

The Painswick Beacon

Sine praeiudicio

Volume 32 Number 12

March 2010

Real despair

Not everyone used the library on the four days it was open each week, changed books, accessed the extensive reference section, borrowed DVDs, made use of the several computers, obtained photo-copies, took their children to their own special section or toddlers to the play area, or needed the voluntary Tourist Information Centre; or indeed played bridge or exhibited their art and crafts upstairs. So, as is nearly always the case, a substantial minority are the losers after the County Council made clear that these premises are not to re-open.

Never mind, take heart, there is a mobile service to take its place; twenty five minutes on a Monday morning.

Few will have seen the full text of the press release from Shire Hall of 4th February - just after we went to press last month. Those who did not may wish to read it for themselves, and draw their own conclusions.

'A library service for Painswick – we want your views

Plans are in place to provide a mobile library before a consultation with people in Painswick begins about the future of the library service.

Gloucestershire County Council has been working with Stroud District Council to agree a location for a mobile library stop. It will be parked in the Stamages car park on Mondays starting from February 15th between 11.30am and 11.55am.

The Painswick Library building had to close on December 19th, 2009, after an inspection identified immediate safety issues with the building. These included problems with the rear fire exit and a fire door that had become swollen due to damp problems.

Further inspections revealed the full extent of the repairs needed to bring the library up to the required standard to re-open. The cost of these repairs, coupled with the continued high maintenance costs for the old building, means it is no longer financially viable to operate the library service from the current building.

The county council will, therefore, begin consulting with Painswick residents later this month, seeking their views on the best way for us to give them access to library services.

The consultation will involve us asking people about what they use the library for, when and how often they use it, the best day and time for a potential mobile service, whether they can access other libraries, and if so, when they would want those libraries to be open? Suggestions and feedback will be welcomed.

Cllr Antonia Noble, Gloucestershire County Council Cabinet Member for Libraries, said: "It is no secret that our budgets are under increasing pressure. We have to make the best use of taxpayers' money and that means taking tough decisions such as this one.

"Maintenance costs for the old Painswick Library building were already significant, and the cost of the repairs now needed to bring the building up to an acceptable standard is just too high.

"Current financial pressures mean that the way we provide a library service for Painswick in future will have to change, and we want as many local people as possible to get involved in the consultation. There are a number of ways in which people could continue to access library services and we want to hear from local residents about what would best suit their needs."

Cllr Joan Nash, county councillor for Painswick, said: "I'm very pleased that arrangements have been made for the mobile library to visit Painswick. I would urge residents to take part in the consultation process to help the county council find a way forward regarding the provision of library services to people in Painswick."

Further coverage under Parish Council News on page 2 and page 6.



Just a few of those who were disenchanted with this state of affairs are pictured where they gathered on 8th February outside the building in sub-zero temperatures.

On other pages this month - before the bomb, an allotment announcement, some thoughtless in Gyde Road, record quiz teams revealed, chance to be creative, a community choir assembling, PTA take the plunge, our Royal Oak stimulated, make banana bread, two coaches with seats, coincident meat and fish, the international star, drop in instead of out, invitation to subscribe, a purpose-built convenience store, the fete scheduled, table-top provided, hunt the falcon, top up competition.



The meeting was attended by 10 members of the public and our County Councillor Joan Nash.

PLANNING

Core Strategy Consultation

Chairman David Hudson outlined SDC's alternative strategies for shaping the future of Stroud District which require the building of around 2000 new homes and the generation of two new jobs for each household. The alternatives are described in a booklet "Your District, Your Future" available from SDC offices or downloadable from www.stroud.gov.uk/core. He said that SDC is seeking feedback from the public and a "Your District, Your Future" response form is available from the same sources or can be completed on-line. The form must be returned to SDC by Monday 22nd March 2010.

There will also be a public drop-in event at the Town Hall on Tuesday 9th March from 2.30 to 7.30 pm where the alternative strategies will be explained.

The meeting agreed to set up a working party to examine the core strategy alternatives and how they would affect Painswick.

Old Lloyds Bank Building, Bisley Street

David Hudson told the meeting that the planning application for change of use to a restaurant had been refused.

Planning Application Fees

Jason Bullingham reported on changes to planning application fees. The main change appears to be that there are now variable fees for "minor amendment" applications. There was some discussion about what constituted "minor" and that the definition seemed to be widening. As the Parish Council is not advised of minor amendments, it may happen that what are sometimes considerable changes are not subject to Parish Council scrutiny. For information on planning application fees, contact SDC's planning department.

PARISH COUNCIL

Karen Judd – our Postmistress

Terry Parker welcomed Karen Judd to the meeting. Karen said that Painswick Post Office had been in a parlous state when she took over, with many people not using it and turnover dropping. She has been running it now for 7 months and customers are returning. Karen emphasized that the Post Office is open during the lunch hour and on Wednesday afternoons – apparently there is always a rush on Wednesday between 12 noon and 1 pm! It seems old habits die hard. The Post Office provides many services including banking facilities for several banks but not HSBC and Natwest account holders. Karen suggested that such customers could write to their banks and ask to use their cards and cheque books at the Post Office and continue writing until permission was obtained. She said one of

her customers who banks with Natwest had succeeded in doing this. At the moment Karen is on duty all day without a lunch break so she is training up an assistant who will run the Post Office two days a week. This will also allow Karen time to develop the business. She sells 169 products and is still learning. She is negotiating with the Post Office for a refit and is looking for new products and services to provide. The recently installed cool drinks cabinet has been a success. As has, of course, the opening of the old front door. Karen ended her presentation saying she was also considering acting as temporary Tourist Office to help the many visitors who already ask her for such information.

Parish Plan

Ela Pathak-Sen reported that the existing Parish Plan was sound and only required refreshing and that the Village Design statement would not be incorporated into it. Terry Parker referred to a letter recently received from Leslie Brotherton, writing in his capacity as Manager of Painswick Gateway, about the future of the library building (*see separate report elsewhere in this issue of the Beacon*). The Chairman proposed that the letter be passed to the Parish Plan working party. Ela Pathak-Sen was concerned that the issues raised in the letter were immediate and if there was any delay GCC might sell the building. At a vote the majority of members decided to delay discussion of the issues raised until members had had time to consider them.

Allotments

Caroline White reported that the working party was finalising information on availability and suitability. A presentation to the public will be made on Friday 19th March from 7.00pm to 9.00pm and on Saturday 20th March from 10.00am to 12 noon at the Town Hall. There will be displays of the proposals and members of the working party will be available to answer questions. There will follow a 2 week consultation period ending on the 1st April. She said that some site owners still have to give their consent and also she was waiting for the decision of the REC trustees. She confirmed that there were now 30 applicants for allotments. The presentation will be publicised with a poster campaign.

The Library

There was an extended discussion about the library. Terry Parker said there were two issues – the provision of a library service and the future of the building. Mike Kerton asked what was meant by "service". He argued that it was not just the provision of books for borrowing but also the reference section, music, children's library and, perhaps most popular, computers and an internet connection. He stressed that the Parish Council should be proactive and not reactive. The meeting considered finding another building to house the library. Terry Parker said three buildings had been identified and he and others queried whether GCC would restore a full library service

though members doubted that GCC were committed to retaining a library service in Painswick. One possibility could be to place the computers and internet facility elsewhere. Mike Kerton said it was important to know when a decision will be made and to establish an end date. Ela Pathak-Sen asked whether GCC would subcontract the running of the library to the Parish Council though it was unclear how this would be funded.

The state the of library building was discussed. The Clerk advised that SDC's Conservation Officer was aware of the condition of the Grade II listed building and will ask the County Council what action is to be taken to repair it He confirmed that English Heritage had also been approached

The discussion concluded with the decision to write to GCC to clarify four points: Property Services assets management policy regarding the building, establish the end date for the consultation period, policy on the provision of a library service and a request to see the structural report on the building.

Snow and Ice Group

Martin Slinger reported that pavements on 5 roads had been identified for salting – New Street, Victoria Street, St. Mary's Street, Bisley Street and Friday Street. Pavements on one side only will be salted. Six snow wardens have also been appointed – David Hudson for west of the A46 in Painswick, Ann Daniels for the east side, Andy Cash for Sheepscombe, Jackie Woolf for Slad, Caroline White for Vatch and Elcombe and Martin Slinger for Edge who will all be responsible when grit bins need refilling. The public should proceed with care as salt does not always work in certain conditions.

Broadband

Rob Lewis told the meeting that superfast broadband (20MB download) was not available in the village as the exchange equipment was not of the correct standard. Home broadband was typically 2 to 4 MB and business Broadband 7 to 8 MB. If enough people and/or businesses are dissatisfied with their broadband speed, pressure can be put on BT to upgrade the exchange. He also said that for mobile broadband Vodafone provided the best coverage in the Painswick area. Rob Lewis

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Gas main road works

Terry Parker told the meeting that some residents along Edge Road and its side roads had complained of access difficulties. There had also had been request to open up the path connecting Hambutts to Churchill Way to motor traffic. Gloucestershire Highways told him that the path is not part of the highways network and so therefore could not be used for this purpose. It is the duty of the contractors and not of the Parish Council to advise residents of road closures. However Terry Parker said the Parish Council would do everything in its power to keep residents informed. Mike Kerton proposed that a weekly summary be posted on the notice board outside the Town Hall advising residents of proposed works for the coming week as well as works carried out the previous week. Martin Slinger said that the contractors should be allowed flexibility in when and where they work. The benefit is that the work should take less time but it might require road closures and access problems not in accordance with the issued schedule.

County Councillor Report

Highways - Joan Nash reported that because of the exceptional weather only immediate hazards will be dealt with up to the end of March while a new policy is shaped.

Website - There is a new information website - www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/inform

Schools - During the bad weather the decision to close a school lies with the Head and Staff not the County Council.

Painswick Village Entrance Signs

Maurice Maggs of the Painswick and District Conservation Society presented a short paper to the meeting about the siting and cost of the new village entrance signs. The current signs are not well placed and the Parish Council will review the new locations with Gloucestershire Highways and request the addition of the Fairtrade logo. The meeting agreed to pay the charge of £345.

Bledisloe Cup Sign

The sign has been dismantled and will be kept by the Parish Council. It will be mounted in a timber frame and fitted in front of the fireplace of the ground floor room of the Town Hall. The CPRE Cam-

aign for the Protection of Rural England) logo will be fitted above.

Christmas Lights

Painswick Matters proposes to provide Christmas lights on the yew trees in the churchyard in December 2010. Each tree would have a chain of white LED lights powered by its own battery supply with a timer to come on in the evening. The meeting was shown a photo montage of the effect this would produce and was told that planning permission would not be necessary. The meeting supported the proposal.

Recreation Ground Pavilion

The meeting considered the draft contract for the users of the pavilion. The meeting decided that several points needed clarification before it could be approved.

Ashwell

The meeting decided to write to SDC to request the retention of a warden at Ashwell.

Recycling

The meeting was told two points the public should be aware of when putting out their recycling:

- Do not put juice cartons in with other cardboard. It means all the cardboard in that container is discarded.
- Do not put shredded paper with your paper recycling.

Mike Kerton resigned

Mike Kerton confirmed his resignation from the Parish Council as he and his wife were taking a gap year to visit family in America. Terry Parker thanked him, on behalf of the Parish Council, for his energetic commitment and hard work for the people of Painswick.

Correction

The Beacon erroneously reported last month that, in raising their concerns about parking on the B4070 in Slad, Andy Cash and Jackie Woof were considering double yellow lines as an option. In fact double yellow lines are not an option. Our apologies.

Painswick Fete

We will be holding the biannual Painswick Fete on Saturday 19th June in the park at Painswick House.



We plan to have traditional fete stalls - coconut shy, welly boot throwing, tombola, raffle etc as well as a plant stall, tea tent and barbecue. Money raised will, as usual, include a contribution towards a local charity or cause.

Donations and help would be welcome - call Victoria on 814342 - or just come and support it on the day.

Victoria Elvidge

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How would you like to win back the value of your mobile top-up?

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Karen Judd, our post mistress, invites you to take part in a competition throughout March at the Post Office.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

PAINSWICK PARISH COUNCIL
ALLOTMENT WORKING GROUP

You are invited to attend public consultation drop in events to review the potential location(s) of future allotment sites in the parish.

FRIDAY 19TH MARCH 2010 : 7 – 9 P.M.
SATURDAY 20TH MARCH 2010 : 10 – 12 NOON
AT PAINSWICK TOWN HALL

Feedback will be invited with the consultation period closing on Thursday 1st April 2010.
R Balgobin Clerk

Do you appreciate receiving the Beacon?

If so, we ask you to subscribe, please

The Beacon newspaper seeks to be as informative as possible of the 'goings on' in Painswick and, as you know, is delivered to every household in the village every month of the year. We depend for this service upon our advertisers for two thirds of our costs, and yourselves for the remainder. That said, it is our commitment that subscription is not compulsory for villagers, but is for those wanting copy from Edge, Sheepscombe, Slad and elsewhere; some 70 or so are mailed each month around the globe at their full cost, but free to those who have moved into residential care circumstances wherever they may be.

One in three of the 1500 copies printed monthly is read by subscribers and, if you are one of those, our grateful thanks for your continuing support.

Tucked into this March issue you will find an envelope and a slip which can be used to subscribe - whether you are continuing from last year or joining in support for the first time. Do please return it as soon as you can to ease our administration. As you will gather, the amount of subscription is not fixed in any way, but we are often asked what guidelines we can suggest. Let us put it this way, each copy costs over 50p to print; so we leave it up to you to decide. For residents outside Painswick village, with a volunteer undertaking delivery, we fix the minimum subscription at £6.00, but postal rates vary and we notify those directly.

Want to save posting your subscription? Why not drop it, in an envelope please + slip with your name and address in the Beacon's exclusive post box by the telephone kiosk in New Street, or over the counter at the Post Office?



In anticipation of your support, which means a lot to us. Thank you.



A46 Landslip repair below Fiddler's elbow

Readers here, and for many miles along the A46 between Stroud and Brockworth, will be interested to hear how the landslip which has for many years affected the carriageway is to be corrected.

The Beacon has been informed by John Kay, Stakeholder Manager with County Highways, that it is planned to have a public exhibition, located at Brockworth Community Centre (Main Hall), on Wednesday 14th April from 2.00pm until 7.00pm. This will be open to all interested members of the public to "drop in" and speak to staff from the County Council and Gloucestershire Highways to discuss the scheme.

All information relating to highways on these pages has been verified by County Highways, the contractors and the Parish Council

Table Top Sale of Crafting Materials

On Thursday 25th March between 9.30am and 12.30pm Richmond Painswick will be hosting a table top sale of crafting materials and equipment, some new, some second hand. From stamping to scrap booking and card making to paper craft there will be something for the eager crafter and you may bag a bargain in the process.

Open to all, including residents, friends and local villagers. Refreshments available, all donations to charity. Tables are £10 which will go to their charity of the year Winston's Wish. For more information and to book tables please call Melissa Gough-Rundle on 813902.

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The gas works . . . countdown to completion

The work to replace old gas pipes beneath the carriageway in Kingsmead, Edge Road between Kingsmead and the A46, Hambutts, and (later on) New Street, is well and truly under way. The Beacon is very much aware that every effort is being made by all concerned to minimise inevitable disruption and inconvenience, but much just cannot be avoided. The safety of supply into the future is, of course, important - as well as the constant worry of countering leaks!

The latest information is set out here but the most important is to know that those who still undertake the 'rat run' between Edge and Painswick are not only wasting their time, but are causing much added annoyance when they 'discover' that they truly cannot complete their journey.

Stage One - update

Edge Road to junction Blakewell Mead, including Kingsmead but excluding Blakewell Mead. New pipe alongside old in a trench.

Duration: This Stage One is now expected to take until about 22nd March.

Sequence: Hambutts completed. Hambutts to A46 in hand, Hambutts to Kingsmead to follow. Kingsmead to complete, but see Stage Two information on this page.

Pedestrian movement: This remains very restricted, so best avoided wherever possible.

Parents chaperoning children: Those walking to/from school from the southern part of the village are strongly advised to use alternative routes whenever possible.

Parents driving to school: Do not attempt to use Edge Road.

Private car access for residents: There will be access to, or close to, each property from one end of the lane or the other at all times.

Business access - regular: Mail, milk, etc have made their own arrangements. Refuse and recycling arrangements have continued but are, inevitably, later than is the custom - but are appreciated.

Business access - irregular: Where it is known that commercial or other vehicles may call, such as building contractors, delivery of ordered provisions, window cleaners, please ensure that drivers are made aware of the easiest or only access route. This is particularly helpful.

Emergency vehicles: Please advise the service concerned, if/when called out. The contractors will be doing their utmost to enable direct access from whichever direction they approach.

Farmers: Access to all but two fields, Dry Knapps and Hambutts open space, from Edge direction only.

Infirm or elderly: The District Council is anxious to be informed in advance if elderly or infirm residents require assistance through Nikki Humphries on 01453.754455.

General advice: Experience to date (going to press) is that drivers having to use Edge Road to get anywhere at all have experienced testing of their 'tolerance factor' when meeting oncoming vehicles. However, this is working out fairly well, even though some verge damage is occurring where vehicles are passing.



Miscellaneous

Many have been the enquiries during the commencement period, and polite or slightly irate questions inevitably raised with the contractors or the County Highways engineers.

Outcomes have included the following:

Delayed start: Apologies from those concerned, but winter highway maintenance all over the county during the snowy period affected matters.

Weekends: Works are likely to be halted at weekends, mainly to relieve residents of the conditions Monday to Friday. Efforts will be made, where practicable, to open the lane for Saturdays and Sundays, but this cannot be guaranteed.

Diversion route: Drivers are requested not to use Jenkins Lane as this too is single carriageway and unsuitable for the volume of diverted traffic.

Emergency services: No reports have been logged of concerns by these services to meet any demands upon them

Signs at A46: It is particularly difficult to position the 'closed' signs to catch the eye of unsuspecting drivers, but the contractors are doing their best.

Traffic control: No plans are afoot to use control signalling in Edge Road as it would be impractical to cope with waiting vehicles queuing to enter such a zone.

Emergency
Residents who find themselves with an emergency situation as a result of the gas main renewal scheme should call Roy Balgobin on 812722 or 01452.621688.

The first of the two subsequent stages of work will now commence before publication of the Beacon on 3rd April, the second in the following week.

Stage Two

New Street between Victoria Square and Edge Road. Now planned to commence on 22nd March, even if Kingsmead not tackled by that date.

Temporary traffic lights: will be in operation throughout the period of working.

This complete section will involve inserting a new main pipe within that existing, and connections made to properties from that new main supply.

Stage Three

Victoria Square to junction Gloucester Street complete closure now scheduled from 5th April.

Approximately two to three weeks for laying replacement pipe alongside old in trench.

The contractors are endeavouring to work to the tightest time scale, particularly with regard to both stretches of New Street. If they have problems completing all of Stage One in time to commence Stage Two on 22nd March they will defer Kingsmead until the end of the period, but all residents affected will be kept fully informed.

The Beacon will update information monthly

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Time to consider Painswick's future

In a letter sent to the Parish Council on 15th February Leslie Brotherton expounds his concept of Painswick's future, expressing ideas which he believes are important and significant for the wellbeing of the village.

Writing in his professional capacity both as the manager of the Gateway project and his former career in community and social education, Mr Brotherton gives a rationalisation of what he believes is necessary to give Painswick a sound economic and social basis for its healthy survival. In outline he sees five essential elements. The main emphasis is on the need for a substantial provisions store, but also listed in priority order are banking and postal services, public transport, leisure opportunities and welcoming visitors.

The letter stresses the need to take new directions in our thinking and to re-consider the status quo. Before making decisions about major issues it is essential to take a considered and objective look at researched facts. Initially this would immediately apply to the library building, but in essence it also concerns all social and economic enterprises for the whole of Painswick. It is about both long- and short-term planning decisions rather than instant piecemeal ad hoc solutions. He urges the need to be pro-active rather than reactive as exemplified by the current issue of the library building, which could impact upon the whole of Painswick.

He makes an argument for the establishment of a provisions store as the key to the future, suggesting that otherwise all other enterprises are under threat.

Nine points are made in connection with possible uses for and characteristics of the library building, situated as it is in such a prime location. There is, he contends, an overwhelming need for Painswick to retain the building with all its potential as a community resource and rendezvous centre. Once it has been sold we have lost it.

Three courses of action should be taken immediately, he suggests. The Parish Council should ask the County Council for unfettered transfer of the building to the Parish Council. The question of whether this is the moment to consider selling the Town Hall, which would produce instant money, should be asked. Advantage should be taken of already expressed interest from developers to build a purpose-built convenience store on the upper section of the car park. If Painswick is strongly supportive of having such a convenience store, firmly endorsed by the Parish Council, there is known interest among the 'big boys' in this field, based on existing professional research, and the District Council would become supportively involved.

Copy of the letter can be obtained from the Parish Council's office or Leslie Brotherton on mr@lesliebrotherton.com. Your views, comments and your own proposals are encouraged and should be sent in letter form to the Parish Council, or submitted as an article (or a request for an article to be prepared) to the Beacon.


Carol Maxwell

As Leslie coordinates copy for this issue of the Beacon he invited me to prepare this article about his letter independently after interviewing him.

Police phone numbers

To report crime call
0845 090 1234
or to call Crimestoppers
anonymously **0800 555 111**

Letters



The inclusion of letters, maximum 150 words, in these columns does not imply that the Beacon committee endorses the views expressed, or otherwise.

A Community Choir?

Local resident Adrian Brett, 814271 adrianwilliamsbrett@googlemail.com, has posed the question:

I am wondering if there are people out there who would be interested in singing in a

community choir once a week. We would sing a wide range of music including African, Georgian, Bulgarian, Gospel, Celtic, American shape note and anything else that takes our fancy. The atmosphere would be informal and fun and open to anyone, any age, regardless of musical experience.

I have been leading such choirs for the last 15 years and currently run one in Newnham and one in Gloucester (for council employees).

It will only work if there are a minimum of 20 people. It would cost £5 for an hour and a half of singing and would take place one evening a week.

If you are interested please email or phone me and let me know. It would be good also to know your preferred evening. If there is enough interest I would like to get this going soon!

Dog fouling

Deirdre Baker, who is Clerk to the trustees of Gyde Almshouse Charity has been asked by the Warden of the Almshouses, to write:

We are experiencing an excess of dog fouling on the pavement of Gyde Road.

We request owners, when walking their dogs in Gyde Road, to have more consideration.

If a dog does make a mess then all the Almshouse residents ask is that the dog owner uses his/her poop and scoop to clear up as they go.



Hospital treatment

Anne Leoni writes:

Having spent a week in Gloucestershire Royal Hospital, ward 2A, with a broken ankle, I would like to say how efficient, kind and courteous all the staff were!

It was during the very snowy weather and all the staff made an extra effort and if necessary walking to work, arriving early and staying late. My thanks also to the Surgery staff, district nurses and doctors.

Thanks

Susie Oakley, Manager, writes:

The residents and staff of Richmond Painswick would like to extend a big thank you for all of the help given by residents of Painswick during the recent snow falls, it was invaluable and gratefully received.



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That Quiz

We are delighted that we will be welcoming a record number of teams for this year's Village Quiz next week.

Our plans are laid, the bar will be open at 7.00pm and the first question



ready to be read out half an hour later. Some thought last year's questions were a trifle on the difficult side and, maybe, they were right even though they came from the lower scoring teams.

We have been at pains to even out the challenge this year, deciding not to have a round on such as 'The careers of wives of European presidents and prime ministers', or 'Oceanography in the late 18th century'. We have resisted the temptation to let you know what will be in the ten rounds, but that is what can make the evening such fun (for us) and test friendships within the teams.

We are looking forward to seeing you.

Charles Dorman

Italian Group: ***Gli Originali***

Bird Club: ***High Fliers***

Sandra Glass: ***3 glasses and a bottle of plonk***

The Woof Group: ***The Rosie Four***

Conservation Society: ***The Conservators***

Book Club: ***Bookworms***

Jolly Stompers Dance Group: ***The Coasters***

Yew Trees WI: ***Whyfours***

Ancient Society of Painswick Youths: the

Quasimodos and Esmereldas

Short Mat Bowling Club: ***Natty Matty Bowlers and Ashwellian Bowlers***

Peter and friends: ***The Wessex Folk***

Dog Walking friends: ***Four Wags***

Horticultural Society: ***Seeds and Weeds and the The Has Beans***

Parfitt family: ***The Perfect Parfitts***

Music Appreciation Group: ***The Gramophiles***

Pitchcombe residents: ***Freddies Fan Club***

Local History Society: ***The Searchers***

Angela, Kym, Mark & John: ***The New Four***

Sonias odd bodd: ***The Winter Girls***

Pickin Davies: ***The Irregulars***

Beacon Conservation Group: ***The Slashers***

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Vegetable Growing



2010 began with an inspiring talk on how to enhance our skills, and yields, of home grown, organic vegetables. Roger Umpelby, a professional entomologist, lecturer at Pershore College, working for DEFRA advising farmers and growers on pest control and keen vegetable grower spent the afternoon sharing his knowledge and expertise with members of the Painswick Horticultural Society.

His advice covered everything from soil types, available space, choice of crops, environmental factors and pest control. Ultimately what we choose to grow should be what we like to eat! Some vegetables grow large and remain in the soil for up to a year before they can be harvested. Have we got enough space to accommodate them, or should we opt for quicker harvesting crops?

We also learnt about sequential sowing so that we have a continuous supply of fresh produce rather than a glut, just when everyone



else does! Vegetable varieties, protection, feeding and the necessity to weed was also expanded upon. Growing taller together for mutual support, growing quickly maturing salad leaves as a cash crop alongside more slowly developing vegetables was also covered.

His advice was supported by excellent, visual examples from his own garden and I, like many others, left the meeting reinvigorated to tackle our vegetable patch.

The next meeting of the Horticultural Society is at 7.30pm on 'The True Cottage Garden' on the 10th March at the Town Hall. If you are interested please come and join us.

Elizabeth Gardam

and the 58th Annual Show

Show Secretary Philip Berry has asked the Beacon to remind readers that the Show is on Saturday 11th September and, as is his wont, notify everyone in these here parts of the opportunity of achieving world fame (or notoriety) by demonstrating their skills in the Handicraft Section.

No requirement to grow the largest radish between here and Scunthorpe, or the so tasty (with a sprinkling of caster sugar) *Fragaria virginiana*, or even impress the ladies with your single blooming rose; in fact no cultivation at all!

Anyone can enter, so why not think about the invitation to create:-

A poster depicting the gardening year

A decorated party cracker

A painting of a wild flower

A knitted hat

An embroidered picture

A hand made walking stick

An embroidered spectacle case

A child's birthday card

A photograph of 'The Big Freeze'

A photograph of village life

A photograph of a stone bridge

A photograph of 'The Good Life' with an amusing caption

Photographs not to exceed 5" x 7" whether mounted or un-mounted.

A Challenge Cup is presented by the Society for the best exhibit by man or woman in these Classes, but the 'jackpot' is (surprise surprise) only open to certain ladies - since the Women's Institute Cup will be awarded to the WI Member who obtains the largest amount of prize money in all Sections.

Plenty of notice (26 weeks) to get snapping, clicking, painting, gluing, whit-tling even cogitating.

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The St. John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital

We are holding a coffee morning to raise funds for the St. John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital.

The eye hospital is a charitable foundation, which provides high quality eye care to the people of the Holy Land irrespective of race, creed, or ability to pay. Palestinians have a high incidence of eye disease. The building of The Wall and road-blocks make access to Jerusalem

very difficult for staff and patients. St. Johns has responded to this by having hospitals in Gaza and the West Bank in addition to mobile clinics.

Last year a total of 92,000 patients were seen and 4,000 operations were carried out. Although the Palestinian Government provides some funding, the costs of running the hospital and clinics depend largely on charitable donations.

The Coffee Morning will be from 10.00am to 12.30pm on Tuesday 23rd March at Painswick Town Hall. The admission charge of £1.50 includes coffee and biscuits and there will be a raffle, Bethlehem olive-wood craftwork, and stalls for cakes, home preserves, Bric-a-Brac, toys, and good second-hand clothes.

Please attend, and bring your friends to support this event.

Denise Magauran

Tasmin is back!

Tasmin Little and her accompanist John Lenehan get the Painswick Music Society's 65th season off to a terrific start on Saturday 27th March in St. Mary's Church at 3.00pm.



They are both renowned players on the principal international concert platforms so this is a great opportunity to see and hear them play. Tasmin plays a 1757 Guadagnini violin and her concert starts with a piece by Fritz Kreisler, Praelidium and Allegro, which is one of a number he either ascribed to or described

as 'in the style of' another composer who was not so well known. He later admitted that they were all his own compositions, explaining that he wanted his concerts to appear more widely drawn than being his own compositions. This is followed by Bach's Violin Sonata in E major, in which Bach gave the piano a more interesting part than had hitherto been the custom and which ends with both instruments sharing a joyous romp. After this Mozart's Violin Sonata in C major has plenty of the composer's adventures into distant keys with the piano and violin well matched despite him describing it as for 'piano with accompaniment for violin'.

The second half starts with Violin Sonata in B Major by Delius. Delius' music has been described as an acquired taste and not everyone acquires it, though Sir Thomas Beecham described him as a 'great apostle of romantic beauty in music'. Any-



one coming to this concert with the former impression of Delius is in for a surprise because it is joyous and exhilarating. It is little wonder that Tasmin has become a foremost devotee of Delius' music, following on Sir Thomas' championing of him in the past. The concert ends with a piece of Lenehan & Little's own creation: Tchaikovskiana, which entwines themes from Tchaikowski's music, notably the ballet Swan Lake, and draws the concert to a triumphant conclusion.

Maurice Maggs

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Bournemouth SO Concert

As usual, our Group invites Beacon readers to join them on their next concert outing. We are already delighted that there are several who appreciate the opportunity to join us to attend outstanding concerts, even though they cannot get along to our scheduled meetings in the village.



The one now on offer will be to the Colston Hall in Bristol on Thursday 22nd April and, as always includes coach transport from Stamages Lane Car Park to the door of the concert hall.

The Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra will be performing the Mendelssohn Hebrides Overture, Sibelius Symphony No.5 and Max Bruch Scottish Fantasy, featuring the violinist Tasmin Little.

Approximate costs are £23.50 for balcony seats and £10 for the coach; departure will be at 4.30pm to allow time to eat before the concert at 7.30pm. For further details and to book, please contact me on 814241.

Stewart Price

Acorns need help

The Beacon receives a range of enquiries for column space and can find itself torn between differing requests, but we think this will resonate with some of our healthiest readers.

Peter Morris, who is Head of Care at the Acorns Children's Hospice for the Three Counties has been in touch in the hope that he can appeal to local people to think about taking part in a running event this year and help raise vital funds and awareness to support local children who have life limiting or life threatening illnesses and their families.

He says, "Many of your readers may well have started the New Year with a personal goal to get fit, if they're now looking for motivation to stay on track then what better way than by taking part in a fun run, a 10km run or even a marathon, and help to raise funds that support the care of local children. Acorns has guaranteed places in lots of well known events, including the Great North Run, the British 10k and the Berlin Marathon. Perhaps if readers already have a place in an event such as the London Marathon then they could think about supporting their local children's hospice along the way. Whatever event is of interest, the Acorns event's team is waiting to here from you".

Anyone interested in rising to the challenge can contact Lucy on 01564.825023 or Email: lucy.shepherd@acorns.org.uk; she can offer support and suggestions of different running events. Once registered, they can supply running vests or T-shirts and offer fundraising support.

So, why not get running for Acorns! Your support is much needed, and would be very gratefully received? Do keep the Beacon posted, and we will follow your training and the event itself.

Islands of the Indian Ocean

Our most recent speaker, on 11th February, was David Scott-Langley, a Gloucestershire naturalist and sometime leader with the Brathay Exploration Group which runs young peoples' adventure/study trips worldwide. One venue is tiny Foula (Shetlands 'bird island'- human population 30!). It is flat on its easterly flank



with beach-breeding storm petrels and Arctic terns but westerly peaked with Da Kame, 1200' sheer drop, teeming with puffins, guillemots and fulmars. The harsh Nordic names

parallel the weather, favouring now shag over cormorant. Foula's colony of great skuas is the world's largest - lord raptors (50-60 cm. long) bullying other seabirds to drop or vomit food, slaying even the guillemot and ravaging beach breeders' young. Awe at Foula's wild majesty was for a time interrupted as Painswick experienced a power cut, but David continued successfully - using his laptop screen with us clustered around.

An ever more ambitious spectrum of speakers is planned and to help finance this, a grand car boot sale is planned to take place in April (date to be confirmed) at the Archway School. Saleable items may be brought to the next club meeting on 11th March or please ring 813094 to arrange for their delivery or collection.

Looking ahead, a residential field trip has been planned (Sunday 13th to Tuesday 15th June) to look at wildlife on the Gower Peninsula, an area famed for its beautiful and diverse flora and fauna. There will be a guided tour of the Oxwich National Nature Reserve with its reed bed, salt marsh and shore. Cliff top walks are also included where a variety of other birds may be seen. Everyone is welcome. Booking details may be obtained by ringing 813823 or 813094.

Speakers of excellence are still attracted to Bird Club meetings and the next one is no exception. On Thursday 11th March at 7.30pm in the Town Hall, David Cramp, Group Leader of Gloucestershire RSPB Local Branch, will be talking and illustrating bird and other life on these mostly exotic islands.

Visitors to club meetings are always welcome for a modest fee, so do come along if your mood takes (brings) you. Even though it is traditionally a very brief affair, the AGM at the end of the talk can be skipped by visitors if they wish!

Martin and Wendy Addy 810804

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Confusion no longer

'Confusions' is cast! Painswick Players, who will stage Alan Ayckbourn's play in early May, have started rehearsal with the fifteen cast members who auditioned in February (and five more will be invited later this month to take part). The play consists of five sketches in a typical Ayckbourn (*pictured*) jaunty manner, which have no bearing on each other but which exhibit the author's delicious sense of humour in droll abundance. They make a charmingly observed study of middle-class, marital anxieties, with a particular focus on loneliness and its effect on others.



Painswick Players are offering this production as a tribute to Jack Burgess, who died in December. He was a key figure in the resurgence of the Players thirteen years ago, as well as a driving force in recruiting newcomers to the Painswick stage. Members of other local drama societies have decided to participate as their contribution to this tribute, so the 'Confusions' cast will include experienced actors from Stroud, Gloucester and Cheltenham as well as our locals. We are all particularly keen to be able to offer Painswick a stage production that is worthy of Jack's reputation as a dedicated actor, playwright and director.

6th, 7th and 8th May
at 7.30
Painswick Centre

George Krasker



Local History - the Teaser

An almost familiar view in the middle of Painswick, but how is it different from what we see now? When was the picture taken, and why and when did the scene change? Answer in next month's Beacon.

Last month's photograph aroused some very nostalgic thoughts for some people. As Diana Barclay explained – "the bicycle shop as we knew it" and which is now Painswick Woodcraft with Candlemass Cottage built over the top in New Street. Musgrove's business operated there for many years, closing down in the 1950s.

... and the Local History Society

A wealth of footpaths.

We are blessed in this area with a veritable wealth of footpaths but do we in fact know why they are there? At the February meeting Mr Alan Pilbeam gave some fascinating explanations as to the reasons for the existence of Gloucestershire's footpaths.

Many are very old indeed as at Chedworth and Withington where they led to Roman villas, or others, apparently in the middle of nowhere, led to and from deserted villages. Where a church is at the edge of a village such as at Guiting Power the village has moved and the footpath was once a village street. Paths to and along fields, of which there are many around Painswick, usually were routes to places of work. Saxon charters listed land in and around settlements, measured by the perambulated route around the land and some of these paths from the 10th century are still extant even where the mill or work place has long disappeared.

On a more grandiose note, pilgrims going to Compostela in Spain would do so via Bristol. Their routes came through Gloucestershire and often they would leave a mark on a church as at Stoke Orchard. Similarly those going to Thomas Cantilupe's tomb in Hereford Cathedral as pilgrims came through the county and there are shrines at

Winchcombe (St Kenelm, a 60 mile route), St Oswald's in Gloucester and Edward II's tomb in Gloucester Cathedral. Hailes was also an important pilgrimage site and the



New Inn in Gloucester was built specifically for pilgrim accommodation.

Later, in the 18th and 19th centuries, when there was an increasing need for meat to feed city populations, cows were driven from Wales en route through Gloucestershire. These drove routes, wider than usual, are well recorded in the account books but

the drovers often took alternative tracks to avoid turnpikes and fees. Sheep were also taken and one such route is the Greenway at Shurdington. Where sheep fairs were held, such as at Stow, there were many narrow passageways, for counting the sheep, around the marketplace.

Trows being pulled up and down the Severn, often with 50 men pulling, account for the established trackways alongside. The same happened with the canals thus accounting for the towpaths which are always on the downhill side.

Harshest of all was the Forest of Dean where the Trafalgar Mine employed 900 men at its peak. Living on the edge of the forest and working from 6am often to midnight the men took an hour to walk each way leaving many well-marked footpaths.

At the other end of the social order, Cheltenham had several private walkways such as Montpellier and the Promenade leading to the spas and costing 1/-. The roads are in fact based around these leisure walkways. So, every footpath has a history ...

Carol Maxwell



And Jillie makes two at the Post Office

We are indeed fortunate in Painswick to have Karen Judd as our post mistress – conscientious, reliable and always presenting such a warm and welcoming smile. But did you also realise that Karen works behind the counter from 9am to 5.30pm from Monday to Friday without any breaks? She also of course is there from 9-12.30 on Saturdays too.

At last some relief is at hand in the person of Jillie Speed. Living next door to the Post Office Jillie became acutely aware of Karen's situation and after some discussion they both decided that Jillie could provide a solution. She duly began her training with Karen after Christmas and has been approved by the Post Office. "The whole point is to give Karen a break," says Jillie who will now take over on Tuesday and Friday afternoons.



The arrangement is perfect for both of them, especially as immediate next door neighbours. It suits Jillie, with more time as her children get older, and it will give Karen some welcome respite. It also means there will be extra availability if and when necessary in the event of illness, holiday and so on.

When Karen did her own training before coming to Painswick she had to learn about the 169 services and products offered by the Post Office and she believes that number has since increased. This rather daunting task is now confronting Jillie who nonetheless is keen to take on her new role behind the counter. She is, however, sensibly aware that there is still much to learn and is pleased that Karen will be on call for her until she feels she can 'go solo' with full confidence.

Carol Maxwell

Painswick Valley Radio

Following the success, well - success asserted because there hasn't been much feedback to tell us who has listened - of the first two broadcasts new editions are on their way. As previously, in November and December, they will be pitched at Painswick valley residents by StroudFM but can be heard by anyone within range of the signal.

Next Wednesday, the 10th, marks the return of this programme, to be broadcast between midday and 1.00pm.

It seems that most can receive the signal on FM 107.9, so why don't you give it a try?

The show will include hot local news items, radio being immediate compared with print like your Beacon, which has a different role to play. The broadcast will be presented by local people, with at least five of the on-air team being very locals, interspersed with 'interesting' music selected by a local (no names, no pack drill!) for the rather special Painswick audience.

The show's lunchtime slot will probably be maintained in the future, though at present no one is prepared to commit to a firm series of dates for future broadcasts.

Several interviews of local people have taken place in the village: in the Rococo Gardens, in a pub, in the Post Office and so on. There will be more, and a library of interviews is planned so that programme makers won't always work hand-to-mouth. The 10th March show will be programmed as a template of future shows, so that the Radio Group doesn't have to re-invent the wheel for every show. And readers of the Beacon are welcome to offer comments on the show, as well as suggestions for future radio topics - to the editor of the Beacon, for passing on to the Radio team and/or sharing through these columns.

Painswick Valley Radio Times for Wednesday 10th March 12 noon to 1.00pm on Stroud 107.9 fm

News and Weather
Digital UK Interview - on the switchover
All about the Sheepscombe Panto!
Gardening - a talk with Paul Hervey-Brookes of the
Roccoco Garden Nursery
Parish Council News
Gas road works - an update
Painswick allotments - an update
The Royal Oak in Painswick - talk with
the new landlord Keith Aires
Painswick Post Office - talk with Karen
Judd
What's on in the Painswick Valley
How to get involved.



**Stroud
FM 107.9**

Contacts

Steve Rowley on steve@artension.com or by phone 01453 763181 and 07803 052723

Martin Slinger on martinandmaryslinger@uk2.net or by phone on 07855.162676 or 01453.763105

Michael Buckland-Smith on pvr@aramis.demon.co.uk or by phone 813202

Roland Boggon on rboggon@yahoo.co.uk or by phone on 812075

George Krasker on krasker@gmail.com or by phone on 864175

Charles Dorman on chasdorm@gmail.com or by phone on 814548



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Something cooking at the Croft

Many village residents will have seen that there is building work going on at the school. The building work is in two stages.

Phase 1 will provide us with a new kitchen (pictured) for cooking school meals. This has been long needed, as our current kitchen is very dated and in a poor state of repair. We have been successful in obtaining a government grant of £30,000 specifically for improving school kitchens and the local authority is also financially supporting us with the provision of new equipment. The kitchen is being built at the front of the school, and will open via a serving hatch into the school hall. This will mean that school dinners will no longer need to be brought in a hot trolley across to the hall. It will also give us better facilities for the children to learn to cook, as they will be able to prepare food in the hall that can be cooked in the kitchen. This phase of work is planned to be finished by May.

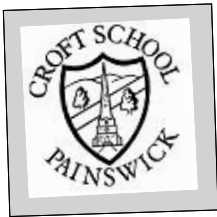


Phase 2 will involve converting the old kitchen into a Children's Centre. This will not be a childcare provision, but an office base and meeting space for outreach of services for pre-school children in our wider area. This work has been totally funded by a specific government grant that the Local Authority has to use for this purpose. None of the school's budget will be used for the provision of the Children's Centre. The school and local authority will be jointly paying for the building of a new shared entrance for the school and Children's Centre, and we will also have some internal improvements to the school building.

We are very excited about these improvements to the school and look forward to welcoming members of the local community to see the results of the project once it is completed.

Janet Hoyle

Croft news



News snipped from letters to parents By Janet Hoyle

Access during building works

The building plant extends over the path down the side of the staff car park, running from the playgroup to the school main entrance. Therefore there is no pedestrian access along

this route. We have told children that they cannot walk this way. The three ways of getting into the school building are:

1. Down the steps and to the front door of the school, or around the back of the school and through the infants' playground to get in the back door.
2. Down the path by the playgroup and into the back door.
3. Into the top playground via the path at the top of the field, through the junior playground and down the path to the back door.

Quiz Club winners

KS2 children recently enjoyed an interactive quiz competition, with the highest scorer from each year group making up our team for the next round of the competition. Congratulations are in order for the winners:

Year 3:	Ellie Yates
Year 4:	Louis Lovell
Year 5:	Alice Bradley
Year 6:	Georgina Churchley

Commiserations are due to Flo Simpson, who had the same score as Alice on the day, but was subsequently just pipped at the post in a deciding round in Class 4. They will compete against several other schools at Balcarras School on 10th March. I will let you know how they get on.

KS1 Sports Club

There will be a sports club for the younger children after the half term break.

New date

Monday 8th March Nature Quiz Round 1: The Croft v Nailsworth

Parent Governors

I have been a parent governor since June 2008. My daughter, Lettie, is in class 4 and son, Arthur, is at the Playgroup and is due to join The Croft in September. My eldest child, Eric, was at The Croft from 2005 to 2008.

We moved to Edge in 2005 from London where I worked as a solicitor specialising in trust and occupational pension law, actually more interesting than it sounds!

The role of the Governing Body is to set the strategic framework for the school. This means setting, implementing and monitoring the aims and objectives for the School. The Governing Body is not involved in the day-to-day running or management of the school; that is for the head teacher.

I wanted to be a Governor because I felt it is important to be involved in such a vital part of my children's life. It is



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Painswick Group

- Newcomers always
- Every Wednesday at the Painswick playgroup in Churchill Way.
- Children get to i
- chat!
- Babies, toddlers,
- Prices are £1.20 p
- Price includes Tea
- for the children.
- For more inform

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'awesome activities for all
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Toddler

s welcome, just come along...
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nteract while parent's get to have a
mums, dads or carers welcome!
er child and £1.50 for two+ children.
/Coffee for mums and juice/biscuits
ation please contact:
Emma Smith on 07798.672227
Jennie Barber on 07769.695772
or Rebecca Fowler on 07812.215326

ernors. The meetings are full of healthy debate and hopefully come to good decisions.

Due to the wide responsibility of the Governing Body, there are various sub-committees and I am a member of the Curriculum Committee. This is responsible for advising the Governing Body on the school's obligations under the National Curriculum, the School's curriculum policies and how they are taught, evaluated and resourced. For example, in our next four meetings we will be looking at SATs and target setting, self evaluation in preparation for Ofsted, the School Development Plan and the implementation of the Able and Gifted and Talented program.

The Governing Body welcomes



It's the Quiz season

The Croft School PTA have arranged a quiz night. Their objective

Raising funds towards the school pool

So, make a note of the date - Friday 26th March, the time - 7.30pm, and the place - the Croft School,



School PTA to help raise funds for the pool refurbishment.

For each instruction for sale of a property in this area before 25th May, the proposed re-opening date of the pool, they will "splash out" and give £250 to the PTA upon completion of the sale.

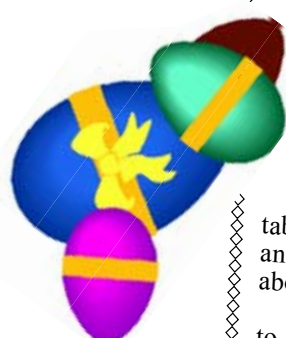
Not a bad contract to exchange!

interesting to see how the education system works and how/why decisions are made. I would urge interested parents to think about becoming a Governor when vacancies arise. We have regular meetings and I certainly ask as many questions as I can to find out about areas I think should concern Gov-

ernors. The meetings are full of healthy debate and hopefully come to good decisions.

Science day

Some photos from a recent visit from the Bristol Chemistry Labs to The Croft. Dr Alison Rivett from the Chem Labs came with three research students on 9th February. After an exciting assembly for the whole school, with lots of flashes and bangs, they organised workshops for our children in years 4 to 6. The children, some pictured below, had an exciting and informative day, and the Bristol scientists were impressed with our young scientists!



Egg trail

At Painswick Rococo Gardens, on Friday 2nd April, the Painswick Playgroup have again organised their now classic Eastertide event.

There will be free face painting, a craft table, tombola, raffle, colouring competition and the Easter bunny will be there hopping about giving out eggs!

The Playgroup are doing their utmost to raise money for a canopy in their Croft School garden to allow children to play out in all weathers! A pretty good objective to support, and they hope you will feel able to put the word around to others to join in the fun.

The times - 1.00pm - 5.00pm with a firm last admittance at 4.00pm. Cost is £4.00 for advance tickets, £5.00 on the day, £15.00 family ticket (2 adults 2 children), available from Painswick playgroup, Painswick Post Office and Olivas.

Jennie Barber

Passion Play in Painswick

Churches Together Around Painswick are delighted to announce that the acclaimed Passion Play "The Road to Calvary" is to be performed in St Mary's Church on Friday 26th March at 7.30pm.

This powerful drama by Brian Griffiths was first staged by the parishioners of the Church of St Bernadette's at Clydach in South Wales some fifteen years ago in their church hall. Since that first performance the production has been taken on tour to a number of locations across England and Wales. The play is always staged in the period immediately prior to Holy Week and Painswick is to be the venue for the final production of the 2010 season.



The funds raised by the performances are in aid of the St Vincent de Paul Society in the Swansea area where they have a soup run for rough sleepers and a furniture store for those in need. The tickets are priced at £5. They can be obtained from The Chairman, the Post Office and members of the various local churches.

A point of particular interest is that the Painswick production takes place in the year of the famous Oberammergau Passion Play which has been performed by the villagers in that Bavarian Alps community every ten years (with few exceptions) since 1634 as a result of a vow made to reflect their gratitude for being saved from a plague epidemic.

Friday mornings – shopping aplenty

Friday morning really is the best time to buy great produce in Painswick. With a little re-arrangement of times and some extra local produce there's quite a buzz in and around the Town Hall.

The Country Market is alive and very well on the ground floor from 10.00am until 11.00am and, in addition to the usual range of stalls, you can now also buy Hinds beef, locally produced of course. Tea and coffee are served throughout the hour.

Outside in the Town Hall car park our fish man, Jack Kirwin, has changed his day from Thursday to Friday and from now on will set up his stall from 8.30am until 11.00am every Friday. Jack's fish, always in tip-top fresh condition, is already very popular.

This new arrangement, with the Country Market, Hinds beef and Jack's fish stall (Ben Hinds on the left pictured with Jack Kirwin) all coinciding, is certainly a wonderful additional asset for Painswick.

Carol Maxwell



Inside every older person is a younger person wondering what happened.

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A right royal welcome

at the Royal Oak

Keith Ayres and Claire Harper are the enthusiastic new proprietors of the Royal Oak and they are very keen to encourage everyone in Painswick to experience their hospitality.

They took over the running of Painswick's local early in February and already feel they're making a difference. "We've been overwhelmed with support from the locals," says Keith which is of course both gratifying and motivating. Keith and Claire want to make the Oak the real hub of Painswick and are already working hard to that end. They have many plans, both long- and short-term, to repair and renovate. These include decoration, better tables, treating all the wood surfaces, new curtains, giving the garden a facelift, upgrading the toilets (cleaning, hot water and heating) and much much more. Overall, they intend it to be shiny and spruce, warm and welcoming.



The Oak already has a good reputation for its local beers and ciders and Keith and Claire intend to maintain and extend these. They are also keen to serve food with a strong west country tradition and to this end have already put together a menu containing local produce and dishes. They feel this is important and in keeping with the character of the pub. The Oak will open at 9.00am for breakfast and during the course of the day will serve lunch, afternoon teas, dinner and bar snacks.

Such long hours and hard work would not be possible without good supporting staff. Keith explains that all the staff were retained and they "are wonderful." The key players are Merlin the chef, (referred to as the kitchen wizard), Jack the cellar bar manager (pictured with Keith) and Dan the bar manager. Both Keith and Claire have experience as chefs, both are experienced business people and Keith has owned restaurants. All in all the whole team looks to have a successful future.

Claire grew up in the Forest of Dean and has come latterly from Gloucester. Keith is from a Forces family and has consequently lived in many parts of the country. Together they looked at several pubs before eventually "falling in love with both Painswick and the Oak." Their objective is to turn the pub into a centre where the whole local community can relax.

On Saturday, 13th March they plan a launch day by which time they hope to have achieved all their proposed initial improvements and solved some major problems. The Oak will be open from 9.00am right through to midnight and they hope that everyone will drop in to see for themselves how very hospitable and welcoming the pub now is. It will be "a time for us to say hello officially." And there will be a few complimentary tasters from the menu too. Primarily though Keith and Claire want to listen to what we all have to say and promise to adjust their service accordingly whether it concerns prices, menu, beers or surroundings. They want it to be your local. Do pop in and enjoy the warm welcome awaiting you.

Carol Maxwell

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OPENING TIMES

MONDAY to FRIDAY

9.00 - 1.00 and 2.00 - 6.00

SATURDAY

9.00 - Noon



News

VILLAGE
Agents

By way of reminder, the big news for this month is that we are going "digital" and the first stage of the switchover will be on 24th March. On that day, if you haven't switched to a digital system, you will lose BBC2. The final switchover is 7th April when all channels will go if you haven't changed your system. I am hoping that everyone reading this who is eligible for the "Switchover Help Scheme" run by the BBC, has set the wheels of motion in place by ringing 08004.085900. Who is eligible? Everyone who is 75 or over, or has lived in a care home for more than 6 months, or gets Disability Living Allowance, or Attendance Allowance, or Mobility Supplement, or is registered blind or partially sighted can join the scheme. You will need to pay £40 which will give you the equipment that will meet your needs, help to install it, an aerial check and installation (if necessary), and someone to call for a year after the switchover to give help and advice.

The service is free if you get pension credit, income support, employment support allowance or income-based job-seekers allowance.

Most eligible people I have come across in the last few months have got things sorted but there will be a few who may not have, for a variety of reasons. If your short term memory is not too good, then taking action on correspondence which comes through your door is not a reality. There may be people who have not claimed the benefits which they are entitled to and so would not be registered to receive the information. There will also be the people who really don't understand what the switchover will mean (i.e. no television if still using analogue after 7th April), or find it too daunting. Yet again, this is where I need your help. If someone springs to mind, have a talk to them and try to arrange for me to come and help (or set the ball rolling yourself by calling the help scheme number).

More good news about what's available out there to make life easier. If you're having problems walking at the moment and wish you could go and have a trip to Gloucester Docks, or Gloucester Quays, or Gloucester City Centre, you don't have to be stuck at home. There are free mobility scooters, electric and manual wheelchairs and walkers (with seats) available to those who need them.

You don't have to have a Blue Badge, or be registered disabled to use the scheme; you simply are having problems walking at the moment. For the Docks and Quays, call 01452.501839 (Monday-Sunday, 11.00am -4.00pm), and for the City Centre, call 01452.302871 (weekdays 9.30am-5.00pm).

Lou Kemp 07776.245767

PAINSWICK SPORT *assembled by Terry Parker*

Rugby

Painswick first fifteen's excellent league season has brought a number of convincing results in recent weeks.. Last Saturday Painswick travelled to Chipping Sodbury. The result was a win for the Cherry and Whites by 27 points to 5. The only failure in between a run of successes was the match at Bristol against the Gloucestershire Division 1 leaders, Old Bristolians the previous Saturday when the home side were the winners by 43 points to 5. In other league matches Painswick were away to Longlevens on 30th January and although behind by 12 points to 5 at half-time went on to win by 16 points to 12. The following week Painswick were at home to Ashley Down where they achieved a clear-cut victory by 44 points to 3. On Saturday 13th February Painswick were at home to Bream where they were successful by 15 points to 11.

Painswick United have also been having a series of successful



results with convincing victories against Bream, Brockworth and Old Centralians second fifteens. However, last Saturday brought disappointment when they went to Fromehall Park to play Stroud Nomads. The game was both a Stroud Junior Combination Cup match as well as a Citizen Merit Table fixture. On a very muddy pitch, Painswick's second fifteen were only trailing by 8 points to 7 at half-time but although scoring an unconverted try in the second half were eventually beaten by 17 points to 12.



(M) Gordon League 2nd XV v Painswick United.
Sat 27th March. Painswick United v Old Richians 2nd XV.

Results [(L) indicates Gloucestershire Division 1 league match. (M) Citizen Merit Table.

Sat 30th January. (L) Longlevens 1st XV 12 Painswick 1st XV 16.

(M) Old Patesians 3rd XV 20 Painswick United 0.

Sat 6th February. (L) Painswick 1st XV 44 Ashley Down 3. Painswick United 22 Bream 2nd XV 14.

Sat 13th February. (L) Painswick 1st XV 15 Bream 1st XV 11.

(M) Brockworth 2nd XV 12 Painswick United 60.

Sat 20th February. (L) Old Bristolians 1st XV 43 Painswick 1st XV 5.

(M) Painswick United 14 Old Centralians 2nd XV 7.

Sat 27th February. (L) Chipping Sodbury 1st XV 5 Painswick 1st XV 27.



(M) Stroud Junior Combination Cup. Stroud Nomads 17 Painswick United 12 - for which pictures last weekend, with Painswick playing left to right.

Fixtures

Sat 6th March. (L) Painswick 1st XV v Brockworth 1st XV. (M) Painswick United v Chosen Hill 2nd XV.

Sat 13th March. Longlevens 2nd XV v Painswick United.

Sat 20th March. (L) Old Cryptians 1st XV v Painswick 1st XV.

(M) Gordon League 2nd XV v Painswick United.

Sat 27th March. Painswick United v Old Richians 2nd XV.

Cricket

Painswick Cricket Club welcomes potential new members. Net practices are held each Sunday at St Peters High School between 6.00pm and 7.30pm.

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Tennis for all ages

Veteran tennis player Phil Edwards recently celebrated his 80th birthday at Painswick Golf Club.

Well known to many Painswickians, Phil lived for a number of years in Kings Mill Lane. He continues to enjoy his tennis at Painswick tennis club which is proud of its tradition of catering for players of all ages. Best wishes to Phil on his birthday.



Fair Trade recipe for Banana Bread

Ingredients

225g (8oz) self-raising flour
100g (4oz) butter
150g (5oz) caster sugar
450g (1lb) Fairtrade bananas (the gooier the better)
½ teaspoon salt
2 eggs
175g (6oz) mixed dried fruit

Method

Pre-heat the oven to 180°C/350°F/Gas Mark 4. Peel and mash the bananas, and then mix all the ingredients except the dried fruit together. You can do this in a food processor, or by hand in a basin. When they're all thoroughly mixed, add the dried fruit. Spoon the mixture into a 1kg (2lb) non-stick loaf tin, spread it out evenly and bake it for 1½ hours. The loaf is done when a skewer pushed into its middle comes out clean. Cool on a wire rack before slicing.

Core Strategy Consultation

In the February issue of the Beacon we reported on the District Council's Alternative Strategies for shaping the future of Stroud District. There will be a public drop-in event at the Town Hall on Tuesday 9th March from 2.30pm until 7.30pm when the strategies will be explained.



Churches Together Around Painswick Procession of Witness

The annual Procession of Witness will be held on Good Friday, 2nd April, starting at the Roman Catholic Church of Our Lady & St Therese in Friday Street at 10.30am.

The procession will then move to the roadside cross by the Lychgate for a short service before continuing along New Street to Christ Church Hall in Gloucester Street where coffee and hot cross buns will be provided.

Everyone is welcome. We do hope that you will join us.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

PAINSWICK PARISH COUNCIL
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**PARISH OF PAINSWICK
(PAINSWICK WARD)
CASUAL VACANCY**

Notice is hereby given that due to the resignation of Cllr Mike Kerton a vacancy exists in the office of Parish Councillor for the Parish of Painswick (Painswick Ward).

The vacancy will be filled by election if any ten local government electors for the said electoral area submit a written request to that effect in the manner prescribed below, and if no such request is made the vacancy will be filled by the Parish Council.

Any request for an election to be held to fill the vacancy must be in writing and must reach the Returning Officer, Stroud District Council, Council Offices, Ebley Mill, Westward Road, Stroud, Gloucestershire GL5 4UB no later than **31st March 2010**.

If no such notice is received the Parish Council will advertise the vacancy to be filled by co-option immediately after **31st March 2010**. Any elector who would like to be considered for co-option to the Parish Council should inform the Clerk, in writing, giving a brief CV as soon as possible after the vacancy has been published and by no later than **noon on Friday 16th April 2010**.

Dated this 22nd February 2010

Roy Balgobin
Clerk

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What a contrast!

First, on 4th February, Norma Kay brilliantly more mildly – all about Chamber Music. To be clear of this form, thinking some of it was presentation was an eye-opener, a joyful education since aged 8, she had been playing in small orchestras ever since and latterly chamber music locally. What she loves about this is the relationship that develops between the players and an understanding how each other plays. Without a conductor you are totally reliant on your fellow musicians and you have to listen hard to each other to develop a group sound and that can be very satisfying.



taught us – I can't put it honest, I had tended to boring, but Norma's cational experience! A

After a historical review, culminating in the Classical and Romantic periods from which her recordings were taken, we heard among others extracts from Haydn's 'Russian' quartet – he was the inventor of string quartets of which he wrote 83! – music of great clarity. Then one of Mozart's 'Prussian' quartets, Beethoven's opus 18: halfway between classical and romantic: powerful, almost aggressive but wonderfully melodic, "among the greatest musical compositions ever written", then to the Romantic period with Schubert's lovely "Death & the Maiden", Brahms' sextet in G and Dvorak's sextet in A – music of progressively more "depth" and fuller sound, with the extra cello and viola. To end, and encompassing the joy of making music, we heard the Soweto string quartet playing Sikelala in honour of Nelson Mandela.

All of which left me a converted appreciator of chamber music!

Ralph Kenber

and a Good Blow

In spite of the snowy weather, there was a good turnout for Robert Nichols' talk about trumpet music. He got off to a lively start with Davenport Blues by Bix Biederbecke, followed by that old favourite, Louis Armstrong playing Way Down Yonder in New Orleans. Next came toe-tapping music from Humphrey Lyttleton: Cakewalking Babies from Home and My Funny Valentine (Mulligan/Baker). Then to Robert's favourite, Miles Davies, using the trumpet as a voice in Porgy and Bess and Solea from Sketches of Spain.

After the break, we moved to the classical world. Robert had been "blown away" by Vivaldi's Concerto for two trumpets which he played, followed by what he described as the earliest recorded performance of a trumpet piece by Weber, dated 1828. Then came a very different piece, the Minuet from Elgar's Severn Suite. We heard a piece by James Ackley, of South American inspiration, and some very good trumpet playing by the Grimethorpe brass band. Another use of the trumpet was illustrated by the Battle scene from The Gladiator, the trumpets adding muscularity to the music. We ended with Nostalgia, by Emily Barker, the theme music from Wallender. We are most grateful to Robert for this stimulating taste of something different.

Richard Burges Watson



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Going wild

At our open evening on 26th January for those members and their guests who were unfamiliar with, or even afraid of, the World Wide Web, Glynn Nixon's patient and professional explanation of its wonders was really appreciated. A very well prepared presentation was enjoyed by his audience, who had many questions to ask on the subject, and it encouraged all to explore the web further in the future.



Ladies, now that Spring is on its way (please!), our thoughts turn to the lovely flowers that will soon be blooming. On 23rd March, at 7.30pm in the Town Hall, you will be able to see and hear about the splendid "Wild Flowers of Gloucestershire", a presentation by local authority Rosemary West. Visitors are always assured of a very warm welcome.

Watch this space for the report on our Busy Bees Lunch!

Janine Clarke

BEACO-DOKU

Derived from Sudoku, Beaco-doku replaces the numbers with letters.

Last month we used the letters from P-A-R-I-S-H and hope you completed the Doku.

It is but a short step to refresh oneself after Parish Council meetings at the F-A-L-C-O-N, so see if you can fill the blank squares in the grid on the left so that each column, each row and each block of six squares contains each of those six letters; but without repetition.

H	S	P	R	I	A
A	I	R	P	S	H
S	P	A	H	R	I
R	H	I	S	A	P
I	R	H	A	P	S
P	A	S	I	H	R

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The Open Evening

The Chairman, Jackie Herbert, and all the Trustees of the Painswick Centre were delighted to welcome two distinguished guests at their 'Open Evening' on Friday 12th February to celebrate the completion of their latest big improvement project. David Drew MP and County Councillor Joan Nash JP both spoke to the huge crowd of local residents who attended, expressing their congratulations to the Trustees and their praise for all the work that had gone into completing this major project for the people of Painswick.

Funding for the project had been provided by the Painswick Centre's own fund raising efforts, from a major grant of £5,000 from the Gloucestershire Environmental Trust from Landfill Tax contributions by Cory Environmental, and with donations from generous local residents.

The Main Hall has been fitted with beautiful new oak flooring to replace the old pine floor which (after 100 years of excellent service) was now failing badly and becoming a safety hazard. The new floor should give good service to the people of Painswick for another 100 years!

Before replacing the floor the Trustees also had to renew all the old heating pipes and



radiators. To make the best use of this heating system they have also installed ceiling fans high in the roof to circulate the warmed air back down into the hall. These discreet fans can also be used to assist ventilation in the summer months. This completely new system will be more efficient, more user friendly and much quieter for all customers.

The total cost of all this work is over £20,000. The Trustees have almost reached this target (£16,000 to date) but any further donations would be most welcome. Please phone the Chairman Jackie Herbert on 813229 if you would like more information, or send cheques payable to the Painswick Centre to The Painswick Centre c/o Corner Cottage, Bisley Street, Painswick GL6 6QQ. Gift Aid Forms are available.

Jackie Herbert

Magra in El Contador

Beautiful day, bitterly cold of course but not a cloud in the sky. Full of beans as I took the Land Rover for its MOT (over here it's called an ITV) - it failed !!! One of the rear tyres had a tear in its inner wall. Well, what do they expect, driving on these agricultural tracks around here?.

Actually, the Spanish have their vehicle testing down to a fine art. By post you receive notification that your vehicle requires its annual test, you call a central number and are given an appointment at your nearest test centre. These places are Government run and are very swish and clean as a new pin. Into reception with your log book and 40 Euro test fee to check in. Up pop your details on the national computer and then out to your vehicle to await your call over the tannoy, which in between announcements plays soothing "not to worry" music. The testing is done with you in the car and instructions are given via a walkie talkie fixed to the side window. No teeth sucking or head shaking by the exceedingly polite testers. All the while you are moved down the track onto the next piece of testing kit. The final tests take place over a pit and it was at this point that my tester discovered the tear in the tyre. At the end of the track the computer churns out your pass or fail documents. If your vehicle fails you have 14 days to right the wrongs and you receive a temporary document to show the police if you are stopped within that period - very civilised. All re-tests whatever the faults are free of charge.

For regular readers, Maria Rosa was delighted to have been mentioned in The Beacon and she asked me to tell you that the village shop has chocolate cake and magra on special offer this week.....if you happen to be passing.

First email to our address below with answer to "what is magra?" - bottle of rioja when we are in Painswick during April.

Christopher Piper-Short

Art, Nature, and the Docks

Our first outing of the year is on Friday 12th March. We are going to Nature in Art at Twigworth and then, after lunch, we will be going on to Gloucester Docks giving people a chance to see the new retail outlet centre.

We have a couple of spaces left on the coach so, if anyone is interested, please contact me on 812344.

Ann Williams



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God Speed the Plough

A Plough Sunday service, postponed from January because of 'certain climatic experiences' will take place this weekend. Sunday 7th March at 6.30pm in St Mary's.



Sue Ryder Care Leckhampton Court Hospice

This year we celebrate 30 years since the Court was bought by Lady Ryder.

We started the celebration by helping to sell Tea & Cakes at one of Sir Henry Elwes Snowdrop weekends at Colesbourne Court on the 20th and 21st February. Three of the Group went to help on the Sunday and we also sent 22 cakes and a very generous donation from two of our "groupies".

We will be holding a "Celebration" Coffee-Morning in a couple of months and our usual very popular Christmas Fair in November. Thank you for your continuous support

Anne Leoni Group Co-ordinator

Another Garden

The garden is a loathsome thing, God wot,
He reacheth here and quite forgot
And on the landscape left a blot,
A clot.

Of clay and moss and withered leaf
And barren ground beyond belief
Where e'en the tares are struck with grief
No sun, or brief,
Relief.

But every other place was blest
And magnified at His behest.
Then at the last made manifest
A feathered breast
A nest.

Behold and lo with frost foigot
When days become too hot
Seek ye a cool and shady spot
Where he begot
Ferned grot.

*Apologies to Rev T E Brown 1875
also Betty Byrom*

from Brenda Dunn

Still fancy a challenge? where it all happens

Last month we asked whether you might want to consider a steady job, real prospects, home based, no upper age limit, pensionable, unpaid but including expenses, helping the Beacon team?

We received several replies, which have been followed up - and appreciated that response. The offer is still open though, what DFS would call 'sale extended for just a few days'.

We are dedicated to multi-tasking and the range is as listed on the back page. Whether you could help, regularly or occasionally, with any of the tasks and help us directly by spreading the load, it is your choice. We think we are a pretty friendly and professional group, and there is huge job satisfaction whatever the contribution.

We can arrange to 'explain all' and await your verdict, but hearing from you in the near future would be helpful. Computing skills a real, but not essential, advantage. So, why not?

FOSSers

The Friends of Sheepscombe School will be holding one of their popular jumble sales on Saturday 20th March between 11.00am - 2.00pm at Sheepscombe village hall.

They tell the Beacon that this is "Must see, must buy good quality clothing, books, toys at bargain prices".

All proceeds go to FOSS and Sheepscombe school.

PROPERTY REPORT for February from Murrays

After the initial slow start to January and the disruption with the weather due to the snow the housing market has continued to improve, with the first few weeks in February seeing a record amount of property coming on to the market with us compared to previous years.

The magic of the Cotswolds is as powerful as it ever was and after a difficult year last year buyers are back with a demand for homes and in some areas the buyers are outstripping supply. The past year also saw a dramatic fall in the market for second homes and in some places this market completely died, however the lure of a Cotswold cottage to some people will always be difficult to ignore. Property prices are remaining the same in and around Painswick but there are now plenty more buyers around and still not enough new property coming to the market, however it is looking much better.

We have taken on lots of nice new properties over the past few weeks including Packers, a newly restored five bedroom house in the centre of Painswick, Owlcote a spacious 3 bedroom detached house with large garden on Stamages Lane, 35 Ashwell, a mid terrace 3 bedroom family house, Woodham, a very pretty 3 bedroom Cotswold stone cottage on Tibbiwell, 6 St Mary's Mead, a 4 bedroom town house on Stroud Road, Greenways, a potential building plot with 2 bedroom bungalow in Pitchcombe and Teckels, a lovely 3 bedroom thatched cottage in Upton St Leonard's.

Properties that are now under offer are 32 Ashwell and Wickridge House and properties that are now sold are Greenhouse Barn on Greenhouse Lane, Doveton Lodge in Hambutts Mead and Sunny Bank in Whaddon.

James C Murray



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MARCH

Sun	7	Plough Sunday Service (<i>page 20</i>)	St Mary's Church	6.30pm
Mon	8	Short Mat Bowls - Mondays (contact 813627) Community Lunch: Hosts - Sylvia & David Walker Yoga (Mondays) contact Kim 812623	Town Hall Christ Church Hall Sheepscombe Vill. Hall	10.30am 12 noon to 1.15pm 6.30 to 8.00pm & 8.15 to 9.45pm
Tue	9	Dog Training Club (Tuesdays) Core Strategy Consultation: drop in event (<i>page 17</i>)	Christ Church Hall Town Hall	9.30 to 12.00noon 2.30pm to 7.30pm
Wed	10	Yoga (Wednesdays) contact Kim 812623 StroudFM and Painswick Hour (<i>page 11</i>) Table Tennis - Wednesdays (tel: 812464) Bingo: Wednesdays – Tel. Ann, 813911/Liz, 813139 Horticultural Society: The True Cottage Garden - Kim Hurst	Sheepscombe Vill. Hall 107.9 fm Painswick Centre Painswick Centre Town Hall	9.30 to 11.00am 7.00 to 9.00pm 7.30 to 10.00pm 7.30pm
Thu	11	Yoga - All Abilities (Thursdays) Cotswold Room 812623 T'ai Chi: Thursdays - Contact 812344 Jolly Stompers Line Dancing: Beginners - Thursdays Experienced beginners - Thursdays Bird Club: Islands of the Indian Ocean - David Cramp	Painswick Centre Town Hall Town Hall Town Hall Town Hall	9.30 to 11.00am 9.30am 12.00 to 1.00pm 12.30 to 1.30pm 7.30pm
Fri	12	Friday Club: Outing to Nature in Art & Gloucester Docks: visitors welcome - Tel: 812344 for details (<i>page 19</i>) Country Market - Coffee available - Fridays		
Sat	13	Royal Oak' launch day (<i>page 15</i>) Painswick Beacon Conservation Group scrub clearance working party. (location check 812709) Beacon Quiz (<i>page 7</i>)	Town Hall Royal Oak Painswick Beacon	10.00am 9.00am to midnight 10.00am to 1.00pm
Mon	15	Community Lunch: Hosts - Croft School	Painswick Centre Christ Church Hall	7.00 for 7.30pm 12 noon to 1.15pm
Tue	16	Local History Society: Streetwise - Exploring Towns - Aylwin Sampson	Croft School	7.30pm
Wed	17	Probus: The Island of Arran and the Islay Whisky Trail - Ian Wilcox Parish Council Meeting	Shires Room, Falcon Town Hall	10.00am 7.30pm
Thu	18	Music Appreciation Group: Howard Allen on Haydn	Cotswold Room, Painswick Centre	7.30pm
Fri	19	and 20th Allotment potential location consultation	Town Hall	<i>see Page 4</i>
Sat	20	Copy dateline for April Beacon		
Mon	22	Gas Works: Stage Two commence (<i>page 6</i>) Community Lunch: Hosts - Park Residents	New Street Christ Church Hall	12 noon to 1.15pm
Tue	23	Coffee Morning and Bring & Buy in aid of the St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital (<i>page 8</i>) Yew Trees W I: Wild Flowers of Gloucestershire - Rosemary West	Town Hall	10.00am to 12.30pm 7.30pm
Wed	24	Television - Digital Switch-over Come and meet Neil Carmichael - Conservative parliamentary candidate for Stroud	Shires Room, Falcon	From 7.00pm
Fri	26	Friday Club: Easter Egg painting & Easter Bonnets - Adele Lambert Bingo for the Cobalt Unit "The Road to Calvary" - Passion Play by theatre group "Clydach" from Swansea (<i>page 13</i>) Quiz Night - raising funds for school pool (<i>page 13</i>)	Town Hall Town Hall St Mary's Church Croft School	2.30pm 7 for 7.30pm 7.00pm 7.30pm
Sat	27	Painswick Beacon Conservation Group scrub clearance working party. (location check 812709) Painswick Music Society Concert - Tasmin Little (violin) & John Lenehan (piano) <i>page 8</i>	Painswick Beacon St Mary's Church	10.00am to 1.00pm 3.00pm
Tue	30	Clothes Sale - daily until Friday 2nd April	The Patchwork Mouse	10.00am to 4.00pm
Wed	31	Probus: Tragedy on the Thames - Peter Talbot	Shires Room, Falcon	10.00am

APRIL

Thu	1	Music Appreciation Group	Richmond Painswick	7.30pm
Fri	2	Good Friday Procession of Witness (<i>page 17</i>) Egg Trail laid by Painswick Playgroup (<i>page 13</i>) Painswick Singers will perform works for Good Friday	Catholic Church Rococo Garden St Mary's Church	10.30am 1.00pm to 4.00pm close 7.30pm

Sat	3	April Issue of The Painswick Beacon published Theatre Club Outing to Cheltenham	Stamages Car Park	1.30pm
Mon	5	Gas Works: Stage Three commence (<i>page 6</i>)	New Street	
Wed	7	Parish Council: Planning/Plantation/Footpath Committees	Town Hall	7.00pm
Thu	8	Bird Club: "A Wandering Warden's Eye" - Andy Warren, Ecological Consultant	Town Hall	7.30pm
Sat	10	Painswick Music Society Concert: The Carducci Quartet	St Mary's Church	3.00pm
Tue	13	Painswick Centre Trustees AGM: All local residents welcome	Cotswold Room, Painswick Centre	8.00pm
Wed	14	Probus: Islam - Richard Long A46 Fiddlers Elbow works - consultation/exhibition (<i>p.5</i>) Horticultural Society: Box, Yew & Topiary - Roger Turner	Shires Room, Falcon Brockworth Comy. Ctre. Town Hall	10.00am 2.00pm to 7.00pm 7.30pm
Fri	16	Friday Club: The United Nations and You - Christopher Dickenson	Town Hall	2.30pm
Tue	20	Local History Society: Research Evening	Croft School	7.30pm
Wed	21	Parish Council Meeting	Town Hall	7.30pm
Thu	22	Music Appreciation Group: Concert Outing to Colston Hall	Bristol	7.30pm
Sat	24	Painswick Music Society Concert: The Talich Quartet	St Mary's Church	3.00pm
Tue	27	Yew Trees W I: Bletchley Park - Kitty Smithies	Town Hall	7.30pm
Wed	28	Probus AGM Bird Club Field Trip: Morning stroll with Gordon Avery around Frampton Ladies Shopping and Pamper Evening. Details tel: Jean on 812180 Painswick & District Conservation Society AGM	Shires Room, Falcon Vicarage Road, Frampton Painswick Golf Club Church Rooms	10.00am 10.30am 7.00 to 9.00pm 7.30pm
Thu	29	Music Appreciation Group: Members Night	Cotswold Room, Painswick Centre	7.30pm
Fri	30	Friday Club at Richmond: The Mitfords - Jonathon Moygne Gloucestershire Police Male Voice Choir: Concert. Doors and Bar open at 7.00pm	Richmond, Painswick Painswick Centre	2.30pm 7.30pm
MAY				
Wed	5	Parish Council Planning and Annual Parish Meeting	Town Hall	7.00pm
Thu	6	and 7/8th Painswick Players 'Confusions' (<i>page 10</i>)	Painswick Centre	
Sat	8	Painswick Music Society Concert: Jayson Gillham, Piano	St Mary's Church	3.00pm
Sun	9	Bird Club Field Trip: The Dawn Chorus at Ebworth Centre - led by Rob Palmer.	Ebworth Centre SO900114	4.30am
Wed	12	Probus: Women in Wartime. Poems & Readings - Philippa Roberts Horticultural Society AGM & talk followed by refreshments	Shires Room, Falcon Town Hall	10.00am 7.30pm
Thu	13	Theatre Club Day Outing to Stratford	Stamages Car Park	t.b.a.
Fri	14	Friday Club: Stone Masonry - Art or Architecture? - Mark Hancock	Town Hall	2.30pm
Tue	18	Local History Society: Annual Outing to Uley	Uley	6.00pm
Wed	19	Parish Council Annual Meeting	Town Hall	7.30pm
Mon	24	Bird Club Field Trip. Songsters at Coates with Martin Wright	Coates - Tarlton Rd near canal SO967003	9.45am
Tue	25	Yew Trees W I: The Barn Owl Centre - Vincent Jones	Town Hall	7.30pm
Wed	26	Probus: Stroud Brewery - Gregg Pilley	Shires Room, Falcon	10.00am
Fri	28	Friday Club: early summer outing - boat trip on River Severn		
JUNE				
Wed	2	Parish Council: Planning/Land & Buildings Committee	Town Hall	7.00pm
Wed	9	Probus: Life in the Abyss - Roger Jones	Shires Room, Falcon	10.00am
Sun	13	Bird Club: Two day Residential Field Trip: Wildlife on the Gower Peninsula. Details tel: 813823/813094		
Tue	15	Local History Society: AGM	Croft School	7.30pm
Wed	16	Parish Council Meeting	Town Hall	7.30pm
Sat	19	Painswick Fete	Painswick House	tba
Tue	22	Yew Trees W I: The Australian Outback - Bob Price	Town Hall	7.30pm
Wed	23	Probus: From One Language to Another - Tore Fauske Parish Council : Traffic Committee	Shires Room, Falcon Town Hall	10.00am 7.00pm
JULY				
Wed	7	Probus: The Severn Bore - Chris Witts	Shires Room, Falcon	10.00am
Wed	21	Probus: Ladies' Summer Luncheon		



NEW APPLICATIONS

PAINSWICK HOUSE, GLOUCESTER ROAD. Surgery to trees alongside Gloucester Road.
 OLD SCHOOL HOUSE, STROUD ROAD EDGE. Erection of sunroom.
 STEEPWAYS, LONGRIDGE, SHEEPS-COMBE. Erection of first floor extension.
 Land adj. to MILLBROOK HOUSE, KINGS MILL LANE. Amendment to application S.09/1177/FUL (New Dwelling) - Proposed development of a small cellar under entrance hallway and utility of the property.
 WESTWOLD, LONGRIDGE, SHEEPS-COMBE. Two storey and single storey rear extensions.
 BEECHCOTE, LONGRIDGE, SHEEPS-COMBE. Demolition of existing car port and garden stores. Erection of replacement garage.
 HOLCOMBE FOLLY. Conversion of existing outbuilding to form staff accommodation for use in conjunction with main house.
 PHOENIX COTTAGE, TIBBIWELL LANE. Extensions and alterations.

CONSENT

Land at WASHWELL FARM, CHELTENHAM ROAD. Change of use from agricultural land to domestic garden for use by Park Edge Barn.
 CROFT PRIMARY SCHOOL, CHURCHILL WAY. Proposed Children's Centre and School Kitchen.
 HAZEL MILL, SLAD ROAD, STROUD. Replacement rear extension, removal of 2 modern windows and replace with painted softwood sash windows to match original, repairs to mill building.
 SEAGRIMS COTTAGE, PINCOT LANE. Discharge of condition 5 of planning permission S.09/0170/VAR.
 3 VICARAGE STREET. Internal alterations.
 LATCHETTS, KINGSMEAD. Cut back branches to ash trees.
 10 PULLENS ROAD. Erection of 2 storey extension. Enlargement of existing garage and room over.
 THE OLD SURGERY, GLOUCESTER STREET. Reduce height of silver birch by rear gate and to the right of the summerhouse. Reduce height and spread of flowering cherry.

MINI-ADS

Learn Tibetan Language at the Painswick Centre. Tuesday evening - 7.00pm until 8.30pm. £10 per class. To book contact Dhondup on 810716. (A class is also available on Monday evening in Stroud.)

Fish tank (approx. 120x45x35cm), base and filter/pump available to anyone willing to collect. A donation to the Haiti earthquake fund would be appreciated. Phil 812520

Clothes sale. Spring is in the air - add some sunshine to your summer wardrobe. Sale starts on Tuesday 30th March - at The Patchwork Mouse.

Tuition for primary school age children, literacy, numeracy, secondary selection tests. Retired Deputy Head Teacher with references available. 812075

Garden maintenance required. Excellent opportunity for young person to earn serious money in return for serious effort. Preferably twice monthly. 813101

Wooden bookcase. 100cm high, 79cm wide and 30cm deep. £40. 813478

'John Lewis' unused cream voile curtains; 3.4m wide and 2.19m drop. £150. 813478

Child's playpen wanted. Paula Errock 813711

Attention Year 5 parents. Grammar School Entrance exams are early October 2010. Experienced tutor available after Easter. In Painswick Mondays, Tuesdays, Saturdays, venue to suit. £15 per hour. 01453.753949

The Sharpening Service. Kitchen knives, garden tools and rotary mower blades. For free advice and quotations telephone Rupert Miles at Bisley on 01452.770788

Calling all well trained dogs! I provide a Happy Holliday Home for you who wish to have a break from your humans. All creature comforts. 812678

*In response to the saying, published last month,
The first sign of maturity is the discovery that the volume knob also turns to the left
 a reader suggests that
The first sign of old age is the discovery that the volume knob does not turn far enough to the right!
 Are there other suggestions about volume controls, maybe for middle age, teenage, thirty somethings?*

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The Personal Column

Rachel Taylor and Jenny Gaugain

Babies

Congratulations to ANDREW MILLER and KERRY DUGGAN who were married at St Mary's Painswick in 2005 on the birth of their son, Alfred Victor Miller on 20th December 2009, grandson to John and Anne Duggan of Painswick and Canon Paul and Lynne Miller of Shortlands, Kent,

also to BEN EGERTON and SOPHIE DRIVER on the birth of their son, Hayden Alfie on 31st January, a grandson for Chris and Jeanette Hughes.

Ruby Wedding

Congratulations to CRAIG and THEA CARRINGTON who celebrated their ruby Wedding on February 20th.

Personal messages

Anne Leoni thanks all her friends who have given such support since before Christmas with prayers, visits, telephone calls, books, tapes and CD.

Jean Parry-Williams, 17th April 1917 – 7th January 2010 Resident of Painswick, 1968-2007



Spring is a good time of the year to write a few words about my Granny, Jean Parry-Williams. With the lengthening days, warmer air, and budding trees and blossoms she is very much in my mind, since it was these little things in the world around her that she would so eloquently describe in her letters to me, when I first travelled abroad to study in 1996.

Jean was very fond of Painswick and its environs. Together with my Grandfather, Leonard ('Parry'), she moved here in 1968, first living above the Shetland Shop in St Mary's Street, and from 1969 in Queens Mead, where she also established the 'Cotswold studio' base of her art practice. This drew on

her broad education and experience in the arts but much more so on her passion for our landscape and especially, animals, both domestic and farmyard, for which she became well recognised and published.

My grandparents were very involved in all things Painswick, relishing in the various local and regional clubs, societies and events in which they regularly participated. After my Grandfather's passing in the mid-70's she became very busy, travelling and teaching all over the country. It was a family joke that we often needed to book in her diary in order to see her. But while her work and interests took her far away, she was never happier than when walking on the hills and woods around Painswick, usually with her dog Tess.

Shortly after her 90th birthday, and about 15 happy years at Hyett Orchard, Jean moved near to her eldest son in Nottinghamshire, enjoying a comfortable life in a very pleasant residential home. Like many, she became less and less mobile and found it increasingly difficult to keep in touch. But I know how much she missed Painswick and all its people, and how very grateful she was for the happy times, friendship, care and support she received from so many, for so long.

Tim Parry-Williams, Stroud

Bill Bray

Sadly, Bill Bray, aged 95 years, passed away peacefully on 10th February within the wonderful care of Richmond Village and his loving family. Bill was a beloved father, grandfather and great-grandfather and much respected friend to many for his wit and wisdom. Bill was an Officer in Fighter Command in the 2nd WW; he later founded and established the Cheshire County Careers service for which he received the MBE.

An active Old Cryptian, accomplished sportsman and author, Bill was an inspiration to all who were privileged to have known him during his remarkable life.

Thanks to all the Staff at Richmond; to Sue Stanley for the moving and joyful Thanksgiving Service at St Mary's, Painswick; and all those who celebrated his life with the family.



Vicki Sharp, (daughter)

Get well soon

Our best wishes to ANGELA CRITCHLEY who has been in hospital recently, and also to WILF WARREN.

Welcome

We would like to welcome BETTINE WESSEL who has moved to Richmond Village Painswick.

Deaths

Our sincere sympathies to the family and friends of LEN TAYLOR, MARION POINTER, JOYCE ENTWISLE and MARY PAGE who have all died recently.

NEXT ISSUE

Publication date

SATURDAY

3rd APRIL

Dateline for all copy

including Mini-Ads - Display advertising - Diary - Club news - etc using E-mail or the Beacon post box

SATURDAY
20th MARCH

E-mail address

beacon@painswick.net

Photographs

preferably original
at 600dpi in JPEG

Hard copy preferably typed

Beacon post box - New Street

Web site

www.painswickbeacon.org.uk

All copy must include

Author, address

and contact telephone number

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Printed in Gloucester

for

The Painswick Beacon

by

www.inkylittlefingers.co.uk

01452 751900

