

The Painswick Beacon

Sine praeiudicio

Volume 31 Number 12

March 2009

Centre opens to the arts

A new studio complex for local artists is being created at the Painswick Centre alongside the Gloucestershire Guild of Craftsmen Gallery.

In an imaginative new venture promoted by the Centre Trustees, three rooms, which made up the former club bar, are being converted to form working studio spaces for local artists.

Already seven local artists have said they will take space - six painters, and a stained glass artist.

The new studios will be opened officially on 1st April on the occasion of the Painswick Centre

AGM, to which all are invited. There is even a complimentary glass of wine in prospect. Painswick has had a notable reputation for its art activities for many years. Will this new and exciting project put the art scene in Painswick on the map?

For a full report, please turn to page 7.



Four of the seven artists taking bays are shown here at the Centre. From left to right: Claire Nayegon, Jane Garbett, Adele Lambert, Sue Cridland. A fifth, Angela Mullen-Bryan, is pictured below.



Painswick Gateway

Gateway goes ahead!

At a meeting on Thursday, 26th February, the Trustees formally decided to proceed with the Painswick Gateway project with its goals of saving the Library, opening the "Gateway" access and making possible the contingent benefits from combining the Library building with St. Mary's Church Rooms.

The Trustees will now proceed to a Conditional Contract with Gloucester County Council to buy the Library building. They will also seek additional funding over and above £92,500 already pledged by 166 supporters with a view to the formal launch of the project in the next three months or so.

On behalf of Gateway, Edward Young urged everyone in Painswick to join together, to create a new venture for the benefit of the whole community.

Full report on page 19.



Fairtrade Croft does it again

A Fairtrade coffee morning last Friday was at least as successful as any that have come before, the Croft School being the promoters and a committee of twelve or so pupils having done just about all the excellent organising.

Over £450 was raised for the Lidetta charity and in particular a child sponsored through World Vision in Mozambique. Cakes, pastries and coffee were

100% Fairtrade and the cake donated by Olivas seemed to attract a queue all its own for raffle tickets. The MP David Drew looked in, as did numerous parents and friends of the school.

A great success.



Up for the Cup!

In their first season, Painswick's junior (under 12) footballers - the Painswick Dragons - have reached the final of the Trophy World Shield. In the semi-final, the Dragons were too hot for their opponents, Tytherington Rocks, beating them 3 - 0. They now go on to the final to be played on 9th May at Forest Green

Rovers stadium.

In addition to cup success, they are top of the Mid Glos Mini Soccer League having only lost one of their 12 games and scoring 53 goals in the process. Chelsea, eat your heart out! Match report on page 14.

Support our Post Office!

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Any queries, call Annie on 812303.

On other pages this month - yet more **snow**, Edge **cathedral**, **Gaslight** mystery deepens, Croft gets **fired up** historically, fed up with the **Beacon**, rescuers **rescued**, once **bittern**, WI a **basket case**, feeling sorry for **bankers**, a **Welsh** connection, a **French** connection and a **Spanish** connection - the **sky's the limit** for the Beacon!



PLANNING

Guidance on Householder Permitted Development Rights Stroud District Councillor Barbara Tait who is the District Council's Planning Portfolio holder gave a presentation on new legislation which came into effect on the 1st October 2008 on extending domestic properties. The Guidance document, by means of flowcharts and illustrations, has been published by SDC to help householders ascertain whether planning permission is required on intended works. Cllr Tait, who is one of Painswick's two District Councillors, told the meeting that even planning officers find the new regulations confusing and that in her opinion it is always preferable to consult the planning department and especially if the property is in the Conservation Area or the AONB. The Guidance booklet is available from SDC.

Ann Burgess Watson asked whether Article 4 of Statutory Instrument 1995 No. 418 could be used to restrict development. Barbara Tait explained that Art. 4 Directions are applied where the DC feels that an area is threatened and have the effect of removing permitted development rights, thereby necessitating a planning application to be made, whether permission is needed or not. The PPC, but not individual members, could apply to SDC planning for an Article 4 Direction.

Three Gables - Signage

David Hudson reported that he had consulted SDC planning and that no permission was required for the advertising sign. He said there was no point in continuing in trying to have the signs removed

Court House, Hale Lane - Lighting

The owners attended the meeting and they confirmed that the exterior lights in the trees would be turned downwards.

PARISH COUNCIL

The meeting warmly welcomed the new member, Ela Pathak-Sen.

Painswick Gateway project

A long discussion on the Painswick Gateway project began with an update from the project's chairman Edward Young. He told the meeting that the recent document to supporters and the flier distributed throughout the village gave the current state of the project, The Gateway Trustees will hold a meeting on Thursday the 26th February which will decide whether to proceed. He reported that 198 pledges had been received so far and that, including Gift Aid, in excess of £90,000 had been raised. Grants totalling £40,000 have also been secured leaving a shortfall of £70,000 - the Trustees require £200,000 to be able to proceed. There is a further offer of £20,000 from an individual, conditional on the sum being matched by other donors.

The options are threefold, Edward Young reported. Firstly if the Trustees decide that there are sufficient funds, then the project will proceed. Secondly if funds are insufficient, the Trustees may take up the County Council's Conditional Contract offer, which might be extendable, to exchange contracts immediately and hope to raise the balance within three months. There are also time constraints on the grants which would be difficult to extend.

If the Trustees should then decide not to proceed, there would be costs of approximately £9000 to be paid and the balance of funds would be returned to the supporters. Finally there is the option to cancel the project and return all funds to the supporters.

David Hudson asked if the Trustees had considered buying the Library building only. Edward Young responded that the mandate from supporters was for the whole project, not just the library. He added that the income base from the library building alone would be insufficient. He also said that the trustees had pushed for the County Council to hand back the Library building to the community in line with a government order last year but without success.

Mike Kerton stated that maintenance of both the library building and the church rooms had been inadequate for many years and therefore it was vital that the Trustees had sufficient funds to carry out essential work. He requested the Parish Council to give its support to the Gateway project.

Ela Pathak-Sen responded that there was insufficient information for the PPC to support the project as the finances were unclear and the need for more meeting rooms in the village had not been established. She also said that there was no revenue plan, that support for the project would require a leap of faith and that if the PPC endorsed the project people might put money in because of this. She asked whether Peter Rowe's report on village accommodation due at March's PPC meeting could be brought forward.

Terry Parker said that the PPC had supported the Gateway concept from the beginning. To endorse the project, the Parish Council would have to be convinced of the viability of its business plan which currently had a £70,000 cash shortfall. Edward Young responded saying that the Gateway project was seen as a threat but in fact it was no threat to existing businesses and meeting places in the village. The creation of the gateway corridor would bring more business and people into the village.

Jason Bullingham pointed out that the gateway corridor between Stamages Lane car park and the churchyard would only be open during business hours. Edward Young said that this aspect of the project was still at the planning stage. Martin Slinger said that the support of 198 people represented a small portion of the village. Edward Young responded that 198 people were prepared to give financial help which was a significant number. He also pointed out that most of the people who attended the first public meeting in 2008 were over 40 whereas Gateway would be of most benefit to younger people.

Leslie Brotherton reported that the application for funding of the Cotswold Way Interpretation Centre in Painswick had failed. He will look at other ways of raising funds.

Allotments

Terry Parker reported that a letter had been received from Philip Oakley with a suggested rental figure for the Gyde field. The working party will look into it and report.

Town Hall heating

An engineer who came to inspect the heating was not qualified to help, Martin Slinger reported. The Clerk will contact other firms and arrange for a heating consultant to carry out a survey.

European Directive on Working Hours – retained firefighters

Terry Parker reported that as the Directive did not apply to the self-employed, it would not apply to retained firefighters in Painswick as all except one are self-employed. The single exception is the PPC's own employee.

St Mary's Churchyard - ramp

David Hudson told the meeting that in future when the Parish Council was itself submitting a planning application the forms would be completed and submitted to the Parish Council planning committee for approval before sending them to the SDC. St Mary's Church is submitting a new planning application for the ramp.

Snow clearance and grit bins

Martin Slinger will discuss the responsibility for clearing pavements with Gloucestershire County Council (GCC). Terry Parker said that a radio report had suggested that Parish Councils might be responsible. If this were the case it would be a major cost for PPC. He suggested that the PPC could build up a supply of grit. The GCC will liaise with the PPC to establish where new bins might need to be located. The cost of a yellow grit bin to private users is £130 which the GCC will then keep replenished. Barrel type bins are considerably cheaper. Ann Daniels proposed a survey of grit bins be carried out. She also stressed that bins should be filled up only when empty and not topped up as this compacts any grit already in the bin. Councillors will survey their wards and report back at the April meeting.

Gloucestershire Calor Village of the Year Competition

The Chairman asked for volunteers to prepare Painswick's entry. He pointed out that with more villages competing it would be more difficult to win. The team usually consists of 2 or 3 Councillors and some members of the public. Mike Kerton, Ela Pathak-Sen and Ann Daniels all volunteered.

Traffic Report

Ann Burgess Watson reported on the meeting of the Traffic committee held on the 28th January which was attended by 12 members of the public and also by John Kay from Gloucestershire Highways. The full minutes of that meeting are available from Painswick Town Hall. This report will only cover issues raised at the Parish Council meeting. Concern was expressed about speeding traffic on various roads in the parish and reductions in speed limits were requested. Such changes are unlikely as speed limits are governed by government guidelines though more speed checks are possible. John Kay had reported that a review of speed limits on all major roads in Gloucestershire will take place in the next financial year. The other main concern was the installation of safe crossing points on the A46 at Broadham Fields and in the centre of the village. Terry Parker told the meeting that the cost of installing a pedestrian crossing now cost £75,000. Several

members suggested replacing 30 mph signs with 20 mph ones or establishing a 20 mph limit area.

Tree Felling on the Beacon

David Hudson expressed his concern about the felling of mature trees on the Beacon, particularly above the 15th green where 16 trees have been cut down. Terry Parker has been in touch with the Painswick Beacon Conservation Group but has been unable to obtain a diagram identifying which trees are to be removed. He will ask Paul Hackman of Natural England for a copy. Terry Parker explained that the reason for felling trees is to encourage and protect the growth of limestone grasses. Jason Bullingham noted that trees of over 50mm diameter require a licence to be felled. Whether this applies to felling by Natural England is unclear.

Dog fouling

Ann Daniels reported dog fouling on the Recreation Ground and elsewhere. She said that the PPC has been lenient in enforcing the bye-laws on dog fouling and keeping dogs on the lead but this may have to be reconsidered if the public do not obey the bye-laws.

Other items

Plantation: Ann Daniels reported that a bathroom suite and other rubbish had been dumped in the plantation. Swift action by the PPC in removing it ensured that further dumping did not take place. She also reported an overhanging branch which needs to be cut off at the walkers' car park.

A46 outside car park: Mike Kerton reported that the leaf build up had now become a mulch.

Corrections

In February's Beacon there were two errors which we are happy to correct:

1. The coach parking bays are not in Stamages Lane car park. They are on the lane to Court Orchard, opposite the entrance to the car park.
2. Painswick Matters do not wish to be responsible for the advertising by the lamp in Victoria Square because of insurance issues.

Painswick Educational Trust

The Trust will be meeting again shortly to deal with applications from young people resident in the Painswick area for financial help with their studies and apprenticeships. If you are interested in finding out more, please telephone Joy Edwards on 812588 or Michael James 812646 for an application form.

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DASH for Marah

If people do not have enough food, shelter and the support of family and friends, especially when the weather is harsh, life can be very cold, lonely and depressing.

The Marah Trust, based in the Congregational Church in central Stroud, is a Christian charity set up to support the growing number of Stroud's men and women marginalised in society.



It runs three "drop in" sessions a week where volunteers from various churches work alongside about 170 people who are homeless, suffering physical or mental health problems, have Special Needs or are coping with addictions. It is a place where all are welcomed in a non-judgmental way.

To help meet these needs and provide practical support a group called DASH (Delivering Aid to Stroud Homeless) is being set up by the Painswick Churches working together. It is a Painswick-wide project and it hopes to establish collecting points in non-church locations as well as the churches. The idea is to focus on a different need each month such as clothing items or shoes.

Look out for announcements and notices in the near future telling you when, where and what is being collected each month.

Get ready to DASH!

Beacon by email

We welcome contributions by email (beacon@painswick.net) but please check that we've received them. If you've not received an acknowledgement in 48 hours, it probably means they're lost in hyperspace: please chase us!

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Lent courses this year

Churches Together Around Painswick have organised 4 different ecumenical courses this year. The courses which are detailed below began this week but it is not too late to join.

- Tuesday evenings. 7.30pm to 9.00pm. Edge Village Hall. 5 meetings from 3rd March. Rev. Elizabeth Ward 812188. "Reflections on Lent through art, music and literature."
- Wednesday evenings. 7.30pm to 9.00pm. Whitehall Cottages, Stamages Lane. Rev. David Newell 814772. "Pathways of Prayer". 6 meetings from 4th March.
- Thursday mornings. 9.30am to 10.45am. Croome House, Bisley Street. Frances Watson 812071. "The Daily Mission". 5 meetings from 5th March.
- Thursday afternoons. 2.00pm to 3.30pm. Christ Church Hall, Gloucester Street. Rev. Heather Whyte. 01453 766389. "Let me tell you a story". 5 meetings from 5th March.

Please telephone the contact number to express your interest in joining a group.

Procession of Witness

On Good Friday, April 10th, we will be processing at 10.30am from the Roman Catholic Church in Friday Street to the road-side cross by the Lychgate, for a short service before processing up New Street to Christ Church Hall

We do hope YOU will join us.

The Vibe - PSALMS - Sorted

If you have not already met me I am Andy Harding working for PSALMS as Strategic Youth & Sports Minister. It has been such a privilege to work with the young people at Sorted and The Vibe on Monday nights at the Painswick Youth Centre. Young people provide you with an incredible sense of energy, enthusiasm and perspective of the important things in life.

On Monday 6th April we'll be serving the community in a small way, chatting together over a barbecue and playing some sport in the afternoon (all ages/abilities welcome). This will be an opportunity for you guys to join us for some fun and games in what is sure to be a light-hearted, fun atmosphere... Watch this space for more information.

So I look forward to seeing some of you outside the youth centre on the 6th April. If you have any questions or just want to meet for a coffee feel free to contact me (07845460163/andy.harding@psalms.uk.net).

Andy Harding

Cathedral comes to Edge Village Hall!

Our local Anglican Church, as part of the Churches Together around Painswick Lent Courses, has asked the ministry team from the Cathedral to run a series on "Taking a Fresh Look at Christ through the Arts". In other words, the Diocesan "A Team" coming to us this Lent; an event not to be missed for it is not to be repeated. You will find Edge Village Hall on the other side of the Green (top of Edge Road).

Parking is not easy, so best to come with a friend. All the talks are on Tuesdays and start at 7.30pm.

- Tuesday 3rd March "Christ in Poetry" Canon Neil Heaverside,
- Tue 10th "Christ in Art" Canon David Hoyle
- Tue 17th "Christ in music" Canon Celia Thomson
- Tue 24th "Christ in literature" Dean Nick Bury
- Tue 31st "Christ in the Gospel" Archdeacon Geoffrey Sidaway.

Revd Elizabeth Ward and Revd John Longuet-Higgins

Remember you can keep distant friends and relatives in touch with Painswick via the Beaconline web edition
www.painswickbeacon.org.uk



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Unfinished Woodchester business for Probus

Painswick Probus Club was formed in 1990, its objective being to provide a regular meeting point for retired professional and business men residing in Painswick and the surrounding villages. It also provides the opportunity to socialise with others in similar circumstances. Currently about 60 enjoy the clubs' activities and new members are always welcome. Diary details can always be found in The Beacon.

At the February meeting, Brian Wollaston, who is a volunteer on the restoration of Woodchester Mansion, spoke about this architectural masterpiece of the Victorian age, which was abandoned by its builders before it could be completed. It has been virtually untouched by time since the mid-1870s, and today offers a unique opportunity to tour and explore a Gothic building in mid-assembly.

It is the third stately home on the site to have been abandoned by various owners and is being restored to the point where it was left by the builders. The house is unusual because, firstly it is in a state to show how the Victorians set about building a house of this importance and secondly because of the spectacular use of stone in its construction. It is a gothic building complete with buttresses and fan vaulted ceilings. The stone, which was quarried on the estate, was used for guttering, gargoyle water spouts and even pipes and a full sized bath which had been hewn from a single block of stone.

Brian, illustrated with slides & gave us an insight into the difficulties facing the team when they commenced restoration of the progress they have made.

The following meeting on 4th March - was a wine tasting followed by a light lunch, kindly provided by our ladies - wines tasted and enjoyed were the Beaujolais.



BEACO-DOKU

Derived from Sudoku, **Beaco-doku** replaces the numbers with letters. Last month's answer used the letters from WINTER - as you can see, top right.



This month we look forward to the joys of SPRING.

See if you can fill the blank squares in the grid on the right so that each column, each row and each block of six squares contains each of the six letters, S-P-R-I-N-G, without repetition.

E	R	T	I	N	W
I	N	W	T	E	R
W	T	I	N	R	E
R	E	N	W	I	T
N	W	E	R	T	I
T	I	R	E	W	N

	G		P		
		S			
			R	G	
				P	
		N		I	P
I	P				

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Stroud Citizens Advice Bureau is extending its opening hours from April 2009 and will need additional volunteer receptionists to help.

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Please ring Carla on our admin line (01453 758252) to discuss this role. Thank you.

Jane Rowe



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A Warmer Welcome!

To improve general comfort levels for our users of the Painswick Centre and to reduce (well, at least contain) already high utility bills, secondary glazing has been installed in the Cotswold Room, Green Room and adjacent kitchen, and in the Gardiner Room occupied by the Gloucestershire Guild of Craftsmen. We are hopeful that part of the costs will be defrayed by a grant, of which more details next month.

The Painswick Centre's AGM will be held on Wednesday 1st April in the Cotswold Room, at 8.00 pm. There will be a tour of the new Artists' Studios prior to the meeting at 7.00 pm. All are welcome to view and the Trustees look forward to welcoming you to the meeting.

Table Tennis: we have had an encouraging response to the article about establishing a Table Tennis club. If you have not yet contacted us, please do so, by phoning Wendy Workman (see below).

Shopping & Pamper Fair (Friday 1st May): bookings for tables at this exciting new event are being accepted; please contact Wendy Workman.

Crafts & Antiques Fair (Bank Holiday Monday, 25th May): bookings for tables for this Fair are already arriving. In recognition of the financial pressures on traders, we are charging £15 for a large table, a reduction on 2008 prices. For those solely raising money for charity, we are charging £10. Entrance to the Fair will be free. For further information and bookings, please contact Jane Rowe.

Jane Rowe and Wendy Workman

Mysterious Gaslight seen in Painswick Centre

A bell clangs in the early evening gloom of a foggy Victorian street as the muffin man does his rounds. A mysterious air of foreboding encompasses the Painswick Centre, illuminated by eerie gaslight ... A vision of Painswick's past? No: rather a vision of a dramatic future!

What does it mean? Are we soon to be plunged into darkness by power cuts? Should we all be hoarding candles? Is the end of the World nigh?



Panic not, my fellow citizens. This is not some dark Orwellian prophecy but merely a cunning ruse designed to lure you to the Painswick Centre to see Painswick Players next production, the Victorian thriller, Gaslight by Patrick Hamilton on 24th, 25th, 26th April.

Gaslight tells the tale of Bella Manningham who thinks she is slowly losing her mind in the forbidding house which has become her prison. Her husband's tyranny and the insolence of her maid, plus an air of mystery in her home, have driven her almost to breaking-point. While Jack Manningham goes out on the town each evening, his wife covers alone in a room lit by the shadowy gaslight, listening to the mysterious footsteps overhead. When an unexpected visitor turns out to be an ex-policeman, Bella learns that she is caught up in some very sinister happenings.

Staging a Victorian thriller is a challenging project. The tension has to be built. The atmosphere must be 'right' — that is, sombre but not gloomy, fast-moving, and with occasional clues that let the audience say afterwards, "Now I see why she did that!"

Director George Krasker is new to Painswick Players but an old hand in the AmDram world, having recently returned from Geneva where he was a leading light for many years in the highly successful Geneva English Drama Society. Apparently coincidentally(?), this society is also doing Gaslight as its next production!

He says, "The cast of Gaslight have a big, enjoyable task ahead of them! We are working together, as hard as only amateur thespians can and should, to entertain our audience and to show what the Painswick Players can do with this thriller."

Not just the cast, of course. This is very much a costume drama and, as you can see from the picture of our Bella Manningham on the right, we are making a big effort to dress it right. Likewise the set and props need to look authentically Victorian: we're still looking for a round or oval pedestal table about 3ft in diameter, a few Victorian looking pictures or picture frames, preferably without glass, and - I'm told we must be quite precise about this - a fairly Victorian (looking), smallish sort of cupboard-thing. Please contact Charles Dorman on 814548 if you can help.

And I mustn't forget to mention the (gas)lighting through which the whole plot gradually emerges.

Finally, to continue the sense of mystery, the sharper eyed amongst you will already have noticed that our final performance - April 26th - will be on a Sunday rather than the usual Saturday. Even more mysterious is that the last night will not be! (A night, that is.) It will be a matinee. So, even if there is a power cut, you should still be able to find your way in the light to the Painswick Centre, Gaslight or no gaslight.



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Exciting New Venture for the Centre

Three rooms which have been lying empty for the last ten years at the Painswick Centre are undergoing an impressive transformation. They are being converted to form a working space for six local artists. This is not, however, simply a private workshop as it will be open to the public whenever any of the artists are present there. In other words, you can observe the work in progress, purchase any which is for sale and even have a go yourself as there will be a section reserved for anyone to try their hand too.

This is a truly innovative departure for the Centre and quite an adventurous decision on the part of the Trustees. The cost of the conversion is not cheap but the Trustees feel that funding it is very worthwhile. The result will be a very attractive working and public space.

The idea is to encourage local artists and simultaneously to make it a real community project. The Centre is, after all, Painswick's own public amenity, having been given to the village just over a hundred years ago for the purpose of community activity in education, entertainment, sport, art, indeed all leisure and recreational activities. The intention is for Painswickians of all ages to use this facility.

The rooms in question previously served as the lounge bar. In need of the current facelift, they are fundamentally very attractive with their original arched window framing and arts and crafts ambience. Six bays are being created as work areas for the artists, varying slightly in size according to need. Each will pay rent, at a very competitive rate, per square metre occupied and there will be room for work to be displayed. Of the artists who are about to embark on the project, five are painters and one a stained glass artist. There is already a waiting list. The artists themselves will make decisions about the day-to-day running of the studios, displays etc.

The Trustees have demonstrated real vision combined with generosity in setting up this scheme. However, there is still much to be done and the need for further sponsoring is urgent. Any amount, however small, would be welcome. After all, this is your community centre and it needs an injection of life such as this.

It is possible that in future there may be further developments - opening up more display space, tea bar, etc. This will, of course, partly depend on the amount of public support for the project.

On 1 April the Centre holds its AGM at 8.00pm. The Studios will be officially opened at 7.00pm and everyone is welcome to come along, see the space and enjoy a glass of wine.

Painswick has had a notable reputation for its art activities for many years. Will this new and exciting project put the art scene in Painswick on the map? To do so, it needs your support. Do go along and see for yourself.

For more details contact Jackie Herbert 813229, or email painswickartstudios@hotmail.com

Carol Maxwell

From Painswick to Sheffield

Painswick based Stained Glass Artist Johannes Steuck has recently finished a commission for a series of windows which are to be installed at the Freeman College. The windows are currently on show in his Studio at Emerald Hollow on Painswick Beacon. Johannes would like to extend an open invitation to anyone wishing to view his work before they are whisked away and permanently installed in Sheffield. Viewing by appointment only phone 812945.



End of an Era

Paul Gray and Valerie Dugan are finally leaving The Shetland Shop and Painswick for good, ending a committed involvement with Painswick's business and artistic communities that stretches back nearly 50 years.

Paul writes:

To put to rest all the rumours Paul, Valerie and Rosa are leaving Painswick. We tried to buy the shop but without success. We also tried to find elsewhere to run our businesses and live in the locality but nothing would blend together so we have decided the best is to start afresh and move away. This was a snap decision. When visiting Rosa's mum in Bexhill just after Christmas we visited Rye and fell in love with the place and when we visited her mid February we decided to move to the area, so we will be leaving on the 18th March. Our hope is to find suitable premises to open a picture framing shop and art gallery for Valerie's work plus a small coffee shop for Rosa.

We will have the Shetland Shop open for a couple of weeks to sell off all that we are unable to take with us so if you fancy rummaging, anything you buy will help us in our new adventure.

We wish to thank everyone we have met and got to know over the many years we have been here and will miss you all. Painswick has been very important in our lives and will always be with us and we will miss it a great deal. But the new start is very exciting and will be good for us.

Rosa has only been here for eighteen months but has made many friends within the community and the church and sends her personal thanks to them all, especially Rose and Jack Smith.



Croft School News

Janet Hoyle writes...

The last few weeks have seen a range of activity in the school, including a visit of Guide Dogs for the Blind to Class 1, a 'Fire of London' workshop in Class 2, Year 6's visit to the Stroud Magistrates Court and a drama production with a science theme by the Kinetic Theatre Company. We have had teachers from schools within our 'Assessment for Learning' cluster, the work of which is being led by Mrs Towler, visiting each class. They were particularly keen to learn about the children's work with their 'talking partners' and they were very impressed with what they saw. I must express my thanks to Mrs Towler, Mrs Hartley who has been working with her on the project, and all the teachers and teaching assistants for their successful work in this area, and for being so willing to share this work with other professionals within their classrooms.

Trips To The Hayden Centre

Unfortunately Classes 3 and 5 missed their trips due to the snow. They have been re-arranged for Wednesday 25th March. One class will go in the morning and one in the afternoon – more details later.

School Council Election

Congratulations to the elected members of the School Council, who will represent their year groups until Easter:

- Year 1: Lily Calvert and Louis Slater
- Reserves: Holly Luke and Alfie Bradshaw
- Year 2: Andre Stamp and Mea Bradley
- Reserves: Lucas Nixon Malaure and Amy James
- Year 3: Caitlin Lynam and Louis Lovell
- Reserves: Joe Jakeway and Maddie Partridge
- Year 4: Max Murray and Beth Hiatt
- Reserves: Thomas Keeling and Jane Taylor
- Year 5: Georgina Churchley and Toby Bullingham
- Reserves: Lara Boon and Daniel Needham
- Year 6: William Jollans and Catherine Taylor
- Reserves: Reece Morris and Olivia Mighten

The council has had two meetings, at which it discussed the writing of a new bullying policy, which they will be responsible for writing, with the help of Mrs Bedford.

House Captains

House Captains for this term have been selected as follows:

- BEACON: Olivia Mighten
- JUNIPER: Reece Morris
- RUDGE: Max Simpson

Class 1 Assembly

As Class 1 were not able to present their last assembly because of the snow, it will now be on Friday 27th March at 2.30pm, also the date of the Fair Trade Coffee Morning, so I hope that you can come along to both. We need help to make cakes for the coffee morning. Fair Trade recipes have been sent out, so we hope you will be inspired!

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Acorns Hospice

I hope that you have all received a little house for the collection of your loose change for this very worthwhile charity. Ask at the school office if you would like another one. These should be returned in the last week before Easter.

Assisted Instrument Purchase Scheme

The AIP Scheme provides you with the opportunity to buy an instrument at a reduced price. Gloucestershire Music is able to sell instruments free from VAT to pupils who receive lessons through the county Teaching Scheme or are members of a County Music Group. The Scheme is not available to adults or to pupils receiving lessons outside of LEA provision.

Gloucestershire Music can order an instrument from their normal suppliers at education discounted price. Telephone the Music Office on 01452 330300 for a quote. Application forms are available from Mrs Rudd or on the Gloucestershire Music website: www.gloucestershiremusic.co.uk/

Fun Club AGM

This will be on Thursday 26th March at 7.30pm. Please come along to this meeting if you can, especially if you benefit from your child's attendance at Fun Club. The club is run by a committee of volunteers, who need the support and interest of parents. I am assured that you will not be strong armed onto the committee if you come along!



Red Nose Day

Please put this date in your diaries – Friday 13th March. This year the theme is 'do something funny for money'. We invite the children to wear something funny, for a minimum donation of £1.

PTA: Croft School Auction

On Friday 27th March at 7.30pm, Croft School PTA is holding an Auction of Promises in the Church Rooms, Painswick to raise money for much-needed school computers. We would like to invite everyone along for a fun & friendly evening - no ticket needed, just turn up on the night. We are also doing an American Supper, whereby people bring along a plate of food of their choice to go on a communal table to be shared. There will be a bar available & coffee.

We have had some great offers already, such as a day for two at a local brewery plus 18 pints of beer to take home, a spa day & lunch at Richmond, a chauffeured limousine for an evening, Kingsholm rugby tickets, a greatly reduced commission rate on the sale of a house, massages & beauty treatments, meals out, pony & trap ride with picnic, a set of accounts, golf coaching, blo-karting, badger watching and much more.

A catalogue of offers will shortly be available for just £1 from the school office, the Post Office or The Chairman. If you are unable to attend the auction but would still like to make a proxy bid, please complete the form at the back of the catalogue.

Many thanks to all those who have offered promises already; any further offers always greatly received. Please contact Karen Ticehurst (813575, kazticehurst@hotmail.com) or Holly Lynall (813675, hollythorney-croft@hotmail.com) for more details.

Thanks for your support.

Karen Ticehurst, PTA Treasurer

Class 2 goes historical

Organised by their teacher, Natalie Greening, Class 2 were visited recently by the 'History People' with a Great Fire of London workshop to introduce their topic on the subject. The artefacts and costumes were very popular.



Logan Ward



Holly Luke and Amy James



Ellie Hiatt



Helena Cox



Darcy Lynall



Mea Bradley, Isabella Nunez, Darcy Lynall, Helena Cox, Jack Higgins



Harriet Lynam

Croft Games Club

After school on Mondays, there is a regular Games Club for infant children. David Creed in year 5 brings in his own games and helps to run the club. He is seen here (right) with Mihal Stanislawski, Thomas Ticehurst, William Loftus and Luke Hitchcock.

Pictured below are Alfie Bradshaw and Thomas Ticehurst; below right are: Hattie McCormick and Lucan Nixon Malaure.



Vouchers

Croft School is collecting Times and Sunday Times Books for Schools vouchers and also Tesco vouchers.

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You can't please them all!

Conservation is tricky work and Painswick Beacon presents a whole lot of challenges.

For instance:

- Bird watchers want all the trees left.
- Some golfers want the trees cut down 'cos they're in the way, whilst others want trees left 'cos they create a more challenging course.

- Orchid lovers want all the grass cut and tidied up, butterfly boffins want all the scrub cut and burned.
- Fungi enthusiasts want anything dead or dying left; walkers want anything dead or dying removed for safety's sake.
- Some people want the brambles left for blackberrying; others want them cut down 'cos they're in the way.
- Some Horse riders want the right to roam all over the Beacon, 'because its common land'.
- Picnickers get fed up with the golfers; golfers get fed up with picnickers,
- Dog Walkers get fed up with Mountain bikers.

And I (sometimes) get fed up with everyone!

Everyone, it seems, was not fed up with the snow. I've never seen so many people on the Common enjoying themselves. But let us not forget that if it wasn't for the Golf Club and the Conservation Group there would be no open space to play on. The whole area would be covered with trees and scrub. There would be no orchids or rare butterflies and probably less species of birds.

One morning while taking shelter from a blizzard I sat under a tree and waited quietly because sooner or later something appears. A tiny movement caught my eye. A common vole was making its way across the snow, every few feet dipping into a hole and re-emerging, finally it stopped a few inches from my outstretched legs, dived again and disappeared. Now until that moment I had not been too clear as to what conservation was about, because all the experts with all their qualifications have directed us to cut this down, rake that away, tidy this, and do that; and one of the most tiring and tiresome jobs is raking up grass! This season we've done very little grass cutting. The point I'm trying to make is, conservation involves all species, and that includes ourselves and is therefore about compromise.

We all are part of the environment: its not just something to play in at leisure time. Being aware of the smallest creature makes us aware of the greater whole. So leaving long grass makes corridors for small mammals and insect life, they can feed on seeds etc.... These small creatures are the base of a food chain, thus feeding birds of prey, foxes badgers, stoats, weasels. Their dung returns to the earth and nourishes the plants and grasses thus completing a cycle.

Painswick Beacon is a SSSI site. This means it is very important for its diversity of species. So much needs to be done with the recording and practical work. Next time you come across a convenient pile of logs, consider that they may have been left there deliberately for grubs and beetles to munch on. Instead why not consider joining the conservation Group enjoying good company, satisfying and meaningful work and learn more. You might also get some firewood to take home.

Clare Overhill

Horticultural Society Show

The Painswick Horticultural Society's 57th Annual Show will be held at the Painswick Centre on Saturday 12th September. As usual, a little 'advanced advice' of the Handicraft Section as classes may require lengthy preparation:

- 73 A child's soft toy
- 74 A patchwork cushion
- 75 Four coasters with a floral design
- 76 A pair of knitted garden socks
- 77 A purse for small change
- 78 A poster depicting four gardening hints
- 79 A painting of a tropical flower
- 80 A greetings card for a 100th birthday
- 81 A photograph of a hanging basket
- 82 A photograph of an unwanted garden visitor
- 83 A photograph "relaxing in Painswick"
- 84 A photograph "happiness is,," with a caption

All handicrafts must be finished articles and not previously shown. Photographs should not exceed 5" x 7" whether mounted or unmounted. Details of new classes in other sections of the show may be obtained from Show Secretary, Philip Berry on 813227.



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Local History Teaser

Here's a group of school children looking relaxed and happy from some years ago. When and where do you think the photograph was taken? Are you able to name any of the children – indeed, might you yourself be one of them? We'd love to hear from you if you can provide any information on this one.



Last month's picture showed a WI meeting held at St Mary's Home in about 1948. Jenny Gauguin was able to identify Mrs Arch front row left, Mrs Damsell next to her, Mrs Merchant behind Mrs Arch, Mrs Beacall centre of the next row back and Mrs Hollister-Short second from right in the row behind that.

We have received more responses to January's photograph. Adrian Holford emailed to say that the gentleman second from the right on the middle row is Barrie Meadows whom he describes as a Painswick rugby and cricket legend and who was his grandfather. Ann Daniels was also able to identify on the back row from the left, 2nd Horace Hollister-Short, 6th Eddy Luker, 9th Tom Goddard, 10th George Goulding, 12th Perrins. Ann says that 'Putty' Hollister was a teacher at Painswick School in the 1950s and George Goulding was the bell ringing captain. Many thanks. If you have a photograph from Painswick's past that would evoke memories or is of significance, please do contact us.

... and a packed house for the Local History Society

David Archard and Helen Briggs gave a lively, entertaining but above all informative presentation to a very large and appreciative audience at the February meeting of the Society. The content was split into three distinct sections. Helen gave a summary of the history of Court House. Completed in 1604, it was owned by the clothier, Gardner. Over the following years it was developed considerably, and was later the subject of a Civil War siege in 1643 as evidenced by musket ball damage marks in the wall. Later it was used as a chapel for dissenters and in the 19th century and during World War 2, a school. A new north wing was added in 1938.

David gave an account of Painswick stone, quarried for many years at Kimsbury Camp. It was used for many fine buildings and interior features both locally and much further afield eg the Old Bailey. John Bryan's work was even acknowledged by George III. David gave example details of activities, labour and costs from a fascinating minute book from Catbrain Quarry for 1901 with some very evocative sepia photos of the quarry at work. The quarry under Burdocks finished in 1968.

The evening was rounded off with an account of the bombing of Painswick on 15 June, 1941. Demolished completely was the house belonging to the Hollister-Short family in Tibbiwell Lane. Miraculously, the family and a guest survived unharmed. In Friday Street, the Vicarage, formerly the Bell Hotel which closed in 1925, and the many small shops opposite were destroyed. Sadly and ironically, the only fatality was a 79 year-old evacuee. The top of Hollyhock Lane was also bombed and Poultry Court was demolished. Altogether, about 9 bombs fell on Painswick.

The whole evening was wonderfully thought out with excellent slides and appropriate readings of poetry and prose. David and Helen are fast becoming a legendary double act within the Society.

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday, 17 March when Bruce Hall will give an update on the canal restoration project. His last visit was very well received. Everyone is welcome – 7.30pm at the Croft School.

Carol Maxwell



Our Annual Coffee Morning will be held in the Town Hall on Saturday 28th March 2009 from 9.45am till 12noon. Coffee, tea, chocolate and home-made biscuits (with seconds!) £1.50, Children free. Raffle, cakes, savouries, roulades, marmalade, bric-a-brac, books, children's toys & books, Helen's cards.

All in aid of HELP FOR HEROES. Support our wounded service men & women returning from the wars with terrible injuries.

If you are unable to come, donations would be welcome as would goods, which we can collect if necessary. We will have leaflets on the day and everyone will be welcome. Do come and support this charity.

Anne Leon & Helen Baker

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Didn't it snow!

For the second month in succession, we've been 'snowed under' (so to speak) by wintery tales and pictures. Just how snowed under Painswick was during the first weekend of February becomes clear from the pictures and stories on these two pages. In particular, the aerial view of Painswick on the right (taken by the Beacon's own 'eye in the sky' on Friday 6th February) shows the extent of the snow cover.

Meanwhile at ground level, Mel Cross and daughter Flossie (below) find a sledge more useful than a car on the A46 near Pitchcombe. Or (far right) even a snow-train...



... whilst Gyde House (above) looked decidedly Dickensian.



The Lane

The lane had cut its people off for days. Barely had safe steps emerged when he made his way up to the village.

Near the top he sought solace in the church; bleeding thoughts from the back row. The discomfort of the wood trapped and stored secrets like splinters.

Outside the snow reigned; the names on tombs became further whitewashed and forgotten. Silver-haired yew trees traded nods of familiarity with the nearby war memorial.

Standing tall they both bore the brunt of this harsh but brilliant white pretender.

The Falcon Inn glowed amidst the sunset, Occasionally hurling breaths of hot happiness into the bitter cold air.

Frenzied cars convulsed as rubber challenged ice and cut compact tracks that oscillated in the uncertainty of the frozen roads.

His final path led homewards-tentatively trudging blackness back into the road in-between rows of Cotswold-stone facades.

The shadowy St George's flag waved goodbye one last time daring to dance in a cloak of darkness.

And he headed home once more down that same lonely lane by the stream, now rejuvenated by the sludge of the turning snow.

Alex Breeze

Rescuers rescued!

An ambulance was summoned to Tibbiwell on Saturday morning 7th February 2009. The driver thought twice about descending the hill due to the snow and ice so he parked at the top in Kemps Lane. The patient could not walk so the driver of the ambulance called upon the services of SARA (Severn Area Rescue Assn) to assist. A 4 wheel drive vehicle eventually arrived and went down Tibbiwell in reverse. The patient was collected and taken to St Mary's Street with a view to a



transfer into the GAHT ambulance. That is where another problem occurred. The ambulance turned around at the Kemps Lane junction only to find there was no traction on the snow and ice. With the help of about 10 locals the ambulance was pushed up to the level ground and all was well for an onward journey.

Thus the "local rescue service was rescued by the locals"

Trevor Radway

Above and beyond the call of duty...

From Nicola Hayward, Practice Manager, The Surgery, Hoyland House:

At the time of writing, the snow is finally starting to melt in Painswick but it's been a long ten days with the weather affecting us all, causing havoc on the roads and virtually 'imprisoning' some people who have been unable to leave their homes. I just wanted to take this opportunity to thank a few people who have really helped us out at the surgery during this very trying time.

Thanks to Terry Parker for organising a grit bin and to George Hodder for filling it. Thanks to Mr Nunez-Hughes for clearing the road and path after the first snow fall. Thanks to Martin Slinger for bringing his tractor down Gyde Road to help stranded patients and thanks to Michael Shute for helping to clear the path to the surgery front door. A huge thank you to Bob Shea for helping our District Nurses on their rounds and getting receptionists home, thank goodness for his snow chains.

And finally, a really, really big thank you to those members of staff who so bravely fought the elements to get into the surgery by any means possible to ensure we were open for patients, and managing to retain a sense of humour in very difficult circumstances.

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Of course, back in the old days... ..it really knew how to snow!

This picture of Steppingstone Lane taken in January 1982 was sent in by Hilary Kilby. Never mind the depth, just feel the quality of that snow!

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Cup Final for Painswick

Painswick Dragons, our young (Under 12) footballers are having a great season. They have won their semi-final match in the Trophy World Shield, beating Tytherington Rocks 3 – 0, and now go on to the final to be played on 9th May. In addition they are top of their league having only lost one game. The youngsters deserve considerable credit for their achievements, not least because this is their first season.

In the semi-final, Painswick's attacking football paid off in the end in a game that started with many players showing signs of nerves. Jake Godwin was magnificent in defence and later in midfield as he kept the team together in the first half especially when the Dragons at times struggled to keep the game flowing.

Tytherington gave a good account of themselves but Painswick were just too classy and chances started to flow. Sam White had a few close misses and Paul Jones came close on a few occasions. Half time came with no goals and the manager Dave Bullingham (despite his injury) gave an inspired team talk. The Dragons just stepped up a gear in the second half and it was all out attack. Tom Davis shaved the post twice and a sweetly struck shot was goal bound had it not hit and floored his own team mate in the box. Harry Churchley supplied the breakthrough with a ball slipped in from the right to Josh Newton whose low strike right in front of goal made it 1:0 and then the pressure was off. Nathan Fagg in goal never put a foot wrong and his early distribution down the right wing found Harry who cut in from the right and fired a great second goal across the face in to the left hand corner. Nathan then set up the second goal with kick from hands over the top in to the path of Josh who bagged his second goal.

Painswick are now in the final at Forest Green Rovers stadium on 9th May.

Star Players: Jake Godwin & Harry Churchley

Tennis

Needless to say, the tennis courts did not see much action in February here in Painswick. However, elsewhere, there was some good news for the club with Alicia Barnett winning her first U16 Grade 3 National Tournament at the David Lloyd Centre in Bristol. Alicia won the first four rounds with relative ease, without dropping a set. She played Dominique Covington in the final who had beaten the number 9 in the country to reach the final stage. The match, which was played to an exceptionally high standard with few errors being made by either player, was eventually won by Alicia 6/4, 6/4.

Cricket

Painswick Cricket Club's Chairman Steve Pegram told the Beacon of the club's plans for the new season. This year there will be three youth teams for which Wayne Lee has responsibility. There will be two under 15 sides and one under 13. There will continue to be three senior Saturday elevens. The club needs to have new covers and is looking to raise the necessary finance. The club is grateful to Gloucestershire Wildlife for their sponsorship of two events taking place during the summer: one is a "wellies match" and the other a footpath walk. This year will also see a change from the traditional fixture card to a booklet which will contain information about the club and provide a vehicle for advertisements and sponsorship. The club recently held a successful quiz night.

Rugby

Painswick first fifteen had a welcome victory last Saturday when they beat the Bristol side Bishopston by 32 points to 30. The previous Saturday Painswick United played Stroud Nomads in a Citizen Merit Table Division 2 match which had the added incentive of being played for the Simon Turley Memorial Cup. The United won the match by 25 points to 5. At the conclusion of the game Roger Turley presented the Memorial Cup to United captain Ian Maller.

February results [(L) indicates league match: (M) Citizen Merit Table]

Sat 7th. No matches played because of snowbound pitches.

Sat 14th. (L) Ashley Down OB 1st XV 52 Painswick 1st XV 34.

Painswick United v Cheltenham Sabres. Match postponed.

Sat 21st. Painswick 1st XV 15 Tewkesbury 1st XV 48. Stroud Nomads 5 Painswick United 25.

Sat 28th. Bishopston 1st XV 30 Painswick 1st XV 32. Painswick United 19 Tewkesbury 2nd XV 50.

March fixtures

Sat 7th. (L) Painswick 1st XV v Ross on Wye 1st XV. (M) Painswick United v Old Patesians.

Sat 14th. (L) Painswick 1st XV v Old Bristolians 1st XV. (M) Cirencester 1st XV v Painswick United.

Sat 21st. Painswick 1st XV v Cainscross 1st XV. Painswick United v Dursley 2nd XV.

Sat 28th. (L) Dursley 1st XV v Painswick 1st XV. (M) Painswick United v Matson 2nd XV.

Strictly for the birds...

After a very enjoyable visit to the Slimbridge Trust in December, it was very disappointing due to exigencies in the weather, not to be able to welcome Graham Maples, Chairman of Friends of Slimbridge WWT to talk to us about 'World Wildfowl and their Conservation.'



We hope to report next month on Mike Robinson's illustrated account 'The Beauty of Spain,' including an array of slides of birds, mammals and wild flowers of the mountains, at the Town Hall last Tuesday, 3rd March, as well as the traditionally brief AGM that preceded it!

Excitingly, there is the planned weekend field trip to the Mendip Hills and Avalon Marshes (Friday 12th June - Sunday 14th June) with the prospect of encountering nightjars and owls when led by Chris Sperring OBE, and perhaps sight of the bittern when accompanied by Mike Robinson!

Eager participants may hear more from Bill on 813094 or from Joy 813823.



The Quiz



Only a week to go! When the Beacon went to press we had 19 teams enrolled with, we hope, several more in the pipeline. So if you still want to enter a team, there might be some places left. Give me a ring on 814548.

To those teams already signed up, and those still wanting to, think about units of beauty. No this is not to help you answer any questions in the main quiz – just a little side dish which we are trialling this year.

The quiz takes place next Saturday 14th March in the Painswick Centre. The hall will open at 6.45 pm and the quiz starts at 7.15 sharp. There is a bar and a light supper will be provided during the interval.

See you there.

Charles Dorman

Found!

...in Painswick: ladies wristwatch. Call Julia Churchley on 814215.

The Beacon invites you...

...to subscribe

The Beacon committee gratefully thanks all who have given us their support across the last year, advertisers, contributors, distributors and subscribers.

The Beacon is entirely dependent upon two sources of income – advertising (which, despite demand, we limit to 20% of space in each issue so that we can carry the maximum amount of your news items) and subscriptions. We have influence over advertising in that we set the rates, and very reasonable they are too.

Producing the Beacon each month is a thoroughly communal effort. All Beacon 'staff' are volunteers - no-one gets paid - and each issue relies on editorial contributions from individuals and organisations from all over the community. Alongside the print version, we also produce a monthly web edition (which we are aware is viewed on a regular basis by 300 or so of the 'Painswick Diaspora' from around the world) and the annual Painswick Directory, also available on-line.

We remain determined that every home in the village receives the Beacon every month, so we do not fix subscription rates. We are sometimes asked "What is a typical subscription?" and have to say that we leave it to your own discretion. That said, and for guidance, the actual production cost per issue is now about 60p and we are appreciative of subscriptions which reflect that sum; typically we receive £8.00 - or more.

We hope that the Beacon you receive each month continues to be worthy of your support and that more households will subscribe. As usual, an envelope and subscription slip is enclosed with this copy of the Beacon. Cheques should be made payable to the Painswick Beacon and envelopes may be handed over the counter at the Painswick Post Office, or sent to Corbiere, Hollyhock Lane, Painswick, GL6 6XH.

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PaMAG: The Elixir of Wales...

The February concert outing of the Music Appreciation Group represented our first foray across the border - a trip to the Wales Millennium Centre Opera House at Cardiff Bay. An early departure allowed a brief saunter around the former Tiger Bay, with a rapturous choice of restaurants, before settling in to this impressive modern auditorium, new home to the Welsh National Opera.

The curtain rose on Donizetti's Elixir of Love to reveal a Mediterranean scene of bright colours, blowing away our winter blues. The plot of this rum-ti-tum, sparkling work is simple enough: the dim-wit hero Nemorino is persuaded to buy a love potion to assist his pursuit of the flighty heroine Adina. After much coming and going, dancing and thoroughly enjoyable singing, he wins her of course.



The most fastidious of critics may have faulted Camilla Roberts (Adina) as being short of world standard, but she gave much commitment to a good performance; the American tenor Dimitri Pitas (Nemorino) was sometimes subdued but really came alive and enchanted us in the Pavarotti favourite "Una furtiva lagrima". The WNO Orchestra provided immaculate support to a thoroughly enjoyable evening.

I suspect this venue will be added to our list of favourites for the future.

Stewart Price

...and The French Connection

On 19th February Gordon Collins presented his annual lecture that contained predictably much fascinating technical instruction, anecdote and humour. He began by reference to the high number of French tennis players on the professional circuit and amusingly likened this statistic to the large number of French composers in the history of music.

Gordon, operating within a tight timescale, wisely concentrated on five 'giants' of composition. He delivered most polished pen portraits on the lives of Claude Debussy, Maurice Ravel, Francis Poulenc, Camille Saint-Saens and Gabriel Faure. In turn by his selections from their music Gordon illustrated subtly their genius for innovation and their diverse forms of expressionism.

Gordon played recorded excerpts from Debussy; the Poisson d'Or, with its new style of piano writing, and the magnificent orchestral pieces L'Après-Midi d'un Faune and La Mer; from Ravel, Tombeau de Couperin and the Sonata; from Poulenc, the Intermezzo from the Piano Sonata in A flat; from the child prodigy, Saint-Saens, movements from his fine Second Piano Concerto and the Third Violin Concerto; from Faure the Ballade for Piano and Orchestra and his delightful Piano Quartet. Gordon's selection of performers and recordings was memorable.

Gordon succeeded, as he intended, in whetting the appetites of his audience. They were privileged to be able to listen to a speaker of such erudition and enthusiasm who so conveyed his understanding and love of French music. The members will look forward to Gordon's return in the season 2010.



The Schubert Ensemble in Painswick

The opening concert of the Painswick Music Society's 64th season will be given by the Schubert Ensemble on 21st March in St. Mary's Church at 3 pm. Founded in 1983, the Ensemble is firmly established as one of the world's leading exponents of chamber music for piano and strings.

The group have blazed a trail in unearthing, commissioning and performing a surprisingly large repertoire of works for piano and strings and one such is included in this first concert: Piers Hellowell's Building of Curves which the Ensemble commissioned with funds provided by The Arts Council of England and the Schubert Ensemble Trust. Piers lives in Cheltenham and we are hoping he will be present at the conference. He says he was inspired by thoughts of two non musical background elements: the elaborately curved Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao and the solution to Fermat's last Theorem. Quite what these inspired him to create is intriguing and is sure to fascinate.

The programme opens with Schumann's Piano Quartet Op. 47. He was the first major composer to adopt this combination of instruments, having previously, in his year of chamber music, composed three string quartets. He just could not leave out the piano (and his beloved Clara) from his other chamber works so, after producing a piano quintet, another first ever, he continued with the piano quartet; and so began this very popular form of chamber music. Their programme concludes with one of Fauré's: Piano Quartet No. 1 in C Minor. This is a lovely piece that displays Fauré's delicious way with harmonies.

Tickets cost £13 for each concert - or £34 for all four concerts, a huge saving of £18 - are available from Clare Haynes (tel 812514) or from "The Chairman", New Street, Painswick.



Maurice Maggs

Painswick Library News

Regular library users will have realised that our stock has been changed significantly during the past two months. Now is the time to explore our enlarged gardening section. We are also receiving brand new books as well as exchanging stock with other libraries so do pop in and see what's new.

If you cannot find the books you are looking for we can reserve any book in Gloucestershire for 50p and it will be delivered here - or any other library in Gloucestershire if you wish. Reservations for young people are free



More from El Contador

More from ex-Painswickians, Christopher and Geraldine Piper-Short, and their everyday story of village life in El Contador, Spain.

Geraldine returned to the house ashen faced. We had only just moved here when our neighbour came round to say that the "chicken man" was in the square. Roast chicken for dinner seemed a good idea. Almost everyone in the village keeps chickens and this particular trader supplies live chicks, cockerels and birds for the pot. He asked Geraldine if she wanted to take her chicken home live or he would strangle it for her while she waited! Needless to say we had a modest cheese salad that evening.

We see quite a few traders and suppliers in the village. Bread is actually baked here by a family who bring it around each morning in an old van, fresh to your door. It is rather curious stuff and needs eating quite quickly because it's rock hard by suppertime. Weekly, we see a fishmonger, frozen foods, greengrocer and the gas man, who supplies our bottled gas which we use for cooking and hot water. There is also a particularly noisy watermelon seller in the summer.

All these people have their own distinctive motor horn or loudspeaker to announce their arrival. Some will just toot, others play classical music or play a pre-recorded tape listing what they have for sale. Now and again a trader will set up a market stall in the square.

We see a haberdasher - remember them?, an ironmonger and even a cutler. I expect older readers will remember the itinerant cutler. He is always in great demand here, sharpening kitchen knives, chisels, axes and even chainsaw chains. Would you believe there is even a travelling upholsterer!

We wanted something purely English yet understated, that would identify the house, so we fitted our front door with a letterbox and discarded the usual box that is fixed to the wall. This mystified our postman who would leave our mail on the step until we managed to catch him one afternoon and give him a training course.

The Spanish Post Office have also given the village a splendid bright yellow pillarbox - now there's a step forward. Two collections per week, in addition to the two deliveries we receive each week. For some peculiar reason "The Beacon" always arrives with the Thursday delivery - never fails.

Our other weekly visitor is the local GP who opens his small office here every Tuesday between 10am and noon. Before you ask, there is a large surgery in the next village. But no appointment system: you just have to queue.

Children's News

NEW BOOKS!!! We have received a delivery of NEW picture books - not just new to us. If you wish to be the first to take out a book, hurry along to your library now.

"Baby Bounce" is on Tuesdays at 2.30 pm and finishes in time to collect older children from school. It is suitable for child aged 0 to 30 months. Your child is never to young to start enjoying action rhymes and songs. It can also give you the opportunity to get out and meet people.

March Storytime will be on Tuesday 17th March at 3.45 pm when we will be sharing "Cat in the Hat" stories. There will be something to make and give to your mother on Mothering Sunday

We have not heard from any one who needs books delivering or who would like to come to a library club. Please could I ask active members of the community to make sure that those who might be interested are aware of the service? If there are enough people interested we may be able to organise transport. Please let the library know. (Tel: 812569)

Opening Hours

Monday	Closed All Day	
Tuesday	10.00am - 1.00pm	2.00pm - 7.00pm
Wednesday	Closed All Day	
Thursday	10.00am - 1.00pm	
Friday	2.00pm - 5.00pm	
Saturday	10.00am - Noon	

Kath, Lesley and Sheila



WI: From Camelot to basket case

Twenty two billion pounds is a sum of money far beyond my comprehension, but that is the amount of money that The National Lottery has been able to grant to good causes since its inauguration on 14th November 1994. A date Jim McNamara is unlikely to forget, as he explained to members of Yew Trees WI at their January meeting, when he gave a fascinating talk on how he was part of the Camelot team that set the balls rolling.

The tension grew in the Town Hall as Jim vividly described those frenetic months between the awarding of the contract and the first draw being made. The tight deadlines that had to be made, the outlets had to be selected, the retailers trained, the security watertight. What an achievement when the first draw was made and everything worked like clockwork.

We were most impressed to hear of the help and guidance offered to all Jackpot winners by Camelot, and after learning that there are thirty six million pounds of unclaimed winnings I am sure some of us hoped we might come across an old lottery ticket tucked safely away!

The meeting started with the good news that Meriel Middleton has agreed to be the new secretary. At the March meeting Norah Kennedy is coming to demonstrate willow basket making. Norah is a full time basket maker and teacher. It should be a fascinating evening at the end of which the basket Norah will make will be raffled, so ladies do come and join us (visitors £2.70) and don't forget to bring some money if you want to buy a ticket for the raffle! Tuesday 24th March at 7.30 pm in the Town Hall.

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Acorns & Age Concern at Richmond

Representatives from Acorns and Age Concern met for afternoon tea with the residents at Richmond Painswick. Andy Jarrett of Acorns and Christina Snell chief executive officer of Age Concern Gloucestershire were presented cheques by Paul Welch hospitality director.



The residents and staff of Richmond Painswick helped to raise nearly £2,500 for the two charities during various fund raising events at the retirement village, including the Victorian Garden Party in September.

Richmond Painswick would also like to thank local residents for their help and support in raising this amount.

*Melissa Gough-Rundle,
Activities Coordinator, Richmond Painswick*

Community Lunches

The wintry weather of early February forced the cancellation of the Community Lunch on February 9th. This was a big disappointment, not only for the children of Year 6 at the Croft School who were hosting the lunch that day, but also for those who enjoy the enthusiastic contribution they make to the Community Lunch Programme.

However, as Easter is later this year, it has been possible to make some amendments to the rota. The Croft School will now host the lunch on March 23rd and the residents from The Park on March 30th.

Gill Gyde

The Beacon Village Directory

As well as the printed version enclosed with the January Beacon, you can also access the full Directory on line at our web site www.painswickbeacon.org.uk. It now boasts 'a fully interactive index', ie click on a heading and you'll be whisked in a nanosecond to the relevant entry.



A Senior Moment

In these straitened times, we might all perhaps spare a thought for those poor bankers and the customers they have to put up with.. The following letter was actually written by a 98 year old lady to her bank. The bank manager thought it amusing enough to have it published in The Times and we thank him most sincerely.

Dear Sir

I am writing to thank you for bouncing my cheque with which I endeavoured to pay my plumber last month. By my calculations, three 'nanoseconds' must have elapsed between his presenting the cheque and the arrival in my account of the funds needed to honour it. I refer, of course, to the automatic monthly deposit of my Pension, an arrangement which, I admit, has been in place for only eight years. You are to be commended for seizing that brief window of opportunity, and also for debiting my account £30 by way of penalty for the inconvenience caused to your bank.

My thankfulness springs from the manner in which this incident has caused me to rethink my errant financial ways.

I noticed that whereas I personally attend to your telephone calls and letters, when I try to contact you, I am confronted by the impersonal, overcharging, re-recorded, faceless entity which your bank has become. From now on, I, like you, choose only to deal with a flesh-and-blood person. My mortgage and loan payments will therefore and hereafter no longer be automatic, but will arrive at your bank by cheque, addressed personally and confidentially to an employee at your bank whom you must nominate.

Be aware that it is an offence under the Postal Act for any other person to open such an envelope.

Please find attached an Application Contact Status which I require your chosen employee to complete. I am sorry it runs to eight pages, but in order that I know as much about him or her as your bank knows about me, there is no alternative. Please note that all copies of his or her medical history must be countersigned by a Solicitor, and the mandatory details of his/her financial situation (income, debts, assets and liabilities) must be accompanied by documented proof.

In due course, I will issue your employee with a PIN number which he/she must quote in dealings with me. I regret that it cannot be shorter than 28 digits but, again, I have modelled it on the number of button presses required of me to access my account balance on your phone bank service. As they say, imitation is the sincerest form of flattery.

Let me level the playing field even further. When you call me, press buttons as follows:

1. To make an appointment to see me
2. To query a missing payment.
3. To transfer the call to my living room in case I am there.
4. To transfer the call to my bedroom in case I am sleeping.
5. To transfer the call to my toilet in case I am attending to nature
6. To transfer the call to my mobile phone if I am not at home.
7. To leave a message on my computer (a password to access my computer is required. A password will be communicated to you at a later date to the Authorized Contact.)
8. To return to the main menu and to listen to options 1 through 8
9. To make a general complaint or inquiry, the contact will then be put on hold, pending the attention of my automated answering service.

While this may, on occasion, involve a lengthy wait, uplifting music will play for the duration of the call.

Regrettably, but again following your example, I must also levy an establishment fee to cover the setting up of this new arrangement.

May I wish you a happy, if ever so slightly less prosperous, New Year.

Your Humble Client

It almost makes you feel sympathy for the bank, doesn't it? But then again...

Painswick Gateway

The following is the text of a press release issued by the Trustees of the Gateway project on Thursday, 26th February...

The Trustees are pleased to announce their decision to proceed and seek additional funding with a view to the formal launch of the project in the next 3 months or so.

No fewer than 166 of the 190 pledges have already been confirmed by the delivery of cheques to the Trustees. This is equivalent to more than one in five of the households in the built-up part of Painswick making a tangible contribution to saving the Library, opening the "Gateway" access and making possible the contingent benefits to the community that will arise from combining the Library building with St. Mary's Church Rooms to create the focus for a new Community Association and meeting the aspirations in our published Prospectus.

Altogether over £72,500 has been contributed, which when grossed up by Gift Aid (on over 97% of the pledges received) will grow to at least £92,500.

The Trustees will now proceed to a Conditional Contract with Gloucester County Council to buy the Library building as soon as a Service Local Agreement for management of the library can also be agreed with the County Council. The Final Contract will not be completed unless sufficient additional funding has been secured within the time available.

The Trustees have very carefully weighed the factors influencing their decision. The supporters have expressed their confidence in the Trustees ability to make a responsible decision on their behalf. Virtually universal support was expressed for the option to enter into a Conditional Contract, knowing that it carries some proportionate risk to their investment if the ultimate goal is not reached. The supporters have indicated they are prepared to forego about 12.5 percent of their money to cover the costs that ensue from taking this route, being the difference between letting the project fail or keeping it alive while there remains a chance that vital additional funding can be secured.

The Trustees also see this as a clear call to everyone in Painswick to join together and seize this unique opportunity for saving the library building and library service and also creating a new venture for the benefit of the whole community. If anyone who is not already in touch with us would like to contribute, whether in financial or other practical ways, we would be very pleased to hear from you.

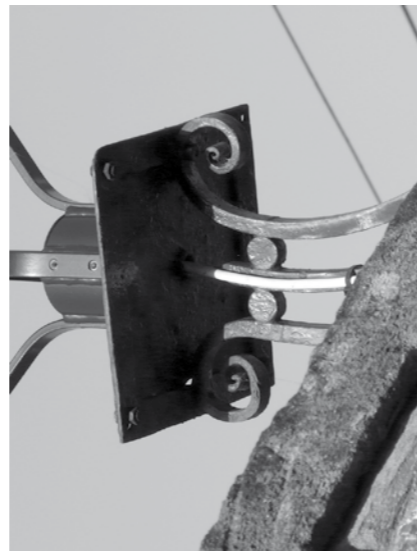
*Edward Young, Chair of Trustees
www.painswickgateway.org.uk
01452 260046*

ArchiTecs



Last month's challenge seems to have stumped most of you: it was the New Street bus shelter, pictured left.

This month (*see right*) is for the truly observant: part of what is it? And where is it?



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The Beacon and inserts

Some misunderstandings last month regarding a possible 'STOP PRESS' insert about the Painswick Gateway project have led to a review of our general policy of never carrying inserts and the issues surrounding this policy.

To recap, as we went to press last month, a 'go/no go' decision for the Gateway Project seemed to be imminent and likely to be taken before the Beacon was actually delivered. On this basis, and given the potential importance of Gateway to the village, the Beacon editorial committee decided - exceptionally - to undertake a separate, late print run for a 'STOP PRESS' insert to carry the news, if the news was either to go ahead or to abandon the Gateway project.

In the event, the Gateway Trustees decided to delay a definitive decision whilst exploring what they considered to be a significant time-sensitive new option but still wanted to convey this news by means of an insert. A majority of the Beacon editorial committee felt that this 'non decision' was not sufficiently newsworthy to justify the logistical difficulties of carrying the insert, particularly since the forecast heavy snow was threatening our normal distribution arrangements.

We are aware that the decision not to carry the insert was regarded as unhelpful by the Gateway Trustees and, consequently, we invited Edward Young, on behalf of the trustees, to put the Gateway viewpoint.

Edward writes:

"Painswick Gateway were pleased to receive an invitation from the Beacon to advise the outcome of the meeting on 4th February, with a view to it being included as a "stop-press" item in the form of a loose insert placed into the magazine just before distribution, so as to bring the latest news to all readers.

In the event, the Trustees had found a way to extend the time available before the ultimate Yes/No decision and sought to explain themselves and the steps that follow, in what ran to 2 sides of text on an A5 size sheet.

Imagine the surprise on the news that the Beacon Committee decided to withdraw the invitation at the last minute on grounds of there being a difference between what they were expecting and what we provided. This raised the issue of whether or not the Beacon was comfortable with surrendering editorial control in exchange for hot news. On balance we accept that the long-established rule of "No Inserts" is probably a wise one, else accusations of censorship might ensue."

The net result of the experience from the Beacon's point of view is that it has made us examine our 'no inserts' policy very closely and conclude that:

1. Inserts will not normally be placed in The Beacon.
2. If an exceptionally newsworthy event that affects Painswick or its inhabitants occurs too late for inclusion in the normal paper and as the issue is about to be put to bed, then the current editor will have the final decision on
 - a. the necessity and
 - b. the content of such an insert.

JRB

PROPERTY REPORT for March from Murrays

Interest rates have now been cut to 1.5 per cent. The last time they were as low as this was 1694 when the Bank of England was established to manage mounting debts. Nothing changes.

If history repeats itself it could be 2324 before interest rates are as low again. This rather suggests that now is as good a time as any to take advantage of these rates and enter the property market. With prices back to 2003 levels - when there was huge activity in the market - this makes even more sense.

When prices are high the media delight in charting the plight of key public sector workers in nursing, the police, fire and rescue, and other essential services who are unable to climb onto the housing ladder close to their work. Well, now is the chance to end that. Sadly many people are being placed into negative equity by the price downturn - with all the attendant problems this brings. But for the many hundreds of thousands of people waiting for the opportunity to move out of rented property or their parents' homes this could be the perfect moment.

Yet a large hurdle remains - securing a mortgage. Mortgages are available, but deposit demands from the lenders remain high. Wouldn't it be sensible for the government and the lenders to recognise the opportunity this price correction brings, and to start helping first time buyers now through easing mortgage demands or a Stamp Duty moratorium, or preferably both? This would create the best opportunity to kick-start the housing market and, through the knock-on effect, a significant portion of the service and retail economy.

We have definitely seen a much more positive lift in the market over the past few weeks, an increase both in sales and in viewings so we at Murrays are remaining positive too.

We have had several new instructions recently including Greenhouse Barn, a small estate on the edge of the village which consists of a three bedroom converted barn, a cottage, two one bedroom flats, a coach house, several stables and outbuildings and all in approx five acres. We have also taken on Ashcroft, a good sized family house with a beautiful garden situated on Mill Lane in Cranham.

Properties now sold are 2 Gyde House in Painswick and 5 Juniper Cottages on Wick Street. Nightingale Cottage in Ruscombe is currently under offer.

James C Murray, Partner



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The Painswick Beacon detailed as far as space permits

THE VILLAGE DIARY

MARCH

Mon	9	Community Lunch - Hosts - Yew Trees WI Yoga (Mondays) contact Kim 812623	Christ Church Hall Sheepscombe Vill. Hall	12 noon to 1.15pm 6.30 to 8.00pm & 8.15 to 9.45pm
Tue	10	Dog Training Club (Tuesdays) Chi Kung (Qigong) classes - Tuesdays - £6 p.p. per class	Christ Church Hall Town Hall	9.30 to 12.00noon 7.00pm
Wed	11	Tai Chi classes - Tuesdays - £6 p.p. per class Yoga (Wednesdays) contact Kim 812623 Bingo: Wednesdays - Tel. Ann, 813911/Liz, 813139 Horticultural Society: The Kitchen Herb Garden - Kim Hurst of The Cottage Garden Herbery, Tenbury Wells	Town Hall Sheepscombe Vill. Hall Painswick Centre Town Hall	8.00pm 9.30 to 11.00am 7.30 to 10.00pm 7.30pm
Thu	12	Yoga - All Abilities (Thursdays) Cotswold Room 812623 T'ai Chi: Thursdays - Contact 01452 813072 Jolly Stompers Line Dancing: Beginners - Thursdays Experienced beginners - Thursdays Tea Dance - Thursdays	Painswick Centre Town Hall Town Hall Town Hall Painswick Centre	9.30 to 11.00am 9.30am 12.00 to 1.00pm 12.30 to 1.30pm 2.30 to 4.30pm
Fri	13	Country Market - Coffee available - Fridays	Town Hall	10.00am
Sat	14	Painswick Beacon Conservation Group scrub clearance working party, (location check 812709) Beacon Village Quiz	Painswick Beacon Painswick Centre	10.00am to 1.00pm 6.45 for 7.15pm
Mon	16	Community Lunch - Hosts - Conservation Society	Christ Church Hall	12 noon to 1.15pm
Tue	17	Friday Club Outing to the Birmingham Silver Vaults (Assay Office) Local History Society: Stroudwater Navigation - Bruce Hall	Christ Church Hall Croft School	12 noon to 1.15pm 7.30pm
Wed	18	Probus: A Fun Look at Wills - Cameron Petrie Women's Fellowship: Service - Rev Heather Whyte	Shires Room, Falcon Christ Church	10.00am 7.30pm
Thu	19	Theatre Club Outing to Bristol	The Falcon	12.30pm
Fri	20	Music Appreciation Group Concert Outing	Birmingham	7.30pm
Sat	21	Copy dateline for April Beacon Painswick Music Soc. Concert - Schubert Ensemble	St Mary's Church	3.00pm
Mon	23	Community Lunch - Hosts - Croft School	Christ Church Hall	12 noon to 1.15pm
Tue	24	Yew Trees W.I.: Willow Basket Making	Town Hall	7.30pm
Wed	25	Bookings morning for Horticultural Society Outings	Church Rooms	10.00am to 12.00noon
Fri	27	Croft School PTA: Auction of Promises	Church Rooms	7.30pm
Sat	28	Helen & Anne's Coffee Morning; main charity - Help for Heroes Painswick Beacon Conservation Group scrub clearance working party, (location check 812709)	Town Hall Painswick Beacon	9.45am to 12 noon 10.00am to 1.00pm
Mon	30	Community Lunch - Hosts - Park Residents	Christ Church Hall	12 noon to 1.15pm

APRIL

Wed	1	Painswick Centre AGM, preceded by tour of Artists' Studios	Cotswold Room, Painswick Centre	8.00pm
Thu	2	Music Appreciation Group: Wilhelm Furtwangler	Cotswold Room, Painswick Centre	7.30pm
Fri	3	Friday Club: The Livery Companies of London - Brian Shawcross	Town Hall	2.30pm
Sat	4	April Issue of The Painswick Beacon published Painswick Music Soc. Concert - Chloe Hanslip (violin) & Ashley Wass (piano)	St Mary's Church	3.00pm
Wed	8	Probus: Painswick Through the Ages - David Archard Horticultural Society: Pound Farm Shop & Plant Centre - own transport necessary	Shires Room, Falcon Whaddon	10.00am 7.30pm
Thu	9	Bird club: Birdsong Identification - Chris Sperring MBE	Town Hall	7.30pm
Fri	10	Painswick Singers: Weber Mass in E flat	St Mary's Church	tba
Wed	15	Women's Fellowship: Holidays in Greenland - Pamela Sparrow	Christ Church Hall	7.30pm
Thu	16	Music Appreciation Group: Singers "Live"	Cotswold Room, Painswick Centre	7.30pm
Sat	18	Women's Fellowship Coffee Morning Painswick Music Soc. Concert - Da Vinci Trio	Town Hall St Mary's Church	10.00am to 12noon 3.00pm
Tue	21	Local History Society: Research Evening	Croft School	7.30pm



Wed	22	Probus: AGM	Shires Room, Falcon	10.00am
Fri	24	Friday Club: "Reflexology for Health" - Caroline Staunton Painswick Players production "Gaslight" - a late 19th century thriller by Patrick Hamilton - also 25th & 26th	Town Hall Painswick Centre	2.30pm 7.30pm
Tue	28	Yew Trees W.I.: South African Steam Safari	Town Hall	7.30pm
Wed	29	Painswick & District Conservation Society AGM. Speaker Bruce Hall - The Cotswold Canal Trust	Church Rooms	7.30pm
Thu	30	Music Appreciation Group: Just Brass	Cotswold Room, Painswick Centre	7.30pm
MAY				
Fri	1	Shopping and Pamper Fair. Enquiries to 814022 Theatre Club Outing to The Cotswold Playhouse, Stroud	Painswick Centre The Falcon	3.00 to 8.00pm 6.45pm
Sat	2	Painswick Music Soc. Concert - The Barbirolli Quartet	St Mary's Church	3.00pm
Tue	5	Bird Club field trip - Morning stroll with Jane Rowe along Kingsmill Lane & Painswick Stream	Stamages Car Park	9.30am
Wed	6	Probus: The Archers at Agincourt - Ian Shapter	Shires Room, Falcon	10.00am
Thu	7	Music Appreciation Group: Members Night & AGM	Cotswold Room, Painswick Centre	7.30pm
Fri	8	Friday Club outing to Coventry Cathedral		
Wed	13	Horticultural Society AGM followed by Tea/Coffee & Quiz	Town Hall	7.30pm
Tue	19	Local History Society Annual Outing to Blackfriars Priory, Gloucester	Gloucester	6.00pm
Wed	20	Probus: Climbing Mount Everest - Bronco Lane Women's Fellowship: Fun of Gardening - Chris Evans	Shires Room, Falcon Christ Church Hall	10.00am 7.30pm
Fri	22	Friday Club: "Inca trail" - Janet Jenkins	Town Hall	2.30pm
Sat	23	Friday Club Car Boot Sale. (Cars £5)	Recreation Field	10.00am
Mon	25	Crafts and Antiques Fair. Enquiries to 813228	Painswick Centre	10.00am to 4.00pm
Tue	26	Yew Trees W.I.: The River Severn from Source to Sea	Town Hall	7.30pm
Sat	30	Bird Club field trip with Frances Meredith, Chelt. Bird Club (Daisy Bank Road, Leckhampton Hill - SO 950189)	Tramway Car Park	9.45am
JUNE				
Wed	3	Probus Summer Outing		
Fri	5	Friday Club: The Rococo Gardens with Paul Moir	Town Hall	2.30pm
Fri	12	Bird Club Field Trip to Mendip Hills & Avalon Marshes. Tel: 813094 or 813823		
Tue	16	Local History Society - AGM	Croft School	7.30pm
Wed	17	Probus: Bonaparte's Disaster 1812 - John Falcon Women's Fellowship: Scrap Booking - Jane Peterson / Lorna Freeman	Shires Room, Falcon Christ Church Hall	10.00am 7.30pm
Fri	19	Friday Club: Life on the Roof of the World - John Aldis	Town Hall	2.30pm
Tue	23	Yew Trees W.I.: Early Postal Services in Painswick	Town Hall	7.30pm
Fri	26	Fundraising Flower Demonstration with Katherine Kear. Tickets £10	Town Hall	2.30pm
JULY				
Wed	1	Probus: Members Talk	Shires Room, Falcon	10.00am
Fri	10	Friday Club Outing to Weston Super Mare		
Wed	15	Probus: I K Brunel - Links of Iron; Eric Williams Women's Fellowship BBQ at The Latchetts	Shires Room, Falcon Kingsmead	10.00am 7.00pm
Wed	22	Probus: Ladies Summer Luncheon		
Fri	24	Friday Club Presidents Day: Talk by Pat Daly followed by Afternoon Tea	Town Hall	2.30pm
Tue	28	Yew Trees W.I.: Hatching a Novel - Jane Bayley	Town Hall	7.30pm

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PLANNING MATTERS

A summary of information from the Parish Council

NEW APPLICATIONS

ABBEY BARN, SLAD LANE, STROUD. Replace an existing garage/shed with a new double garage with store room above.

EDGE FARM, EDGE. Operation and excavation works. Erection of dry stone retaining wall and installation of land drain.

Land at WOODBOROUGH, KNAPP LANE. Outline application for the erection of a dwelling and widening of existing private road.

ST MARY'S CHURCH. External alterations.

SEAGRIMS COTTAGE, PINCOT LANE. Variation of condition 5 of permission 01/930.

1A UPPER WASHWELL. Extension to dormer and construction of a porch.

THE RECTORY, STROUD ROAD, EDGE. Erection of conservatory.

PAINSWICK VIEW, BACK EDGE LANE, EDGE. Works to sycamore tree.

BEACON HEIGHTS, CHELTENHAM ROAD. Erection of replacement dwelling.

CONSENT

RUDGE HILL HOUSE, EDGE LANE, EDGE. Roof extension & alterations.

3 WORDINGS MOUNT, SHEEPSCOMBE. Extension to dwelling and cladding with natural stone.

ENDWAYS, SHEEPSCOMBE. Erection of double garage. Demolition of existing garage.

HILLMANS COTTAGE, PARADISE. Erection of extensions and alterations.

PYLL HOUSE, SHEEPSCOMBE. Erection of a field shelter.

REFUSAL

ST MARY'S CHURCHYARD, STROUD ROAD. Removal of steps and replace with a ramp. (Listed Building Application)

Don't bank on it!

Some lighter thoughts for gloomy times...



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MINI-ADS

For sale: Flymo Garden Vac Plus Blower. Nearly new £15. Too heavy for me. Phone 812310

DVD player REOC A3 model. Multi-region with remote control. Charity donation please. Phone 810878

Computer desk. Small 75cm wide from PC World. As new apart from 1 shelf gone AWOL. £10.00 Phone 810878

Ewbank Carpet Shampoo Applicator. Boxed, unused with 500ml liquid shampoo £12.50. Also kitchen scales, blue with matching bowl £5.00. Phone 813128.

Cane dining table with glass top, 4ft 6in x 3ft, honey coloured, plus six matching cane dining chairs. £150. Phone 812167.

Andalucia Spain: Villa in foothills above Nerja. 3 bedrooms, sleeps 4, TV, own pool. Wildlife, walks, views, mountains and Mediterranean. Available July/August £485pw. 814070 or 0034-67-019686 or padiwebb@yahoo.com

Weekend newspapers. Have your newspapers delivered on a Saturday or Sunday morning. I can take on a few more. Most areas of Painswick covered. Ring 814263 or e-mail dan@jollans.com

Cote D'Azur Holiday Villa. Lovely villa near St Tropez. Nice Airport approx 1hr 15 mins drive. Sleeps 6. 3 beds/ 3 baths. Garden, private pool, terrace. Secure parking. Further details phone Kay on 01386 853371 or 077877 55560.

Domestic services. Household cleaning, ironing, laundry, dog walking. All jobs considered. Rates negotiable. Contact Sandy on 01242 528298 or 07669 65461.

MINI-ADS - Free to subscribers. Maximum of 30 words.

For non-subscribers there is a flat charge of £5.00, paid by cheque to 'The Painswick Beacon', in advance. Text and cheque (only) to Dermot Cassidy, 1 Painswick Heights, Yokehouse Lane, GL6 7QS. Commercial/business mini-ads accepted; space constraints apply and others have priority.



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The Personal Column

The Beacon is delighted to welcome Jenny Gaugain to the Editorial Team. Jenny will now be assisting Rachel Taylor in compiling the Personal Column each month.

Weddings

Best wishes to PAUL CLARK and RACHEL SKINNER who will be married at Ashford Hill, near Newbury on March 7th

Baby

Congratulations to STEVE and LAURA BIRT on the birth of their daughter, Ida May on January 11th, a sister for Zeph and a grand-daughter for Valerie and Arthur Westwood and the late John Birt

Golden Wedding

Congratulations to ROS and BRIAN GWINNELL who were married fifty years ago on St Valentines Day February 14th at Berkeley Church

Welcome

We would like to welcome EMMA and MARK SMITH and their small son, LUCAS to 4, Stamages Lane;

also to Mr and Mrs P SYKES to Juniper Cottage, Wick Street.

Get well soon

Our best wishes for a speedy recovery to SHIRLEY OWEN, JANE KNOLE SMITH and KEITH CRANE.

Condolences

Our sincere sympathies to the family and friends of:

ELIZABETH SIMONIN (lately of New St Flats),

VIVIEN KRUSE, who used to live in Cotswold Mead, but died peacefully in her sleep, aged 93, having moved to Cheltenham with her sister Pam;

HELEN WILLIAMS (nee Tait), Liz Fisher's mother, well known as a ballet teacher in the area;

PETER DAVIS of The Highlands;

Mrs DOROTHY MACMILLAN, who lived in " Stonechat " before moving to Botley, Surrey,

MARGARET BOUCHER of Magpie House.

and LESLIE HERBERT

Birthdays

Best wishes and congratulations to MARY GREVETT who will be celebrating her 90th birthday on March 19th,

also to JOHN PRIVETT who will be 80 on March 30th.

Personal Messages

Ron Lamort

Joyce Lamort would like to thank all her dear friends, family and Neighbours for their kindness during Ron's recent illness and for their support following his death on November 8th 2008. Over £800 was raised in his memory towards the Alzheimer Society

The Gwinnell family

Ros and Brian Gwinnells children Sue, Jan and Mary would like to thank their parents for being 'the best' and they are grateful for having spent their childhood at Madams Wood. The family had a lovely celebration at the Edgemoor Inn, and were glad that their daughter-in-law joined them from Germany (their youngest child, Mike's wife, until his untimely death while in the Army, 14 years ago)



The Hawksworth Family

Lt-Cdr Dennison 'Harry' Hawksworth, DSC; RN died suddenly at home on January 26th aged 83. He was the dearly beloved husband of Barbara for 50 years and the loving father of Richard, James and Jonathon and the grandfather of Thomas, Samuel, Edward and Lauren. The Hawksworths lived at Little Munday Vicarage St for some years before moving to Taunton.

and finally...

Ever modestly professing that 'the sky is the limit' when tackling a Beacon task, his Beacon colleagues trust that the hitherto unpredictable course of a light aircraft occasionally seen over the village will become ever straighter and true now that Jack Burgess has 'gone solo'. (*Not everyone is convinced this announcement is necessarily a Good Thing - Editor*)

NEXT ISSUE

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