

The Painswick Beacon

Volume 47 Number 10

January 2025



Painswickian of the Year
is Abigail Smith. Report see page 5

Church Lighting

This year Rector Sarah Haslam introduced some festive lighting into the Carol Service in St Mary's.

Phil Ion, who lives in the village, carried out the installation. He used 24 battery uplighters. 6 units lit the choir and 18 lit all the columns in the nave and the ceiling of the church to bounce enough light down for people to read their hymn sheets.

They were controlled wirelessly using a cable-free lighting controller so they could be faded between atmospheric lighting for the readings and choral pieces, and then increased to provide sufficient lighting for the congregation to read the hymns.



There was no Parish Council meeting in December

Parish Councils Chairmans New Year Message 2025

As we look forward to the coming year, I think we should first pay tribute to those who have left us. As you all know we sadly lost to illness both George Hodder, our wonderful handyman, and Rob Lewis one of our stalwart Council members and local taxi driver. They will long be remembered for the years of service they gave to the Community. We also want to thank Abigail Smith who has stepped down from the Council having moved away from the town. Abigail was an amazing councillor and she will sadly be missed. Thank you to them all!

Looking forward to the coming year, the council will continue to represent your views and work towards keeping Painswick a fantastic place to live. It is particularly pleasing to see the way in which the various community groups are now working much more closely together. The recent Goodwill evening is a great example of this and shows how the community can pull together to create vibrant events and activities. Painswick Community Support continues its sterling work providing help and assistance to those who need it. It was also so lovely to see children from the Croft School at the Remembrance service at the war memorial. We must remember the children of the town are the future and it's essential they are involved in our activities including developing future plans. We would like to thank every group in the village. Without them we would not have so many lovely clubs and groups to cater for most tastes. We have continued with our lovely Friendship with Slavutych in Ukraine, and have recently conducted a Zoom meeting with their Council to explore ways to expand our Friendship, such as putting our local groups, clubs and societies in touch with each other, to share values and views.

To ensure we represent you effectively, please let us know if there are things on your mind or suggestions you wish to make. We will always do our best to make things happen! To that effect, we still have vacancies for councillors within the Slad and Painswick wards and if you are interested in finding out more, please call into the Town Hall and chat with Roy and Irena about what is involved. It really isn't too onerous but like everything, volunteers are needed to help the town achieve its potential.

Finally, a huge thanks to Roy and Irena, our amazing town clerks and our newly appointed Parish Handyman, Lucas, without their tireless efforts, the Parish workings would not run so smoothly.
Happy New year to one and all.

Adrian Gyde Chairman of Painswick Parish Council

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Planning Matters

NEW APPLICATIONS

S.24/2038/TPO Mill Pool House, Ticklestone Lane

T1 - Oak - removal of several large branches. Cuts will be back to major points. T2 - Oak - removal of branches to take the tree in total 2m from the corner of the building.

S.24/2028/HHOLD Steanbridge House, Slad

Relocation of existing entrance piers, installation of new gates and change of finishing to existing boundaries.

S.24/1966/HHOLD H a m b u t t s House, Edge Road

Removal of asbestos garage and erection of a replacement garage, solarium and solar panels. Replacement of asbestos roofing and alterations to dry stone wall.

S.24/1967/LBC Hambutts House, Edge Road

Removal of asbestos garage and erection of a replacement garage, solarium and solar panels. Replacement of asbestos roofing.

S.24/2170/HHOLD H a m b u t t s Barn, Edge Road

Erection of a stone parapet and replacement garage door.

S.24/2054/FUL Land South Of Edge Road

Provision of grass track, changes in levels, and enlargement of the existing pond (retrospective).

S.24/1971/FUL 3 New Street

Change of use from Class E (office) to Class C3 (flat) on the ground floor and cellar.

S.24/2210/LBC Court House, Hale Lane

Erection of lean-to log and bin store.

S.24/2209/HHOLD Court House, Hale Lane

Erection of timber lean-to log & bin store.

S.24/2194/TCA Cedar House, Butt Green

T1 Cedar - Height reduction of 1.5m and spread by a maximum of 2m. Crown lift up to 8m all around. T2 Sycamore & Horse Chestnut - Height reduction of 3m and spread by 2m, pruning back to previous reduction points. Crown lift up to 4m all around.

S.24/2108/TCA Stonewyck, Cheltenham Road

T1 - Removal of small Lime. T2 - Removal of small Oak. T3 - Removal of Weeping Copper Beech. T4 - Removal of Rowan tree. T5 - Removal of Rowan tree (2). T6 - Lawsons Cypress - reduction by 1m in height, T7 - Slight reduction of plum on neighbours side by 3m and delicately (max 1m) reduction on clients. T8 - Silver Pear - Hedge trim to shape and reduce on the garden side. T9 - Reduction of White Beam tree to previous pollarded points. T10 - Reduction of Norway Maple to previous points - approx 3m reduction. T11 - Crown lift of Liquid Amber tree to 3m

CONSENT

S.24/2010/TCA Halfpenny Cottage, Tibbiwell Lane

Apple tree - thin & reduce the crown of the tree by a third, taking it back to previous points.

S.24/2038/TPO Mill Pool House, Ticklestone Lane

T1 - Oak - removal of several large branches. Cuts will be back to major points (branches circa 4inches in diameter & approx 4m long back to union). T2 - Oak - removal of branches to take the tree in total 2m from the corner of the building.

S.24/1833/DEM Highfold Farm House, Painswick

Demolish redundant former cow shed and lean-to.

S.24/1679/HHOLD 32 Ashwell

Erection of front porch.

S.24/1773/HHOLD 3 Cheltenham Road Installation of replacement windows and removal of chimney.

S.24/1664/HHOLD . Little Orchard,

Paul Mead, Edge

Partial demolition of roof and erection of a first floor extension. Erection of a single S.24/1419/LBC Kings Mill House, Kings Mill Lane

Repairs & conservation of a ground floor fireplace.

REFUSED

S.24/1747/HHOLD Bentley Cottage, Vicarage Street

Erection of a two storey side extension and single storey front extension



Police report

Reported crime statistics for Painswick taken from the Gloucestershire Constabulary web site.

October

Upper Washwell	Violence
Ashwell	Violence
Greenhouse Lane	Bicycle theft and Criminal damage

September

Canton Acre	Public order
Hyatt Orchard	ASB & Violence
White Horse Lane	ASB
Randall's Field	Violence
Cheltenham Rd	Criminal damage

August

Greenhouse Lane	Vehicle crime
Queensmead	Criminal damage
KingsMill Lane	ASB
Gyde Rd	Violence
Butt Green	Burglary
Gloucester St	ASB
Ashwell	ASB
Hambutts Drive	Burglary
Blakewell Mead	Burglary & theft
George Ct	Violence
Golf Course Rd	ASB

July

Butt Green	Theft & Vehicle crime
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Notes

ASB = Anti-Social-Behaviour
Violence includes sexual assault
Locations given mean "in vicinity of".

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Painswick Probud Club – Wood Carvings in Gloucestershire

On Thurs 28 Nov 2024 local resident Stephen Aiano, a retired head teacher, listed horseback archery among his many accomplishments. He provided a lively presentation on the wood carvings he had explored in Gloucestershire. He confessed to being a dilettante (look it up, like I had to!), who was determined to have fun and see where it leads.

He cantered through his large catalogue of misericord images. Misericords, which date from the 14th to 16th century, are hinged wooden seats provided for monks in the choirs of cathedrals and monasteries. The talk centred on the beautifully detailed medieval carvings to be found on the undersides of surviving misericords at some 120 sites in Gloucestershire. Misericords would rarely be accessible to church-goers, staff, and visitors to the churches, or even to monks themselves as they sat on their seats, or stood in front of their folded-up seats which offered them some posterior support during long periods of standing to pray. If the public had had both access and a good knowledge of scripture they they might have been surprised by the biblical stories told in many of the carvings, which Stephen explained in colourful detail.

Several members of the Hereford & Worcester Cambridge Society plus a few rogue Oxford alumni joined us and contributed some penetrating questions to keep the speaker on his toes. The whole performance was a delight and exceeded expectations for having fun.

Henry Hall



Dragons, devils and ‘pantomime’ bulls prancing through crowded streets, accompanied by participants jumping through flames and fireworks were some of the amazing spectacles described by Stephen Rowley when, at their November meeting, he told members of Yew Trees WI about the colourful, joyful fiestas held throughout the Catalan region of Spain.

There are also Giant figures representing historical and mythical characters parading more sedately; male dancers who bare a strong resemblance to Morris men and colourful ribbon dances with a similarity to Maypole dances. However, there is no English comparisons to Castells. These are human towers traditionally built in squares in front of the town hall. We were holding our breath as we watched Stephen’s video of the construction of one of these. The base of the tower is formed by a mass of the heavier men who then support lighter weight boys and girls all standing on each other’s shoulders often reaching 10 tiers. I can only think that health and safety regulations in Catalonia are more lenient than here! All fiestas come with musical accompaniment, and what made the evening even more fascinating was Stephen brought a selection of these instruments with him, and ably demonstrated several of them.

In December members enjoyed mulled wine and refreshments, including some special almonds kindly sent to us by Christopher Piper Short from his home in sunny Spain. We were very grateful to Yvonne Rawson who demonstrated how to make jewellery. Yvonne brought along some ‘gems’ and I am happy to report that several members went home with delightful new earrings and bracelets.

Ladies, why not make a New Year resolution to come and join us? On Tuesday 28 January we will again welcome Kate Peake who this time will tell us about “Events and Traditions in Gloucestershire”. 7.30 pm in the Church Rooms – we hope to see you there!

Celia Lougher 812624

Guest Editors invited

What could you bring to the Beacon?

Regular listeners to Radio 4’s Today programme will have noticed a series of guest editors over the festive period who have brought ideas on particular topics to be covered in the programme, guests to interview, topics to be discussed or formats to be used. Their guest editors have generally been celebrities, but the Beacon would like to invite anybody to apply to work with the Beacon team on a forthcoming issue as a guest editor.

You won’t need any particular knowledge or experience of publishing or IT - all that will be provided. All you will need is enthusiasm, a little bit of available time and preferably some ideas about the content and/or presentation of what you would like to see in the Beacon. Just drop us a note at beacon@painswick.net with a rough outline, say 100 words or so, on why you would be interested in this opportunity and how you might want to use it.

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Painswickian of the Year

Caring, compassionate, fair, generous, hardworking, modest – just a few of the many positive descriptions of this year's Painswickian of the Year. During her 18 years in Painswick Abigail Smith has achieved so much for the benefit of so many local residents and so often quietly behind the scenes. Essentially Abigail is not only keen to commit herself to helping others but also, and very definitely, she believes in taking action to encourage others to do likewise.

As a member of the parish council for ten years one of her roles was chair of the traffic committee including the community speed watch group. This involved undertaking the necessary administration tasks and organising the group. However, true to character Abigail was, as always, willing to do more and was frequently to be found on speed watch duty herself which involved spending many hours by the roadside.

Keen to support and encourage community events Abigail took on another independent role as the main organiser of Painswick Feast for ten years. For this she undertook all the administration involved and also firmly established the fundamental basis, the blueprint, of the exceptional event it has now become. In yet another side of Painswick life, once her son, Torney, was a pupil at the Croft School Abigail became a member of the Friends of the Croft team putting much time into various activities to support fund raising activities such as the Elf Trail, fetes etc.

When Covid suddenly arrived causing so much anxiety Abigail quickly moved into action and was one of the small group of four forming the amazing Community Support group. Soon 120 helpers were involved covering the needs of many people in Painswick. This was undoubtedly a tour de force involving many intensive discussions about needs and consequent action required, manning the phones, organising food distribution etc.

The thought, effort and work which Abigail and her three colleagues put into this almost life-saving endeavour has developed into a permanent community project, the Community Support group, which is responsible for a range of ongoing activities such as the Friday morning hub, much appreciated by so many Painswickians. Abigail did the grant submission for the community suppers which still continue and she undertook the initial organisation of the community lunches. She undertook all the necessary administrative preparation such as dealing with compliance with risk assessment rules.

Abigail's involvement in so many community support and interest projects is outstanding and especially inasmuch as she is always willing to deal with all aspects. Her outstanding organisational skills combined with a willingness to 'roll up her sleeves' and do what is necessary have been for Painswick's benefit. As one supporter says, 'She has a knack of being able to pull things together, delegate effectively but also go above and beyond.'

Always working quietly and skilfully Abigail insists that it is invariably a team effort. She believes passionately that by taking action oneself others will be encouraged and indeed empowered to also take action which will result in a stronger, happier community. She has seen the way different groups or circles of people participating voluntarily in community projects in Painswick often connect positively. She knows that you can rarely achieve results alone and knows too that it is a real joy to be able to empower and enable others to achieve together. This is definitely Abigail's legacy in Painswick.

The fact that, whilst immersing herself into so many community projects and activities, Abigail had a full-time job makes her achievements even more outstanding. An initial degree in ecology, a postgraduate degree in social science ('to better understand the human aspects' she says) and finally a Masters in Business Administration have resulted in her career work now in business development. The skills involved have of course been invaluable in all the community activities she has engaged in – and Painswick has certainly been the beneficiary.

Readers may recall that a few months ago Abigail undertook a tough Snowden night walk challenge to raise funds for the Multiple Sclerosis Trust. Husband Gary was diagnosed with MS four years ago and the effect on the family has of course been considerable. Notwithstanding, Abigail continued to work tirelessly on behalf of the community as well as dealing with the family situation and a full-time job. She and Gary eventually decided that a move to be nearer family would be wise in the circumstances and so they have moved to Hartpury.

Painswick has benefitted so much over the past few years from the actions of Abigail. A strong community-minded attitude together with multiple essential skills, kindness, magnanimity and sheer hard work definitely mean that she more than deserves the accolade of Painswickian of the Year.

Carol Maxwell



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Painswick Community Support 2025 dates...

6th January Painswick Beacon Conservation Group
13th January Friday Club
20th January Our Lady and St Therese Catholic Church
27th January Yew Trees WI
3rd February Croft School Yr 6 Class
10th February Croft School Yr 6 Class
17th February Churches Together Around Painswick
24th February The Falcon Bowling Club
3rd March Dog Training Club

Homemade soups, cheese, bread & butter. Tea and Coffee available Served by community groups Pay as you feel (Cash only please - all donations for charity)

The Falcon achieves AA Rosette

The Falcon Painswick is celebrating a major milestone after receiving an AA Rosette Award for culinary excellence, following its first inspection.

This accolade marks a significant achievement for the young team led by Head Chef Jake Hadden and General Manager Daniel Orme - placing it in the top 10% of UK pubs and restaurants. The AA Rosette, first introduced in 1956, is a highly respected award recognising outstanding cooking across the UK. Achieving a Rosette reflects the quality and skill diners can expect when visiting, and The Falcon has been praised for its seasonal menus, warm hospitality, and charming atmosphere. The AA inspector described the inn as "packed full of character," with "hospitality from the small team [that] really made this stay."

Now managed by Balfour Winery, one of England's leading wineries, The Falcon offers not only 11 beautifully appointed bedrooms but also a dining experience that highlights the best of local and seasonal produce, complemented by Balfour's award-winning English wines.



Presents: Wicked Little Letters on Friday 10th January

A 1920s English seaside town bears witness to a farcical and occasionally sinister scandal in this riotous mystery comedy. Based on a stranger than fiction true story, WICKED LITTLE LETTERS follows two neighbours: deeply conservative local Edith Swan (Olivia Colman) and rowdy Irish migrant Rose Gooding (Jessie Buckley). When Edith and fellow residents begin to receive wicked letters full of unintentionally hilarious profanities, foul-mouthed Rose is charged with the crime. The anonymous letters prompt a national uproar, and a trial ensues. However Rose may not be the culprit after all.

Our February film is on Valentine's day and will be suitably romantic with Ghost as the main feature. For any Wick-Flix queries please contact the team directly at wick-flix@outlook.com

Painswick Centre

Takeaway Night

We are delighted to host a weekly takeaway night every Thursday, serving 5-8pm. Cards accepted. We work with some amazing local foodies to bring different cuisines to Painswick: See our web site for details

- Masai Kitchen: Traditional Kenyan BBQ food.
- Los Cubanos: fantastic cuban street food
- Minyakis: Japanese food of all sorts
- Hungry Monkey: street food of all sorts
- Burgerlish: Organic grass fed burgers

The Sisters Cox Trust

- Hardship Fund

The Sisters Cox Trust is now accepting applications for grants from its Hardship Fund for "the benefit of the sick or needy of all classes in the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Mary's Painswick". You do not have to be a churchgoer to apply for this.

Please make applications in writing marked 'Confidential' to Reverend Sarah Haslam at The Benefice Office, The Lychgate, Stroud Road, Painswick, GL6 6UT. Or email Rev Sarah at beaconrector@gmail.com Please apply by 1st February 2025.

Lindsay Gardiner

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Croft School

At The Croft Primary we have come to the end of what has proven to be a very busy term with lots of different sporting and creative events!

Key Stage Two girls and boys football teams have entered league matches; the majority of children from Key Stage Two participated in a tag rugby tournament at Painswick RFC; 48 children joined other Stroud schools in the cross country running where eight of our children were placed in the top ten in their respective year groups. A team of children from Key Stage One participated in a football tournament where they scored 21 goals but did not concede any! Our year three/four football team came second and our year five/six team won the small schools district tournament; as a result, they were invited to play at Shortwood United under the floodlights for the district finals. Both teams came third in the district for their age groups.

All of our children celebrated BBC Children in Need day by dressing up either in spots or as superheroes whilst our EYFS children in Mole class had baked biscuits and cakes and sold these to the rest of the school and parents / carers. In total we raised £402.50 for Children in Need Charities.

On the more creative side we held our first ever art exhibition. The children were all really excited to see each other's artwork and share their work with their parents and other family members.

We have completed the term with the Christmas choir appearing at the Goodwill evening and the Rococo Gardens Carol Service; EYFS and Key Stage Nativity performances; Key Stage Two carol service at St. Mary's and some children joining with community carols in the church rooms. The staff and children celebrated the end of term with Christmas parties in school and our now traditional singing of The 12 days of Christmas!

Rebecca Gore

Jottings - Willows.

Along our valley bottoms and in damp places in our fields you will often find willow trees. They can survive in difficult conditions. They are very variable with narrow-leaved ones tending to be called osiers and some broad leaved ones, sallows. They are the only tree which has only one bud scale so looking at the twigs helps us identify them in the winter and, of course, we like to see the soft catkins of the pussy willows forming in the spring. Willows are short lived, longer if they are pollarded regularly. The "withies" produced on regrowth can be used for fencing stakes, fencing rails, and other uses like pallets and boarding.



By using the smaller branches you can make charcoal which can be used for a lot of things in art and medicine. It is especially useful as a metallurgical fuel in the blacksmith forge when intense heat is needed to melt metal. It is used in animal feeds and new uses are being found for it in horticulture.

The wood of White Willow is notably shock-and splinter resistant so used to make cricket bats. Whips are planted in straight lines so that the trunks are kept growing upwards in a straight line and then harvested after some twenty years. The inner part of the trunk must be white with no blemish to be used to make cricket bats.

Its green bark yields tannin for use in the leather industry. Salicin is present in the bark and leaves of all willows but first discovered and most abundant in White Willow. As a plant hormone it triggers the production of toxic defence chemicals when the tree is attacked. Some animals may be seen chewing willow bark if they are in pain and looking for pain relief, as humans did, though now it is now made synthetically and marketed as aspirin.

Because willow can grow in harsh conditions and does not need care, stems can be pushed into dirty, contaminated waterways to create withy beds. They grow rapidly, recycling and filtering water naturally. They have the ability to break down pollutants in their root zones with the help of soil microbes. So they can be used to stabilise sewage and dredging sludge and form vegetative covers over landfill sites.

The exotic Purple Emperor Butterfly favours the Pussy Willows (Goat and Grey Willows) for laying their eggs on, so a number of wildlife organisations are planting willow whips at sites that might attract Purple Emperors.

Martin Slinger

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A warm opportunity for all

Wednesday, midweek, and a lovely warm opportunity awaits you. From 10.00am until 12.00 noon every Wednesday for the next few weeks you can enjoy time spent as you choose from a range of possibilities in a warm and welcoming setting. Come along to the Town Hall where you can play board and card games, try your hand at a jigsaw, do some drawing or painting, enjoy a good chat, just relax etc and all with tea, coffee and biscuits in a lovely warm room. The atmosphere is welcoming and open to everyone.



The winter months can be difficult for many and this is often exacerbated by cold weather. Painswick's Warm Wednesdays – present in the Town Hall throughout the winter months - offer the opportunity to enjoy companionship, engage in a range of social activities together, or even simply sit back and relax in the warm atmosphere around you. There is no pressure, just freedom to use the time and space as you choose.

We are lucky in Painswick to have such opportunities. Do go along to the Town Hall on Wednesday mornings and enjoy this weekly occasion, the Wednesday Pop-In, and all the benefits it most certainly offers. Everyone is welcome.

Carol Maxwell

Painswick Music Appreciation group



Johann Sebastian Bach and Christmas

Craig Dunn achieved with aplomb the impossible task of illustrating and drawing highlights from the enormous output of JS Bach. The earliest of the big three his works range from the massive Passions and over 200 cantatas, which can sometimes appear daunting, to the solo works for example the Goldberg Variations, and secular orchestral compositions such as the Brandenburg Concertos. Hits abound like Jesu Joy of Mans Desiring, Air on a G String and Sheep May Safely Graze made familiar by films and TV adverts, as well as being adopted and adapted by jazz musicians such as Jacques Loussier and Stephan Grappelli, not forgetting the Swingle Singers and certain pop groups. All present shared his evident enthusiasm and he recalled Painswick concerts given by Dame Sarah Connolly (of Selsley), cellist Steven Isserlis and the Canadian pianist Angela Hewitt currently unmatched in this repertoire.

Later in the month the year concluded with the AGM and Christmas Party which was well attended. Duccio Leoni provided the Group with a stunning Jesse Norman cd in performances at Ely and Notre Dame cathedrals the former consisting of Christmas carols suites given in incomparable voice and arrangements. The latter in Paris in the age blackened cathedral of some thirty years ago providing a remarkable but atmospheric contrast to the Italianate gleaming white magnificence revealed recently.

Excellent refreshments were then enjoyed courtesy of Ann Williams. Reg Wrathnell romped home winning the quiz in a team including Janet and Peter Jenkins and Howard Allen. A very enjoyable conclusion to the year and what has so far proved a memorable season.

Next meetings 2:30 PM in the Town Hall:-
 Thursday January 23 rd Music for the Innocent ear Jenny Buckland
 Thursday February 6 th Vivaldi beyond the Four Seasons Dr Tim Brain

Michael Grey

Foodbank

Our Christmas collection in November was immensely heartwarming and encouraging; it was good to see that Painswick and the surrounding villages came to help those who are in need in our local area. You may also have seen the Foodbank stall on the Goodwill Evening in Painswick where many voiced their support for the Foodbank's work and were very generous with their donations. Thank you!

Our next collection will be on Wednesday 15th January. Volunteers will be in the Stamages Lane car park from 10am - 12 noon. If you are able to give, please may we ask for some of the following: tinned meat, tinned vegetables, pasta sauces, coffee, UHT or powdered milk, UHT fruit juice, tinned custard, dry dog and cat food, shampoo and conditioner and laundry liquid.

As always, if you wish to make a bank donation, you can do so using the following details:

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Slightly belated best wishes for the New Year to everyone from all the trustees of Painswick Beacon Conservation Group. Every year we extend the offer to come and join us with our activities on the Beacon. Why not make it your New Year's resolution to come and help us with our vital work of improving the quality of the Beacon's habitat?

There are three ways to help, with something to suit all levels of fitness and ability.

1. Weekly work parties on alternating Fridays and Saturdays starting on Friday 10th January. These have been the backbone of our work; clearing trees and scrub and encouraging the calcareous grassland to recover and expand.
2. Looking after our small herd of Dexter cows. We have owned our own cows for five years and they need checking daily and occasional help moving them between paddocks. Their browsing is probably the most important aspect of the continuing improvement of the Beacon.
3. Vegetation survey work. This project started in the summer of 2024 and is a terrific way to find out more about the site and meet new like-minded friends. We have just tabulated this year's data and this is how the project will work.



The full site is divided into 10x10m squares identified by grid references. Over the course of a year key areas, e.g. the southern ramparts, have individual squares monitored for the abundance (a scale of 1-3) of twenty key species. Other random, one sqm squares are exhaustively searched for all species present. The vegetation height around these squares is recorded by dropping a 200 dia. disc weighing 200g down a meter rule and recording how high off the ground it is when it comes to rest.

This data is entered into a specialist computer program which will highlight trends in vegetation cover caused by climate change or site management. Kathy Meakin, who devised the system, is running a parallel survey on Stinchcombe Hill and hopes to deliver a comparison of the two sites in an ecological journal. This will be interesting because Stinchcombe is starting on a journey which PBCG started approximately twenty years ago and we have been grazing for at least ten years; they have not yet started.

Anyone may collect data at any time for anywhere during the flowering season, although it is more sociable to do in small groups. The clever thing is that the computer will not double count if the same squares are counted several times.

If you think you could help with any of these projects, please feel free to contact me for more details on 07971 633 242 or pmbaxtersfm@gmail.com.

Paul Baxter

Painswick Art Club

The Painswick Art Club ended its Autumn Term with a Christmas Challenge and buffet Party on 10th December. We are continuing next term with fifteen sessions, 9:30 - 1 pm, in the Church Rooms, Painswick, for £35. We are an untaught group of friends who share ideas and support each other in our art projects. We have tea/coffee and biscuits available and are able to hang our work on the hall walls. We have easy parking and disabled parking slots by the entrance. New Members welcome: *Enquiries to: Joyce Barrus 01452 812942*




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Review of the year 2024

Reroofing completed

St Mary's Re-Roofing completed after 15 months of planning, 16 months of fundraising and 5 months to carry out the work, St. Mary's re-roofing project has been completed! The church is water-tight, warmer and sports a beautiful new roof that, with occasional maintenance, should last well over 100 years.



Speed Awareness Cameras fully operational

It is with a significant amount of relief, that Painswick Parish Council are able to say the speed awareness cameras on the A46 and B4073 are finally operational, with our first batch of registrations of vehicles recording persistent, excessive speeds sent to the police on Friday 19th January. The cameras are only triggered by speeds over the ACPO limit (eg 36mph and over in 30mph zones).

A46 road closure

A road closure was in place on the A46 at the Pincot Lane / Wragg Castle Lane junction, Painswick. Report from Gloucestershire County Highways: "On 7th March 2024 a hole was found beneath the road. Technical inspections were carried out and the road was closed for safety reasons as cracks have also been found at this location."



New boundaries for General Election

Painswick is now part of the new North Cotswolds constituency, which stretches from Hardwicke, south of Gloucester, to Chipping Campden in the North East of the county. As the constituency did not exist at the last election there is no sitting MP. General Election Conservative, Geoffrey Clifton-Brown was elected as our MP on 4th July 2024.

The Painswick Centre one year on.

With renewed focus and a prudent eye on expenditure, the new team of trustees were able to stabilise operations. Initially facing a projected loss of £68,000, the new trustees worked diligently to reverse that trajectory. By the end of 2023, the loss had been reduced to just £5,572, a significant improvement. The income for the year was recorded at £84,000, while cash reserves grew to nearly £59,000, demonstrating the effectiveness of their cost-cutting measures and community engagement efforts

10 years ago 2014 Abbreviated articles from past issues of the Beacon

Vandals hit Painswick

The telephone Box at the top of Gloucester Street was demolished on Sunday night around 11pm by a 4x4 coming down Gloucester Road into Painswick managing to take out the railings, wall as well as the telephone box.

The Blow family memorial was wrecked by thieves after snatching £10,000 of Cotswold roofing tiles. The mausoleum has weathered 60 years of the worst of weather atop of Cud Hill between Painswick and Upton St Leonards. About four fifths of the roof has been stolen.

Vandals hit the Rococo Garden vandalising an 18th century urn. Three teenagers, two boys and a girl ran into the Garden without paying. The cost to repair it will be in the order of £800.

Walkway from Stamages Lane car park to the Churchyard - Construction starts!

Construction of the Walkway was delayed pending resolution of outstanding planning issues with SDC. The walkway will run across what is presently part of the Church Rooms car park and then through the old library building to the churchyard. The aim is to provide a safe passage for all Painswickians and visitors to reach the churchyard and the village thereby avoiding the dangerous Lychgate corner on the A46 opposite Edge Lane

The opening of the Painswick Youth and Community Pavilion.

The festival of games and the official opening of the Painswick Youth and Community Pavilion on the 14th June turned out to be a gloriously, mainly sunny day. The festival offered games, activities, food and competitions for all the family on the Recreation Ground supported by the local sports clubs

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The Round Britain cycle race- passing through Painswick

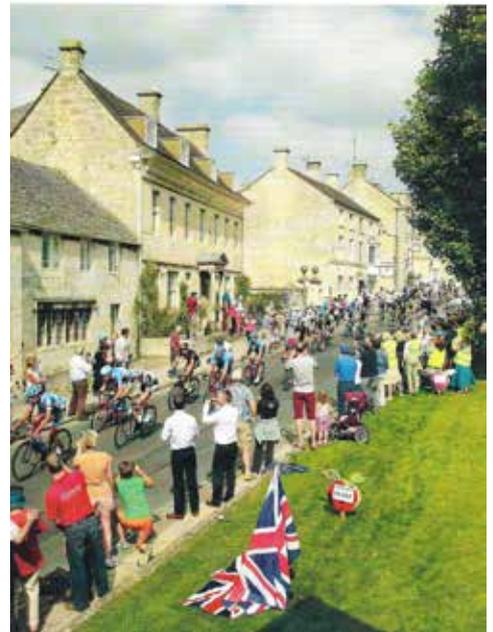
Picture shows the big turnout from the people of Painswick

Farewell Bus number 46

Today (November 1st) sees the end of an era when the last 46 Stagecoach Bus leaves Painswick. The 46 is to be replaced by the 61 which will have a changed route. The new route will provide an hourly service during the daytime on Mondays to Saturdays from Cheltenham to Dursley via Brockworth, Painswick, Stroud, Ebley, Stonehouse and Cambridge. Stagecoach report that new journeys will be introduced on Saturday evenings between Cheltenham and Stroud. Since then the 66 has replaced the 61

An "Outreach" Post Office Service is to commence in Painswick.

The facility will be located in the Parish Council's outer office at the Town Hall and managed by Mr Shreyas Patel who is the Postmaster at Upton St Leonards. It will be open initially on Wednesday and Friday mornings between 9.30 and 11.30am.



20 years ago 2004 Abbreviated articles from past issues of the Beacon

Broadband at last!

High speed 'always on' Internet access for Painswick this month. A well attended and very positive public meeting organised by the Parish Council in the Town Hall heard two rival service providers commit to setting up wireless broadband systems in Painswick and surrounding villages. Even though the BT Holy Grail of 500 registrations of interest required was still a couple of hundred registrations short, both Loop Scorpio and Node Broadband said they were ready to start offering competitive services to BT Broadband immediately and required far fewer subscribers

Care development - Stroud Road

Detailed designs for Richmond Painswick were presented at an exhibition held in the Church Rooms on Tuesday 9th March. The exhibition complemented a comprehensive brochure about the new development which had been sent to those who have already enquired about the development, including some 50 residents of Painswick. Construction has started on the road access to the site. The Beacon understands that about half of the apartments have already attracted local buyers, this in anticipation of their completion about April or May next year.

New Guide for Painswick

After several years without an official up-to-date guide, a new Painswick Guide is about to be published. As The Beacon has some working knowledge of desk-top-publishing, we offered to update and publish a guide for the Parish Council. So, the new Guide will be on sale through local shops, the Tourist Information Office and the Council office from 15th June

Companion Dog Show and Charity Fun Day

Painswick's first Charity Fun Day was a big success. The Recreation Ground buzzed with excitement as stalls representing a wide range of Charitable Causes provided lots of opportunity to have a go at tombola, buy cakes, books, silk scarves and browse bric-a-brac; find out about Trade Justice, Christian Aid, Carers Groups and the work of the RSPCA and Hearing Dogs for Deaf People. It proved highly worthwhile too, as we're pleased to announce that over £2000 was raised collectively. It was wonderful how groups sat and watched the various events in the Dog Show rings. It seemed that every size and shape of dog was in Painswick that day

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Cotteswold Naturalists: Looking Forward



The Cotteswold Naturalists' Field Club's first event of 2025 will be the New Year Lunch, this year

to be held at the George Inn, Frocester, GL10 3TQ on Wednesday 15th January, 12.30 for 1.00 pm. To make a last-minute booking, e.g. if there have been cancellations, please contact the organiser Peter Cornish, 01453 823286. At this stage, only a deposit of £10 is required. Food orders will be taken on the day, so there is no need to pre-order from the 2- or 3-course menu, which can be viewed on the Events page of the Club's website at <https://www.cotsnatsfield.club/>

In a change from the published programme, Prof. Gareth Williams will talk about the research behind his book: 'A Monstrous Commotion: The Mysteries of Loch Ness' on Tuesday 21st January, at 2.30 pm, in Box Village Hall. Refreshments served after the talk. Enquiries to 07767 014957.

(Tony Conder's talk 'A Gloucestershire Odyssey - the County's History and Traditions' is postponed to Tuesday 18th February.)

Peter Cornish is also organising morning visits to the Javelin Park Incinerator on Thursday 27th March and Tuesday 29th April 2025. The operator generates electricity by burning non-recyclable waste at very high temperatures - enough to power more than 25,000 homes. The plant also reduces greenhouse gas emissions by diverting over 130,000 tons of waste from landfill. The morning consists of refreshments, a short introduction to the technology followed by a tour of the plant. For booking details, please contact Peter tel. 01453 823 286 or email cotsnats@gmail.com

The Club's membership year starts on 1st January. This year we are asking members and anybody wishing to join to pay their subscriptions (£25/£40) as promptly as possible because, like many not-for-profit organisations which bank with Lloyds, charges are being introduced by Lloyds for all financial transactions on and from 14th January. If you have any questions about membership, please contact the Membership Secretary, Clare Woodman, by email: CNFCMembershipSec@outlook.com

Jane Rowe 813228, or email cotsnats@gmail.com



Friday Club

The Ukaladies visited the Town Hall on Friday 29th November, with an enthusiastic programme of music and encouraged the Friday Club Members to join in.

Twenty-six members of the Club enjoyed a Christmas Lunch together at the Painswick Golf Club in December with party crackers, jokes and good food.

Our New Year Programme starts on Friday 10th January with Malcolm Lewis explaining about "Birmingham City of Culture". Birmingham was the European Capital of Culture in 2008 and was short listed in 2013 for UK City of Culture. It is a city of world cultures, so we are looking forward to understanding more!

Then we have Vicky Weaver coming on January 24th to talk about 'Bespoke Life' for Companionship and Support: Based in Cheltenham, The Bespoke Life was created to offer a personal assistant service supporting in daily tasks, activities, travel and events.

Our Meetings are in the Town Hall, starting at 2:30pm. Members £2, Guests welcome £4.

The Friday Club is hosting the Community Lunch on January 13th, so come and join us in the Town Hall 12 – 1.15 pm, for a soup with fresh bread and cheese, tea and coffee.

Joyce Barrus

New Coffee Shop

"Juniper", a new coffee shop has opened where "Meadows" used to be in St Marys Street. Winter opening Monday to Friday 8.00-3.00pm; and Saturday and Sunday 9.00 to 3.00pm. Full report to follow. in a later edition

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Painswick Rococo Garden

January news.

The Enchanted Garden by Night was nothing short of magical. The twinkling lights, soft storytelling, and festive charm created a truly unforgettable

experience. It was a joy to see so many familiar local faces sharing in the wonder—it felt like a celebration of community. A heartfelt thank you to everyone who joined us. Picture shows the Rococo carol service in St Mary's.

Now, as the lights dim and winter settles in, all eyes turn to the return of Painswick Rococo Garden's most iconic stars: the snowdrops. Reopening on 18th January, the Garden transforms into a carpet of white as these delicate blooms sweep across the landscape. When is the best time to see them? The answer lies with the weather. Stay up-to-date by following us on Facebook, Instagram, or checking the Garden website.

During snowdrops, prior booking is essential.



Marta Gardner



Gardening Club

In December, your Painswick Gardening Club Committee put together

a tremendous evening of Quizzes, with a visiting Santa Claus. Games included Pass-the-Parcel, unwrapping a prize at every pause in the music and prizes for the highest scorers in the quizzes. The evening was interspersed with original jokes and rhymes, refills of mulled wine and plenty of snacks. Proverbs affront the tables and secrets underneath, to look for. The evening ended with a lovely "dram" of Baileys, on ice.



The first Meeting of 2025 will have been before the publication of this January Beacon: Last Wednesday, 8th, being the second Wednesday of the month. We will have to report on the talk by Mandy Bradshaw next month.

On February 12th we have Chloe from 'Wildstroud' coming to talk to us about gardening for wildlife: "Wildlife Project". This will be very useful for us to be able to include pollinators in our plant selections this year.

We meet in the Town Hall at 7 pm for tea/coffee and perhaps a glass of wine, ready to start the talk at 7.30pm. Come and join us.

Joyce Barrus

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Painswick Sports

assembled by John Barrus

Badminton Club Open Evening.

Thursday 16th January



Are you looking for some exercise after the Festive season? Have you played Badminton before? Thinking about starting again, somewhere local? We play at the Painswick Centre, and we're having an Open evening on Thursday 16th January from 8pm. We play at all levels, from rusty to regular. Want to know more? Email Mahboob Hussain

on smhh801@gmail.com call/msg him on 07831 216948 to check it out.

Picture taken at the end of the Christmas fun games evening



Annual Christmas football match

Painswick 3 Sheepscombe 2

Sunday 29th December saw the annual derby between the bitter rivals of Painswick and Sheepscombe take place at Cirencester Town's Corinium Stadium.

Sheepscombe started the stronger, and went ahead with a sharp shot from Rowley which nestled into the bottom corner after 22 minutes. Their second came after a lovely passing move ended with Horder stroking into the nearside from 8 yards. Painswick finally awoke, and after beating his man, Walker whipped a cross in which was powerfully headed home by Andrew.

Half time saw a tactical tweak, with encouragement for the wingers to play further up the pitch which paid dividends. The equaliser came 10 minutes into the half when Smith's rocket from the edge of the area gave the keeper no chance. Five minutes later Barnett delightfully flicked it on a Walker pass for Andrew to crash Painswick into the lead. 3-2. The comeback was complete, with the full time whistle bring scenes of joy from the Painswick team, knowing that they had returned the trophy to the better village for the second year in a row."



Matthew Bowcock

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Monday Morning Walkers

Before your New Year's Resolutions fade, consider coming along for some exercise with the Monday Morning Walkers. We meet in Stamages car park at 10 am every Monday (except Christmas Day). We have no formal leader, instead, we take up the most appealing route proposed on the day. We walk for about 2 hours on average, covering about 4 miles, sometimes more, following the wonderful network of paths and tracks criss-crossing the Painswick Valleys. Steep hills and stiles are unavoidable! At this time of year, be prepared for rain, wind and wet, slippery, muddy paths.

We are completely informal, each of us accepting that we walk entirely at our own risk, but with the bonus of friendly conversation. Please arrive at the start suitably shod and clothed, ready for whatever the weather throws at us, and for the conditions underfoot. Carrying a bottle of water is advisable, and using a walking pole(s) can be helpful.

If you would like to come along, just turn up on any Monday morning at 10 am in Stamages car park. For more information, feel free to contact me.

Jane E Rowe, 813228

GWR Trains increasing capacity

For those who have suffered numerous cancellations and very crowded trains on Sundays the good news is that they plan to increase the carriage numbers from 5 up to 9 or 10 on key Sunday trains. The bad news there is no mention of reducing the cancellations.

A new train service will go directly from Cheltenham via Stroud and Swindon to Bath and Bristol on Saturdays leaving at 9.10 from Stroud. No mention of a return train but there must be one. Check their website.

Property Report

May Cottage on Edge Lane is newly available through Hamptons at £325,000, with two bedrooms, while the same agent has 3 Gloucester Road (not Gloucester Street), a modern four bedroom detached house with parking and double garage at £850,000. Murrays are now offering Croome House in Bisley Street, a three bedroom listed townhouse for £595,000. Hamptons have Fourwinds in Churchill Way, a modern detached four bedroom house at £730,000.

Properties going under offer include Cambrai in Cheltenham Road, 1 Canton Acre, Star Cottage off Hollyhock Lane and, both Vermont and the Old Stores in Cranham, all through Murrays. Also The Granary at Painswick Court and Crofters in Cranham, through Hamptons. Two significant commercial properties in the centre, the former Meadows (now Junipers) in St. Mary's Street and the Old Fleece shop in Bisley Street have recently been sold by Murrays.



Library Book Club

The next meeting of the Library Book Club is on January 13th, 1.30-2.30pm and we will be discussing *In Ascension* by Martin MacInnes. The February meeting is scheduled for Monday 10th, also 1.30-2.30pm and we will be discussing *Blood and Beauty* by local author Sarah Dunant. This is an historical novel set in the violent and turbulent times of Renaissance Italy. The author recently gave a fascinating talk on Renaissance women at a First Thursday meeting and we look forward to reading her novel on the notorious Borgia family. New members are welcome to join us. For further information contact me by email painswick.librarybookclub@gmail.com

Pat Andrew

Library News

Happy New Year to all our customers!

A short read this month – as we re-open for 2025. A reminder that we have many new books on the display shelves, so come and peruse them at your leisure. The full list of new books is available at the Library or on the website painswickcommunitylibrary.org.uk.

A reminder, also, of all the things that the Library offers apart from lending you books! Newspapers and magazines, computer access, printing, copying and laminating, chatting with the ever-friendly Library Volunteers, and a comfortable and warm space just to chill out in.

Our Opening hours:

Mondays 2.30 pm – 4.40pm
Wednesdays 10.30 am – 12.30pm and 2.30pm – 6.30 pm,
Fridays 10.30am – 12.30 pm and 2.30 pm - 4.30 pm
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Ian Cridland

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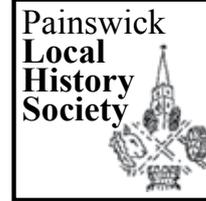
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Naughty Elf Trail

Just a selection of window displays from this year's Elf Trail. They appear in colour on the Beacon Web Site.



Looking ahead to the past

A look at local history covers both a wide range of topics and, of course, a wide span of time. The next three presentations for the History Society offer subjects of very different interest embracing several centuries and focussing largely on Painswick within the context of the county.

The first of these, Tuesday 21st January, is a talk on old paths of Gloucestershire by Alan Pilbeam. Painswick's enduring and thriving existence has always been essentially about its siting on key paths and roads, this accounting for its past economic success and its very survival. At the February meeting Mark Bowden, an eminent historian and archaeologist, will present what promises to be an intriguing talk on wooden castles. Is it possible that Painswick may have had one such castle in its midst? In March Painswick's very own Andrew Leach will give a presentation on the fascinating history of St Mary's Church, so central to Painswick's existence.

The Society's meetings are held at 7.30pm in the Croft School. An exception will be the March meeting when Andrew will give his presentation on St Mary's Church actually in the church itself. Everyone is welcome to the meetings.

Carol Maxwell

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Christmas Tree Recycling

Don't forget that Longfield will once again be organising a Christmas Tree Recycling service, including at Painswick's Rococo Garden. For more details see <https://longfield.org.uk/our-event/christmas-tree-recycling-2024-25/>

Additional copies of the Beacon

are available from the Premier shop or online where the Beacon can be seen in full colour at...
www.painswickbeacon.org.uk

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Regular Village Activities. Please contact Vicky Aspinall on cvasp.26@gmail.com

Mondays	Gentle pilates. Info from Heidi 07970 262538	Painswick Centre	8.45 - 9.45am
	Improvers pilates. Info from Heidi 07970 262538	Painswick Centre	9.50 - 10.50am
	Beginners/improvers pilates. Info from Heidi 07970 262538	Painswick Centre	10.55 - 11.55am
	Ballyhoo modern dance classes. Julie ballyhoochalford@gmail.com	Painswick Centre	from 3.45pm
	Community Choir. Contact sophie@sophiesterckx.co.uk	Painswick Centre	7.00 - 8.30pm
	Short Mat Bowls. All equipment provided. 2.00/session	Town Hall	2.00 - 4.00pm
	Mindful Meditation with Kate. kate-beatty.co.uk/07793126234	Painswick Centre	12.30 - 1.00pm
	Painswick Singers. Contact Jean Jones 01452 813545.	Richmond	7.30pm
	Paradise Art Studio evening classes. takepart@paradise-house.org.uk	Paradise House	6.30 - 8.30pm
	Painswick Bootcamp. Details contact Becca Meadows 01452 451505 or info@beccameadowsnutrition.co.uk	Broadham Field Rugby Pitch	7.30 - 8.30pm
Tuesdays	Zumba with Martina 07891 194396	Painswick Centre	9.45 - 10.45am
	Painswick Art Club £35/term. Contact Joyce Barrus on 01452 812942	Church Rooms	9.30 - 12.30pm
Wednesdays	Rococo Sprites. See www.rococogarden.org.uk	Rococo Garden	9.45 am
	Strength and Balance class for the over 60s. Contact Trish Tenn on 07956 4666617 or tennpatricia@gmail.com	Painswick Centre	10.00 - 11.00am
	Painswick Bridge Club. Contact Peter Sibley on 812126 or Margaret Wilson on 812305	Church Rooms	6.45pm
	Table tennis. Contact David Harris on 07453 027766.	Painswick Centre	7.30 - 9.00pm
	Yoga with Kate. www.kate-beatty.co.uk/07793126234	Painswick Centre	7.30 - 8.45pm
	Classical Pilates Mat Classes Jo on 07968 799741 or info@daleypilates.co.uk	Painswick Centre	10.30 - 11.30am
	Strength and Conditioning Circuits. www.lovelifeladies.co.uk	Painswick Centre	12.30 - 1.30pm
	After school art classes. Term time only. classes@painswickcentre.com .	Painswick Centre	3.45 - 5.15pm
	Warm Wednesdays. A warm space to meet up for coffee and a chat. All welcome. Contact Sandra Glass on 814186	Town Hall	10.00 - 12.00pm
	Thursdays	Morning Market	Painswick Centre
St Mary's Mums, Contact 07833 727701. Term time only		Church Rooms	9.15 - 10.45am
Nurturing yoga. Contact Kim on yoginikim@icloud.com		Painswick Centre	9.30 - 11.00am
Vinyasa Yoga. Contact Kim on yoginikim@cloud.com		Painswick Centre	11.15 - 12.45am
Tai chi. Contact Joe on 07960 753782		Painswick Centre	1.30 - 2.30pm
Dog Training Club. Contact Fiona Chapman on 01452 812462 or fiona.chapman123@btinternet.com		Painswick Rugby Club	9.30 - 12.30pm
Qi Gong Classic Exercise - jeffdocherty@yahoo.com		Town Hall	9.30 - 10.30am
Classical Pilates Mat Classes. Contact Jo on 07968 799741 or info@daleypilates.co.uk		Town Hall	5.45 - 6.45pm
Takeaway Food Night		Painswick Centre	5.00 - 8.00pm
Fridays		Yoga for Backs. Contact Kim on yoginikim@icloud.com	Painswick Centre
	Ballet with Claire Tracey. Contact BalletClaire@outlook.com	Church Rooms	9.30 - 10.30 am
	Painswick Community Hub Café. All welcome	Town Hall	10.00 - 11.30am
	Church Choir Practice. cgswain.btinternet.com or 01453 822998	St Mary's Church	5.30 - 6.30pm
	Classical Pilates Mat Classes. Contact Jo on 07968 799741 or info@daleypilates.co.uk	Church Rooms	11.00 - 12.00pm
Sundays	Painswick Baby and Toddler Group - Term time only	Youth Pavillion	9.30 - 11.30am
	Mass	Catholic Church	8.30am
	Quaker Meeting for Worship	Meeting House	10.30am
	Aikido www.gloucestershireaikido.club .	Painswick Centre	8.30 - 11.00am



Village Diary

Please let me know your club and society dates for the diary on cvasp.26@gmail.com

January

Fri	10	Painswick Beacon published		
	10	Wickflix: Wicked Little Letters	Painswick Centre	7.00 for 7.45pm
	10	Friday Club: Birmingham City of Culture - Malcolm Lewis. Enq 812942	Town Hall	2.30pm
Sun	12	Family Worship	St Mary's Church	11.00am
Mon	13	Library Book Club	Library	1.30 - 2.30pm
	13	Community Lunch provided by the Friday Club	Town Hall	12.00 - 1.15pm
Tues	14	Morning Prayer	St Mary's Church	9.00am
Wed	15	Prayer and praise	St Mary's Church	7.00pm
	15	Cotteswold Naturalists: New Year lunch. Prebook 01453 823286	The George @Frocester	12.30 for 1.00pm
Thurs	16	Painswick Probus: British Leyland - John Macartney	Painswick Centre	11.00 for 11.30am
	16	Annual skittles match - Probus vs.Yew Trees WI	Painswick Centre	7.00 for 7.30pm
Sun	19	Holy Communion	St Mary's Church	11.00am
	19	Deadline for all Beacon copy		
Mon	20	Community Lunch provided by Catholic Church	Town Hall	12.00 - 1.15pm
Tues	21	Morning Prayer	St Mary's Church	9.00am
	21	Cotteswold Naturalists: Mysteries of Loch Ness - Prof. Gareth Williams Enq 07767 014957	Box Village Hall	2.30pm
Thurs	23	Painswick Music Appreciation Group: Music for the Innocent	Town Hall	2.30pm
Fri	24	Friday Club: Bespoke Life for Companionship and Support - Vicky Weaver. Enq 812344	Town Hall	2.30pm
Sun	26	Beacon Praise	St Mary's Church	11.00am
Mon	27	Community Lunch provided by Yew Trees WI	Town Hall	12.00 - 1.15pm
Tues	28	Morning Prayer	St Mary's Church	9.00am
	28	Yew Trees WI:Events and Traditions in Gloucestershire - Kate Peake	Church Rooms	7.00 for 7.30pm
Fri	30	Friday club: Pirates of Penzance. Matinee. Enq 810878	Everyman Theatre, Cheltenham	2.00pm

February

Sat	1	Painswick Beacon published		
Mon	3	Community Lunch provided by Croft School Year 6	Town Hall	12.00 - 1.15pm
Wed	5	Cotteswold Naturalists: Folklore of plants, trees and flowers - Katherine Kear. Enq 7767 014957	Painswick Centre	2.30pm
Thurs	6	Painswick Music Appreciation Group: Vivaldi - Dr Tim Brain	Town Hall	2.30pm
	6	Painswick Probus: Lord Ismay - John Kiszley.	Painswick Centre	11.00 for 11.30am
Fri	7	Friday Club: Glos vintage transport - Kate Peake. Enq 812942	Town Hall	2.30pm

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Personal Column

Congratulations

To SAM ANDREWS and JADE CROSTHWAITE of Hyett Close on the birth of their twin daughters, Hazel and Darcie, on 10th December. Two sisters for Ava, two more granddaughters for Sharron and Rob Andrews, and two more great granddaughters for John and Mary Bessant.

Condolences

To the family and friends of RALPH DREW who died peacefully on December 8th after a long struggle with dementia. Ralph and his wife Joan lived for 18 years at Nettles, Kingsmill Lane, before moving to Gloucester in 2019. Ralph was for several years active on the Council of the Painswick Centre.

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 cvasp.26@gmail.com

For the Personal Column contact Vicky Aspinall, cvasp.26@gmail.com

May we remind all Beacon contributors that articles submitted should not normally exceed 250 words. Articles will usually be acknowledged within two days and we are happy to be reminded if no acknowledgement has been received in this period.

Box Adverts in the Painswick Beacon

Do you wish to advertise in the Painswick Beacon during the year April 2025 – March 2026? Requests can now be submitted.

Existing advertisers will be contacted by email in mid-January inviting them to renew or amend their requirements. New advertisers are invited to get in touch and a booking form must be completed. The form provides more details including prices. It is available directly from me or from our website www.painswick.beacon.org.uk - click on "how to advertise" from the homepage.

As advertising space is limited, we operate a priority booking period which closes on 14 February. Requests received before that date will be treated as if received on that date. Space is then allocated with priority given to local businesses, existing advertisers and with the aim of achieving a mix of business types. In most of the last few years, requests have exceeded the available space and some requests have had to be turned down. But if space remains or becomes available later, requests are considered on a first come first served basis.

Peter Rowe (01452 813228)
advertising.beacon@painswick.net

MINI-ADS

Wanted to Buy: Old Bottles, flagons, pots etc.... especially anything marked Painswick. Good prices paid by Painswick collector. Please contact Miles - 07766 460127.

Reliable dogsitting in Painswick. Kind, responsible 28-year-old animal lover with experience caring for dogs. Short/long visits. Home stays and housesitting available. Contact Tilly: 07584 517801.

Mini-Ads

Primarily for Painswick residents. Text maximum 30 words. Flat charge £6. Free to subscribers for private sales. £6 for business use, holiday rentals. etc.

Provide text, your name, address and contact details with payment in advance. Deadline as for all copy. More info call Peter Rowe, or mail:advertising.beacon@painswick.net

NEXT ISSUE

Publication date

SATURDAY

1st February 2025

**Deadline for all copy
Sunday 19th January**

www.painswickbeacon.org.uk
for current issue and archive, the annual directory and village maps.

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All copy must include author, address and contact telephone number. Photographs and advertising art work original at 600dpi in JPEG

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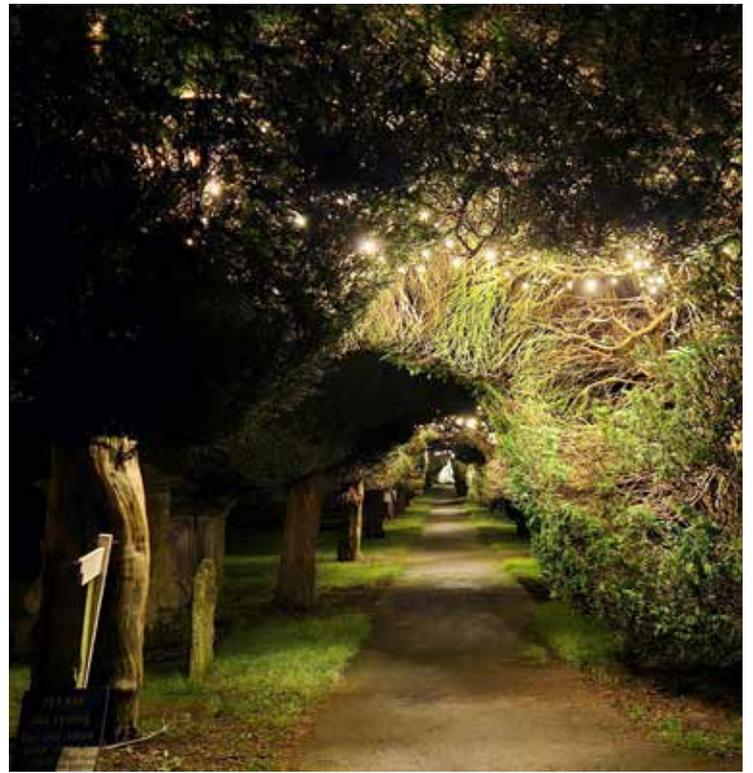
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New Christmas lights in Churchyard

There are 13 new yew trees lit this year thanks to many donations, some anonymous but also from Ishbel Macpherson, Probus Society, the Painswick Centre and Painswick Parish Council. Rector Sarah Haslam wishes to thank the team of volunteers (my 'tree angels'!) who have been helping to recharge the batteries over the past weeks. A definite community effort all round. We, of course, would welcome more contributions for next year.

There are two schemes designed and supplied by Phil Ions of Corelighting.

1. The pathway from the Church to the Lychgate for the most dramatic effect where the trees are lit on the outside and are visible from most aspects including the road.
2. The path from the Church to the Town Hall where a tunnel of light has been created by lighting the insides of the linked yew trees with canopies joining over the path. The scheme took around half a day to install with a small team of helpful village folk. They are rechargeable battery powered units using lightweight lithium ion battery packs and need to be recharged every 4 days. The original system had much heavier batteries and needed to be recharged every day.



The picture shows the Christmas display at the Beacon Bar and Kitchen at the Painswick Golf Club. Matthew Twinning's mother had collected all these decorations, some lit and some with moving parts, over her lifetime.