this a fantastic evening that all within the village can enjoy. (The marquee will also be available for hire on the subsequent Saturday (27th June) if anyone in the village is looking for a marquee that can hold c300+ people)

Tickets will be available on sale from the New Year.

We look forward to seeing you at Broadham Fields for this new 'Village Event' next summer, Christmas is coming but the Ball will soon be here. Reserve the date of 26 June in your diaries.

David Nottingham, 01452 813064

MINI-ADS

Craftsman built 1/12th Model Elizabethan Manor House. Panelled Great Hall with minstrel gallery and carved beams, plus 6 rooms opening individually. Size 110x80x75 cm. Offers around £400. ruth@rumal.co.uk

Single divan bed. Very comfortable and clean. Free to good home. 812149

For Sale Mothercare Cot and Mattress. Bought new for grandchildren £25 814241

Pine Table, 2'4" X 3'8" £30 07740 5142130

Wanted : Grandfather clocks from Thomas Hitchins, Clockmaker Painswick 1800's. Please e-mail Jonathan.Choat@nexuspr.com.



PLANNING MATTERS

Information received from the Parish Council

NEW APPLICATIONS

S.14/2016/FUL - HOLCOMBE FOLLY, Erection of an agricultural storage barn.

S.14/2522/HHOLD - THE COACH HOUSE, Sevenleaze Lane, Edg, Retrospective application for single storey timber outbuilding.

S.14/2549/FUL - COMMUNICATION STATION AT PAINSWICK GOLF COURSE, Installation of 20m lattice tower housing 4 antennas together on head frame support poles at the top of the structure with 1 x 600mm dish on brackets below together with associated ancillary works.

S.14/2576/LBC & S.14/2449/FUL - THE BUNGALOW BARN AT HILL FARM, Conversion and extension of existing barn to form new dwelling.

S.14/2591/HHOLD - BLAKEWELL FARM, Edge Road, Demolition of existing outbuilding to be replaced with proposed double garage with worktop and studio over.

S.14/2624/DISCON - LITTLE FLEECE, Bisley Street, Proposed internal alterations to the existing kitchen and bathroom to provide improved facilities.

S.14/2446/TCA - TREES AT, LOWER WASHWELL LANE, Hornbeam (T1): Dismantle due to damage and decay of large branches overhanging road and neighbour's property.

S.14/2633/LBC - BARN TO SOUTH OF HOLCOMBE HOUSE, Single Storey Extension to Barn.

CONSENT

S.14/1756/FUL - MEADOW COTTAGE, Kingsmead, Demolition of existing house and two garages. Construction of replacement dwelling.

S.14/1901/FUL - PYLL HOUSE, Jacks Green, Sheepscombe, Erection of 4 bay barn.
S.14/2166/LBC - SHETLANDS, Far End, Sheepscombe, Extension and alterations to a listed cottage.

S.14/2165/HHOLD - SHETLANDS, Far End, Sheepscombe, Two storey extension and alterations.

S.14/2377/TPO - LYNCOMBE FARM, Cheltenham Road, Remove various sycamore and twisted ash (up to 14 trees). Plant five Ash trees to replace.

S.14/0456/HHOLD - THE SKIPPETS, Damsells Mill Lane, Sheepscombe, Demolition of existing outbuilding and erection of new building to provide annexe accommodation.

S.14/2042/HHOLD & S.14/2043/LBC - BROWNSHILL COURT, Wick Street, Extend existing roof line of billiard room to tie into drawing room roof. Remove existing parapet wall and gutter between two roof spaces and match the roof arrangement of opposite wing.

S.14/2074/HHOLD - 3 VATCH COTTAGES, Catswood Lane, Amendment to planning permission S.14/0193/HOLD to increase the ground floor extension the full width of the site.

S.14/2073/LBC - LITTLE FLEECE, Bisley Street, Proposed internal alteration to the existing kitchen and bathroom to provide improved facilities.

S.14/2088/LBC - FLAT 18, Gyde House, Gyde Road, Provision of 2 Bedrooms and shower room in existing roof space with conservation roof lights. New staircase and new front door.

S.14/2091/HHOLD - CARTERS COTTAGE, Hammonds Farm, Wick Street, Conversion of existing attached garage to family room with enlarged bedroom and bathroom over. Extend existing stable to form new double garage with bedroom and bathroom over.
S.14/2103/HHOLD - 2 PAINSWICK HEIGHTS, Yokehouse Lane, Single Storey extension to dwelling.

S.14/32135/LBC - DIAL TRYST, Vicarage Street, Repointing.

S.14/2087/HHOLD - FLAT 18, GYDE HOUSE, Gyde Road, Provision of two bedrooms and shower room in existing roof space with conservation roof lights. New staircase and new front door.

S.14/2069/HHOLD - FIELDEN, Slad Road, Slad, Demolition of attached garage and replacement with two storey extension to provide additional living accommodation.

S.14/2139/TCA - STONECROFT, Sheepscombe, Fell x 6 Norway Spruce.
S.14/2267/LBC - AMESBURY, Vicarage Street, Replacement of 3 windows.

S.14/2252/TCA - COURT HOUSE, Hale Lane, Two Lime trees (T1) remove crossing/dead branches and crown raise to 4.5m. Lime Tree (T2) crown raise to 4.5m and clear the street lamp. Lime Tree (T3) crown raise to 5m. Four Beech Trees (T4) raise at tips of branches to 6-7m.

MINI-ADS are free to subscribers.

For non-subscribers and all in the Vacancies or Business category there is a flat charge of £5.00. Text maximum of 30 words + payment by cheque in advance, to 'The Painswick Beacon', to **Joyce Barrus, Millcroft, Steppingstone Lane, Painswick GL6 6RU**

BUSINESS

Grazing and Stabling available for Horses or Ponies near Edge. Please contact Charles on 07729 572775 if interested.

Job Vacancy at Richmond Painswick. Housekeeper (Wellness Spa) Tuesday & Thursday evenings 7.30pm-9.30pm. Please contact Lorraine Mills on 01452 813902 or by email lorraine.mills@richmond-villages.com for an application form.

Loan/hire of menage within hacking distance of Edge for 2 local adult riders with young horses. Paula 01452 813040

Teeceee's House Keeping child minding/ ironing/ dog walking and general all round help - local existing customers available for excellent references - please call 07784385540 or email me: teeceee@hotmail.co.uk

Polite young man, Painswick resident, Wycliffe College educated, 17.5 years, seeks work Xmas holidays. Babysitting, petsitting, housesitting, labouring, elderly care, everything considered. Please call or text Harry Ford on 07850 349333.

Fresh Juice Programmes Delivered to Painswick Juices made from organic fruits and vegetables - 3, 5, 7 and 10 days juices - 4 juices per day. info@thejuicedetox.co.uk, 01452 260555. www.thejuicedetox.co.uk

TREE WORK: LANDCARE SERVICES: Tree Work to Big Trees: Small Trees: All Trees: Clare, John & Zeb Painswick 01452 812709: 0796 9918121 : johnrhodes@phonecoop.coop

FIREWOOD: Ash & Beech Firewood: Call Zeb on 07850 647486. Painswick

Gardener with 30 years+ experience seeks regular or one off work. Own equipment, pruning speciality. Free quotes / hourly rates (minimum 4 hrs). Visit www.eco-landscapesstroud.co.uk or ring J-L Bos 01453-299245.

ORCHARD & Fruit Tree Pruning: Management & Conservation: Contact John @ Landcare Painswick 812709 or 07969 918121

Child Care / Housekeeper Cleaning/ Ironing. Honest, reliable lady seeks employment. Experienced. Excellent references available. Tel: Tracy 07971780854 / 01452 770433

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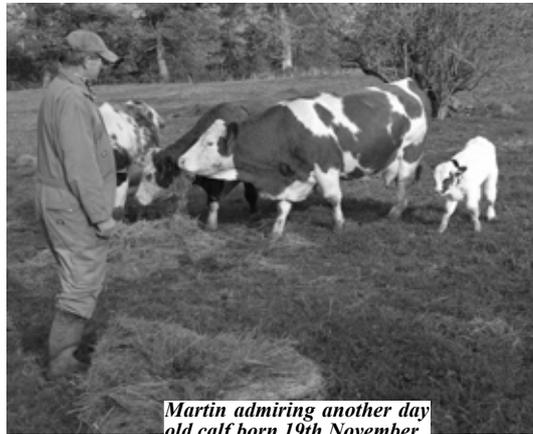
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Rural Jottings.

Just how do spiders do it? Walking down the path the other morning I noticed in the sunlight a single line of cobweb stretching between a tree and a shrub. I measured it with my feet - it was some twelve feet long, and there were no branches of any kind above for the spider to swing from to help him do it.

If you think that bullying is for humans then think again. We have just had a four month old calf being badly knocked around by the others in the pen, despite them all having been together since they were a few weeks old. We moved him to another pen on his own to calm them all down, and he is now quite happy.

Why do people who speed along the roads take a liking for our hedges and fences? They leave a big hole which, when the insurers are involved, can take a long time to be repaired. When the police arrive at the scene they want to know who owns the field and, if there are animals out in the field, they need to discuss whether we can put up a temporary fence or move the animals. All this takes up more time. Unfortunately, more often than not, the police are not called, the driver removes his vehicle (especially at night) and any animals in the field get out on to the road risking a serious accident (for which the



Martin admiring another day old calf born 19th November

owner of the animals is then liable).

As you drive along the roads round here it is quite easy, with our valleys, to see what other farmers are up to. In one field the corn drill had missed a bit and left a gap. Years ago (and still a bit today!) this results in a bit of ribbing amongst farmers. "Do you need some glasses so you can plough straight?" we ask. "You playing draughts because you overlapped putting fertiliser on and that has left light and dark stripes across the field?" "Your Rick is leaning a bit so shall I lend you a prop to keep it stood up?" And so it goes on, but despite all the joking, it is still good that we can call on each other from time to time if we need help.

Martin Slinger

El Contador

"Pasteles de carne caliente cubierto con crema fresca," said our startled Spanish friends. Who wants to eat warm meat covered in fresh cream?" "We always eat this at Christmas time in England, it's very traditional and a huge favourite." This was greeted with the Spanish version of "Yuk; no thank you:" "The villagers of Painswick will eat hundreds of them during Yuletide." (That word needed some explanation too).

"Eaten at teatime ("when's that?" they asked), or with coffee after Christmas Day lunch. With much trepidation we offered our friends a plateful, they were gingerly tasted and then wolfed down. "May we have seconds?" Mince Pies with fresh cream - it got lost in translation.....

Christmas greetings from El Contador.
Christopher and Geraldine Piper-Short





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A glimpse of the Field Club's plans for 2015

The Cotteswold Naturalists' Field Club is finalising next year's excursions, walks, talks and social events for 2015. The walks for 2015



explore the natural history, archaeology and geology of Gloucestershire and will include: a walk around Whittington Lodge Farm where wildlife is encouraged; another chance to visit South Woodchester for its Cotswold Vernacular architecture; a wildflower identification workshop and optional walk on Painswick Beacon with refreshments at the Golf Club; a landscape and geology walk on Cleeve Hill, followed by lunch at the Cleeve Hill Clubhouse; and a visit to Wallbridge, Stroud for its industrial heritage.

Meanwhile, the Club's Field Officers are also researching the coach excursions, all of which depart from Stamages Lane car park. Highlights for 2015 include: Historic Coventry with tours of the medieval Priory Undercrofts, Holy Trinity Church and Guildhall with time to visit the cathedral; Lambourn Racing Stables and nearby Ashdown House; Newport Wetlands, together with the rare Grade I-listed Transporter Bridge straddling the River Usk and Tredegar House; a trip on the Sharpness & Gloucester Canal and the historic Gloucester Docks. Hidden London is lined up for the 5-day Long Excursion.

To make the most of next year's activities, it is worth joining now. Membership priced at £20 (£30 for two) includes all the Club's meetings which are held on the first Wednesday of most months, at 2:30pm in the Painswick Centre, followed by tea and biscuits. January's talk on 7th will be about 'Treasures and Trinkets' when Kurt Adams will show us a selection of the finds from Gloucestershire collected under the Portable Antiquities Scheme. For further details, please contact the Membership Secretary on 813228.

Jane Rowe

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The Personal Column

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 SIR ANTHONY REEVE who has died recently in Horsley aged 76. Sir Anthony who lived in Vicarage Street, Painswick was a pupil at Marling School and Merton College, Oxford where he read English. He joined the Diplomatic Service and was posted to Cairo and Washington, was knighted and became Her Majesty's Ambassador to Jordan and finally Ambassador to South Africa.

And to the family and friends of BOB MILES, the former Vicar of our Cranham, Painswick and Sheepscombe parishes. Bob died peacefully at Resthaven on Monday 10th November. Bob came to Painswick from Northampton to be Vicar of Painswick and Sheepscombe; in 1997 Cranham was added to the benefice. Bob and Rachael retired to Wensleydale in 2001, to a part-time ministry.

Our condolences also to the family and friends of DAVID TEASDALE, a former resident of Painswick, who passed away peacefully on 26 November. His family would like to express their gratitude to the staff at Resthaven at Pitchcombe who cared for him during his final years.

Changes of Address

PEARL JONES has moved to 38A Sherborne House, Stonehouse, Glos, GL10 2HP, 01453 791825. She wishes everyone in Painswick a very merry Christmas

MARY TURNER has moved from Waverley House, Edgeworth to Sunrise, High View, Chorleywood, WD3 5TQ

Congratulations

Many congratulations to BARBARA LEGH SMITH who will be 104 on the 15th December. Will this make her the oldest resident in Painswick? Barbara is still self-sufficient, living on her own. She also continues to play bridge regularly...and can be quite an opponent!

Thank yous

ANNE KENNER thanks everybody for their cards and good wishes and hopes to be home soon.

PETER JENKINS would like to thank all those who so generously contributed to his appeal for donations for Prostate Cancer UK following his wingwalking exploit. Peter was astounded by the generosity and kindness of so many people who contributed via his JustGiving web site page (now closed) or by sending or giving him cash or cheques to forward. He had hoped to raise £750 but was delighted with the final amount raised of over £1250 including gift aid.

Thank you and welcome

Peter Roberts who has been the Beacon's Subscriptions Member since 2010 is standing down and handing over to Jacek Wolowiec. The Beacon Team wish to thank Peter for his considerable contribution to this important role and extend a warm welcome to "Wol".

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Route 46 history

I was sorry to learn of the demise of the 46 bus route, not so much the route as the number itself. There is a lot of history in bus route numbers and around the country many routes have now been running, more or less unchanged, with the same number for over 100 years. Our route '46' is not far behind, having reached the age of ninety-four.

Its history is complicated but is briefly as follows. The first motorbus service, which was operated by the Great Western Railway, reached Painswick in 1905 and was extended in the following year to Cheltenham. By the time of the First World War, Painswick's own bus operator, Maurice Ireland, had given up his horses and was using motor buses on his routes into Stroud and Cheltenham. After the War there was a huge expansion of bus services, partly because vehicles had become more reliable and partly due to the availability of ex-military men with skills in driving and maintenance of motor vehicles.

As with most things where money is to be made, the 'big boys' started to move in. The Western National Omnibus Company opened a route in 1919 from Nailsworth to Painswick which was also soon extended to Cheltenham, in 1920 the company swallowed up Ireland's bus service and in 1921 had taken over the Painswick-Cheltenham section of the GWR route. The company also commenced other bus services around the Stroud area.

Meanwhile, the Bristol Tramways & Carriage Company, which as the name implies had its origins in the tramway system in Bristol, was also extending its territory by operating bus services. They served the country areas around that city and by the start of the 1914-18 War had reached Cheltenham and Gloucester. To head off competition from the Western National, the Bristol Tramways Company started its own service in April 1920 from Cheltenham to Nailsworth, which they numbered '46'. As far as the writer is aware the number was used simply because it was their 46th bus service.

By the mid-1920s Painswick was served by three bus companies, the GWR, Western National and Bristol Tramways. They were soon to be joined by a fourth company, Red & White, but they ran through Painswick to Gloucester rather than Cheltenham. In 1929 the GWR transferred its remaining bus interests to Bristol Tramways but the other three companies continued to operate in and around Painswick throughout the 1930s and during the Second World War. I am sure some older residents will remember these familiar company names.

All of the four big railway companies had large shareholdings in local bus companies and so the 1948 nationalisation of the railways brought about a semi-nationalisation of the bus industry. All three local bus companies effectively came into common ownership and rationalisation of bus services in the Stroud area was inevitable. As a result, Bristol Tramways became the sole bus operator in this area leaving our '46' unchanged.

Full nationalisation of the bus industry came in the late 1960s and with it came a complicated bureaucratic route-numbering scheme. Generally, in this area, local routes had a '5' prefixed to the existing number but because under the grand scheme 546 was allocated elsewhere, the Cheltenham-Nailsworth service had to compromise with '564'. This new numbering system continued until September 1984 when common sense prevailed and the traditional number of '46' returned.

Deregulation of local bus services came in 1986 and, after a short period when the Cheltenham & Gloucester Omnibus Co. operated the service, it was acquired in 1993 by Stagecoach who continue to operate to this day.

Finally, it is perhaps worth mentioning that the '46' bus route arrived before the 'A46' road. The bus service began in April 1920 whilst the national road numbering scheme, of which the A46 was part, did not commence until after April 1923.

Alan Fielder

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Above are three different aspects of Painswick:
 The top photo by David Haslam represents the beautiful surroundings of Painswick even in the winter. The middle photo represents a community event - it was taken during the Festival of games organised by PSALMS prior to the opening of the Community Pavilion. It shows potential entrants for the ACP Festival and also PSALMS helpers. The bottom photo is self evident.

NEXT ISSUE

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or hard copy - preferably typed

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web site - about us

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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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