

The Painswick Beacon

Volume 43 Number 7

October 2020

Painswick from above



A drone's eye view of St Mary's Church and the area around, in this beautiful shot taken by Simon Schofield

Senseless damage to golf course

Another side of Painswick is shown in the rather less beautiful image on the right. The bank holiday weekend saw what appeared to be people in a vehicle doing wheelies on the third green of the golf course. This damage may take until next Spring to repair to a fully playable state and many hours work for the greenkeeper.

Council lapse 'approves' phone mast

Local residents who thought they had won their fight three years ago to prevent construction of a telecommunications base station and mast on Pincot Lane, have now learned that the planning application for the mast has been deemed approved because Stroud Council's rejection letter was sent out a day too late. See our report on page 3.

Nature Notes

On our centre pages this month we have a report on a survey of the diverse natural wildlife and flowers to be found on our doorstep on Painswick Beacon. It is an article that brings to mind the series of 'Nature Notes' by Cedric Nielsen that appeared in the Beacon over an extended period some twenty years ago. Sadly Cedric died in September and we also feature on page 18 an appreciation of his life by Graham Luker.



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.

Present: Cllrs. Martin Slinger (Chairman), Andy Cash, James Cross, Ian James, Rob Lewis, Roey Parker, Abigail Smith.

The September meeting was via Zoom. Chairman Martin Slinger opened the meeting and paid a personal tribute to Cllrs and Staff who had worked tirelessly during the current pandemic to maintain the smooth running of the Council and had responded positively to queries raised by the local community.

Apologies for absence

The Clerk Roy Balgobin advised the meeting that apologies had been received from Cllrs Ann Daniels, Mike Fletcher and Rosie Nash.

Declaration of Interest

Chairman, Cllr Martin Slinger declared an interest in an item under Agenda 5a (Accounts for payment schedule) and took no part in the discussions.

Reports

From County and District Councillors. No reports received.

Chairman's report. The Chairman thanked his fellow Cllrs, Council Staff, the local community and various local support groups for the continuing Community Support during these difficult times.

Parish Clerk's Report. A detailed report had been circulated prior to the meeting. The report confirmed that risk assessments had been carried out at the Town Hall in accordance with Governmental legislation. All users had been asked to submit individual risk assessments to be approved prior to them returning to use the Hall. The office is manned when required with one member of staff working in the office and the other working from home. The Council had successfully applied for and received £10k rate relief for loss of revenue in the Town Hall. The Council had also received grants totalling £12.5k from the County Council. Following an investigation it was found that the money had been paid in error and needed to be repaid. The full report is available on the

Council's web site.

Covid 19 Community Support Group.

Cllr Abigail Smith presented a comprehensive paper together with a recommendation that the Council acts as an umbrella and carries out the legislative administrative functions of the group. The initial set up costs are expected to be around £2,000. The Clerk advised the Meeting that several other local Councils had set up similar arrangements and that funding was being made available from the £10,000 Business Support Grant. The Council unanimously agreed to the proposals. See our report on page 9.

Planning. The Council noted the monthly planning report. Details available on the Council's web site.

Telecommunications Mast

To discuss and raise concerns in regard to the recently permitted Telecom Mast which was permitted as a result of a Stroud District Council administration error. Cllr Rob Lewis sought support for a letter drafted by the Deputy Clerk, Irena Litton. The letter expressed the Council's concern and disappointment that, due to a procedural error by the District Council's Planning Dept., the previous refusal of this Application had now been given the go ahead under permitted rights. Furthermore the Council had not formally notified the Parish Council of the error - local District Councillor Nigel Cooper had made them aware. The Council wanted to know how this error arose and what steps had been taken to ensure that similar mistakes would not occur again. This was essential if both the public and the local Council were to have trust in the Planning System. There was unanimous agreement for the letter to be sent to SDC. The letter is available on the Council's web site.

Councillors' reports. Cllr Andy Cash reported continuing concerns over the damage to Steanbridge Lane verges caused by large vehicles and cable-laying works. This has been further exacerbated by overgrown foliage. The Clerk had spoken

to the County Cllr, Keith Rippington, who had indicated that repairs would be carried out using his Highways Local Funding.

Cllr Roey Parker was concerned about the lack of repairs to the drainage issue by Sheepscombe Village Hall. These problems had been ongoing for several years. The matter will be referred to the County Cllr to expedite the repairs. Cllr Parker also raised concerns over the lack of response to repairing several reported potholes and a damaged drainage manhole cover in Sheepscombe. These had also been reported by Cllr Ian James. Finally Cllr Parker thanked the Council's Ground Staff for their excellent work on the Village Green and the area opposite.

Cllr Abigail Smith asked that the "20 is plenty signage" be replaced. The Clerk confirmed that the Parish Handyman will undertake this task.

Cllr Martin Slinger updated the Council on light pollution concerns at Hammonds Farm which had been reported to the District Council who had advised that no action can be taken.

Finance Approval of Accounts

Cllr Martin Slinger had previously declared an interest in this Agenda item and took no part in the discussions.

Payment of the Accounts schedule presented to the meeting was approved by the Council.

To consider a request for a grant from the Painswick Beacon magazine for a refund of fees paid to the Painswick Centre as result of the Town Hall being non Covid compliant.

The Council unanimously agreed not to approve the request for a grant of £23.00 as it was felt that several other options were available other than hiring a meeting room.

To agree a way forward in regard to Parish Council Committee Meetings

After a discussion the Council agreed to resume Committee Meetings via ZOOM

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and agreed to hold one Planning Meeting a month with all other Committees to meet once before the New Year. Planning

Committee Chairman, Cllr Rob Lewis, will investigate how to display plans via ZOOM.

Date of next Meeting
Wednesday 21st October 2020 via ZOOM
at 7.30pm
The Meeting closed at 8.15pm

Ash dieback

Virtually every Ash tree in the Painswick Valley is showing signs of the infection from the Ash dieback fungus (Chalara). Their branches, particularly at the tips, are denuded of leaves in the early stages and as the fungus spreads they lose all their leaves as their vascular system becomes blocked and they eventually die.

Many of our older residents will recall how in the 70's we lost all our Elm trees to Dutch Elm Disease, and in spite of their valiant attempts to regrow, they all seem to succumb to beetle attack, and the ensuing disease, after about 15 years. It seems now we are going to lose all our Ash trees. Ash is one of our commonest trees in woodlands with some 80 million specimens in the UK, so their demise is going to have a devastating effect on the countryside. Some older trees may be able to survive because of greater resistance, but it is expected that most will be lost.



An infected ash tree on the A46 at Pitchcombe is felled

Already the local council for Stroud has appointed a Highway Officer to deal with the dying ash trees which line our roads and to ask local landowners to fell diseased trees to prevent limbs falling onto the carriageway. Along the A46 several trees have already been felled and there are many more to follow. However, with autumn around the corner and leaves falling naturally, we will not know the full impact of the disease until next spring when the trees are due to burst into leaf.

Business for our many local tree surgeons is going to be brisk in the ensuing months but the cost to our beautiful countryside is going to be devastating, as it seems likely that the majority of the Ash trees in the UK will be lost to this airborne disease.

Mike Sanderson

Residents' anger at Mast approval

Local residents who live on Pincot Lane and Wick Street are saddened and angry to hear that a rejected telecommunications base station and mast have now been given the green light due to an error by the planning department at Stroud District Council. The mast was rejected in 2017 on the grounds that it could be visually harmful to the landscape of this part of the Cotswold AONB. However the application had to be decided and notification sent to the applicant within 56 days, otherwise the applicant could appeal to have the decision overturned. In this case it seems a decision was sent on day 56 by the Council, but not received until the following day, offering the developer a loophole. Residents have written letters to local MP Siobhan Baillie who has recently begun to show active support, but as of yet have not managed to overturn the decision.

Vodafone are now pressing ahead to erect the mast despite opposition from local residents and from the farmer who owns the land. The vast majority of local residents and the landowner do not want it and have objected to it. They say they already have good coverage in the area so it is not needed.

However local resident Nathan Hutchings believes the fight is not over and asks for the wider community to get behind the campaign to stop the mast. You can sign the online petition on you.38degrees.org.uk - search for 38 degrees Stop the mast



Residents gather to protest

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Yew Trees WI

Like most societies, we have been unable to meet as a group since February. Plans to have a picnic were thwarted because we chose the days when gale force winds and rain hit Painswick. Now that we are limited to meeting in even smaller groups we organised a garden history tour at the Rococo Gardens. Five of us enjoyed a fascinating afternoon with garden historian Jill Stuart.



The garden looked stunning in the warm sunshine. There was plenty of time to wander through and savour the tranquility and admire the amazing work that is continuing. How fortunate we are that the garden is still thriving. We hope to repeat this, allowing a few more members to have this experience.

Above all it was very uplifting as we all benefited from this opportunity to meet again because it is socialising that we have missed most of all.

Naomi Dunn

Friday Friendships remain on hold

Autumn should be the start of a stimulating and enjoyable round of talks and excursions for Friday Club. Sadly, along with many other organisations, this has not been possible. The Committee have done much head-scratching and creative thinking, all to no avail. It is not possible to find a way to meet in a Covid secure environment.



It has therefore been decided to wait until the New Year - yes 2021, before attempting to make any further plans. There is one slight glimmer - Christmas lunch has been provisionally booked at Waypoint for December 4th and we've all got our fingers crossed that it will be possible to go ahead with it. In the meantime, Ann, Sue and Janet will continue to keep in touch with all our members and we hope you stay safe and well until we can get together again. There will be a lot of catching up to do!

Pat Francis



Jane Rowe, Jill Stuart, Mary Sparks, Sylvia Walker, Anne Newhill

Music Appreciation programme suspended



It is with regret, that after careful consideration, the Committee feels that it would be in the best interests of all of our Members that we suspend our current programme.

We will return as soon as possible. In anticipation, we are currently working hard preparing an exciting programme that's bursting with musical enjoyment. We will be publishing regular updates in the Beacon. Watch this space!

Mike Kerton

Speaker programme suspended Local History research goes on



The Committee of the Local History Society has reluctantly concluded that the programme of speakers planned for 2020/21 cannot go ahead at present. The research side of the society's activities is, however, continuing. Plans for the 23rd annual edition of the Society's journal, the Painswick Chronicle, are progressing and the Beacon has continued to publish regular articles on aspects of Painswick's history. Advice on doing, or helping with, local history research is available from the society. Contact Carol Maxwell on 813387.

All memberships for 2019/20 are being extended into 2020/21 with no additional fee, and members will be able to purchase copies of the Painswick Chronicle at the usual discounted rate when it is published

Alastair Jollans

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Two Steps Forward, One Back?

The Club's officers continue to hold their monthly meetings by Zoom. We ended the September meeting in good heart with many plans: a winter visit to Slimbridge, Christmas meals and some guided winter walks. Spring would see us visiting gardens and an overnight trip to the Devon Coast, to enjoy an 'Avocet Cruise' on the River Exe. I had hoped that this article and the content of our next Newsletter would carry our definitive plans.



It was not to be! As I write, the national media report rising number of virus cases and the probability that the Government will introduce further restrictions. If the 'rule of six', restricting the number of people in gatherings, remains in place, we plan to hold some guided walks for small groups of members. We hope to include the heritage sites at Croome and Compton Verney, both landscapes designed by Capability Brown, in the programme.

As with many other Clubs, we are looking at holding talks for members by Zoom, although we are acutely aware that this format does not suit everyone. More news of these plans next month.

Finally, we have been encouraged by the response to Peter Wilson's request carried in an earlier Beacon magazine for details of stone stiles in Gloucestershire. The information is being included in a database assembled with CPRE's help. If you come across a stone stile while out on a walk and would like to help, please take a photograph, noting its location (map reference, etc.), and send it by email to Peter.Wilson@woodchestervalleyvillage.co.uk

More information and a form outlining the details sought can also be found at the following website <https://www.cpreglos.org.uk/creating-a-record-of-gloucestershire-stone-stiles/> Thank you.

Jane Rowe 01452 813228

Puffins call it a day

It is with great regret that, due to the current coronavirus pandemic and the additional demands it brings, the committee of Painswick Puffins have taken the difficult decision to disband the group. Because of the need to socially distance, no more than 15-18 members could have met in the Church Rooms each week and there are over 50 members. This reality, coupled with the need to provide regular risk assessments for the insurers and deep clean the venue after use, has led the committee to decide that, after 30 happy years, it was time to call it a day.

Painswick Puffins would like to thank all their supporters over the many years. In particular, the group has received unending assistance from Painswick Parish Council, The Church Rooms, The Falcon, Richmond Painswick and Catalina & Marin at the Bistro. The Committee would also like to thank Jenny Oakley who has led the group throughout its time, completely on a voluntary basis.

It is quite some achievement for an exercise group to have lasted for such a long time and with so much fun and laughter along the way. It is a sad farewell for all the Puffins but hopefully the friendships will live on.

The Painswick Puffins Committee

Longfield Shop re-opens.

The Longfield charity shop in Bisley Street re-opened on 15th September. Gill and Nicki are back, welcoming customers old and new. Of course, social distancing measures are in place and customers are asked to wear face coverings where possible, and to use the hand sanitiser provided.

'We are working hard to ensure that the shop is safe for staff and customers alike', said Gill, the Shop Manager, 'But we hope we can still maintain a friendly, welcoming atmosphere'. The shop opening hours are now 09.30 to 16.30 Monday to Saturday.

The shop is accepting donations, although only on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays and donors are requested to limit their contributions to one black bag per family per day. Donations of clothing, bric-a-brac, books and puzzles are particularly welcome.

The Longfield charity has missed out on a vast amount of income since its shops were forced to close in March, so your support now is more vital than ever. So shopping or donating – please call in soon.

3 Bisley Street, 01452 814417.

Next Month's Painswick Beacon

We would welcome your pictures showing the best of this year's Autumn colours and will aim to publish the best of them next month. Send to beacon@painswick.net to arrive by the copy date of Sunday October 25th.

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News from St Mary's

October is the month of harvest festivals. I spent a week in North Cornwall in September and visited the church at Morwenstow, a remote village near the rocky coast. It was here that the local Vicar Revd Robert Hawker introduced a harvest thanksgiving service in 1843 which became the inspiration for our modern harvest festivals. St Mary's harvest festival communion service is on Sunday 4th October at 9.30am. Appropriately enough this will be the day of the next foodbank collection. Please give what you can and place in the boxes provided outside the church from 9.30 to 12 noon.



There will be regular communion services each Sunday during the month at 9.30am, except on Sunday 25th October. Because of the Coronavirus and the need for social distancing, attending these services will continue to be restricted. Please register if you plan to attend any particular service by sending an email to the benefice office – lychgate@internet.com or phone the churchwarden Margaret Radway – 07896 430107 by the previous Friday.

Sunday 25th October is Bible Sunday. There will be a special service on that day (see alongside). Bible Sunday is celebrated throughout the Christian church when we give thanks for the freedom to read the Bible in our own language at any time. It was not always so.

The grass growing season will soon be coming to an end as temperatures lower. A big thank you to all our volunteer mowers who have kept our churchyard looking so smart throughout the summer months. Many have commented on such a well kept churchyard. We have had 9 mowers helping, with up to 6 operating at any one time. Even so it still takes 3 to 4 hours to mow the whole churchyard.

David Newell

Week of Prayer for World Peace

Every day from Monday 12th to Saturday 17th October, prayers for peace will be said between 10am and 10.30am in the Quaker Meeting House, Vicarage Street. All welcome of any or no faith. Please wear a face covering.



The International Prayer for Peace

Lead us from death to life, from falsehood to truth.
Lead us from despair to hope, from fear to trust.
Lead us from hate to love, from war to peace.
Let peace fill our hearts, our world, our universe. Amen

Sue Stick

Bible Sunday Service

You are invited to Beacon Praise for All starting on Sunday 25th October in St Mary's Church Painswick at 11am. Meet the team, music, praise, quiz, talk, prayers. Something different for everyone! Please register in advance and wear face coverings.

Lindsay Gardiner

Harvest Foodbank Collection St Mary's 4th October 9.30-12 noon

We had another hugely successful collection of gifts for the Foodbank in September and received very grateful thanks from those who are supporting everyone in food poverty in our area. People came from every parish across the valleys to leave their donations and all was delivered to the warehouse for weighing, sorting, shelf stacking and onward delivery, by hand, to the many individuals and families in need.

Our next Foodbank drop off is to coincide with Harvest Festival at St Mary's church. All food donations will go to Foodbank and monetary donations to The Haven Refuge. Suggested items are: biscuits, tinned potatoes, tinned custard, rice pudding, steamed puddings, jars of cooking sauces, UHT fruit juice, pet food, sweet treats, savoury snacks. But any non-perishable food is welcome.

Please, please bring what you can to the boxes outside the church on Sunday 4th October, 9.30-12 noon. Thank you so much.

Pippa Dickinson, Joan Wells, Pippa Medcalf (07740 514230)

No clothes, no school

The Sourdough for Schooling Project has largely concluded and I am happy to say that with your support we have raised over £1500 for the Burundi Education Foundation, which supports a primary school in rural Burundi. Many thanks to all of you who bought bread and gave hefty donations.

You may be interested to know how some of your money has been spent. Not all on teachers salaries, as I had originally thought, but on shipping second-hand clothes for 2-5 year-olds to enable them to attend pre-school. Last year, teachers at the school found that the curriculum was too demanding in the infant class as it was designed with children who had attended pre-school in mind. Thus the decision was made to introduce a pre-school year to familiarise the children to letters and simple numbers and the like.

However, a few weeks ago, the pre-school teacher found that the uptake of this new class was poor. Why was this, she wondered? Simple answer: the parents were too ashamed to send their little ones to school in rags. Decisive action was taken, and Chantal the school coordinator in London went door-to-door in her block of flats asking for second-hand clothes. These have been shipped out to Burundi using some of the bread money and the problem has been solved. Just think of 30-40 children not being able to start at school for the sake of a second-hand pair of shorts and a T-shirt? And we think we have problems. Thank you Painswick.

Angela M. Lerwill

Thank You

Richmond Painswick would like to thank you, the local community, for your continued support and kindness.

We hope you are keeping well. Please stay safe and let's stay connected.

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News from Painswick Surgery

Flu vaccinations

This year the surgery is offering the flu vaccination on the NHS to:

- adults 65 and over
- people with certain medical conditions
- pregnant women
- people living with someone who's at high risk from coronavirus (on the NHS shielded patient list)
- children aged 2 and 3 on 31 August 2020 (primary school children will be vaccinated at school)
- frontline health or social care workers

Our first flu clinic was held on Saturday 26th September. If you are eligible for a flu vaccination on the NHS, please call the surgery to book your appointment for either Saturday 10th October or Saturday 31st October. Both clinics will run from 08:30 to 12:30. Please observe the following:

- On no account should anyone come to the surgery if they have symptoms of COVID-19, or have been in contact with another person who does
- To avoid congestion in the car park, please arrive at the given time for your appointment, not early, not late
- You must wear an appropriate mask
- Observe social distancing in the car park and within the surgery one-way system
- Wear appropriate clothing and have your arm ready before you enter the Treatment Room
- There will not be anywhere to hang up coats
- There will not be any toilet facilities available

Appointments with Nurses and GPs

During the current situation, patients should only come to the surgery if they have been instructed to by a GP, or have a pre-booked appointment with a Nurse. For GP appointments, come to the rear car park, and for Nurse appointments, come to the front car park. When you arrive, call Reception on 01452 812545 to let them know you are here. Further instructions will then be given.

eConsult

If you haven't already done so, please read the article by Dr Rhys Evans in the September 2020 edition of the Painswick Beacon, especially with regards to eConsult.

Dr Odinma Odufuwa and Dr Kathryn Allbright

We are very pleased to have two GP Registrars working with us at the moment. Dr Odinma Odufuwa joined the surgery in January, and Dr Kathryn Allbright joined us at the beginning of August. We are very fortunate to have two very good GP Registrars, especially at this very difficult and busy time.

Painswick Surgery Special Equipment Fund

We would like to thank all those patients and relatives who have made such kind donations to our associated charity: the Painswick Surgery Special Equipment Fund. The charity has made numerous purchases for the surgery during the current pandemic, including access ramps for the Consulting and Treatment rooms, a new set of baby scales, home health monitoring sets, and many other essential pieces of equipment. We are very grateful.

Michael Mack-Smith, Practice Manager



Anne-Marie Randall
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... and from the Patient Group

eConsult

Last month Dr Evans wrote about the introduction of the eConsult triaging system. The Patient Group are keen to hear how people who have used the system feel about it. In August the British Journal of General Practice said "Many GPs have reported that patients, particularly those with complex needs, prefer seeing their doctor in person. Many GPs prefer this too, in part because being in the same room can help facilitate building the relationships with patients on which continuity of care is based". However, as Dr Evans made clear, under the current pressures ways must be found to work as efficiently as possible. So we will be balancing our judgement of eConsult between these competing pressures. Send your views to: PainswickPPG@gmail.com and we will also add you to our mailing list.

Face mask exemptions

Although it is now mandatory to wear a face covering in shops and on public transport, some people are exempt. This includes children under the age of 11, and people who are unable to wear a face covering because of a disability or where it will cause severe distress. You can find out more about the latest government advice here: <http://orlo.uk/ZiADD>

Some supermarkets are providing lanyards to support customers who are exempt from wearing a mask, to help raise awareness and avoid misunderstandings. Healthwatch Gloucs wants to know if you are aware of any similar schemes – you can contact them here: <https://www.healthwatchgloucestershire.co.uk/contact-us>

The Patient Group

- is to start meeting again but necessarily in a virtual meeting through Zoom on 29th September. To find out who is on the group, email us on the address above. Those on our list already will have received the list.

David Perry

Moses Pullen

More feedback on the article in our May edition on 'Those memorable teachers', which featured amongst others Moses Pullen, a Painswick teacher in the mid 19th century. Ray Richards writes from Hucclecote to say that Moses was his great great grandfather, and the family has gathered quite a lot of information about him. He also asks whether Pullens Road is named after him. Can anybody provide a definitive answer?

Autumn colour blazes



Thanks to the ongoing support of our visitors and Friends, we have been able to confirm that we can stay open Thursdays to Sundays throughout October. This means there will be plenty of opportunity to enjoy the amazing autumn colours in the Garden, of which there are just the first hints as I write this. I am pleased to report that a very healthy proportion of our visitors are switching to membership this year, which gives unlimited access to the Garden during public opening hours. Many people have said they find it a terrific help during these difficult times to be able to escape to the peace and tranquillity of the Garden. You can join for as little as £26.50 per year, and we also offer gift memberships: for more details, visit rococogarden.org.uk or email friends@rococogarden.org.uk.

The area of the Garden which keeps our team the busiest is the Kitchen Garden. Here we aim to grow as many heritage varieties of fruit and veg as we can, focusing on the kind of things which would have been available in the 18th century. We have always gone to special lengths to make use of the produce, and this year we have done particularly well, despite our team being a fraction of its usual strength. One of our expert volunteers has made 54lb of plum jam and even more delicious chutney which will be on sale in the shop by the time you read this. But that's just the start: we are also planning a collaboration with a local brewer to use the hops which have done so well this summer – more news on that in future. And for those of you who love our home-produced honey, the first of the 2020 harvest is also on sale in the Shop now.

During autumn half term we have some seasonal family activities in the pipeline and will be opening an extra Wednesday (28th Oct) that week to enable families to visit and enjoy the Garden safely. Do check for details on rococogarden.org.uk, where you can also book your arrival time online. I do hope to see you in the garden soon.

Tim Toghill, Trustee & volunteer

Demolished – No. 5

A more recent demolition this time – one that has happened well within the memory of many of today's Painswickians, although surprisingly few photos seem to have survived.

Until 1982 there used to be two cottages in what is now the car park at the Painswick Centre, although they had fallen into disrepair. The Trustees



of the then Painswick Institute looked at various options for their use, including conversion to craft workshops, but concluded that the most viable option was demolition. We'd love to hear from anyone who has a better photo of the cottages.

At some time rather earlier than this, but we don't know exactly when, the stone arch by the entrance to the Institute was also demolished. Can anyone shed further light on why or when? And of course the garage opposite the arch in the photo is also now long gone.

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Victoria Lamp

Work on renovating the Victoria Lamp has recently been completed by the County Council. The gas lamp was erected to commemorate Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee in 1897, for many years standing in the middle of the road in Victoria Square. It now stands on the edge of the Memorial Garden.



Community Support

The Painswick Covid-19 Community Support initiative was set up at the start of lockdown to help those who needed support for whatever reason. Six months on, the service is still available, but demand has reduced and many of those offering support are now fully back at work and less available to offer support.

But the need for some support is still there and the coming together of the community is something that it would be a shame to lose. The group has been looking at ways to retain some organisation in the longer term and put it on a more robust basis. That is likely to mean proper checks on volunteers (DBS checking) and other safeguarding measures, but the group now believe that a way forward has been found. A proposal put forward by Abigail Smith was agreed by the Parish Council this month, and it is hoped to re-launch the group on a new basis from the start of November. More details in our next issue.

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Historic crimes tried in October

Not a crime, but would it happen now?

'At Gloucester County Court, Alfred Thomas King, the one-time well-known Gloucester rifle shot and a native of Painswick, claimed an award against Messrs S.J. Moreland, the match manufacturers. Applicant said that he entered Messrs Moreland's employ in August 1906 and became foreman joiner in the safety match department at the salary of 35s. per week. On October 19th last his left hand got entangled in the belt which drove the machinery. The hand and wrist were completely cut off and the remainder of the arm was crushed up to the shoulder and had to be amputated, only about an inch of stump being left. He had tried all he knew to get work but nobody would employ him with only one arm. One firm wrote that they did not think that a one-armed man could ever be of use to them, another that his serious and permanent disablement rendered him valueless to them, and a third that they were afraid he was too greatly handicapped by the loss of his arm. He had been a famous rifle shot, having represented England in international shooting competitions. In two years he won about £40 in prizes and received £10 in expenses. Up to August 15th last Messrs Moreland's paid him 17s.6d. per week compensation, afterwards offering him 12s.6d. which he refused to accept. He had tried a false arm, but it was no use, besides being painful. After hearing the evidence and lengthy argument by learned counsel, his Honour awarded the applicant 17s.6d. a week compensation, with costs.'

Stroud News 14 October 1910

Too much revelling in 1890

'Sarah Fisher was summoned for being drunk and disorderly in Tibbiwell Lane, Painswick, at half past eleven p.m. on October 8th. Fined 5s. or 7 days hard labour. Edward Painter was similarly summoned. He was with the last defendant and his face was covered with blood. Many previous convictions. Fourteen days hard labour or pay 27s.6d.'

Stroud News 17 October 1890

'William Gyde and Arthur Banks, youths of Painswick, were summoned for discharging "fireworks" in Cheltenham Road, Painswick, on October 21st. Banks pleaded guilty, and Gyde did not appear. P.C. Chappell said defendants were letting off a cannon on the footpath. The point arose as to whether a cannon is a "firework" and the Explosives Act was referred to. The Chairman said the practice was a nuisance at Painswick. Banks was fined 6d. and 6s.6d. costs, and Gyde 6d. and 8s. costs.'

Stroud News 24 October 1890

Overcharging for a noggin of gin

In October 1920 the licensees of the Bell Inn, the Adam and Eve Inn and the Falcon Hotel were all summonsed for selling 'a quarter, and one-sixth and one-fifth of a noggin of gin' at prices exceeding the set amount. It appears that the Ministry of Food sent one of its inspectors incognito to Painswick inns to check that they were selling at the correct prices. They were all fined £5 for each of two summonses. The cases were reported in *Cheltenham Chronicle 2 October 1920*

And the black-out ...

'For permitting lights to be visible from the premises during black-out, George William Clark, Bisley St., Painswick, fined £2. Officer concerned P.C. Handley, stated there had been a previous warning.'

Gloucester Journal 12 October 1940

In the previous month several had been reported including the Star Inn and Willoughby Dickinson (Lord Dickinson) of Washwell House.

Carol Maxwell

Marin and Catalina at St Michael's

Sunday, 1st November, is definitely a date to note. St Michael's restaurant in Victoria Street will open its doors again but with a new look, a new menu and new proprietors. For the past 13 years Marin and Catalina have run the Bistro at The Cross, Marin as chef and Catalina front of house. With the closing of Cardynham House and the Bistro they are delighted to have been given the opportunity to take over the restaurant at St Michael's and are greatly looking forward to the new opening.

Catalina explains that the dishes will be of "Marin's style", simple European and traditional English food prepared and cooked on the premises. With a wealth of impressive experience as a chef behind him, Marin is passionate about his food, always using fresh ingredients and aiming to make eating in his restaurant a truly satisfying and happy experience. He wants his customers to really enjoy his food. The dining room will have a lovely new look which, says Marin, will be "Catalina's style" – simple and clean with delightful touches including fresh flowers and soft lighting for a welcoming and relaxing atmosphere. As well as the interior area customers will also be able to dine outside if they choose with tables both at the front and at the rear with heating provided when necessary.

Marin and Catalina have become very much respected and appreciated in Painswick for their culinary skills and outstanding service. They are an excellent team, professional and focussed, dedicated and full of enthusiasm for the restaurant. Their customers are definitely the beneficiaries of such a positive attitude. They have lived here now for 16 years and, says Catalina, they love living and working within the community, regarding Painswick as their true home.

The restaurant will be open for lunch Tuesday to Sunday and for evening meals Tuesday to Saturday. Morning coffee/tea will be available from 11.00am. Furthermore, during the past few months they have offered an invaluable take-away service, much appreciated by many Painswickians, and this is to be continued. Bookings for Christmas meals can also be made. Telephone 07877.282446. This is excellent fare, professionally served and at a very reasonable price. And COVID permitting, there will be a launch event on Sunday, 1st November at 6.00pm. Watch the board outside the restaurant for details

Carol Maxwell



Art By Appointment

Along with many other events the May open studio with SIT Select Arts Trail was postponed this year. However the arts trail is now going to take place by appointment following strict guidelines for two weekends in October 17/18 and 24/25. Jane Garbett is a local artist who is taking part. Jane will be showing her 'lockdown paintings' inspired primarily by her garden where she found great solace during those strange spring/summer months. These will be shown with earlier work prior to the virus, it is interesting to see the difference. As well as being able to view work around the studio and house, visitors are welcome to wander around the garden.



For more information about the event and other artists taking part visit: <http://www.sitselect.org/sitselecttrail.html> To see more of Jane's work - www.janegarbett.co.uk or instagram @Jane.garbett To make an appointment with Jane call 07902 751515 or 01452 812176. In view of the continuing restrictions Jane is happy to show her work independent of the trail at other times by appointment.

Free to a good home Back issues of the Beacon

A set of back issues of the Painswick Beacon is available, including almost all issues from 1993 to the present date. Priority will be given to anyone who wants the whole set, but if not, it may be split. Contact 814263 or apjbeacon@gmail.com

Photos of stained glass

A collection of several hundred colour slides of stained glass is also offered, mostly from Gloucestershire churches, together with a card index referencing them. Contact Pam Bailey on 813503.



Painswick Beacon Conservation Group

Wildlife Sightings, Summer 2020

We have had an extraordinary summer and in Painswick we are very lucky to have so much on our doorstep. I have spent the last six months walking a regular route over the Beacon with camera and macro-lens. Other members have seen other species and we have built up a Record Species List 2020. Many species groups within the large plant/insect/amphibians/mammals etc. categories have "County Recorders" and they are listed in the Gloucestershire Naturalists' Society (GNS) magazine. I started putting sightings on Internet identification Facebook pages and sending my photographs to the relevant County Recorders for identification and recording.

Before the vegetation started growing there was the opportunity to see common lizards warming up on the tree trunks left by Painswick Beacon Conservation Group (PBCG) work parties. Later, in September, I saw a group of walkers absolutely delighted to have a close encounter with a relaxed lizard sunbathing on a wall. Twice during the summer I saw large, very long grass snakes curving sinusoidally into the wood margin.

Most walkers looking at the flowers search for orchids and we have plenty, starting with the Early Purple, Common purple, Green-veined, Pyramidal and Fragrant orchids. Helleborines – White and Broad-leaved, possibly Narrow-lipped; Bird's Nest Orchid, Common Twayblade, Musk Orchid, Autumn Lady's Tresses, Fly Orchid, Bee Orchid. Any more? If you see any others, please let us know to add to our list!

As soon as the black St Mark's flies start drifting around with their droopy legs, I look for the Green Longhorns – similar size, but micro-moths, with exceptionally long antennae. They dance an elaborate courtship on the hazel leaves. Then there comes



Roesel's Bush-cricket, photographed by Joyce on the Beacon in July

a sequence of moths with Mother Shiptons, Burnet Companions and Green Foresters. Several of us recorded Wood Tigers which pleased the County Recorder, who said this species had not been recorded on Painswick Beacon for a long time. Paul Baxter trumped us with a photograph of a Little Thorn – another uncommon moth species. There were a lot of Scarlet Tigers and later in the year, Silver-Y's which are indicative of good habitat. Six-spot Burnets have been abundant – I have been taking photographs of many, for later checking – in case there might be a Narrow 5-spot amongst them. There have been Cinnabar caterpillars on some of the ragwort plants and some adults around. I spotted a magnificent Elephant hawk-moth caterpillar, so we have Elephant hawk-moths and noted a Dingy Plume moth. Whilst checking the cattle water-trough our attention was caught by something metallic floating on the top. It proved to be a Golden Argem micro-moth. For the first time, I saw hummingbird hawk-moths, here nectaring on buddleia flowers. They are mesmerising to watch.



A Mother Shipton moth, on the Beacon in May

Paul took a lovely photograph of a Green Tiger Beetle followed by a Black-and-yellow Longhorn Beetle, then I noted a Black-striped Longhorn Beetle. Throughout the season there were Swollen-thighed beetles and later, Bloody-nosed beetles were recorded. During August grasshopper and crickets were jumping everywhere - Meadow grasshoppers, Rufous grasshoppers (with their white antennae tips), Roesel's crickets and Dark Bush-crickets. On a couple of occasions I was alerted to an insect by its loud flight noise and in both cases they proved to be Robberflies – the GNS and County Recorder for Robberflies was delighted with these records for Painswick Beacon.

We were noting plants, especially the Purple Milk-vetch which is a local rarity, so we were pleased to record that and later, the Devil's-bit scabious which is an indicator for limestone grassland but has not been as frequent on Painswick Beacon. I was confusing Wild Basil with Betony, until I saw the latter and its vibrant colouring was unmistakable. Yellow-wort and St John's-wort continued flowering over a long period providing food for lots of insects. There has been a whole suite of hoverflies and very keen experts available through the Gloucestershire Naturalists' Society (GNS) willing to help identify them. I've been able to record many bugs, flies, froghoppers and leafhoppers. Several dragonflies too, which seems odd since there is no pond or stream on the Beacon.



A fly orchid on the Beacon

As part of the "Back-from-the Brink" Project, we have been involved in surveys for species such as Juniper and Fly Orchid. Paul Baxter and a couple of others spent a few nights this summer counting and noting GPS locations for Glow worms. It was a great surprise to find they were doing so well. But we have no adders. There is a workshop coming up on the 8th October to learn how to survey Oil-beetles.

Sadly, the "Back-from-the Brink" Project ends at the end of this year. We have learnt a lot over the last three years and worked hard to provide a suitable limestone environment for a wide diversity of wildlife. We are grateful for the support of the Gloucestershire Naturalists' Society for their expertise in this. They have also helped finance Information Boards to be placed at strategic points on the Beacon to illustrate what a fascinating limestone grassland Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) we have. If you are interested in being involved with any aspect of identifying, recording or studying any species group you are welcome to come and join us.

Joyce Barrus

New Signs for the Beacon



After several years of effort, there will finally be eight new information boards at the main access points onto the Beacon. They

are mounted in a heavy timber frame and printed onto composite aluminium/recycled plastic board which will last for many years. The signs contain a timeline, outlining the historic background and a main text explaining the importance of the site and the conservation work. Readers are given a list of things they may do to help and are able to contact PBCG via a QR code. Finally, there are colour photos of some of the wildlife to be seen.

These signs are long overdue. This year has seen huge numbers of visitors because of the Covid crisis, but numbers have been steadily rising for years. If a small percentage of visitors are educated and inspired, then the time and money invested in the project will have been well spent. I fear a small percentage will not read them but, unfortunately, they are beyond help. The Golf Club are using the same frames to put up signs warning the public that they are entering an active golf course. We are extremely grateful to the Gloucestershire Naturalists' Society who have kindly funded the signs and to the Cotswold Wardens for erecting the signposts.



The last work party was well attended (17) and a huge quantity of scrub was removed from the first paddock used this year. Unfortunately, new Covid restrictions will limit us to separate groups of six for the foreseeable future. This is workable, but I do need to know in advance who will be attending each session, that I may plan what to do and who best to put in each group. The sad fact is we will not be able to have a large get together at coffee time. This is always a great time to get to know each other (and the new faces who have joined) better. I am fortunate that several helpers have offered to oversee a small group, so we should still be able to make meaningful inroads into the scrub clearance.

Paul Baxter

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Poppy Sale

The Royal British Legion has been supporting UK armed forces since 1921 and is the country's largest armed forces charity. Following on from previous initiatives by the people of Painswick, to raise money for this very important charity, poppies will be available outside the church on Sunday 25th October and 1st November. Louise Smith and Delyth Allen had originally intended to hold a poppy and cake sale but, with further COVID-19 restrictions in place, this is not possible this year. Poppies have been handmade by Louise and each poppy is in a sealed cover. Anyone who is shielding but would like a poppy, please let Louise (07874 671591) or Delyth (07854 262517) know and they will deliver to you.

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Jottings

Silage is basically pickled grass. Whether making hay or silage, the grass must be cut when it has the maximum amount of nutrient in it. This is because, whichever way you store it, it will lose nutritious value. When making hay, the grass has to be dry and you pick it up some four to five days after cutting hoping there is no rain during that time. Grass for silage is simply wilted for about two days to reduce the moisture to 60 – 75%.

In the late fifties and until the mid sixties you dug a hole or made two earth banks and you either filled the hole or piled the grass up between the two banks, and then you rolled the grass backwards and forwards with the tractor to compress it to make sure there was no air trapped in it. When all the grass was in the silo you would seal the top with whatever you could find to keep the rain water out. This was before the use of plastic sheets.



Then in the mid sixties came the forage harvester which would cut the grass, chop it up and then blow it into a trailer. You would then take the grass back to the silage pit. When the pit is full you would again roll it backwards and forwards for what always seemed ages; and then cover it with a plastic sheet to keep the air and water out. You would often see silos covered with old tyres, or now big heavy mats, to keep the sheet in contact with the silage. This prevents air getting between the silage and the plastic. You want to get as much oxygen out of the pile and not let any in because the fermentation is carried out by micro-organisms which work anaerobically, i.e. without oxygen. This is just like making beer but turning the plant sugars into lactic acid. The grass is pickled for some two months - it is then preserved until you need it as animal fodder.

Machinery has got bigger, faster and more technical. I have heard that the first round baler seen in the Seventies was designed in Painswick. It would be interesting to find out if this is so. Anyway, this machine can be used to bale hay or silage. It rolls the crop up tightly, wraps it in a plastic net and then pushes it out the back of the baler. If you are making hay you pick up the bale and store it in a barn to keep it dry and out of the sun. If hay is baked in the sun it loses nutrient value. When making silage you seal wrap the bale in plastic to keep out the air (oxygen) and stack it outside till needed for livestock feed. There was an old mantra - you cut grass for silage just before the seed head has developed and for hay you wait for the seed head to form. But this does not always happen these days. For silage you can start cutting as early as middle of May. Grass destined to become hay is usually cut from June because you need the drier weather and sun to make sure it is dry before storing it.

Martin Slinger

Painswick Library Bookclub.

With all Covid precautions in place, members of the Library book club were pleased to meet in the Town Hall to discuss *Girl, Woman, Other*, by Bernardine Evaristo. This is her eighth novel and it was the winner of the Booker Prize 2019. The author is the first Black British person to win this prestigious prize.



The novel explored the lives of 12 Black British women and as the title suggests, the characters ranged from a teenager to a great grandmother, with a variety of sexual or gender orientations. The 12 main characters were well drawn with a chapter dedicated to each one, exploring their life and relationships. Each woman faced challenges and difficulties which, to varying degrees, they overcame and triumphed over. However, the narratives were at times shocking. There was no single plot as such but the women were interconnected in various ways, though some of our group found this aspect a little too contrived.

The novel explored the prejudices and problems faced in British society by Black women and in the case of many of the characters, working class women. Love and loss, gender identity, motherhood, coercive behaviour were just some of the issues raised through the lives of these women. Though dealing with some very dark material, the author peppered the narrative with humour and wit. Written without punctuation, the literary style of the novel provoked much debate among our readers. We agreed that it took some getting used to, but once in the mindset of the author and engaged with the characters, it proved to be an interesting and refreshing technique. The verdict of the group was that it was a good and thought provoking read. Subject matter and literary style were not to everyone's taste, but it gave us plenty to discuss and certainly has motivated some of us to read more by Bernardine Evaristo.

The next read is *The Dutch house* by Ann Patchett. The meeting is Wednesday October 14th, 2 - 3pm. For further information email Carole Smith at painswick.library.bookclub@gmail.com

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Golf

Painswick Golf Club was picked out as one of the best 25 sub-6000 yard courses by GOLF magazine. They wrote: "The Mecca of golfing quirk, Painswick has it all in abundance. Here you'll find a set of truly original golf holes, culminating with an unforgettable sequence set within and over the earthworks of an ancient hill fort. Henry Longhurst rated the 6th as one of the finest par-3s in England. Blind shots, shared fairways, ravines and quarries combine with some of the best panoramic views in England. It is spectacular and highly unusual, but also distinctly strategic. Once played, Painswick is never forgotten and always loved."



The club held its Captain's and President's charity day on 12th September. A most enjoyable day was had and some £230 was raised for Sue Ryder.

Last month saw the completion of the last three competitions in the Seniors section – the Organ Niblick, the Ironman knock-out, and the Millennium Trophy. In the Organ Niblick competition, one is limited to a putter and three other clubs. As usual, it was combined with the Seniors Captain's Day for which John Hitchcock generously provided a range of prizes. The winner of the trophy was Ed Deasey with 41 points. Second place was taken by Mike Sanderson with 37 points, nearest the pin on the 18th was won by George Paton, nearest the pin in 2 on the 16th was won by Phil Jennings, and a special prize for the most improved player went to Boo Hussain. The Ironman knock-out competition reached its climax last month with a match between Nigel Barnett and Phil Jennings. In a tight match with some excellent scoring by both, Nigel Barnett emerged the winner. The Millennium Trophy (a stableford competition) was held on 17th September and was won by Ian Broderick with 43 points. Congratulations to all the winners.

Golfers and members of the public are welcome at Painswick Golf Club. If you wish to play one of the best short courses or enjoy a meal at the clubhouse, please call 01452 812180. Waypoint, the caterers are now taking bookings for the Christmas period including Christmas Day.

Peter Rowe

Cricket

A shorter but busy 2020 Painswick cricket season. Due to COVID-19 we started playing cricket in mid July and managed to keep playing until 20 September 2020. All our teams had some fantastic results and there were several outstanding individual performances. The first team won 5 and lost 5, the 2nds had a fantastic season finishing top of their league group by winning 6 and losing 2. The thirds won 4, lost 2 and tied a game.



Callum Nicholls hit the top score of the season with 145 not out against Whitminster in the Village cup. Other centurions were Ross Martin 100 not out against Bourton Vale, Dom Barnard 107 against Chalford, Reece Morris scored two centuries, 130 against Slimbridge and 100 against Kingsholm, Bryan Malpass 100 against Thornbury.

Amongst the bowlers, first team skipper Jack Hobbs took the most wickets, 17 in total. Tom Hayward put in the top bowling performance taking 4/17 against Gloucester City firsts. Skipper Noel French twice took 4 wickets for the thirds as well as achieving his lifetime ambition of scoring 50 runs in one innings! Joe Spurrell put in the best bowling performance for the 2nds taking 4 for 26 against Chalford.

We also managed to run our 6s tournament which although limited was very enjoyable. Congratulations to the BTC team who were victorious!

Youth Cricket

The popular Friday training evenings were well attended and our youth teams played several matches. The U15s played 3 games, winning 1, drawing 1 and losing 1. The U11s played 3 games, winning 2 and losing 1. So all in all a good all round season. Huge thanks to all organisers, trainers and skippers for making it possible. The club also hosted a Gloucestershire U11 girls match against Berkshire, U11s girls inter county trial match and a boys U12 district match. Many thanks to our Chairman Ian Hogg for preparing extra pitches and thanks to top coaches Daisy Hewitt and Ross Martin for supporting these events.

Net Bay fund raising

As many of you know in 2020 the club has focused on raising funds to gain a new two lane NetBay facility at Broadham fields. On Saturday 24th October, three of our players (see picture) are aiming to walk from Painswick CC to Lords, the home of cricket, arriving on 26th October. Please see <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/painswickcnets> for details. Any donation is most welcome. Finally, thank you to all our supporters, sponsors, the rugby club and volunteers for the extra effort required this season.

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Falcon Bowls Club

During this summer we have had two friendly, social Competitions (obviously observing social distancing) and here are the winners.



The first photo (below) is of the winners of The Covid 19 Competition and they are (from left to right) Carol Pittaway, Brian Pittaway and Andrew Giles. The second photo (right) is of the winners of The Falcon Round Robin competition and they are, again from left to right, Rob Goddard, Heather Ellis and Keith Rippington. Jon Ellis was also an important member of the second team. They were happy competitions and kept Falcon members bowling and keeping in touch.



Our Green has now closed and we are hoping bowling can return to normal in 2021. We are a happy club and if anyone is interested in joining, please contact our Secretary, David Glass on 01452 814186 or contact any member.

John and Anne Newhill



Short Mat Bowls

Despite help and assistance from the Parish Council, who kindly offered to "set up" the room for us, we have regrettably decided to suspend our Monday meetings until "we see some light at the end of the tunnel"! This decision was not easy to take but we believe it is in the best interests of all our members. Regular updates will appear in the Beacon and hopefully it will not be to long "before we meet again!"

Short Mat Bowls Committee

Atlantic Solo bid

Many local people came along to see Martyn Thornton's boat, Annabelle, in the Falcon car park in September (see our photo on the back page). Now the boat is in Burnham-on-Crouch where it will remain until 30th November before being shipped to La Gomera in the Canary Islands. Martyn is determined to create a new world record as the oldest man at 62 to row solo across the Atlantic in under 60 days. He will be competing with 24 other crews, five rowing solo and the others consisting of three, four or five rowers. With a healthy balance of men and women in the competition, the average age is about 30.

Having completed all his training on the boat, Martyn will spend the remaining weeks finalising his food plans and collating all the equipment. His fitness regime will continue in earnest with wife, Lyn, a fitness instructor, working with him to ensure maximum benefit. The need for more sponsors is crucial. Painswick residents have hitherto been supportive as have one or two local businesses namely the Rococo Gardens, the Falcon, Simply Personal Training, Salpo and Gerry O'Dwyer. On his return Martyn hopes to be able to donate the proceeds from the sale of Annabelle (named after his granddaughter) to the charity Horseheard. This worthy organisation does wonderful work with young people and vulnerable groups in society.

Martyn is a local man planning an amazing endeavour, a challenge on a global scale but also one which will benefit a truly worthwhile charity. There are many ways for you to donate: Feed a Rower for a Day £25; your name on the boat £250; sponsor an oar £2500; Martyn's medical kit £1000; and there are larger corporate sponsorship opportunities. You can contact Martyn by email martyn.thornton@btinternet.com, tel. 07785 350840, the website is www.atlanticsolo.co.uk, or follow on Instagram @atlanticsolo and his GoFundMe link is www.gofundme.com/f/atlantic-solo. Martyn himself leaves for La Gomera on 30th November where he will make his final preparations before setting forth on 12th December. Do show your support for this intrepid and valiant Painswick man.

Carol Maxwell

Table Tennis

In the light of the latest government regulations concerning Covid 19, Table Tennis at the Painswick Centre will not now go ahead as originally planned in early October.



David Linsell 812464.

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Beacon clear-up - can you help?

Painswick Beacon is one of the great open spaces close to Painswick. It is enjoyed by walkers, golfers, horse riders, bird watchers, those interested in the ancient hill fort and lots of others. But it is defiled by those who cannot be bothered to take away their litter.

As in past years, under the aegis of the Parish Council, we are happy to organise the Beacon Clear Up. We can provide gloves, litter pickers and plastic bags for the rubbish. If you have gloves and/or litter pickers, please bring them.

It will be held from starting between 2.00 – 3.00 pm on Sunday 18th October, lasting about an hour. Those willing to help should meet (as in previous years) at the car park on the road across the golf course near Catbrain Quarry entrance. If you have not taken part before and would like further details, please give me a call or just turn up on the day. Your help will be much appreciated and help keep the Beacon as one of the jewels of Painswick. On behalf of the community, we would like to thank all those who pick up litter during the year.

John and Joyce Barrus 812942

Directory 2021 – Final Call

The Painswick Directory is delivered with the January Beacon. It is a free service. It is important that the details of all entries are correct and for this we rely on information provided to us. If you know of any changes that need to be made, any new additions or any entries which need to be withdrawn please let us know immediately. Please send details to Carol Maxwell email carolmaxwell@talktalk.net or the Beacon's email beacon@painswick.net or put in the Beacon box in New Street. After October will be too late.

Carol Maxwell

Property Report by Beacon staff

Properties in the £2 million bracket don't often come on the market in Painswick, but Hamptons have two on offer this month. Hambutts Orchard on Edge Road is a substantial 7 bedroom period house in over an acre of land and with a heated open air swimming pool, at £2 million. Turnstone House on Greenhouse Lane, once the home of novelist Elizabeth Webster, is a 5 bedroom detached house with a detached coach house, separate 3 bedroom cottage and adjoining paddock, at £2.15 million. For a much more modest £1.35 million though, Park House at The Park again has an outdoor pool, adjoining paddocks and pastures (Hamptons). Gorselands on Back Edge Lane was also briefly on the market at £1.1 million through Murrays, but quickly went under offer.

Even at a much lower price level though, you can buy a house steeped in Painswick history. Murrays are currently offering School House in Stroud Road, attached to the old school building and once the Headmaster's house (£695,000). 1 Cheltenham Road, on the corner of Gloucester Street, which combines a large office /shop space downstairs with a 3 bedroom apartment above, has had a variety of uses in its life and was once the local branch of Lloyds Bank (Murrays, £425,000). In Edge Lane, Dry Knapps House is a detached 5 bed family house dating back in part to the mid-1600s (Murrays, £895,000).

Other new properties on the market this month include 12a The Croft, a four bedroom house (Hamptons, £480,000), Stables Cottage on Hale Lane, a 3 bed detached cottage (Murrays, £745,000) and Bankside on Kings Mill Lane, a detached 5 bed family house (Murrays, £795,000). Lantern Cottage on Tibbiwell is also available (Murrays, £550,000).

Properties sold or going under offer recently include 1 George Court, Yew Tree Barn in New Street, 9 Brookhouse Mill and Halfpenny Cottage on Tibbiwell, 5 Randalls Field, Harebell House in Kemps Lane and Courtyard Cottage and The Cottage, both in Hale Lane. The market still seems to be buoyant and agents are taking extensive precautions to keep staff and clients safe in the pandemic.

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A summer special in these unusual times

The past few months have presented difficulties and challenges to a greater or lesser extent for everyone and not least for children. From March onwards there was no school so no interaction with friends, associated adults and no organised activities. The prospect of the summer holidays also following in a similar vein would for many children have been a daunting and potentially detrimental experience. Parents too faced a challenging situation and nationally there have been concerns about the effect on children's wellbeing in such unusual circumstances.

For Painswick's children an opportunity arose which offered a welcome relief with positive results. At the start of lockdown Painswick's Coronavirus Community Support group was formed and Delyth Allen joined the team. Some weeks later the group became aware that the County Council was offering funding specifically to provide hot lunches and socially-distanced activities for children during the summer holidays. Delyth recognised the importance of such a scheme supporting families affected by Covid and, as it had to be linked to an organisation, she decided to ask Nathan Youlton, our local Psalms Sports Minister, to work with her on behalf of the whole community.

This was mid-July and the applications had to be submitted within the next two weeks. Problem – the terms for qualifying for the funding were extremely complex and detailed, as always where children are concerned but also in this situation because of the virus. They rose to the challenge and fortunately, managed to submit their plan just in time. They were then faced with the task of publicity. With the enthusiastic support of the Parish Council and Nathan's links with the school 18 families finally signed their children up for the Psalms Summer Lunch Club to take place every Wednesday and Friday throughout August. The children, all local, were aged 5-14 years old.



During the first week Nathan was away and Delyth organised picnics and arts and crafts activities. On other occasions when the weather was not conducive to outdoor activities the children were treated to video shows in the church rooms (as in the photograph). However, on most occasions they enjoyed some well-organised fun physical activities organised by Nathan in the Rec. followed by a nutritious and carefully thought-out hot lunch prepared by Delyth in the church rooms.

Overall this was a truly successful venture, a lovely achievement for Painswick's children. The benefits were manifold, both physical and mental, and the parents were naturally very appreciative. Behind the scenes the whole enterprise was very challenging and very demanding – scrupulous cleaning of equipment, furniture and rooms before and after every session, planning and shopping for the meals, organising alternative events in case of inclement weather, filling in forms, completing risk assessment checks, organising the much appreciated volunteers and so on. Delyth explains that the overriding concern had from the start been the children's mental and physical

health following months of constrained, limited and isolated living - a problem for everyone of course but a somewhat alien and worryingly stultifying state for children during their developing years.

Delyth's and Nathan's hard work, dedication and altruistic endeavours went a long way towards allaying such concerns and brought many real benefits to families and children locally in these unusual and uncertain times. Painswick should be proud of their achievement.

Carol Maxwell

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The Village Diary

This page and the next one would normally be devoted to a diary of village events, including a schedule of regular events. As most of these events are not currently running and are unlikely to resume in the near future, we have taken the decision to remove the Diary for the time being. We will keep this position under review as things develop over the next few months.

Cedric Nielsen

Cedric lived at the Byfield in the 60s and quickly entered into village life in Painswick. He worked for ADAS as a dairy inspector in South Gloucestershire until 1972 when he became National specialist in farm wastes based in Guildford, Reading and finally Wrest Park, Bedford. He travelled extensively to attend conferences, present lectures and work with his European colleagues and was the UK representative for FAO of the United Nations on farm waste.

In 1992 he retired to Painswick and lived at Hambutts Cottage working as a private consultant. Cedric was invited by John Sutton and Bill Darling to join the newly formed Painswick Beacon Conservation Society as their recorder for the natural history of the common and set up the butterfly tracts. He would be seen walking the common with his notebook followed closely by a black and tan terrier. Cedric had many interests, particularly archaeology and was meetings secretary for the Cotteswold Naturalists Field Club and a keen member of the Bristol & Gloucester Archaeological Society often arranging their annual holiday. He held a great skill of telling amusing stories and was a regular contributor to the Painswick Beacon with his Nature Notes. Cedric moved to Poole in 2008 and died there aged 86 years on 8th September.



Cedric in his element - on Painswick Beacon, with a copy of the guide to the Beacon

Graham Luker

Personal Column Congratulations

To DAN & STEPH HINDS (pictured below) of Washwell Farm, Painswick, who were married on the 28th August at Stroud Register Office



Welcome

To ALEX AND NEEMA SAVVIDES, their children Dylan and Alana and Jackson their dog who all moved into Tocknells Court on July 30th.

To ED POMFRET and CERI CHAPLIN who have recently moved into Otters Pool on Kingsmill Lane from the Forest of Dean.

Thank You

SHIRLEY CLARK would like to say thanks to all the kind people who sent get well cards after her fall in July. Special thanks to those who came to her aid. Also thanks for the birthday cards and presents which were waiting when I came home from Southmead Hospital.

Hair today, gone tomorrow...

It's a fond farewell to Jo Weatherall who has been hairdressing at the Richmond Village Salon for 13 years.

She began working in the Salon back in 2007 when her son Oscar started going to the Painswick Playgroup for three mornings a week. He used to sleep on a bean bag in the corner of the Salon during the day before they went to collect daughter Isabella from The Croft School. It was a perfect working arrangement for Jo, who lives on the outskirts of the village.

Jo says 'I can honestly say that I've loved working in the Richmond Village Salon. For getting to know the residents that have come and gone, bringing their amazing stories and past memories. Also the precious times of dressing their hair for their 'final party' and sometimes after - what a privilege. Now with my children leaving school and moving on I feel it is time for me to do the same.'

Jo's new online venture, although very different, is still in the area of helping others. It involves sharing information

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

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about a range of botanical products, which can boost energy or assist with sleep, along with wellness advice in order to help transform the lives of women going through 'the Change' in life. Jo is still offering mobile hairdressing locally, so there is no need for panic from her existing clients! We wish Jo and her children all the best. Jo Mobile Hairdressing 07971 859303 or joweatherall.com



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PLANNING MATTERS

Information received from the Parish Council

NEW APPLICATIONS

S.20/1694/HHOLD Old Forge Cottage, Butt Green
Single storey extension.
S.20/1677/LBC Hazel Mill, Slad Road
Replace 2 uPVC windows on southwest elevation with new timber sliding sashes to match existing adjacent.
S.20/1730/TCA Village Green, Sheepscombe
Fell Ash Tree suffering from Ash die back.
S.20/1722/FUL LandAt Yokehouse Lane
Erection of permanent timber frame shed for the storage of bee equipment and for the extraction of honey. The size of the shed is 3.6x10.8m. Height at eaves 2.2m, height at ridge 2.84m.
S.20/1330/COU 1 Cheltenham Road
Change of use of ground floor to residential.
S.20/1762/HHOLD and S.20/1763/LBC Southfield House Vicarage Street
Proposed removal of substandard and defective entrance door, and side window, small pitched roof over, and defective mullion window to first floor office, with infill facade between two existing main gables. Provision of new glazed double doors, vertical structural glass infill over, and inclined full width roof light.
S.20/1772/FUL Folly Acres, Folly Lane
Extension to live/work building.
S.20/1673/HHOLD 13 Upper Washwell
Provision of two small single storey rear & side extensions. Provide a large lounge & additional cloak room.
S.20/1654/FUL Dutchcombe Farm, Yokehouse Lane
Replacement dwelling (revised scheme).
S.20/1746/HHOLD Beechwood Cottage, Jacks Green, Sheepscombe
Replacement of two existing rooflights with dormer window and one additional dormer window.

CONSENT

S.20/0946/HHOLD and S.20/0947/LBC Wellington House, Stroud Road
Erection of single storey extension and removal of some external wall and doors.
S.20/0852/HHOLD Pincot House, Pincot Lane, Painswick
Proposed rear & side extension.
S.20/1032/HHOLD Spring Cottage, Tibbiwell Lane
Ground floor orangery, first floor extension

and alterations.
S.20/1135/LBC Rozel Cottage, St Marys Street
Internal alterations and rear extension.
S.20/1221/FUL Carpentry Workshop, Beacon Farm
Re-roofing the main building, rebuilding the existing lean-tos on the front and rear of workshop, and rendering the existing walls.
S.20/1272/HHOLD Highpoint, Golf Course Road
Erection of greenhouse and enclosing wall.
S.20/0883/HHOLD Brookdale, Far End, Sheepscombe
Detached single storey annexe.
S.20/1344/LBC The Buddings, Slad Road
A minor amendment to previously approved porch design S.20/0452/LBC.
S.20/1320/HHOLD The Barn, Wick Street
Removal of modern infill stonework and addition of two single-storey mono-pitch lean-to extensions to the north and south wings, replacement of modern painted timber cladding with untreated larch and infill timber glazing to south gable.
S.20/1437/HHOLD Pincot Cottage, Pincot Lane
Erection of an outbuilding, access gate and store (part retrospective).
S.20/1555/HHOLD 2 The Croft
Single storey front extension, two storey rear extension & loft conversion.
S.20/1566/HHOLD Bunch Of Grapes, Cheltenham Road
Proposed ground floor rear extension with part first floor extension, floor plan redesign and all associated works.
S.20/1730/TCA Village Green, Sheepscombe
Fell Ash Tree suffering from Ash die back

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Above: a montage of photos taken around Painswick, by Pete Llewellyn. A roe deer, green finch, bee orchid and marbled white butterfly, surround a pair of Common Blue butterflies



Above: a hummingbird hawk moth on Painswick Beacon in July (photo: Joyce Barrus) and below: Martyn Thornton with his boat outside the Falcon (see report on page 15).

A black-striped Longhorn beetle (above, photo by Joyce Barrus) and a pair of scarlet tiger moths (below, photo by Paul Baxter) both taken on Painswick Beacon in June

