

The Personal Column

Babies

Congratulations to LIZZIE and DAVID SMITH on the birth of their son, Harry Charles, on 14th May.

Engagements

Congratulations, through Tony and Liz Priestley of Orchard Mead, who are delighted to announce the engagement of their daughter STEPHANIE to SAM, son of Richard and Sue Harris of Prestbury, Cheltenham; and congratulations to STUART NAYEGON of Painswick Beacon and JODY LEE on the announcement of their engagement.

Weddings

Congratulations to MELISSA CLARKSON of Orchard Mead, and GRANT BUTLER of Brighton, who were married at Lodge Park, Aldsworth on 18th May; and also to CHRISTINA NARGI from New York and JAMES COLBY, son of Hugh and Bet Colby of Churchill Way, who were married at Bath on 16th June; and congratulations to LUCY BRECKNELL and MARK WHITMAN who were married at Clearwell Castle, Forest of Dean, on 2nd June.

Welcome

We would welcome PAUL and CLARE RANGERSON who have moved into 17 Gyde House from Bristol; also DAMON BLANDFORD who has moved into Woodsend Cottage, Butt Green; and Mr and Mrs HILL who are moving into Willowbridge, Kingsmill Lane; also JULIA and GRAHAM MUNDELL and their two daughters who have moved into Stonecroft in Cheltenham Road; and JEFF and JAN CLARKE who have moved into Apartment 15 at Richmond Painswick,

and their friends, JIM and JEN McNAMARA who have moved into Apartment 1; also GILLIAN BISHOP who has moved into Apartment 7, and BETTY HERBERT who has moved into Apartment 3 prior to transferring into her suite in early August, and EDDIE and ELSA SHRIVE who have moved back to Painswick from Cheltenham, into Three Owls in Blakewell Mead.

Farewell

JEAN PARRY-WILLIAMS has moved to Nottingham from Hyett Orchard

Get well soon

Our best wishes for a speedy recovery to DAVID RYLAND and DAVID HARLEY.

Congratulations

Congratulations to FRANCES PATERSON of Sheepscombe on her award of the MBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours List for her services as a solicitor to the construction industry; and also to SOPHIE HINDS on successfully completing her basic training and passing out at the naval base HMS Raleigh, Sophie was presented with the Owen Cup for top recruit. A proud moment for all the family, especially for Sophie's granny Naomi Maclaurin-Jones. Sophie has now gone to HMS Collingwood where she will train as a warfare specialist.

Birthday

BETTY COPE celebrates her 91st birthday on 9th July - and still a Puffin!

Shared birthday

We wonder how many couples share the same birthday as do HAROLD and BETTY WOOD on 4th July?

Deaths

Our sincere sympathies to the family and friends of ELIZABETH WEBSTER and JENNY MURRAY, who died recently.

Personal messages

David and Jean Ryland would like to thank everyone for their good wishes and support during David's recent hospitalisation. We were totally overwhelmed and humbled.

Rachel Taylor welcomes information for the Personal Column. Space limitations permit only a small amount of text and your assistance in this regard is helpful.

NEXT ISSUE

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Beacon Committee

Co-ordinating Editor this month
Leslie Brotherton 813101
Personal Column
Rachel Taylor 813402
Diary
Edwina Buttrey 812565
Feature writers
Carol Maxwell 813387
Jack Burgess 812167
Leslie Brotherton 813101
Advertising
Dermot Cassidy 813737
Directory
Leslie Brotherton 813101
Distribution
Celia Lougher 812624
Treasurer
Richard Aspinall 812379
Subscriptions
Shirley Clark 812378
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The Painswick Beacon

Volume 30 Number 4

Sine praeiudicio

July 2007

Cricket Club's successes

Painswick Cricket Club is having one of the most successful seasons in the club's history. Chairman John Hogg told the Beacon that the club's victories over the Stroud and Cheltenham first elevens reflected a level of achievement almost certainly without equal in the club's history. They are currently top of Gloucestershire Division of the West of England Premier Cricket League.

With three sides now competing in the various leagues and a very strong junior section the club's future seems assured. Several players have scored centuries with Ed Bressington (pictured) achieving the 100 run mark in successive weeks. Success has not been restricted to the bat with, for example, James Harber taking a match winning six wickets for 55 runs against Woodmancote in a league game. The one disappointment for the players has been the exceptionally wet weather which has caused the cancellation of a number of games.

The reporting of the club's matches has not only been in the local press as Radio Gloucestershire has 'adopted' the Painswick Club. Each Monday morning at around 8.45am the radio station carries reports of the weekend matches usually presented by the former Club Secretary Andrew Wise.

Spectators are always welcome at the Broadham Fields ground. Fixture details are published on page 14. Why not come along and support the players?



Flash flow

Most parts of the country experienced massive rainfall on 25th June, and Painswick had its share.

While most of us live up-slope, and witnessed cascading water running off the hillsides and affecting our own gardens, those alongside such as the Painswick Stream received the most.

These snapshots captured swirling and fast-flowing waters and reminded those who saw them of the impact they can have upon our otherwise tranquil way of life, and the threat they contain for anyone caught in irresistible currents.

The Beacon asked the Meteorological Office if they had a measure of rainfall here on 25th June.

Unfortunately they did not have an exact figure for Painswick, but replied that "The best we can with regards to specific rainfall details for the area is Little Rissington, which had 37.6mm of rain in 24 hours up to 10 o'clock on Monday evening". Our calculations make that nearly an inch and a half, so we can count ourselves fortunate compared with many areas. They went on to say that "The wettest June for the whole of Gloucestershire was 1985 when 132.5mm fell. Between 1st and 25th June this year, the county has had 95.5 mm, some way off the record which dates back to 1914."

No further comment than that most of ours fell before breakfast!

On other pages this month: **Post Office** bureaucratic latest, Summer holiday **rugby Tag V** camps, **QPC** nearer, **cricket glory**, a **ring for the rec**, fun + **dogs for all**, new **business news**, the revamped **tourism web site**, enquiry from **Virginia**, pressure mounts for **PO**, a brand new **Councillor**, several exhibitions, **fun on the Green** in Edge, **its Pan** at the Rococo, **50 on Fridays**, a new **book review**, many **moving around**, the **big feast in Cranham** and a **fete at the Croft**, the **Beacon litter free**.

COMPLETE LANDSCAPE FROM START TO FINISH

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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 and committee meetings are available at the Council office and elsewhere.

PLANNING COMMITTEE

Eyesores

The committee had received representations from the Painswick and District Conservation Society that it should initiate some action with regard to what it regarded as two property eyesores in the village. Hesitant to take action without advice from the District Council it was reported that SDC itself would never take action in such circumstances unless there was significant dereliction or such as a Health and Safety consideration; they had gone on to suggest that the Parish Council also restrain itself likewise.

Chairman David Hudson expressed a contrary view but the committee acquiesced in the advice received from the District Council.

Planning White Paper

The committee was advised that any comments/observations upon the White Paper 'Planning for a Sustainable Future' published by HM Government on 21st May were required by the District Council no later than 13th August.

In a precis of its own summary (see pages on Internet): The White Paper sets out detailed proposals for reform of the planning system, building on recommendations for improving the speed, responsiveness and efficiency in land use planning, and taking forward proposals for reform of major infrastructure planning.

It proposes reforms on how we take decisions on nationally significant infrastructure projects - including energy, waste, waste-water and transport - responding to the challenges of economic globalisation and climate change.

It also proposes further reforms to the Town and Country Planning system, building on the recent improvements to make it more efficient and more responsive.

The committee accepted the offer made by David Hudson to draft a response for consideration at the next meeting. He expressed disquiet that the remorseless quest for speeding up the process for determining planning applications seemed likely to exclude inputs from parish councils, this to the detriment of sensitiv-

ity towards local opinion and knowledge. He pointed out, by way of example of exclusion, that he had never been invited to a District Council sites inspection panel meeting, thereby preventing his ensuring that the views of the Parish Council upon an application had been taken into account or being on hand to respond to any queries the panel might have and which required local knowledge. Upon prompting, Mr Hudson accepted that he had been invited to the SDC panel meeting relating to Phase 3 of the Richmond-Painswick development.

PARISH COUNCIL

Post Office representations

The outrage of the Council, reported here last month, led to a strongly worded letter being sent to senior management within Royal Mail Group Ltd; that outrage recurred with increased feeling when it was reported that no reply or even acknowledgement had been received. Ann Burges Watson immediately suggested that a mini-bus be hired and some Councillors and public proceed to RMG Headquarters in Barnsley, with maximum publicity, to 'seek satisfaction'.

Only slightly more moderate views prevailed, it being agreed that a further letter be despatched on the next day and, if an almost immediate response is not forthcoming, positive action be initiated.

Co-option - Slad Ward

Consequent upon the resignation of Jeanne Berry, and after giving due statutory notice, the Council resolved to co-opt Mr Norrie Curtis of The Laurels, Slad GL6 7QD, telephone 813491 to serve as one of the two Slad members, Jackie Woof being the other representative.

Recreation Field - meeting point

The Council has, over many months, been considering alternatives to a 'youth shelter' to be located on this field. The desire for an alternative has been stimulated by the proximity of private houses to all boundaries of the field and, hence, difficulty in finding a location for a shelter which did not aggravate relationships with nearby residents and/or preclude events which required uninterrupted space on the field.

Neighbourhood Wardens had carefully investigated alternatives and, after receiving strong support from young people themselves, recommended the acquisition of a basketball post and ring/net with rubberised surface below, this located away from the perimeter of the field but not too far from the pavilion. The Council, which was holding sufficient funds from Section 106 agreements, approved the scheme subject to agreeing its location on the field.

Pullens Road pedestrian safety

The Council gave preliminary consideration to a letter received, from a non-resident of Pullens Road, containing details of his own and other pedestrian experiences. He noted that police had recently issued parking tickets for some cars parked on pavements, and his understanding that one pedestrian had been grazed by a passing car. He had himself experienced a 'near miss' when a removal lorry needed to make an emergency stop to avoid hitting him.

It was reported, by the Neighbourhood Warden, that the police (who could not themselves attend the Council meeting that evening) would shortly be undertaking a survey of traffic in Pullens Road, their findings being reported to this Council and others in due course. Chairman of the Traffic Committee, Ann Burges Watson, expressed the hope that the time was not too far distant when no on-pavement parking was permitted/acceptable throughout the village.

The Stocks - and parking

Ann Daniels drew attention to there frequently being a car parked immediately in front of the stocks in St.Mary's Street, preventing proper viewing and possibility of visitors photographing this antiquity. The Council agreed to seek extension of the raised area to prevent such parking and, indeed, the placing of a descriptive plaque on the adjoining churchyard wall.

Quality Parish Council

See report, opposite, upon the Council being a step nearer recognition of its standards.



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PLANNING MATTERS A summary of information from the Parish Council.

NEW APPLICATIONS

LULLINGWORTH, STROUD ROAD.

New garage with games room over and enclosure. Removal of disused outbuilding.

OVERDALE, SLAD. Extensions to existing dwelling and garage.

KEMPS ORCHARD, KEMPS LANE. Erection of a shed.

PEN Y BRYN, SLAD. Erection of an extension.

1 WOODBINE COTTAGE, SLAD

ROAD, SLAD. Single storey extension to provide a porch.

MADISON HOUSE, NEW STREET.

Retrospective application for the erection of a garden shed.

GATTAMORA, FRIDAY STREET.

Erection of an extension.

BEAMSLEY, CHELTENHAM ROAD.

Revised application for a single storey stable block following permission 07/0426/FUL.

GLEBE END, LOWER WASHWELL LANE. 2 storey rear extension and single storey extension to provide utility room.

FOURWAYS, QUEEN'S MEAD. 2 storey side and rear extension, garage, conservatory & swimming pool.

5 CLATTERGROVE COTTAGES, CLATTERGROVE. Erection of a 2 storey extension.

RED LION HOUSE, ST MARY'S STREET. Erection of extension (existing conservatory to be demolished).

CONSENT

CARDYNHAM HOUSE, TIBBIWELL.

Internal alterations/refurbishment.

COURT HOUSE, HALE LANE.

Construction of new party wall to separate Courtside from Court House.

DAMSELLS FARM, SHEEPSCOMBE LANE. Refurbishment of existing outbuilding for ancillary domestic accommodation.

COURTSIDE, HALE LANE.

Alterations within the existing house. Extension to form new utility room and conversion of former stables to guest accommodation ancillary to the use of the house.

WOODSEND COTTAGE, BUTT GREEN. Variation of condition 5 (04/2432/FUL) to allow first floor north elevation to be clear glazed and bathroom windows in south elevation to be restricted opening to allow

ventilation.

HALEBOURNE, KNAPP LANE.

Erection of shed.

COOMBE HOUSE, VICARAGE STREET. Installation of traditional black iron railings along frontage of property. (Retrospective)

Telegraph Pole at YOKEHOUSE LANE.

Installation of an 8m high replica telegraph pole.

OAK HOUSE, HAMBUTTS DRIVE.

Installation of 3 rooflights.

DAMSELLS FARM. Alterations to existing roof and re-roofing works.

ST MICHAEL'S COTTAGE,

PARADISE. Erection of a 2 storey extension.

BEARS DEN, CHELTENHAM ROAD.

Erection of replacement outbuilding.

THE LANGET, KEMPS LANE. Attic conversion to provide 2 bedrooms & bathroom.

Erection of new workshop and garage. (Sheds to be demolished)

STABLES AT JENKINS BARN,

JENKINS LANE, EDGE. Conversion and change of use of stable to ancillary residential accommodation, part demolition, extension and restoration.

DORMER COTTAGE, BUTT GREEN.

Variation of condition 5 on planning permission 04/2432/FUL to allow first floor west elevation window to be clear glazed and openable.

REFUSAL

LAWN COTTAGE, PAINSWICK COURT, SHEEPSCOMBE.

Retrospective application for the erection of outbuilding.

Site for new dwelling adjacent

DAMSELLS LODGE. Outline application for the erection of a coach house (ancillary occupation to existing dwelling).

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MINI-ADS - non-commercial, maximum of 30 words - are 10p per word with a minimum payment of £1. Maximum of 14 accepted per month. Beacon subscribers have 25% discount. Please send money with mini-ad to Dermot Cassidy, 1 Painswick Heights, Yokehouse Lane, GL6 7QS. If paying by cheque, please make it payable to The Painswick Beacon.

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SATURDAY
9.00 - Noon



Tue	16	Local History Society: Heritage Protection – the effects of new legislation – Deborah Porter, English Heritage	Croft School	7.30pm
Wed	17	Probus: Roman Woodchester – Rev John Cull	Shire Rooms, Falcon	10.00am
Fri	19	Friday Club: World Authority on Handcuffs – Alex Nicholls	Town Hall	2.30pm
Tue	23	Yew Trees WI: Bess of Hardwicke – Gillian White	Town Hall	7.30pm
Thu	25	Day of Prayer for World Peace	Catholic Church	9.00am to 7.30pm
Sat	27	Concert by Amorata	Painswick Centre	7.30pm
Wed	31	Probus: Robbie Burns & Tam O'Shanter – Mr I Willox	Shire Rooms, Falcon	10.00am

NOVEMBER

Fri	2	Friday Club: AGM+ Experiences of a Town Crier	Town Hall	1.45pm
Sat	3	Christian Aid Coffee Morning	Town Hall	10.00am to 12noon
Sat	10	Sue Ryder Care Coffee Morning	Town Hall	9.45am to 12 noon
Tue	13	Bird Club: Gardening for Wildlife – Helen Williams ARPS - Cards and pictures for sale.	Town Hall	7.30pm
Wed	14	Probus: Early Ships – Mr Bill Cowie CTAP AGM	Shire Rooms, Falcon Church Rooms	10.00am 7.30pm
Fri	16	Friday Club: outing Filkins Cloth Mill and Burford Garden.. Centre		tba
Tue	20	Local History Society: Aviation history in the Cotswolds - Graham Pitchfork	Croft School	7.30pm
Sat	24	St Mary's Church Annual Bazaar	Church Rooms	11.00am to 2.00pm
Tue	27	Yew Trees WI: Annual Meeting and talk on Rococo Gardens – Paul Moir	Town Hall	7.30pm
Wed	28	Probus: Christmas Lunch		
Fri	30	Friday Club: 100 years of life in Painswick; David Archard	Town Hall	2.30pm

DECEMBER

Sat	1	Gloucester Salvation Army Brass Band Christmas concert	Painswick Centre	7.00pm.
Thu	6	to 8th Painswick Players production (see p. 18)		
Fri	7	Friday Club: Handbell Ringing – Steve Coleman	Town Hall	2.30pm
Tue	11	Yew Trees WI: Spiccraft – Katherine Kear	Town Hall	7.30pm
Wed	12	Probus: Malvern Chase & Battle of Tewkesbury - Mr Bill Gregory	Shire Rooms, Falcon	10.00am
Fri	14	Friday Club: Christmas Lunch		

2008

JANUARY

Tue	15	Local History Society: A Briggs / Archard production!	Croft School	7.30pm
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FEBRUARY

Tue	19	Bird Club: Wildlife encounters in Antarctica and the Southern Ocean – Dr Richard Sale	Town Hall	2.15pm
		Local History Society: Local properties and the work of the National Trust – Paul Rutter	Croft School	7.30pm

MARCH

Tue	11	Bird Club: Birds of Australia – Ged Cassell: followed by AGM	Town Hall	7.30pm
Tue	18	Local History Society: The Railway that Never Was - Jill Simmons	Croft School	7.30pm

APRIL

Tue	15	Local History Society: Research Evening	Croft School	7.30pm
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MAY

Tue	20	Local History Society: Annual Outing	Croft School	7.30pm
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JUNE

Tue	17	Local History Society: AGM	Croft School	7.30pm
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Please help us help you by letting us have copy of complete programmes of meetings, or single events, as soon as they are known. In this way our forward listing of them all can be of maximum assistance to organisers anxious to avoid clashes of dates. Thank you.

Summer Fair

Please come and join the fun at the **Croft School** Summer Fair.

It is at the School on Sunday 15th July 2.00 – 4.00pm and there will be a **BBQ, BAR, BRASS BAND** and lots of wonderful traditional stalls with fun for all ages. Try the **COCONUT SHY, SPLAT THE RAT,** win the **AEROPLANE RACE,** make some **JEWELLERY,** bounce on that **BOUNCY CASTLE,** have your **FACE PAINTED,** rule at **SKITTLES,** take **PONY RIDE,** play **GOAL AGAINST A DAD** or brave the **WHAT'S IN THE BOX** challenge and lots more – and then enjoy the **ICE CREAM PARLOUR,** a **PIMMS,** or a cooling **BEER** and a delicious **HOT DOG.** Lots of fun guaranteed!



Andrea Robinson

Roy Balgobin . . . CLCA

At the meeting of the Parish Council in June the Chairman, Terry Parker, publicly congratulated Clerk Roy Balgobin upon his obtaining, as a result of lengthy study, the Certificate in Local Council Administration.

This standard is required of the clerk of any Council seeking the status of 'Quality Parish Council' and it means that documents can now be prepared for submission to the Accreditation Panel in December this year.



New Summer Exhibition



July sees a new exhibition at the Fiery Beacon Gallery with work by a number of new artists as well as some old favourites. "We have focussed on some new work for the home and garden" says proprietor Janet Groves.

The exhibition features a range of unique handmade insects for the garden together with a selection of embroidered cushions and hand woven bags. Unusual hanging vases feature alongside work by a new potter.

"We are delighted to introduce a number of new artists in this exhibition and we continue to offer a wide selection of high quality work including glass, ceramics, jewellery and handmade cards" says Janet. The exhibition, which began on Friday 22nd June, runs until the end of August.

Christian Aid Week

I am almost lost for words – a rare thing for me. We keep asking ourselves, "Where does it all come from?" Last year, in the 6 villages of the Painswick Valleys Area, we raised very nearly £10,000 in the week and we were bowled over. This year the total is **£11,171!** With the wonderful additional contribution of £700 from Painswick Austerity Lunches we are able to send £12,000 to Christian Aid.

You will want to know how the money was raised.

Lunches	£1157
Stalls and Garden	£2227
House to house collections	
Painswick	£4457
Sheepscombe	£1144
Cranham	£1358
Edge	£81
Pitchcombe	£632
Harescombe	£115
	£11,171

A further £1267 will be raised through gift aid.

It is difficult to know where to start with Thank You's,
 · The committee, drawn from all villages and churches, who worked so hard;
 · The congregation of Christ Church who once again allowed us to take over their church and their hall;

· Those who helped in the shop and café, unpacking boxes, providing and serving food, growing plants and manning stalls;
 · All the gallant house-to-house collectors who thankfully were spared the appalling weather we suffered last year;
 · The "open garden" hosts;
 · Last but not most important of all – those who gave money, donated goods, visited stalls and were so appreciative of the wonderful lunches.

Thank you SO much on behalf of all who will benefit.

Liz Davies



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Active youngsters!

Sorting through the rubbish: A group of young people offered their "penny's worth" to the village effort of making Painswick a tidier place for the Bledisloe Cup. They were spotted one Monday evening with litter-pickers and black sacks in hand, combing the recreation ground for rubbish. Assisted by our Community Warden, Gerry McGrath and Youth Minister (PSALMS), Tim Friend, a fine job was done. But who are these community-hearted young souls?

The young people are members of SORTED! who meet together at the Youth Club every Monday evening during term-time, 5.00pm-6.45pm. Their purpose? To explore the Christian message and put it into action, partly by serving the community. For those a little older, The Vibe (lit. 'a distinct atmosphere') meets on the same evenings from 7.15pm to 9pm. For more info, contact Tim Friend on 07866.323388.

The Croft and Cranham schools were treated to some unusual visitors!

The March of the Abolitionists called in at the schools on their journey between Bristol and Liverpool, responding to Kerstin Friend's invitation (PSALMS' Primary Schools Worker). This was all part of an epic seven-year (walking) journey which concludes this year having visited many countries. The team walked into school in yokes and chains – what a sight for the children! It was a very visual demonstration of how those caught in the slave trade 200 years ago would have been treated. This all helped explain what the Bi-centenary of the Abolition of The Slave Trade is about. The team were then chained up again and carried on their long journey to Liverpool!



Holiday Club is back!

After such a successful event last year with Seaside Rock, PSALMS' Holiday Club for primary-aged children returns, this time going 'Egyptian style' as we journey through the adventures of Joseph in Pyramid Rock. Games galore, Egyptian craft, and Professor Potty is back! 29th – 31st August at The Croft School. Booking forms will be in schools soon. For more info, contact Kerstin on 07729.980245.

Tim Friend

At the station

This term the children of Painswick Playgroup have been learning about the emergency services; Police, Fire, Ambulance and Coast Guard. Beaty Bell, Playgroup Leader says "On Thursday, 21st June we visited our very own fire station here in Painswick (pictured here), and met



retained fire-fighter Wayne Lee who showed the children around the fire engine and the station and explained to them what to do if they saw a fire."

All the children took turns to sit in the fire engine and try on a fire-fighters helmet, which was very heavy indeed! Wayne also dressed Playgroup Leader Beaty Bell in a fire fighters uniform and Sharron Andrews teased her by saying "if the alarms go off now you will have to go with them!" Wayne demonstrated the breathing apparatus that he would use to go in to a smoke filled room and that a retained fire officer has another day job as well as being on call. The children were very impressed with their visit and delighted to have the opportunity to explore the community fire station that's on their doorstep.

Painswick Playgroup would also like to thank Gill Gyde and the Austerity Lunch Group for their kind and generous donation, we will be buying a new stationary 'station' for the children to enjoy with the money and also consider the purchase of a new security gate. Also thanks to Carol Maxwell for putting us into contact with Stroud College and Jane Kilpatrick who both answered our request for a filing cabinet in the April edition of the Beacon.

Emma Bradshaw 814210

"OLIVAS"

DELICATESSEN
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The Painswick Beacon detailed as far as space permits

THE VILLAGE DIARY

JULY

Fri	6	Keep on Moving Theatre Production £5 Tel: C Luke, 814132	Edge Village Hall	7.30pm
Sun	8	Wildflower walk with Painswick Beacon Conservation Group Edge Village Fete (see p.6)	Cemetery Car Park	2.00 for 2.15pm
Tue	10	Dog Training Club (Tuesdays) Yoga: Beginners welcome – Tuesdays - contact Emma 01453 840395	Edge Village Green Christ Church Hall Town Hall	5.00 to 7.00pm 9.30 to 12.00noon 10.00 to 1.15pm
Wed	11	Probus: The Magnificent "Seven" – Mr T Picken Bingo: Wednesdays – Tel. Ann, 813911/Liz, 813139	Shire Rooms, Falcon Painswick Centre	10.00am 7.30 to 10.00pm
Thu	12	Jolly Stompers Line Dancing: Beginners Experienced beginners – Thursdays Tea Dances – Thursdays Pilates Class – Thursdays	Town Hall Town Hall Painswick Centre Christ Church Hall	12.00 to 1.00pm 12.30 to 1.30pm 2.30 to 4.30pm Evenings
Fri	13	Country Market with coffee available Friday Club: Cheese making and Tasting – Liz Godsell Theatrical Fraternisation (see p.18)	Town Hall Town Hall	10.00am 2.30pm
Sat	14	Painswick Companion Dog Show and Charity Fun Day An Edwardian Evening to Remember	Recreation Field Painswick Centre	From 11.00am 7.15 to 11.30pm
Sun	15	Family Fun Day Croft School Summer Fair	Painswick Rugby Club Croft School	12.00 noon start 2.00 to 4.00pm
Wed	18	Parish Council	Edge Village Hall	7.30pm
Sat	21	Victorian Costume Ball. For info. Tel: 01453 883150 Copy dateline for August Beacon to 29th Exhibition of Paintings (see p.10) Open Gardens (see p.7) to 27th Cricket Week (see p.15)	Town Hall Sheepscombe Broadham Fields Town Hall	10.30am to 6.30pm 2.00 to 5.30pm 2.30pm daily 7.30pm
Sun	22	Yew Trees WI: Dundry Nurseries – Chris Evans	Rococo Garden	5.30 for 6.15pm
Mon	23	Probus: Ladies Lunch (to be confirmed) 'Neverland' performance (see p.7)	St. Mary's Church	7.30pm
Tue	24	The Cappella Singers in concert	Town Hall	2.30pm
Wed	25	Friday Club: Working Life on the Severn – Chris Witts	The Falcon	10.30am
Thu	26	Theatre Club outing to Bath	Broadham Fields	2.00pm
Fri	27	CTAP Cricket Match (see p.14)		
Sat	28			
Sun	29			

AUGUST

Sat	4	August Issue of The Painswick Beacon published		
Mon	6	to 10th Summer Holiday rugby Tag V (see p.16)	Recreation Field	var. 9.00am to 4.00pm
Sat	11	until 18th Country Studio Art Exhibition – daily Cranham Feast (see page 20 opposite)	Town Hall Cranham	10.00am to 5.00pm
Fri	17	Painswick Country Market Celebrating 50 years	Town Hall	10.00am as usual
Mon	20	to 24th Summer Holiday rugby Tag V (see p.16)	Recreation Field	var. 9.00am to 4.00pm
Thu	30	CTAP Away-Day. £5 incl. lunch. Details to follow	Rodborough Tabernacle	10.00am to 4.00pm

SEPTEMBER

Wed	5	Probus: The Silent Service - Mr J Yates	Shire Rooms, Falcon	10.00am
Fri	7	Friday Club: Canine Partners	Town Hall	2.30pm
Sat	8	Horticultural Society Annual Show	Painswick Centre	2.30pm to 5.30pm
Wed	12	Probus trip to SS Great Britain	tba	
Tue	18	Local History Society: Men Behaving Badly – Ian Mackintosh	Croft School	7.30pm
Wed	19	Tying the knot – Life in a Register Office – Mr R Nott	Shire Rooms, Falcon	10.00am
Fri	21	Friday Club: Where paths met – Pat Daly	Town Hall	2.30pm
Tue	25	Yew Trees WI: Victorian Stroud – Howard Beard	Town Hall	7.30pm

OCTOBER

Wed	3	Probus: Changes in China – Mr M Gemmil	Shire Rooms, Falcon	10.00am
Fri	5	Friday Club: outing 'Autumn Colours' – apple shopping	tba	
Tue	9	Bird Club: Illustrated talk: Natural history & conservation Of British owls – Chris Sperring MBE – TV presenter	Town Hall	7.30pm

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Letters

The inclusion of letters in these columns does not imply that the Beacon committee endorses the views expressed.

Post Office

Colleen Fisher writes:

With regard to the plight of Annie Littler in trying to sell the Post Office as a going concern, apparently the best way for the local residents to help is by as many as possible writing individually to the Post Office authorities expressing their views at the new regulations recently introduced which necessitate the Post Office remaining open all day Mondays - Fridays inclusive.

There is a petition to sign either at the Post Office or the Patchwork Mouse. However, the real 'clout' comes from as many individual letters as possible being sent. For preference letters addressed to Post Office Ltd, should be handed in at the Post Office for onward transmission to the authorities.

Many thanks to all willing to help in this way.

Pullens Road - parking

Linda Cooke, who has lived in Pullens Road since 1981, has written but we have had to precis because of length:

Vehicles have usually parked on one side of the road because some parts of the pathway only measure 18 inches across. Due to the heavy traffic and emergency services some parking has always been this way.

An exception is that one resident takes up multiple parking spaces; this causes a lot of ill feeling.

We have an intolerable situation due to a complaint from someone. At least three 'tickets' have been issued for parking on the kerbs. This seems to be a very unjust act; it would have been fairer for all residents to have received a warning first, rather than single out these being in the wrong place - it seems - at the wrong time.

I would like now for the complainer and Councillors at all levels, plus the Police urgently resolve this sad matter publicly. There should be one set of laws to adhere to for everyone and not just a chosen few.

(On this subject please see Parish Council News on page 2, and the impending survey by the Police of traffic in Pullens Road. Ed.)

£236.27

May I on behalf of the Painswick Centre of the British Red Cross thank the collectors for giving of their time and the people of Painswick for their generosity during our Red Cross Week.

We raised the sum of £236.27 which will go towards our services in Gloucestershire.

Joan Ashton

Cranham Feast August

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PROPERTY REPORT for August from Murrays

Business as usual – Jenny would not have wanted it any other way. Many of you may have heard that Jenny Murray died on 8th June having lost her battle against cancer. Most will remember her as the smiling face behind the desk of the Murrays office at St Michaels, which she opened in 1999. It quickly grew into one of the firm's most successful offices and expanded to the Baptist Chapel in 2002.

Jenny and her husband Clive first moved to Painswick some 25 years ago, Clive was a partner with Lear and Lear who had an office in the village and besides a few years in the Hebrides when they set up an award winning hotel, they have lived and been estate agents here ever since, Jenny having taken the Painswick office under her wing and developed it to its success today. Today it is run by their youngest son James, now a partner in the firm, who is under strict instructions to carry on where Mum left off. We believe Jenny left her mark and will be terribly missed.

She would have been pleased to see our half year results, running at some 60% up on completed sales. Despite the rises in interest rates accompanied by the depressing forecasts in the media, the market locally still remains strong and it seems that in the country we are gently easing into a more stable and reliable market taking some of the pressure off the buying and selling process. Perhaps the powers that be and the media should be looking at the wider picture before reacting too hastily to the ups and downs of London property, which after all is a market of its own.

We have been busy since our last report with lots of excellent new instructions and sales. New Instructions include Ashleigh a fantastic property in the centre of the village with a beautiful garden and workshop, Fair Hills with stunning views, Damsells Mill Cottage a classic Cotswold delight, 4 Clattergrove which backs on to the Beacon, Old Star House a beautifully restored house in the heart of the village, 19 Upper Washwell and 2 Whitehorse Lane, both well maintained houses in the village, Summer Place commanding excellent views in Sheepscombe, Winding Waters, a large house with swimming pool in the centre of Cranham, Ashcroft with a beautiful garden in Cranham, Fox Cottage with stunning views over the Cranham woods, Orchard Bungalow a newly refurbished house in Pitchcombe, The charming Laurel Cottage in Upton St Leonards, 2 Lady Downe Close also in Upton St Leonards.

Properties that have now sold or that are currently under offer are Dean Rise, Witches Tump in Cranham, Mermagen House in Vicarage Street, Vermont in Cranham, 7 Churchill Way and Court Cottage in Hale Lane.



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Painswick Gateway

The 'shadow' trustees, as anticipated in last month's notes in these pages, have met and reviewed the many aspects of research being undertaken to obtain clarity as to the nature of what might be achieved if/when the County Council's library premises are purchased.

Discussions have commenced with the County Librarian and his senior staff as a preliminary to looking at the extent and style of service which might be operating in the future.

Most importantly, considerable work has been undertaken upon formulating a business plan. For those with experience in such matters it will be appreciated that while the framework of such a plan is an important first step, it is the 'filling in' of the detail which is the real challenge. Further, any figures introduced must, in contemporary parlance, stack up. All will, of course, be brought fully into the public domain for community discussion as well as consideration by the several agencies concerned.

Of considerable importance has been the number and extent of pledges made by so many local people, concerned to retain these important premises and an indoor library service. The influence of this factor has resonated with several agencies, and the trustees are appreciative of this aspect. There is no intention of calling in those pledges until such time as the project receives approval.

Elaborating upon the detail of the work of the trustees is not practicable at this stage, and maybe for another few weeks. However, be assured, few stones are being left un-turned.

Leslie Brotherton Manager



July

When Charlie Taylor booked the Hall for a two day 'Unique Sale', on 23rd-24th June, we didn't really know what to expect. We knew that her speciality was hand painted furniture, but the range of goods she managed to cram into the

Hall was truly amazing. On display was a Cotswold stone dining table, lots of hand painted furniture for house and garden, a lovely range of jewellery, textiles, carpets, delightful stylish leather handbags and lots more.

This was a family affair as Mum made the cakes and served the teas. Charlie is planning to return for a re-run later in the year.

On their future events programme, the Trustees have added one more to the Centenary programme. We have booked the Gloucester Salvation Army Brass Band for a pre-Christmas concert, on Saturday, 1st December at 7.00pm. The programme will include seasonal music, a fruit punch and lots of mince pies. If that doesn't get you into the Christmas spirit, nothing will!

Tickets for the Edwardian Evening to Remember on Saturday, 14th July, are in great demand. If you haven't purchased yours yet then do start thinking about it! Seven of the ten tables are now spoken for, so if you don't hurry you'll miss a fabulous event. Tickets can be bought from The Shetland Shop or by phoning 814070.

Note that if the ticket you are offered has the date of the event on the front, it is undoubtedly a forgery!

Ralph Drew Trustee




Two wedding receptions have been hosted in the Centre in the past four weeks, one for 110 and another for just 58.

The hall is very versatile, and we illustrated a very fine layout in our May edition.

Here another for the smaller event.

Ed.

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History teaser

This month we invite you to consider Who? Where? When?. If clues will help we can offer 'Painswick postie and a children's seat of learning connections'.

Last month's photograph was taken on the occasion of Painswick's very first street market and also marked the celebration of the Queen's Silver Jubilee. It was, of course, 1977.



Looking at the picture from left to right the happy trio included the late Valerie Poulden who lived at

Lovedays Mill, the late Derek Simmons who was a well known and popular Painswick man and rugby and cricket player, and Jill Simmons, Derek's wife, who was for many years a Parish Councillor.

It was taken in the tavern set up in front of the Gables in Friday Street.

Carol Maxwell

A Fete

with a view

The village of Edge will be having two summer events on the weekend of the 6/8th July.

Firstly a performance by Fairgame Theatre in association with the Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury called 'Keep on Moving'. This is one hour of theatrical fun based on the acts and characters who travelled the old fairground circuit. Edge Village Hall, Friday July 6th at 7.30pm. Tickets include a glass of wine or a soft drink: £5 adults £2 children from John/Carolyn Luke 814139.

The fete will be held on the Green at Edge on Sunday 8th July 5.00 to 7.00pm, where you can enjoy a drink and a hot dog, win prizes and buy local produce. This year's special attractions include the Frampton Silver Band and Gary Cope will be there with his birds of prey.

Carolyn Luke



Birds and wildlife

Cud Hill & Spoonbed After seeming to much anger Jupiter pluvius of late, it was a great pleasure that the evening trip on 29th May was in brilliant sunshine. A doughty dozen, expertly led by Joy Elworthy and Jane Rowe explored Cud Hill and Spoonbed, defying the north wind which had banished the swallows. A yellow hammer studied us on arrival and the promised pair of red-legged partridges duly scuttled up the path ahead. Joy remarked on the twayblade, a green-petalled orchid and on the yellow rattle which entices the small blue butterfly. Jane espied fleetingly an owl in the chestnut coppice and earlier heard the skylark's typical flood of notes before it plummeted down, ~ like the evening temperature! There were magnificent views in the clear evening, the Malvern Hills tinted red at the close.

Wendy Addy



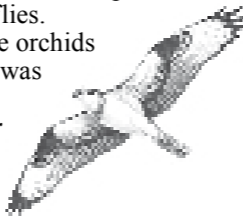
Ospreys coming? Once again we had a most successful visit to the Cotswold Water Park, and its Swillbrook Lakes nature reserve. Our guide Ali Swainston, the head ranger, was as enthusiastic and knowledgeable as usual. The 'whys and wherefores' of bird song was pointed out to us. Most birds have a singing post, usually a somewhat exposed branch of a tree or shrub so that they are able to proclaim their territory far and wide or advertise for a mate.

As ospreys are known to visit the lakes but do not breed there, an artificial nest has been built on a platform covered with twigs to tempt birds into thinking it is an old nest and so take it over. So watch this space!

We are not only interested in birds as on the way Roman snails were spotted, also several orchids and a plethora of common blue damsel flies.

After a picnic lunch in a nearby wild flower meadow, more orchids were spotted including the rare burnt orchid. The weather was kind making a most enjoyable day.

Joan Cooper



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Gardens appreciated

We are delighted to report another very successful day for our local branch of the British Red Cross. The weather was overcast but stayed warm, dry and still, encouraging visitors from far and wide helping us to again raise over £1,300. The new introduction of a Plant stall and children's 'Chicken Hunt' proved very popular, surprisingly among the adults also!

We would like to thank the many people who helped on the day, the Rugby Club for letting us use their Car Park, the cake bakers, tea makers, plant stall donators and helpers, car park attendants (especially Russ who gives lifts to all up his steep hill), ice cream sellers and ticket sellers. We simply could not manage without our fantastic 'team' - thanks a million!

Special thanks of course to those brave souls who open their gardens for this excellent cause. We tell them "Don't go to any trouble, people don't mind seeing the odd weed - it gives them hope!" but of course, there was not a weed in sight, all the gardens looked wonderful and I am sure many went away inspired.

Jackie Herbert and Lindsay Gardiner

Small Shopkeepers - remembered

Do you remember the days before Supermarkets when the lady behind the grocery counter got the items you required off the shelves for you? It was to this world we returned when Marion Beagley talked to Yew Trees WI in May, and reminisced about the time in the late 1960's, when she and her husband ran a Village Shop and Post Office in Surrey. Marion is one of those rare people who can address a room full of people without any notes, telling a tale without hesitation, deviation or repetition, just as though she was talking to old friends. We were enchanted with the verbal picture she portrayed of days not so long ago - when your bacon was sliced for you, you could post a brace of pheasants simply tied together with a piece of string and the brown label for the recipient's address round their necks - when safes and panic buttons were things for the future; - they kept their takings over-night in a box under their bed! We marvelled at the many free services she and her husband offered to customers (from collecting prescriptions, to parking cars for those who found reverse gear difficult!) and the good humour and kindness which shone through as she regaled us with stories about some of the village characters that were her customers.



At the start of the evening members voted on the Resolution that will be presented at the AGM of the National Federation of Women's Institutes. It is "This meeting urges H.M. Government to stop the closure of Community Hospitals, which provide essential services to local people".

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 24th July when Chris Evans from Dundry Nurseries will entertain us with a talk entitled "The Fun of Gardening". This meeting is an Open Meeting when we welcome all visitors, female and male (£2.00 each) so do come and join us at 7.30 pm in The Town Hall.

Celia Lougher

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Splendid K&A

The club goes into July glowing from a very successful outing on the Kennet and Avon canal.

I say outing rather than trip because we had only just boarded the long boat and on our way at about 11.00am, when out came the glasses (a new experience at that time of day for MF that he now recommends) and we were soon enjoying the delights of Chardonnay in glorious sunshine, albeit spotted just a little with a few drops of rain, in the quiet and peaceful ambience of Bradford on Avon - which quite bowled us over.

The passage down the canal was sheer delight - the almost silent progress of the boat in such wonderfully quiet, wooded surroundings, we were entranced - and just a little squiffy. During the 'voyage' we encountered a heron standing proudly on the bank with his eyes fixed upon underwater fare until we disturbed it whereupon it fixed its stare on us with such a look of annoyance. This happened on both legs of the trip and that was not all - two deer were seen running through the woods alongside. After lunch at 'The Lock Inn' where a few hungry souls braved the gastronomic delights of their famous mountainous 'Boatman's Breakfast' (sorry, the editor won't allow space to list the contents) we were taken to see Rennie's remarkable design - the 29 locks that step the Caen Hill section of the canal.

Altogether a splendid day out.

On 13th July instead of the advertised talk by Joy Thacker we are to have the talk postponed from February on 'Cheese making and tasting' by Liz Godsell, now that is something not to be missed.

Man Friday

Country Studio Art

The Studio's Annual Exhibition will be held in the Town Hall from 11th August until the 18th, and open daily between 10.00am and 5.00pm.

This is an exhibition by local artists who paint at the Church Rooms each Tuesday morning.

On show will be a range of oils, and watercolours. Admission is free.

Malcolm Mennie

Painswick RFC Fun Day

At Broadham Fields on Sunday 15th July from 12.00 noon.

Many attractions and competitions with everyone welcome - with **Tim Payne the England Prop Forward**, who will be in attendance.



Sports Day . . . with enthusiasm

There is a noticeable 'something' about Croft School, and that is an underlying 'determination factor'.

This was apparent for all to see when school sports were to the fore on 28th June. Determination was clearly in mind when, despite the weather conditions before and after the day, staff and pupils were resolved to hold the many competitions - damp ground or no damp ground.

Above all, witnessing the younger children, as our few photographs reveal, enthusiastically entering into the spirit of good-natured competition was a joy to see. Dozens of (doting) parents were on hand to help with the events or cheer their children on; this making for a fine atmosphere. While parents and staff were an essential combination leading to a successful day, the quiet and efficient help given by senior pupils in coaxing competitors to give of their best, understand what was required, and generally make the occasion operate smoothly and respond from all parts of the grounds to signals from Head Teacher Janet Hoyle was a great credit to them.

The pictures tend to tell their own story.



PPs in Friday the 13th Theatrical Fraternisation

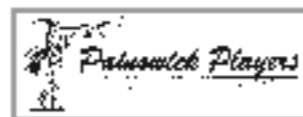
So, what's been going on? Puzzled Painswickians are perplexed that there has been no Painswick Players production since the marvellously magnificent Music Hall last December.

Well, 'tis true that we should have had a production in May but our plans were thrown into dramatic disarray. Despite having a producer, a stage manager, a full team of techies and no fewer than three directors at the ready, virtually our entire complement of actors were found to be energetically 'resting' at the time of the auditions. Reasons for this determinedly restful behaviour are far too complex to analyse here but it has been suggested that a fair few thespians frankly felt fatigued and fairly faint - and that ain't easy to say! - after the exhausting excesses of the aforementioned Music Hall.

But fear ye not! All is not lost! For theatrical tradition has it that, when the future is uncertain, you should simply throw a party and all will come clear! So, casting superstition dramatically aside, Painswick Players invites you to the 'Friday 13th Theatrical Fraternisation' on Friday 13th July at 7.45pm in the gardens of Ann and Charles Dorman at 'Tilling' in Kingsmill Lane. We're aiming to stimulate fraternisation amongst current PPs, renew contact with former PPs and attract new members as well. And we want to chat over the plans for the Autumn production (6th, 7th and 8th December) in a convivial environment.

Light refreshments, water and juice will be provided but please 'bring a bottle' if you would like something stronger. If you would like to be part of this drama, please let Ann Dorman know (phone 814548, email anndorm@googlemail.com) NO LATER THAN the 9th of July so that she can judge whether to buy the other packet of crisps.

Charles Dorman



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Exciting companions

Do you want to admire a pretty bitch, one with the best movement, or one that has never done it before?

The opportunity to witness these on Painswick's own Recreation Field on Saturday 14th July is open to everyone - a great day out, or even an hour or two and entirely free for spectators. Judging of those entrants in the Novelty and Obedience classes starts at 1.00pm, while that for the Show classes will commence at 11.00am, all among the 22 classes in this year's Painswick Companion Dog Show and Charity Fun Day. Any surplus from the entry fees will be used in aid of 'Canine Partners', a most worthy cause.

For those proud owners interested in comparing their own dog with those of others entry forms are widely available, or contact Fiona Chapman on 812462 or Michele Phillips on 01453.834351. If you would like to have a stall in support of your own charity, and take advantage of the crowd attending, please contact Chris Campbell on 812600.

If previous shows are anything to go by, this is a most pleasing way of coming together, with or without a picnic.



Gifts from the Gardens of China

A new book, by local author Jane Kilpatrick, tells the forgotten story of how many familiar English garden plants came from China.

Jane said "We are used to the fact that most of the things we buy today are made in China but I was astonished to discover that many of our most popular garden plants are also Chinese. Plants like hydrangeas, peonies, climbing wisteria, camellias and magnolias were all grown in Chinese gardens for centuries before they arrived in Britain. Although these plants are not exotic rarities but the familiar mainstays of most gardens, we have completely forgotten the story of how they came here.

It took Jane six years of research but she did manage to identify the dedicated gardeners and plant enthusiasts who brought these well-known plants to this country two centuries ago. She adds that "It is a fascinating story involving the tea trade with China, long dangerous voyages, sea battles with the French, opium smuggling and attacks by hostile gangs but in the end the perseverance of these plantsmen was rewarded by a host of new plants growing in British gardens. We who garden today with the wonderful range of plants they introduced owe them a great debt and I hope my book will restore them to their rightful place at the heart of our horticultural history".

The book contains 150 colour illustrations within nearly 300 pages and is published by Frances Lincoln Ltd.

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Sheepscombe Open Gardens

A wonderful opportunity to see some gardens in stunning locations on Sunday 22nd July, 1.00 - 6.00pm.

Ticket admitting to all gardens and an exhibition of flowers and embroidery in the church are only £5.00, available for purchase on the day at the Village Hall, with free parking there and at Trench Hill.

Home made teas will be available at the Village Hall between 2.00pm and 5.30pm.

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Winston's Wish and Neverland 25th July

Venue: Rococo Gardens, Painswick, Gloucestershire in association with Winston's Wish

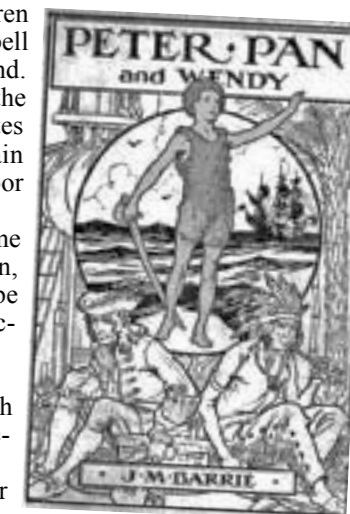
Join Wendy and the other Darling children as they fly with Peter Pan and Tinkerbell into the enchanting world of Neverland. Share the magical adventures of Peter, the Lost Boys, the Mermaids and the Pirates with their leader, the villainous Captain Hook in one of the most beautiful outdoor settings in Gloucestershire.

Why not join the experience and come dressed as a pirate, fairy, lost boy, Indian, crocodile or even Peter or Wendy and be photographed with your favourite character after the show.

Bring your camera!
The performance starts at 6.15pm, with the grounds open from 5.30pm for picnics.

Tickets: Adults £8, OAPs £7, Under 16 £6, Family Ticket (2 Adults & 2 Children) £22 available from: Beaufort House, 166 London Road, Cheltenham. GL52 6HJ.

Please specify Ticket type and number required. Cheques made payable to 'Beaufort Productions'. Please enclose a stamped address envelope for ticket return. Or call 01242-251156 for further details.



Celebrating 50 years!

The Friday Club, previously the Senior Circle, has every reason to be proud of itself. Its decision to celebrate 50 years of outstanding service on Friday, last week, was more than justified.

Several of us had the pleasure of being invited to share in what was intended to be a Garden Party at the home of the President and his wife, Pat and Mair Daly, but the threat of rain drove us into the Town Hall. Pat took the opportunity to share an ode he had written for the occasion, narrating the history of the club with humour and nostalgic overtones.

I cannot help but suggest that this regular gathering of people who respect one another, and enjoy company of like-minded residents, is quite unique. Unlike most, to date there has been no membership as such; no joining fee, no expectation of having to join in a committee or be pressured in any way, and no age barrier! This ethos has its own appeal; it is relaxed yet caring, aware but not stuffy, and it demonstrates that 'youth is an attitude of mind and not a time of life'.

Innumerable cream teas must have been enjoyed across those 50 years, and one on this day was no exception. Several entertained us with mimed acts which brought tears of joy to the cheeks. Photographs of many present, dating from the 1950's, were to challenge even the most knowledgeable. Champagne was poured for the toast and the Beacon joins in raising its glass too, and commending any non-juvenile to join in from time to time.

LWB



Congratulations to Mary Francis for the hat of the day.



On THE Beacon

Wildflower walks

Our recorder, Clare Overhill will lead another wildflower walk on Sunday 8th July. Please assemble at the Cemetery Park park, beside the entrance to the Golf Club at 2 pm for a 2.15 pm start. Any queries to Clare on 812709. The walk in May was well attended and enjoyed by 21 people.

Champagne, strawberries and strimming

Late afternoon on Sunday July 8th we shall hope to repeat last year's successful strim of the ramparts at the far eastern end of Kimsbury Hill Fort. (The tenth hole, if you are a golfer.) In collaboration with the Golf Club we will start at 6 pm to shorten the smothering thick grass and give the flowers an advantage. Last year's area is already appreciably better. Then we'll stop for well earned refreshment, socialising and hopefully an impressive sunset. This is a member's event for experienced strimmers, eager trainee rakers and enthusiastic 'waiters', to encourage and to hand round the refreshments. Come and watch or join in. The opportunity to take part must surely be worth the £4 annual membership!

Appreciation

In a recent communication from Amaury Blow, whose family own the Beacon and granted the rights to the 'Common' he includes these words:

"The work done by the conservation group, these last, I think, fifteen years, has been splendid and the Beacon much changed for it. Progress, in these affairs, is by nature, slow but the results are solid and best appreciated over time. Two weekends ago I toured the commons. They are beautiful and the change brought on over these last

twenty years staggering. In 1987 Painswick beacon, with the exception of the Golf Course, was close to being overrun by firs, there were few flowers, the fort was giving way to both woodland encroachment and footpath erosion. An old man told me, a year or so ago, that the Beacon of his youth, that he thought lost forever, was back. Well done - you should all be very proud of the work that you have done."

The main credit should go to Cedric Nielsen, for many years of continuous commitment, and now to Clare Overhill and John Rhodes who lead the working parties with their expertise and trained skill with chainsaws, strimmers, mower etc. They are so keen on the Beacon and its wild plants and animals that they inspire the rest of us.

David Allott Chairman



YiPPies in Wonderland...



an hilariously belligerent Duchess with a 'smashing' entrance; the Tea Party trio of Kyle Douglass (Mad Hatter), William Moir (March Hare) and George Hancock (Dormouse) produced a genuinely funny quick-fire, slapstick comedy routine, (tea)timed to perfection...

I could go on. So, I will... Matthew Longuet-Higgins and George Dickinson were the amazing stereophonic front-end of a magnificent caterpillar; Thomas Carlile was a condescendingly contented, Garfield-like, Cheshire Cat; the Mock Turtle and Gryphon - Emily Gray and Freya Tate - had us all ducking as they hurled their lobsters in the Lobster Quadrille; Alex Holmes was suitably superior as Alice's big sister; Eloise Allen - with or without her beak! - was a confidently bossy Dodo, directing Caitlin Workmans' paranoid pigeon and Catriona Cooksons' enthusiastic eagle in the chaotic Caucus Race; Eleanor Piken and Louise Davies did their best to keep out of the Duchess's way as Fish and Frog Footmen; Freddie Speed was believably cowed as the hen-pecked King of Hearts, whilst his Court of Cards (Samantha Kirwan, Catherine Leach, and Georgia Saunders) tried not to lose their heads to the Executioner (Rosebud Moir), not forgetting the villainous Knave of Hearts, George Macduff, who having lured his little 'Royal' sister Olivia Holmes to take part in his dastardly crime, then shared his ill-gotten tarts with the audience.

And if Lucy Hyett were looking down on the scene - as she certainly must have been - she might well have seen in Rebecca Macduff's imperiously, smouldering Queen of Hearts, a first class future Lady Macbeth, the part memorably played by Miss Lucy in the same setting almost exactly 70 years ago. Finally, to prove we really were in Wonderland, the rain held off... at least for the opening night!

Jack Burgess

'Twas back in July 1923 that Miss Lucy Hyett produced Painswick Players first production, Shakespeare's As You Like It on the bowling green in her back garden, ie Painswick House, now the Rococo Garden. It was truly wonder-ful last month, therefore, to see Alice in Wonderland played out in exactly the same idyllic setting by our young Painswick Players, the YiPPies.

Adapted from the Lewis Carroll classic by Elizabeth Jackson, this joyous production was directed by Lesley Wolowiec, supported by senior PP technical team, an extremely enthusiastic and hard working younger addition, Rosemary Dickinson and numerous YiPPie parents and friends. The gardens were the perfect setting, the costumes and make-up were stunning and the incidental music by June Woods, played on accordion by Jaye Woodfield, enlivened the play and kept things moving along.

But of course, it was the YiPPies themselves that created the real wonder of it all. In such a boundlessly energetic production, it would be invidious to single out anyone in particular.

So, I shall... Pippa Speed really was Alice; likewise, Alex Mowatt was a suitably fussy and nervous White Rabbit; Kit ('never knowingly under-acted') Kirby gave us



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Robinswood Hill Primary School Visit

Tuesday 12 June

The Parish Council was approached by Robinswood Hill Primary School to host a study day for its year 5 students (8/9 year olds). The purpose of the visit was to compare the historic and economic differences between an inner city area and that of a rural community. I held a meeting with two of the teachers in May to discuss the requirements.

Day of the Visit.

60 Children arrived at 9.45am and were greeted by the Chairman of the Parish Council in St Mary's Church - he welcomed the children to the Village. The Chairman was presented with a lovely oil painting of Painswick by one of the students. The children then split into 3 groups. One group was given a conducted tour of the Village by David Archard. He was assisted by the Neighbourhood Warden Gerry McGrath to ensure safe-

ty. Another group was given a very informative talk by several member of the Painswick History Society in St Mary's Church. The final group did sketches of the Churchyard and Lychgate. The groups then rotated until all three of the above activities were undertaken.

Lunch was taken on the Recreation Ground with the Clerk and Neighbourhood Warden in attendance, use was made of the toilet facilities in the Recreation Ground Pavilion - The children also enjoyed using the play equipment. After Lunch the children assembled in the Town Hall for a very informative talk given by Paul Moir the Director of the Rococo Gardens on the economics of the Village. The children asked numerous questions of Mr Moir which were expertly answered.

Amusing quote:

Whilst being shown around the village David Archard talked about the bomb which fell on the village during the 2nd World War - at which point one of the youngsters asked "How many wars do you have a year in Painswick"!!!!

On departing

The Children departed Painswick at 2.00pm and asked to relay thanks to the following: The Parish Council for organizing and hosting the Visit. Painswick History Society for the conducted walk and informative talk. Mr Paul Moir for his excellent question and answer session on the economics of the Village. The Neighbourhood Warden Gerry McGrath for helping keeping the children safe while being walked around the Village.

Roy Balgobin

Summer holiday rugby Tag V camps

The Beacon has been told about Tag V which is a fantastic range of tag and touch rugby coaching for ages ranging from 4-11yrs for boys and girls within schools and through day camps. Right through the summer holiday break from school, coaching courses will be run in Cheltenham and Gloucester, but most significantly, for two weeks here in Painswick.

Each day is structured to provide a variety of skills and disciplines of the sport. Victoria McCreevey, who is the local Painswick RFC coach, will be running all sessions. There will always be an appointed first aid trained person available. All children will be grouped depending on their age, experience and size. On each of the days there will be female coaches at each of the camps. The venues this year will be:

St Benedict's School, Cheltenham	Monday 30th July-Friday 3rd August	9-4pm 9am-12 1-4pm
Recreation field & pavilion, Painswick	Monday 6th- Friday 10th August	9-4pm 9am-12 1-4pm
Oxstalls Tennis Centre, Gloucester	Monday 13th - Friday 17th August	9-4pm 9am-12 1-4pm
Recreation field & pavilion, Painswick	Monday 20th-Friday 24th August	9-4pm 9am-12 1-4pm
Oxstalls Tennis Centre, Gloucester	Tuesday 28th - Friday 31st August	9-4pm 9am-12 1-4pm

Day rate 9.00am-4.00pm £15 per day, half day £9. Full week full day £55. Full week half day £40.
If you would like any more details please do not hesitate in contacting Victoria on Tagv@btinternet.com or telephone 07766.977589, or write to her at 16 Wye Road, Brockworth, Glos GL3 4PP

Painswick in Bloom 2007

This competition will be judged mid-July. The area to be judged will be the centre of the village, and the near-surrounding area, and the displays need to be clearly visible to passers-by.



There is a class for private residences, and another for business premises. A trophy will be awarded to the winners at the Society's Annual Show on 8th September. Last year's winners will not qualify this year.

Residents who think they may live outside the area, and who would like to be judged, should please contact me on 813227.

Pauline Berry

Sorted!

Parish Councillor Peter Rowe led a group of litter collection volunteers at Painswick Beacon on Sunday 24th June.

Previous litter collecting events on the Beacon seemed to have been to good effect as this year there was a marked drop in the amount of waste material found by the collectors. Peter wishes to thank the following for their help: David Allott, Richard Aspinall, John Barrus, David Bishop, Jason Bullingham, Celia Lougher, Terry Parker, Douglas Robinson, Jane Rowe, Abigail Smith and the Weatherall family. Peter also wishes to thank George Hodder for his help in moving the large number of bags collected.

Our picture shows, from left to right, David Bishop, Jo Weatherall, Marc Weatherall, Peter Rowe (back row) with the Weatherall children Isabella and Oscar with their litter pickers behind some of the bags that were collected.



Beacon subscribers

2nd June 2007	2007-08	2006-07
New or renewed after lapsing	112	135
Renewed from last year	472	484
Total including postal	584	619
Painswick village dwellings	1057	1057
Subscribing households	402	542
Percentage subscribing	38.6%	51%

Maybe premature to express our disappointment when comparing this year with last?

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Mike Turner: 01452 812659
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re Catherine Lauff

The Beacon receives a variety of messages from around the world, and this one from Virginia is published to see if anyone can help:

"I am a reporter for Military Times Newspapers in Virginia, USA, and I am trying to get in touch with Catherine Lauff, a longtime resident of Painswick. Her father was retired US Navy Capt. Bernard Lauff, who I believe settled in your village after retiring from the Navy many years ago.

At this point, I do not know of Ms Lauff still lives there. Is there a residential listing available that would reveal this? or is there any other place I could call or write to learn if Ms Lauff is still in Painswick and how to contact her?

Thank you very much, Sincerely yours"

Bryant Jordan

Staff Writer, Military Times Newspapers, 703-750-8113 and fax on 703-750-8601
bmjordan@airforcetimes.com

PO latest . . . lost touch with reality

Just before we went to press a local resident, one among many, kindly passed the Beacon copy of a letter she had just received from Paul Garnham, a senior member of the Post Office Ltd staff, in response to a protest registered objecting to the possible closure of the Post Office in Painswick.

We feel that all residents will be interested in that letter, reproduced here in full. It bears careful reading.

Enquiries were made of Annie Littler, who was aware of this letter, and whose appreciation of all the local efforts being made we are only too pleased to convey here. Annie joins with the Beacon in urging all who feel keenly on the subject to continue to make representations to Post Office Ltd (address below); copy to our MP David Drew at the House of Commons may not come amiss! Given these circumstances it is with regret that Annie tells the Beacon that the expected sale of the local Post Office has fallen through, the 'millstone' economics forced upon an incoming proprietor being unacceptable and, we suggest, unrealistic.

Thank you for your recent letter concerning Painswick Post Office branch.

May I explain that subpostmasters are not employees, but have a contract for services with Post Office Ltd to provide our products and services as laid down in their contract. Should a subpostmaster wish to sell their business and resign as subpostmaster, they are of course free to enter into an agreement with prospective purchasers of the premises, in which the Post Office branch is situated, but the appointment decision on the position of subpostmaster remains with Post Office Ltd and the appointment of a new subpostmaster will only be made if the applicant meets the criteria laid down regarding their aptitude and capability of operating a successful business.

We also review whether the opening hours and other aspects of the branch are appropriate for current and future needs of our customers and clients. In the case of the Painswick branch, we decided that the branch should remain open during the hours of 9am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, and 9am to 12.30 pm on Saturday, which are core hours for branches of the size and in a location such as Painswick.

I hope you can appreciate that closing for an hour at lunchtime and having a half day closure are outdated concepts in modern retailing. Post Office Ltd now operates in fiercely competitive markets where all of its products and services can be obtained from a competitor and much of our traditional business has been in decline over recent times, due to changing consumer demand and to a number of our traditional clients such as Government Agencies and Departments looking for alternative ways to give



their customers access to their services. I must point out that these are commercial decisions made by the clients concerned, not by Royal Mail or Post Office Ltd, who wish to retain and grow as much business as possible.

We have also moved into additional markets such as Financial Services and Telephony to provide a wider range of products for our customers and which provides additional income for the subpostmaster and Post Office Ltd.

In order to ensure that we are able to maintain a network of Post Office branches, which are viable, both for the subpostmaster and for Post Office Ltd, we need to ensure that branches are open when our customers want to use them and also in order to attract new customers who currently do not use us at all. Painswick branch has the advantage of being able to offer motor vehicle licensing, UK Passport check and send service and also has On demand Travel Insurance and Euros on demand; products which are not available in all Post Office branches, but ones which in particular should be available throughout the day.

I understand your concern for the future of the branch and the vital part it plays in the local community. I can assure you that we do not want to see the branch close, but I believe this is the correct decision in this case and I hope I have been able to explain the reasons for this decision.

Yours sincerely, Paul Garnham

Head of Business Development, Community Network Wales & South West Post Office Ltd, 1st Floor, West of England Mail Centre, Gloucester Road North, Filton, Bristol, B534 7ST

History . . . and the Plantation

The AGM on 19th of June was chaired by Lord Dickinson, who thanked Hywel James for his contribution to the Society over the four years. Hywel James gave his annual report, as retiring Chairman of the Society and Carol Maxwell was welcomed as the new Chairman.

There followed a talk on the Painswick Plantation, given by Ann Daniels with David Archard. Ann showed us lovely slides taken by her of the diverse trees and plants, which are now to be found in the woodland and David contributed some slides of historical photographs from his extensive collection.

The Plantation was originally planted by the Hyett family around 1825 and extends from the Gloucester Road up towards Painswick Beacon. It was given to the people of Painswick by the Misses Hyett in memory of their father, Sir Francis Hyett some 50 years ago.

David informed us of the history and uses of the quarries situated in the top part of the Upper Plantation. They were leased to Burdock and Son for many years. It was closed in 1989 and became a Closed Land-fill Site. The woodland is now managed as a public amenity and Ann Daniels has been instrumental in managing the volunteer input. Many older trees were damaged by storms and have been replaced by 2000 young Beech trees, there is a greater variety of species now. The site is part of the designated Beacon SSSI and protected for everyone's enjoyment in the future. Ann would warmly welcome any offers of help with the conservation work.

The next meeting of the History Society will be Tuesday September 18th in the Croft School Hall at 7.30. New members always welcome.

Carolyn Luke

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New artists

Jan Weeks and Yvonne Harry are holding an Exhibition of Paintings in The Town Hall, Painswick, from Saturday 21st July - Sunday 29th July. The Exhibition will be open from 10.30am - 6.00pm daily except Sunday 29th July, when it will close at 3.30pm.

Jan and Yvonne have just enjoyed their 2nd annual Exhibition in The Chapter House, Wells Cathedral and have previously exhibited in The Podium, Bath. All three Exhibitions were enormously successful, and paintings have been sold internationally as well as locally. The Exhibition includes Landscapes, Flowers and Still Life paintings in a variety of mediums.



Antiques Roadshow

Despite the appalling weather on last Bank Holiday Monday, over 150 people gathered in a marquee in the grounds of Painswick Mill, to take part in the Painswick Antiques Roadshow. Their aim was to raise funds for Cotswold Care Hospice and towards building a new school for children in Nepal. Philip Taubenheim, an auctioneer from Wotton-under-Edge who appears on the 'real' show, very kindly came to give a most interesting and amusing talk and, after a delicious salmon supper, valued small pieces brought by the audience. In spite of it being 'colder than Alaska' outside, the atmosphere in the marquee was convivial and warm and everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves. The raffle, with generous prizes donated by supporters, was a great success.

The event raised £3,600 which was divided between the two charities. Joan Wells and I are most grateful for all the wonderful support we received.



Paula Woodcock 812845

Jogging along

Did you notice a camper van decorated with poppies and other stickers parked in Stamages Lane car park on Monday June 18th? This is 'Chippy' the support bus for Jane's Jogle. Jane being Commander Jane Allen, a serving member of the Royal Naval Reserve from HMS Vivid, Plymouth who earlier this year returned from 6 month mobilised service in Baghdad. Her 'Jogle' being a solo charity walk from John O'Groats to Lands' End to raise money for the British Legion Poppy Appeal. (Anyone willing to donate can do so on line www.bmycharity.com/jogle or can print off a form and send a donation by post.) Her target is £25,000, £1,000 for every year of her service in the RNVR.

When Jane reached Painswick she had completed 864 miles and had been walking for 9.5 weeks! She set out from John O'Groats on Friday 13th April, her 50th birthday, and hopes to complete the 1,000+ mile walk in approximately 12 weeks. In her diary she describes her introduction to The Cotswold Way thus "Flash, bang and water heralded the start of splosh, squelch and slither". "Mud increased my boot weight by what seemed like a bag of Tate and Lyle apiece!"

After an overnight stay in Painswick Jane was delighted to set off in sunshine the next morning, with 'Chippy' following soon after. 'Chippy' is driven by Jane's Royal Marine husband, Frank, who is a crucial part of the team and was cooking her the most delicious smelling supper in Stamages Car



Park. He was sad that their visit to Painswick did not coincide with bell practice night as he is missing the bell ringing he does in their village church near Totnes in Devon.

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Cricket Week

– Monday 23rd to Friday 27th July

The club extends a warm welcome to supporters during the annual cricket week at Broadham Fields. There are matches each day starting at 2.30pm.

On Sunday 22nd July the club's annual six-a-side tournament takes place.

Fixtures

Sat 7 July. 1st XI (Away) and 2nd XI (home) v Tewkesbury. 3rd XI v Frampton (Away).
Sun 8 July. Painswick v Aston Ingham (Away).
Sat 14 July. 1st XI (Home) and 2nd XI (Away) v Stone. 3rd XI v Uley 2nd XI (Marling School).
Sat 21 July. 1st XI (Away) and 2nd XI (Home) v Redmarley. 3rd XI v Fleece Exiles (Marling School).
Sat 28 July. 1st XI (Home) and 2nd XI (Away) v Dumbleton. 3rd XI v Hardwicke 2nd XI (Away).

Tennis

Despite the forecast, the evening of Saturday 16th June turned out to be dry for the Painswick LTC Annual Spring Walk. Members met in the early evening at Sheepscombe for a pleasant walk through the village and surrounding woods before returning to the village hall for a well-deserved hot meal. Thank you to Brian Kirkman (pictured) who led the walk and to Joan Griffiths and Maggie Slader who provided the delicious meal.

Back on court, Delyth Allen and John Crowther won the mixed American tournament on Tuesday 12th June, an event which was enjoyed by all who took part.

The success of Painswick juniors continues both at the club and further afield. Alex Duncliffe, Dan Omnes, Jake Roberts and Robert Sidwell together with Alicia Barnett and Megan Horder represented Gloucestershire in the Under14 County Cup in May, while Pippa Speed represented the County in the Under10 competition at Bisham Abbey last month.



Dan Omnes won the the boys' "Road to Wimbledon" club final against Jake Roberts. He now proceeds to the County finals with both girls' finalists, Alicia Barnett and Megan Butterworth.

The juniors have won three Division 1 championships and will go on to represent Gloucestershire at Painswick on Sunday 8th July. All matches will be played on that day between 9.30am and 7.30pm at Broadham. Tennis camps for 5-16 year olds will be run again over the summer holidays, non-members welcome. For booking forms and information please ring Sharon Hall on 07766732392.

Jillie Speed

Spirit of the Woods

Painswick Tennis Club members on their annual walk, guided by Brian Kirkman, seemed lost in the twilight midsummer evening woods somewhere above Sheepscombe, but luckily were able to consult a friendly carved statue to direct them back to Sheepscombe Village Hall for supper and drinks.

Brian says he knew where they were all along.



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Painswick Cricket Club making history

Painswick's successes in recent weeks are unparalleled in the club's history.

A resounding victory over Stroud first eleven in the Gloucestershire Division of the West of England Premier Cricket League at Farmhill on 2nd June was an historic event as Painswick have until this season not competed in the same division as their neighbours.

Then a week later on Sunday 10th June came another remarkable performance with Painswick producing the shock result of the Gloucestershire County Cup first round beating West of England first eleven side Cheltenham who are themselves having a successful run.

Several players have, not surprisingly, made major contributions in Painswick's victories. Youngest Bressington brother, Ed, had "back to back" centuries against Bredon (107) and Stroud (116) while Alastair (101) also reached his 'ton' against the Stroud club with Painswick amassing the formidable total of 322. Stroud were dismissed for 104 runs with the Bressingtons also successful with the ball, Alastair and Ed each taking three wickets and brother Nathan along with Dave Cave taking one.

In the match against Bredon on 9th June Painswick won by five wickets with Andy Beer and Nick Marment putting on 101 runs for the first wicket. The following Saturday against Woodmancote James Harber took six wickets for 55 runs in dismissing the visitors for 158. Painswick began uncertainly with openers Ed Bressington and Andy Beer going cheaply but David Boon (51) joined Alastair Bressington (82) at the crease and the two saw Painswick home to an eight wicket victory.

The club has strength in depth with three teams in the league and this was evident in the third eleven's game against Fleece Exiles where prior to the match the Exiles were top of the division with an unbeaten record. However Painswick were to end the home side's record with James Tooth taking 4 wickets for 28 in restricting the Exiles to an all out total of 132 runs. Wayne Neville reached an undefeated century in passing the home side's score.

Churches Together Cricket Match

The annual cricket match between Churches Together Around Painswick and Churches Together Around Stroud takes place on Sunday 29th July at Broadham Fields by kind permission of the Painswick Cricket Club.

A warm welcome is extended to everyone. Traditional cricket teas will be available as well as bar facilities. The match is scheduled to start at 2.00pm.

In the match against Dumbleton 1st XI, Painswick 1st XI lost on run rate by 0.003 runs. Painswick's appeal was dismissed, but League officials are to review the rules.

The season's results to date are set out below. All Saturday matches are league games.

- Results** (* indicates not out).
 Sat 5 May. Tewkesbury 1st XI 172 Painswick 1st XI 176-0 (J Cook 99* N Marment 60*).
 Tewkesbury 2nd XI 196-8 Painswick 190-9 (P Wilkie 71).
 Sun 6 May. Painswick 240-7 (W von Mollendorf 122*) Ullenwood 211-9.
 Sat 19 May. Redmarley 1st XI 244-4 Painswick 1st XI 190 (E Bressington 65).
 Painswick 2nd XI 166-9 (S Cook 51) Redmarley 2nd XI 50.
 Hardwicke 3rd XI 228-7 Painswick 3rd XI 126.
 Sun 20 May. (Village Championship) Stone 1st XI 163 (D Cave 5-27) Painswick 1st XI 167-6.
 Sat 26 May. Dumbleton 1st XI 265-9 beat Painswick 1st XI 206-6 on a faster run rate.
 Painswick 2nd XI 155 Dumbleton 2nd XI 156-2. Painswick 3rd XI 154 Woodchester 2nd XI 118.
 Thur 31 May. Painswick 200 (W Neville 90) Mawdesley (Touring side) 201-6.
 Sat 2 June. Painswick 1st XI 323-9 (A Bressington 101, E Bressington 116) Stroud 1st XI 104.
 Stroud 2nd XI 79 Painswick 2nd XI 81-7. Painswick 3rd XI 199 (M Taylor 64) Frampton 3rd XI 80.
 Sun 3 June. (Village Championship) Hambrook 1st XI 184 Painswick 1st XI 113.
 Sat 9 June. Bredon 1st XI 292-8 Painswick 1st XI 294-4 (E Bressington 107).
 Painswick 2nd XI 209-3 (S Cook 108*) Bredon 2nd XI 214-5.
 Painswick 2nd XI 96 Uley 2nd XI 74.
 Sat 16 June. Woodmancote 1st XI 158 (J Harber 6-55) Painswick 1st XI 162-2 (A Bressington 82* D Boon 51*). Fleece Exiles 131-8 Painswick 3rd XI 136-2 (W Neville 101*).
 Sat 23 June. Painswick 1st XI v Kingsholme 1st XI - match abandoned. 2nd XI and 3rd XI matches cancelled (rain).
 Sat 30 June. All games cancelled because of rain.

Stroud Tourism

Stroud District Council has launched a much improved Tourism website at www.visitthecotswolds.org.uk.

Councillor Nigel Studdert-Kennedy, Cabinet member for Regeneration and Tourism stressed that this website is "not just for visitors but for locals too. Frequently, people do not realise what excellent days out there



are to be enjoyed from their own doorstep."

Phase two of the redeveloped website will be launched in 2008 and will be a compilation of ideas from Stroud District Council, the Tourism Forum and from YOU! To register your ideas, compli-

ment, or if your tourism focussed business want to be part of the website, please email Shirley Anderson, Regeneration Officer (Tourism), on tourism@stroud.gov.uk



Can you find 17 units of linear measure here?

Did you find all 29 car marques concealed last month? Here is the check list.
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 AUDI
 CHRYSLER
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 FORD
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 ISUZU
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KIA
 LEXUS
 MERCEDES
 MG
 MINI
 MORGAN
 NISSAN
 PORSCHE
 RENAULT
 ROLLS ROYCE
 ROVER
 SEAT
 SKODA
 SUBARU
 TOYOTA
 VAUXHALL
 VOLVO

Bisley Street - foliage free

There have been occasional references, when we report such as the Annual Parish Meetings and so on in these columns, to the impact bushes/foliage has upon pedestrians and especially those using push chairs or with mobility difficulties when walking on the pavement in Bisley Street. This is made even more of a hurdle when a vehicle is parked partially on the pavement too.

We were recently loaned a postcard photograph of the street, traffic and foliage free, so thought we would remind ourselves of the difference!



St Mary's Flower Guild News

Firstly we would like to extend a big thank you to Anne Smith for all the work she has done as Chairman of the Flower Guild over the past 5 years, and for all the thought and preparation she has put into organising the proposed Flower Festival.

However it has been recognised that the duties involved in running the Guild and a Flower Festival are too onerous for one person to shoulder. This has led to some changes being made to the organisation of The Flower Guild which will now be managed by a committee who will share the tasks involved.

Because of these changes and limited time until the Festival it has been decided that the Flower Festival will be postponed until 2008, when we shall look forward to an enjoyable and successful community event. We will be publishing the revised dates in the very near future.

With many thanks to all those who have supported and encouraged us so far.

Frankie Marsh - Churchwarden

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ArchiTecs

Last month we cheated a little, but the bicycle outside the Patchwork Mouse has almost become an architectural feature. We showed the reflector from the rear mudguard.

This month, a real test indeed; just about everyone in Painswick must have stared at the ironwork shown here, but can you put a name to it?



Stop, and take a look at some great business news

We are lucky in Painswick to have some unique and very special businesses. It is important that we continue to support them. This month we celebrate a much valued established business and we welcome two new enterprises. Next month there will be more, so watch this space.

Fresh Faces at The Oak

Shelagh Hume, son, Jonathan Jones, and grandson, Louis are the new and welcome faces at The Royal Oak. They bring with them a fresh approach which they hope will generate a real feeling that this is our village pub.

"The strength of Painswick is its sense of community," says Shelagh "and we want to be part of the corporate Painswick." With this aim in mind, they have plans to revitalize the business. Having moved in only very recently and still dealing with the upheavals that entails, they have already opened up the courtyard and given it a colourful and inviting look. It is definitely ready for summer. The bars too will be decorated and the overall aim is to make the pub family friendly, a place in which we can all relax, eat and drink comfortably.

There is still much to do. At present The Oak is open all day on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. As the weather warms up the plan is to open all day every day throughout the summer months. Tea, coffee and home-baked cakes and scones will be served all day, and in the evenings a brand new menu offering good home-cooked and locally resourced food will be available. Shelagh emphasizes the importance of the local element – not only good local food but also her much valued local staff.

Before coming to The Oak, Shelagh, who studied landscape architecture, had been a regeneration officer with Stroud District Council. Involved heavily in town centre regeneration, she was, for example, the project manager of The Space in Stroud. Jonathan had at one time been employed at The Oak as chef. In January this year he had a terrible accident which led to a serious re-think about the future. He and Shelagh decided to take this new and, it should be said, brave direction forward together. Shelagh's grandson, Louis, is six years old and very much part of the equation. He is hoping to find new friends in the village.

"Painswick has such a lot to offer and we feel privileged to be part of it" says Shelagh. They already feel warmly welcomed and are set to offer great hospitality. It's well worth a visit to rediscover a true village pub.



Painswick has its very own delicatessen

You may have been wondering what's been going on in Friday Street at the former butcher's shop which closed in February, or indeed what was to become of it. Was this yet another business lost for Painswick? Well the answer is emphatically – no.

We are about to have our very own deli and it promises to be both delightful and irresistible. Olivas, (Spanish for olives), will be brimming over with mouthwatering specialities and quality groceries.

Brian and Ximena Nuñez will be selling a wonderful range of products in their new shop when it opens towards the end of July. To give you a flavour, so to speak, of what will be on offer - cheeses, charcuterie, salads, wines, olives, cakes, coffees, antipastos, stuffed peppers and mushrooms are just some of the foods on sale. A feast for the eyes as well as the table. There will be recipes to order and specially decorated cakes too.

The shop is undergoing something of a facelift prior to opening. Brian points out that it offers excellent presentation possibilities as it is spacious and light. He and Ximena want to develop a rustic look with light ceiling beams and the use of reclaimed wood for shelving. This combined with new refrigerators and display units will make for a delightful and appropriate atmosphere.

Ximena will be the person most involved with the shop. Formerly a lawyer in Colombia she has lived in England for ten years, the last two in Painswick. Ximena is enthusiastic about the business. She has been involved in the food and catering trade and is serious about cake decorating, a service she will continue to offer.

Brian, whose father was Colombian and mother was from Manchester, will take more of a back seat. His career is embedded in the world of horses. As a rider he represents Colombia in international events and locally he is involved in riding instruction and stud management. He is, however, also very keen to see the shop succeed and is fully involved in all the preparations.

The other member of the family, not to be left out, is Isabella, aged five and a pupil at the Croft School.

Olivas will open its doors later in July. There will be a grand opening day when you are invited to come along and enjoy a free tasting – who could resist? Posters will be on display to announce the date. Brian and Ximena see the shop as one mainly for local people. This is a delightful and enthusiastic family offering a unique opportunity. Do go along and support them.

Snipping and styling – a very classy act

David Winstone-Ursell opened his hairdressing salon in Painswick 25 years ago and the business has gone from strength to strength. You may recall that three years ago David was given a 4 star rating (top marks) in the prestigious Good Salon Guide award and he has continued to hold this rating.

Originally training with Sassoon in London, David worked in Paris and the south of France. Later he ran his own salon and training school in Cheltenham for sixteen years before setting up the business in the heart of Painswick. Still contagiously enthusiastic he explains proudly that everything about the Painswick salon is the best. The products used are all top quality and so is the service.

David is particularly proud of his team of five top class stylists, all highly qualified and dedicated. The range of work is impressive from the straightforward to the height of fashion. It caters for both men and women and there is a complete service for special occasions such as weddings.

The premises are a delight. Completely refurbished about three years ago, the salon has a clean, light and fresh feel. It is modern and attractive and also has a lovely open courtyard where clients can sit and relax. Last year it won best commercial premises in the Painswick in Bloom competition and David is endeavouring to repeat that victory this year. He points out that the building has quite a history having been at one time or another, the police station, a pub and a meeting house.

Apart from his life at the cutting edge as it were, David explains that his Christian faith is very important to him. He belongs to the Local Ministry Group and is heavily involved in various Church activities. He feels that "it brings me into contact with the larger community of Painswick." He is very much part of Painswick. David has three children, one son being chief executive of the charity WellChild, a cause David keenly promotes. He also has a grandson.

Painswick Hairdressers has a widespread client base. There is a core of Painswick faithfuls but many of his customers come from much further afield and have done so for many years. David's customer at the time of my visit was a lady who has been happy for David to cut her hair for 38 years. She was keen to sing his praises, explaining that she had travelled widely and been to many other salons. David, she insisted, was the best. "He is world class."

We are indeed fortunate to have such a gem of a business right in our midst.



... and all the extra services too

Some of our local businesses are extending their services to include Richmond.

David Winstone-Ursell is organising a hairdressing facility at the care village, planned to open in August. It will be managed by his staff, thus keeping it on a local basis.

Mike Powis from the pharmacy will initially supply basic toiletries for sale at the centre.

Londis will supply newspapers and magazines on a daily basis.

Robert Goddard is already involved. For almost two years he has serviced all Richmond vehicles and provided a chauffeur service for residents.

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