

The Painswick Beacon

Vol. 28 No.12

March 2006

Save Our Library!

In response to the threat of closure hanging over Painswick Library, the Parish Council rapidly organised a petition. The result was a remarkable 708 signatures gathered over the weekend of 18th/ 19th February.

The petition, which read,

We the undersigned wish to stress the considerable importance of Painswick Library to the local community and urge the County Council to ensure the retention of this facility.

was presented to the County Council by County Councillor Mrs Joan Nash at the County Council's meeting on Wednesday 22nd February.



Consultation?

The County Council has promised consultation before closing any library and the Beacon has done its utmost to report upon that consultative process, particularly with regard to Painswick.

Many of you will recall that the Annual Parish Meeting last year was combined, at the request of Assistant County Librarian Jo Hand, with the opportunity to make known concerns and ideas about the future of our library. The meeting was repeatedly assured that **all suggestions were very welcome and regarded as of true significance to be assessed and to be included in a further consultation** as investigations proceeded, scheduled to be about September last year. No such feedback has occurred; hence we see it as our duty to revisit last month's front page story.

Before and since then various suggestions have been made to enhance use of the library and its premises. We printed eleven of those known to us on the front page last month, and are aware of there also being separate representations by the church wardens who are responsible for the adjacent property. Combine these factors with the remarkable extent of support for the petition to the County Council and the initial response to forming a 'Friends of Painswick Library' and it seems to us that **there is a powerful local resource waiting to be tapped** by those charged with delivering library and associated services to this community - the County Council.

That said, the portents are far from encouraging. Apart from the less than reassuring statement from the County Cabinet Member with responsibility for Libraries we published last month, similar statements were included in the agenda papers to the County Council last week, its budget-setting meeting for 2006-07. Dig deep enough into the GCC web site and you will find that there has already been a decision in principle to close libraries, whilst assuring "... members that appropriate consultation will be undertaken prior to any final decision being made with regard to the closure of two lower used libraries", and, from the Cabinet it "... also confirms that there will be appropriate consultation prior to any library closures".

Some statements beg questions:

- What does 'consultation' mean, and who is to be consulted?
- Which forms of consultation are 'appropriate'?
- Will consultation include ways in which library premises could, with active community support, be kept open?
- Does it include an assessment of how important library-based information services are for the community as a whole, or is determination of closure based exclusively upon the single criterion of number of books stamped as they are withdrawn?
- Does it take into account the extent to which alternative means of delivering limited library and information services - such as a few hours of the mobile library once a week - are really an acceptable alternative?
- Why should a significant rural community such as ours be denied immediacy of access to the full range of services, for which we too are paying?

Friends to the rescue?

There has also been a positive response to last month's front page invitation to readers to indicate whether they would be interested in setting up a possible 'Friends of Painswick Library' group. We received some twenty-five names within a few days, and have carefully filed these pending some indication about the future of the library. If others would like to be included please let the Beacon know.

We were particular last month about not defining just what such a group might do or how it would organise itself. In due course we will get in touch with all and suggest time and place for a get-together.

Caution:

children on the road!



Pupils from the Croft School Reception Class supervised the first twenty of 1200 tons of tarmac to be laid in New Street. Contractors, Ringway, not only issued safety jackets to them all, but carefully timed the event so that the children saw the full range of machinery and skilled workers in action during last week's comprehensive resurfacing of the village centre.

Inside, this month... what drives Painswick round the bend, a dream in Gloucester, a requiem in St Mary's, a hot night in The Centre, YiPPies in Narnia, Mark gets artful, WI do porridge, pond life at the Croft, on the trail of the eggs, poets lost, Miss Pears found, a brief encounter with Ivor Novello and what the Conservatives, Village Idiots and Drama Queens have in common.

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS - by Leslie Brotherton

Reports upon meetings of the Parish Council cannot help but be selective, if only because of space constraints. We try to highlight points of wider interest. The full minutes of Council meetings are available at the Council office on Wednesday and Friday mornings, as well as Painswick Library.

PARISH COUNCIL

SPECIAL MEETING 1st February

Public Meeting – Traffic on A46

The Council met immediately after the public meeting held earlier in the evening to consider matters arising from the consultation which needed to be referred to the County Council's highways officers for any modification to the resurfacing contract for the A46 due to start three weeks later.

The Chairman reported that, after the public meeting, the County Council officer attending, Andrew Turner, had indicated that in his opinion there may be technical reasons why the pavement between Hollyhock Lane and Gloucester Street could not be widened.

The Parish Council discussed whether it should express its views, taking into account the broad consensus of the public meeting that the pavement be widened slightly - in particular to take account of those using wheel-chairs and similar aids, or modify any communication to the County Council to take this new information into account. One member expressed the view that any widening, no matter how slight, could have the effect of lulling pedestrians into a sense of security relative to passing traffic causing them to walk too close to the edge of the pavement.

Upon a proposition from Jason Bullingham it was resolved (with one dissenter and one abstention) not to support any increase in the width of the pavement but to request careful examination of the pavement width and kerbing height at the corner with Gloucester Street.

All other elements of the proposals from the Traffic Committee before the public meeting were referred back to that committee for reconsideration in the light of comments by the public.

The Chairman reiterated his thanks to the chairman of that committee for her work in raising the matters under discussion and the ensuing and exhaustive public debate they had rightly aroused.

Painswick Library

With the permission of the Council, the Chairman raised (as a matter of urgency) concerns that decisions upon the County Council's budget were to be determined on 22nd February and that such were likely to have a direct bearing upon the closure of some libraries in the county.

Upon his proposition it was resolved to prepare a petition to the County Council seeking assurances of the retention of the Painswick library, it being regarded as of importance to this community.

PLANNING COMMITTEE

Broadham Field - floodlighting

This long-running saga of light pollution and seeming failure of the District Council to enforce conditions laid down when permission for these lights was given a year or so ago rumbles on. The Parish Council awaits clarification from SDC as to why it is not following the matter up.

Painswick Hotel - access route signs

Another saga is the matter of signs to assist drivers seeking this hotel from the A46. Some were erected without permission, and then taken down; then they were green with white lettering and more lately brown.

Not unreasonably, the Parish Council is wary about the precedent of signage to one particular facility, prestigious though it may be, and the possibility of requests for others. The committee agreed that the best next step would be for some members to meet the management and discuss options.

Planning - on line

This most important development, achieved with little trumpeting, enables all planning applications to the District Council to be viewed on line. Further, comments upon those plans from interested parties can be conveyed on line as well. Just access 'Stroud District Council' and follow the simple instructions into planning and particular applications.

It's excellent - and saves a bus journey to Ebley Mill or carefully timed visit to the Parish Council office!

PARISH COUNCIL

A somewhat exceptional meeting in that half of the members had to present apologies, not one member of the public was present, nor other representative of the press.

Police - direct line

The Council noted, with pleasure, that Vodaphone had replaced this mobile telephone with the latest model, free of charge; its longer battery life should help secure direct connection on 07799.624643.

St.Mary's churchyard paths

The Chairman reported that further samples of possible paving materials had been demonstrated but no formal application for funding assistance had yet been made by the Church Wardens.

Fire engine - test runs

A reply had been received from the Chief Fire Officer (*page 3 last month*) to the urging by the Parish Council for resumption of occasional test runs for the locally based fire engine to enable its crew to familiarise themselves with routes to possible incidents and ascertain where access to them may be restricted.

While assuring the Council that "Access presents us with challenges in many locations throughout the county, but does not present the service with a problem in an emergency situation" the Chief Fire Officer Peter Jones also stated in his brief reply that "It is not the practice of this service to perform 'test runs' as this potentially puts the public and our firefighters at risk".

It was agreed to respond expressing surprise at his comments but continue to urge test runs to identify pinch points.

Traffic - A46 resurfacing

Ann Burges Watson, Chairman of the Traffic Committee, reported in detail upon further helpful discussions with GCC officers and assurances received that attention would be given to the corners of Gloucester Street junction with New Street while the resurfacing is undertaken.

With the assistance of a wheel-chair user the GCC had also offered to introduce additional dropped kerbs in several places to improve movement at key locations, including to the bus stops in New Street. The Chairman, Terry Parker, reminded the meeting that the Council's policy is to enable all disabled to reach the whole of the village.

War Memorial - paving

With a generous grant pledged by English Heritage a tender had been accepted for re-laying of the paving stones around the memorial, and replacement of those which are cracked. Work upon this should commence about 6th March.

Broadband adoption by the Council

Arising from discussion upon public access to planning application information via the Council's office it was agreed that connection to Broadband was now essential in order to most effectively download planning files (*see Planning on line, above*). It was also agreed to review the computing system in the Council's office with a view to installing a second machine for use by the public in the outer office.

Cemetery - upkeep

The Council warmly welcomed a report by Ann Daniels upon the considerable work undertaken by the BTCV (British Trust for Conservation Volunteers) to parts of the perimeter of the cemetery.



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Public Meeting – Traffic and the A46

In the January issue of the Beacon we included (pages 2-3) the key details and plans of proposals which had been considered by the Council's Traffic Committee, on the initiative of its Chairman Ann Burges Watson, to calm traffic on the A46. Those proposals, upon which the Council had taken no action other than to welcome them and offer them for public consultation, were the subject of a public meeting on 1st February in the Town Hall, an event which attracted about 120 people – about half needing to stand for the two hours or so.

The meeting was conducted by Council Chairman Terry Parker, and also attended by County Councillor Joan Nash, the Highways Southern Division Manager Andrew Turner, and District Councillor Barbara Tait. Mrs Burges Watson, introducing her consultative paper, pointed out that she had become aware of a village in Kent which had successfully taken the initiative in making detailed proposals for calming traffic, especially HGV, to that County Council; attempted to include aspects of aspiration in the Painswick Parish Plan; and also acknowledge suggestions and advice she had received from many residents. She suggested that the existence of an overall plan regarding traffic was desirable, rather than dealing with numerous yet separate ideas as they arose from time to time. This paper related solely to the A46 and she hoped that the opportunity would occur later in the year to look separately at through traffic on the B4073, the centre of the village off the A46, and revisit the matter of car parks.

Terry Parker emphasised that the object of the meeting was to obtain the views of the public, in addition to those communicated by letter, so that the Traffic Committee might come forward with actual proposals for reference to the County Council and possible introduction in due course. However, some of the ideas in the paper might be taken into account in the major resurfacing contract due to start three weeks hence, and the meeting had therefore been arranged to take this into account.

To summarise two hours of suggestions and (mostly) constructive debate exhaustively in these pages is not practicable, so we can only try to identify

those points which appeared to be of widest interest/concern.

General:

- The aesthetic impression gained at entrances to the village is important, but must not detract from this being a rural village
- Avoid use of 'dragons teeth' road surface markings
- Many HGV drivers may disregard the Advisory Freight Route map in force from January 2005 (see panel per action)
- Any efforts to make Painswick safer are welcomed
- Drivers disregard signs on their own; three-dimensional influences are required
- Large farm machinery occasionally needs to pass through village
- Need to be assured that use of traffic islands does not of itself cause needless accidents
- Illumination of village gateway signs to be discouraged
- Any proposals should not prejudice free movement of emergency service vehicles, and a reassessment to that end suggested
- Elderly, mobility impaired, and children at high risk in many locations; some pavements are 'no go' for wheelchairs
- The needs of cyclists should be taken into account
- A 20mph speed restriction through the village might be particularly helpful, and cost effective

Southern approach:

- Traffic islands as shown, together with a bus stop, could cause backing up of traffic
- Flashing warning speed sensors near Lullingworth commended
- Known serious accidents still occurring on the hill slope
- Speed cameras advocated

Hollyhock Lane - Gloucester Street:

- Considerable concerns expressed regarding free movement along stretch of pavement between these roadways, especially any movement for wheel chairs or passing of pedestrians
- Corner New Street into Gloucester Street deserving of re-examination
- A light-controlled pedestrian crossing near the traffic lights in New Street would be a boon

- The camber of the carriageway adversely threatens Cotswold House
- Grazing of properties in New Street would be lessened by proposed kerbing

South of library:

- The existence of a 'pinch point' south of the library is important if traffic is not to accelerate there; whether by retaining on street parking or the no-parking proposals on the table

Northern approach:

- Removing the 40mph restriction in Cheltenham Road, and relocating the 30mph sign to north of The Highlands/ The Park cross-roads advocated by local residents – a zero cost option
- Upgrading of the footpath Painswick-Paradise desirable
- A bus shelter opposite Pullens Road desirable

The meeting broadly supported immediate modest widening of the pavement Hollyhock Lane to Gloucester Street, attention to the corner with Gloucester Street, and the changes requested to relocate the 30mph sign near The Highlands.

The Chairman paid tribute to Mrs Burges Watson for the serious debate her report had engendered, and assured the meeting that all which had been raised would be considered by the Traffic Committee.



The Painswick Directory of local businesses, organisations and other useful contacts is continuously updated on **Beaconline** www.painswickbeacon.org.uk

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Astell on Grieg

Music lecturer par excellence Brian Astell - we had met him at last year's Hardanger Music Festival in Norway - gave

us a very professional account on 26th January of the life of Edvard Grieg, Norway's leading composer, illustrated with splendid recordings of his music. Outstanding among these were his piano pieces Op.1, Clifford Curzon playing part of his piano concerto, and three Beecham recordings: the overture "In Autumn", the famous "Per Gynt Suite" (which resulted from Grieg's collaboration with Ibsen) and "Symphonic Dance". In the interval, we were invited to buy from a large number of CDs, including some of Regis Company's older material issued at super-budget prices which found ready buyers!

Ralph Kenber

Tastes Differ - Tastes Change

...a presentation by Maurice Maggs and Ralph Kenber

Maurice led off with pieces by Erich Korngold, hailed as a youthful genius, a master of melody who composed film music. One was a piano concerto for the left hand, which Maurice compared with Ravel. He then played settings of folk tunes by Benjamin Britten, including The Foggy Foggy Dew, and an amusing song about someone who lived for ten years inside an enormous Nile crocodile. More classical was The Last Rose of Summer sung by Felicity Lott. Ralph followed with a lively selection of East European dances, also based on folkloric melodies. Maurice then puzzled us with equally lively dance music by a mystery composer, who turned out to be Shostakovich.

In the second half, Ralph played Wagner's Prelude to Lohengrin, and other overtures by Wagner including The Ride of the Valkyrie, extracts from The Flying Dutchman, and the Mastersingers. Maurice soothed us with Benedictus by Alexander Mackenzie, before shaking us up with discordant music by Dutilleux. We were calmed once more by a Gershwin version of Embraceable You. Ralph concluded this very enjoyable evening with two pieces by Aaron Copland, a recording by Benny Goodman of a clarinet concerto and an extract from his Appalachian Spring.

Richard Burges Watson

The Art of the Accompanist

The Group's meeting on 23rd March, when Gordon Collins will talk on the subject "The Art of the Accompanist", will be an extraordinary event in departing from the normal format of using only recorded music. A widely experienced accompanist himself, he will be assisted by John Crayford, a tenor soloist well known for his performances for the Three Choirs Festivals, in demonstrating some of the key facets and pitfalls of the art. Treading in the footsteps of the great Gerald Moore, widespread interest is guaranteed. Group meetings are always open to non-members: the Cotswold Room, Painswick Centre, at 7.30 pm.

Maurice Maggs



Fauré Requiem at St. Mary's

Fauré's Requiem is one of the most favoured choral works of singers. This is partly explained by the fact that Gabriel Fauré is a romantic composer whose style of music is logical and balanced and flows easily, and partly because it is well within the resources of small choirs. The Painswick Singers are extending an open invitation to anyone wishing to experience this accessible work to join them for a performance in Painswick Church on Good Friday, April 14th. Rehearsals are already under way under Brian Ethridge, the Singers' new conductor whose impressive Carol Concert made such an impact last Christmas, Mondays in the Library's upper room at 7.30 pm. Anyone wishing to join the Singers for this performance, contact Maurice Maggs on 814092.

Gloucester's Dream

Gloucester Choral Society's Spring concert in Gloucester Cathedral is Elgar's *The Dream of Gerontius*. A fine performance is in prospect. Andrew Nerthsingha's reputation as a choral and orchestral conductor of true excellence is now well established, and the extra financial resources from sponsors, patrons and friends nowadays regularly enable the society to use professional orchestras of good quality. The soloists, Sarah Connolly, James Oxley and Roderick Williams, are exceptional, both individually and as an ensemble.

Gerontius was written for the Birmingham Festival in 1900 but the first performance did not go well. However, within a few years *Gerontius* attained a popularity which has continued to this day and debate continues about the character of *Gerontius* himself and the religious meaning of the work.

The performance is on Saturday 1st April in Gloucester Cathedral, at 7.30 p.m. The usual special inclusive offer including transport is available to Painswick residents. A Beavis coach will be waiting in Stamages car park for departure at 6.45pm returning at about 10.00pm. Tickets are £21 (centre nave) or £17 (rear nave), inclusive of discounted seat prices and coach fare.

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The Painswick Centre News

It's been an expensive few weeks for the Painswick Centre. As those of you who use it regularly will have noticed the car park has been re-surfaced. Not before time I hear you say! This was part of the overall maintenance plan to improve the facilities at the Centre and was in great need of a make over.

However, another expense came rather suddenly when the boiler finally gave up the ghost during one of the coldest snaps of the winter. Its replacement was also part of our overall renewal plan but, having heated the Centre for 50 years it chose its own moment to retire. This too has now been replaced and that wonderful warm feeling restored.

There is still much to do, as funds become available, but one thing is certain, with the continued support of the people of Painswick we'll get there, even if it takes a little while to do so.

Oddpiece at The Centre

On Saturday 29th April, Cotswold Care Hospice are holding a Ceilidh at the Painswick Centre with a great band called Oddpiece, 7.00 for 7.30pm. Tickets at £25.00 include a glass of wine, a hot meal and scrumptious sweets. Do come and bring your friends!

Bridesmaid boogies on

She has been described by Roger Daltrey - no less - as 'the best female rock voice since Janis Joplin'. 'She' is Nikki Lamborn, lead singer of *Never the Bride* and she made the hundred year old rafters of the Painswick Centre roar during two sell-out Blues Night gigs on 17th and 18th February.

With her Glaswegian friend Catherine Feeney on keyboards, Nikki delivered some incredibly powerful vocals, backed up by a superbly talented band of rock musicians, including a lead guitar, Murray Gould, who clearly came straight from the Brian May finishing school.



Never the Bride took an enthusiastic audience by the throat and proved conclusively that rock'n roll ain't dead. Early in the set, they launched into a rousing *House of the Rising Sun* which started with a climax and then built up from there. The result was the sort of rock anthem which most bands would settle for as a finale but for *Never the Bride*, this was just a taster. There followed an eclectic, electric mix of rock classics and blues standards, all mixed in with a selection of self written numbers. After a beautifully ironic *It's a Man's World*, Nikki plunged into *Cry out!*, an emotional maelstrom of a song she wrote 20 years ago, which was both lyrically and musically powerful, with overtones of Led Zeppelin, Pink Floyd and even Kate Bush. The sheer breadth of her vocal range (she's a voice coach in her 'day job') was best illustrated towards the end of the set, when she and Catherine did a foot stamping medley from *Oklahoma!* as a request, which - bizarrely in the context of a rock concert - worked.

This was a great evening. All praise to the Painswick Blues Club.

JRB

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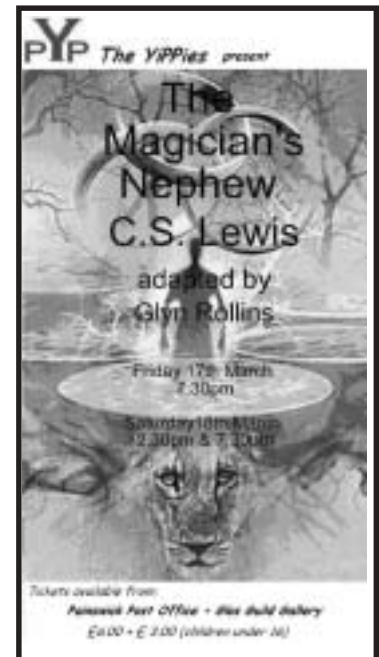
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YYP Narnia in Painswick

The YiPPies - Young Painswick Players - present *The Magician's Nephew* by CS Lewis on Friday 17th (7.30pm) and Saturday 18th March (2.30pm and 7.30pm) at the Painswick Centre.



The Magician's Nephew was first published in 1953 and, as Lewis explains, 'It shows how all the comings and goings between our own world and the land of Narnia first began.'

The Chronicles of Narnia have a timeless appeal about them as each new generation discovers the magic for themselves. This adaptation by Glyn Robbins is perfect for youth theatre, a wonderful array of characters from non-speaking animals for those just beginning to the more demanding roles of Polly, Digory, Jadis, Uncle Andrew and of course Aslan.

With a cast of 20 young Painswickians, this will be the first full length production by the YiPPies and it has demanded a tremendous amount of effort, not only by the actors but also from the back-stage crew who have consisted of Painswick Players, parents of YiPPies and young techies!

Tickets (£6.00 and £3.00 for children) are available now from the Post Office and the Guild Gallery at The Painswick Centre.

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Coffee Time!

Helen's & Anne's 16th Annual Spring Coffee Morning will be held on Saturday 1st April 2006 from 9.45am to 12.00 noon. As well as tea, coffee, chocolate and homemade biscuits, there will be cakes (including roulades - ideal for Easter), preserves raffle, general stall and fresh flowers will be available if ordered in advance.

This Year our main charity is EMMAUS OF GLOUCESTER. This organisation tackles the problems of homelessness through self-supporting communities where people are offered a home, a job and a sense of self-worth to help them to "help themselves". At the moment in Gloucester there are sixteen 'Companions'. Leaflets and information will be available on the day or contact us before, if you wish.

We will as usual be giving a donation to our Lady & St Thérèse and Father Franco in Papua New Guinea.

Entrance is £ 1.20 and all are welcome

*Helen Baker 813091
Anne Leoni 812521*

Seamen digest books

Many thanks to all who supported the Christmas/New Year book collection for the Mission to Seafarers. We took over 600 books and magazines to the Portbury centre which were very gratefully received. The 'Readers Digests' were much in demand, so please keep saving up for our next collection

John Parfitt

Little Fleece

The Little Fleece specialist book shop in the National Trust property on Bisley Street will be open throughout March on Fridays and Saturdays, 10.00am to 5.00pm.

From April, the plan is to open for most of the week.



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Pc 24 Reuben Wyatt (Mobile Police Station, Tel: 07734 068276) reports that there were ten reported crimes in Painswick Parish during the month of January:

- Criminal Damage 2
- Burglary non Dwelling 3
- Theft 3
- Burglary Dwelling 1
- Theft of Motor Vehicle 1

He also warns us to be on guard for a type of fraud commonly known as 'West African' or '419' advance fee fraud, named after the relevant section of the Nigerian Criminal Code. This is a popular crime with the West African organised criminal networks and there are a myriad of schemes and scams - email, fax and telephone promises designed to facilitate victims parting with money. All involve requests to help move large sums of money with the promise of a substantial share of the cash in return.

This type of scam has come to be associated in the public mind with Nigeria due to the massive proliferation of such confidence tricks from that country since the mid-eighties, although they are often also carried out in other African nations, and increasingly from European cities with large Nigerian populations, notably London and Amsterdam. The laws from Section 419 and laws in place in other jurisdictions criminalising the offences do not scare away the criminals who profit from these crimes. The stakes and profits are simply too high and many government officials are believed to be involved with the criminal gangs.

Victim's individual monetary losses can range from the low thousands into multi-millions. True figures are often impossible to ascertain, because many victims, embarrassed by their naiveté and feeling personally humiliated, do not report the crime to the authorities. Others, having lost so much themselves, become "part of the gang" recruiting more victims from their own country of residence. There are tragic cases of victims being unable to cope with the losses and committing suicide. You have been warned!

Mark and his artful techniques

Mark Kelland, a professional artist specialising in the techniques of art, is holding daily Art Workshops (9.45 am – 4.00 pm) on 18th, 19th, and 20th April at Painswick Mill. On the first day, he will demonstrate watercolour techniques, on the second day, acrylic and finally on the third day, oil painting. 'This will be useful both to the beginner and the more experienced.' Mark says 'And after the demonstrations, there will be an ideal opportunity to paint in the grounds of Painswick. Mill or, if preferred, in the house.' Mark will be on hand to provide any attention needed. For full details, please ring Joan Wells on 812245 or 07970 448426.



Mother's Day Crocus Walk

Delyth Allen and Ana Murray invite you to celebrate your Mum, a friend or someone you love on the Annual Mother's Day Crocus Walk and help raise vital funds for Breakthrough Breast Cancer. Once more, the starting point will be in front of the Croft School at 2.30pm on Saturday 25th March for a short countryside walk (about an hour) and there will be tea and home-made cakes at the end of the walk at Christ Church Hall.

They would like to say thank you to everyone who has taken part in the past, in rain, sunshine and even hail! They hope to see many new faces this year.

For more information contact Delyth Allen on 813182 or Ana Murray on 812860.



Yesterday's Children

Testimony Films is making a series for ITV West about people's memories of the West Country as children and is seeking your help. The company has made many oral history documentaries, including 'A Pocketful of Posies' (BBC2), 'Call of the Sea' (BBC2), 'Green & Pleasant Land' (C4), 'Some Liked It Hot - the British on holiday' (ITV1), and for ITV in the West, 'The West at War' and 'Hope and Glory'

Producer, Lisa Lipman says that she is looking for people with childhood memories of what it was like in the 1930s, 40s and 50s here in Gloucestershire. Can you remember getting a visit from the doctor, before the NHS came into being? Have you memories of contracting polio, TB or diphtheria, or going into hospital? Or do you think that pre-war life was healthier?

Were you a child in the 1950s and can you remember the mood of optimism with the war at an end? Did you get to visit the seaside for the first time? Maybe you have memories of cars, toys, and an easier life in the home. Or did you join the teddy boys as a teenager?

If you have a dramatic story to tell, Lisa would love to hear from you. You can contact her at Testimony Films, 12 Great George Street, Bristol BS1 5RH telephone 0117.925 8589 or email her at lisa.lipman@testimonyfilms.com

Painswick Show Society

Following a meeting of its Show Committee on 2nd February (see report page 9 last month) Painswick Show Society has decided to dissolve the Show, thus ending a tradition of more than 50 years. The last Show was held in 2002 and the Show Society's assets remain the same now as they were then, other than a cash increase by way of building society interest. Painswick Show existed precariously for its first 46 years at the end of which its assets totalled less than £200. The Show Society's committee is proud to be able to report that, upon dissolution, there will be a surplus of thousands of pounds for distribution amongst the members. It will, after research, make a further

throughout the country, Painswick of a changing society with regulation and regulation, and, most defining lack of availability of area of Painswick, suitable level how. The Painswick Show Society thanks to the sponsors, who sustained the Show over year after year, to provide the multi-faceted show which offered which every Painswick citizen

Richmond Painswick

The Manager of Richmond Painswick reminds us that, as the keen-eyed amongst you might have noticed from recent entries in the Beacon Personal Column, the independent living units/apartments are nearing completion and residents have been moving in. Occupancy by local residents is welcomed and a show apartment is close to completion as we go to press. Appointments for viewings are being made for many who have expressed interest from Painswick and further afield.

The soft landscaping is starting in earnest, complete with a 30-year old tree which has been planted in the courtyard itself. A water feature has now been finished by the stonemasons, one which will bear a Laurie Lee inscription. There's no running water to it yet but the Beacon will try to be there for a photograph when it is officially 'switched on' by Laurie Lee's wife.

Construction of the Care Centre itself is well out of the ground with the brickwork on the ground level now complete and the next level starting about now. The view of these works from the seat by Stroud Road above the site is of interest.

Emphasis in the next month is on recruitment - in particular maintenance/handyman, weekend sales team, gardener, carers, a possible live-in warden (or couple) and emergency call staff. Although advertising will be lodged in journals serving the whole area, the Beacon has also been chosen to carry that information whenever our monthly publication dates permit. (See advert below)

Concessionary Fares

Stroud District Council has announced its Concessionary Fare Travel Scheme which will run from 1st April to 31st March 2007. Those eligible can choose either £20 in travel tokens or a free bus pass valid on any recognised bus route in Gloucestershire. People of pensionable age (aged 60 or over), disabled people, blind people or carers in receipt of a carer's allowance can all apply and all who received tokens or bus passes last year should already have received an application form for this year's scheme. To collect your tokens please take the completed application form and proof of age or eligibility to your local Post Office between 9th March and 17th May.

If you received travel tokens last year, but this year you would like a bus pass, please complete the application form and return it with a passport sized photograph, proof of age or eligibility (photocopies only please) to the Concessionary Fare Officer at Stroud District Council, Council Offices, Ebley Mill, Stroud, Glos, GL5 4UB. If you haven't received an application form or if you are applying for tokens or a bus pass for the first time please ring the Concessionary Fare Officer on 01453.754417 (a 24-hour message recording service), email con.fares@stroud.gov.uk or visit Ebley Mill.

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Porridge on the menu

Yew Trees WI have a slight change to their previously advertised programme. The March and April speakers have swapped places. This means that on Tuesday 28 March Mrs Pam Cottle is coming to talk about her time spent working with female prisoners. The talk entitled 'Porridge' will be entertaining, and eye-opening for those who have led a sheltered life. Visitors are most welcome to come along to the Town Hall at 7.30 pm to hear this talk; and again on Tuesday 25



April to hear Graham Dougan's talk on The Elsa Conservation Trust which will be illustrated with superb photographs.

Celia Lougher

Ashleworth Ham

Instead of a frosty, bright start we woke up to 'warmer' but wet weather on Sunday. However several members braved the rain and met Mike Smart of the Glos. Naturalist Trust at Ashleworth Ham. This is a controlled flood plain near the River Severn. The water is not very deep (well most of the time) and so does not attract diving birds.

Many widgeon were seen feeding, searching for seeds in the mud. On the walk around the water our sightings included a flock of teal on the wing and a pair of stonechats sitting on a fence.

Back at the hide a flock of about 50 lapwings that Mike thought were resting on route were spotted. The previous day a red kite had been seen in the area – who knows we may well soon see them in the Painswick Valley. Our next meeting will be at the Town Hall on March 14th when the topic will be Developments at Slimbridge.



**Painswick
Bird Club**

Joan Cooper

Tickets selling fast...

Although the four concerts organised by the Painswick Music Society start two weeks later than usual, tickets are going fast. As our chairman, Peter Jenkins, commented – the tickets are excellent value. Where else could you get four such fabulous concerts for only £32?

We are delighted to welcome Robert Irvine and Fali Pavri for our first concert on 8th April. They are unquestionably the finest cello-piano duo in Scotland. Superb artists individually and friends, they are also distinguished professors at The Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama. They will be playing: Chopin's Polonaise Brillante, Grieg's Sonata for Cello and Piano; Beamish's Gala Water; Chopin's Ballade No 1 and Shostakovich's Sonata in D minor.

On 22nd April, Sir Thomas Allen (baritone) – an international star of both the opera and concert worlds – will sing for us in Painswick. He will be accompanied by Malcolm Martineau on piano. Our third concert on 6 May features Nicola Eimer on piano, and the Allegri String Quartet makes a welcome return for our fourth concert on 13th May. More details of all our concerts can be found in our brochures available in the library and other outlets in Painswick.

The concerts take place in St Mary's Church on Saturday afternoons at 3.00p.m. Teas are available afterwards to round off the afternoon, and there is usually an opportunity to meet the musicians.

Membership, which provides admission to all four concerts, costs £32 – a saving of £19 on the individual tickets. Students and children are welcome and tickets cost £3 per concert. Tickets for the concerts can be obtained from Hywel James, Canton House, New Street, Painswick GL6 6XH (tel 812419) or from "The Chairman", New Street. Cheques should be made payable to "Painswick Music Society".



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Lost in Spate

In February The Friday Club found itself all but swept off its feet in two streams, both in full spate. The first was Philip Berry's conducted tour of The Painswick Stream with photographs. It happens that there seems not to be a blade of grass within a mile of that stream that he has not cut, ploughed, or planted, or his cows, sheep or pigs have not nibbled. Nor a cottage, farm or manor whose owner, past

**THE
Friday
CLUB**

owner or tenant whose grandfather, second wife or mistress his anecdotes do not encompass within the flood of reminiscences that stream from him when he is in full spate. He only hesitated once during the afternoon, just when we were all agog, hanging on his every word about the happenings in the car park of The Black Horse at Cranham when heavy breathing threatened his undoing. The presence of his mother at the meeting saved our blushes.

The second spate came from Jenny Joseph who delivered a stream of her poems, expertly read from her books of poems, including from her latest book that is just about to be published. MF cannot speak as an authority on poetry, his efforts have not progressed beyond nonsense verse, but it was evident from the reactions of the erudite Clubbies, who were present in record numbers (not a spare seat in the house) that we had been treated to a rare display of creative energy. And it did not stop there! In response to questions from Clubbies about her muse and how it ticked, she released another stream of wisdom on how the muse worked for her. This was fascinating stuff; unfortunately MF was left bemused. Finally, the few of us who remained for the clearing up were treated to the one poem we all wanted to hear most: *I will wear purple*. What reward!

Man Friday

**Painswick
Music
Society**



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Painswick Horticultural Society



What's in a name?

Are you a gardener? Are you a member of our Society? If the answer is 'no' is there a reason? Does our name put you off? Do you think we are all knowledgeable experts? Does the word 'Horticultural' deter you?

At our February meeting we had a lively and interesting discussion when our speaker was not able to be with us. For over 50 years our Society has thrived under its current name. We are not all experts and enjoy swapping stories with fellow gardeners, listening and being informed by the variety of speakers, going on some of our many outings, our Spring and Autumn Social events and not least our Annual Show. Like many of the village Societies we are forward looking and want to see our group survive the present climate of an ageing population and often a large and temporary "holidays only" population who do not join in the village activities, So whilst a change of name to, say, the Gardening Society, would not change what we do, would it attract more members? There will be a ballot in the next two months to find out the views of all our members.

Meanwhile here are some dates for your diaries:

- Our Spring Social event will be a visit to Corsham Court house and gardens followed by supper at Uley Village Hall - Saturday May 13th
- Our Austerity lunch will be on Monday March 20th
- We will be staging our 54th Annual Show on Saturday 9th September.

To allow time for the needles, paint brushes and cameras to be put to good use, here is a list of the classes in the Handicraft Section.

- A Teddy Bear
- A knitted scarf
- A shopping bag - any material
- A tray cloth - any material
- An embroidered handkerchief
- A bird scarer
- A Valentine card
- A painting of a Village Scene
- A photograph of an amusing incident, with caption
- A photograph of a landscape

Only members may compete, but new members are always very welcome to join this friendly Society.

Philip Berry Show Secretary

Big thankyou to Firemen

With the recent spell of cold weather we suffered from a burst pipe at Ashwell House. As we waited for workmen to arrive to deal with the problem, the problem got worse until one of the bungalows was well and truly suffering from flooding. At a loss as to what to do we called the Fire Brigade. Our Painswick fellas arrived and immediately took control of the situation. They stayed with us for a good 3 hours until everything was sorted. Their controlling presence and good sense of humour saw us through the evening and George's constant demands for coffee kept us so busy it kept us from worrying about the water! Well done and a big 'Thank You' to them all.

Michelle Elliott

Scheme Manager, Ashwell House Sheltered Housing

library info

New! New! New!

If you have a valid library card and you are interested in family history, you can now access Ancestry Library Edition, absolutely free at your local library or at home. The Library Service has subscribed to this valuable genealogy site, so you don't have to! This website and several others can be found on the Peoples Network, via the Virtual Reference Library. The site also includes the Oxford English Dictionary, Times Digital Archive, Online newspapers, Dictionary of National Biography. Which On-line and Xrefer.

Do please ask the library staff for help with accessing these websites. If you still require help finding your way around the vast electronic highway, Malcolm Tarling holds free Internet taster sessions every month at the library. Please ring the library to book your place.

My thanks to those who have volunteered to deliver books to the housebound, but incredibly we do not seem to have any housebound customers! I am sure this cannot be the case! If you cannot get to the library unaided, are visually or physically impaired, we are here to help.

And finally, don't forget Childrens Storytime every Friday from 3.30pm.

*Kath Pritchard,
Library Service Manager*

Coaches to London & Bath

Seats are still available on the London Coach leaving Painswick at 8.30am Wednesday 15th March. Fare £12.00. There will be a coach to Bath on Wednesday 19th April. It will leave Stamages Lane car park at 10.00am. Return journey leaves Bath at 5.00pm. Fare £7.50.



Bookings with cash or cheque (payable to Painswick L&B Outings) should be made to Joan Truman, Little Place, Hollyhock Lane, Painswick GL6 6XB. Enquiries to Joan on 813965 or Pauline Berry on 813227.

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If you want pond life

Life would not be the same without access to a real pond, and all that it might contain for close scrutiny in the future, the Croft School only had one that was somewhat overgrown and past repair.

Having selected one of the finest of recent days, Friday 10th February, pupils, parents and teachers spent the day digging to create a new pond and clearing an adjoining wooded area so that the wildlife

habitat of each can be better studied for years to come. Community education officer Rose Wally supervised the project, carefully explaining to the children what they were wanting to achieve together.

Considerable effort is needed to dig a metre deep pond when it is all done by hand, as our picture testifies. Once excavated the hollow was lined with carpet and a water-proof membrane, gravel was brought in and spread to form a 'beach', paths were laid and safety fencing erected. To the delight of everyone, not least the children, the fire engine arrived and filled the new pond.

A day to remember, and one of which to be proud too!
Judge for yourselves from those who were there:
'10th February was a great day for The Croft School. All the children and 18 other volunteers managed to transform a quite dangerous old nature area into a clean, tidy, extended nature area for the whole school to enjoy. It took a lot of work and a lot of people and the whole school thought that teamwork got them their wonderful safe

nature area.' *Amy Cox*

'All the children and adults and teachers helped. In the nature area the children trimmed the trees and the shredder chopped all the branches and twigs up. We dug a new pond because the old one was full with mud and only a few newts lived in it. The nature area was very overgrown and dangerous. It was really successful. We are not finished yet but I am sure we will be soon.' *Thomas Carlile*

'Not only did we dig out a pond but we cleared out the old one.

We also cleared out a lot of dead things and twigs. We couldn't have done it without Rosie Woolley from the Wildlife Trust. In the end we got the lining in the pond and the fire engine came to fill it. We were amazed! We had a lot of fun.' *Caitlin Workman*

'All the children and adults worked together and it took three tanks of water to fill the pond. Lots of children were picking up twigs. The adults put up a fence and laid a path. It was a very successful day.' *Camilla Mawdesley Thomas*



Any offers?

The Croft School has two items now surplus to requirements:

- 25 inch Sharp television
- Elite Over Head Projector

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The Infants' Disco Party

The PTA committee at The Croft have recently organised two highly successful parties for the children. The juniors' disco just before Christmas was a lovely event, with nearly all of the children attending. The infant children had their party in January. Here is a report by Cara Cox and India Johnson, two members of Year 2:

It was pitch black when we first got in there. Then suddenly all these lights turned on, there were reds, yellows and greens. We played Simon says, musical bumps and musical statues and pass the parcel.

When we played musical statues we had to make an animal face. To eat we had Hula hoops, sweets and Ribena. We were allowed to make two cakes each and after that we got to eat them. We all enjoyed it.

That's what happened.



Playgroup News

It has been a busy start to the year for Playgroup. The new children have settled in well, and along with the others enjoyed learning about Chinese New Year, including tasting Chinese food – some of the children were more able than the adults with chopsticks!

This term's outing was to see the Fireman Sam show at the Everyman Theatre, which was enjoyed by children and adults alike.

This year we are making essential improvements to the Playgroup building (which is owned and maintained by Painswick Playgroup). We have been lucky enough to have been awarded a grant for much of the work by the Helen McKee Trust, whom we thank wholeheartedly. The application process has taken around a year to conclude, and I would like to thank Andrea Robinson for her expertise and management of the negotiations with all parties concerned. The lighting has been the first item to have been brought up to date and in line with safety requirements. We also would like to thank Mike Turner Electrical Engineer & Contractor Ltd, City Electricals and last year's Chairperson Rosie McCabe for their efforts to provide the Playgroup with the best possible price, which included contacting the manufacturers to negotiate on our behalf.

Easter Egg Trail at Rococo Gardens

Many families in the area will remember the Playgroup's Easter Egg Trail at the Rococo Gardens a couple of years ago. It was such an overwhelming success that we are organising another one this year, and thank Paul Moir and the Rococo Gardens for allowing us to hold it there once again. The date for your diaries is **Friday 7th April 2.30-4.30pm**. Entrance is by ticket only, sold in advance, and priced at £4.00 per person (under 1's are free). The ticket price includes entrance to the Rococo Gardens and the Easter Egg Trail (with a set of questions for 5-11 year olds and another set for the under 5's), a craft activity for children to participate in, a few surprises along the way and of course Easter eggs. The only extra cost would be for a go on the tombola stall. All profits go to Playgroup funds.

Tickets are available from The Shetland Shop, St Mary's Street, Painswick or Julia Murray on 01453 766554 / email: eastertrail@btconnect.com

Please tell your family and friends, and support our major fundraiser for this year. It promises to be a fun family afternoon.

Julia Murray



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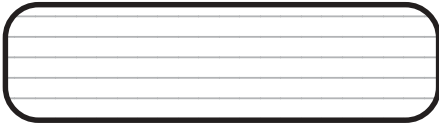


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Library

From Maggie Drake, Tibbiwell

Given the high level of Council Tax that the residents of Painswick are obliged to pay, and the few publicly-funded amenities/facilities that are provided here in return, ie no Police Station, no permanent Police presence, no Leisure Centre, scant street lighting etc, I think it is disgraceful that the possibility of closing our Library has even been considered, and I fully support every effort that can be made to prevent this happening.

Youth safety

From John Courts,

Painswick Lawn Tennis Club

I refer to the comments in the January issue of The Painswick Beacon regarding the perceived safe environment at the Recreation Field for young children. I would like to make it clear that The Painswick Lawn Tennis Club does not encourage young players to be left unaccompanied at either the Recreation Field or Broadham Fields. It is not a practice we support although clearly it is a matter for parental discretion.

Drivers needed

From Per Witte, Manager,

Paradise Trust, Meadowbank

Meadowbank is a small residential house community for people with learning disabilities and a registered charity. Some of our residents require transport to attend workshops at a nearby centre (about a mile and a half up the road on the A46) on a daily basis. Up to sixteen such transports are required per week. We are appealing for people to help us with this chore for a few months. We have our own vehicle for this purpose with full insurance cover.

Can you help?

It is, perhaps, a sad reflection of times, but due to the nature of our work, a police check is required for all people working in close contact with vulnerable adults. The cost of such a check will, of course, be borne by us.

For further details, please contact us at Painswick 813 647.

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Doggy dos and other menaces

From Somerset Moore, Friday Street

I was very pleased to be given the opportunity of expressing my strong feelings about traffic calming in Painswick, at the meeting two weeks ago. I felt the overwhelming attendance showed the measure of interest and concern, in these controversial matters. More perplexing and rather strange was Mrs Joan Nash's remark about not taking a vote, 'There will be winners and losers' she declared. Surely in a democracy, a vote is the clearest indication of the feeling of a meeting such as that. Parish business through the council is settled exclusively by voting, some double standards here!

On the matter of dogs' 'fouling' the beacon, as mentioned in the parish magazine, is the beacon managed by the Parish Council? I had a sneaking suspicion that the beacon was owned by the Blow family trust and leased, in part, to the Painswick golf club and parts managed by English Nature and to that end, when I get an instruction from them about dogs, I will of course comply, as I of course do now, to the best of my ability.

I have walked my dogs on the lower portion of the beacon, twice a day for the past 14 years and I have seldom, if ever, seen fouling on the fairways of the golf course, which is where good golfers should be playing, and nearly as much badger poo and other unmentionables, off the fairways, as dogs' mess.

Wash and brush-up?

The cupola that sits atop the Roman Catholic Our Lady and St Thérèse church on Friday Street has endured assault from the elements for about fourteen years since its last repaint. Readers will be pleased to know that soon it will look quite refreshed.

The scaffolding that has been erected is providing access to repair and re-finish the cupola and related structure, i.e. repairs to the timber and lead-work, minor masonry repairs and re-painting of the cupola and the oriel window below. The contract was won by Centreline based in Painswick and the work was expected to be finished by the end of March. However, after Centreline staff had had chance to look more closely at the cupola, it was apparent that more work was necessary and completion is now expected in April. Normal use of the church is unaffected and the contractor has undertaken to ensure services can proceed without distraction by the works.



The Church was originally blessed and opened on 15th August 1934. It was described in the local press as "one of the most interesting and romantic in Gloucestershire". On the night of 13th/14th June 1941 a German Air Force aeroplane dropped a stick of bombs on Painswick, damaging the Church such that it was not possible to hold services there until 19th February 1956, when the building was blessed and re-opened. The Journal of the Gloucestershire and North Avon Catholic History Society records that "The classical style of the proposed refurbishment provoked much controversy, opinions being sharply divided as to its suitability to a Cotswold town. The Parish Council condemned the new structure and complained of the laxity of the Planning committee in passing a non-traditional style building so much out of keeping with the surroundings. Dealing with the suggestion that buildings of classical design were out of place in Painswick, an official of the Planning Authority pointed out that two scheduled buildings in the town, one of them being the Beacon Tea Rooms in New Street, were in classical style."

The refurbishment went ahead at a cost of £5,000. The Journal reports that "Externally the main body of the old structure with its slate roof was retained. Entirely new work was largely confined to the belfry over the main doorway and the new south wall. The classical style belfry incorporated a lead-covered dome, supported by eight white pillars, and was surmounted by an orb and gilt cross. Carved limestone blocks were used to face the building and the standard of work was considered to be of the highest order."

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Wordsearch

Poets laureate

This title was first granted in England for poetic excellence. Its holder is a salaried member of the British royal household, but the post has come to be free of specific poetic duties. The title of the office stems from a tradition, dating to the earliest Greek and Roman times, of honouring achievement with a crown of laurel, a tree sacred to Apollo, patron of poets. The office is remarkable for its continuity. It began with a pension granted to Ben Jonson by James I in 1616, confirmed and increased by Charles I in 1630 (when an annual "butt of Canary wine" was added, to be discontinued at the request of Henry James Pye—made laureate in 1790—who preferred the equivalent in money). Jonson's pension specifically recognized his services to the crown as a poet and envisaged their continuance, but not until 16 months after Jonson's death in 1637 was a similar pension for similar services granted to Sir William Davenant. It was with an appointment in 1668, within a week of Davenant's death, that the laureateship was recognized as an established royal office to be filled automatically when vacant.

Can you find all of the of the nineteen holders of the post since 1668?

More prosaically, answers to last month's Wordsearch for Fifteen more local roads are: **BISLEY STREET, BUTT GREEN, CANTON ACRE, CHELTENHAM ROAD, CHURCHILL WAY, GLOUCESTER STREET, GYDE ROAD, HOLLYHOCK LANE, KEMPS LANE, HALE LANE, NEW STREET, PULLENS ROAD, TIBBIWELL, UPPER WASHWELL, VICARAGE STREET**



Local History Teaser

Something's certainly engaging the attention of this group of Painswickians from the 1950s. If you can say where the photograph was taken you will probably be able to work out what the occasion was too. Can you name the elderly couple sitting left of centre? What was his occupation in Painswick and where did they live?

The answer to last month's teaser: our group were photographed at Staverton on the occasion of the Royal Oak outing to Amsterdam. The young man holding the can of beer is Les Jones (sporting a beard these days) and the lady with the black bag is Maudie Smith of Vicarage Street and mother of Jack, our Painswickian of the Year. The trip was organised by Alf Hale, landlord of the Royal Oak and second from





**Painswick
Local History
Society**

the right, and Ernie Daniels of Upper Washwell and standing on the extreme right.

Our mystery picture of the two barges in the January Beacon has continued to attract attention. We are very grateful to Mr John Rhodes for providing even more information, thereby enabling us to build up a valuable knowledge base for our picture archive.

Painswick Local History Society's next meeting takes place on Tuesday, 21 March when Mr Michael Little will talk about Pitchcombe. Mr Little's family has been prominent in Pitchcombe for more than two and a half centuries. The meeting starts at 7.30pm at the Croft School, Painswick. Everyone is welcome.

Carol Maxwell

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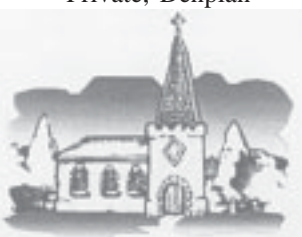
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Rugby

Simon Turley Memorial Cup

Stroud Nomads 7 Painswick 1st XV 29

Painswick achieved a fine result against Stroud Nomads and in so doing retained the Simon Turley Cup. The Cherry and Whites led a half-time through two tries scored by wing-threequarter Aussie Smith. Painswick's captain, Matt Combs, converted the second try. Almost immediately after the start of the second half the Nomads went over for a try under the posts which was converted. Painswick came back strongly with their pack becoming more dominant and tries followed from centre-threequarter Jake Saunders, full-back Ewan Craig and wing-threequarter James Wynn with Coombs adding a further conversion. On the same Saturday, 4th February, Painswick United also had a convincing victory winning by 36 points to 3 against Berry Hill 3rd XV.

The following Saturday saw both Painswick sides maintaining their excellent form with solid league victories. In the Gloucestershire Premier Division, Painswick 1st XV gave an outstanding performance to beat Longlevens 1st XV by 44 points to 7. At half-time Painswick led by 13 points to 7 with Matt Coombs converting Aussie Smith's try and adding a penalty with stand-off Mark Bragg dropping a goal. In the second half Painswick added a further five tries through Jake Saunders, James Wynn, Phil Higgins, Russell Thornton and Aussie Smith. Matt Coombs was successful with three more conversions. Painswick United were away at Stow where they defeated the home side in a Citizen Merit Table match by 27 points to 18. Painswick's try scorers were skipper Rob Andrew, James Booker, Jay Richings, and Joe Purcaro. Dave Abbott was successful with two conversion attempts and also kicked a penalty.

It's a fact that you should not need to rely on a single score difference to win a match but Painswick 1st XV have been particularly unlucky this season with refereeing decisions going against them in closely fought matches. Following the non-dropped goal incident in the Barton Hill game, Painswick lost to Old Richians in a Premier Division match in the final minute when the home side were awarded a disputed try. The dispute arose because the Old Richians' wing-threequarter was tackled short of the try line and appeared to lose control of the ball before it was grounded. However, the referee awarded the try. There was some irony in the decision as earlier Painswick's full-back, Ewan Craig, believed that he had scored when he

followed-up a kick and won the race for the touch down. However, the referee determined that he had not exerted sufficient downward pressure on the ball and did not award the try. Painswick led at half-time by 15 points to 7 by failed to add to their lead in a second half which saw the home side score two unconverted tries to win by 17 points to 15. On the same day, 18th February, Painswick United lost by 27 points to 22 against Old Centralians 2nd XV in a Citizen Merit Table match. Painswick 1st XV had no game last Saturday, 25th February. Painswick United were away against the Royal Agricultural College in the first round of the Stroud Junior Combination Cup.

Results [(L) indicates league match, (M) Merit Table]

Sat 4 Feb. Stroud Nomads 7 Painswick 1st XV 29. Painswick United 36 Berry Hill 3rd XV 3.

Sat 11 Feb. (L) Painswick 1st XV 44 Longlevens 1st XV 7. (M) Stow 2nd XV 18 Painswick Utd 27.

Sat 18 Feb. (L) Old Richians 1st XV 17 Painswick 1st XV 15.

(M) Old Centralians 2nd XV 27 Painswick United 22.

Sat 25 Feb. Stroud Junior Combination Cup First Round. RAC 40 Painswick United 12

Fixtures

Sat 4 Mar. (L) Painswick 1st XV v Chosen Hill 1st XV. (M) Old Pats 3rd XV v Painswick United.

Sat 11 Mar. (L) Aretians 1st XV v Painswick 1st XV. Chosen Hill 2nd XV v Painswick United.

Sat 18 Mar. Cheltenham Combination Cup. Tewkesbury 1st XV v Painswick 1st XV.

Cainscross 2nd XV v Painswick United.

Sat 25 Mar. (L) Drybrook 1st XV v Painswick 1st XV. (M) Painswick United v Hucclecote 2nd XV.

Sat 1 Apr. Stroud Senior Combination Cup Semi-Final. Cirencester 1st XV v Painswick 1st XV.

Hockey

Painswick Ladies had an emphatic win over Lansdown recently when they scored 8 goals without reply. Maggie Morse had a match to remember scoring 5 goals. Painswick's other goals came from Sophie Hinds. Star player for Painswick was Emma Watkins.

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Cricket

Annual General Meeting

Painswick Cricket Club's AGM was held at the Broadham Pavilion recently. The evening brought several changes, one of the most significant being the retirement of Andrew Wise as club secretary. Andrew has been at the heart of the club for many years both as a player and an official. He leaves because his work necessitates a move from Gloucester. There was unanimous support at the meeting for the proposal that he be made a life member. Ian Hogg was elected club secretary in succession to Andrew. Painswick's South African star, Simon Savides, is to be the new first eleven captain. Simon has returned to South Africa but will be back in time for the start of the new season. The second eleven captain is to be Darren Paulson. Painswickian of the Year, Jack Smith, remains the club president. John Hogg was re-elected club chairman with Bob Cook continuing as treasurer. A new juniors committee is to be formed comprising the club chairman, two players and two parents. Indoor net practice starts on 12th March at the Old Richians club. The sessions are held between 4pm and 6pm. There is to be a quiz at the Broadham Pavilion on 24th March. Anyone interested in learning more about the club is asked to contact John on 812505.

Painswick Billiards

Despite the fact that the best billiard table in the league was sold under our feet when The Institute closed we have managed to keep going as a team. We now play at Matchplay, Salmon Springs from October to April and are currently at the top of the league. We have just won the Clerks Shield knockout but we wish to win the league for the second year running as our priority. One of our team recently had a break of 109 being the first century in the league for quite a few years.

Played with 3 balls only, this is a nice constructive game and the Stroud Billiard League is always looking for new players to keep the competition alive.

Trevor Radway

Invitation to subscribe

The Beacon committee gratefully thanks all who have given us their support across the last year; advertisers, contributors, distributors and subscribers. The total number of subscribers was exactly the same as in 2004-05 at 607, of whom 423 were from within the village of Painswick.

We always do our utmost to use photographs wherever possible - this because they 'say' so much more than words can describe. We would like to reproduce more and, for groups such as this month on the front page, larger than we can at the moment; but this can only be achieved if we attract more subscribers and can therefore meet the cost of the space required. **Nothing would please us more than there being a majority of households within the village of Painswick giving us that subscription support, there only being 4 in 10 such households at the moment.**

An envelope and subscription slip is enclosed with this copy of the Beacon. By way of subscription guidance each copy costs about 50p to prepare and print.

Thank you.

Stroudwater Canal

Six miles of Canal between Stonehouse and Brimscombe are expected to be open by the end of 2008. The £22 million project, promoted by the Cotswold Canals Trust and supported by Stroud District Council, the Heritage Lottery Fund and the South West Regional Development Agency, will conserve 30 historic structures, including bridges and locks, and help to protect rare species including bats and water vole. It will attract an estimated 215,000 extra visitors and create 600 jobs by 2014 and create a 10 mile trail for walkers, angler, cyclists, wheelchair users and pushchairs allowing a large and diverse number of people to learn and



discover more about our waterways and their history.

The regeneration potential of the Canal has already been dramatically proved by the Ebley Wharf project. In Stroud, estate agents are reporting a demand for waterfront office space. A firm of boat builders has moved to Brimscombe Port for a year in anticipation of the day when it can launch its products straight onto the Canal.

A 'Big Lottery' application has already been made for the next part of the restoration - from Stonehouse to Saul. This would reconnect the Canal to the Gloucester-Sharpness Canal, thus allowing boat access.

The Stroudwater Navigation was one of England's earliest canals. First conceived in the late 17th century, the Canal was planned in the 1720s and opened in 1779. The Stroudwater was highly profitable in its heyday. However, competition from the railways which came in the 1840s and 1850s finally closed the Canal in 1954, the last boat having delivered coal to Stroud gas works in 1941.

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VILLAGE QUIZ

We are, again, delighted to have so strong an entry for this year's Village Quiz. It will be a full house at Painswick Centre on the 11th March. Doors open at 6.45pm for a (fairly) prompt start at 7.15pm.

Quite a mix of names for the teams and we are looking forward to selecting one for its ingenuity in depicting that name by their attire, mascot, or other means. See if you can match the teams to the organisations they represent. That said, it is all about an enjoyable evening rather than a clash of intellect - just some good-natured rivalry.

The Beacon Trophy awaits

The Teams are (in no particular order): I Sappienti Ignoranti, The High Fliers, The Rosie Four, Four Wags, The Coasters, Village Idiots, The Bluebottles, Sheep or Goats?, Bookworms, Dusty Pages, Quasimodos, Esmereldas, Ding Dongs, Seeds and Weeds, The Has Beans, The Lilies of the Field, Ha'penny People, The Geriatric Challengers, Redcycled Teenagers, Drama Queens of England, The Conservators, Band of Hope, Key Notes, Millers and Farmers, Tuppence, The Bookends, The Shuttles

Drawn from (in alphabetical order): *Ancient Society of Painswick Youths, Ashwell House, Badminton Club, Conservatives, Conservation Society, Dog Walking friends, Friday Club, Gunton & friends, Harescombe Village, Horticultural Society, Italian Group, Jenny Gaugain & book club friends, Jolly Stompers Dance Group, PADFAS, Painswick Bird Club, Painswick Music Society, Painswick Players, Painswick Probus Club & Ladies Probus, Painswick Reading Circle, PCMS, St. Mary's Guild, Susie Oakley & friends, Slad Village*

Architecs

A well known roof-line bears these. Which one?



From last month, the 'gleaming structure' was, of course, the top of the fine lamp above the stocks.



Beauty and the Beeb

An appeal from BBC Bristol to track down a former Miss Pears from the 1980s has been successful, thanks to an old Beacon article. Sophie Hodgeson was the winner of the annual Miss Pears beauty competition for young girls in 1983, when she was just three years old and her success was recorded in The Beacon. The beauty contest was filmed by the BBC for an episode of the Forty Minutes documentary series at the time and featured all six regional Miss Pears finalists.

The BBC are now getting in touch with these six young ladies with a view to producing an hour long programme later this year, which will revisit the original programme and show what has happened to them since. In Sophie's case, she has recently qualified as a Certified Chartered Accountant and now lives in Hardwick.

PROPERTY REPORT for February by Murrays Estate Agents

Over the years I have written dozens of these reports looking out over the village Church and famous yew trees from my home in Victoria Street. Today is a typically crisp and bracing February day yet the village is filled with sunshine with a backdrop of virtually clear blue sky. It's no wonder that so many want to come and live here and buy our lovely properties.

In my January report I talked about *confidence* being the magic word for 2006. Well, it certainly is. Since the beginning of the year our local offices have increased our sales in progress by 50% and now that the selling season is about to start we are forecasting a possible return to a sellers market. Our main concern is that, although we are getting some good new instructions at the moment, the supply may not be enough to satisfy demand. Another worry that is looming is the long expected Home Information Pack (sellers pack) which it looks pretty certain will be compulsory by June 2007. It will then be an offence to put a property on the market without one. It is widely thought that the pre-sale preparation and increased cost the HIP will dramatically reduce the amount of property transactions across the nation and possibly see many trying to move sooner rather than later to beat the 2007 deadline. I have looked in to the implications of this in some detail and any of you who would like advice, please do not hesitate to call me.

Painswick Office has been remarkably busy in recent weeks in all respects, most significant being the level of new enquiries resulting in more viewings and increased sales, it seems people are no longer just looking but are now seriously buying aware that the market is again on the move. Completions and exchanges include 1 Gloucester Road, Appleshaw at Pitchcombe, Rosemullion, Rockleigh in Stamages Lane, The Holt at Witcombe and St Michaels with sales agreed on Upper Steanbridge Mill, Old Forge Cottage, The Lamp House and 8 Hyett Close.

New instructions include a 3 bedroomed cottage in Butt Green, a 2 bedroomed retirement property in Hyett Orchard, a 5 bedroomed detached cottage and a 2 bedroomed cottage in Vicarage Street, a 3 bedroomed town house in Stroud Road, a 4 bedroomed period house in Friday Street, a 3 bedroomed impressive conversion near Bulls Cross, a 4 bedroomed modern detached in Upton St Leonards and a six bedroomed farmhouse at Haresfield.

Many of you may have noticed 'JUST COTTAGES' boards popping up around the village. Don't be confused; this is a specialist division of Murrays to look after our cottages and smaller period homes. All our properties are offered through all Murrays offices and benefit from both our web sites.

Clive Murray

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MARCH

Sat	4	Theatre Club to Bath Painswick Beacon Conservation Group Scrub Clearing. Contact John Rhodes, 812709. Also Sun 5th	dep. The Falcon Car Park opposite the Golf Club	12.30pm 10.00am
Mon	6	Austerity Lunch: Hostess - Pauline Lamont	Christ Church Hall	12.00noon to 1.15pm
Tue	7	Dog Training Club (Tuesdays) Badminton in the Painswick Centre (Tuesdays)	Christ Church Hall Painswick Centre	9.30 to 12.00noon 2.00pm
Wed	8	Probus: Murphy's and Other Laws - Mr R Hennessey Horticultural Society: Newent Onion Fair (<i>page 13</i>) Women's Fellowship: Recycling - Sue Hurt, Stroud D C	Ostlers Room, Falcon Town Hall Christ Church Hall	10.00am 7.30pm 7.30pm
Thu	9	Juniper Hill work party with Cotswold Voluntary Wardens. Details Tel: 813823. Jolly Stompers Line Dancing: Beginners Experienced beginners - Thursdays Tea Dances - Thursdays Music Appreciation: Gioachino Rossini	Foot of Juniper Hill (Grass Triangle) Town Hall Painswick Centre Cotswold Room	9.45am 12.00 to 1.00pm 12.30 to 1.30pm 2.30 to 4.30pm 7.30pm
Fri	10	Country Market with coffee available: Fridays Friday Club: Lunch with Minosavich Milosvik - Keith Chittenden Tennis Club Skittles & Curry Evening	Town Hall Town Hall Painswick Centre	10.00am 2.30pm 7.30pm
Sat	11	Beacon Village Quiz	Painswick Centre	7.30pm
Mon	13	Austerity Lunch: Hosts - Conservation Society	Painswick Centre	6.45 for 7.15pm
Tue	14	Bird Club: Wildfowl and Wetland Trust - Mike Teesdale	Christ Church Hall	12.00noon to 1.15pm
Wed	15	Fair Trade Coffee morning and Fair Trade stall London Coach - Fare £12. 813965/813227 Parish Council Meeting	Town Hall Croft School Stamages Car Park Town Hall	7.30pm 9.30am to 11.30am 8.30am 7.30pm
Fri	17	&18 YiPPies production: The Magicians Nephew	Painswick Centre	7.30pm (Matinée Sat.)
Sat	18	Copy dateline for April to Editorial Team		
Mon	20	Austerity Lunch: Hosts - Horticultural Society	Christ Church Hall	12.00noon to 1.15pm
Tue	21	Local History Society: Pitchcombe - Notes and Recollections - Michael Little Jazz Evening no entry fee	Croft School Ostlers Room, Falcon	7.30pm 8.30pm
Wed	22	Probus: Brunel as a Railway Engineer - D Cartwright Women's Fellowship: Childhood Memories	Ostlers Room, Falcon Christ Church Hall	10.00am 7.30pm
Thu	23	Diary deadline for April to Edwina Buttrey via. Beacon box please Music Appreciation: The Art of the Accompanist	Cotswold Room	7.30pm
Fri	24	Friday Club: "Bees continued" - Craig Dunn	Town Hall	2.30pm
Sat	25	3rd Annual Mother's Day Crocus Walk - refreshments available afterwards	Croft School	2.30pm
Sun	26	Painswick Beacon Conservation Group Scrub Clearing. Contact John Rhodes - 812709.	Car Park opposite the Golf Club	10.00am
Tue	28	Yew Trees WI: Porridge - Mrs P Cottle	Town Hall	7.30pm
Wed	29	Horticultural Soc: Bookings morning for outings	Church Rooms	10.00am to 12noon

APRIL

Sat	1	April issue of The Painswick Beacon published Coffee Morning (Helen & Anne) in aid of Emmaus	Town Hall	9.45 to 12 noon
Wed	5	Probus: The Cossacks - Mr M Chance Carers: second pension closing date	Ostlers Room, Falcon	10.00am
Thu	6	Cotswold Care Support Group Meeting Music Appreciation: Children and Music	Ashwell House Cotswold Room	2.30pm 7.30pm
Fri	7	Painswick Playgroup's Easter Egg Trail (<i>page 11</i>) Friday Club: Fashion show "Weekenders" Adrian Ivey A Bingo Evening in aid of the Cobalt Unit	Rococo Gardens Town Hall Town Hall.	2.30 to 4.30pm 2.30pm 7.00 for 7.30pm.
Sat	8	Painswick Music Society Concert: Irvine and Pavri	St Mary's Church	3.00pm
Wed	12	Horticultural Society: Show Presentation Easter Fun Day: Crafts, games & fun for children	Town Hall Church Rooms	7.30pm 2.00 to 4.15pm
Thu	13	Easter Country Market: Coffee served as usual	Town Hall	10.00am
Fri	14	No Country Market Today Good Friday Procession of Witness (start from) Exhibition of paintings by Rupert Aker (daily until 17th April). 25% of proceeds to Church restoration fund	St Mary's Church Town Hall	10.30am Daily



Tue	18	Local History Society: Research Evening	Croft School	7.30pm
Wed	19	Probus: AGM Coach to Bath: Enquiries 813965/813227	Ostlers Room, Falcon Stamages Car Park	10.00am 10.00am
Thu	20	Music Appreciation: Last night of 18th Season	Cotswold Room	7.30pm
Sat	22	Painswick Music Society Concert: Sir Thomas Allen	St Mary's Church	3.00pm
Tue	25	Yew Trees WI: The Elsa Conservation Trust	Town Hall	7.30pm
Wed	26	Painswick & District Conservation Society AGM - With guest Speaker	St Mary's Church Rooms	7.00 for 7.30pm
Fri	28	Friday Club: Being a Churchwarden & more - David Ryland	Town Hall	2.30pm
MAY				
Wed	3	Probus: 007 – Alias Ian Fleming: Mr M Freedman	Ostlers room, Falcon	10.00am
Thu	4	&5/6 Painswick Players: Month of Sundays Cotswold Care Support Group Meeting	Painswick Centre Ashwell House	7.30pm 2.30pm
Sat	6	Painswick Music Society Concert: Nicola Eimer, piano	St Mary's Church	3.00pm
Wed	10	Horticultural Society AGM, followed by talk - The work of 'Perennial' - Susan Bowers (with raffle)	Town Hall	7.30pm 8.15pm
Fri	12	Friday Club: How to film a dwarf - Jane Treay	Town Hall	2.30pm
Sat	13	Horticultural Society Chairman's Spring Social Event: Corsham Court & Supper at Uley Painswick Music Society: Allegri String Quartet (p.4)	Stamages Car Park St Mary's Church	2.30pm 3.00pm
Tue	16	Local History Society: Annual Outing Probus: Investigation of major crime – Mr C Eynon	Ostlers Room, Falcon	10.00am
Tue	23	Yew Trees WI: Badgers - Tony Dean	Town Hall	7.30pm
Fri	26	Friday Club Outing		
Sat	27	Fête: Fundraising for St Mary's churchyard	Painswick House	tba
Wed	31	Probus: French wines from the Romans to the Supermarket – Mr J Storer	Ostlers Room, Falcon	10.00am
JUNE				
Thu	1	Cotswold Care Support Group Meeting	Ashwell House	2.30pm
Fri	9	Friday Club: Bare foot to Buckingham Palace	Town Hall	2.30pm
Wed	14	Probus: Wildlife in the garden – Mr D Cramp	Ostlers Room, Falcon	10.00am
Tue	20	Local History Society: AGM	Croft School	7.30pm
Fri	23	Friday Club: Strawberries & Cream Tea (Stalls etc)	Yew Tree House	2.30pm
Tue	27	Yew Trees WI: talk about the Everyman Theatre	Town Hall	7.30pm
Wed	28	Probus: They didn't say it was dangerous (Bomber Command) – Mr N Brown	Ostlers Room, Falcon	10.00am
JULY				
Sun	2	Summer Fayre Country House Sale	Croft School Painswick Centre	tba
Thu	6	Cotswold Care Support Group Meeting	Ashwell House	2.30pm
Fri	7	Friday Club: Arsenic & Old Lace - Patricia Moroney	Town Hall	2.30pm
Sat	8	Tennis Club Summer Social		
Wed	12	Probus: Falcon Bowling Club Meet	Ostlers Room, Falcon	10.00am
Fri	21	Friday Club: Being Chairman of the Parish Council	Town Hall	2.30pm
Tue	25	Probus: Ladies' Lunch at The Hill, Stroud Yew Trees WI: BBC Radio Gloucestershire	Town Hall	7.30pm
SEPTEMBER				
Fri	8	Friday Club: Pilates - Heidi Hardy	Town Hall	2.30pm
Sat	9	Horticultural Society: Annual Show	Painswick Centre Hall	3.00 to 5.00pm
Wed	13	Probus: The Silk Road – Mr P Covey-Crump	Ostlers Room, Falcon	10.00am
Fri	22	Friday Club Outing to Bristol Zoo		
Tue	26	Yew Trees WI: Travel ...paintings - Peter Jenkins	Town Hall	7.30pm
OCTOBER				
Fri	6	Friday Club: Painting with Adele	Town Hall	2.30pm
Wed	11	Horticultural Society: The ... Outer Hebrides	Town Hall	7.30pm
Fri	20	Friday Club: "Variety is the spice of life" - Linda Evans	Town Hall	2.30pm
Tue	24	Yew Trees WI: Cookery demonstration - Robert Rees	Church Rooms	7.30pm
NOVEMBER				
Wed	1	Tennis Club AGM	Sports Club, Broadham	
Fri	3	Friday Club AGM: followed by ... "Age Concern"	Town Hall	1.45pm & 2.30pm
Fri	10	Tennis Club Quiz Night	Broadham Fields	
Sat	11	Sue Ryder Care Coffee Morning	Town Hall	9.45am to 12 noon
Fri	17	Friday Club Outing to Cribbs Causeway		tba
Tue	28	Yew Trees WI: AGM & talk on Local Cheeses	Town Hall	7.30pm



NEW APPLICATIONS

CORVARA, COTSWOLD MEAD Extension of existing flat roof covered area. Removal of old pantry & boiler room to create study & utility rooms. New flat roof to cover total.

GREENSTEDE, CASTLE CLOSE Erection of an extension to dwelling.

14 CHURCHILL WAY Erection of 2 storey side extension. Demolition of existing garage.

SHEEPSCOMBE HOUSE, SHEEPSCOMBE Resubmission following refusal. Refurbishment of existing outbuildings to form home office.

HIGH VOLTAGE OVERHEAD LINE, CHELTENHAM ROAD Replace existing overhead line with underground cable and relocate terminal pole.

2 HAMBUTTS MEAD Erection of single storey extension

BELL COTTAGE, FRIDAY STREET Repointing of front elevation of property with traditional lime mortar, removal of redundant chimney flue and stack, make good roof with tiles to match existing

JENKINS FARM, JENKINS LANE, EDGE Erection of wooden storage shed

LYNWOOD, SLAD Erection of three storey extension with alterations to rear roof

COLUMBUS COTTAGE, CHELTENHAM ROAD Erection of extensions to provide dining room, bedroom, bathroom and therapeutic pool.

MANTEG, SLAD Erection of rear extension

GREYCOT, FAR END, SHEEPSCOMBE Extension to dwelling

CONSENT

PREACHERS BARN, WICK STREET, PAINSWICK Retrospective application for conversion of barn to dwelling

LULLINGWORTH, STROUD ROAD, PAINSWICK Alterations to kitchen wing

LULLINGWORTH, STROUD ROAD, PAINSWICK Alterations to entrance & erection of internal gate

GREENHOUSE COURT, GREENHOUSE LANE, PAINSWICK Work to various trees

APPEAL DISMISSED

GLENDALE, VICARAGE STREET, PAINSWICK Retrospective application for installation of a combi-boiler

Planning on-line

Barbara Tait, SDC Cabinet Member for Planning reports:

I think it is important that the general public are aware of the fact that SDC now have facilities for on-line planning. We have issued a press release, but I have realised that The Beacon have not had this information, so hope that you will allow me to publicise this exciting news through your columns.

We went 'on line' in December, and this enables anyone to look at submitted plans, submit plans themselves, pay for their applications via the website, see relevant policies which effect each area or application, and they can also comment on applications. This enables us to achieve higher standards of service to the public, as well as earning 'points' towards our Planning Delivery Grant, which in turn, aids further improvements to our quality of service. (We could have earned 21 points for this, dependent on its scope and quality, and did, in fact, achieve all 21 points!). The Planning Delivery Grant is an award from the Government and according to meeting many targets, - this being one of them, - affects our grant from them. I would urge readers to look at www.stroud.gov.uk/planning and examine the site for themselves. It really is a huge step forward!

Readers are reminded that the Police non-emergency number is **08450 901234**

Direct line to Painswick's PC Karl Wallace **07799 624643**



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FREE-ADS is a new free service for recycling unwanted possessions to good new homes, free of charge. FREE-ADS - maximum of 30 words - can be emailed to painswickbeacon@supanet.com or placed in the Beacon Post Box in New Street.

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The Personal Column

Babies

Congratulations to LAURA BAMFORD and PETER GILLARD on the birth of Milly Kate, in Gateshead, a first great-grandchild for Dulcie and Leslie Brotherton.

Welcome

We would like to welcome Dr ATTILA SIPOS, his wife, ANDREA and their daughters, ESZTER (2yrs 4mths) and REBEKA (4mths) to 10, The Croft, and EMMA and NICK WATKIN to Rosemullion, Lower Washwell Lane from Tewkesbury and Mr and Mrs SPARROW who will be moving into Appleshaw in Pitchcombe

Farewell

We say farewell to Mr and Mrs REASON, who are moving from Appleshaw in Pitchcombe, and to BERYL GYDE, who after living in Painswick for 50 years, has recently moved from Ashwell house to a residential care home in Stroud

Get well soon

Our best wishes for a speedy recovery to BETTY HERBERT, KEN OLIVER, DIANE LONGUET-HIGGINS, JOSEPHINE EVANS, PAULINE LAMONT, SEPTIMA WOOLLEY and RACHEL TAYLOR who have all been in hospital recently.

Condolences

Our sincere sympathies to the family and friends of LESLIE CHAPMAN, MURIEL CURTIS of Ashwell House (who lived in Edge for 60 years and taught at Edge School) and Tom Gale of Edge (at the age of 99), all of whom have died recently.

Congratulations

Our congratulations to ROBERT BURGESS on gaining a place at Trinity College to study piano accompaniment, in September.

Thank you

Hilda Musty would like to thank all friends & neighbours for their care and support before and during her stay in hospital. Cards, messages, flowers & gifts have all been very much appreciated.



Brief encounters

Inspired by the Richard Ingrams book 'I Once Met' - a collection of

fifty encounters between the great and not-so-great - we plan an occasional series recounting the brief encounters of Painswickians with the famous and infamous over the years.

We will be delighted to receive, in less than 400 words, readers experiences of memorable meetings. Hopefully, we will receive more than sufficient for publication and be able to select some to share from time to time with our readers.

To set the ball rolling (and using only 140 words) we have the following account from Rachel Taylor of her brief encounter with Ivor Novello...

And finally...

Rachel Taylor, the indefatigable eyes and ears of the Beacon's Personal Column, will be in hospital as the March Beacon is published for a long awaited knee operation (for which we wish her well). In her (hopefully) short absence, Rachel will not be quite 'hands on' for the April Beacon. Please place any items for the Personal Column in the Beacon Post Box.

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NEXT ISSUE

Publication Date

SATURDAY 1st APRIL

Items for publication to Editorial Team using E-mail or the Beacon Post Box by
SATURDAY 18th MARCH

Mini Ads to the Treasurer, Philip Oakley, Stoneleigh, Gloucester Street, GL6 6QN

SUNDAY 19th MARCH

Business adverts to Dermot Cassidy at 1 Painswick Heights, Yokehouse Lane, Painswick GL6 7QS by

THURSDAY 16th MARCH

Diary items (only) to Edwina Buttrey

THURSDAY 23rd MARCH

Letters and articles for publication are particularly welcome by Email to painswickbeacon@supanet.com or, alternatively, on computer disk. Items to be published, and other mail for the Beacon Committee, can also be placed in the **Beacon Post Box** in New Street - next to the telephone kiosk. Please be sure to provide your name, address and a contact phone number. The **Beacon's telephone number is 814500**

Our web site is

www.painswickbeacon.org.uk

including **Beaconline** carrying the Painswick Beacon web edition

Address for general correspondence *not items for publication,*

Stoneleigh, Gloucester Street GL6 6QN

Beacon Committee

Editorial team this month

Jack Burgess, Leslie Brotherton, Dermot Cassidy, and Terry Parker*

**co-ordination and compiling*

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Diary: Edwina Buttrey 812565

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