

The Painswick Beacon

Volume 49 Number 2

May 2026

Good Friday Procession of Witness

There was a good turnout for the annual procession of witness arranged by Churches Together Around Painswick finishing in the Town Hall where everyone was treated to drinks and hot cross buns courtesy of Painswick Community Support.



Christian Aid 2026



Christian Aid week runs from 10th to 16th May this year. In addition to the envelope collection by volunteers around the village there are the following events through which you can help to support the work of Christian Aid:

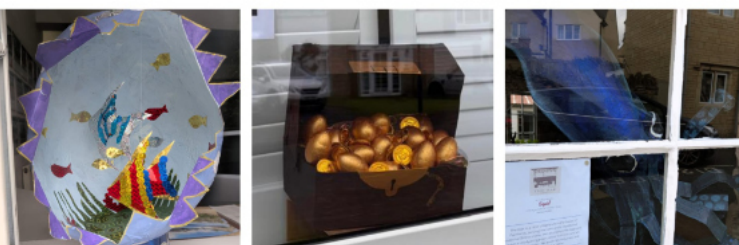
Sunday 10th May: Garden Shop 11am - 4.30pm outside the Church Rooms and Cream Teas 12.00 - 4.30pm in the Church Rooms.

Tuesday 12th May Salmon Supper 7.30pm in the Church Rooms. Tickets £25 in advance 01452 812966

'Coral' Anniversary Easter Egg Hunt



We celebrated Painswick Playgroup's 35th 'Coral' anniversary at this year's Painswick Easter Egg Hunt. As per tradition, eggs decorated to the underwater / coral theme were placed in windows around the village for the popular egg trail, and our fair on Easter Saturday saw the return of the popular teddy bear tombola, raffle and the Painswick Bake Off. The event raised much needed funds in support of our village playgroup - we are so grateful for the many volunteers and visitors who helped make the event a huge success! We hope to see you again next year!



LOCAL COUNCIL NEWS – from the Parish Council meetings held on Wednesday 15th April

reported by Alex Milner

PLANNING COMMITTEE

Present: Cllrs Andy Cash (Chair), Ann Daniels, Sandra Hunkin, Ian Massey, Rosie Nash and Roey Parker.

Apologies were received from Cllrs James Cross, Fraser Leggate, Fiona Mackenzie-Jenkin and Robin Roberts.

There were no Declarations of Interest. The minutes of the meeting held on 18th March were approved.

Applications:

a. Greenacres, Cheltenham Road. Erection of detached garage and store. The Committee agreed to object to this application as the size and height of the proposed garage will have an overbearing impact on the neighbouring property.

b. S.26/0452/HHOLD Mirfield, Stroud Road. Erection of garage (revised design and materials following S.24/1144/H-HOLD). The Committee agreed to neither agree to support or object to this application and ask that it is referred to the Conservation Officer for specialist advice.

The Committee agreed to support the following applications.

c. & d. S.26/0406/LBC S.26/0405/H-HOLD The Grange, Sheepscombe. Erection of a replacement single storey side extension, alterations to fenestration, reinstatement chimney, internal alterations and restoration of outbuilding.

e. S.26/0430/TPO The Old Exchange, Stroud Road. T1 Lime tree - reduce the tree by 10m.

f. S.26/0546/TCA 3 Court Orchard. T1 Beech - Crown reduction works, height reduction of 3m and spread by 3m. T2 Copper Beech - Crown reduction works, reduction of 3m. T3 Beech - Crown reduction works, height reduction of 3m and spread by 3m.

The next Planning Committee meeting was set for 20th May at 7.00pm in the Town Hall.

PARISH COUNCIL

Present: Cllrs Andy Cash (Chair), Ann Daniels, Sandra Hunkin, Ian Massey, Rosie Nash and Roey Parker.

Apologies were received from Cllrs James

Cross, Selina Gibb, Fraser Leggate, Gary Luff, Fiona Mackenzie-Jenkin and Robin Roberts.

There were no Declarations of Interest in any items on the agenda.

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 18th March were approved.

Reports: The County Council and District Council reports are both available on the Parish Council website.

Chairman's Report: An update was given on real-time passenger information signs: solar-powered signs have been confirmed as a suitable option for the proposed bus stops. Regarding grant requests, it was proposed that the request for St John's Church be funded from last year's ward precept. Slad ward precept funds have been allocated towards the costs of the gates and associated signage. Members were informed that Irena has a knee injury and will be absent for a period of time; a locum clerk will provide cover from 24th April. Regarding Slad, the contractor is being chased to confirm an installation date for the defibrillator. It was also noted that the Slad Gates are expected to arrive within the next few days and installation will be requested from Highways once delivery has been confirmed.

Telephone Kiosk Working Group: Cllr Fiona Mackenzie-Jenkin's report provided the following update: A quotation has now been received for the electricians to install the PIR and a new ceiling light. A formal quotation request for design and production of the stained glass has been issued. Further outreach has been made to the Cotswold Way Association to see if they are willing to produce a bespoke sized map of Painswick for the kiosk. The project was presented at the Painswick Valleys Conservation Society Meeting on 14th April.

Next steps: Confirm with the electrician if the proposed light is motion activated or 'always on' to help illuminate the stained glass. PIR unit to be tested in situ to ascertain how well the automated pre-recording operates in the kiosk. Parish Handyman to be consulted regarding the logistics of installing the stained glass and contact to be made with the Painswick

History Society for help in creating a script for the audible history of Painswick and supplying images for the map.

Cemetery Lodge Restoration project: The Clerk reported that a site visit had been conducted today. The Council unanimously agreed to approve a quote for the water piping as this is an urgent matter and an Extraordinary Council Meeting will be held to consider other options and further works quotations.

GRCC Gloucestershire Village of the Year 2026 Competition: Categories for entry agreed as Community-led Health and Wellbeing, Climate and Environment, Volunteering and Skills in the Community plus the High Sheriff's Young Person's Overcoming Adversity Award if a suitable candidate is proposed.

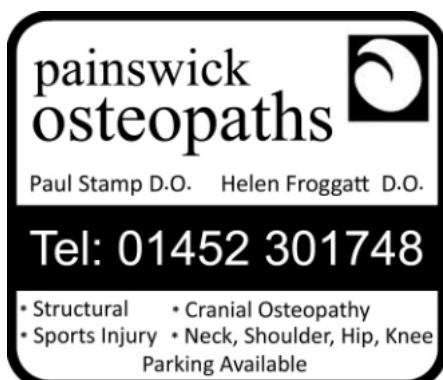
An invitation for community input for each of the categories will be posted on the Painswick Community Facebook with a deadline of 30th April. Anne-Marie Randall, local photographer and co-owner of Handmade in Painswick has kindly offered to create a photo reel to accompany the entry again. Any suitable project or initiative images such as the Community Support dinners, images from the Beacon Conservation Society, would be very welcome.

Recommendations of the Rural Environment Committee (1st April 2026): The Council agreed to use the GRCC Village of the Year prize winnings to fund some planters for the memorial land, bus shelters and village finger signpost. The Council also agreed to appoint Cllr Rosie Nash as the Lead Councillor for the planting project.

Accounts: The Council approved the accounts for payment.

Painswick Beacon Conservation Group: Cllr Ian Massey updated the Council on the group's activities particularly the cattle.

Painswick Library: Cllr Roey Parker reported that a meeting will be held with two students from Stroud Art College looking at ways to make the entrance to the library more appealing.



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Ward reports:

Sheepscombe: Cllr Sandra Hunkin reported that the leak in the Highway by the Village Hall has still not been completed and she is consulting with the Highways Manager. Cllr Roey Parker reported that a project to store the Village archives in the Village Hall was being considered.

Slad: Cllr Robin Roberts reported that Slad Society Easter events were successful and well attended; traffic and speedwatch: the revised drawing for the Gateways was supplied and approved and is being put in manufacture; Highways: an RTA with potential serious consequences again in the village (awaiting police

report). Due mainly to poor parking close to the pub, impatience and bad signage. GCC Highways has been contacted because of a dangerous footpath and guarding adjacent to the Woolpack. Now in the programme for 2026/7 but pressure needs to be put on Highways because of the busy area involved. Frustration has been expressed regarding road closure signs which have no bearing on timing or work being carried out; timings awaited for the kiosk and defibrillator; Areas of PPC land: refixing of council waste bin requested. A working party has been put together to retrieve the abandoned public bench at Bulls Cross for a community

space in Slad (an attempt is being made to find relatives of those identified on the plate); Slad pond is drying up again and is being monitored.

Painswick: Cllr Rosie Nash expressed her concern about the lack of signage warning drivers in Vicarage Street that it is unsuitable for large vehicles; this matter will be deferred to the Traffic Committee for further consideration. Cllr Nash also raised concerns about the use of the Arc as an Airbnb.

The next meeting of the Council was set for Wednesday 20 May at 7.30pm in the Town Hall.

May Activities

May will bring something a little different at Rococo Garden, where a range of seasonal activities are planned.

On 16 May, the garden will host an "En Plein Air" painting competition, turning the grounds into an open-air studio for the day. Visitors can wander through the garden and watch artists at work as they capture its character and spring colour. The competition is open to 2D artists of all ages, abilities and styles -from experienced painters to those simply keen to have a go -making it an accessible and creative event for participants and observers alike.



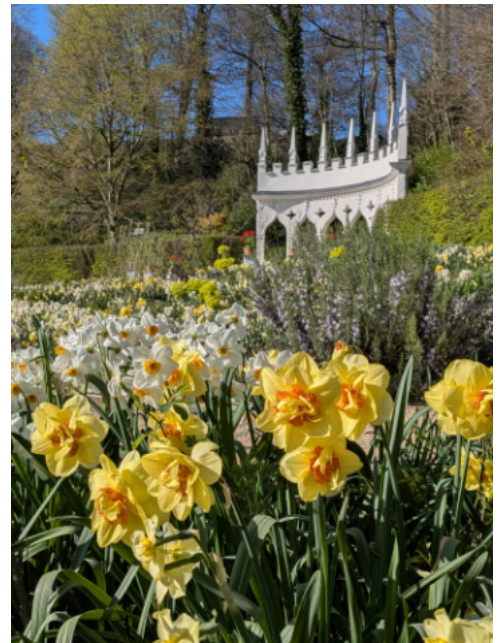
Later in the month, from 23rd - 31st May, 'Buzzy's Bee Busy Trail' offers a family-friendly half-term activity. Children are invited to follow Buzzy the honey bee through winding paths and hidden corners, using their senses to explore nature. The trail encourages young visitors to spot wildlife, listen to the sounds of the garden, and engage with the textures and colours of the season, all while learning about the importance of pollinators.

Additional activities a special 'Bee Day' on 30 May, featuring a live observation hive, beeswax candle rolling, short talks and honey tasting. These activities aim to give a closer understanding of bees and how they support our environment.

The garden itself provides plenty to enjoy at a relaxed pace. As the last surviving Rococo garden in England designed purely for pleasure, it features rolling lawns, ornamental follies and quiet corners to explore. Late May is a particularly colourful time, with Aquilegia (Columbine), Iris and Sweet William in bloom, alongside fresh growth in the Kitchen Garden.

The garden is open Wednesday to Sunday (and daily during the half-term week), from 10am to 5pm.

Marta Gardner



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Memories of the Pin Mill (1974-1978)

Episode 6: The Three-Day Week

As some readers may remember, the 1970s were years of major industrial strife. In 1974, the coal miners went on strike, and Edward Heath's government implemented a 3-day week to conserve the energy consumed by commercial businesses. The Pin Mill was no exception, and we were allocated Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays as the days when we could run the machines. This wasn't at all to my liking - I hated the idea of working on Saturday (missing Tiswas, Football Focus and Grandstand!), and it looked as if I would only be paid for 3 days per week. On the days without electricity, we were able to pack by hand, but would quickly run out of paper clips because the machines weren't running to produce them. To be fair to Jack Smyth, he gave several (perhaps all) of us the opportunity to work on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, doing mundane, manual tasks. I remember stamping thumb rings* one at a time on a manual press. This was operated by a lever that you pulled across your body using your right arm. You could maybe produce 10 per minute. This machine resembled a piece of kit that you'd find in a gym today. It certainly did wonders for my biceps and pecs - but only those on my right side!

**Thumb rings are reinforcements for the holes in the spines of Lever Arch Files. They allow you to pull the file from a tightly-packed shelf. Their individual value is minimal.*

On the days when we couldn't run the machines it was very quiet down the Mill. Any noise vanished into the open space of the factory. We listened to Radio 1 throughout the day, from Noel Edmonds through Tony Blackburn and Johnny Walker, ending up with "Diddy" David Hamilton. The problem was that they were all pretty much the same show - playing the same songs, just in a different order. Some of the tracks were good - Roll Away the Stone, The Joker, Seven Seas of Rhye... But don't get me started on the Bay City Rollers or Paper Lace - 4 times a day, every day, for weeks! I can never erase these songs from my memory. My specialist subject on Mastermind could be "The UK Pop Charts in 1974".



Eric Harris

Thumb ring

Flowers for The Weekend!



Some of you may remember we used to sell weekly flower posies at Meggie's, (the gift shop that used to be behind The Falcon.) I have often been asked if I can continue selling flowers elsewhere in the village & so when Juniper Coffee Shop opened in December 2025, owner Lucy John & I trialled selling weekly flowers! The response was amazing and we have been delighted to continue this joint venture!

We deliver a limited number of fresh, seasonal bunches of flowers (£22 each) to Juniper Coffee Shop most Thursday/Fridays.

They tend to sell out quickly, but you can reserve or prepay for them anytime to pick up at the next delivery.

We also offer larger gift bouquets for preorder and collection at Juniper for Mother's Day, Valentine's Day, Easter and Christmas.

Emma Thompson

Library Book Club

The next meeting of the library book club is Monday May 11th, from 1.30-2.30. We will be discussing *The Land in Winter* by Andrew Miller.



We will then meet on Monday 8th June to discuss *This Must Be The Place* by Maggie O'Farrell. For further information email painswick.library.bookclub@gmail.com

Pat Andrew

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Kerry's Ultra Marathons

This year, Kerry, one of our practice nurses here at Painswick Surgery, is taking on an incredible challenge. Starting on Saturday the 4th of April, Kerry will be running an ultramarathon a month for 6 months, totalling 210 miles and 23,515 ft of elevation, to raise funds for 'Let's Talk Well'.

Kerry writes: "Why? 'A reason why' is a hugely talked about aspect of endurance events – a reason you're pushing your body and mind beyond its comfort zone, and I couldn't think of a more worthy one; I believe every young person deserves someone to talk to. That's why I'm raising funds for 'Let's Talk Well', supporting young people and families across Gloucestershire with mental health and wellbeing services."



If you would like to know more about Kerry's journey, or to donate to this most worthy cause, please visit <https://www.justgiving.com/page/kerry-riddiford-runs6> or scan the QR code below.

We are all very proud of you, Kerry!

Jenny Vallely

Postal History Exhibition

Everyone in Painswick is invited to an open meeting and exhibition of the Stroud & District Philatelic Society about Painswick Post Office and Postal History of the District based on the extensive collection of Trevor Radway. Bring your own items to show and share.

At St Mary's Church Rooms on Thursday 21st May at 7.30 pm Admission free

Martin Slinger

Downton House Garden - May Opening

Wednesday 13th and Thursday 14th May 2025 10.30am-3.30pm

The garden at Downton House, Painswick (entrance in Hollyhock Lane) is opening on Wednesday 13th and Thursday 14th May for the National Garden Scheme (NGS).



Downton House garden opened in 2025 at the end of May and we had good weather which always means good attendance. We raised £2,000 which went towards the record-breaking £3.8 million which the NGS donated last year to nursing charities including Macmillan Cancer Support, Marie Curie, Parkinson's UK and the Carers Trust. The NGS is the largest private donor to national Nursing charities and every visit to an open garden helps raise money for these essential organisations.

This year, members from the Carers Trust will join us in the garden so they can explain exactly how they help support unpaid carers. Many of us will know all about how hard it can be to look after an ill relative at home and will be interested to learn more about their work.

Julie from Exedra Nursery will be selling plants on both days. Coffee, tea and home-made cake available – all proceeds to the Carers Trust. Limited wheelchair access only. Dogs on leads welcome.

Jane Kilpatrick

Gardening Club

Dazzling Dahlias

On Wednesday, April 8th, we were treated to a double bill! Having come some distance, from East Devon, Bella Given offered two talks. Starting at 6 pm, with "Dazzling Dahlias", Bella shared her passion for dahlias presenting her favourite colour combinations, how to grow them and present them as exciting, varied displays. After a break for a drink and chat, with homemade scones, Bella progressed to pot combinations, many, of course, including dahlias! But with a range of other plants such as physocarpus, amelanchier, cornus and choisya. She recommended using 45-inch diameter pots since larger pots did not need watering as frequently and could take several plants giving a colour co-ordinated effect. Bulbs could be planted densely in layers to give a continuing spring show.



Next month, we have Helen Picton coming on Wednesday, May 13th to talk 'Fronzy Friends'. Old Court Nurseries & The Picton Garden is a small family run plant nursery and garden. They hold the Plant Heritage National Plant Collection of Michaelmas daisies with more than 430 varieties but also of Polypodiums - a genus of evergreen or wintergreen ferns. So it will be the ferns Helen will be talking to us about, this time!

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 – Wednesday evening 13th May.

Joyce Barrus

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News from St Marys

Thy Kingdom Come in May

Following a fabulous Easter at Painswick, our benefice church family continues to celebrate Jesus's resurrection and what it means for us with great joy. As well as our usual activities and worship services we look forward to gathering together for a celebratory Ascension Day Service, this year at St James the Great, Cranham at 6.30pm on Thursday 14th May.



Ascension Day is marked by the church to commemorate the bodily ascension of Jesus into heaven. Jesus's parting instruction to his disciples was to wait and pray for God's Holy Spirit to come - which then fell on the believers gathered in Jerusalem at Pentecost after 10 days of prayer, marking the birth of the early church.

In more recent years, Ascension Day also kickstarts the global prayer movement started 10 years ago called 'Thy Kingdom Come', which we will also be joining in with. When we pray for Thy Kingdom to Come we are praying for Christ to rule our hearts and our world so that earth becomes a place of peace, justice and love. As part of this, churches across the world are challenged to pray daily for 5 people to come to faith in Jesus: will you pray, too?

I hope you will join us during this important season of prayer. Everyone is welcome to come to our Thy Kingdom Come Prayer and Praise service at St Mary's on Tuesday 19th May at 7pm, and whatever you do, don't miss the opportunity to come to our worship service with baptism on Sunday 24th May at 11am to celebrate Pentecost.

Revd Sarah Haslam

The Bible Course

From mid-January until the end of March, the Church Rooms hosted an 11-week Alpha course which saw nearly 50 people of all ages coming together to learn and share questions about the Christian Faith.

Hungry for more, people have been asking me what next, so I'm delighted to announce we will be running The Bible Society's excellent 8 week Bible Course, which gives an overview of the whole bible through a series of half-hour videos and question opportunities. There won't be shared meals this time, but cake and coffee look set to be on offer!

If you would like to come, or to find out more, please telephone Anna on 01452 814795, 07356 246338, alternatively email her at beaconbeneficeoffice@gmail.com The Bible Course starts on Monday 11th May at 7.30pm at The Church Rooms, Painswick.

Revd Sarah Haslam



Painswick Community Support

Fraud Awareness and Advice

Want to be more savvy about scams via emails, texts and unexpected phone calls etc which are unfortunately becoming increasingly more plausible?

Come and chat to Rhiannon Parker, Gloucestershire's Fraud Protection Officer, who will be visiting the Community Hub on Friday, May 22nd at the Town Hall between 10am and 11.30am along with Nicola Wood, our Police Community Officer. Rhiannon will be chatting to guests about fraud, giving advice and tips, answering any questions you may have and handing out information leaflets.

If you need help or support or have any questions, please call or email us (mobile: 07956203087, email: painswickcommunity@gmail.com). Our phone is manned 7 days a week from 9am to 5pm.

Delyth, Hannah and Louise

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Murder Cases to Die For

On 2nd April the members of the Painswick Valley Probus Club were treated to an entertaining and informative talk entitled "Murder Cases to Die For" given by our fellow member the former High Court Judge Sir Alistair MacDuff. In considering three very different cases with which he had dealt it was made clear that in the great majority of such cases the victim was known to the perpetrator, either as a family member or through involvement with organised crime. Notwithstanding the serious and sensitive nature of the subject, his talk was punctuated with amusing and informative asides. The somewhat gruesome theme was continued on 16th April when Angela Dunsby of the John Moore Museum in Tewkesbury spoke on "The Deadliest Deaths", a comprehensive summary of the different forms of judicial execution throughout the ages - and most unpleasant they were! Suffice to say that straightforward hanging and beheading sounded positively benign compared with most other methods. Longer reports of these talks are on the Club's website painswickprobus.org.uk, where membership details and information about forthcoming events can also be found. Our next meeting will be at the Beacon Hall on 7th May when Painswick resident Mark Ross will talk on "Introducing AI", a subject which many of us would like to be better informed about. Then on 21st May Martin Robins will speak about Sir George Dowty and the Dowty Engineering Group, and on 4th June Douglas Butler will address the club on "The Mutiny on the Bounty".



Robin Vick

Litter Pickers of Painswick

Question

Where could you find a barbecue set, two sets of tent poles, a disassembled kitchen unit, more than 30 plastic and glass bottles, 15 golf balls, 3 packets of used nappies, more than 40 bags full of dog poo, a large bucket and at least 10 rubbish bags full of sundry plastic packaging?

Answer

Take ten volunteers, equip them with litter pickers and let them loose on the Beacon around Cat Brain Quarry and the A46 near Paradise and after an hour and a half you have filled the back of a pick-up.



The satisfaction from cleaning this area is somewhat reduced by the knowledge that, though all of us can accidentally drop litter, the majority of this debris is deliberately and wilfully discarded without any thought as to how this might affect others who visit this beautiful and special place.

The Litter Pickers of Painswick meet on the third Monday of the month to continue this work and you are welcome to join them. Thanks due this month to Councillor Gill Thomas (SDC's Queen of litter) and her team who added



to the numbers and arranged removal of the rubbish mountain created and whose photos are shown.

Details from Har Houghton 07774620802

Alternatively, if you don't have the time, but would like to show your appreciation, then you can make a donation to POSY (Painswick Oncology Support Year 2026). Your donation will help towards the building of a new, much needed Oncology unit in Cheltenham <https://www.gloshospitals.nhs.uk/charity/news-and-events/news/our-175m-big-space-cancer-appeal-launches-to-transform-cancer-care-in-gloucestershire/>.

The Litter Pickers have agreed that POSY can collect such donations from now until the end of 2026. Whatever the amount, whether it be a few pounds per month, or a one-off contribution, POSY will be extremely grateful. To contribute, or for more detail, please contact Judie Hill on judehill01@gmail.com

Richard Aspinall and Judie Hill

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Anti-social Behaviour on the Beacon



Recently there have been an increasing number of incidents where deliberate damage has been caused on the golf greens, fairways and associated grassy banks. There have always been issues with bicycles, but now e-scooters and e-trail bikes (without pedals) are regularly being used within the area of the hill fort. Putting greens have been severely damaged, signs and marker posts ripped out, and environmentally sensitive banks damaged by being used as jumps. These bikes are so powerful and heavy that damage is caused very easily. The police have responded to 999 calls whilst the offence was occurring. Photographs and videos have been taken and sent to the police. We would urge anyone who witnesses this vandalism to contact the police. The use of e-trial bikes is illegal on public roads, but legislation is lagging behind their rise in popularity.



There is often misunderstanding concerning the legal status of the Beacon. Let me briefly explain.

It is private land owned by the Blow family that is identified as common land and as such is governed by some very old laws, which can vary from common to common.

More relevantly, it is a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and is protected by the primary legislation of The Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981. It is a CRIMINAL offence to wantonly or recklessly cause harm or damage to any plant, animal, or their habitats.

More recently, the Countryside & Rights of Way Act (CROW) of 2000 created areas of Open Access land. These are marked on OS maps with an orange line. The public are allowed to roam on foot, but horses and bikes are specifically excluded without the permission of the landowner. They are only allowed to use the statutory bridleways. Other activities are excluded, including powered vehicles, fires and BBQs and metal detecting, to mention a few.

The area of the Hill Fort is protected by English Heritage and again horses and bikes are specifically excluded from using it.

The golf club lease the course from the landowner, even though it is open access land and has the Cotswold Way running through it. This can lead to conflicts between users which are difficult to resolve. However, with respectful understanding of each other's needs this can be avoided.

Paul Baxter

Jottings

Bracken

Bracken is a tall green fern very common with large triangular leaves, found in woodland and on commons and heathland where it becomes very dominant. It has a single stem above ground and it turns brown in the winter. Most other ferns grow in clumps, but this one spreads by rhizomes underground, in woodland and out in open spaces. It can grow in great swaths up to a quarter of a mile over heathland reaching heights of one and a half metres. Spores spread far and wide in the wind starting growth in new areas. Bracken needs to be controlled because it can spread quite quickly. Farmers used to manage this by burning in the winter.

Bracken does cause health issues in humans and animals if eaten because it contains toxins which are potentially carcinogenic. It is dangerous to cattle if eaten in large amounts. It can harbour sheep ticks. In winter when it is brown it is a good mulch and adds potash and nitrogen to the soil. It can be cut, baled and used as animal bedding because it can soak up liquids. Further north where there is no wheat or reed it can be used for thatching. It makes good compost.

In its growing period many small mammals, birds and insects such as butterflies feel safe within it. Years ago it was used in the making of glass, and covering potato and mangle clamps to keep out the frost.

Old stems can break up into like spears as the plants are dying back in the autumn. I remember, as a youngster, running outside in short trousers and rolled up sleeves, sharp spikes piercing the skin. I had to go to the doctor to get them out.

Martin Slinger

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Celebrating Ann Williams



On the 2nd April a special meeting was held to celebrate, with music extracts, the forty plus years Ann Williams had devoted to Painswick and inter alia Friday Club and PMAG. A joint meeting, the brainchild of Jane Rowe, brought the two societies together in a full Town Hall which also welcomed Ann's sister Vivian Wright and a number of her long standing neighbours.

Later in the month PMAG enjoyed a delightfully illustrated talk by Jenny Buckland taking as her subject Samuel Coleridge-Taylor and placing him in the context of some of his lesser known contemporaries. For many years, sadly after his death, his Song of Hiawatha (a setting of Longfellow) was the annual event of the London concert season from which his family did not benefit as early on he had sold the performance rights. This did not prevent him from calling his son Hiawatha! He also had a daughter, Avril, whom he thankfully did not name Minnehaha. Born in 1903, Avril Coleridge-Taylor became a talented composer and conductor in her own right and lived and composed until 1998. She is only now being researched and recorded by Radio 3 and the music industry. Sadly with her father's early demise in 1912, perhaps partly brought on by exhaustion, he did not live to see the fruition of her talents. This was one of the most enjoyable presentations of the season, which will conclude with the AGM on 30th April.

Next meetings 2:30 PM in the Town Hall:-

Commencing Thursday September 17th Programme to follow soon.

Sadly as the Beacon goes to press we hear of the sad loss of close friends Lawrence Turner and Denise Magauran. Both were supporters of PMAG and many will recall the piano recitals Lawrence hosted generously in his own home. We offer our sympathies to both their families.

Michael Grey



Painswick Summer Evening Art Walks Are Back!

The much-loved Painswick Summer Evening Art Walks return on 28th May, 25th June, and 30th July, from 5.30-7.30pm.

These relaxed, sociable evenings are a wonderful opportunity to explore the village with family and friends while discovering the work of Painswick's talented community of artists and makers. Studios and local businesses will open their doors to showcase a wide variety of artwork.

Highlights include Handmade in Painswick on Bisley Street which showcases the work of a range of local artists and artisans, alongside artist Aly Lloyd's fine art studio. Renowned local artist Jane Garbett will open her studio on Vicarage Street, and the art studios at the Painswick Centre, and Rupert Aker's The Loovre on St Mary's Street are not to be missed.

Many local businesses and cafes will also display curated artwork, and you will also be able to meet the artists who will be there to talk about their work. Local water colourist Sarah Middleton will open her home on Vicarage Street to showcase her work during the May event, and she will lead free guided Art Walks, leaving from the Painswick Centre at 6.30pm during the June and July events.

Visitors can enjoy live music outside the Painswick Centre, as well as refreshments from local cafés and a street food van. Consider rounding off the evening at one of our excellent local eateries, The Oak, The Falcon, St Michael's and the Painswick Hotel.

We hope you can join us for these enjoyable summer evenings celebrating art, community and creativity in Painswick.



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Beacon Hall – Help Us Dress the Windows (and the Hall!)

If you've ever been in Beacon Hall during a busy event, you'll know it has a life of its own – voices bouncing, laughter rising, and a real sense of community filling the space. But there's one part of the hall quietly asking for a little love: the high windows.

At the moment, these windows are fitted with blinds. Practical, yes... but not quite doing the job we need. They do little to soften the acoustics, keep the warmth in, or add to the look and feel of the hall. The Trustees are keen to replace them with full curtains – something that will transform the space visually, improve sound quality, and make the hall warmer and more welcoming for everyone who uses it.

There's just one catch: it's not a small job, and it won't be cheap.

So, we're turning to the people who make Beacon Hall what it is – you.

We're looking for support in a few different ways:

- **Donations** to help fund the materials and installation
- **Material contributions** – suitable fabric or lining that could be used
- **Skilled volunteers** who might be able to help design, measure, cut, or sew the curtains

Whether you're handy with a sewing machine, have a stash of fabric waiting for the right project, or simply want to chip in a few pounds, every bit of help moves this from idea to reality.

This is a chance to leave a lasting mark on the hall – something that will be seen, felt, and appreciated at every film night, event, and gathering.

If you'd like to get involved, please get in touch with the Trustees via ceri.chaplin@painswickcentre.com

Let's work together to give Beacon Hall the finishing touch it deserves.

Move, Stretch, Breathe... and Eat: Life at The Painswick Centre

If your body has been quietly requesting a bit more movement (or loudly protesting after a walk up the hill), The Painswick Centre has a rich and welcoming programme of fitness and wellbeing activities ready to meet you exactly where you are.

And if your stomach has also been making requests... you're in luck there too.

From energising classes to flavour-packed takeaway evenings, the Centre is becoming a hub not just for movement and mindfulness, but for community and good food.

A class for everybody

The fitness programme blends movement with enjoyment. Pilates sessions range from gentle, restorative classes through to improvers' and more structured classical Pilates, helping develop strength, flexibility

and posture. Yoga classes offer everything from slower, nurturing sessions to flowing practices that connect breath and movement.

For those who prefer something more upbeat, Zumba brings rhythm and fun, while strength and conditioning circuits provide a supportive environment to build fitness and confidence. Tai Chi offers a slower, mindful approach, ideal for improving balance and mobility.

Importantly, classes are inclusive and welcoming, with experienced instructors creating a relaxed atmosphere where beginners feel just as comfortable as regulars.

Wellbeing beyond exercise

The Centre's wellbeing offer goes further than movement alone. Alongside yoga and Pilates, there are opportunities to explore treatments such as massage and reflexology – creating space not just to move, but to properly unwind.

It's a place where fitness and wellbeing sit side by side, rather than in separate lanes.

Thursday nights = takeaway nights

Adding a delicious twist to the weekly rhythm, The Painswick Centre hosts regular Thursday takeaway evenings (5pm–8pm).

Recent and upcoming highlights include:

- Taste of Punjab
- Burgerlish
- Miniyaki
- BBQ Society

These evenings are proving popular, offering a simple idea done well: good food, locally, without needing to cook. Perfect after a class... or instead of one (no judgement).

More than just classes

What makes the Centre special isn't just the timetable, but the atmosphere. It's a place to meet people, build routines, and feel part of something local and supportive.

With sessions and events running throughout the week, there's always something happening – whether you're there to stretch, socialise, or sample something from the takeaway menu.

Give it a go - Whether you're looking to move more, relax more, or simply eat well without washing up, there's something at The Painswick Centre for you.

For full details, class times, wellbeing services and upcoming events, visit

<https://www.painswickcentre.com/fitness-classes/>
<https://www.painswickcentre.com/wellbeing/>

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Ceri Chaplin

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Wick-Flix Returns with Feel-Good Film Night

Wick-Flix is back at the Painswick Centre on Friday 8th May, bringing another enjoyable evening of film, community and atmosphere to the village — this time with the uplifting feature *The Choral*.



This warm and engaging film follows a group of ordinary people brought together through a shared love of singing. As rehearsals progress, individual stories begin to unfold — from personal challenges to unexpected friendships — all building towards a final performance that means far more than just music. With humour, heart and a gentle emotional pull, *The Choral* is a celebration of connection, resilience and the joy of coming together.

Wick-Flix offers a relaxed bistro-style cinema experience, with tables, drinks and a welcoming atmosphere that makes for a great night out. Whether you come with friends or meet people on the night, it's a sociable and enjoyable way to experience film locally.

Tickets

Advance booking via the Painswick Centre website is encouraged, with discounted tickets at £9.50. Tickets will also be available on the door for £10 (subject to availability).

Free Raffle

All attendees will be automatically entered into a free prize raffle, adding an extra touch of fun to the evening.

Come along, enjoy a great film, and support a fantastic local initiative — Wick-Flix is all about making the most of something special right here in Painswick.

Ceri Chaplin

Lego Builders Club

We will be running the Lego Builders Club on Mondays 3.30 – 4.30, but with the Bank Holidays this month there are only two dates – 11th and the 18th May. Please register at the Library or ring us up on 01452 814744.



Join the Trustees !

We would love to have some new blood on the Trustee Board, which with the Volunteers who actually run the Library, are an essential element to keeping the whole show on the road. So if you are interested, please get in touch, either at the Library or by contacting me on iancridland@btinternet.com

Ian Cridland

It's Opals for me!

"Diamonds are a girl's best friend"! Not everyone agrees with this statement and certainly not Helen Plumb who owns and runs "Just Gems" in Winchcombe. Helen, a Fellow of the Geological Society of London and a gemologist of international reputation came to talk to Yew Trees WI members and guests about the "Truth, Lies and Mystery" of Opals. Helen has become bewitched by these beautiful, mysterious, changeable stones and in a fascinating talk she presented the essential scientific details as well as photographs of where and how they are mined. 95% of the world's opals are found in Australia in clay layers underneath sandstone. Coober Pedy, halfway between Adelaide and Alice Springs, being "the opal capital of the world" where due to the extreme desert heat most of the residents live in underground houses. Elsewhere in the world, including Ethiopia, opals are to be found between layers of sediment and volcanic rock. Helen showed us alarming photos of local miners working here in precarious conditions with no obvious protective equipment or adherence to safety standards. We were delighted that Helen had brought with her examples of different sorts of opals for us to examine when the talk was over. By the end of the evening, I think everyone understood Helen's fascination for these intriguing stones, each one unique with its own beautiful kaleidoscope of changing colour.



Our next meeting is on Tuesday 26th May at 7.30 pm in the Church Rooms when Sally Church will talk on "An Introduction to Honey Bees". "

Celia Lougher 812624

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The Good the Bad and the Ugly

On Wednesday 6th May 2.30pm at the Painswick Centre, Gareth Williams will be speaking to us about 'The Good, the Bad and The Ugly: The History of Polio Vaccines' Most medical professionals working today will never have treated a case of polio, but in the past polio killed or paralysed millions, being among the most feared of contagious diseases. Successful vaccines were developed in the mid-1950's and now polio is virtually extinct. The development of the vaccine isn't just a great medical success; it is also a gripping story that provides a window onto the evolution of medical research during the last century. Gareth Williams is a lifelong academic, Emeritus Professor of Medicine at Bristol University, he has written over 200 scientific papers and authored or edited over 20 books.



Swallow - photo David Cramp

This is followed on Tuesday 19th May at 2.30pm in Box Village Hall by David Cramp coming to talk to us about some wonderful summer visitors: 'Swifts, Swallows and Martins' The talk initially seeks to help with the identification of the four species seen regularly in the UK, describes their differing life styles, includes literary references to the birds and briefly mentions other family members which occur commonly abroad but which are rare visitors to the UK. David has had a lifelong interest in natural history and birds in particular. He served for 5 years on the Council of the RSPB and was Chairman of the RSPB's Gloucestershire Local Group for 23 years. He has undertaken bird surveys for the RSPB, BTO and Gloucestershire Naturalists' Society. He is a popular and experienced speaker having over 570 talks to local clubs, societies and other organisations under his belt!

Our bi-monthly gatherings are free to Members but all are welcome (visitors £5 at the door). No need to book, just drop in. Further information about the Club and its activities (including the full list of lectures and Membership details) can be found on the CNFC website www.cotsnatsfield.club.

Sylvia May cnfcsecretary1@gmail.com

Reducing the Risk of Falls with The Friday Club



In March, twenty-nine members of the Friday Club and their friends enjoyed an outstanding production of 'The Gondoliers', performed by the English Touring Opera at a packed Everyman Theatre in Cheltenham. Stunning costumes, amazing choreography and staging, and excellent all-round singing of W.S. Gilbert's tongue-twisting lyrics entertained us. About half of us travelled in early by minibus, completing the outing by having pre-theatre supper together.

Looking ahead, on Friday 15th May at 2.30 pm, we will welcome James Rendell whose talk, 'Cry Havoc and Let slip the Dogs of War', looks back at his time as an RAF Police Dog Handler in the volatile Cold War era of the 1950s. This should prove to be an interesting follow-up to our visit in early May to Croome Park, where the visitor facilities include the RAF Defford Museum. The airfield there was home to Radar Research Flying Unit during the same period.

By way of contrast, we shall be trying to maintain our balance when Nicky Copper from the NHS Falls Assessment Service comes to talk to us about reducing the risk of falls and their devastating impact on older lives. In a departure from our normal day, we shall meet on THURSDAY 28th May at 2.30 pm, in our usual home, The Painswick Town Hall.

Membership is just £20 a year, reduced mid-year, plus £2 per meeting. Contact 812104 for more details. Visitors welcome (£4) - no need to book, please just drop-in and join us for refreshments after the talks.

Jane Rowe 813228

Painswick Ball 2026 ticket news

Thanks to local feedback, we know that many people would like to attend the Ball but would prefer to buy pairs of tickets or groups of tickets less than a full table of ten.

We want the Ball to bring as much of the local community together as possible, so if you are interested in purchasing tickets as a pair or with a group of friends of less than ten, please pop an email over to painswickball@gmail.com and we will try our absolute best to co-ordinate tables and accommodate as many people as possible.

Kelly Howell

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A really good read – and set in Painswick



Imagine walking across the churchyard – in 1820. Different from now? Not much actually. There would have been three or four cottages on the other side of the road from The Falcon and a workhouse and the stocks where the war memorial now stands. Apart from that the scene would have been much the same as we see it now. A recently published novel by American author, Julie Klassen, takes us across the churchyard in 1820 and into Painswick Court (obviously what we know as Court House) for a truly intriguing, definitely gripping, story.

The novel is *Whispers at Painswick Court* and tells the story of a young woman named Anne returning to Painswick, where she spent many happy summers in her childhood, to visit a friend who lives in New Street. Soon after arriving she is asked to serve as a sick-room nurse temporarily for an elderly lady living at Painswick Court, a shadowy old house rumoured to be haunted. The story develops from there into one of scary intrigue, suspense and mystery, but combined too with unexpected romance.

The pace at which the story develops is perfect, holding the reader's attention in increasingly tense expectation. The characters involved are interesting and, in one or two cases, somewhat curious, but all essential to the story. And as for Painswick ... it is very much an essential part of the story and as you read you are definitely right there with Anne, albeit sometimes creepily, as she walks across the churchyard and along the streets we know so well.

Julie Klassen is a renowned writer of Regency romance and mystery and has won several literary awards for her work. *Whispers at Painswick Court* is an impressively accurate picture of Painswick two centuries ago – Julie was determined to ensure that local facts, such as peoples' names and street names, should be correct and the resulting narrative feels comfortably right for the reader, especially the Painswick reader.

Julie will be visiting Painswick on Saturday, 20th June. At the Turning Pages meeting she will read an extract from the book, talk about what inspired her to write it and happily engage in discussion about it. The Falcon, 11.00am – a wonderful opportunity and everyone welcome.

Whispers at Painswick Court is available in Handmade in Painswick's shop in Bisley Street. This is an excellent, very well written story of suspense and intrigue set right in the heart of Painswick. A really good read.

Carol Maxwell

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Painswick Sports

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Painswick Rugby Club

This season has now finished with the Painswick senior team finishing in 5th position in the Gloucester and District league division one. They have played 12 fixtures, winning 5 and losing 7.



Painswick Football Club

The first team is in the Gloucester North senior league division 2 which still has quite a few fixtures to go. To date they are lying in 6th position out of 15, having won 12 lost 8 and drawn 2.



The Reserves team in the Stroud and district league division 4(S) are currently in 3rd position

Painswick Bowls Club Open Day Monday 4th May

Looking for a relaxed and sociable way to spend the Early May Bank Holiday? Painswick Bowls Club warmly invites you to its Open Day on Monday 4th May, starting at 2pm.



Tucked away just behind the Painswick Centre, our friendly village club sits at the heart of the community—though many only discover it after years of walking past and wondering what's behind the hedge! We welcome everyone, whether you're completely new, mildly curious, or already harbouring dreams of sporting glory.

Bowls is a game for all ages and abilities—easy to pick up, quietly addictive, and a great way to meet people. Our members will be on hand to guide you, demonstrate the game, and help you have a go—no experience needed.

You're very welcome to enjoy a relaxed roll-up, with the option to learn more about friendly matches and competitions if you wish.

There'll also be a low-cost bar and BBQ, perfect for catching up with friends and neighbours.

All equipment is provided—just bring flat-soled shoes and your enthusiasm.

Come along, have a laugh, and finally see what's been going on behind there all this time! Everyone is very welcome.

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Painswick Golf report

The Painswick "A" team won their opening match beating Lydney 4:1 in the North Gloucestershire foursomes league.



Painswick senior golfers got their season under way in March under the guidance of new captain Paul Walsh and vice-captain Steve Wellon.

First up twenty players travelled over to play Minchinhampton Old GC with 10 pairings competing for the honours on the day with the home side winning the match 7 & ½ to 2 & ½. Next up Gloucester GC were welcomed to Painswick for our first home fixture and a close game ensued finishing in an honourable draw 3 – 3. Moving into April and Brickhampton GC were the visitors on a lovely spring day, a strong performance led to a first win of the season with a 4 – 2 victory.

The senior ongoing winter competition results were determined and the winner of the Winter Singles was Mahboob Hussain with a score of 189 and the Winter Pairs was won by Gil Locke and Paul Gobey with a score of 214.

The Arthur Paget Trophy played in early April was won by John Hitchcock with a score of 42 points.

A big challenge for a good cause

Simon Thomson is preparing himself for a very big challenge. Why, you might ask. First and foremost it's in aid of a very good cause, and at the same time he'll be putting himself to an irresistible test.

Simon spotted a notice issued by Prostate Cancer UK, a charity whose work potentially affects so many men. It presented a challenge nationally called The Big Golf Race, essentially to raise money for its very worthwhile research. Simon started to play golf about 18 months ago and decided this challenge was well worth taking up – both for the charity and, competitively, for himself. He contacted the charity and signed up, taking on the job of organising a team locally. A date was agreed – Friday, 26th June.

Initially, a small group of friends and relatives agreed to take up the challenge with him – and it certainly is a challenge. Taking place at Gloucester Golf Club, it consists of three rounds of golf in a day, which, just in terms of distance, means about 18 miles. Simon estimates this will take many hours, starting at 6.00am and probably finishing between 7.00-8.00pm, so potentially somewhat exhausting. However, he is determined to face the challenge believing strongly in the cause and looking forward to testing himself.



Within a short space of time Simon's team had, to his surprise, grown into a group of 16 which necessitated some detailed and careful organisation. He explains that they will work in pairs but with some mixing as the day progresses. Timing will be critical especially at the start and finish. Most of the participants are local, as is Simon, with one or two from further afield, and a range of ages from 30 to the 60s is represented. Some of the Painswick participants are Andy Proudman, Will Moir, Charlie and Lucy John, Chris Clement, Jack Philips, Scott Johnson, Paul Finley, Dave Tonge and Ed Andrews. There are also other golfers who are ready to step in in the event of someone having to withdraw. And Chris Hough - a non-golfer but who wants to support the cause – is the caddy.

A group of sixteen players is a lot to organise for this sort of challenge but Simon, and indeed all the participants, are determined to make it a success. The cause for which they aim to raise money, Prostate Cancer UK, is definitely a very worthwhile charity and they are keen to raise as much money as possible. If you would like to be a sponsor go to <https://biggolfrace.prostatecanceruk.org/fundraising/simons-fundraising-page825> or scan the QR code. There are also jars for loose change donations prominently placed in shops and cafes and pubs in Painswick.



Carol Maxwell

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PLANNING MATTERS

Information received from the Parish Council

NEW APPLICATIONS

S.26/0289/HHOLD Greenacres,
Cheltenham Road
Erection of detached garage and store.

S.26/0452/HHOLD Mirfield, Stroud
Road
Erection of garage (revised design and
materials following S.24/1144/HHOLD)

S.25/2059/HHOLD Stable Courtyard
Conversion and extension of garage to
provide staff accommodation to
Painswick Lodge.

S.26/0644/HHOLD Horsepools Piece,
Paul Mead, Edge
Proposed new garage with room above
and new boundary treatments

S.26/0673/OHL Holcombe House
Dismantlement and removal of overhead
lines and the installation of underground
cable.

CONSENT

S.25/2439/HHOLD Bopoto, Slad Road,
Slad

Erection of single storey extensions and
replacement roof to main dwellinghouse.
Extension and alterations to existing
garage. Erection of a garden room.

S.26/0047/FUL Cattle Isolation Unit At
Beech Farm, Beech Lane Construction of
Cattle Isolation Building.

S.26/0192/HHOLD 25 Churchill Way
Alterations and partial conversion to
garage, alterations to the existing front
porch, erection of in-fill extension, in-
stallation of solar panels and alterations
to fenestration.

S.26/0304/LBC & S.26/0303/HHOLD
Coachmans Cottage, Slad Removal of a
redundant chimney.

S.26/0276/TCA Croft House, Gloucester
Street

T1 - Crown reduce western red cedar in
height by 3.5m, radial spread 1.5m due to
significant union with included bark. T2/
T3/T4 - Fell western red cedar whips with
poor height/diameter ratio. T5 (Sycamore)
T6 (Cypress) Fell both trees to
promote growth of adjacent Cedrus tree.
T7 - Robinia - Crown reduce by 6m in
height and 2m in radial spread. T8 & T9 -

Lawson cypress x 2 - Re-reduce by 4.5m
in height & 1m in radial spread

S.26/0402/TCA Tibbiwell House,
Tibbiwell Lane
Crab Apple Tree (T1) - fell.

S.26/0430/TPO The Old Exchange,
Stroud Road
T1 Lime tree - reduce the tree by 10m.

S.26/0546/TCA 3 Court Orchard
T1 Beech - Crown reduction works,
height reduction of 3m and spread by 3m.
T2 Copper Beech - Crown reduction
works, reduction of 3m. T3 Beech -
Crown reduction works, height reduction
of 3m and spread by 3m.

REFUSED

S.26/0141/HHOLD Honeysuckle
Cottage, Far End, Sheepscombe
Erection of a single storey extension and
garage conversion.

Property Report

The opportunity to own a former mill in the Slad valley doesn't come up very often. More than that, Steanbridge Mill (Hamptons, £1.5m) has 5 bedrooms and 2.5 acres of garden and land, including a brook and pond. At The Camp, Hamptons also have two substantial barn conversions available in a gated development at Bidfield Farm. The Granary (£1.15 m) has accommodation over three floors and a garage with workshop and room over, while The Byre (£925,000) is detached with a mature garden and off-road parking.

In Painswick itself, 9 Berry Close (Murrays, £295,000) is a 3 bedroom family home near to The Croft school and nearby, Flat 4 Hyett Orchard (Hamptons, £195,000) is a recently improved second floor apartment in this lift-serviced block with the security of part-time wardens. Tarn House (Hamptons, £895,000) is a 4-bedroom detached house with a double garage and plenty of off-road parking in Court Orchard, a private cul-de-sac and on Cheltenham Road, Stonecroft (Hamptons, £950,000) has gated off-road parking and far-reaching views.

A sale has been agreed on the Granary at Painswick Court via the Modern Method of Auction through Hamptons and contracts have now been exchanged on Hambutts Orchard in Edge Lane.

Mammoths and Stroud Time

The history society welcomed Zoe Wilcox, Documentation and collections officer at Stroud Museum in the park on Tuesday.

Zoe stated that the museum's aim is to cover all aspects within Stroud District Council area through Geology, Architecture, Industrial and Social History. She led us initially to Stroud valley's limestone landscape that guided the way the area evolved.

We were shown dinosaur finds starting with a woolly mammoth tooth found locally, and then fossils dating back to 166 million years ago, including a Megalosaurus femur.

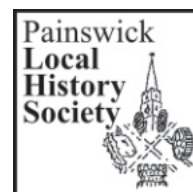
We then progressed to the local Dobunni tribe that were resident throughout Gloucestershire and Somerset in the Iron age and were shown some of the first known minted coinage.

This led onto other artifacts recovered from local property including a stone showing the game 'nine men Morris' and wall paper saved from a Wallbridge house that dated back to early 1700's.

We discussed the Wallbridge painting that hangs in the museum and highlights Stroud at the height of the cloth industry in the late 1790's. Closer inspection shows detailed aspects relating to the cloth manufacturing, which led on to the famous 'Stroud Scarlet' and how it was exported around the world. Other inventions shown included the Cross Cutter that cut the knapp of the cloth, speeding up the process and inspiring the invention of the lawnmower, made locally.

As the industrial revolution progressed the railway opened up the area and we discussed 'Stroud Time' being 9 minutes behind GMT. !! and the Stroud clock by Robert Bragg that set the correct time for Stroud.

We discussed Joan Mary West's collection at the museum, and found that she was a local resident in Painswick, being shown a small quilt that she created. This led on to the forthcoming display for May featuring the Migration story of the area's residents, some who travelled over on the Windrush from Jamaica. This led us nicely back to the origins of the area, as the Windrush river rises in the North of the County among our limestone hills.



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Take-aways available

Karen Goddard

Regular Village Activities. Please contact Vicky Aspinnall 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 5.00 - 6.00pm	
Tuesdays	Paradise Art Studio evening classes. takepart@paradise-house.org.uk	Paradise House 6.30 - 8.30pm	
	Lego Builders Club (excluding Bank Holidays)	Library 3.30 - 4.30pm	
	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 - 1.00pm	
	Rococo Sprites. See www.rococogarden.org.uk	Rococo Garden 9.45 am	
	Wednesdays	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. £5.00/person/session	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	
Weds Pop-In. A friendly place to meet for a cuppa, chat and other activities. Sandra Glass 01452 814186		Town Hall 10.00 - 12.00pm	
Thursdays	Croc N' Roll Children's entertainment with Steph and her books, guitar, puppets story books and bubbles. 1.00/child.	Library 2.30pm	
	Morning Market	Painswick Centre 8.15 - 9.45am	
	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	
	Taichi and Qigong - Perry Loveday 07970 698741	Painswick Centre 2.00 - 3.00pm	
	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	
Fridays	Classical Pilates Mat Classes. Contact Jo on 07968 799741 or info@daleypilates.co.uk	Town Hall 5.45 - 6.45pm	
	Badminton Club. Contact John Barrus - barrusjp@yahoo.co.uk	Painswick Centre 8.00 - 9.30pm	
	Takeaway Food Night	Painswick Centre 5.00 - 8.00pm	
	Yoga for Backs. Contact Kim on yoginikim@icloud.com	Painswick Centre 9.30 - 11.00am	
	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. cgsuain@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	
	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

May

Sat	2	Painswick Beacon published		
	4	Painswick Bowls Club Open Day	Painswick Bowls Club	2.00pm
Tues	5	Morning Prayer	St Mary's Church	9.00am
Wed	6	Holy Communion	Richmond	11.30am
	6	Cotteswold Naturalists: The good, the bad and the ugly; the history of polio vaccines - Gareth Williams. Enq 690989	Painswick Centre	2.30pm
Thurs	7	First Thursday Painswick: Alice Jolly in conversation about her book The Matchbox Girl. Tickets from firstthursdayspainswick.co.uk	Painswick Centre	7.00 for 7.30pm
	7	Probus: Introducing AI - Mark Ross	Painswick Centre	11.00 for 11.30am
Fri	8	Wickflix: The Choral	Painswick Centre	7.00 for 7.45pm
Sat	9	Falcon Bowling Club Open Day	Falcon Bowling Club	2.00pm
Sun	10	Holy Communion	St Mary's Church	9.30am
	10	Family Worship	St Mary's Church	11.00am
	10	Christian Aid cream teas	Church Rooms	12.00 - 4.30pm
	10	Christian Aid garden shop	Church Rooms	11.00 - 4.30pm
Mon	11	Bible Society: The Bible Course	Church Rooms	7.30pm
	11	Library Book Club	Library	1.30 - 2.30pm
Tues	12	Christian Aid salmon supper. Tickets £25.00 in advance 01452 812966	Church Rooms	7.00 for 7.30pm
	12	Morning Prayer	St Mary's Church	9.00am
Wed	13	Downton House NGS Open Garden	Entrance in Hollyhock Lane	10.30 - 3.30pm
	13	Gardening Club: Frondy Friends - Helen Picton	Town Hall	7.00 for 7.30pm
Thurs	14	The Arts Society: Tales from Vienna - Emma Johnson	Painswick Centre	10.00 for 11.00am
	14	Downton House NGS Open Garden	Entrance in Hollyhock Lane	10.30 - 3.30pm
Fri	15	Friday Club: 'Cry havoc and let slip the dogs of war' - James Rendell. Enq 813228	Town Hall	2.30pm
Sat	16	Painswick Music Society: Sir Stephen Hough - piano	St Mary's Church	3.00pm
Sun	17	Holy Communion	St Mary's Church	11.00am
Mon	18	Bible Society: The Bible course	Church Rooms	7.30pm
Tues	19	Cotteswold Naturalists: Swallows, swifts and martins - David Cramp. Enq 07798817193	Box Village Hall	2.30pm
	19	Morning Prayer	St Mary's Church	9.00am
	19	The Well	Church Rooms	7.00pm
Thurs	21	Painswick Community Hub: Fraud awareness and advice with Rhiannon Parker, Glos fraud protection officer.	Town Hall	10.00 - 11.30am
	21	Sherlock Supper	St Mary's Church and Church Rooms	4.30pm
	21	Probus: Sir George Dowty and the Dowty group - Martin Robins	Painswick Centre	11.00 for 11.30am
	21	Philatelic Exhibition	Church Rooms	7.30pm
Fri	22	Painswick Community Hub: Fraud awareness and advice with Rhiannon Parker, Glos Fraud Protection Officer.	Town Hall	10.00 - 11.30am
Sun	24			
	24	Beacon Praise	St Mary's Church	11.00am
Tues	26	Yew Trees WI: An introduction to honey bees - Sally Church	Church Rooms	7.00 for 7.30pm
	26	Morning Prayer	St Marys Church	9.00am
Thurs	28	Friday Club: Reducing the risk of falls - Nicky Copper. Enq 813228	Town Hall	2.30pm
Sun	31	Family Communion	St Marys Church	9.30am

June

Thurs	4	First Thursday Painswick: Arthur Snell in conversation about his book Elemental. Tickets from firstthursdayspainswick.co.uk	Painswick Centre	7.00 for 7.30pm
	4	Probus: Mutiny on the Bounty - Douglas Butler	Painswick Centre	11.00 for 11.30am
Sat	6	Painswick Beacon published		

Historic crimes in May

1836

Ann Arundell, 18, labourer, hair light brown, eyes grey, visage long, complexion dark, two moles on neck, 5ft 2ins. Charged with stealing a silk handkerchief the property of Thomas Gibbs. One month hard labour Horsley House of Correction.



1846

Isaac Ireland, 22, labourer, hair brown, eyes dark, visage long, complexion fresh, lost the sight of the right eye, scars on forehead and chin, 5ft 5ins. Charged with stealing a quantity of swede turnips the property of Rev. Robert Strong. 14 days hard labour or pay 5s 1d and 5s 6d costs.

1876

Daniel Miles summoned for using a gun without a licence. P.C. Read saw the defendant in the act of shooting a bird in a field. Defendant said he had a licence but ultimately admitted this was untrue. His defence was that he was sent out crow shooting. Guilty and fined £2 10s.

James Powell fined 5s and costs 10s for cutting letters with his pocket knife on the dog house of Mr W. Clarke.

1886

William Foxwell, fined 2/6 and 9/- costs for assaulting Ashton Carter with a potato fork.

Edward Painter, 30, labourer, hair grey, 5ft 9ins, religion church, education imperfect. Charged with stealing a pair of boots. Remanded.

1896

Thomas Ireland summoned for assaulting Henry Grosvenor. Complainant alleged he was standing on his doorstep when defendant came and threw him on the ground, shook his fist and said he would beat his brains out. Defendant had had some beer, but was not entirely drunk. Pleaded guilty. Cautioned. Case dismissed.

1906

Thomas Bridgeman, 23, gardener. Guilty of stealing 64lbs rags and 60lbs of iron. 7 days hard labour. Previous convictions.

Carol Maxwell

Help with Plants Required

Spare plants needed - see poster below for full details. Also, can you assist with planting? If you can help please email clerk@painswick-pc.gov.uk

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Condolences

To the family and friends of DAME DR DENISE MARY MAGAURAN who died on April 16th.

To the family and friends of LAWRENCE TURNER who died on April 14th.

Thank you

On Thursday 16th April a service of Celebration was held for dear SUE DUNNETT. St Mary's Church was full and the sun shone. The service was followed by a wake at the Painswick Centre. All the Dunnett family would like to thank you for attending and for the many cards and letters we have received. Sue was fit and well until a few weeks ago and died peacefully on Sunday 15th March aged 83.

Congratulations

To TOBY GREEN, who has recently been named in the 2026 Forbes 30 Under 30 List of successful young entrepreneurs. Toby grew up in Painswick, attended The Croft School and where his parents still live.



He started Catalyst, a London-based advertising agency on his own in 2023 and without outside funding grew the business to more than 50 employees in two and a half years

To KIT KIRBY (former Croft School pupil and Painswick rugby player) and ELLE CHADWICK from Buckinghamshire, both avid Beacon readers who got engaged in February, and plan to get married at home in the Cotswolds next April!

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

MINI - ADS

For sale: Muick Sandy F1 Carbon **light-weight folding mobility scooter**. New, still under warranty bought November 2025, sadly never used. Cost £2,500 would accept £1,800 ono. Tel: 07776 231346.

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

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NEXT ISSUE

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SATURDAY
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Deadline for all copy
Sunday 24th May

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The Beacon Team

Co-ordinating Editor this month

Peter Jackson 07985 002325
beacon@painswick.net

Editing Associates

John Barrus 01452 812942
beacon@painswick.net

Alastair Jollans 07968 743708
beacon@painswick.net

Next Month's Editor

Alastair Jollans 07968 743708
beacon@painswick.net

Diary and Personal Column

Vicky Aspinall 07557 524016
cvasp.26@gmail.com

Feature writer and Directory

Carol Maxwell 01452 813387
features.beacon@painswick.net
directory.beacon@painswick.net

Sport

John Barrus 01452 812942
barrusjp@yahoo.co.uk

Distribution

Sue Delaney 07506 751761
distribution.beacon@painswick.net

Treasurer

Richard Aspinall 07884 214146
treasurer.beacon@painswick.net

Advertising

Peter Rowe 01452 813228
advertising.beacon@painswick.net

Subscriptions

Jacek Wolowiec 01452 813295
subscriptions.beacon@painswick.net

More glimpses of the Easter Egg Hunt

