

The Painswick Beacon

Sine praeiudicio

Volume 40 Number 11

February 2018

Gold Award for Painswick



Painswick's Gold Award under the Local Council Award Scheme was presented at a ceremony in the Town Hall on 24th January. Representatives of voluntary bodies in the town were there to celebrate the award with Parish Councillors and Council officials. Our photo shows Council Chairman Martin Slinger being presented with the award by Alison Robinson, CEO of the Gloucestershire Association of Parish and Town Councils, with Stephen Hirst, Mayor of Tetbury who was one of the Assessment panel.

The Beacon on Social Media

The Painswick Beacon now has a Facebook page. If you are already on Facebook, please do visit us and click on the 'like' button.

The monthly print version of the Beacon will continue to be our main focus, but the new page will allow us to use items that don't fit in easily to our monthly cycle. We hope to feature up to date news and reports that would be out of date by the time of the next edition - keeping you informed about Painswick and perhaps entertained as well.



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Snowdrop month in Painswick

One of the glories of living in Painswick is having the Rococo Garden on our doorstep, and even more so in February, when five million snowdrops are at their peak. If you haven't visited the garden in a while, there are plenty of new features to enjoy as well. Photo from the Rococo Garden by Paul Nicholls. This month's report from the Garden's Trustees is on page 7.

Painswick on television - see page 5

The Beacon Village Quiz

Taking place on Saturday 10th March in the Painswick Centre, 7.00 for 7.30, this annual event is a real social gathering for the local community. Teams of four can come from clubs or societies, from a local street or just a group of friends. Just get together four people to take on the best that Painswick can offer (or if that sounds too daunting, to have a fun evening with friends and a drink or two!)

Email John Barrus at barrusjp@yahoo.co.uk to reserve a table or drop a note in the Beacon post box. The cost per team including light refreshments is £24. Entries close Sunday 4th March.



PARISH COUNCIL NEWS from the Council meeting on January 17th 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 and on-line at the Parish Council's web site.

PLANNING COMMITTEE

Chairman Cllr Rob Lewis opened the Meeting and explained that due to the ongoing technical issues with the District Council's Planning Portal, it would not be possible to discuss two of the applications. They would have to be deferred. The Portal has not been functioning correctly since it was introduced in October 2017. Secondary Users - Local Parish Councils and Members of the Public - are often unable to access Planning Applications or add on-line comments. The Committee were concerned that as statutory consultees, they were unable to carry out their duties. Again it was agreed to send a strongly worded letter to the Chief Executive of the District Council and to request that the District Council issue a press release advising members of the public of the difficulties they may experience when accessing the Portal.

Apologies for absence

The Council accepted apologies for absence from Cllrs Edd Crownshaw, Rosie Nash, Steve Morris, Roey Parker and Abigail Smith.

Matters Arising not on this Agenda

The Clerk, Roy Balgobin, advised the Meeting that correspondence had been received about rubble on Beech Farm that was visible from a public footpath. It was agreed that the farmer would be asked to "tidy up" the area.

To Receive an Update on Catbrain Quarry

Following a Meeting held at the Town Hall on 10th January, attended by Amaury Blow, representing the Painswick Manorship, Cllrs Martin Slinger and Ann Daniels and Clerk Roy Balgobin - Selina Blow, owner of the Painswick Beacon sent her apologies - Cllr Martin Slinger, read out the following prepared Statement:

"Natural England have prepared a

Management Plan which includes the removal of all of the waste outside of the Catbrain Quarry boundary walls. Unfortunately the Management Plan does not include deadline dates. The Manorship has asked Natural England to include dates in the Plan before it is served on Meister Masonry. The Management Plan is a legally enforceable document."

Both the Chairman and the Clerk emphasised that for the time being there would be no further discussion on this matter, although in response to a query, the Clerk confirmed that the land that lies to the east of the quarry's east-facing boundary is not leased to Meister Masonry by the Owner of the Painswick Beacon

Matters requiring a decision

There were seven matters requiring a decision:

- S.17/2847/HHOLD YEW TREE COTTAGE. Stepping Stone Lane. Erect new conservatory in place of existing conservatory. Deferred due to ongoing problems with the District Council's Planning Portal.
- S.17/2864/COU BLAKEWELL FARM. Edge Road. Change of use from part orchard to residential garden. Unanimous recommendation to refuse. This is an historic orchard site in AONB plus it also serves a very important function for the local natural habitat. If the Officer supports the application then the Council will ask for the application to be "called in".
- S.17/2879/HHOLD THE GREEN HOUSE, EDGE. Extension to rear of house. Deferred due to ongoing problems with the District Council's Planning Portal.
- S.17/2771/HHOLD and S.17/2772/LBC SHEEPSCOMBE HOUSE, Jacks Green. Erection of conservatory. Unanimous support.
- S.18/0053/T5DAY JUBILATE, Blakewell Mead. Cedar snow damage, clean up torn limbs. Unanimous support.
- S.18/0055/TPO PARADISE HOUSE, PARADISE. Cedar - canopy lift to 8m all

round. Unanimous support.

PARISH COUNCIL

A member of the public asked for an update on when the A46 was to be repaired. Currently the road between Painswick and Stroud was in a dangerous condition mainly due to deep potholes. County Councillor Keith Rippington reported that major road works were due to be carried out including resurfacing the road from Salmon Springs to Pincot Lane and improving the A46/A4173 junction. It is anticipated that the work will commence at the beginning of March. The potholes had been identified and will be filled.

Chairman Cllr Martin Slinger then opened the Meeting.

Apologies for absence

The Council accepted apologies for absence from Cllrs Roey Parker, Rosie Nash, Steve Morris, Abigail Smith, Edd Crownshaw and District Councillor Nigel Cooper.

To Consider Applicants for Co-Option to the Council

The Chairman advised the Meeting that there were two applicants for the Council to consider. After a vote Dawn Dart was elected by a majority of the Councillors.

County Councillor's report

County Cllr Keith Rippington advised the Meeting that the County Council's Budget setting process had begun. It was anticipated that following the poor OFSTED Report into Child Services that the budget for Children Services would need to be increased. Currently County Councillors receive a "personal" Highways budget of £30k which is likely to be reduced to £10k in the next financial year.

The Highways Contract has been put out for tender. It will come into force in October this year.

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Cllr Rob Lewis queried whether or not a geological survey of the area would be carried out before any major road works on the A46 began.

District Councillor's Report

None of the District Councillors were present nor had a written report been submitted.

To confirm recommendations of the Finance and General Purposes and Personnel Committee made during its Meeting on 3rd January 2018

a) Town Hall / Pavilion Charge Review
The Council unanimously agreed to the recommendation that the fees not be increased.

b) Cemetery Fees Review
The Council unanimously agreed to the recommendation that the fees are not increased.

c) To approve Grants for Payment
The Council unanimously agreed to the following Grants:

Stroud CAB	£500
County Air Ambulance	£50
Painswick Friday Club	£100
PSALMS	£300
Sheepscombe Cricket Club	£50
Air in G	£50
Sheepscombe Lunch Club	£100

d) To consider and approve the Budget and Precept requirements for the financial year 2018/19

The Council unanimously agreed to accept the proposed budget and set the precept at £102,662.00, a net increase of 3.06%.

Road Safety improvements

Pitchcombe and Painswick parish councils have been consulted about possible road safety improvements to the A46/A4173 junction at Pitchcombe following the allocation of funds by the Department of Transport. The councils have recommended that as part of the improvements the speed limit on the A46 between the junction and Painswick should be changed from 50mph to 40mph.

A similar reduction is also recommended for the A4173 between the junction and Five Ways at Edge.

To Receive Details of the Local Government Award Scheme Presentation Evening

The Clerk confirmed that presentation of the Gold Award would take place at 7.00pm on the 24th January.

To Appoint a Financial Checker

The Council unanimously agreed to appoint Cllr James Cross as its Internal Financial Checker.

Responsible Financial Officer Report

The Council agreed payments in accordance with the report circulated by the Clerk.

Ward Reports

Cllr Ian James reported a collapsed road sign in the Camp.

The Meeting closed at 8.35pm



Irena Litton and Roy Balgobin with the Gold Award presented on 24th January

100 Years ago

At a time when there was still bitter fighting in Europe and no end in sight to the war, a report in Stroud News stated that ‘The military age is neither to be raised nor lowered. The fighting value of the average boy under eighteen and man of forty-five is small.’

It also stated that ‘Nearly 815,000 women are employed in munition work. Nearly 750,000 have been placed in employment in 11 months. A great further call will be made on women of all classes.’ We do know that many Painswick women were employed thus, some locally in Reeds Mill and others in the mills in Stroud.

Carol Maxwell

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Painswick PROBUS Living On The Edge

For its first meeting of 2018, Painswick Probud Club received a talk by Rose Hewlett about fishing and farming along the upper Severn estuary. Starting in pre-historic times when the vale would have been densely wooded and prowled by wolves, wild boar, and woolly mammoths, Rose traced the developments through Roman times and the Middle Ages up to the present. The Severn Estuary is a unique environment and Rose is optimistic for its future. She is proud to work with many other locals and the various Government agencies in managing the margins where the modern approach is less to constrain the river but more to allow it to do what it has done for thousands of years.



The Battle of the Imjin River

David Thorp spoke on 17th Jan 2018 about the Korean War. It is often called the 'forgotten war' but the Korean War has a particular relevance for Gloucestershire people due to the substantial losses (some 33%) incurred by the Gloucestershire Regiment in the Battle of the Imjin River.

Despite being massively outnumbered the Glosters defended their positions for three days, blunting the attack and allowing UN forces to halt the Chinese army advance. The Glosters were eventually surrounded by Chinese forces on Hill 235, a feature that is now known as Gloster Hill. Although ultimately defeated and captured, the Glosters' fierce resistance was an important factor in repelling the communist takeover of South Korea.

Henry Hall

PROBUS Women "More than just cloth"

On 9th January, Dr. Ray Wilson talked on Stroud's 'other' industries. The town's clothmaking history can be traced back to the 14th century as one of the country's earliest. At its peak, over 200 Mills stood in the Stroud valleys. Speed of transport was essential for manufacture and distribution, so transport systems linking mills along the valley floors were implemented, encouraging other industries to take advantage.

At the end of the 18th century the cloth industry went into decline and many mills closed leaving a willing workforce and large buildings waiting for a new lease of life. Other industries, previously overshadowed, began to grow, including the manufacture of needles and pins (e.g. at Brookhouse Mill, Painswick), bobbins and reels, chemical, engineering and woodworking companies. In the mid 1800s, redundant woollen mills were used to manufacture walking canes (some adorned with silver), umbrella and parasol sticks/handles, sold worldwide but subject to fickle fashion trends.

The 1900s brought more change. Some 100 Mills were demolished making way for new industries, roads and housing. Surviving Mill buildings housed new businesses or were converted to apartments. One successful diversification has been Oil Mill at Ebley. Built c1720 to grind rapeseed oil for dressing wool, it became a fulling mill, then a corn mill and now provides the best artificial snow to customers around the world.

We heard the story of Eileen Halliday, a pensioner who refused to sell to Sainsburys (for a vast sum) the cottage on the Dudbridge Mill site where she was born. She had previously refused to allow the County Council to destroy it for a bypass. She was eventually invited to the grand opening and it is "alleged" (so hope it's true because it's so cheeky!) that she accepted and walked into the store on that day carrying a Tesco's carrier bag! A feisty Stroud character with her heritage intact!

Next meeting February 12th. The Life and Loves of Katherine Parr by Mike Bottomley. The Church Rooms, 10.00am for 10.30am. Visitors welcome £3.
delia Mason

Cotteswold Naturalists Natural History and Heritage

Last month, the Cotteswold Naturalists enjoyed a fascinating talk about birds of prey and falconry given by John and Michaela of John Dowling Falconry Ltd. who brought along four birds, including Spike the kestrel (pictured).

Our next meeting takes place on Wednesday 7th February at 2.30 pm in the Painswick Centre. Our speaker Roger Jones will be talking about film-making, recalling his time as director of the BBC Natural History Unit in Bristol and working with David Attenborough on the first Blue Planet series, as well as the fledgling Open University.

near Gloucester Premier Inn. Contact me for directions.

Our second meeting this month will be on Wednesday 28th February, also at 2.30 pm in the Painswick Centre, when Dr Cherry Ann Knott will talk about George Vernon who built Sudbury Hall in Derbyshire, in anticipation of our April excursion to the area, based at Buxton. Visitors are welcome to our meetings (£4).

Jane Rowe 813228



Spike, the Kestrel

There is a saying 'always seek out the seed of triumph in every adversity'. The origins of the Horsbere Brook Wetland, on the Barnwood Link road, would surely bear this out. Designed as a Flood Storage Area to protect homes in Elmbridge and Longlevens, the wetland at Horsbere FSA is now managed as a community nature reserve. We will meet the Countryside Ranger responsible for the site for an introduction, followed by a walk looking for birdlife, on Friday 16th February, at 10 am

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A great start to the new year with a full house for My Cousin Rachel (see picture left). It was also a special night for Murrays Estate Agents, our Gold Sponsor, who kindly organised a charity raffle of enticing prizes donated by all our sponsors. We raised £510, which will be shared between the Stroud charity, Allsorts and our Painswick Recreation Ground Trust. Thank you to Murrays and all our sponsors.

Friday 2nd February Victoria and Abdul (PG)
 Judi Dench plays Queen Victoria in this true story about her affection for a young Indian manservant.

Friday 2nd March Dunkirk (12A)
 Last year's Summer blockbuster sees Director Christopher Nolan bring to life the disaster and triumph of Dunkirk.

Friday 6th April Murder on the Orient Express (12A)
 A star-studded cast, led by Kenneth Branagh, adds class to this remake of the classic Agatha Christie "whodunit".

Doors open at 7.00pm. Screening starts at 7.45pm.
 Entry £7.00 (one price for all) including one free drink.
 Payment on the door. Best to come early to avoid disappointment as we have a finite seating capacity.

As always up-to-date information on what's coming up can be found on the Wick-Flix page at www.painswickcentre.com. Come along and support your community cinema!

David Chapman

A Zimbabwe Steam Safari

At our first Meeting in January we all enjoyed Peter Berry's amusing and interesting illustrated talk on his adventures on a "Zimbabwe Steam Safari". He is a member of a group of steam rail enthusiasts who hire steam trains in the countries they visit. Zimbabwe's steam trains were built in Britain in the early 1900's and are still running today. We were treated to spectacular shots not only of the train steaming over Victoria Falls Bridge, which spans the Zambezi River, but of the Falls themselves. A drop of some 108 meters with noise like thunder as water roars over the edge. There is also a permanent rainbow.



We also saw herds of buffalo, elephants and best of all giraffes with their long elegant necks all in their natural habitats. The group lived on the train which came with a resident chef although at times there was little water so washing was at a premium!

February will be an exciting month for the Club. On the 9th there will be a talk by Janet Dowling intriguingly entitled "Stress Management and the importance of sleep". In this modern day society an increasing problem for many! On the 15th our first outing of the year - a visit to the Everyman Theatre to see a production of the "Quartet". On the 23rd we round the month off with a talk by Philip Wilkin on "High Street Histories". We look forward to welcoming you "to the Club"

Mike Kerton

Did you see (1)?

Did anyone see the edition of the BBC quiz 'Only Connect' screened on New Year's Day? If you did, you may have noticed a certain well-known local landmark featured among the picture clues in the 'Sequences' round.

The sequence in this case was the children's rhyme, 'Here is the church, here is the steeple, open the door, and here are the people', and the steeple shown was that of our very own St Mary's Church, no less.

Andy Watson

Did you see (2)?

Painswick student Dom Hewett from Lower Washwell has appeared twice more on University Challenge in the last couple of months. His Bristol University team, which had heavily defeated Trinity College, Cambridge in the first round of the competition, went on to another thumping victory over Trinity College, Oxford, broadcast on 18th December. That took them to a quarter final match against Newcastle University, shown on 29th January (now available on BBC iPlayer).

Bristol led for much of the match, helped by contributions from Dom, including a rapid intervention identifying titles from 'The four quartets', but in the end Newcastle pulled away. Bristol will still appear at least once more in the next few weeks, and could progress to the semi-finals if they can now win two matches in a row.

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Music Appreciation Group

2018 started on a strong note with Ann Williams' talk on Delius. He was born in Bradford and from the very beginning was surrounded by famous musicians, guests of his parents. At the age of 7 he was taught the violin and a few years later the piano. His first job was as representative for his father's wool business based in Stroud. However, his real passion was music and at the age of 24 he entered the Conservatoire at Leipzig where he met Mahler, Brahms, Tchaikovsky and Grieg. A prolific composer, despite being blind for the last 7 years of his life he continued to compose with the help of a young English musician, Eric Fenby. We enjoyed excerpts from a broad selection of Delius's music including Sea Drift and in a Summer Garden.



Later in the month Robert Crockford enthralled us with a talk on the development of The Mass, from "plainchant" in the 5th century to the modern day composition "Mass for Peace 2001" by Karl Jenkins. Sacred music was the forte of many of the famous European composers -Bach, Haydn, Schubert, Rossini and Vivaldi - several of whom developed religious music as a dramatic performance. A complete contrast was the singing of a Mass composed in the Belgian Congo using native melodies and instruments. Also an excerpt from a "Parody Mass" written by the fictional American Composer P.D.Q. Bach. It certainly brought a smile to our faces!

What about February? Firstly our Meetings move back to 7.30pm. On the 1st, Anwen Walker will talk about and present examples of music composed for the Harp. On the 15th we welcome back our Life President Alex Nichols who features music of the great French composer Jules Massenet. We look forward to seeing you on the 1st February.

Mike Kerton

ACP Going Forward

The ACP Gallery closes on February 3rd 2018 to allow ACP to focus its resources. It will continue to host relevant workshops and events in line with its objectives. The Trustees have taken steps to secure the future of the charity.



Following 6 wonderful ACP Festivals, we now have a new opportunity to collaborate with local like-minded people, to bring you the next chapter in the ACP story. With the energy and experience our new partners bring, we at ACP are optimistic about this new direction.

There will be great opportunities to get involved and we do hope you will come on board in your generous way. Currently we are seeking a Volunteer Leader to lead our Body Art category – if you are interested, contact the ACP team on galleryacp@gmail.com Gina Griffiths will remain with ACP and can be contacted on the same address.

The website www.canvasforcreativity.com will be updated in due course, so please keep an eye on it for latest news and more.

Emily Knight

Music Society's Concerts

Painswick Music Society's 2018 season promises to be another memorable one with four Saturday afternoon concerts by internationally recognised artists. The first, on March 24th, is a very welcome return by the Schubert Ensemble one of the world's leading exponents of music for piano and strings with a programme including Schubert's ever popular Trout Quintet. The celebrated cellist and his accompanist John York who are playing for us on April 14th, have been performing together all over the world for 35 years but this is their first long overdue visit to Painswick, when their programme comprise music by Beethoven, Brahms and Miaskovsky.

The 3rd concert on April 28th is to be given by the charismatic Heath Quartet, who are also making their first visit to St Mary's, and will be playing works by Haydn, Tchaikovsky and the young German composer Jörg Widmann. The final concert on May 12th is a very welcome return by Dame Sarah Connolly, one of the greatest mezzo sopranos of our age, accompanied on this occasion by Joseph Middleton. All those who were present at Dame Sarah's first recital for us in 2015, will remember what a spellbinding afternoon it was.. Her programme is a veritable feast of English song and most excitingly, it includes the first performance of a new Song Cycle commissioned by Painswick Music Society with a bequest from Pamela Stewart, comprising poetry by Laurie Lee set by the leading British composer Sally Beamish. It promises to be quite an afternoon.

Membership, giving access to all four concerts, costs £45, and individual tickets, priced £18 for March 24th and April 28th and £20 for 14th April and 12th May and £5 for children/ students for all concerts, can be purchased from The Painswick Pharmacy, online at www.painswickmusicsoc.co.uk, from Dennis Morgan on 01285 821854 (pmsglen@gmail.com) or, subject to availability, at the door. Seats are unreserved and the concerts start at 3pm in St Mary's Church Painswick with afternoon tea available afterwards in the Church Rooms. I do hope that we shall see you there.

Chris Swain - Chairman



Dame Sarah Connolly



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This year promises to be a bumper year for snowdrops at the Rococo Garden. I had a look at the lower part of the Rococo valley in mid-January and it was bursting with green shoots and the occasional delicate white bell. By the time you read this, they will be in full bloom. With an estimated five million snowdrops here, the season stretches through until the end of February and the Garden is busy throughout that time. As a local, you may like to visit us midweek or later in the afternoon when things are a little quieter.



If you do visit during this time, you'll see we've made a number of changes to improve our visitors' experience. This has included expanding our second hand books, which will take up temporary residence alongside our improved shop in the Orangery. Every donation for a lovingly rehomed book helps to support the conservation work we do here. The most sought-after books are popular paperback fiction by modern writers, though modern children's books are also snapped up very quickly. So if you're planning to rationalise your bookshelves and wouldn't mind donating a bag, a box or even a shelf-ful of books, we would be very appreciative. You can leave your donation at the Welcome Desk or ring ahead if you have a large delivery. Every book sold helps us to do more work in the Garden!

Finally this month, we are on the lookout for friendly volunteers to join our team helping out with many aspects of the work that is necessary to maintain and develop the Garden. We have a dedicated bunch of volunteers, many of whom help out in the Garden and enjoy meeting and greeting our many visitors from around the world... but there are also many other varied roles behind the scenes, whether in the office, working on our many projects or using a professional skill. If you can spare a few hours on a regular basis and would enjoy being part of our friendly and successful team, please contact our Garden Director Dominic Hamilton on 01452 813204 or dominic@rococogarden.org.uk.

Tim Toghill, trustee and volunteer

Can you help?

We will shortly need a volunteer to deliver the Beacon in the centre of Painswick.

The Beacon relies on a wonderful team of over forty people, who each month distribute this publication. The distributors say it is an excellent way to get some fresh air and exercise and possibly the chance to meet people and to admire their gardens!

The job really is not arduous. The Beacons would be delivered to your home. Please do think about it and contact Celia Lougher by telephone: 01452 812624 or Email: celia@lloydstone.plus.com.



Llanthony Secunda Priory Past, present & future

At the January meeting of the local history society we were treated to an excellent talk by Liz Griffiths a trustee of the Llanthony Secunda Priory Trust. It was founded in 1136 after Llanthony Prima in Wales had been sacked by Welsh rebels. The Augustinian Canons moved first to Hereford and then on to Gloucester where they settled. It was only intended to be temporary and although they were ordered by the Pope to return to Llanthony Prima they preferred to stay in Gloucester.



From 1461 under Henry Dene (later to be Archbishop of Canterbury) prosperity returned and in 1481 the languishing mother house in Wales was annexed to the English house. Amongst its properties were some around Painswick: its Church & Vicarage, Coombe House, various quarries and Spoonbed valley. By 1534 it was the richest Augustinian priory in England.

At the time of the dissolution of the monasteries the canons were equally astute – they were quick in 1538 to sign a deed of surrender and in return received healthy pensions. But for the local people it was a disaster, medical facilities and the employment that had been provided were lost. Changes in the area due to the coming of the canals and later the railways reduced the site to what we see today.

By 1974 the site was in a bad state - it was purchased by the council who undertook emergency repair works. In 2007 the current trust was set up and through heritage lottery funding an initial plan and schedule of works, due for completion in 2018, has been undertaken. With all that has been done it will be well worth a visit especially later this year.

Our next meeting is on 20th February when Ian MacIntosh will be speaking of the subject of Mill Workers.

Peter Jackson

Richmond Village Quiz Night Thursday 22nd February

Beat the Winter blues and meet up with friends and colleagues, teams of 4-6 for our Richmond Quiz on Thursday 22nd February. 6.00pm – food served at 6.30pm - approx finish time 9.30pm. Tickets are £12.50 to include the quiz, Main course and dessert of 'Pub Food Classics' served in our superb 'Laurie Lee Restaurant.'

1st Prize . Grand Cash Prize. Spaces are limited, please contact Sonia Harte for menu details and to reserve your place. 01452 810203 or email Sonia.harte@richmond-villages.com Deadline for entries Friday 16th February.

Sonia Harte

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Michael.horton100@gmail.com

News from St Mary's

We celebrated Candlemas on Sunday 28th January. This marked the end of the season of Epiphany. We now have two weeks before the beginning of Lent. Ash Wednesday which is the first day of Lent is on 14th February, coincidentally St Valentines Day. There will be a benefice communion service on this day at St Mary's at 7.30pm to which all are welcome.



Lent is traditionally a season of meditation, repentance and prayer in preparation for Easter. The liturgical colour is purple. In Painswick this season is marked by the formation of ecumenical house fellowship groups. You can sign up for one of these groups either at St Mary's or the Roman Catholic church. Further details about these groups appear elsewhere in this publication.

An informal communion service is held at Richmond Village regularly on the first Wednesday of the month at 11am. This service is primarily for Richmond residents but anyone is welcome to attend. This month the service will be on 7th February.

Messy Church will meet again this month on Thursday 8th February in the Church Rooms at 3.30pm. The subject is "True Family". If you have never been to Messy Church before this gathering would be a good time to taste and see.

We are now into an interregnum. During this time the church wardens together with Revd. Andrew Leach are responsible for the wellbeing, ministry and services of the church. It will probably take about 9 months before a new incumbent arrives. Before then church wardens will compose a profile of the benefice together with a vision for the future. Then an advertisement for the position will be placed in The Church Times.

Depending on the number of applicants a shortlist will be prepared and interviews arranged. The interviews will be chaired by our Bishop or The Chancellor supported by a number of church wardens and PCC members. This process will take about 6 months and then it may be up to 3 months later before a new Vicar can take up the appointment. In the meantime if you have any queries, comments or concerns please contact the church wardens.

David Newell

Messy Church Thursday 8th February



Our next session is all about "True Family" (family at home, Church family, Messy Church family, God wants us all in his family). Please join us for some fun crafts and activities, as well as a delicious tea together. 15.30 to 17.30 in the St. Mary's Church Rooms, Painswick. Messy Church is a family event, so all children should be accompanied by an adult.

Any queries please contact Fiona Gill:
Mobile: 07771 513 382 or Email: fiona.gill@psalms.uk.net

PSALMS Multi-Sports Club

The Croft School, Thursdays from 3.45 – 5.00pm. An after-school club for Years 5 and 6 being held at The Croft School. A variety of high energy games. Explore Christian faith in a half time team talk.

For more information please contact Nathan Youlton: Mobile: 07875 681130 or Email: nathan.youlton@psalms.uk.net



Churches Together Lent Courses

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 14th. Ecumenical courses are being organised in the area, but Lent is early this year and some details have yet to be finalised. Further details will be published on the Benefice Web site <http://www.beaconbenefice.org.uk/>, on the village notice boards and in 'The Beacon Light' distributed at Sunday services (C/E) throughout the Benefice. All welcome. Please phone the number quoted to register your interest in joining a group.



Day and Time	Leader	Venue	Contact
Tuesday 7.30 to 9.00 pm starting February 20th	Jenny Wilson (Course Title tba)	Otters Pool, Kingsmill Lane, Painswick	Jenny Wilson 01452 812247
Wednesday 2.00 to 3.30 pm starting February 21st	Terry Parker (5 weeks) "The way to freedom"	Merrills, Friday Street, Painswick	Terry Parker 01452 812191
Thursday 2.30 to 4.00 pm starting February 15th	Linda de Cossart, Della Fish and Liz Burge "Through prose, poetry and song. Sharing Jesus's journey to Jerusalem" "Poetry and Faith"	Details to be finalised. The Lodge, Cranham and/or Yew Tree House, Painswick	Linda and Della 01452 812697 Liz Burge 01452 813177

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An Exciting New Year

We have now finished the last of the work funded by the butterfly conservation Biffa project. At the time of writing there is no future funding in place. However, by the time this article goes to print, the results of a meeting with Julian Bendle of Back from the Brink Project may hopefully change this worrying situation.



In the meantime the group will focus the next few work parties on Paddock 1, the area near the cemetery where the cows grazed last August. A few small areas of willow herb and agrimony have been regularly scythed over the last two summers, suppressing the weeds and helping the grass to establish. This encouraged the cows to graze and push into scrub nearby. We can now cut and treat some of the scrub and fell some of the larger trees to allow more sunlight to reach the ground. Some small cowslip plants are already visible. The upper site is east facing and gives a perfect aspect for butterflies to warm themselves in the morning sun. Last summer this area had plenty of Chalkhill Blue butterflies and some Common Blues so with luck this work can only improve their chances of increasing numbers.

I'm pleased to report we now have a very keen "youth" helping us. He is doing voluntary community work as part of his Duke of Edinburgh's Award. If you know of any other student doing this why not suggest PBCG as an option? Last year I was fascinated to see what grew in the areas we had cleared and thought it a good idea if I guided another walk to show the progress we have made over the last few years. Watch this space! Finally, my usual appeal . . . Come and help!!

Paul Baxter 07971 633242

Library News

New books for February include:

ADULT NON-FICTION: Mary Berry – A Recipe for Life; Nicholas Shakespeare – Six Minutes in May - How Churchill unexpectedly became Prime Minister.

ADULT FICTION: Graham Greene – The Quiet American; Claire Sorbie – The Pagoda Tree; Faith Martin – Murder on the Oxford Canal; David Baldacci – End Game; Philippa Gregory – Last of the Tudors; Peter Robinson – Sleeping in the Ground.

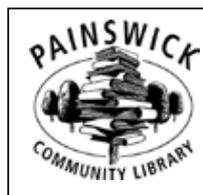
JUNIOR FICTION: Mitch Johnson – Kick; Julia Donaldson – The Ugly Five; Helena Duggan – A Place called Perfect; Claudia and Katherine MacInnes – John D Gorilla surfs the Severn.

Claudia and Katherine MacInnes moved to Uley when Claudia was 10 years old. It came as a bit of a shock to find that a real gorilla featured in the old school photographs from a hundred years ago – he lived in the house, used the toilet and even went to school with the village children. Now, one hundred years after John Daniel first charmed his neighbours, Claudia and Katherine have created four magical, humorous books that tell his story.

If you would like to check the availability of any recent book additions please either call into the Community Library (open Mon 2.30-5.30, Wed 10-1 & 2.30-5.30, Fri 10-1 & 2.30-5.30 and Sat 10-1) or call on 01452 814744. Books can also be reserved online. We welcome your suggestions for future book purchases.

Good reading

Pat Pinnegar



The Painswick Centre

For 2018 the Painswick Centre offers a wide range of sporting, fitness and cultural activities including Badminton, Bridge, Choir, Pilates, Skittles, Table Tennis and Yoga. In addition we are very pleased to host clubs such as the Cotteswold Field Club, PROBUS and the Arts Society (Painswick) (previously known as PADFAS), and Wick-Flix is back on Friday 2nd February.

The team were delighted this year that the Centre was chosen as the starting point for the annual procession of Wassailers on 27th January. This ancient tradition, dating from medieval times, takes place predominantly in apple growing areas and has Wassailers with blackened faces, wearing colourful costumes, singing and playing rattles and drums. After the procession the Centre provided live music with the "Lazy Susans", great food and, of course, a bar.

Steve Knightly is performing at the Painswick Centre on Saturday 10th February. He is currently on tour under the banner "Steve Knightly Songs and Stories" performing in Lancashire, Yorkshire, Southern Counties and of course the West Country, including Painswick. Steve describes himself as an English singer, songwriter and acoustic musician. Since 1992 he has been one half of possibly the UK's most successful Folk/Roots duos – 'Show of Hands', the other member being, Phil Beer, who has performed at the Centre on a previous occasion.

Mike Steed 01452 812376

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Rupert Aker- Master of “The Loovre”

Born far away in Devon , but moving to Painswick in 2002, Rupert Aker has stamped his presence on the village of Painswick by more than his charming, contemporary impressionist paintings of the Cotswold landscape. Having had a studio for a number of years in the Painswick Centre, he took over the tiny public toilets space on St Mary’s Street and humorously renamed it “The Loovre” as his studio and showroom, opening on the day of ACP in July 2016 which attracted a ready audience . Hung all round with his oil paintings large and small, the “Loovre” is also a perfect miniature studio with a glass roof light, perfectly facing north.

Rupert painted as a child and took A level art at school, but following his love of the countryside, decided to do a degree in land management at the Royal Agricultural University in Cirencester. This resulted in a career “managing woodlands and running projects with farmers all over the country”. However, his love for the Cotswold countryside encouraged him to start painting the landscape he observed day-to-day and unusually, he took to using a palette knife with oil paint to create his pictures. “You can block on lush slabs of paint or apply it very finely, I never use a brush” he says of his technique and this characterises his style – naturally colourful, sunny pictures cleverly observing unusual views of the Cotswolds.

As his pictures gained popularity, he was able to become a professional artist, now selling upwards of 200 paintings a year and also taking special commissions. Rupert does not wait for custom. In his journeys around the Cotswolds, he searches for views he describes as “known but not popular”, selecting a number of locations and then sketching or photographing the views, which he finishes in his studio. “I try to complete a painting in one sitting to keep it fresh and immediate, I’ll then return later and tweak it until I’m satisfied” he says. Smaller pictures are sometimes painted on site – depending on weather. Then with a collection of 20 or so pictures, he finds a suitable venue and sets up a one-day exhibition in the area and sells his latest collection to local people, sometimes still wet and straight off the easel.

This enterprise has spread his reputation all over the Cotswolds, earning him regular customers who collect his works, and galleries at Burford, Woodstock and Deddington showing his pictures and gaining new customers in London, Europe and the US. Other special exhibitions have had themes like Laurie Lee’s 50th anniversary of “Cider with Rosie” and the connection with Slad, his ‘painting perambulation’ along the Cotswold way, or paintings of the locations mentioned by Cotswold poets, Ivor Gurney or Edward Thomas.

The “immediacy” of his works comes from developing his palette knife technique – “also using the occasional finger” and his use of paint straight from the tube, often mixing the colours on the canvas to achieve his light, bright, vibrant, sunlit effects. “My style is developing gradually – I don’t want to do anything too radical or too suddenly which might lose my loyal audience” he says wisely. “I want to use more colour in more expressionist styles . That could be a complete change, but I will do this as experiments not for the regular pictures . After all the Cotswolds still inspire me and keep me employed as an artist”, says the Master of the Loovre.

Jonathan Choat



Note: This is the second in a series of interviews with local artists by Jonathan Choat from the Painswick Artburst festival

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Jottings

(continued from our December issue)

The local blacksmith was Mr Buxby who had his work shop at the Eagle pub on the way to Pitchcombe. He could repair nearly anything on the farm. To get the cart horses shod we walked them to Gloucester Street, Stroud: Mother or father leading and me on top. To get the wet batteries charged to run your radio you went to Mr Musgrove in Painswick. You also took your bicycles to him, for repairs.

In 1945 we had a Mr J Chandler, in Gloucester Street, who made and repaired harnesses. The Cobbler was in Victoria Street. Your wheel-wright was Oly Launder, whose workshop was at the bottom of Painswick Hill on the A46. When he needed to put the rim on a newly made frame, he would call my father in, to help. I would go as well and I would pour water over the smouldering rim to cool it down. He also farmed what is now Broadham sports field.

Paraffin, which was used for cooking and heating your house, and TVO was delivered by Hobbs Bros. based then, in Stonehouse. Electricity came to our district in 1949/50. Coal was from Mr West in Painswick or Mr Ward in Stroud. Your Butcher, one of three, was Mr Lane, whose shop is now Best One. Groceries came from Cotswold Stores in Painswick or Stroud. Your Bread came from Walkletts - now Moulton Haus. All three offered a delivery service. Painswick Bakery would open very early on Christmas Day for people to bring their turkeys for cooking in their large bread ovens.



In the 1940's and 1950's we had two Gloucestershire Council workers who lived in the village and kept the place tidy. The verges would be trimmed back by Mr Bridgman and Mr Bullock. The Police Station then was in St Mary's Street, where the Hairdressers is now. The sergeant and two constables had a very large work area compared with stations in some of the other villages. They also had a van, which Stroud Police would borrow from time to time.

Of course, in the 1940s and 50s, we had the school on Stroud Road. The first two classes were in what is now the Church Rooms and the playground is now a private garden next to the churchyard. Then we moved to the other part of the school. The girls playground was what is now the top section of the Stamages Lane car park, separated from the boys playground by a wall, which is by the car parking for the owners of the recently converted flats. If you did not leave at eleven, you would find your way to the top school, which is now the Town Hall, until you were old enough to leave school. The playground there is now the town hall car park. The Fire engine was originally in Burdock's Yard before moving to new premises in Pullens Road. The Telephone Exchange was in Pullens Road too, until it moved down to Stroud Road.

Martin Slinger

Advertising in the Painswick Beacon

Closing Date 12th February

Each year at this time the Beacon allocates the space for box adverts (that appear at the bottom of many pages of the Beacon) for the twelve months from April. The process starts with advertisers wishing to take a box advert letting me know their requirements. This year an email was sent to all current advertisers on 11th-13th January. Current advertisers may respond by email. New advertisers must complete a Booking Form, which is available from Peter Rowe or from the website www.painswickbeacon.org.uk – click on “how to advertise”. Costs are set out on the Booking Form and are the same as last year.

The allocation process gives priority to requests from Painswick businesses, those requesting the 5cm tall box adverts, and looks to avoid having too many adverts providing the same service. Requests must be completed and returned by 12th February; after that bookings will only be accepted if any space remains. Last year the demand for space exceeded supply (the Beacon restricts advertising to 20% of available page space), and some requests had to be turned down.

Peter Rowe 01452 813228 advertising.beacon@painswick.net

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Easter Egg Hunt Volunteers still needed!

We are still looking for volunteers to help at this year's Easter Egg Hunt! The event will take place on Easter Saturday, the 31st of March between 12-4pm. It's a great day out with a fantastic atmosphere, and we are looking for local volunteers who would like to help us on the day itself. There are many volunteer roles available, from helping us set up, to making tea, or handing out prizes to families who have completed the hunt. For those wanting to enjoy the event, we have shorter half-hour volunteer time-slots available. Please join us in making this year's hunt yet another excellent showcase for the village.



For more information, please contact Marisa on 07773 368702

Marisa Vaughan

DASH (Delivering Aid to Stroud Homeless)

There was a fantastic response to the appeal in the December Beacon for warm clothing, shoes and towels as well as for small change to help support Marah's work among the homeless and vulnerable in Stroud. Not only did much of it arrive just before the very cold spell but Marah now has sufficient stores in reserve. In addition, as a result of donations made at the Carols and Cakes afternoon, to the Big Christmas Card at St Mary's and to a large amount of small change, we have been able to send Marah a further £300 for which they are very grateful.

The cash helps to provide the 3 hot meals a week that Marah provides to upwards of 50 people so please keep saving your small change – it really does add up surprisingly quickly – and pass it to Alison Robinson (812286) or Frances Watson (812071), who will be happy to come and collect if that is easier.

Items that are currently urgently needed are new underpants (any sort or size) and socks. Toiletries are always needed - deodorants, shaving and shower gels (but not soap) shampoo, toothpaste, tooth brushes and body wipes - as well as empty 8oz margarine containers for any surplus food to be distributed. There are collecting boxes at the back of Painswick and Cranham churches and also at Murrays Estate Agency.

Alison Robinson, 812286

The Croft School



We have had another busy few weeks at The Croft with class visits to Waitrose where the children have been working in the cooking studio making and completing activities around the store. Thirty-Six Key Stage Two children along with five members of staff went to the Young Voices concert at The Genting Arena in Birmingham. This was an amazing opportunity where the children were singing in a choir of around 6000 children from all over the country. Although it was an extremely long day, the children were really enthusiastic and will have gained a lot from the experience.

The School Governors still need a Clerk!

There is a vacancy for the post of Clerk to the Governors. This is a paid position, though the total hours are small, around 30 over the year. The main duties are to take Minutes at the Full Governor body meetings – 6 per year, on Monday evenings, and to prepare and organise the papers for those meetings. The post would suit someone with good office skills – please contact Rebecca Gore or Ian Cridland, Chair of Governors, if you are interested or know someone who might be.

Rebecca Gore

Steve Knightley Concert Songs and Stories - 10th February

At The Painswick Centre at 7.30 pm on Saturday 10th February. Tickets £18.00 (unreserved seating). All ticket enquiries to cantonacrepromotions@gmail.com or telephone 07596 823881.

As the frontman and songwriter of British folk heavyweights Show of Hands, Steve Knightley boasts an impressive back catalogue. He's regularly cited by emerging artists as a source of inspiration. But who has ignited and fuelled Knightley's own creative spark?

His 2018 solo tour 'Songs & Stories' seeks to answer that question. Of course the set list will be peppered with his now-classic gems, but Knightley will also be paying tribute to artists such as Dylan, Carthy, Bowie, Springsteen, Tull and Radiohead, all of whom have influenced him greatly along the way. Steve says, "This solo tour gives me an excuse to bring out songs from my favourite artists, and to share stories of life on the road – both usually reserved for late nights around a campfire."

Mark Greenway

Octet Choir at St Mary's Church Saturday 10th March 7 pm

This semi-professional student choir from Bath Spa University under Musical Director Daniel Cushing, is touring the UK giving a series of concerts. Their performance in St. Mary's Church on 10th March will feature Vivaldi's Gloria and a choral suite 'The Armed Man' by Karl Jenkins, described as 'A mass for peace'.

Tickets are £8 adults, £5 concessions, available from Bath Box Office on 01225 463362 or at bathboxoffice.org.uk

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Traditional values, modern approach Painswick's local auctioneer

On the hillside overlooking Gloucester, and just two or three miles out of Painswick, Chorley's have developed two spacious salerooms in the grounds of the Prinknash Abbey Park estate. Where monks used to make pottery, sellers and buyers now benefit from the facilities on offer, from ample free parking to storage facilities, not to mention a café selling mouthwatering cakes! The tranquil setting belies the company's global business, with all auctions streamed live through the internet across the world.

While embracing technology, Chorley's have not neglected their traditional values or forgotten the importance of courtesy in their relationship with clients. The majority of items still come for sale from private sources and there is still a hunger among buyers for fresh-to-the-market objects of good quality and provenance.

Many provincial auctioneers have crowded salerooms where fine antiques jostle with boxes of prints, tailors' dummies and old brass bedsteads. It makes a wonderfully Dickensian spectacle; but despite the outward charm, stacking it high often leads to selling it low. It is disheartening for vendors to see their treasured item stuffed in among many others on a shelf. At Chorley's, room settings show each item to its best advantage and buyers are able to see an item's potential as part of a wider decorative scheme, often prompting them to bid on items they might have overlooked in a cramped saleroom.

Why not go along and have a look? Details of auction dates, viewing days and valuation days are on their website at www.chorleys.com



Prinknash Abbey - Appeal rejected

The appeal on behalf of the monks of Prinknash Abbey against refusal of planning permission has been rejected. The planning application to demolish the 1970s Abbey building and build ten 'executive homes' was submitted in August 2015. The District Council refused the application in December 2016, and an appeal was lodged. The Planning Inspector heard the appeal on 14th November and published his decision to dismiss the appeal on 11th December. While recognising some benefits to the proposal, the inspector considered that these did not outweigh the disadvantages, including the introduction of a 'suburban built form' to Prinknash Park.



The 'new' abbey, built in 1972, but now empty and falling into disrepair (photo courtesy of Stroud News)

The abbey has been closely associated with Painswick over many years, with at one time members of Prinknash's Benedictine Order regularly celebrating Mass in the Church of Our Lady & St Therese in Friday Street. There has therefore been considerable local interest in the planning application. The monks came from Caldey Island to St Peter's Grange in 1928 in order to convert the building into a monastery which was to become Prinknash Abbey. The Grange has a long history, having been a hunting lodge in the time of Henry the Eighth. The monks returned to the Grange in 2008 when the "new" abbey was closed.

Mission Possible St Laurence Church, Stroud

This event, organised by Trish Dickenson of Stockend, will launch the books 'Fertile Edges' by Maddy Harland, co-founder of Permaculture magazine, and 'Leaving our homeland Syria', by Rissa Mohabir. Rissa is an experienced trauma awareness trainer who works with the refugee community. Saturday 24th February at St. Laurence Church. Doors open 5.00 pm, start 5.30.

Stolen Car

A 2013 Copper-coloured Ford Fiesta is reported as having been stolen from one of the parking spaces outside the churchyard overnight on the 6th January. The police have been informed and are on the lookout.

Local Author

Readers who enjoyed 'The Painswick Conspiracy' by local author Chris A Evans, may like to know that a sequel, 'The Painswick Chronicle' is now available.


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Sports reports

assembled by John Barrus

Painswick Rugby



Painswick started the current season in Gloucester Division 3, the lowest in the structure, following two very disappointing seasons as key players retired or moved away to university. Mark Nicholson, the former Gloucester

winger and well-respected local teacher, was appointed coach with the able assistance of Rich Churchill. New players, such as the cricketing Evans brothers, were recruited and former youth players introduced. The league season started with two narrow defeats at Norton and home, by 1 point to Tetbury earning valuable losing bonus points. The third game was against high-flying United Bristol Hospitals on their artificial pitch. Although losing 12-3 and coming away pointless the whole team performed well against a team who had previously thrashed all their opponents.

This proved to be a turning point and the boys have won all their subsequent league and cup games starting with an impressive bonus point win at Westbury on Severn. Next came a thrilling 34-12 win against local rivals Cainscross in front of a big crowd at Victory park. Then a close home win against Fairford followed by a 100-0 thrashing of Gloucester All Blues. A home win of 43-0 against Kingswood left Painswick 4th in the league and pushing hard for a top 3 position in the new year.

Scrum half Nathan Evans has shown improved form in each game. The Andrews brothers, Ben and Sam have made outstanding contributions when work and military commitments allow. Old heads Craig Mayo and Dom Barnard have allowed younger backs such as Neil Churchill to show their paces. In the pack hooker Tom Coombs has been in top carrying and try scoring form; teenager Harry Debieux shows immense promise, and Paul Watson, John Beaven and Shaun Jeffries consistently showing strength and commitment. In current form Painswick can look forward to a strong second half to season.

Dates for diary-

24th Cup Final Home v Fairford

10th March Home v Gloucester All Blues

7th Apr Home v Norton

18th May Presentation evening Old Lodge 7pm

Spectators are most welcome to all games and to share hospitality afterwards.

Richard Barnard

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For Your Quotation / Advice

The Painswick football team pose for a photo.

Painswick Golf Club

The weather has posed something of a challenge to golfers over the last month. The second snowfall around Christmas led to the course being closed for about a week and then we have had low clouds/fog particularly in the early morning that also led to temporary closures. But for those desperate to have a game – like me – there have been a number of days where it has been bright and sunny, if rather chilly, and good for a game!



In the Seniors section the monthly stableford competition took place on 4th January and was won by Phil Jennings with an excellent score of 42 points in difficult conditions. The next stableford competition will be held on 8th February.

And a date for your diaries – the Painswick Seniors Open (open to golfers from other clubs aged over 55) will take place on Wednesday 9th May 2018. Like last year this will be a better-ball pairs event. It is a great opportunity to take on the challenges of a unique course when the course is in great condition. If you would like to play and don't have a partner, we will try to find one for you. For all enquiries please get in touch with our organiser, Vern Watkin (01452 611778).

Painswick Golf Club welcomes visitors – whether golfers or just those seeking refreshments or a meal or a venue for an event. Please phone 01452 812180 to check availability.

Peter Rowe

Football - Annual Christmas match Painswick 2 Sheepscombe 2

The annual Christmas football match was once again a thrilling contest played at Stratford Park. Painswick started strongly with some neat passing and several early attempts on goal. After twenty minutes Painswick's Bagin Unwin converted one of these attempts by pouncing upon a poor clearance with a hard, low shot underneath the keeper.

Sheepscombe were spurred into action and started to take control of the midfield when Mike McCabe unleashed an unstoppable shot into the top corner. After half time, the Painswick keeper pulled off several good saves until Sam Horder netted to give Sheepscombe the lead.

With the match entering the last minute, Painswick's Mark Yemm hit a magnificent shot from 30 yards which went into the top corner to equalise, granting Painswick a well deserved draw.

Sheepscombe retained the cup as they are the 2016 winners.



Painswick Gardening Club

Winter Wonders

Just over halfway through January and my garden is already awake and raring to go with beautifully scented blooms of mahonia, Christmas box, quince, snowdrops and aconites: gorgeous.



We have another great line up of speakers for 2018. The masses that turned up on a cold and foggy night earlier this month to hear Fiona Warin were not disappointed! Fiona proved to be a real gem; a natural storyteller whose passion for allotments positively fizzed. The evening was full of laughter - who'd have thought the subject of allotments could be so entertaining. I can honestly say that I've never before sat in a talk with tears of laughter rolling down my cheeks!

The Club is delighted to host a talk by the former Director of Oxford Botanic Gardens, Timothy Walker. He's a very experienced plantsman and accomplished orator and his talk "On Top but Never in Control" on 14th February (Church Rooms, 7.30pm) promises to be another enjoyable evening. Come and join us as a visitor (£4pp); a warm welcome awaits.

The Club will be holding another Plant Sale this year - more details next month. With thoughts of seed sowing and propagation not far off, any surplus seedlings, cuttings or unwanted terracotta pots would be very gratefully received, thank you. The sun's out...

Caroline Bodington (Committee Member)

Women's Vote Centenary

The Women's Vote Centenary Grant Scheme, is a £1.5 million government fund that will support local and community groups across England in celebrating the centenary of women gaining the right to vote

There will be about 150 Small Grants of between £300 to £2,000 for grassroots projects to run small-scale events and activities and up to 30 Large Grants of between £2,000 and £125,000.

If you are interested in applying for a grant, see the website at <https://www.womensvotecentenaryfund.co.uk/>

Grandparents wanted

A new TV programme is looking for 'vibrant, fun and outgoing' Grandparents who want to spend more quality time with their grandchildren. If you have three or more grandchildren aged over 18 and you are interested in taking part, they would be interested to hear from you. Contact Shivercasting on 0207 157 4588 or email shivercasting@shiver.tv



School Appeals

Stroud High School and Marling School are seeking volunteers to be part of a panel to hear admission appeals. Parents with children currently attending other schools are welcome to apply.

All admission appeals come before the panel and must have an independent, fair and impartial hearing. It is essential that members of the panel have no personal or professional interest in the cases they hear. The majority of appeals are heard in May/June prior to September admissions, and last for around 3-4 consecutive days. No experience is necessary as full training will be provided. This is a voluntary position but reasonable costs incurred will be reimbursed.

For further information please contact: Sarah Chilman 01453 762251 at Marling School or Pauline Blacklock 01453 764441 at Stroud High.

County Councillor - contact details

We apologise for a small number of errors that crept into the 2018 Directory distributed with last month's Painswick Beacon. The contact details for the local County Councillor should have been:

Cllr. Keith Rippington
6 Stamages Lane, Painswick
07796 862603
keith.rippington@gloucestershire.gov.uk

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Do we really want to lose them?

With so few traders and businesses in Painswick now it is very important that we make good regular use of those we do have. Two in particular provide a service for just a few hours each week and if we simply take their presence for granted without buying from them we shall of course lose them.

The postmaster, Rahul Odedra, is in the Town Hall on Wednesdays and Fridays 9.30-11.30am. He offers a full Post Office Local service namely: Parcel Force, Royal Mail services, cash withdrawal and deposit, cheque deposit, euros, other currencies by order, MoneyGram, payment of bills, Health Lottery, mobile top-up and the sale of stationery and cards. Under-use would lead to withdrawal by the Post Office. The alternative involves a trip to Stroud or Upton-St-Leonards at the very least.



Pete Beldram seldom misses a Friday morning in the Town Hall car park where, from 8.30-11.00 am, he is to be found selling his superb fresh fish. Awarded a five star rating by the Food Standards Agency, his produce is outstanding both in quality and value for money. Pete's fish is transported from Grimsby overnight to Cirencester arriving at 4.30am, prepared by Pete there and brought directly to Painswick. It is not pre-frozen. His refrigerated van presents an impressive array of fresh fish and shellfish in season, plus smoked fish, pates, dressed crab and lobster and, when in season, samphire grass. This is top class fish in the heart of Painswick.

Do take advantage of these services and keep using them regularly. We are certainly lucky to have them and it would be such a pity if we lost them.

Carol Maxwell

PROPERTY REPORT from Hamptons International

First off, I would like to wish you all a Happy New Year and a prosperous 2018! It certainly seems like the New Year has brought with it new momentum for the local housing market – our diaries this side of Christmas have been so much busier than they were in the closing quarter of last year and the increase in activity doesn't seem to be showing any sign of abating. New instructions so far this year are up 150%, offers are up 22% and properties sold are up 400% on the same period last year!

We feel that much of this increased activity is a direct result of the slower market we experienced at the end of last year – buyers and sellers will often be able to sit on their hands and do nothing for a short period of time but sooner or later the reasons that are driving a move become the priority and they enter the market to satisfy their changing demands. One aspect that is particularly pleasing is that the activity is across the market with interest on properties across all price ranges – indeed we have sold two properties so far this year with asking prices in excess of £1,000,000!

Looking ahead, we will be holding another of our highly successful

Roadshow events on 10th March in five of our prestigious London offices. If you instruct us to sell your property before 1st March we will be able to take your property to the doorsteps of the Capital's most active buyers this Spring.

It is reassuring to know that, according to Rightmove, 79% of Painswick properties that sold in 2017 were sold by Painswick-based agents. Of that 79%, I am very proud to confirm that Hamptons sold 44% of those properties*. I am sure that this is, in part, due to our long-established office in the heart of the village. However, I believe our success has more to do with the 50+ years of experience within the team based in this office and the unrivalled network that Hamptons offers to back up our local activities: a Country House Department, mortgage brokerage, conveyancing department and assistance with removals – to name but a few elements. For more information on any aspect of the selling process, please feel free to call us on 01452 812354 or pop in for a chat.

Guy Tabony, Branch Manager

*data available for inspection in our office.

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FEBRUARY

Fri	2	Wick-Flix screening: Victoria and Abdul: £7 to include 1 drink	Painswick Centre	7.00 for 7.45pm
Sun	4	Music Appreciation Group concert outing to Holywell Room, Oxford Mass Parish Communion Meeting for Worship	Catholic Church St Mary's Church Quaker Meeting House	8.30am 9.30am 10.30am
Mon	5	Knit & Natter Group Short Mat Bowls - Mondays (contact 812464) Community Lunch: Hosts - Falcon Bowling Club. (off Churchill Way) Yoga (Mondays) contact Kim 812623	Library Town Hall Ashwell Centre Sheepscombe Vill. Hall	10.00am 10.30am and 2.00pm 12noon to 1.15pm 6.30 to 8.00pm & 8.15 to 9.45pm
		Painswick Community Choir - Mondays. Enq. Sophie 01453 298138	Painswick Centre	7.00 to 8.30pm
		Have Your Say' Church Group: every Monday - contact Rev. Roger Leigh 01452 536325.	Church Rooms	7.30 to 9.30pm
Tue	6	Painswick Art Club: Every Tuesday Gentle Pilates for all - Tuesdays: contact Vicky at abcPilates@btinternet.com or 07934977171 Zumba Gold dance fitness class for Seniors: £6.50 pp Tuesdays. Tel: 07766 101790 Bingo: Tuesdays	Church Rooms Painswick Centre Painswick Centre Ashwell House	9.30am 9.30 to 10.30am 10.00am 6.30 to 9.00pm
Wed	7	Cotteswold Naturalists Lecture: Natural History Film-making - Roger Jones. Enq. 01453 873262 Botanical Illustration classes - Wednesdays - mornings or afternoons. Pre-book:07810 725772 or via website: www.botanic-illustration.co.uk Yoga (Wednesdays) contact Kim 812623 Art Class (Oils) - Wednesdays: contact Jane - 812176 Table Tennis - Wednesdays	Painswick Centre Painswick Golf Club GL6 6TL Sheepscombe Vill. Hall Painswick Centre	2.30pm 9.30am to- 12noon & 1.00 to- 3.30pm 9.30 to 11.00am Afternoons
Thu	8	Yoga - All Abilities (Thursdays) Cotswold Room 812623 T'ai Chi: Thursdays - Contact 812344 Dog Training Club (Thursdays) Art Class (Oils) - Thursdays: contact Jane - 812176 Art Class (Watercolours) - Thursdays: contact Jane - 812176	Painswick Centre Painswick Centre Town Hall Church Rooms	7.00 to 9.00pm 9.30 to 11.00am 9.30am 9.30 to 12.00noon Mornings Afternoons
		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
		New Pilates Class - Thursdays contact Nicola 07870 953159 or nmarshes@hotmail.com	Painswick Centre	
Fri	9	Country Market: Coffee Available - Fridays Baby & Toddler Group - Every Friday (term-time only) Friday Club: Sleep - Janet Dowling	Town Hall Youth Pavilion (Rec.) Town Hall	9.30 to 11.30am 10.00am to 11.30am 2.30pm
Sat	10	Painswick Beacon Conservation Group working party: Tel. 07971 633242 for location details	Painswick Beacon	9.00am to 12noon
Sun	11	Mass Sharing in One Bread (Holy Communion) Meeting for Worship	Catholic Church St. Mary's Church Quaker Meeting House	8.30am 9.30am 10.30am
Mon	12	Probus Women: The Life & Loves of Katherine Parr - Mike Bottomley Community Lunch: Hosts - Friday Club. (off Churchill Way)	Church Rooms Ashwell Centre	10.00 for 10.30am 12.00noon to 1.15pm
Tue	13	Bird Club: Focus on The Falklands - Philip Mugridge	Town Hall	7.30pm
Wed	14	Probus: Pourquoi Pas Gallia Nova (Canada) - Bill Affleck Gardening Club: On Top but Never in Control - Timothy Walker Benefice Communion Service - Ash Wednesday	Painswick Centre Church Rooms St. Mary's Church	10.00am 7.30pm 7.30pm



Thu	15	Friday Club Outing to The Everyman theatre Music Appreciation Group: Frederick Delius	Town Hall	7.30pm
Fri	16	Cotteswold Naturalists Bird Walk - Horsbere Brook Wetland. Pre-book: 813228	Premier Inn, Gloucester	10.00am
Sun	18	Mass Parish Communion Meeting for Worship	Catholic Church St. Mary's Church Quaker Meeting House	8.30am 9.30am 10.30am
Mon	19	Copy Date for March Beacon Community Lunch: Hosts Richmond Village (off Churchill Way)	Ashwell House	12.00noon to 1.15pm
Tue	20	Cotteswold Naturalists Talk & Tea: Mills, Stanway & The Isborne - Mike Lovatt. Enq. 01453 834486		2.30pm
Wed	21	Evening Prayer Parish Council Meeting	St. Mary's Church Town Hall	5.00pm 7.30pm
Thu	22	Richmond P'wick Supper Quiz. Main & Dessert. Teams of 4-6 £12.50 p.p. to include meal & quiz. Enq 810203 - Sonia Harte	Richmond Painswick	6.00pm - meal 6.30pm
Fri	23	Friday Club: High Street Histories - Philip Wilkins	Town Hall	2.30pm
Sat	24	Painswick Beacon Conservation Group working party: Tel. 07971 633242 for location details	Painswick Beacon	9.00am to 12noon
Sun	25	Mass Painswick Praise Meeting for Worship	Catholic Church St. Mary's Church Quaker Meeting House	8.30am 9.30am 10.30am
Mon	26	Community Lunch: Hosts - Painswick Bird Club (off Churchill Way)	Ashwell House	12.00noon to 1.15pm
Tue	27	Yew Trees W.I.: Village Life in mid-Victorian Times - Rose Hewlett	Church Rooms	7.30pm
Wed	28	Probus: Reflections on the role of the Lord Lieutenant of Gloucestershire - Dame Janet Trotter DBE Cotteswold Naturalists Talk: George Vernon & Sudbury Hall - Cherry Ann Knott. Enq. 813228	Painswick Centre Painswick Centre	10.00am 2.30pm
MARCH				
Thu	1	Music Appreciation Group: Ralph Vaughan-Williams	Town Hall	7.30pm
Fri	2	Wick-Flix Screening: Dunkirk. £7 at door, to include 1 drink	Painswick Centre	7.00 for 7.45pm
Sat	3	March issue of The Painswick Beacon published		
Mon	5	Community Lunch: Hosts - Beacon Conservation Group (off Churchill Way)	Ashwell Centre	12noon to 1.15pm
Tue	6	Bird Club: Members Evening, followed by AGM	Town Hall	7.30pm
Wed	7	Cotteswold Naturalists Lecture: Search for the N. W. Passage - Ken Ingamells. Enq. 01453 873262	Painswick Centre	2.30pm

Entries for the Village Diary should be sent direct to **Eddie Buttrey** at: eddie@thebuttreys.com

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PLANNING MATTERS

Information received from the Parish Council

NEW APPLICATIONS

S.17/2847/HHOLD YEW TREE COTTAGE, Stepping Stone Lane
Erect new conservatory in place of existing conservatory.
S.17/2864/COU BLAKEWELL FARM, Edge Road
Change of use from part orchard to residential garden.
S.17/2879/HHOLD THE GREEN HOUSE, The Green, Edge
Extension to rear of house.
S.18/0053/T5DAY JUBILATE, Blakewell Mead
Cedar snow damage, clean up torn limbs.
S.18/0055/TPO PARADISE HOUSE, Paradise
Cedar – Canopy lift to 8m all round.
S.17/2772/LBC & S.17/2771/HHOLD SHEEPSCOMBE HOUSE, Jacks Green
Erection of a Conservatory.
S.18/0025/HHOLD PARKBANK, The Park
Single storey extension including alterations to external surfaces.

S.17/2859/CPE PRICE, Downwood Mill, The Camp
Use of building as a residential dwelling.
S.17/2696/LBC NEW HALL, Bisley Street
Replacement of windows, pedestrian & internal alterations to bathroom.
S.18/0083/HHOLD STEPPING STONE COTTAGE, King Mill Lane
Erection of extensions and replacement garage.

CONSENT

S.17/2468/HHOLD BEECHWOOD COTTAGE, Jacks Green, Sheepscombe
Single storey extension to dwelling.
S.17/2482/HHOLD HILLCREST, Gloucester Street
Extensions and alterations to the house.
S.17/2516/LBC CASTLE HALE, Stamages Lane
Creation of new door opening into proposed dressing room.
S.17/2565/LBC ROYAL OAK, St Marys Street
Proposed alterations to outbuildings to create pool room.

S.17/2652/HHOLD 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 PARKFIELD COTTAGES, The Park
External wall insulated wrap around render system.

REFUSED

S.17/2158/HHOLD FLAT, LONGFIELD CARE, Bisley Street
Replacement of old, wooden casement windows in front elevation of 1st floor flat above charity shop with energy efficient double glazed pvc windows.
S.17/2611/COU THE FRITH, Slad Road, Slad
Creation of a glamping site for two domes with associated facilities.

BUSINESS

WANTED - cleaner at the Rococo Garden for 200 hours per year, £7.50 per hour plus benefits. Contact Dominic Hamilton on 813204 or dominic@rococogarden.org.uk.

Chef De Partie 40hpw £9ph A full time chef de partie is required to join the team at Richmond Village. Experience required, no split shifts. Email C.V. to oliver.kyte@richmond-villages.com

Richmond Village are now seeking to appoint Domiciliary Care Assistants to join the team. The pay rates range from £7.95-£8.32 depending on experience. Contact Debbie Farrington on 01452 810202



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A Case of Assault Mrs Webb v Mrs Hale

What was happening in St Mary's Street 165 years ago? According to the 1851 census these two ladies, aged 32 and 26 and each with a young child, lived in St Mary's Street. Two years later ...

"The 'ladies' reside at Painswick, the complainant being the fair one of 'a lord of the awl', and the defendant the beloved partner of 'a Knight of the cleaver', and it appeared from the evidence adduced before the Bench that the parties live under the same domestic roof, though not in the enjoyment of 'domestic bliss', and were frequently taunting each other in no measured terms about 'the show of meat', and 'stock of boots, shoes and leather' displayed by their respective 'lords' in their windows. This had continued for some time when on Friday last complainant roused the ire of defendant so far that she actually (forgetting the gentle qualities of her more 'lady-like' nature) put her fist in her face, telling her at the same time "she should have it" and thus arose the cause for

the complaint. 'Lady' Hale seemed deeply affected whilst 'Lady' Webb was giving her version of the affair, wringing her hands and casting her eyes 'towards high Heaven' uttering the solemn ejaculations of "Oh Dear! Oh Dear! However can she stand there; I have such a clear conscience."

The Bench after a patient hearing of the dastardly assault, fined defendant 6d, costs 9s advising the 'fair ones' if they had a spark of regard for each other to henceforth keep the peace."

From the Stroud Free Press January 1853
Carol Maxwell

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The Personal Column

Condolences

To the family and friends of MARION SADLER who died peacefully in the Sue Ryder Hospice on December 21st aged 93. Her funeral was held at Gloucester Crematorium on January 10th followed by a service of thanksgiving and celebration at Rodborough Tabernacle.

To the friends and past pupils of CHRIS BAINES who passed away peacefully on December 7th. Chris was an inspirational teacher at Stroud High School and later was acting head teacher before her promotion to a headship in the Wirral, Cheshire. A much loved and respected teacher, Chris lived in Painswick and contributed much to village life.

To the friends and neighbours of JOYCE STANDING who passed away peacefully in the care of the wonderful staff at Resthaven on November 8th. A talented artist, Joyce was for many years a member of The Painswick Studio (now Painswick Art Club) and many of us will treasure her beautiful botanical paintings gifted to us. Joyce was a member at Christ Church and a regular supporter of the annual Painswick Music Society concerts. A passionate

gardener, Joyce shared her extensive horticultural knowledge with so many novice gardeners and encouraged their early planting and pruning efforts!

To the family and friends of MARCUS SMITH who was sadly killed in a motorcar accident in Colorado where he has lived for several years with his new wife Patsi - she is badly injured. Marcus lived at Lullingworth in the 1980s/1990s and had many friends in the village. Friends will remember him for his wonderful hospitality especially the Chinese New Year party's he hosted with his first wife Nora. His father was a Church Deacon and in later years he became a devout Christian. He will be sadly missed.

Congratulations

To NAOMI MACLAURIN - JONES who celebrated her 100th birthday with her family on January 18th at Wisma Mulia care home in Frampton - on - Severn where she has lived since 2011 after she left Painswick. Naomi and her husband Colin lived for many years in Vicarage Street.

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



Four generations of the family of Naomi Maclaurin-Jones gather round as she reads her birthday card from the Queen.

NEXT ISSUE

Publication date
SATURDAY
March 3rd 2018

Deadline for all copy
MONDAY
February 19th

for editorial attention only use
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for current issue and archive, the annual directory and village maps.
Facebook (The Painswick Beacon) for up to date news about Painswick.

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Printed in Gloucester
for
The Painswick Beacon
by
www.inkylittlefingers.co.uk
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