

The Painswick Beacon

Volume 44 Number 3

June 2021

Uncertain future for tourism in Painswick No date for re-opening of The Falcon as Cardynham House opts out

With much of Britain gearing up for a boom in domestic tourism and 'staycations', Painswick is facing something of a crisis in its accommodation and hospitality sector, with two of what have previously been its main providers staying resolutely closed.

Major works for the alteration of Cardynham House have been approved and are now being carried out, and a new application has been submitted for a change of use from its current permission as a hotel and restaurant, to residential use. It has been in use as a shop and/or restaurant at least since 1861. The application follows a similar one from the former Olivias in Friday Street that is still awaiting a decision.



Meanwhile uncertainty hangs over the future of the Falcon Hotel, with no new tenant yet announced and no date set for its re-opening. Neil John, landlord for the past 10 years has come to the end of his lease (see page 19), so the building's owners, Stonegate Group, are searching for a new tenant. In response to enquiries from the Beacon, they could offer no likely date for its re-opening.

The Falcon is a substantial business, with 11 bedrooms as well as the pub / restaurant side. It has been a significant employer in Painswick as well as an important social centre, and has been providing accommodation for visitors and refreshment for locals for probably well over 400 years, since Tudor times, although it was out of use and boarded up for a period in 1995.



The Falcon boarded up in 1995
A view we hoped never to see again

Handmade in Painswick

While one door closes, another one opens, and the opening of 'Handmade in Painswick' on May 28th may be just the tonic the village needs. See our article on page 12 and do visit them in the Painswick Centre.



Consultation on War Memorial plans

With this month's Painswick Beacon, we include a consultation document from the Parish Council on proposals for some significant changes to the area around the War Memorial.

The Beacon is not neutral on this issue. We would like to see change in an area that we think does little credit to the village or to those who are commemorated, and we have run a series of articles on it over the last year.

But in the end it's up to you. Whatever your view, please take part in the consultation so that the Council knows where residents stand. Forms can be returned to the Town Hall, either in physical form or by email.

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

from the Annual Parish Meeting held by Zoom on 28th April and the Parish Council meeting held in the Painswick Centre on 19th May, 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.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Chairman Martin Slinger opened the Meeting welcoming his 4 fellow Cllrs, the Clerk and Deputy Clerk, who had remotely joined the Meeting.

Apologies for absence

The Clerk Roy Balgobin advised the Meeting that an apology had been received from District Cllr Julie Job

To receive the following reports

District Councillors. No reports received.

Parish Council The Chairman read his report in which he conveyed, on behalf of the local community, the deepest sympathy to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and the rest of the Royal Family following the death of the Duke of Edinburgh. He then went on to praise the Community's willingness to help each other during the pandemic which he described as "nothing short of marvellous" and paid particular thanks to the Painswick Covid Community Support Group (now the Painswick Support Group) whose message was "no one would be left to cope alone and assistance was just a phone call away." Many other issues were addressed and the full report is available on the Parish Council website.

Any Other Reports

Community Library. Cllr Roey Parker read her report in which she confirmed that whilst the library was closed during "lockdown" a considerable number of under-used books had been withdrawn and these had been offered free of charge to anyone able to access the Town Hall. Over 100 of the books have found a new home. From early April a restricted number of customers were allowed into the library and, if Covid allows, a full library service should resume in June this year. The Trustees were grateful to the Parish Council for all their support during the past year. The full report is available on the Council's website.

Psalms. Had submitted a written report

that was not read to the Meeting. In the report they confirmed that they have recently merged with a similar but larger Charity and would shortly be changing their name. During the Pandemic they had worked hard to provide opportunities for children and young people to remain connected with each other, to engage with sport and remain in a good mental state. They appreciated the assistance of the Parish Council in allowing Psalms to use the pavilion and other facilities around the area. A list of exciting new projects, some currently available, was included in the report. Again the full report is available on the Parish Council's website.

Cllr Ann Daniels advised the Meeting that although the History Society had been unable to meet during the lockdowns they were considering Zoom Meetings. Also due to the size of the Tourist Information Bureau Office it had not been possible to open and provide a service to visitors. She would be speaking to the Clerk to find out if alternative accommodation was available.

Cllr Roey Parker confirmed that the Sheepscombe WI Meetings were now held remotely via Zoom.

On behalf of the Council staff, Clerk Roy Balgobin thanked all Cllrs for their hard work and support over the past 5 years.

Open Forum

As no members of the public had joined the Meeting the Chairman thanked all those who had contributed and then closed the Meeting.

PARISH COUNCIL (19th May)

Prior to opening the Annual Parish Council Meeting, which was held in the Painswick Centre, Chairman Martin Slinger welcomed both old and new Councillors who had been elected to the Council in the May elections. Clerk,

Roy Balgobin, then formally opened the proceedings.

Present

Cllrs Kate Amos, Edward Boulton, Andy Cash, Ann Daniels, Rob Lewis, Ian Massey, Roey Parker, Martin Slinger, Abigail Smith. District Cllr Jason Bullingham

Election of Chairman

Cllr Rob Lewis proposed Cllr Martin Slinger. Cllr Roey Parker seconded the nomination. There was a unanimous vote in favour of re-electing Cllr Slinger, who then resumed chairing the Meeting.

Election of Vice Chairman

The Chair then sought nominations for Vice Chair of the Council. Cllr Rob Lewis nominated Cllr Andy Cash, which was seconded by Cllr Ann Daniels. There was unanimous support and Cllr Cash was duly elected as Vice Chair.

Apologies for absence

Cllrs James Cross and Rosie Nash.

Appointments of Committee Members

The Clerk explained the importance of the work carried out by the various Committees. With the exception of the Planning Committee, which met twice a month, Committees generally met twice a year. See page 3, which lists the Committees and the Cllrs serving on them.

Appointments of Representatives on Other Bodies

Individual Cllrs agreed to represent the Council on several local bodies and societies. The Chair thanked Cllrs for their willingness to serve as Council representatives.

To adopt General Power of Competence

The Clerk explained that to meet the criteria to apply to adopt General Power of Competence at least two thirds of the Council had to be elected representatives and the Council employed a fully qualified Clerk. As the Council met all the conditions

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he recommended that the Council formally apply. By doing so it would enable the Council to take on additional services. The Council unanimously agreed to apply.

Accounts

- The Council approved the quote of £4753 for the Insurance cover.
- The Council approved the Accounts for Payment as per the list circulated prior to the Meeting.
- The Council accepted the report from the Internal Auditor for the Financial year ended 31st March 2021. The Auditor noted that the accounts were well presented and were a true reflection of the Council's financial position.
- The Council approved the Annual Governance Statement for the Financial Year ended 31st March 2021.
- The Council approved the Annual Accounting Statement for the Financial Year ended 31st March 2021.
- The Clerk confirmed that to meet the criteria for the "Exercise of Public Rights" the Accounts would be available

for Members of the Public to inspect from the 14th June until 23rd July on either the Council's Web Site or by visiting the Council's Offices during normal working hours.

The Internal Auditor's Report, Annual Governance Statement and the Annual Accounting Statement, referred to above, are all available for inspection on the Council's website.

To approve "Emergency Delegated Powers" to the Clerk to respond to Planning Applications, when required

The Council agreed to adopt the "Emergency Delegated Powers" in order to enable it to continue to respond to Planning Applications to the District Council. The agreement was subject to the proviso that Cllrs were fully consulted.

Date of next Meeting

23rd June in the Town Hall - subject to Covid regulations
The Meeting closed at 8.33pm

New membership of Parish Council Committees

Finance & General Purposes & Personnel Committee

Cllr Ian Massey (Chairman)
Cllr Ann Daniels
Cllr Rob Lewis
Cllr Martin Slinger (Edge)
Cllr Abigail Smith

Rural Environment Committee

Cllr James Cross (Chairman)
Cllr Kate Amos (Sheepscombe)
Cllr Ann Daniels
Cllr Ian Massey
Cllr Rosie Nash
Cllr Roey Parker (Sheepscombe)
Cllr Martin Slinger
Cllr Abigail Smith

Planning Committee

Cllr Rob Lewis (Chairman)
Cllr Andy Cash (Vice-Chairman)
Members: All other Cllrs with the exception of Cllr Abigail Smith

Traffic Committee

Cllr Abigail Smith (Chairman)
Cllr Kate Amos
Cllr Edward Boulton
Cllr Andy Cash (Slad)
Cllr Roey Parker
Cllr Martin Slinger
Co-option: Mr Adrian Gye

Land & Buildings Committee

Cllr Rosie Nash (Chairman)
Cllr Kate Amos
Cllr Ann Daniels
Cllr Rob Lewis
Cllr Roey Parker
Cllr Martin Slinger

New Parish Councillors for Painswick

The Election Result

Abigail Smith	592
Ann Daniels	589
Rosie Nash	577
Rob Lewis	551
Ian Massey	421
Edward Boulton	411
James Cross	208
Veronika Dutfield	190

After the first contested election for several years, two new Councillors, Ian Massey and Edward Boulton, have been elected for the Painswick ward of the Parish Council, alongside five existing councillors who have been re-elected.

The poll was topped by longstanding councillors Abigail Smith and Ann Daniels, with Rosie Nash and Rob Lewis not far behind. In total there were eight candidates and with seven places available, only the lowest polling

candidate missed out. Five other seats in the Council are reserved for Sheepscombe (2), Slad (2) and Edge (1) and these seats were uncontested.



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Yew Trees WI

Members of Yew Trees WI are preparing to pull on their walking boots and take to the local byways! Jane Rowe has kindly organised walks in May and June enabling members to enjoy each others' company once again while admiring the local scenery.



Our April meeting was in three parts, beginning with our AGM and ending with a fun botanical quiz organised by Vicky Aspinall. Sandwiched in between these the evening's speaker, Chris Evans from Dundry Nurseries, told us how he took over running the family Garden Centre near Cheltenham. He then went on to recall the history of The Butterfly Garden, a community project which provides therapeutic and stimulating activities for people with disabilities of any kind. It was set up unintentionally in 2002, when six young autistic students visited the nursery seeking gardening advice. Chris is obviously a man who finds it difficult to say 'no'. He invited these young people to return and with help and guidance they teased life into a small unused patch of ground. Like Topsy the project just grew and grew, the garden now covers more than four acres and with the help of a huge team of volunteers and supporters it involves much more than gardening: art, music, woodwork and catering are now also in the mix. It was an inspiring talk.

The June zoom meeting on the 22nd sounds intriguing; a talk by Brian Witcombe entitled The science and side effects of sword swallowing! Lockdowns permitting, a busy programme of social events has been arranged for the summer including a coffee morning, summer dinner and another walk. So ladies, why not come and join this friendly group? You will be made most welcome.

Celia Lougher 812624

Foodbank

This month's collection not only brought in an excellent amount of food and hygiene products but also four laptops and a desk top computer. The pandemic has highlighted how difficult it is for some families to provide their young people with computer equipment, which is so essential to learning and word processing these days. These will be used by Archway school to allow more students to access and complete their work at home. A huge thank you as always!

The Foodbank drop-in centres remain closed to the public at present and every food parcel is hand-delivered to the door by a volunteer, which is enormously helpful to those without cars. The bags are heavy! Recently a family of 9 gratefully received 15 bags of food which filled the volunteer's car – just one of the many homes that will receive help as a result of the generosity of donors.

Please note that the Painswick collections will pause over the summer as the Foodbank warehouse has to move premises. We aim to resume collections as soon as the warehouse is able to receive more supplies. One of our volunteers completed a survey for us as donations were received, and it is clear from the responses that the cause is dear to many of us and would continue to be supported. Please look out for the posters and social media information after the summer break.

Joan Wells

Painswick Library Book Club



The Library Book Club read in May was the best seller, *American Dirt* by Jeanine Cummins. Set against the backdrop of Trump's Mexican boundary wall it tells the gripping tale of Lydia and Luca, a mother and her son who are forced to flee for their life from their comfortable family home in Acapulco. This follows the massacre of their family on the orders of her erstwhile friend Javier, the head of a notorious drug cartel. Their journey through Mexico to America is strewn with danger and violence and the fear that at any moment they will be discovered by the henchmen of Javier. Lydia is faced with many difficult decisions and choices in order to keep herself and her son safe and along the way she meets other migrants with their own tragic story to tell, some of whom she befriends. She also receives support and help from those that show empathy and compassion to the desperate plight of the migrants.

The author is masterful in creating and retaining tension throughout the novel through the experiences of her numerous characters and the persistent question of who can and who cannot be trusted. Even the reader is compelled to ask this question. The novel is a powerful insight into the hazards that the migrants seeking safety or a better life in America are faced with. The ever-present violence and danger is delivered in a manner that is shocking but not gratuitous.

We agreed that the novel was very well written, the characters were vivid, diverse and well drawn. It dealt with difficult topical issues and led to a discussion that went well beyond the confines of the novel. However the novel caused some controversy in America as the writer was not an immigrant and some among the Mexican population argued that it did not give a fair reflection of events. Perhaps beyond dispute is that Acapulco, once the playground of the rich and famous of America, is now regarded as one of the most dangerous places in Mexico.

Despite the disturbing nature of the subject matter we would thoroughly recommend this book.

Our next read is the Costa Winner 2020 book, *Love After Love* by Ingrid Persaud. We anticipate that we can meet in the Library on Monday 28th June at 2pm. However this is subject to Government Covid regulations.

For further details please email Pat Andrew painswick.library.bookclub@gmail.com

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News from the Surgery

95% of over-50s now vaccinated at least once

At the time of writing, Painswick Surgery, together with the other four surgeries in our Network, has now given first COVID-19 vaccinations to over 25,000 patients. We have also given over 17,000 second vaccinations. Most vaccinations have taken place at the Rowcroft Medical Centre in Stroud, although we are now also vaccinating at Horsfall House in Minchinhampton.

There has been a very good uptake for vaccination for Painswick Surgery patients. Over 95% of patients over 50 have had at least one dose. Over the next two weeks we will be running another ten vaccination clinics, when we will be both administering first doses to patients aged 30 to 49 and second doses to patients over 50. Any patient over 30 years old who has not been vaccinated or has not received an invitation should call the surgery as soon as possible to arrange an appointment. Patients should expect their second vaccination to be between 7 and 11 weeks after their first vaccination. Painswick Surgery will contact patients at the appropriate time. Please ensure that your contact details are correct.

COVID-19 vaccinations – volunteers

We are very grateful to all the volunteers from all five network surgeries who have been working at the vaccination centres, as car park marshals, wheelchair pushers, patient check-in and check-out and patient observers. We do need more volunteers. If you feel you may be able to help, please contact Tracy Rudge, the COVID vaccine co-ordinator directly – Tracy.Rudge@nhs.net.

End abuse of General Practice Staff

The Institute of General Practice Management has launched a campaign to end abuse against practice staff.

“If I die, it will be your fault”, one of the many abusive comments heard by reception staff throughout the UK every day. 78% of general practice reception staff report facing threatening behaviour, racist or sexist abuse, sometimes even physical abuse from patients.

Many have had to call the police for help. Some have left their job because they cannot face another day of rude and aggressive language. Please watch the campaign video on the home page of the Painswick Surgery website, which has been made by practice staff throughout the UK. And please remember, we are operating our surgeries in line with NHS procedures and we are doing our best often in very difficult circumstances and with limited resources.

Michael Mack-Smith, Business Manager

Your contribution

Please don't forget to contribute to the Painswick Beacon and support the team of local people that have brought it to you every month for over 40 years now. The Beacon is delivered for free to all households in Painswick, but is dependent on voluntary subscriptions. There is no fixed subscription, but as a guide the average contribution last year was just over £12.

Envelopes can be left in the Beacon post box next to the telephone kiosk on New Street, or to pay by bank transfer, please contact subscriptions.beacon@painswick.net with your name and address, asking for a reference code.

Jacek Wolowicz

Painswick Surgery Patient Group (PPG) Snowing in April

Yes we did have some real snow in April but it also snowed directives from National Health England (NHS) on April 1st and they weren't April fool tricks! So 'change fatigue' has hit our Surgery with new contracts, enhanced services required and various other hoops to jump through.

The Practice is obviously aware however about the concerns nationally and locally regarding fewer face-to-face appointments. We hope that locally most patients understand that the Practice has been doing, and continues to do, face-to-face consultations but they have had to prioritise rigorously those who need them most. Dr Evans says, 'The constant flow of chocolate biscuits suggests most are very supportive'. So more face to face appointment lists are being introduced alongside triage performed by the duty doctor. These are all on-the-day appointments booked by the triaging doctor for other doctors to see. The plan is to trial this before enabling appointments to be booked days or weeks in advance.

NHSE's new Standard Operating Procedures are demanding and the Practice is having to consider how they are introduced whilst at the same time maintaining a safe service. Also, while they still feel the need to see patients in consulting rooms with a separate entrance, ie via the downstairs car park, they have limited space. This is compounded because consultations still take longer than pre-Covid. The eConsult service has some real benefits not least speed of response and will be retained for now to help the triaging duty doctor. But it does seem to have become the perfect tool for the worried well. In the same way a stampede for face-to-face appointments by those that prefer them being at the expense of those with conditions that need them must be avoided. It is also vital to avoid a relapse to the five week wait (or worse) especially with staff regularly deployed to Rowcroft vaccination hub working long weekend hours.

So in a nutshell the Practice is endeavouring to bring back the best of the past within a set of expanded requirements from NHS, which is very challenging. Bear with them!

David Perry



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News from St Mary's

During the first half of the Christian year we celebrate all of the main Christian festivals – Christmas, Easter, Ascension and Pentecost. Thereafter, for the second part of the year all of the Sundays are named after Trinity marked by the liturgical colour green. There are of course notable Saints Days to celebrate this month, including St Barnabas on 11th June and Peter and Paul on 29th June.



This month we celebrate the longest day on 21st June. A significant day in any calendar, it is even more significant this year as we may reach stage 4 in the relaxation of Covid restrictions. It is expected that churches will be allowed to reopen again fully for visitors and for services. It has been good to be back in church again since the beginning of May for some church services but observing Covid restrictions. These restrictions have underlined for us how important hymn singing is in our worship. So it is hoped that congregational hymn singing can be resumed after 21st June but that will depend on a government announcement.

The end of Covid restrictions will also allow us to travel more freely and to think more positively about holidays. Many families have not seen some of their members since Covid restrictions started so it will be easier to see families again and that will be welcome. Restrictions are likely to remain for some time on foreign travel but at least it will be easier to plan a staycation! Enjoy the Summer.

David Newell

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Cotswold Gateway Project

Painswick is one of nine towns and villages in the Cotswolds designated as 'Cotswold Gateways', from which people can follow walking and cycling routes to explore the surrounding countryside of the Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. A new panel in the Stamages Lane Car Park shows two circular walking routes, one mostly following the Painswick Stream, while the other climbs up to Bulls Cross and Frith Wood.

More on the other Cotswold Gateways, which include Stroud, Tetbury, Winchcombe and Wotton-under Edge, can be found at <http://www.cotswoldsaoib.org.uk/cotswold-gateways> Walks and/or cycle routes are shown for each of them as well as the cycle routes that are now part of the Cotswold Cycleway. The project has been led by the Cotswold National Landscape and part funded by the EU fund for rural development (remember them!).



Painswick Community Library Extended Opening Hours

Subject to volunteer availability and further government guidelines, from June 2nd the library will be open for browsing at:

- Monday – 2pm till 5pm
- Wednesday – 10am till 1pm and 2pm till 5pm
- Friday – 10am till 1 pm
- Saturday – 10am till 1pm

If you are interested in finding out more on volunteering at Painswick's community library, please either speak to one of our desk volunteers or email painswicklibrary@btconnect.com for additional information. Full training will be given but not start until July - thank you.

We have lots of new books added to stock recently. Do come and check them out, and ... happy reading!

Pat Pinnegar

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Mike's big challenge

Many of us set ourselves goals, usually achievable of course. But, how many of us set a really truly challenging goal? Painswick's Mike Fletcher has done exactly that and hopes to achieve his aim on Saturday, 26th June. Starting in Cirencester he plans to run 100kms, or 62 miles, an ultra marathon in the Cotswold Way Challenge (2000 participants anticipated), testing himself but simultaneously raising money for his chosen charity. See www.actionchallenge.com

The route is in fact a loop thereby starting and finishing in Cirencester. However, it does snake its way through Painswick which is one of the designated rest stops (RFC). Other rest stops include Edgeworth, Coaley Peak, Wotton-Under-Edge, Hawkesbury, Beaufort and Rodmarton. The footpaths and trails include fantastic views but also some tough climbs in between.

Starting at 7.00am, Mike hopes to complete the run in under 15 hours, a single day challenge. Father of two young children, Mike is a chartered surveyor who was until recently a member of the Parish Council. He began trail running before the pandemic but, he says, 'things have escalated since then. I was looking for a challenge toward the end of last year and this event came up.' The fact that it passed through Painswick clinched it for Mike and now he is training in earnest several times a week with long runs at weekends.

The charity he has chosen to support with fund raising is Children with Cancer UK which is engaged essentially in critical research into childhood cancer and in providing invaluable support for affected families. Mike explains that having looked at their work and stories he feels compelled to help with fund raising. Already amazed by several generous donations and support locally he would like to continue to try to raise as much as possible, at least £4000. He has set up a just giving page. This is such a worthwhile cause and this is a local man about to undertake an amazing challenge on its behalf. Do consider adding your support. You can contribute via his just giving page: Mike Fletcher – Children with Cancer.

Carol Maxwell



Road closures

Wades Lane at Pitchcombe, between the A46 and Wick Street is due to be closed on 9th July for works by BT Openreach. The closure of Sevenleaze Lane from Gloucester Road towards Edge is expected to continue until 16th June, for ducting works. There is also a rolling programme of closures of many other roads for work to remove diseased Ash trees.

Stroud Valleys Trail Running (SVTR)

In the last issue of the Beacon, Tim Wynn-Jones and Dan Port advertised their brand new local trail running group, SVTR, for Dads.

The first run was on the 9th May and they were delighted to have 6 dads join them for the inaugural SVTR run. Taking in the beautiful trails and breathtaking scenery, they weaved their way through woodlands, across streams and up the inevitable hills! 'We have been delighted with the turnout for our first few runs' said Tim. Fellow founder Dan has noticed the benefits of running as a group 'It has been great to get to know more dads in the area through our common interest in running. Motivating one another up the hills is a huge bonus!'

SVTR has enjoyed a fantastic start. Come rain or shine (mostly rain over the past month!), Tim and Dan are there to welcome any dads that want to join them for intermediate trail running on Sundays at 5 pm and Wednesdays at 7.30 pm.

Please contact Tim and Dan for any further details on hello@stroudvalleystrailrunning.co.uk or feel free to email your mobile number so they can add you to the WhatsApp group.

Tim Wynn-Jones



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Croft School News



The children have all really enjoyed being back at school and have settled back into the routines of school really well. It is lovely to hear the school back to full capacity and it has been a hive of different activities.

In recent weeks the children have been raising money for different charities; they raised £189 as part of the NSPCC 'walk for children day' and more recently £140 for mental health awareness as part of our 'connect with nature' day. We had a 'connect with nature' day where the children came dressed in green or floral clothes and they spent the day undertaking a variety of different 'mindfulness' activities as well as gardening and observational drawings of plants. Currently the Year Three and Four pupils are in the process of organising a 'walk for water' to raise money for Water Aid as part of their enquiry curriculum. We have also had a few individuals undertaking activities to raise money for different charities, including donating hair and cooking dinner for their family. We are really proud of all our children for demonstrating the school values of compassion and responsibility.

Our younger children, in Mole Class, wrote thank-you letters and made pictures for the staff at Painswick Surgery as a part of their enquiry question 'What makes a hero?'. They walked to the surgery to hand deliver their letters and talk to the staff who were touched by the children's thoughtful words. You may also have spotted them walking around the village more recently where they were investigating 'What makes an Environment' and trying to find what specific features could be found in their local environment.

Rebecca Gore, Head Teacher



The old play fort, in a sorry state and now cordoned off



The new fort that's planned, if it can be funded

Fund Our Fort!

Friends of the Croft School (FOTCS) have had a challenging time throughout Covid, with our only fundraising opportunity being the successful Elf Trail held just before Christmas. Even with some things returning to 'normal', there is still so much we cannot do.

But we are not deterred! We are aiming to replace the play fort for KS1 (Reception and Years 1-2) which has been in a sorry state for some time and is currently cordoned off in the playground. To add to our challenges, the quote to replace this has gone up from £7.8K to £10.5K. We currently only have about half of this, so we have come up with a novel idea to fundraise: 'Fund Our Fort'.

From the middle of June to the middle of July, the school children will be invited to take part in a sponsored event and the miles they accumulate from walking, running, cycling, etc, will be tracked and plotted on a route as we navigate a virtual tour of 10 key castles and forts around the UK. Along the way we will reveal interesting facts about the destinations, making this an educational event as well as promoting exercise, the great outdoors and mindfulness. You can track the children's progress by following our social media pages Facebook: @FriendsoftheCroft, Instagram: @fotcsinsta. We are also delighted that Murrays Estate Agents have agreed to donate an amount for every castle/fort we reach – so the pressure is on to get round all 10 of them! If you would like to sponsor the children, we would be extremely grateful for any one-off donations to our 'Fund Our Fort' campaign – please visit www.pta-events.co.uk/FOTCS.

We would also like to thank everyone who responded to our article in last month's Beacon. We had the most tremendous support and genuine interest and enthusiasm for our community space and our wishes were granted with a raft of generous donations. We now have all of the larger tools needed to maintain the ground and have also received a fantastic amount of compost, seed trays and pots, alongside a hugely diverse and exciting range of plants, bulbs and seeds. The school gardening club has restarted after a very long break, and it's been wonderful to see the children's enthusiasm. Thank you all so much for your contributions and support. If you are interested in following the garden, there is a dedicated Instagram page: @croftygardeners.

Alison Smith

Co-Chair, Friends of the Croft School.

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Access Painswick's past

On 8th June at 7.30 pm, Painswick's Local History Society will be holding its Annual General Meeting by Zoom, followed by a talk by Alastair Jollans on accessing the various archives that are now available for anyone interested in exploring Painswick's past.

As well as a collection of well over 1000 images of Painswick's streets and people going back into Victorian times, these now include a searchable archive of all previous Painswick Beacons and an associated archive of old Beacon photos, many of them never published. There is access to historic Parish Council records and to information on censuses and on graves. The talk will be illustrated by images from the various archives.

Members of the Local History Society will be sent details of how to access the Zoom meeting, but non-members are also welcome for the talk and exceptionally will not be charged any fee. Contact enquiries@painswicklocalhistorysociety.org.uk for details of the Zoom link. Please note though that non-members will only be admitted to the meeting after completion of the Society's AGM, estimated at 7.45 pm.



Letters

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

Ross Munro writes from Gloucester Street
The Painswick Parish Action Plan adopted in 2017, states, "The Council is opposed to Change of Use from Commercial to Residential." The Parish has recently objected to change of use of Olivas, empty for the last 2-3 years, to residential as "detrimental to the preservation of the Retail Centre".

Much has changed in the retail and hospitality sector since 2017. With limited parking, retail businesses in Painswick will struggle. Are we forever to see empty and boarded up properties? Which is more harmful to the Painswick scene, empty commercial premises or allowing unused premises to become residential? Time the Parish Action Plan was revisited.

Editor's Note - in relation to this subject, see also our front page story and the application from the owners of Cardynham House, detailed in the Planning List on page 18.

Cotteswold Naturalists Summer Plans

With the easing of restrictions, CNFC is resuming its programme of summer visits and walks, most of which will be local, accessible by car and with plenty of opportunities to remain outdoors. On Thursday 22nd July, a visit has been arranged to Compton Verney, an award-winning art gallery in Warwickshire. The Gallery is housed in a Grade 1 listed Robert Adam mansion, pictured, and holds a permanent collection of art. In addition, two temporary exhibitions are showing at the time of our visit: the work of Mary Newcomb, a natural scientist, farmer and artist based in East Anglia will feature in 'Nature's Canvas', and Rebecca Louise Law's installation 'Seasons'. The number of people admitted to the gallery is being carefully controlled, and we will be allocated timed entry slots. Outside, members can enjoy 120 acres of parkland landscaped by Capability Brown, with the option of a guided walk around the estate on public rights of way in the morning. Contact me for booking information on tel. 01452 813228. Total cost expected to be about £16 for members. For those wanting a more leisurely day, the Gallery's restaurant is available for pre-booking.



A full list of forthcoming events is available from me. Annual membership of CNFC costs £20, or £30 for two or more people. After a summer break, we plan to be meeting in the Painswick Centre from September 2021.

Jane E Rowe

Right: The mansion at Compton Verney



Dog Training Class

The Dog Training class can meet again in the Church Rooms from Thursday 27th May. Beginners and puppies 10am-11.00, next class 11.00 to 12.00. Do come if you have a puppy or young dog and if your old dog needs a refresher course. Please telephone Fiona Chapman (01452 812462) for more information.

Fiona Chapman.


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Superheroes wanted

Join Longfield Hospice for its first ever Superhero Challenge. The event takes place on Sunday 22nd August in the beautiful Westonbirt Arboretum. Walk, jog or run through the pathways and tree-lined avenues of the arboretum. You choose the pace! The event is open to all ages and you are encouraged to wear a cape or costume as you soar around the course.

Don't miss this lovely opportunity to take part with your very own superhero, or remember an inspirational person in your life. All superheroes to complete 5k will receive a medal.

Early bird prices are: Adults: £20, Children: £15. A £5 per car fee is also payable when you book your place and will go The Forestry Commission. This will allow you (and up to four spectators) entry to the arboretum – that's a saving of up to £35 in entry fees!

All money raised on top of your entry fee will help Longfield Hospice provide care and support for our patients and their families at a time when they need it most. With our NHS still dealing with the impact of the pandemic, end-of-life care has never been more vital. Right now, our Hospice at Home team is working across Gloucestershire, caring for patients in their last days and weeks. As a registered charity, we rely on the hard work and generosity of people like you to fund this essential care. Thank you.

To sign up and for more information head over to the hospice website at <https://www.longfield.org.uk/event/superhero-challenge/>

Claire Ellis



A new home for Rococo rhubarb

**Painswick
Rococo
Garden**

Well, April came and went and as you will have noticed, it was pretty sunny which has been good for garden visiting – in fact it was the sunniest on record in the UK as well as being the coldest since 1922.

This helped the daffodils bloom on right into early May, but it did also mean that our propagation spaces were almost bursting with delicate seedlings ready to go out! Subject to government guidance, we are planning on opening Wednesday to Sunday in June plus all of half term. As ever you can book an arrival time online in advance via rococogarden.org.uk – and look out for our Great Garden Bird Trail which is brand new and running for that half term week only.

Regular readers will know that we have been busy using the produce from our Kitchen Garden and orchards in a creative way, particularly over the past year or so. We grew hops last year to make our own Amber Ale which has now officially sold out – if you are lucky enough to have a bottle or two, I hope you savour it! And now we have used our home-grown rhubarb to make delicious ice cream, collaborating with the team at Yoke House Dairy just two miles away from the Garden. Flavoured with freshly-harvested rhubarb from our Kitchen Garden, this is the first in what we hope will be a series of special limited-edition ice creams to be produced over the season. You can pick up a 140ml tub from our Shop whilst stocks last.

Our summer events programme is shaping up nicely. Booking is now open for a performance of “The Importance of Being Earnest” on 9 September, brought to us by the team behind The Handlebards. The entirety of Oscar Wilde’s classic play of manners, affairs and handbags will be performed by just two rather dashing entertainers. This fantastically wild(e) new production will rip up the recipe book and celebrate silliness in all its splendour. For further information and to book visit the events page at rococogarden.org.uk

Do enjoy June and as restrictions are relaxed, I hope you can find time for you and some friends or family to visit this amazing place!

Tim Toghill, volunteer & trustee

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Maurice Ireland Set up a bus service to Stroud

Maurice Ireland's father, grandfather and great-grandfather had all at times been carriers or hauliers in Painswick, transporting goods to and from the village and no doubt occasionally people as well. So transport was certainly in his blood, but it seems to have been Maurice who saw the opportunity to concentrate on the transport of people. He started his bus service between Stroud and Painswick in about 1893, profiting from the failure to establish a branch line of the railway to Painswick.

It was not the first local bus service and it wasn't a bus as we would know it today, being horse-drawn and looking rather more like a stage coach. But in the jargon of the day it was an 'omnibus', meaning for everyone, and it may have brought bus travel to Painswick within the means of many more people than the stage coaches of previous generations.



Maurice Ireland on an early horse-drawn bus

To run the service Maurice Ireland needed to invest in a bus / coach and in horses, which he kept in Vicarage Street, by the Malt House next to the White Horse, while the bus was garaged in Bisley Street, where the Longfield Shop is now. One horse may have been enough to pull the bus in and out of Stroud, but to mount the hill to Painswick a second horse was required. That led to a terrible accident in 1898 when a visiting boy who had been allowed to ride the extra horse down to meet the bus, then fell off it and was crushed to death.

Buses ran several times a day between Stroud and Painswick and there was a separate but much less frequent service from Painswick to Cheltenham. A service to Gloucester was much more difficult because of the steepness of the hill and when one was eventually launched, it's said that passengers often had to get out and walk on the steeper sections.



Herbert Ireland, left, with a motorised bus in New Street

In about 1905 the Great Western Railway started a Motor Bus service from Stroud to Painswick, which must have been formidable competition, but somehow Maurice Ireland seems to have maintained his business, still using horses for several more years. His son Herbert worked in the business as a young man and was keen to move on to motor buses, but his father refused, after which Herbert went off to Canada for a period. He was back before long though and of course the business did eventually switch over to motor buses.

That move may have been hastened by another fatal accident in 1908. According to the inquest, it was at the end of the day and the driver had taken the horses down to Vicarage Street and come back to guide the bus into the Coach House. The boy working with him was supposed to let the brake off on the bus, then jump down to steady the rear wheel. But on this occasion he slipped on the wet road, allowing the bus to run down the steep street and pin the driver against the wall.

The business continued throughout the First World War and in 1919 Maurice Ireland even brought in two second-hand double decker buses to work the route, possibly old London buses that had seen war service. But in 1920 the business was sold to the National Omnibus & Transport Company.



A competitor bus from the Great Western Railway company

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A very strange Spring

April this year has been most unusual indeed. It has been the driest, coldest yet sunniest one since records began and now May is turning out to be cold, wet and windy. The early drought and cold could yet have dire consequences for this year's butterflies, moths and other insect numbers. Looking back through photographs from last year I think everything is two to three weeks later than usual. We found Duke of Burgundy eggs on cowslip leaves on 15th May last year; they weren't even on the wing on that date this year.



Joyce has started doing the butterfly transects. Early sunshine brought out the usual hibernating species (Brimstones, Peacocks, Orange-tips, Tortoiseshell and Large Whites) but since then almost nothing has been recorded. Let's hope things warm up soon.

Vegetation has also been slow to get going, we have only cut our grass at home three times so far this year! However early violets and cowslips have been plentiful and now birds foot trefoil, salad burnet, horseshoe vetch and marjoram are all showing. Early purple orchids and green winged orchids have not been as good this year, but the bird's nest orchids are very fine specimens. The large patch of colts foot, found last year, didn't show at all but it has been found in two other locations. After a poor year in 2020 it seems as if 2021 will be a bumper one for yellow rattle.

Conditions are never perfect for everything all of the time and each year there are winners and losers. The important thing is that we are slowly, but surely, improving the quality of the Beacon habitat and thereby giving everything a better long term future.

Becoming a charity

PBCG is entering a new phase. We have applied to become a registered charity. This status will give us a better chance of obtaining grants from charitable funds and will enable us to claim gift aid on donations. The Covid crisis has heavily impacted on the funds available and being registered will enable us to apply to organisations who will only deal with registered charities.

We have committed to buying the NoFence paddock system for future grazing. This uses a GPS signal to create a movable "virtual" fence. The cattle have a collar incorporating a receiver which gives an audible warning as the cow approaches the fence. If this is ignored the cow gets a small shock (less than an electric fence.) After a short period of training, the cows learn to turn around at the warning sound. Should one be chased through the fence by a dog, the collar automatically turns off, the cow can eventually rejoin its herd whereupon it turns back on again. The system is very flexible so we can graze difficult small areas and we will save money by not having to put up hard fencing.

Guided Walk

Sunday 20th June. Walkers Car Park at 10.30am. This will last about two hours and is an opportunity for members of the public to see areas of the Beacon which have improved over the last five years, to hear more about NoFence and to ask questions. There is no charge (donations always welcome!) but please book by emailing me.

Paul Baxter: pmbaxtersfm@gmail.com

Handmade in Painswick



Painswick's very own pop-up Shop has opened in the Painswick Centre, stocking an extraordinarily varied range of arts and crafts and local produce. All of it is locally produced and demonstrates the amazing talent that we have in Painswick.

Some of the talented artists in Painswick are perhaps well known, but who knew we had jewellery makers, ice cream producers, Painswick Honey, makers of soft toys, skin care products, appliqué chicken cushions and baby hats from

local alpaca wool in our midst? So much more as well, so if you haven't checked it out yet, do pop in and have a look.

The shop is open from 10 am to 5 pm every day over the summer in the Gardiner Room on the Ground Floor of the Painswick Centre.



Jottings Food waste

The amount of produce which is grown on farms which never gets to your table and is not eaten is enormous.

Potato crops need two inches of rain per week to keep them growing. They may be attacked by pests or be blemished. These, and those that are misshapen, too large or too small are discarded. So farmers have to grow extra, up to 14%, to be sure of meeting their contracts.

Onions and leeks tend to bolt when under stress like drought and heat. Carrots and parsnips are likely to be attacked by pests and, or, scab. There are many issues with growing apples and pears, so they need an extensive spray programme. When you get to harvest time, a big hail storm can destroy your crop, leaving pit holes in them so they become unsaleable.

Contracts with the Supermarkets keep getting tighter and tighter, with less payment to the market gardeners and the customer demanding "perfect" produce.

Going organic is good but the produce that is grown when sold to the customer tends to be dearer because Organic farmers do not use pesticides or herbicides. So they have to try other methods of controlling pests and disease. But all growing methods need plenty of water in the form of rain or water in the greenhouses and the sun. The weather conditions over the past few years have made it more difficult.

Martin Slinger

A dramatic night in Painswick

Eighty years ago, at 1.10am on 15th June, 1941, Painswick suffered possibly the most destructive night of its existence. Eight bombs were dropped scoring direct hits, Stroud News subsequently describing this as '... the most disastrous visit paid by the Luftwaffe ...' to the district. Two people, both evacuees, were killed, ten injured and 29 were rendered homeless in an attack which could hardly have done less military damage anywhere.

The bombs were dropped in a line from Tibbiwell to Poultry Court. Friday Street was particularly badly affected with most buildings either completely destroyed or badly damaged. These included Mr Birt's butcher's shop, Mr Barnfield's house, Mr Mcgrath's cottage, Mr Ireland's shop, Mr Hopkins the cobbler's property, Anna Jones's shop, Mr Mason's shop and Mr West's coal business shed. On the other side of the road the vicarage and other properties were also damaged.



Looking across the bomb site from Friday Street to the Royal Oak

Amongst others, Mrs Gamp had lost everything and Miss Jones had lost, with the destruction of her shop, most of her personal property and her means of living. Various groups formed quickly (so like Painswick today) in order to tackle the work of clearing the sites, re-housing those made homeless and restoring damaged gas, electricity and telegraph cables. One such group, the Painswick Committee of Social Services, started an air raid fund which resulted in grants being awarded to the victims. Miss Jones, for example, received £20.

However, re-development proved to be a much more complicated issue. The fact that most of the properties were damaged and not completely destroyed became the cause of bitter argument and controversy over a prolonged period due to confusion over ownership laws, responsibility and funding problems. Such delayed action was of course somewhat reflective of the national picture where reconstruction often did not materialise for many years after the war.

For several years the site covering Friday Street through to St Mary's Street and The Cross was the subject of an ambitious idea to create a new shopping centre the plans for which were certainly ahead of their time. This idea was eventually abandoned and finally the proposal for what we now know as the Nurse's House in St Mary's Street was agreed and the building eventually completed in 1953. This is in fact Painswick's official WW2 war memorial.



Clearing up the damage on Tibbiwell
Now the site of Phoenix Cottage

So why was Painswick targeted on that fateful night? In the Record Office several Luftwaffe aerial photographs are to be found which show exact detailed bombing target locations, almost all in Gloucester. Painswick by contrast had no industry of military significance. The only conclusion can be therefore that the pilot needed to dispose of the bomb load and the result unfortunately was that Painswick consequently suffered its own, albeit just one, blitz.

Carol Maxwell

Detailed accounts and illustrations of the bombing and its aftermath can be found in Painswick Chronicle numbers 12 and 13 available at Painswick Pharmacy.

An afterthought ... A few years ago the lovely Peggy Perrins related her own memories of that night. She explained that it was unusually hot and she, a young woman, was sleeping in the altogether when her father yelled out loudly that she must vacate the house immediately. In a panic she pulled on her wellington boots and grabbed a fur coat before rushing out into the street. Peggy described with glee how none of the many neighbours realised that for the rest of that night she stood among them with absolutely nothing on under her coat!

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Painswick Sports

assembled by John Barrus



The 8th green for a brief period during the Seniors Open

Painswick Golf Club

It is good to be able to report that the golf club and clubhouse are now open and flourishing. The course will have been open for over two months when you read this, and the course is in an ideal state this time of year – the grass in the “rough” has not grown too much! Visitors are welcome – please wear masks inside the clubhouse. If looking to make use of the catering facilities, please check availability on 01452 812180.



This year’s Seniors Open took place on 17th May. The pairs better ball competition attracted 136 players from 39 different clubs and was won by Dave Butler (Painswick GC) and Steve Elway (Gloucester GC). Special thanks are due to Jane Hoey, Joan Little, John Bentley, George Paton, our caterers Waypoint, John Hitchcock and Nigel Barnett for sponsoring the main prizes. And thanks also to all those organisations and individuals who contributed to the raffle prizes and those who helped on the day. Over £2,000 was raised which will help fund the refurbishment and improvement of the clubhouse for the benefit of its membership as well as the increasing number of visitors who call in for food and refreshments. Particular thanks are due to Phil Jennings for organising and managing a great day out.

Tennis Club Newcomers and rusty players

Every Thursday from 7 pm - 8.30 pm Ness Fair runs a group for Newcomers and Rusty tennis players. It was originally aimed at members who had joined in-between the lockdowns to meet and play with other members.

We have a real age range and mixed ability coming along each week. It’s all about having a laugh and some fun on the tennis court. Balls do go everywhere - but who cares - with practice we only get better. (There is no glory in practice but without practice there can not be glory) Sometimes there may be 8 of us, last week 15 people were booked in. We warm up hitting in a short court scenario, then going back to a full court and eventually playing some games. Wissey Barnett our top international lady player pops in now and again to give everyone some useful tips which are a real boost!

If you would like to get back on the tennis court again and join in please email nessfair1@gmail.com Membership is not required for the first few sessions. Tennis shoes and a racquet are required!

Right: the group pose in traditional tennis style



Elbow bumps for Jane Rowe and Nigel Barnett as Phil Taylor holds the umbrella



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Painswick Cricket Club

Senior section

Due to the lovely weather we have only managed one weekend of league results. This included wins for both our firsts and seconds with the thirds going down to Chalford. The firsts also beat Oldbury in the National Village Cup.

WEPL Glos Div

Painswick 1sts (218 ao) beat Thornbury 2nds (119 ao) by 99 runs, George Macduff 95, Tom Hayward 5 for 34.

County League Div 7

Painswick 2nds (221 for 4) beat Westbury on Severn 2nds (149 for 4) by 72 runs, Henry Bonham 95, Nic Marment 61, Nath Evans 45.

Stroud Div 2

Painswick 3rds (173 for 8) lost to Chalford 2nds (174 for 1), David Nottingham 53, Toby White 45.

Village Cup

Painswick won (186 for 1) v Oldbury (184 ao), Issac Elkins 4 for 39, G. Macduff 51, C. Nicolls 92 no.

Netbay news - Appeal

Unfortunately our aim of installing our new nets this season has taken a major setback. We were hoping for a grant in March that would see us achieve the total required. However the England Cricket Board has delayed the County Grant Fund until at least the end of July. As a result, we have decided to try and raise more funding ourselves and also appeal for donations. We have just raised under 20 thousand so far but need a further 10 thousand to achieve our target. If you are in a position to help at all we would be delighted to hear from you. See bottom of article to view contacts.

Youth News, wowers!!

Well, what's going on at Broadham fields on Friday evenings? Our youth section has always been a fairly busy group, however the last few weeks have seen new heights as the club embraces the ECBs All Stars and Dynamos initiative. The club has 100 or so children signed on for these programmes. Painswick Cricket Club are providing the assistants and coaching for the youngsters.

All Stars Cricket provides a fantastic first experience for all children aged 5-8 years old where they're guaranteed 8 weeks of jam-packed fun, activity and skills development. Dynamos Cricket provides a fantastic next step for all those graduating from the All Stars and is the perfect introduction for all 8 to 11 years old new to the sport. A busy but exciting time, a recent picture alongside of the youngsters and coaches at Painswick Cricket Club.



Broadham on a Friday evening

I cannot stress enough how a good new Net Bay facility would also help all our youngsters develop their enjoyment of the game and improve their skills. If you wish to find out about any of the cricket activities please contact any of the following; Mr. Ian Hogg Chairperson, straight.spinner@hotmail.com
Mr David Nottingham, Nottinghamdavid@yahoo.com
Mr. Dominic Barnard, Junior Coordinator, domrolle@yahoo.co.uk
Ross Martin, Club safeguarding officer, rossmartin234@hotmail.co.uk

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Painswick Bowling Club



The club has now, rather belatedly, commenced its Summer 2021 programme. All friendly matches against other clubs were cancelled for April and May. We begin on 2nd June with an away match at Barnwood. Up to then we concentrated on getting ourselves 'match fit' with friendlies amongst ourselves, roll ups, and club cup matches.

Open Day

We are holding an 'Open Day' on Sunday 20th June at 2.30p.m. If you would like to give Bowls a try, just turn up to the club then (it's beside the Painswick Centre) and our qualified coach and club members will be happy to advise and guide you, but please bring the flattest footwear you have i.e. no or very low heels.

Alternatively you can turn up on any dry Friday afternoon from 2.00p.m. when members will be pleased to see you.

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Property Report

The last house purchases to benefit from the Stamp Duty concessions are now going through before the 30th June end date. The maximum saving has been £15,000, but the rise in house prices over the same period has been around double that, so the winners have been existing home owners not new buyers. It has certainly stimulated the market though. Estate agents are still very busy with many willing buyers and new properties coming to the market are often quickly snapped up.

This month Marling House in Gyde Road, Lovedays Cottage in St Mary's Street and Endways on Church Hill in Sheepscombe were all briefly on the market though Hamptons, before going under offer. At the time of writing though, two large detached 6 bedroom houses are still available. Rake Hill at the Highlands (Murrays, £1.65 million) has access directly onto the Beacon as well as large gardens and great views, which are also enjoyed by Woodford in Cheltenham Road (Murrays, £1.35 million), in easy walking distance of the village centre.

There are also two 3 bedroom detached houses available – Perivale, an Edwardian house on Stamages Lane (Hamptons, £700,000) and Wellgrove at Paradise (Hamptons, £750,000). Hay Cottage at the junction of St Mary's Street and Vicarage Street (Murrays, £345,000) is a 3 bedroom mid-terraced cottage with spectacular views at the back and 2 Rock Cottages at the bottom of Vicarage Street (Murrays, £235,000) is a smaller terraced cottage with courtyard at the back and views from the front.

The Old Library on Stroud Road (Hamptons, £425,000) is something more unusual for Painswick – a converted apartment with large vaulted living room and two en-suite bedrooms. A little further down the Stroud Road, St Mary's House (Savills, £850,000) is another relatively recent conversion to a 4 bedroom townhouse.

Properties going under offer this month include Mirfield on Stroud Road, Stonecroft in Hambutts Mead, Castle End on Painswick Beacon and both Recreation Cottage and Pen-Y-Bryn in Slad. Lantern Cottage on Tibbiwell, Dry Knapps House on Edge Lane, Cranmore Cottage on Vicarage Street, Cotswold Villa on Gloucester Street, 1 Cheltenham Road, 1 George Court and 12a The Croft have all exchanged and/or completed.

Local Election Results Conservatives hold off Greens in Painswick

There were Conservative victories in the elections in Painswick for both County and District councillors in May, although with smaller majorities than in recent years and a notable rise in votes for the Green Party candidates. For the County Council, Painswick is part of a large ward stretching from Whiteshill and Brookthorpe over to Bisley and Oakridge Lynch. The new County Councillor is Susan Williams from Bisley, who was elected with 2386 votes, ahead of Alan Mossman of the Green Party on 2001 votes. Helen Fenton, representing Labour, polled 694.

For the District Council there were three councillors to be elected in a smaller ward covering Painswick and Upton St. Leonards and the villages around, and again Conservatives topped the poll. Jason Bullingham, who has previously represented Painswick on the County Council, came first with 1408 votes, ahead of the two re-elected Conservative councillors, Julie Job and Keith Pearson, both on 1279. From them, the gap to the two Green Party candidates was only about 150 votes, with Labour again trailing behind.

Overall the Alliance between Greens, Labour and the Liberal Democrats that has been running Stroud District Council strengthened its position with both Greens and Liberal Democrats gaining at the expense of the Conservatives.

Climate Action Group?

Would you like there to be a Painswick Area Climate Action Group? The Area could include Pitchcombe, Miserden & Cranham parishes as well. There will be a short Zoom meeting to explore the idea in early to mid-June. Please email alanmossman@mac.com for more information. If there is support, the launch meeting will probably be in July.

QWERTY Beer Box

The beer home delivery service launched by Painswick student Quinn Leatherbarrow-Stokes and a friend during lockdown, is still going, still growing and now adapting to a new market where we're no longer confined to our own homes.

Quinn doesn't see the business as in competition with pubs and cafes and believes it can continue to thrive. He has just launched new boxes, 'Best of the South West' and 'Best of Cornwall' featuring a selection of craft beers from independent breweries in each region and available now in time for Fathers Day delivery. You can find them by searching for QWERTY Beer Box on the internet, Facebook or Instagram. For Beacon readers there's 10% off with the discount code SUPPORTLOCAL10 and the possibility that your beer might be personally delivered by Quinn on his bike.



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As lockdown eases and life returns to 'normal' please let me know your dates for the Village Diary. cvasp.26@gmail.com

June

Wed	2	Cotteswold Naturalists: Gardening with and for wildlife- Victoria Logue. Enq 813228	Talk on Zoom	2.15 for 2.30pm
	2	Strength and Balance class	Church rooms	10.00 - 11.00am
Thurs	3	Richmond Village open gardens in aid of NGS	Richmond Village	10.00 - 4.00pm
Sat	5	Sew Vintage footstool workshop - book online	Church rooms	10.00 - 4.00pm
Sun	6	Holy Communion	St Mary's Church	9.30am
Tues	8	History Society AGM and talk on Archives	Meeting on Zoom	7.30pm
Wed	9	Strength and Balance class	Church rooms	10.00 - 11.00am
Sun	13	Holy Communion	St Mary's Church	9.30am
Wed	16	Yew Trees WI circular walk up to Frith Wood	Meet at Stamages	2.00pm
	16	Strength and Balance class	Church rooms	10.00 - 11.00am
Thurs	17	Richmond Village open gardens in aid of NGS	Richmond Village	10.00 - 4.00pm
Sun	20	Holy Communion	St Mary's Church	9.30am
Tues	22	Yew Trees WI: Brian Witcombe - The Science and Side Effects of Sword Swallowing	Talk on Zoom	7.00 for 7.30pm
Wed	23	Strength and Balance class	Church rooms	10.00 - 11.00am
Sun	27	Beacon praise	St Mary's Church	11.00am
Mon	28	Library Book Club	Painswick Library	2-3pm

The oldest Bow Wow?

Painswick now has fewer people than it used to who were born here and have lived here all their lives and on into retirement, but there are still some, perhaps more than we're aware of.

The Beacon would be interested to hear from anyone who can claim to have lived in Painswick for more than 80 years, or indeed anyone more than 80 years old who was born in Painswick, even if no longer living here. Traditionally those born in Painswick have been referred to as Bow Wows and they've also been said to be very long-lived, as celebrated in a Victorian poem about the Three Old Men of Painswick.

In the photo alongside, from before the First World War, the presence of the old men with pipes, and the pipes on the banner, refer to the supposed longevity of Bow Wows.

Christian Aid Week 2021

The Painswick Valley Christian Aid Committee would like to thank all those who supported the CA week appeal by donating so generously. A total of £6,363 was raised, rising to £7,356 when gift aid is included. Despite the inclement weather we managed to hold lunches, cream teas and a garden shop in the church rooms on the 19th and 20th May. Thank you to all who supported these events and to those who helped organise and staff them. The funds raised will go to Christian Aid's work helping to combat the consequences of climate change in disadvantaged countries.

Dylan Davies



PAINSWICK BANNER on its recent appearance outside the Church, supported by local candidates for Old Age Pensions.

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PLANNING MATTERS

Information received from the Parish Council

NEW APPLICATIONS

S.21/0825/HHOLD The Homestead, Cheltenham Road

Replacement of garage

S.21/1036/HHOLD Hammonds Cottage Wick Street

Conversion of existing garage into an ancillary annexe, including replacement of roof (following approval S.20/0935/HHOLD)

S.21/0805/FUL & S.21/0806/LBC Cardynham House, Tibbiwell Lane

Change of use from hotel (C1) and restaurant (A3) to dwelling house (C3) involving internal and external alterations as previously approved under planning reference S.20/1499/FUL and S.20/1500/LBC

S.21/1118/LBC Lullingworth, Stroud Road

Loggia incorporating glazed conservatory.

S.21/1187/LBC & S.21/1186/HHOLD Rosebank Cottages, Slad Road, Slad

Erection of timber outbuilding, side extension and internal alterations

S.21/1177/LBC & S.21/1176/FUL Sheepscombe Methodist Church, Jacks Green

Conversion of a former Chapel (F.1) to a residential dwelling house

S.21/1262/HHOLD Hillview, Beacon Close

Erection of single storey side extension and front porch.

S.21/1198/HHOLD Rose Cottage, Tibbiwell Lane

Removal of existing UPVC conservatory and construction of single storey flat roofed kitchen extension.

CONSENT

S.21/0662/HHOLD Lantern, Kingsmead Erection of oak framed garage, garden store and open log store.

S.21/0685/HHOLD Highgrove House Lower Washwell Lane

Erection of a four bay garage block. Superseding S.17/1743/HHOLD

S.21/0753/HHOLD Hedges, Gloucester Street

Replacement windows.

S.21/0798/HHOLD Castle Lodge, Cheltenham Road

Erection of detached garage.

S.21/0827/TPO Lullingworth, Stroud Road

T1 - Group of predominately Beech trees at varying heights up to 35ft - reduce back to approximately 5-6ft in height.

S.21/0304/HHOLD Geldeston, Back Edge Lane, Edge

Proposed extensions & new garage

S.21/0445/LBC Fortunes Well, Far End, Sheepscombe

Replacement of door and four dormer windows

S.21/0796/TCA Fairview, Stroud Road

T1 Yew - Overall reduction 3m. back to trunk. T2 Beech - Reduce back to the last cut. T3 Acacia - Reduce back to the last cut. T4 Juniper - Remove.

S.21/0809/TCA Court House, Hale Lane

Beech tree - Fell.

REFUSED

S.21/0811/HHOLD Springfield, Catswood Lane

Construction of new rear single storey extension.

WITHDRAWN

S.21/0980/HHOLD Woodridge, The Highlands

Rear, side and front extensions & detached garage

S.20/2501/LBC Cob House, Slad

Minor changes to permitted application S.20/0345/LBC. Amendments to joinery details, redesign of fireplace and additional dormer.

Schpel Chuck

Have you noticed an increase in incorrect words being used in books? This, I believe, is a direct result of not having proof-readers but relying on Spell and Grammar checks; what these do not check is context. Here are three: -

“She could not bare that thought”

“Having her hair short for the first time, she felt a draft on her neck”

And my favourite, as it conjured up wonderful images,

“Her coffee was made by the barrister”.

Roy Wallis

Editor: The Beacon does still carry out manual proof-reading, but is not immune.

MINI-ADS

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Personal Column

Condolences

To the family and friends of MAGGIE OXLAND (nee Traugott) who sadly passed away on February 11th. She will be missed by many, both near and far. Rowland Oxland would like to thank those neighbours and friends whose kind words and deeds gave comfort to Maggie during her long period of illness. She greatly enjoyed the company of visitors and the many warm hearted telephone conversations. For over forty years, Maggie played a significant role in two major publishing houses: Jonathan Cape and Bloomsbury Publishing. More about Maggie can be found at BookBrunch.co.uk

Celebration

PATRICK DALY's memorial tea party will be on Friday 30th July 2.30-5pm in the Beacon Hall in the Painswick Centre. All who knew him are very welcome to join in the celebration of his life. If you are inclined to contribute a cake or plate of sandwiches that would be most appreciated. The family look forward to seeing you there! Please email Gilly.hill@me.com by 15th July if you're able to attend, so we have an idea of numbers!

Thanks

YVONNE TEBB would like to thank the anonymous couple who came to the aid of her visiting mother Doris on Sunday 16th May, when she lost her bearings on the way to the shops. Thank you for helping her around the village until she regained her bearings, you were very kind. If the people do come forward I would love to say thanks.

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SUE WILLIAMS would like to thank all who voted for her and gave her the opportunity to serve as County Councillor for the Bisley with Lypiatt and Painswick Division. She can be contacted on 07766 318854 or by email at susan.williams@gloucestershire.gov.uk



New County Councillor Sue Williams

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.

A partial farewell

After ten years as landlord of The Falcon, NEIL JOHN decided not to renew the lease. Under his management The Falcon was a real success story but, after much thought, he realised that he wanted to achieve a better life/work balance and this decision was clinched by the circumstances resulting from the pandemic. As from now Neil with his wife Susan will be splitting his time between enjoying his home in Llandielo and working with his son, Charlie, in The Oak.



Neil John, pictured outside the Oak

NEXT ISSUE

Publication date

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**Deadline for all copy
Sunday, June 20th**

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Photographs and advertising art work original at 600dpi in JPEG

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Bluebells bathed in the soft early light of sunrise in Frith Wood near Slad. Photo by Pete Llewellyn



A Goldfinch at lunch, pictured recently in Painswick. Photo by Phil Taylor

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