

The Painswick Beacon

Sine praeiudicio

Volume 35 Number 12

March 2013

Painswick Beacon: The bad and..The selfish

Painswick Beacon has been blighted recently by “fly tipping” and the selfish behaviour of visitors or locals who leave all kinds of litter behind, or let their dogs do so.

In the last few weeks there have been a series of fly tipping and an increase in litter leaving at the many road access points to the Beacon having a disastrous affect on our local beauty spot. The most dramatic have been a truckload of uncooked chicken bits, and a load of household rubbish including child’s car seat, hanging baskets, storage boxes, bird caging and three recently alive pheasants. The first was reportedly dumped ‘on or before’ Wednesday 6th February, and the second on Wednesday 13th February. Both heaps were in the top most car park beside the road that serves Catbrain. A third load, unwanted rubber tyres, was added in front of the second on Thursday 14th February. Some Valentine’s gift!

Grazing had recommenced on the Beacon after nearly a year without the Belted Galloways. Three Dartmoor ponies have been grazing the same paddock as the Bel-ties and shortening the smothering grass. But not for long; “persons unknown” have been meddling with the water troughs and electrified fencing. This has unnerved the owner, so the ponies have been removed.

In recent weeks there have also been incidents of track bikes and quad bikes doing damage to the greens and fairways at the golf course and the ongoing problems of a few dog owners not picking up after their dogs have left excrement for the rest of us to walk in. It is difficult to catch vandals in the act, and dangerous to confront them. But if more of the many walkers on the Beacon carry a camera or notebook, evidence can be passed promptly to the potential prosecutors. 0800 80 70 60 or 01453 754424



Ponies
Here today gone
tomorrow

Sign
Why bother



What is green, 5 feet tall and landed in Stepping Stone lane (See page 19)

On other pages this month:

Joan Nash stands down,
Painswick Centre news,
Painswick Childrens Centre,
Croft School concert,
Easter Services,
Field Club snowdrops,
County Council elections,
Junior Rugby
Surgery news.



PLANNING COMMITTEE

There were no public questions but a representative from the Slad Action Group asked the Parish Council to object to the proposed development of up to 140 residential units at Summer Street. The Chairman, Cllr Rob Lewis, said that the application was an agenda item and would be discussed later in the meeting. The Rectory, Stroud, Edge. It was agreed to recommend to the District Council that the application for the conversion of the Coach House into additional care home accommodation for 2 residents be refused. Land at Summer Street. Although the site of the application fell outside the Parish boundaries, the potential impact on the Slad area was such that the members agreed to recommend refusal to the District Council. The main concerns were the proximity to the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, a single track road and the problem of parked cars. Falcon Bowling Club. Cllr Ann Daniels said it was important that the proposed reduction in height of the 5 Yew trees should be carried out by a qualified contractor. Shetland Shop. Cllr Jason Bullingham drew attention to a June 2012 letter from the District Council in which it was stated that the majority of the works being carried out at the Shetland Shop did not require planning consent. As no planning applications had been received since the receipt of the letter, the Chairman agreed to write to the District Council's Planning Department to inquire whether there was a requirement for a further application or applications.

PARISH COUNCIL

Church Organ. A letter had been received from the Parochial Church Council asking for the Parish Council's support for the re-location of the organ within the church. The members were unable to give their support without further information, in particular whether the move was approved by the Diocese.

Art Couture. The members agreed to a grant of £1,450 being made to the Art Couture Committee for 2013. £1,000 was for First Aid provision and £450 towards insurance costs. Cllr Lewis said there was a need to have budget proposals from the Art Couture Committee at a much earlier date. He suggested an 18 months' cycle. The Chairman, Cllr Martin Slinger, said this was particularly important given the expectation that parish council precepts would be "capped" in future years.

Youth Club Building. Members heard that the funding for the modernisation of the building was on schedule. The expected commencement date was June 2013.

Voluntary Speed Traffic checks. Cllr Lewis reported the matter to be ongoing. A resident had offered to fund a Vehicle

Activated Sign, the cost of which was £3,000.

CCTV in Painswick. Discussions were continuing. Cllr Lewis said there was a need to maintain a balance between security and adversely affecting the local environment. Co-options. There were no nominations.

County Councillor's report. Cllr Nash said that there would be no increase in the Council's tax requirement. There had been general satisfaction with the work carried out by the County's gritting teams during the bad weather. She paid tribute to the support given by the parish councils and residents. Launch of the "Yes2 Jobs" website. Later in February the County Council would officially launch the new website www.yes2jobs.co.uk. Businesses around the County would be asked to register on the site and confirm what opportunities they had available for young people, work experience, apprenticeships or long term employment. More information could be obtained from Andrew Webster on 01452 425659.

Air Balloon Roundabout. Cllr Nash reported that it had just been announced that the Highways Agency had withdrawn its trial scheme which would have involved re-directing traffic from Cirencester down Crickley Hill.

Healthwatch Gloucestershire. Under this scheme the Gloucestershire Rural Community Council (GRCC) would provide an independent advocacy to people who wanted to make a complaint about health services. The new organisation would begin on 1st April service. Additional funding. An extra £3M was being provided for highway repairs and £1M for the Adoption Service.

Javelin Park Energy Recovery Facility. Reference was made to the second consultation being carried out by Urbaser Environmental regarding the proposed Incinerator at Javelin Park. The consultation would take place between 20th February and 12th April.

District Councillor's report. Cllr Nigel Cooper reported that there was to be no increase in the Council Tax. The Council's main focus had been on the production of the Local Plan.

Painswick Parish Action Plan. Cllr Caroline White gave details of the Action Plan consultation which are set out on page 5.

St. Mary's Street Public Conveniences. Cllr White reported that it was felt that there had been insufficient respondents to this consultation to provide a comprehensive view from the community. "Based upon the comments received, the Land and Buildings Committee had considered alternative suggestions that could satisfy the comments made for ALL the Options:-

1. Convert the 'gents' into one unisex disabled use toilet and rent out the 'ladies' for storage.

2. Investigate whether the Painswick Centre would be willing to make their toilets available for public use.

3. Investigate the costs of providing an internal security door and signage to the Town Hall, to encourage wider use of the newly refurbished WCs and baby change area."

The Committee wished to report to the Parish Council that on the results of the consultation, spending vast sums of money could not be justified. Once the suggestions (1-3) listed above had been explored and their costs assessed, then a public meeting should be held to further consider the Options. The intention was to seek to provide further details and hold a public event by June 2013. The Parish Council endorsed the Committee's proposals.

Town Hall parking. The Members received a paper setting out details how persistent illegal parking by one particular resident could be stopped, as repeated requests had proved unsuccessful.

Recreation Ground. Notices were to be positioned around the Recreation Ground reminding owners that dogs must be on a lead at all times.

20 mph signs. Members were informed that the Clerk had acquired 100 "TWENTY IS PLENTY" A4 size signs. These were designed to be affixed to wheelie bins but could be used elsewhere. Anyone wishing to have a notice should contact the Clerk. There was no charge.

Ward reports. The Post Box in Tibbiwell was back in position but had still to be commissioned. Cllr Lewis said the Council would treat the matter with urgency.

Mary Portas scheme. Cllr Anne Smith gave an update on the scheme. Information was available on the web site. Central Government had provided £10k for the four Stroud district towns, of which Painswick was one, as funding for the initiative to make retail outlets more attractive. Cllr Smith and Caroline Crawford were the Painswick representatives.

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Lunch: Tuesday - Saturday

Sunday Lunch

Evening: Tuesday - Saturday

01452 810030

Joan Nash to stand down

Her recollections after 38 years service

After twelve years as your County Councillor I have decided not to stand in the election in May. I think it is time that I stand back and let someone else represent the Division. I have enjoyed representing all the residents in the thirteen villages which make up the Division of Upton-St-Leonards, Bisley and Painswick. I have not met everyone, but I have had the privilege of getting to know many of you over this time, sorting out problems and issues which have often been personal to you, maybe school, social services, highways or other matters.

I have worked closely with the eight Parish Councils and have attended many of the meetings. The Parish Councils do an enormous amount of work for everyone and I thank all Parish Councillors for the hours of voluntary work they give to their Communities. They are the "eyes and ears" on the ground, and whilst I could not be in every village all the time, I have relied on the Parish Council to alert me to any County Council matters that needed following up.

The main pressure on the County Council over the last few years has been the need to balance the budget, with reduced Government grant to the County each year. We have managed to keep the Council Tax frozen for the last years, and again for the next year, whilst maintaining essential services.

The Adult Care funding has been increased, and will keep existing services safe. The increase in the age of residents in the County will mean that there will be more and more demand for care services, both residential and support in own homes.

A decision on the method of disposing of the County residual waste will have to be made in the near future. The present method of landfill cannot continue, with the tip almost at full capacity and the cost to the Council Tax of European fines for each tonne sent to landfill, already at about £8 million per year. The planned incinerator at Javelin Park may not be the chosen technology for everyone, but I believe it is the most viable for Gloucestershire.

Over the last twelve years many decisions have been taken, the Library service review being one of much local interest. Painswick and Whiteway have made lovely new Libraries through community co-operation, and I believe that they will be much used and appreciated as they "belong" to the communities they serve. The mobile service has changed, with more services on offer, and although fewer stops, longer stops for fuller use of computers etc.

Highways have ongoing needs and issues, but we have had many of our local rural roads and lanes resurfaced over the years and the winter weather programme has been refined through more local involvement and increased County investment in salt supply and storage and new vehicles for winter weather work. Unfortunately with the changing weather patterns, more rain, the roads do take a battering and need constant repair. Schools have continued to provide an excellent education for our County children and we have kept all our village schools open. I hope that this will continue to be the pattern in this Division.

Finally I thank everyone for their friendship and support through my time as a Parish Councillor, District Councillor and County Councillor, this has stretched over the last 38 years and I have seen many changes in local government. As more involvement is given to Parishes I hope that we will see some younger Councillors coming forward to start on a path of local democracy, I have found it frustrating at times, but also rewarding when local issues have been resolved.

Joan I Nash.

County Council Election

On Thursday 2nd May we are asked to elect a County Councillor to represent us at Shire Hall for the next four years. Recently Gloucestershire's electoral divisions were reviewed and, as a result of the consultation exercise, the number of divisions was reduced to 53. This has meant that some divisions have been enlarged. Our Division is one where the boundaries have been expanded and now includes the parishes of Bisley, Brookthorpe with Whaddon, Cranham, Harescombe, Miserden, Painswick, Pitchcombe, Upton St Leonards, Whiteshill with Ruscombe and the rural part of Randwick. All 53 divisions elect a councillor on the same day. The County Council has a four-year term of office and levies approximately 70% of our Council Tax, being responsible for education, highways, social services, fire and rescue, trading standards and a range of other services.

The Notice of the Election will be published on Tuesday 26th March. Nominations must be submitted by noon on Friday 5th April with the Publication of Statements of Persons Nominated at noon on Tuesday 9th April.

The County Council Election will be of particular interest as the present Councillor, Mrs Joan Nash, has indicated that it is not her intention to seek re-election



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Painswick Centre

March / April Events

Police Choir - 15th March at 7.30

The Gloucestershire Police Male Voice Choir last came to Painswick in 2011 and were so well received we have invited them to do another concert for us. The choir is made up of serving and retired members of the Regular Force and Special Constabulary, together with support staff and other invited guests. Tickets are available on our website and from the Post Office.

AGM – 11th April at 8.00pm

We welcome all members of the village to join us at our AGM and discuss our plans for the Centre and how we can meet the needs of the village. Wine will be served. The agenda can be seen on our website www.thepainswickcentre.com or by tel. 813228.

News

Attic Sale

Thank you to everyone who took part. This was a very successful day, our stallholders went home happy and we had lots of visitors both from within the village and from outside. So many people told us they would have liked a stall that we are planning to hold another attic sale in the Autumn.

Email list

We are pleased that so many new people have joined our email list so we can alert subscribers to things going on in the Centre. It's easy to join - just go to the website and click on the box on the homepage.

New sound system

We are currently looking into providing a new sound system for the Beacon Hall to improve facilities for our hirers. Any comments/views welcome.

The Painswick Arts Festival

The Painswick Centre, in conjunction with the Painswick Arts Festival committee, is actively devising a series of events to be held at the Centre in the summer

Thomas's impressive achievement

Thomas Carlile is without doubt on top form when it comes to debating. He and partner, Sean Kemsley, have successfully beaten considerable opposition to win the prestigious Taylor Trophy for the West Midlands and southwest England. This involved working their way through three heats and overcoming students from several schools to reach the final. An achievement indeed.

Thomas, who attended the Croft School before moving on to Marling School, began taking a real interest in debating about three years ago and is now one of Marling's keenest and most successful participants in competitions. He explains that it is a lunchtime activity at the school and is particularly popular with students in his year.

The system involves students coaching others younger than themselves and Thomas himself was originally coached by an older student. He now has responsibility for coaching a student in the year below his own. This must surely be an excellent way to develop confidence and communication skills. Thomas is certainly an articulate young man, well able to express himself on a range of subjects.

The Taylor Trophy is his first big win. Previously he and partner, Sean, had taken part in the international Cambridge Union competition, along with about 1200 other participants. They successfully reached the last 120, representing Marling which was the only state school to reach this stage. As Thomas says, Marling is a 'serious debating' school. The debating society has existed for 125 years. There had been a lull until English teacher, Mrs Southwell, revived it a few years ago and now it actively participates in many prestigious national and international competitions including the European Youth Parliament, Cambridge and Oxford Unions and UCL events.

Thomas is currently in his GCSE year so competitions are now on hold. Aged 15, this serious young man is planning to study history at university seeing law as a possible future career. He has been involved in the past locally with the Painswick Players youth section, is a member of the school botanical club and plays chess at school and at Richmond Village. He regards winning the trophy obviously as a special highpoint but stresses that the taking part is the really important aspect of his debating activities. His achievement is, of course, undeniably something of which to be very proud.



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Painswick Parish Council Notice

Painswick Parish Council invites all residents of the Edge, Painswick, Sheepscombe and Slad Wards to a Painswick Parish Action Plan 2013 Consultation Event which is to be held on Tuesday 12th March at the Town Hall.

- 6.30pm. Doors open for browsing documents.
- 7.30pm. Formal Presentation followed by Q&A session.
- 8.15pm. "Over to you" to prioritise actions.
- 9.30pm. Thank you and close.

The Painswick Parish Action Plan has been formulated through ongoing consultation with a variety of groups and Wards. The various suggested actions have been allocated key themes. A number of ongoing actions have been identified and carried forward from the still relevant and useful Painswick Parish Plan document. It is the wish of the Parish Council that the 56 actions be reviewed and prioritised by members of the Parish to identify key tasks for the Parish Council to work on over the next 3 years. It is proposed that the Parish Action Plan should be updated on a 3-yearly basis to ensure that it remains focussed on issues affecting and concerning the broad community of the Parish of Painswick.

The Consultation documents will be available to the public from Monday 4th March at the Parish Council office. For more information, contact the Chairman of the Working group – Terry Parker on 812191 or the Clerk to Painswick Parish Council, Roy Balgobin on 812722.

Friday Club

Visit to Adams Farm

Having opened the year with a most enjoyable Teddy Bears' tea party and learnt useful facts such as that Steiff made black bears when Queen Victoria died! Members are continuing their animal education and visiting Adam's Farm near Guiting Power on Friday March 22nd to see lambs, ducklings, rare breeds and, of course, to enjoy a sociable lunch. The coach leaves Stamages Lane Car Park at 11am returning at 4pm allowing a 3 hour visit – cost to non-members £20, to book tel. Ann Williams 812344

Jane Robinson



Library news:



Poetry competition, book sale and thanks

Your community library has events planned for March, which we hope you will enjoy and support. We are holding a poetry competition, which is open to children aged 5 – 18 years. Poems should have the title Easter or Spring. Look out for posters with full details in the library and around the village. There will be delicious prizes for the best poems. Entries should be handed in to the library by Saturday 16th March.

For children aged 5 or less, we have a 'name the bunny' competition. To enter, just pop in and use the library anytime before 23rd March. When you use your library card you will be given an entry ticket. One lucky ticket will be picked from the hat and will win a very cuddly friend.

There will be a big book sale and coffee morning on Saturday 23rd March from 10am – 12.30. The event will be downstairs in the town hall, with the library open as usual upstairs. As well as books, we hope to have plenty of delicious homemade cakes for sale. Poetry and 'Bunny' competition winners will be announced at 11am at the coffee morning.

Our information hub is growing all the time so do come in for a vast array of useful information. We now have a subscription to Which? Magazine, the local weekly newspapers, and The Times on Monday and Wednesday. Feel free to come in for a read or just to photocopy the crossword!

Finally, the library trustees would like to pay tribute to our outgoing chairman, Peter Corley. Peter has carried out an enormous amount of work over the past two years and has played a huge part in creating the community library we have today. His fastidious and thorough groundwork leaves us in an excellent position to go forward. Peter is not leaving us completely, he and his wife Marjorie will continue to volunteer in the library, regularly working on the issue desk on Saturday mornings. We all wish Peter the very best for the future.

Julia Churchley

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Painswick Arts Festival

The Painswick Arts Festival is returning this summer bigger and better than ever! Following close behind 'Art Couture Painswick' in July, the Arts Festival will continue through the Summer Holidays until the end of August with a wide and range of artistic events and exhibitions. Our goal is to put Painswick 'On the Map' for artistic activities in Gloucestershire bringing visitors to our beautiful village, customers for our local artists and businesses, as well as giving local people things to see and do during the summer months. If you are an artist and would like to take part in any way then please let us know as there are still some spaces available.

Events already planned include a variety of Exhibitions, Lectures and Demonstrations, a new Photographic Exhibition and Competition for both adults and children, workshops in oil painting, singing and dance for all ages and an astounding Affordable Art Fair. Watch out for full details in the Beacon soon! We have an enthusiastic group of people planning this and putting it all in place but we would welcome more help if you have a little time to give. If you have a particular expertise you think would support this project please do not hesitate to contact us.

We are also urgently seeking local sponsors, firstly towards the professional brochure we produce covering all the events included in the Festival, and secondly towards prizes for the Photographic Competition so please contact any of those named below if you would like to help. We greatly appreciate all the support you can give.

Contacts for all the above are: -
Jackie Herbert on 813229 or e-mail sheephouse@hotmail.com,
or Kate MacDuff on 813718, or Rupert Aker on 07702 097457

Jackie Herbert

Bees and Pain

Howard Pitts is undoubtedly enthusiastic about bees and beekeeping and on January 9th he tackled the huge subject with gusto.

We learned that honey in pots sealed with beeswax was found in Tutankhamun's tomb - still in perfect, edible condition. He also described the extraordinary mating habits of bees where the hive's drones arrange high altitude trysts with virgin queens which end in the death of the drones concerned - a new angle on "the birds and the bees"!

Our next talk by Adrian Lyster described the establishment of pain clinics in the Gloucestershire NHS trust where, having started as an unpaid volunteer, he became a specialist in acupuncture.

We learned about the nature of pain and how it is actually felt in the mind after messages from the source to the brain are carried by nerves which pass through 'Gates' which may control the perception of pain.

We also learned that chronic pain can persist long after trauma has healed or where there is no cause - an extreme example being phantom pain from a limb that has been amputated. Methods used to alleviate chronic pain target the brain and nervous system and include acupuncture and distraction techniques. Alternative therapies can work where drugs don't and these procedures may have less side effects than drug treatments.

Glynn Nixon



Village Quiz - 9th March

We are delighted, as we go to press, several days before the closing date, to record 14 team entries. The closing date was last Tuesday, so it is highly unlikely we can accommodate more at this stage. We look forward to testing the 'knowledge base' of the teams, and assure them that the questions could be even easier than last year - maybe.

Probus Women

Probus Women had their heads in the clouds for the meeting held on 11th February when Peter Roberts, an ex British Airways Pilot, shared some hair-raising accounts with us about his flying experiences.

Our next meeting on 11th March will be with Jude Morris, who is a local magistrate. This meeting will take the form of an interactive Court Room with members acting as the Jury; this will provide us with the experience of trying to remain impartial whilst deciding our verdict.

As usual our meeting starts at 10am with coffee and the Court will rise at 10.30 in the Church Rooms. Visitors are very welcome (cost £3) as are new members.

Jill Roberts, Secretary

Gloucester Choral Society

Pre-concert event- Musical Discovery Evening:

Friday 8th March 2013, 7:30pm
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Help Save Mr Toad

Richmond Village Painswick and the Croft Primary School Joined Forces to help Save Mr Toad.

On Friday 1st February, residents and staff at Richmond Village were joined by the year 6 class from The Croft Primary School to help Ellen Winter, Stroud Community Wildlife Officer from Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust, to create "Toad Homes".

This year, the Wildlife Trust is raising awareness of the plight of the Common Toad. We are approaching the time of year when the common toad will soon be starting their dangerous migration to the breeding ponds they frequent each year to breed and spawn. Each year, it is estimated that over 20 tonnes of toads are killed on roads. This startling fact, together with other environmental impacts such as habitat loss, means that toad numbers will soon be in a fast rate of decline.

Residents, staff and the children helped Ellen create over 20 toad homes by, very noisily, nailing two pieces of timber together and adding an end plate and some added protection from a re-cycled rubber tyre "roof". These tent-like structures were given to the children to take home with instructions to part bury them in their gardens. The houses will provide a much needed haven for the toad, safe from predators. It is hoped that the children will monitor these houses for toad usage and report any sightings back to the Wildlife Trust.

The event with The Croft Primary School also links in with other toad related events going on in the local area. On Wednesday 30th January Richmond Village played host to 30 volunteers who attended a training session led by Ellen Winter in how to safely patrol toad crossing points. Owen Vaughan, Head Gardener at Richmond Painswick commented, "It was quite amusing, I'm sure, to see the volunteers dressed in high visibility outfits patrolling the roads around Richmond. I'm sure it was not what the residents were expecting to see when they sat down to their evening meals!"

See picture above

Ally Bennett (Richmond)

The Painswick Singers at Easter

The Painswick Singers' Good Friday concert in St Mary's Church is now a well established event that is celebrated well beyond Painswick. This year The Singers are featuring Cherubini's well loved Requiem Mass. It is a grandiose work that scholars have compared to Mozart's Requiem, praise indeed, and those who have joined in its praise include Beethoven, Brahms, Schumann and even Cherubini's arch-enemy Berlioz. So it is a work that is not to be missed. It is not monumental in structure, consisting of seven movements that are all choral. It spans the laconic, theatrical, is smoothly assertive, has grand fugues, but a restrained Pie Jesu leading to Agnus Dei that begins in deep mourning and builds to a tumultuous climax before receding into steady eternal piece.

The 2013 concert on 29th March, for which there is no charge, starts at 7.30pm and there will be a retiring collection for Church Funds. The organist will be Christopher Bootle and the concert will be conducted by Andrew Hopwood

Maurice Maggs

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Cotswold Care Hospice shop

We will soon be changing over from winter to summer stock but we are desperately short of the good quality spring and summer items we need to make this a successful launch. The bad weather and snow in January have badly affected our normal flow of donations into our shops. The post-Christmas tidy up and New Year's resolutions usually top up our stocks – but not this year. We are 400 bags short of the stock we need in the next fortnight -could you help us? With an early Spring Clean, or perhaps a tidy out at half term, you could really help us by donating any of the following Ladies, Men's and Children's clothing.

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These items can be donated to your local shop in Painswick where our volunteers will be happy to help you. We now have 14 retail shops – these provide approximately half of the income to the Cotswold Care Hospice.

Joe Feeley. Head of Charity Retail

Sunday 31st March – Easter Sunday

- 06.00am Painswick Beacon summit for the “Sun-Rise” – or “Son-Rise” - gathering
- 08.00am St. Mary's C of E - Holy Communion (BCP)
- 08.30am Our Lady & St. Thérèse R.C. – Easter Mass
- 10.00am St. Mary's C of E - Family Communion
- 10.30am Friends' Meeting House, Vicarage St., -Easter Meeting

Good Friday Procession of Witness



On Good Friday, 29th March, we will be processing at 10.30am from the Catholic Church in Friday Street to the road-side Cross by the Lychgate for a short service before processing up New Street, down Bisley Street and back to St. Mary's Church Rooms where there will be hot Cross Buns and hot tea/coffee! We do hope you will join us.

Rita Bishop

A Job too 'Smelly'.

The Churchwardens of St. Mary's have numerous jobs to undertake but recently we have been faced with an unnecessary task that is a health hazard. Some dog owners have been placing their black bags containing contaminated faeces in the church rubbish bins. We (the Churchwardens) have to empty these bins every Monday ready for the Tuesday rubbish collection and this has proved to be a job too smelly. There are proper receptacles near to the War Memorial for them to use. PLEASE DESIST NOW AND PLACE YOUR BAGS IN THE PROPER PLACE.

Patrols have now been organised with a view to taking action against anyone who is found dispensing the bags in this way. Dog owners do not always clean up after their dogs and do not keep them on a lead when walking through the churchyard and we often get complaints about the mess. We endeavour to do our best to keep this area well looked after for people who come from all over the world to look at our ancient gravestones and famous yew trees. We would respectfully ask all who use the churchyard to help us in this task.

Margaret Radway and David Bishop.



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New Activities for Painswick Toddlers and Parents

Painswick Children's Centre at the Croft School has some great new classes up and running for local babies and toddlers (and their parents). This lovely space is a wonderful and currently under-used resource in the heart of the village and it is open to everybody in the Painswick area with pre-school age children. So if you are stuck for something to do with your little ones, all these classes are now available to attend on a one off or regular basis:

At the moment Busy Babies is running every Monday afternoon, 1.30pm – 3pm. This is a group for parents and babies aged 0 – 18 months, with lots of toys and fun things for younger children including messy play, snacks and a Music and Rhyme Time. Parents pay £1 per session. This also runs during the school holidays, when parents are welcome to bring older siblings.

Crafty Tots: Tuesday afternoons 1.30 – 3pm. Starting Tuesday 19th February, Vicky Hendzel-Walker will be running a new afternoon craft class at Painswick Children's Centre. Vicky is a local ceramic artist and potter who specialises in creative workshops for children. Activities this half term will include making spring collages and treasure boxes, decorating egg cups, making Easter rabbits and clay making.

This class is great if your child loves to make messy creations, but you would rather not have to tidy up at home afterwards! The classes are very informal and there are also lots of toys for children to play with during the session. The cost is £4 per child with siblings half price. Everyone is welcome for a trial session. For more information see www.vjhc ceramics.wordpress.com

Dizzy Dance just for toddlers! Thursday afternoons 2pm – 3pm. Starting Thursday February 28th, Linsey Filby, a former Play Leader at Painswick Playgroup, will be extending her Dizzy Dance classes to include one just for children aged 1 -3 years. This is specifically for younger children with lots of energy to come and stomp about and have fun! It will be a relaxed but structured class where toddlers can develop their coordination and love of music. This class is also very handy for parents picking up older siblings from the Croft School. Classes cost £3.50 per child and parents are welcome to come along for a trial session.

Also needed – Toddler Group Volunteers!
In response to feedback from local parents, Painswick Children's Centre would love to get a toddler group up and running on a Wednesday morning (10 – 11.30am), to include those who cannot attend groups in the afternoon. It is also a great space for groups of mums who would like to get together for a catch up, but who need a bigger space than somebody's living room! All we need are a bank of volunteers who would be able to provide support. Whether a local parent, someone looking to add to their CV or just to help out and meet people in the local community, everyone is welcome to apply. Full training is provided, and the minimum commitment would be one session per month.

For more information about this and all the classes, contact Emma Kernahan on 07766253916, emma.kernahan@barnardos.org.uk

Emma Kernahan

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The Beacon archive

In this month, we reported

10 years ago

Affordable housing setback. Parish Councillors were disappointed to learn that a reply had not yet been received from the Gyde Trust regarding the possible release of land for affordable housing between the Surgery and the barn on the A46. The land was to be purchased by the Fossway Housing Association to be developed in conjunction with the Parish Council and S.D.C. The Parish Council has long held the view that this strip of land would be an ideal location for a series of dwellings for young people looking for affordable housing.

20 years ago

Tibbiwell will be closed to traffic for a whole month from Kemps lane to Kingmill lane for the renewal of the curb and footway.

Discussions are taking place concerning the strip of land connecting Knapp lane with Stamages lane about the possible bequest to the Parish Council.

New format for the 1993 Painswick Show. This year it is to be a 2-day event on Saturday 14th and Sunday 15th as the show is to be the venue for 2 important British Show Jumping Association events.

30 years ago

Gloucestershire County Council to act on A46 danger. Following a fatality on the A46 between the village centre and Cotswold Mead recently, it was encouraging to learn that the Council intends to reinforce overtaking restrictions on the A46 with double white line markings on that same stretch of road where the double bend and gradient has caused concern for some time.

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The Painswick Beacon seeks to be as informative as possible of up-coming and recent events in Painswick and as you know is delivered by hand to every household in the village each month. We depend for printing and preparation of this service on our advertisers for about 2/3 of our costs and yourselves for the remainder. Having said this, it is our commitment that our subscription is not compulsory for villagers. For those living in Edge and Pitchcombe, we use volunteers who deliver by any means to individual homes and for this we ask for £7.00 per year (no increase over 2013-14). We are happy to mail anywhere in the UK and overseas but charge the full cost for postage and a contribution to the cost of printing.

We print 1500 copies each month and approximately 600 people subscribe and, if you are one of those, we really are most grateful for your continuing support.

You will find in this March issue an envelope with a "day glow" slip, which can be used to subscribe. Please return as soon as possible to ease our administration. Each copy costs over 60p to print and in 2012-13 our subscribers donated between £7 and £25.

If you want to save posting your subscription, please drop the envelope with the slip (filled out) in the Beacon's exclusive box by the telephone kiosk in New Street or over the counter at the Post Office.

Extra concert outing

"Painswick Music Appreciation Group have arranged an extra Concert Outing this



season, and visitors are invited to join this trip to Birmingham Symphony Hall. This year marks the centenary of Benjamin Britten's birth, and probably his most defining work was his War Requiem, composed for the opening of the new Coventry Cathedral. This is being staged at Symphony Hall by the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra & Chorus before taking the work on tour. The concert is on Tuesday 28th May at 7.30pm; reserved seats are available at approximately £30, with the coach at about £12 (both prices dependent on numbers). Our usual timings, leaving Stamages at 4.00pm, normally provides ample time for a meal before the concert; there is also a free pre-concert talk available.

For further details and bookings contact Stewart price on 814241."

Stewart Price

Beatrix Potter Memorabilia

Mark Ottignon, who lives in Painswick, has been collecting a large range of memorabilia of the children's author over the years. Sourced from toy fairs, car boot sales and antique shops the collection includes rare first editions and private correspondence from Beatrix Potter. There are also a series of unpublished black and white photographs of Beatrix with her father, oil painting book illustrations, figurines and toys.

But with little memorabilia around to buy and the items now filling three bedrooms of their home, Mark has decided to sell it off by auction.

Mark, was first introduced to her books as a child but it was not until he was 30 after a visit to the Lake District that he started to build up his collection. It became increasingly difficult to find new things for his collection but part of the attraction is in the fun of the chase.

Star of the 350 lots at the London sale, which was fixed for the end of February is a rare first edition of "The Tale of Peter Rabbit", estimated at £30,000.

Roddy Newlands, an expert from London auctioneers Bloomsbury, said: "Without question this is one the most impressive collections of Beatrix Potter material ever to come up for auction. It really has something for all collectors".

Judy Taylor, vice-president of the Beatrix Potter Society, said: "It is not often that Beatrix Potter treasures are offered for sale and even less often that they are of such quality and in such quantity.

This collection has obviously been carefully assembled and chosen with great taste.

Painswick Music Society

The Painswick Music Society's 2013 concert programme gets going in St.Mary's Church at 3.0pm on 23rd March when



what is probably England's premier choir "The Sixteen" conducted by Harry Christopher present a fascinating programme of part song entitled "An Immortal Legacy". The demand for tickets is unprecedented. Thereafter the four concerts are at two week intervals.

Maurice Maggs

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On the Beacon in the Buff



Regular visitors to the Beacon, especially the Cotswold Trail area between Catbrain and Popes Wood, may have made the acquaintance of three Dartmoor ponies who were walked over from their home in Slad to munch on the ramparts in an enclosed paddock. By eating the scrub they were helping to maintain and enhance the species richness of the wild flowers and grassland on this SSSI (Site of Special Scientific Interest). They had plenty to eat and an important job to do, and we hoped that passers-by would not be tempted to feed them, would keep dogs under close control, and thereby respect the ponies' space. Sadly, they have returned to Slad due to security and welfare concerns. Somebody was interfering with their water-troughing, and apparently, the fencing too.

Members of The Beacon Conservation Group are now completing work on the new paddock, for the Gloucester Cattle that are expected early in March. 'Spring Gates' have been installed at strategic points enabling walkers who wish to 'cross' the electrified fence line and continue along some of the popular paths. The work has not been helped by the jokers who will pull posts out soon after they are installed.

Please pick it up No. 1: If you choose to walk in a paddock and you should find a bottle, can or golf ball in a paddock, do please pick it up and take it away. Damage could be caused to an animal's feet or internally if swallowed. If you do see an animal that looks uncomfortable or distressed in any way do please immediately contact the grazing co-ordinator Britta Koehler on 01452 813672 or 07964 246113. Britta would also like to hear from you if you are willing to help as one of the "checkers"; who make daily inspections in and around the paddocks.

Please pick it up No. 2 We have been disappointed by dog walkers who allow their 'charges' to contaminate the common. Some even leave poo bags hanging in bushes after considerately using the bag. Weird! Since it is a legal requirement to collect and dispose of the poo (Beacon page 5 December 2012 issue) we encourage you to encourage others to do the decent thing.

In the Buff? Apologies for the intriguing heading because you are unlikely to see naturists (as opposed to naturalists) on the Beacon, but I was given, for Christmas, a neck warmer, which the makers, surprisingly, sell as 'The Buff'.

David Allott, Chairman, 812624

Malvern, Blenheim - and a picnic



We have just notified our 86 members of the first three trips we are making this year to really interesting locations and, though these columns, let others know that if there are seats on our large coach they will be very welcome to join us. Each trip has its own closing date for booking, and on that date we will take stock of how many seats are booked by our members and by other clubs to whom we have extended invitations. If, between them, there are still vacant seats these will immediately be allocated to non-members who had signed up and sent a cheque. As soon as we are full we will return cheques, so there is nothing to be lost by letting us know of your interest.

Firstly we are off to the remarkable Malvern Spring Gardening Show on Saturday 11th May, a mecca for gardeners and those who take pride in their outdoor space, whether patio or orchard. Some liken the quality of displays and associated exhibitors to Chelsea. This is followed on 21st June with a visit to Blenheim Palace and its first full blown flower show. Access to the palace itself is optional, but we will have the glorious 'Capability' Brown grounds and gardens at our disposal. On our outward journey we plan to stop a while in Bibury to admire the scenery, maybe visit the trout farm, or stroll along the River Coln.

The third trip is very different in that we will be stopping off to see a bore coming up the Severn at Minsterworth, visit the Westbury Court Garden, and then move into the Forest of Dean for a picnic together, all this on 24th July. A fine day has been assured! On our way back we plan to stop off for a short while at Highnam Woods where experts will enlighten us about the nightingales who reside there in case anyone wants to return on a future evening.

Full details, timings, prices, and so on are in our February Newsletter and copies can be obtained on line through mr@lesliebrotherton.com or my address 'Longhope', Blakewell Mead GL6 6UR.

Leslie Brotherton



Local History Teaser

A building in Painswick, still very much in existence but looking slightly different nowadays. Can you identify it and say what its function was when this picture was taken?

Last month's photograph, taken from halfway up the hill off Stepping Stone Lane, showed an extraordinary dearth of houses in an area now fairly densely populated. In the bottom left corner is Skinners Mill with a chimney, now gone, and to the right is Painswick Mill. Kingsmill Lane running horizontally just above these two has no buildings at all and in Stamages Lane winding up on the left only Cross Hands is just visible and Stamages before reaching the top with Whitehall and St Mary's Home. The picture dates from 1905 and is one of several beautifully preserved glass slides recently discovered.

If you have a photograph which you think would present a challenge to readers please do contact us.

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Croft School concert

Held on February 7th 2013

This year the concert at the Croft School sponsored by the Painswick Music Society was performed by three sisters, who together call themselves the Rose Trio. The instruments they play are an oboe, a clarinet, and a bassoon.

First the children were asked whether they knew the names of the instruments and quite a few answered correctly. The oboe and bassoon, each with a double reed, and the clarinet with a single reed were then demonstrated separately showing how they sounded. The music that followed illustrated these different sounds, the clarinet quiet and flowing, the bassoon playing the base notes and emphasising the rhythm, the oboe more staccato with the high notes.

As the trio is an unusual combination of instruments most of the music was quite modern and either written or arranged specially. They played, In the Hall of the Mountain King, by Grieg, and part of an early Mozart divertimento written especially for the clarinet. Gershwin was represented as were several items by composers whose names are not widely known. The music was all lively, rhythmic and much enjoyed, judging by the way the children joined in clapping their hands more or less in time.

The children were also given the opportunity to conduct the trio, and after a very small amount of coaching several did with great aplomb. There may be some fine musicians in the making at the School. All seemed to enjoy the music and freely answered questions, participating when asked.



Alan Price Painswick Music Society

Painswick Surgery Slimbridge Leads



Patients of Painswick Surgery who haven't visited us for a few months, may be interested to hear that we have been joined by a new partner, Dr Matthew Heywood. Dr Heywood joined us in Autumn last year, taking over from Dr Jansen who retired at the end of June.

We are always trying to improve our communication links with patients and to this end, our surgery website (www.painswicksurgery.nhs.uk) has a section devoted to surgery newsletters. You can register through the website to receive these newsletters electronically as they become available. The website also has lots of other information which we hope you will find helpful and informative.

Nicola Hayward Practice Manager

The 5th February bird club topic was "World Wildfowl and their Conservation." First on screen came that elegant and wonderful world array of wildfowl, though titles such as of the air-bagged, "Southern crested screamer, the black bellied whistler, N.American ruddy duck, the N.Z. blue chick and the merganser of the retractable appendage" did border on the fantastical! We were being addressed by Graham Marples, Vice President of the Friends of Slimbridge - moving on to the amazing anatomical variations, eg. of the beak from primitive, blunt power tool, to the lengthy, delicate or curved even denticulate, to the super sensitive probe - all food and feeding adaptations.

Naturally mention was made of the huge artistic and scientific endeavours of Sir Peter Scott, a key figure in bringing the issues of species survival into fierce international focus. Follow up of ringing, defining long and diverse migration routes, soon made apparent fowl vulnerability in over wintering, at staging places and at breeding sites and thus the need for viable international agreement on research and conservation as in the Ramsar Convention (1973). Such action established codes of practice to determine population trends and practice such as in captive breeding as well as habitat control.

What excitement to track the international evolution of wildfowl protection and to realise that much of the momentum arose locally! No doubt today, Peter Scott would adjure us the more, to "Look!" (BBC 1955-81)

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, March 5th at 7.30pm in the Town Hall when David Cramp, Group Leader of the RSPB Glos. Branch will talk to us about the Birds of Gloucestershire.

Martin and Wendy Addy

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Living in Stromboli's Shadow.....with the Field Club

The start of 2013 was marked by fresh lava flows from the ever-active volcano of Stromboli on the Island of Sicily. The mountain gives its name to a 'type' of eruption, 'Strombolian', with its characteristic ejection of incandescent cinder, lava bombs and lapilli (the spheroid or tear-drop-shaped pyroclastic material varying in size from fragments to fist-size). Strombolian volcanoes are also long-lived with repeated eruptions.

Dr Simon Jones will be talking to the Field Club on Wednesday 6th March at 2.30pm in the Beacon Hall, Painswick Centre about how this noisy and dangerous neighbour has affected the lives of generations of Sicilians living in its shadow. Visitors will be most welcome.

2013 Excursions

The March meeting marks the start of bookings for this year's excursions, which include the historic Code-breaking and Ciphers Centre at Bletchley Park; the National Coal Museum of Wales – the 'Big Pit' - and Ironworks at the Blaenavon World Heritage Site; the house and parkland of Victoria Gothic Tyntesfield; the long excursion to North Yorkshire, plus a guided tour of two of Gloucestershire's finest Norman Churches – Tewkesbury Abbey and 'the Cathedral of the Forest' at Newland, Forest of Dean. So it's a good time to consider joining the Field Club. I will describe our walks programme next month.

April Lecture: North Island, New Zealand
Our April lecture takes place before the next Beacon is published. We welcome Bob Price back to tell us about North Island, New Zealand on Wednesday 3rd April after our AGM which starts at 2.30pm in the Beacon Hall, Painswick Centre.

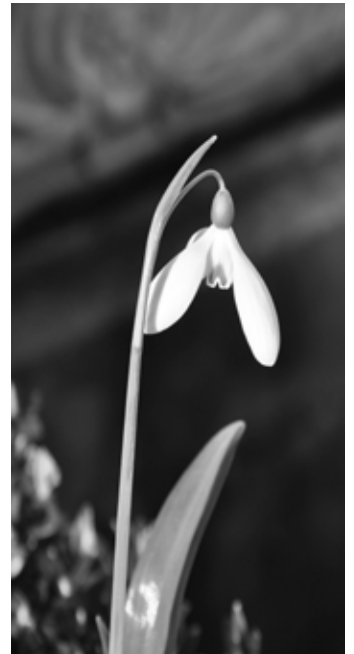
Snowdrops at Colesbourne

A large party of Field Club members appreciated the dry sunny weather on St Valentine's Day for their guided tour of Colesbourne Park. Early arrivals walked to the church before meeting over coffee to hear a short talk about the family. We then explored the gardens in the company of Sir Henry Elwes and the new Colesbourne Park gardener, Chris Horsfall who has taken over from Dr John Grimshaw. We learnt from Sir Henry about his great grandfather, Henry John Elwes, a noted plant collector who travelled through Europe and Asia in search of new species. His plantings from 1891 onwards began the arboretum and the current collections, including the bulb of a new species from Western Turkey, naming it *Galanthus elwesii*.

Colesbourne Park's conditions at about 600 feet above sea level and alkaline soil support substantial drifts of snowdrops, such as *Galanthus S. Arnott*, a fragrant snowdrop, the original bulbs of which were sent to H.J. Elwes by the Scottish Gardener Samuel Arnott. We also admired 'Hippolyta', and Ophelia, two of the fine Greatorex double Snowdrops raised by H.A. Greatorex of Norwich, England, in the 1940s, all named after characters in Shakespeare's plays.

We also since learnt of a Painswick connection with the Giant Snowdrop Company, established as a trading enterprise in 1953 by Brigadier and Mrs Mathias at Hyde Lodge, Chalford. Hyde Lodge had been owned by Walter Butt who had acquired bulbs from Colesbourne. Lt.Col. Quentin Mathias of the Pound House in Gloucester Street is their son. Since the visit I have also spoken to Jane Kilpatrick of Downton House, also in Gloucester Street, whose article on Snowdrops will be appearing in *The Plantsman*, this December.

Jane Rowe, 813228



Reminder. the Roccoco Gardens are currently showing their display of snowdrops

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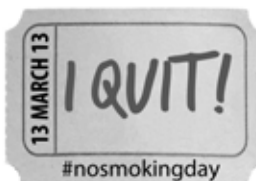
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Sports reports *assembled by John Barrus*

Painswick RFC Mini and Juniors

As with most of the local sporting activity the Mini & Junior section of the Rugby Club has struggled since just before Christmas with the onset of the bad weather. In the 13 years that we have been playing this has been by far the worst for cancelled games. Let's hope that things are beginning to change!

The minis, U6 – U12, have managed to play a few matches since Christmas against Huccelcote and Dursley, both entertaining with a fair mixture of wins, losses and draws at all ages! At the junior level, U13 – U16 we are in County Cup season with typically four matches in the qualifiers and then a knock out in a cup and plate format through to the finals which are held at the Prince of Wales stadium at the end of April. There are up to 25 clubs involved ranging from North Bristol up to Tewkesbury and out to the Forest of Dean. It's a great opportunity to measure ourselves against opposition that we don't traditionally play.

The U12's are hosting this years Gloucestershire RFC Festival on the 17th March. The original date for this was the 13th Jan, which was a beautiful day, except the ground was frozen solid. 20 clubs turned up waiting for the thaw, which came in the end but too late as several teams decided that it was too hard and forced a cancellation. We hope for better luck next time!

The Club hosted a Burns Supper on 25th Jan with Sir Alistair Macduff leading proceedings, a speech in praise of the lassies from Graham Mundell, and the response on behalf of the lassies from Sarah Lewis. Few present will forget the look on Alistair's face as he dispatched the Haggis with the ceremonial sword to the swirl of the bagpipes and recitations of the 'immortal memory'.



Golf Club

Over the next month, the winter season will draw to a close and the summer season will begin. In the Seniors section, the main winter competition – the Winter Fourball – is reaching its conclusion. The competition is based on one round of golf each calendar month, with the worst round discarded. With one round to go, the team of Nigel Barnett and John Courts is in the lead with 228 points. The first seniors' matches of the year start towards the end of March, with games against Minchinhampton Old and Cotswold Hills. The seniors' medal, played on 14th February, was won by Brendan Nunan with an excellent score of 42 points.

A much delayed and very enjoyable texas scramble competition took place on 5th February. This was a combined Seniors and Ladies event, played in teams of four, organised by Sylvia Walker. The result was incredibly close – with three teams all with the same net score of 57.5. The teams were separated by considering which had the best score on the last six holes. Congratulations go to Sarah Taylor, Mike Carter, Duncan Toase and Vernon Watkin.

Painswick Golf Club welcomes visitors and new members. If you would like to try the course, you will be most welcome - please get in touch with our professional, Marc Cottrell (01452 812615) or Seniors' captain Peter Rowe (813228) for further details.



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Come and join us in Neverland this Easter!



On Saturday 30th March, the Painswick Playgroup's 'Peter Pan Easter Egg Hunt' will be taking place once again at the beautiful Rococo Gardens. This ever popular charity event is the Playgroup's main fund-raising event of the year, and is vital to maintain our outstanding Playgroup's buildings and facilities. Tickets are for sale via The Post Office, The Falcon, The Royal Oak, Painswick Playgroup and through the Stroud Tourism Board's ticket line, 01453 760960. This year, as well as refreshments, face-painting, Raffle, Easter games, Chocolate Tom-bola, and many more activities, we are introducing an Easter Hat competition for the Over 5s and Under 5s, judged by Painswick's very own hat & fascinator designer, Vicki Moore. So get designing!!! We would like to thank all the local companies and members of the community who are already lending their support by selling tickets, offering raffle prizes or generally being very kind in donating their time. We couldn't put on such an amazing event without you. Please do come along and have a fantastic day out while supporting our wonderful Playgroup, fancy dress optional – who knows, you might spot Peter Pan himself!

Ticket prices are as follows: Adult £5/Child £2.50 in advance and Adult £6.50/Child £3 at the Gates. Unders 2s go free. The event takes place between 1-4pm.

If you have any enquires or would like to help, please call Lizzie Gordon on 07881 611083.

Lizzie Gordon

Sharpness Docks

At the February meeting Dr Ray Wilson, stepping into the breach at the last minute in place of the advertised speakers, gave a fascinating and lively presentation on Sharpness Docks, so important to this region.

The Romans were making good use of the Severn 2000 years ago but it is really during the last 140 years that the docks came into commercial use. As vessels became larger navigation on the river proved difficult and so the canal was built. New docks opened in 1873 with huge grain storage silos and warehouses similar to those in Gloucester. A new entrance from the river into the tidal basin - a massive excavation and a fine example of Victorian engineering - was made, bridges built (and still extant) and an impressive railway bridge constructed to transport much needed coal from the Forest of Dean.

So successful was the enterprise that ships often had to queue for up to three weeks before their cargos could be unloaded. There were seven huge corn grinding mills, stables for the horses and many shops and other facilities; in fact quite a community grew up there. In the 20th century cargos changed and oil in particular was important. In 1939 the National Sea Training School moved from Essex to Sharpness and from then until its closure in 1967 about 70,000 teenage boys were trained there. The dock area was also used as a leisure facility for many years. In 1960 a terrible accident occurred one foggy night when two boats collided and struck the piers of the railway bridge causing it to collapse. As a result the decision was taken to demolish the bridge.

Carol Maxwell



Ori's bread

Now you can order it or learn to bake it yourself

Many local residents have already enjoyed the glorious experience of tasting the Artisan Baker's real bread, made with the very best of ingredients and none of the less desirable extras to be found in most supermarket breads. Now Ori is providing the opportunity to learn how to make some of the breads in his range by arranging baking classes once a month.

The classes take place in a professional kitchen and last for four hours with a maximum of six participants. With tea and coffee and Ori's cakes to sample, and a tasting session at the end, the whole event is designed to be a very enjoyable learning experience.

In the January edition of the Beacon Ori's plan to organise an ordering service was outlined. This is now up and running and any of the seven types of bread he produces can be pre-ordered on Mondays for collection from Olivas the next day, or free delivery with a minimum spend of £5.

We are very fortunate indeed to have this service in our midst. With so much in question over what we consume of late, the opportunity to purchase real food prepared and baked to such high standards is to be embraced. Ori's bread is on sale at Olivas and in the Country Market on Friday mornings. If you are interested in participating in the classes or would like to order bread you can contact Ori by telephone on 810824, or mobile 07854 854088, or email enquiries@theartisanbaker.co.uk Details are also on the website www.theartisanbaker.co.uk.

Carol Maxwell


Stroud Hospital New Tel Number

We have been informed that to contact the Hospital you no longer use 01453 562200 but 0300 4218080.

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Hearing impaired

Did you know that there is a Short Message Service 'text' (SMS mobile phone text) direct to Gloucestershire Police? The service allows the police to have a 2-way text conversation with specific needs users (registered to use the service).

It is not a service restricted to the hearing impaired. It is open to anyone who struggles with general 'voice' communication (e.g. Hearing Impaired; Speech Impaired; MS sufferer; Stroke victim; High Anxiety sufferer etc). The user does not have to provide proof they have any impairment, but they MUST register to use the facility (free of charge). They will accept requests for Ambulance or Fire Service – and will pass on the message to the relevant control room. It is a facility to provide service primarily in the County of Gloucestershire. However, once registered a user can send a text from anywhere in the UK. They will endeavour to pass on the message/incident to the relevant Police Force e.g. a hearing impaired user broken down in Chepstow etc

How to register Online via Constabulary web-site: www.gloucestershire.police.uk/
Select 'Contact Us', then select SMS Texting and follow the instruction. You will receive a message to say that you are registered.

It is advisable to also register for the 999-Text relay service. Registering can be completed by following the instructions online: www.emergencysms.org.uk. Select 'Registering your phone' from the menu, and follow the instructions (There is also a video in British Sign Language), or send the word 'register' in an SMS message to 999 and wait for instructions.

VILLAGE
Agents

I visited a gentleman recently who was struggling to hear as his hearing aid was broken and couldn't be fixed for a few weeks. He hadn't realised that he needed to keep his aid serviced and so I called

the Hearing Department at The Gloucestershire Royal Hospital to see what they recommended: the tubing needs to be replaced every 6 MONTHS. You can do this by contacting the Hearing Department on 0300 422 8462 or 0300 422 8209 and make an appointment to come in.

There is also a postal service available for repairs, tubing replacements and maintenance. Send in your aid in its box with the battery book and a note detailing your requirements. Preferably post it in a padded envelope and provide a return stamped addressed envelope. Gloucestershire Deaf Association (GDA) will also carry out maintenance at their "Hard of Hearing" clubs. Sadly the Stroud club has had to fold so the nearest to us is the Gloucester club. Gloucester Hard of Hearing Club meets : Fourth Tuesday of every month 2.15pm-4pm. Where: Westgate Lounge, Gloucestershire Deaf Community Centre, Colin Road, Barnwood, Gloucester
For more information: Sue Eldridge on email: suemeldridge@virginmedia.com or call 01452 372999

Hearing aid cleaning, re-tubing and new batteries: GDA's Sam Quinson will be visiting Gloucester Hard of Hearing Club to carry out routine hearing aid maintenance on the following dates: 23rd April 2013, 23rd July 2013 and 22nd October 2013.

Please call me if you require any further information or to arrange a home visit.

Lou Kemp, 07706 245767

PROPERTY REPORT for February from Murrays

Murrays Estate Agents have had a good start to 2013 with a surprising amount of new properties coming to the market earlier in the year than usual and despite the snow and disruption there have also been a very healthy amount of viewings and sales. A lot of people tend to wait until the Spring to put their houses on the market as the weather is better and the flowers and trees are coming out but if everyone was to do this then there is a sudden influx of property all competing for the same amount buyers meaning that it may therefore take longer to sell. There is no real right or wrong time to market a house but sometimes it may be better to jump into the market quicker when there is less out there to choose from!

The Nationwide House Price Index detected a 0.5% increase in house prices in January but was unchanged compared with January 2012. This is a small but positive sign for 2013 as 11 out of 13 UK regions saw annual price falls in 2012 with London and the South West being the only two regions that recorded a slight increase.

Both Richard and myself will be in our London Mayfair office working during the first week in May. This will enable us to present all of our properties to the London market personally meeting the clients and potential purchasers who are specifically looking to buy property in Gloucestershire. We find many of our purchasers that come through our Mayfair Office are looking to buy in our area due to the exceptional schools that Gloucestershire has to offer. If you are thinking of marketing your property this

year then try and do so before May so that we can promote it fully to the London market.

Murrays are also delighted to announce that we have Lindsay Braune, director of the Cotswold Auction Company holding a free antiques valuation day in our Painswick Office on Monday 25th March from 2pm till 4pm. This was hugely popular last time it was held so if you would like to book an appointment then please give us a call on 01452814655.

We have taken on lots of lovely new properties so far this year including Turnways, a pretty detached 3 Bed Cotswold Stone cottage on Butt Street, Painswick, Orchards, a detached chalet style house with a separate 1 bed annexe with panoramic views in Pitchcombe, Eastlea, a detached bungalow in a lovely large plot in need of updating in Edge (already under offer), Highcroft a well presented 4 bedroom house in Brimpsfield, 4 Bearsfield, a modern detached 3 bedroom in Bisley, 2 George Street a handsome 4 bed Cotswold Stone house also in Bisley and Bramleys an impressive architecturally designed detached 5 bed family house in Bournes Green.

Properties that we currently have under offer are Holcombe Farm near Painswick, The Stables on Yokehouse Lane in Painswick, Woodbury on Vicarage Street in Painswick, Eastlea on Back Edge Lane in Edge, Greyholme on Lurks Lane in Pitchcombe and 1 Springfield Cottages in Birdlip, and property that has now sold is Ashcroft House on Stroud Road in Painswick.

James C Murray, Partner

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MARCH

Sat	2	Fairtrade Wine Tasting Event	Church Rooms	11.30am to 1.00pm
Mon	4	Short Mat Bowls - Mondays (contact 813627) Community Lunch: Hosts - Painswick Bird Club Yoga (Mondays) contact Kim 812623	Town Hall Ashwell Centre Sheepscombe Vill. Hall	10.30am 12noon to 1.15pm 6.30 to 8.00pm & 8.15 to 9.45pm
		Painswick Community Choir - Mondays (Enquiries: Sophie 01453 298138)	Painswick Centre	7.00 to 8.30pm
Tue	5	Cupcakes for Carers Bingo: Tuesdays – Tel. Ann, 813911/Liz, 813139 Bird Club: The Birds of Gloucestershire - David Cramp, Group Leader RSPB Glos. Branch, followed by AGM	P. Centre Green Room Ashwell House Town Hall	1.30 to 4.30pm 6.30 to 9.00pm 7.30pm
Wed	6	Yoga (Wednesdays) contact Kim 812623 Probus: Antarctica - Brian Lamerton Baby Bounce & Rhyme (Library) Wednesdays Cotteswold Naturalists' Field Club Lecture: Stromboli - modern & traditional Sicily - Dr Simon Jones. Enq. 813228	Sheepscombe Vill. Hall Painswick Centre Town Hall Painswick Centre	9.30 to 11.00am 10.00am 2.00 to 2.45pm 2.30pm
Thu	7	Table Tennis - Wednesdays. Enq. 812464 Yoga - All Abilities (Thursdays) Cotswold Room 812623 T'ai Chi: Thursdays - Contact 812344 Dog Training Club (Thursdays) Jolly Stompers Line Dancing: Beginners - Thursdays Experienced beginners - Thursdays Music Appreciation Group: 'The Big Five' - Great American Orchestras	Painswick Centre Painswick Centre Town Hall Church Rooms Town Hall Town Hall Town Hall	7.00 to 9.00pm 9.30 to 11.00am 9.30am 9.30 to 12.00noon 12.00 to 1.00pm 12.30 to 1.30pm 7.30pm
Fri	8	Country Market: Coffee available - Fridays (Except 29th March - see 28th) Friday Club: Easter Crafts - Adele Lambert	Town Hall Town Hall	10.00am 2.30pm
Sat	9	Painswick Beacon Conservation Group scrub clearing working party: location check 813734 Village Quiz	Painswick Beacon Painswick Centre	10.00am 7.30pm
Mon	11	Probus Women: Magistrates Court / Court Room Scenario - Jude Morris Community Lunch: Hosts - Our Lady & St Therese Church	Church Rooms Ashwell Centre	10.00 for 10.30am 12noon to 1.15pm
Tue	12	Conservatives (Painswick Branch) AGM	Church Rooms	7.00pm
Wed	13	Horticultural Society: Art in the Garden - Grand Rococo to the Modest Patio - Paul Hervey-Brookes	Church Rooms	7.30pm
Fri	15	Gloucestershire Police Male Voice Choir Concert: Doors & Bar open 7.00pm Enq. 07583 011326	Painswick Centre	7.00 for 7.30pm
Sat	16	Theatre Club Outing to Malvern	Stamages Car Park	12.45pm
Mon	18	Final Community Lunch: Hosts - Park Residents	Ashwell Centre	12noon to 1.15pm
Wed	20	Probus: Archery - Barry Groves (ex World Champion) Parish Council Meeting	Painswick Centre Town Hall	10.00am 7.30pm
Thu	21	Music Appreciation Group: The Piano	Town Hall	7.30pm
Fri	22	Friday Club Early Spring Outing to Adam's Farm near Stow-on-the Wold		
Sat	23	Copy Date for April Beacon Painswick Beacon Conservation Group scrub clearing working party: location check 813734 Painswick Community Library Book Sale & Coffee Morning	Painswick Beacon Town Hall - Lower room	10.00am 10.00am to 12.30pm
		Painswick Music Society Concert: The Sixteen - Conductor, Harry Christophers	St Mary's Church	3.00pm
Tue	26	Yew Trees WI: Gertrude Bell - Forgotten Heroine of the British Empire - Jan Long	Church Rooms	7.30pm
Thu	28	Country Market: Coffee Available	Town Hall	10.00am
Fri	29	No Country Market (see Thur 28th) Good Friday Procession of Witness Painswick Singers Concert: works will include Cherubini's 'Requiem'	from Catholic Church St Mary's Church	10.00am 7.30pm

Sat	30	Easter Egg Hunt: Tickets available from Post Office, Falcon & Royal Oak	Rococo Gardens	1.00 to 4.00pm
APRIL				
Tue	2	Cupcakes for Carers	P. Centre Green Room	1.30 to 4.30pm
Wed	3	Probus: The Voice & Its Repertoire - Anne Dunn	Painswick Centre	10.00am
		Cotteswold Naturalists' Field Club AGM & Lecture: North Island, New Zealand - Mr Bob Price . Enq. 813228	Painswick Centre	2.30pm
Thu	4	Music Appreciation Group: Personal Choice	Town Hall	7.30pm
Sat	6	April Issue of The Painswick Beacon published		
		Painswick Beacon Conservation Group scrub clearing working party: location check 813734	Painswick Beacon	10.00am
		Painswick Music Society Concert: The Carducci Quartet	St Mary's Church	3.00pm
Mon	8	Probus Women: Shelterbox - an International Response Team Volunteer - Liz Odell	Church Rooms	10.00am to 12.00noon
Tue	9	Bird Club / P. Beacon Conservation Group: Repairing the Scars of Mineral Extraction - Gareth Williams	Town Hall	7.30pm
Wed	10	Probus AGM	Painswick Centre	10.00am
Thu	11	Painswick Centre AGM (Reg. Charity 301595) Cotswold Room. Enq. 813228	Painswick Centre	8.00pm
Fri	12	Friday Club: Fascinating Fascinators - Vicki Moore	Town Hall	2.30pm
Sat	13	Conservative Bridge Drive with Afternoon Tea	Church Rooms	2.30 to 5.30pm
Wed	17	Probus: Wine Tasting with the Ladies, followed by Lunch	Painswick Centre	11.00 for 11.30am
Thu	18	Music Appreciation Group: Hector Berlioz	Town Hall	7.30pm
Sat	20	Painswick Beacon Conservation Group scrub clearing working party: location check 813734	Painswick Beacon	10.00am
		Painswick Music Society Concert: Alessandro Taverna, Piano	St Mary's Church	3.00pm
Tue	23	Yew Trees WI: Surprise Event	Church Rooms	7.30pm
Fri	26	Friday Club: Travellers Tales - Janet Jenkins	Town Hall	2.30pm
Sat	27	Theatre Club Outing to The Water Mill, Newbury	Stamages Car Park	11.00am
Tue	30	Painswick Valleys Conservation Society AGM & Meeting	Church Rooms	7.00 for 7.30pm
MAY				
Wed	1	Probus: Keeping The Lights On - Stewart Price	Painswick Centre	10.00am
		Cotteswold Naturalists Field Club Guided Walk: Birds & other wildlife at Dowdeswell Reservoir with Arthur Ball. Enq. 813228	Dowdeswell Reservoir	10.00am
Thu	2	Bird Club Field Trip: Nightingales at Dusk with David Cramp RSPB	Highnam Woods	7.00pm
		Music Appreciation Group: Mystery	Town Hall	7.30pm
Sat	4	Painswick Music Society Concert: Mark Stone, Baritone; Simon Lepper, Piano	St Mary's Church	3.00pm
Thu	9	Painswick Players production: Beyond Reasonable Doubt by Jeffrey Archer (Also 10th & 11th)	Painswick Centre	7.30pm

Entries for the Village Diary should be sent direct to **Eddie Buttrey at: mikeandeddie@thebuttreys.com**

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PLANNING MATTERS

Information received from the Parish Council

NEW APPLICATIONS

THE PATCHWORK MOUSE

Internal and external alterations. Plus Change of Use from (A1) to Tea and Coffee Café (A3) with ancillary sells (A1) and alterations including replacements windows and doors, new rooflights.

THE RECTORY, Stroud Road, Edge.

Seeking to convert the Coach House into additional care home accommodation for 2 residents.

LAND AT SUMMER STREET, Stroud
Outline application for up to 140 residential units including access, Public Open Space and associated works.

BAYLISS HOUSE, Sheepscombe

Reduce the Contoneaster by the house to its previous height, reduce the spread all round by approx 50% & shape. Cut the lower canopy & the Laurel back to clear the roof by at least 1.5m & to also clear the path. Remove as much Mistletoe as practicable from the Rowan near the swimming pool, pruning out where this will not cause detriment to the tree. Crown raise all around, removing all branches below 1st primary limbs of the Black Walnut in the paddock below the house.

BENEDICTS COTTAGE, Paradise

Alterations to existing kitchen, garage and bedroom areas. Replace existing windows and door areas.

2 FOXBURY COTTAGES, Damsells Mill Lane - Erection of an extension.

FALCON BOWLING CLUB, New Street
Reduce height of 5 Yew trees by approximately one third and trim the sides. Fell one small Yew, to the right of the club house, to the ground. Fell two dead/dying Conifers on the back boundary to near ground level. Trim the Conifer hedge on the side boundary.

AMBERWOOD, Knapp Lane

Replacement of existing flat roof dormer with a pitched roof dormer. Replacement of existing "lean to" with a "lean to" type conservatory.

FIELDGATE, The Highlands - Single storey extension and two storey extension with loft conversion.

CONSENT

2 BROOKHOUSE MILL, Greenhouse Lane - Erection of single storey side extension.

JAYS HILL, The Park. Installation of dormers to rear (SE) and side (SW) elevations and rooflights to the front (NW) elevation to facilitate loft conversion. Conversion of existing garage to form kitchen extension. Erection of new attached double garage. Amendment to previous permission to increase the size of proposed rear dormers.

GYDE BARN, Cheltenham Road
Modifications to the internal layout, including upgrading the existing in-fill gallery. Proposals include stripping away pond in the central courtyard.

GYDE BARN, Cheltenham Road
Proposed new replacement grey metal flue

DYNEVOR HOUSE, New Street
Enlargement of existing rear extension by infilling alley and lightwell. Reopening of ground floor fireplaces. Replacement of stair flight. Formation of 2nd floor bathroom and new window.

Excavation of garden to form patio. Raising of boundary wall at west end of garden.

JUBILATE, Blakewell Mead

Remove two storm damaged limbs, crown lift and remove one low limb over neighbours property.

RICHMOND VILLAGE CENTRE, Stroud Road

2 roadside signs along Stroud Road, Painswick for Richmond Village Holdings Ltd.

ABBEY FARM, Slad Road
Detached Garage.

COURT HOUSE, Hale Lane

Works to garden include erection of walling, decking and erection of Shelter. Erection of porch extension.

WINDYRIDGE, Longridge, Sheepscombe

Replacement dwelling.



After exhaustive detective work it was discovered that the **green metal box** with a solar panel on top was installed on behalf of British Gas (we believe). It is understood that the box contains

instrumentation to measure the gas pressure in the system at that point. As there are no markings or labels on the box and no advance warning given to the locals, we must assume that it is top secret.

MINI-ADS

Aga Kettle with black tip and whistle. Little used. Cost £75. Accept £45. 814783.

Tricity Toaster. Unused and still boxed. Chrome. 2 Slices. Cost £25. Accept £18. 814783.

BUSINESS

Small house in Provencal village overlooking lake. Sleeps 2 to 6/7 suit those who enjoy walking, cycling, water sports or just relaxing £ 300 to £500 per week depending on time of year

If interest please ring Celia for more details. 01452 813756

Host Families needed for Japanese Students (age 13 – 16).

1) 22 July – 2 August: 11 nights (Stroud College) and/or.

2) 13 August – 22 August: 9 nights (Marling School). £33 per night expenses. Contact Masano

07789325197 or Mikmasano@aol.com

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For all advertisers some priority may be necessary if space constraints apply.

Text maximum of 30 words + payment by cheque in advance, to 'The Painswick Beacon', to

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Steppingstone Lane, Painswick GL6 6RU

The Personal Column

Jenny Gaugain

Congratulations

CHLOE and BRIAN McCARTHY on the birth of their son Maddox on 27th December. Chloe works at the Three Gables, Painswick

Also to KATHRYN and MATT HODGSON on the birth of their daughter Amelie Rose on 29th January, a sister for Oliver, and granddaughter for Les and Lesley Warriner and John and Wendy Hodgson.

Also to ANNA (GRAESSER) and RICHARD DULLAN on the birth of their son George Arthur on 16th February

New Address

Best Wishes to PAUL STEWART who has moved into The Old Exchange, Stroud Rd, Painswick from Lullingworth

Condolences

Our sincere condolences to the family and friends of MICHAEL PICKIN, and JOYCE TAYLOR who have died recently

Also condolences to the family and friends of ELLA ADLAM. Ella passed away peacefully at home on 31st January, she was the wife of the late Frank Adlam, her funeral took place on Thursday 28th February at St Mary's Church, Painswick.

Donations in Ella's memory may be made to Stroud General Hospital c/o Philip Ford and Son, Dirleton House, Cainscross Rd, Stroud GL5 4ES

You could help Jenny Gaugain, if you would relay information about those you know and for whom a mention in the Personal Column would be appreciated.

Sponsored Swim

Isabella Weatherall is 10 years old and a member of the First Painswick Guides. She is attempting to swim 1300 lengths of the Virgin Active clubs swimming pool, the distance is the equivalent of the English Channel and is a staggering 19 miles. Isabella will do the challenge in the Easter Holidays over several days being cheered on by her fellow guide members and Julia Mundell her Guide leader. She will be raising money for the new guide group (charity no. 305951) And also for the Help A Hedgehog Hospital in Brimscombe, Stroud, who tend to hoglets needing to be nursed through the winter season to survive. If you would like to support Isabella to help with funds for these worthy groups please make donations through www.justgiving.com or add your name to Isabella's sponsor form available in the Painswick Post Office.



Joanna Weatherall

J

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NEXT ISSUE

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SATURDAY

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our history and aims,
the annual directory, village maps
and the current weather forecast

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