

The Painswick Beacon

Sine praeiudicio

Volume 37 Number 10

January 2015



Painswick, Stroud and Cheltenham Fire Appliances were called to a very serious house fire at Dutchcombe Farm in Painswick in early December. The house was well alight upon arrival but thankfully all the occupants had evacuated the building. The fire took several hours to bring under control and fire crews were at the scene for most of the day.

Now is the season of New Year's Resolutions! So fitting your home with smoke alarms in the New Year could actually save your life.

Mark Hancock, mark.hancock@glosfire.gov.uk

Carol Service in St Mary's. One of the many concerts and services around Painswick this Christmas.

On other pages this month:

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PARISH COUNCIL NEWS 10th December by Terry Parker

Reports upon meetings of the Parish Council cannot help but be selective, if only because of space constraints. We try to highlight points of widest public interest, based upon what we see and hear.

The full minutes of Council and committee meetings are available for scrutiny at the Council's office.

PLANNING COMMITTEE

There were no public questions. Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs Ian James and David Oxendale. Committee Chairman, Cllr Rob Lewis, welcomed Cllr Michael Fletcher to his first Parish Council meeting.

Seating arrangements.

The public seating was now opposite that of the Council members. A member of the public said that the new arrangements meant that the public had their backs to the west-facing wall on which the details of planning applications were projected which made it difficult to follow the proceedings.

Matters requiring a decision

a. The Bungalow Barn at Hill Farm planning application. The Chairman, Cllr Rob Lewis, reminded members that the Council had supported the Listed Building application. There were Horseshoe Bats living in the barn which were a protected species. There was the need to carry out a survey. The District Council was seeking the advice of an independent bat authority. The Committee agreed to support the application subject to the findings of the survey.

b. Little Fleece, Bisley Street. Proposed internal alterations to the existing kitchen and bathroom to provide improved facilities. Support.

c. Barn to South of Holcombe House. Single storey extension to Barn. Planning and Listed Building applications. Support.

d. Land at Brownhill Court, Wick Street. Reinstatement of stable outbuildings. Planning and Listed Building applications. Support.

e. The Gables, Friday Street. Removal of early 20th C partitions at first floor to reveal decorative 16th C plasterwork ceilings. Repair plasterwork using traditional methods and materials. Erection of new partition walls corresponding with the limits of the plasterwork ceilings. Provision of new bathroom. Convert current stone garage to a bedroom for a dependant relative for whom the applicant is the registered carer. Erection of single storey extension adjacent to new bedroom on existing garden terrace to form library/sitting room.

Planning and Listed Building applications. Support.

f. Allways, Kingsmead. Single story extension. Support.

g. The Coach House, Sevenleaze Lane, Edge. Two storey side and single storey rear extensions. Support.

h. Land parcel west of Prospect Cottage, Bulls Cross, Sheepscombe. Application for two new dwellings. Support.

i. Gazebo and Blow Family memorials, Severnleaze Lane, Edge. Replace tiles on roof. Support.

j. Trees at Lower Washwell Lane.

Hornbeam (T1): Dismantle due to damage and decay of large branches overhanging road neighbour's property. The Committee agreed to support the removal of the damaged limbs if the tree is healthy.

k. Woodsend, Butt Green. Whitebeam x 1. Remove the leaning stem over the footpath. Norway Maple. Reduce 2m from tips. Support.

PARISH COUNCIL

Public questions.

There were two questions. One related to policing in Painswick and the other to the feasibility of the Parish Council purchasing a post box for community use. Policing in Painswick

Mr Michael Shute asked the Chairman whether the Council was satisfied with the level of policing in Painswick. He said that the limited police presence in Painswick was a matter of considerable concern, particularly in light of the amount of tax parishioners were paying to the Police Authority. He noted that Painswick's Police & Community Safety Officer (PCSO) had not attended recent Parish Council meetings. The Chairman, Cllr Martin Slinger, said he would seek a response from the Constabulary. Cllr Lewis said that he had received satisfactory responses on five occasions using the 101 system.

Beacon comment. Cllr Slinger has been informed by the Constabulary that they have limited resources. Painswick's PCSO has responsibility for eight parishes.

Community post box.

In response to Mr Terry Parker's question concerning the possibility of a community owned post box, Cllr Slinger said the matter would be discussed later in the meeting when there was to be an update on the Painswick Post Office Service.

Apologies.

Apologies had been received from Cllrs Ian James and David Oxendale, and from County Councillor Jason Bullingham and District Councillor Julie Job.

County Councillor's report.

In his written report Cllr Bullingham referred to the preparations being made by the County Council for the winter. This year Gloucestershire has just over 12,000 tonnes of salt in store, treble the amount held six years ago. Local snow plough operators are out in the communities to help clear snow off local roads so that the County Council can concentrate on keeping the main roads open. There are over 100 salt hand-spreaders out with the communities ready for the colder spells and the council has delivered over 1000 bags for salt to the local parish councils for this coming winter season.

Between April and October more than

58,000 tonnes of new material was laid to fix worn out roads across the county with 42km of new road surface, 66km of roads resurfaced with micro and surface dressing and further areas equivalent to 56 football pitches have been patched. As well as planned resurfacing, surface dressing and patching over the summer, more than 15,000 potholes have been filled since April, and more than 4350 miles of grass verges have been cut to make sure drivers can see safely at junctions and roundabouts. In addition, highway crews emptied more than 20,000 gullies so that water can freely drain away from roads and footpaths, helping to prevent future flooding.

When bad weather hits, latest updates are available via @GlosRoads on Twitter using # glosprepared. You can also visit www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/winter and listen out for updates in local media.

Cllr Martin Slinger said that he had not yet been given authority by the County Council to use his snow plough.

Beacon comment. Cllr Slinger told the Beacon that he had contacted Cllr Bullingham and authority has now been given.

District Councillor's report.

Cllr Nigel Cooper told the members that the draft Local Plan had been finalised and was being forwarded to the Planning Inspectorate for ratification. Cllr Cooper said that an overall flood management plan had been proposed. It would be taken to the Local Environment Partnership.

Painswick Post Office Service.

Cllr Slinger updated the members on the proposed "Outreach" Post Office Service, the details of which were reported in the December Beacon.

Concerning the wide-mouthed post box, Cllr Slinger said that a letter had been received from the Member of Parliament, Neil Carmichael, in which he reported on a meeting he had had with Royal Mail officials. Mr Carmichael was optimistic that the matter would be resolved shortly. Martin Slinger then turned to the public question which had been submitted to the Parish Council in writing and circulated to the members in advance of the meeting. The questioner asked, "Given the continuing absence of a wide-mouthed post box in the centre of the village, has the Parish Council considered purchasing its own box for the use of the community and if so, whether the council would be responsible for taking the deposited mail to a Royal Mail collection point". The Clerk to the Parish Council, Mr Roy Balgobin, told the members that the cost of the post box was £119 and, if approved, the intention was to have a daily collection at 1.30pm throughout the working week. The

collection would be effected by the Parish Council staff and taken to the Stroud Royal Mail Office.

Opening the debate, the Slad representative and Parish Council Vice-Chairman Cllr Caroline White, said that she was opposed to the proposal. Her reasons were that the community had coped without the post box for some time and she thought it reasonable to expect parishioners to wait until February when the "Outreach" Post Office service would commence. She was also concerned about the council's liability in handling the mail. On this point Mr Balgobin commented that the council would issue a disclaimer. No-one spoke in favour of the proposal. On being put to the vote the proposition was unanimously defeated.

Cllr Abigail Smith asked that the Parish Council's thanks to Cllrs Oxendale and Slinger for their part in achieving the "Outreach" Post Office service be recorded in the minutes of the meeting. This was agreed. A brief discussion then took place about how the Parish Council could best publicise the continuing absence of the post box, possibly involving Radio Gloucestershire.

The Love Painswick Business Group.

Cllr Abigail Smith gave the Council a report on the group's recent meetings. Cllr Smith reported that, following the Brand Painswick workshop held on 4th November, the results were presented to a wider group of interested businesses and other parties on 27th November. The colours, typography and logo had drawn on the expertise of international specialists with local connections and were welcomed by all in attendance. To continue moving forward, Cllr Smith said that the group recognised the need to formalise terms of reference and a working group had been formed to do this, supported by Barbara Pond from the Gloucestershire Rural Community Council. She said the aim was to finalise this work by the end of January for presentation at a public meeting which would also be used to present the proposed new brand to the

community. The agreement of the Terms of Reference and the new brand underpin the subsequent activity to develop a website for launch before Easter to better promote Painswick to a global and local audience.

St Mary's Street public conveniences.

The Clerk provided details of the estimates for the improvements to the Ladies and Gentlemen's conveniences. There had been several enquiries about the rental of the former Ladies and Gentlemen's toilet buildings. The subject was to be an agenda item at the January Parish Council meeting.

Induction Loop System in the Lower Town Hall.

The members agreed to accept the quote of £1,295 for the installation of the system. Cllr Morris was to continue to give consideration to the provision of a suitable microphone system.

Open Spaces Society.

It was agreed to join the Society. The joining fee was £45.

Ward reports.

Concern about the phasing of the A46 traffic lights had been expressed by members of the public. The Clerk would refer the concerns to the County Council.

Meeting closure. The meeting closed at 9.20pm.

Photograph Credits

In this issue of the Beacon...
Of the fire - provided by Trevor Radway and Anne Perkins
Croft School choir by Anne-Marie Randall.

Community Activities Grant Scheme

The Community Activities Grant Scheme is a grant fund to support small grass roots charities and community groups in Gloucestershire to create new social and physical activities.

Grants are available for community, voluntary or self-help groups to run projects to deliver positive social impact. Examples of this could be:

The purchase of equipment such as bowling mats and other sports equipment

The payment of hall hire fees so that activities such as Pilates, T'ai Chi and dancing can take place.

Grants to luncheon clubs to provide after-lunch activities.

Grants are available from £300 - £1,000. No match funding is needed. The overall project cost should not exceed £1,000 (as a rule of thumb). Grant applications for projects which involve older people (aged 50+) will have priority, however activities which target any age group will also be considered. Grants will not be given to enable an activity to be continued unless it can be demonstrated that numbers enjoying the activity will be increased.

Grant applications will need to come from the community group planning on setting up an activity.

Barbara Pond
Gloucestershire Rural Community Council
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Young Painswickian of the Year

Alicia Barnett is Young Painswickian for 2014. Truly a Painswick girl, her achievements have almost single-handedly raised the profile of Painswick Tennis Club to recognition at a national level, though she would be the first to say that it has been a team effort.

Alicia started to play tennis aged seven. A pupil at the Croft School, she liked the game from the beginning, always persisted and definitely aspired to be as good as her older brother. She feels she was lucky to have first-rate coaching at the club and later, when a student at Stroud High School, had the added bonus of an excellent PE teacher who gave her great encouragement. The school in fact reached national level competitively, the only state school to do so. And last year Alicia had a world ranking – a real accomplishment.

Painswick has benefited enormously from Alicia's achievement. It certainly played a key role in bringing about much improved facilities at the club including two extra floodlit courts. The standard of play locally has unquestionably been elevated to a much higher level recently and much of this is due to Alicia being seen by young players as a role model. Regardless of commitments elsewhere she always plays in the Summer League in Painswick and is to be found practising on the courts in all weathers. She truly appreciates the facilities at the club.

Commenting on the strong community spirit in Painswick, Alicia points out that this is also very evident at the club. "A lot of people have worked hard there with the result that there is a really good atmosphere. It's like a family," she says. She is also keen to explain that "... the coaches are great, really passionate."

Alicia has just completed her first term at Northwestern University, Illinois where she is studying political science. She recognises that, despite her prowess in the world of tennis, education is very important. Studying in the United States does enable her to study and train in tandem without complications. As for the future ... it's something of an open book at present with several possible options. However, she does regard Painswick as home and definitely wants to find a way to inspire children here to achieve as she herself has done. This articulate and personable young woman is a worthy winner of the title Young Painswickian of the Year.



Carol Maxwell

Your Citizens Advice Bureau

As we start the New Year, can I remind you of the work of the Stroud and District Citizens Advice Bureau. It is our local Bureau, with offices in Stroud and throughout the District. Its aim is to advise people on their rights and responsibilities in the problems they face, and help get them resolved.

One situation stays in my mind. A man came to the Bureau and was extremely stressed and not able to think clearly because he faced several inter-related problems. As his problems were structured in discussion with an advisor, he slowly became less agitated and better able to consider options for a way forward – and even to help himself on some issues. I feel the Bureau is the real fourth emergency service.

Last year the Bureau helped some 4,000 people across the District (including about 60 from Painswick parish). Each person has an initial interview, either over the phone or at one of our offices. Those who can help themselves are encouraged to do so, as resources are limited. Sometimes people are redirected to other organisations that can help. For others more help is offered. Typically people have 2 or 3 issues to address and will require two or more contacts with advisors. To advise people effectively requires expertise and knowledge as well as people and investigative skills to get to the bottom of a problem.

None of this comes without cost. The Bureau is a local charity and grateful for the support it receives – not least from Stroud District Council. I am proud to report that Painswick has a relatively generous record – both in terms of volunteers and in donations – and for that the Bureau is very grateful. But increasingly it has to turn to the generosity of local people to help maintain the service. So I ask if you would consider supporting the Bureau. If you would, please ask for standing order/donation and gift aid forms. Forms are available from me or the Finance Officer, Stroud & District CAB, Brunel Mall, London Road, Stroud GL5 2BP; or follow the links on the website: www.stroudcab.org.uk for on-line giving.

Peter Rowe (Tel: 01452 813228)

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Painswickians of the Year

David and Andrea Linsell have been quietly and consistently working away for the benefit of others in Painswick and beyond for over 30 years. It is therefore fitting and timely that they should be voted this 2014's Painswickians.

Although involved in different projects and causes they are very supportive of each other's activities. Andrea is currently chairman of Stroud and District Mencap. Her involvement began with fund-raising in 1979 and has developed continuously since then. As she points out, it has always been a cooperative venture started by parents of children with mental disabilities. Over the years it has gone from strength to strength and Stroud Mencap now owns five homes locally which are managed by Stroud Homes Foundation of which Andrea is a trustee and vice-chair. This puts considerable responsibilities on Andrea's shoulders - legal, financial and administrative - thus requiring 100% commitment.

Throughout much of this time Andrea was also pursuing her career as an occupational therapist at Standish and Cashes Green hospitals and bringing up her two children. She explains that Painswick has always been very supportive, so much of the fund-raising activity has been centred here. For many years she organised the Christmas fairs in Stroud Subscription Rooms with David as Father Christmas!

For most of us this would be more than enough but for Andrea a further cause to be embraced is Cupcakes for Carers. She feels this is very important and emphasises that it is a very dedicated support group for people who truly benefit from it. With her specialist career knowledge she is able to make a valuable and essential contribution regarding technical equipment and paperwork and she makes the coffee and cakes for the monthly meetings. Andrea loves painting and cooking and does the catering for Painswick Bowling Club. Andrea's efforts have been unstinting for 35 years and despite a bout of serious ill health in recent years she has persevered with true magnanimity to work for causes close to her heart.

David's commitment has been equally generous in his work for the Painswick Centre. Characteristically, he insists that it is the team of trustees who should be commended but "...he does a huge amount of work quietly" says Andrea. As Chairman of the Trustees he has overseen a tremendous programme of updating to the building during the last few years. His responsibilities are wide-ranging including finance, general management, repairs and maintenance. There are very few complaints because he is so efficient. David, though, considers himself merely a sort of dog's body!

Never missing a function and working tirelessly with the team of trustees, he is certainly very dedicated. He runs the table tennis club pointing out that all monies raised go to the Centre. A firm believer in the original and continuing purpose as a community resource, he is proud of the Centre and the way it has developed. He is completely and enthusiastically involved.

David is also heavily involved, as treasurer, in the Community Lunches at Ashwell. Together with the organiser he decides to which good causes or charities, always at least one in Painswick, the money raised will go. The lunches take place on 20 Mondays throughout the winter. "I like the thought when I write the cheques that it will benefit a needy cause. It's good to know," he says. For some years David was a voluntary advanced driving instructor and he was also a minibus driver trainer for Mencap and care home drivers. (He explains that he does have a passion for cars.) He also enjoys playing tennis and he and Andrea were cub and guide leaders in the past.

This is an extraordinary husband and wife team, dedicated and committed and often working together, always on a voluntary basis, for the good of others. They wish to thank those who nominated them but verily they are worthy of the accolade - Painswickians of the Year.



Carol Maxwell



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Happy New Year to you all.

Here we go again! Welcome to 2015. A year that we at The Painswick Centre hope to be very productive! We have lots of improvements we hope to get done this year, as mentioned in our last article. Please remember that most of the events that the Centre arranges, are to raise money for the maintenance and improvement of the centre so your support is always needed with our events throughout the year. Your support can come in so many different ways, from putting up posters, attending the event or helping at the event! ALL help is very gratefully received no matter how small!

So keep your eyes on this space to see what is coming up next!

Regular Activities

Mondays – Pilates, Kids Karate, Choir, Skittles.

Tuesdays – Zumba Gold, Ladies Badminton, Zumba, Skittles.

Wednesdays – Bridge, Table Tennis, Skittles.

Thursdays – Yoga, Muddy Feet Fitness, Badminton.

For more information please either check our website or contact me via details below. If you have a club or organisation and you are looking for new premises then please get in touch and see what we have to offer!

Coming up

14th February – ABBA tribute night 7-11pm
Tickets £14

7th March – Beacon Village Quiz

22nd March – Attic Sale £10 per table

Manager – Jennie Barber - 01452 814567

jennie@painswickcentre.com



Goodwill Evening in Painswick

Pictures show a hive of activity in both the Painswick Centre and the Town Hall.




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Slimbridge in Winter

Club members and visitors enjoyed a crisp, dry day at Slimbridge, with excellent WWT guiding provided by David Paynter. We observed over-wintering geese, swans and ducks, as well as marsh harriers, ravens and a peregrine falcon over the Severn Estuary.

Nearer at home, recent winter visitors and passage migrants in the Painswick Valley have included fieldfares, redwings, hawfinches and bramblings.

Tell us about your bird sightings at our next event, which is on Wednesday February 11th at 2.30pm, a joint meeting with the Horticultural Club in the Church Rooms. Edward Drewitt will give a talk on 'Garden Birds – Top Ten Facts.' All Welcome, visitors £3.00.

Penny Perry Tel 01452 813094



Treasures, Trinkets and Crystals

- With the Field Club

The Field Club's first illustrated lecture of 2015 will be given by Kurt Adams, Finds Liaison Officer for Avon & Gloucestershire who will talk about 'Archaeological Treasures and Trinkets'. The meeting starts at 2.30 pm on Wednesday 7th January, at our regular venue, the Beacon Hall in the Painswick Centre.

Kurt will describe how the finds reported by the public under the Portable Antiquities Scheme since 1997 and Treasure Act 1996 are rewriting this country's archaeology and history. There have been some astonishing new discoveries in Gloucestershire, including three beautiful Bronze Age children's pure gold bracelets discovered in a field near Lydney using metal detectors.

At the following meeting, on Wednesday 4th February at 2.30 pm, we welcome Dr Roy Starkey. In his talk 'Crystal Mountains' based on the book of the same name, Roy will tell the story of the early crystal hunters who roamed the Cairngorm mountains in search of Scotland's most famous gem – the smoky quartz or 'cairngorm'. With stunning visuals, Roy will describe the history of the hunters' arduous and uncertain quest for the uncut crystals (example pictured) and the geological events that led to the gems' occurrence.

Refreshments will be served after the talk and visitors will be very welcome at our meetings (£3 charge). Also, please contact me for details of membership or drop into one of our meetings.

Jane Rowe (tel 813228)



Painswick Beacon has been a busy place this year, 2015 will be similar but different. You have probably seen the cattle grazing from March to December. They have done a lot of good eating. They have also cut up the surface, - quite a lot on their preferred routes, - where we hope flower seeds may have a better chance to become established before

the grass grows back thickly.

From September to April you may have seen Saturday morning Painswick Beacon Conservation Group work parties. You are always welcome to join in!

You probably didn't see 350 Wild Thyme being planted on the Hill Fort Ramparts. These are to encourage Large Blue butterflies. Last year it was 1,000 cowslips for the Duke of Burgundy butterfly. This work is the Beacon's contribution to the Painswick Valleys Butterfly project, financed by Biffa from the Landfill Tax they collect when your builder empties a skip.

Another Biffa funded project was the installation by Pipeline Logistics of permanent mains water to all four paddocks. Mike Hoey, President of the Golf Club, generously gave many days for management and dealing with the slow moving bureaucracies. It all takes time! At a rough estimate, including work parties, fencing, watering and cattle checking the Beacon has benefited from 660 hours of volunteer time in the last year. About the equivalent of nearly 19 weeks of a full time employee, well done everybody.

David Bishop, Chairman and David Allott, Vice Chairman



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Painswick surgery news

Out of Hours Emergency GP Service:

Just a reminder that emergency cover is provided by local doctors and nurses in conjunction with the Ambulance Trust. Patients are still able to contact a doctor in an emergency out of normal surgery hours and if you do need a doctor in an emergency after 6 pm in the evening and before 8.30 am in the morning, please telephone the emergency out of hours service directly on NHS111. You may still telephone the surgery line out of hours - 01452 812545 - and you will automatically be diverted to the emergency call centre.

Out of Area Registrations

Painswick Surgery will not be signing up to the Out of Area Registration system which comes into effect on 5th January 2015. We can only accept new patients who are resident within our Practice boundary. If you are moving outside of our boundary you will need to register with a GP more local to you as soon as you can.

Our practice boundary edge goes in a sort of oval shape covering Haresfield, Brookthorpe (to where it meets the motorway bridge), Upton St Leonards, Birdlip, Miserden, Bisley, Slad, – with Painswick, Edge, Sheepscombe, Cranham, The Camp and Paradise in the 'middle' of the oval! We do have a boundary map in the reception foyer, but if you're unsure, please ask and we can confirm for you.

Extended hours.

We are pleased to confirm that we do offer an 'extended hours' surgery on a Monday morning from 7 am to 8 am when you can see either a GP or a Practice Nurse. Although we are not allowed to embargo these slots for patients who work as such, we hope that our patients who are retired would prefer to have a bit of a lie in and not want to take up these appointments!

Home Visit Requests:

We know it is often very difficult to get through to the surgery some mornings at 8.30 when we take the calls back from the Out of Hours Service. We have increased the number of incoming telephone lines to accommodate more calls, but we try to deal with emergency calls first thing and patients who need to be seen that morning.

We would be grateful, if you do need a home visit, if you could call in by 10.30 am if at all possible. This way, the doctors can allocate visits as soon as they finish their morning surgery.

Helping You At Home

We have been made aware of a service which offers help to patients with such things as meal preparation, cleaning, shopping and appointments. The 'Helping You At Home' service is offered by Natasha, a resident of Painswick. She can be contacted on 01452 812473, or email directly at heavenscent1@hotmail.com

Patient Participation Group

The next meeting of our Patient Participation Group will be taking place here at the surgery on Thursday 22nd January 4pm to 5pm. If you would like to contribute to this group, do please let Nicola, the Practice Manager know either by calling the surgery, popping in, or by email: Nicola.hayward@glos.nhs.uk

A full version of the Newsletter is available either in hard copy from the Surgery or via the Surgery website..

Nicola Hayward

Wassailing

An ancient country tradition. Meet at Church Rooms at 5pm on Saturday 17th January 2015

Come & join the procession to the orchard, bring a torch and warm clothes, bring a whistle or drum. Simple supper and folky music afterwards. ACP & Painswick Orchard Group are getting together for a Wassailing Mask Making Workshop the week before. Look out for details in the ACP Gallery.

Contact: Painswick Orchard Group 812879/813779 for further details.

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Choral events leading up to Christmas

We have been treated to several musical evenings leading up to Christmas; with so many Painswickians involved in them. We dare not name any in case of missing others out!

The Stroud Choral Society had their main Autumn Event at Tewkesbury Abbey, tackling the challenging “Gerontius” by Elgar.

This choir started in the 1830’s and is now over 140 strong. They rehearse on Monday evenings at Marling School, conducted by Huw Williams, their Musical Director. His talent and achievements are staggering and we were treated to the full force of his enthusiastic energy at the “Christmas Celebration” on Friday 12th December. This was held at the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Beeches Green.

Some Members of the Stroud Choral Society joined the Orchestra of St. John (OSJ) for their performance of the Messiah at the Subscriptions Room on 7th December.

Some Painswickians are members of the **Gloucester Choral** which rehearses in Gloucester Cathedral. We also have some local singers in the **Thameshead Singers** led by Andrew Hopwood. They practice at Brimscombe Primary School on Tuesday evenings, mainly give concerts in local churches and are asked to sing evensong in cathedrals.

A few in Painswick perform in the **Wycliffe Choral Society Choir** and Orchestra, conducted by Christopher Swain. Founded in 1983, they have about 90 Members, and rehearse on Tuesday nights at Wycliffe College.

Christopher Swain is, of course, well known as the organist and Choirmaster at St Mary’s Church, here in Painswick. He conducted the St Mary’s Choir in The Service of Lessons and Carols on Saturday 21st December. Some joined the pupils from the **Croft School for their Carol Service** on Tuesday 16th December (pictured above)

A little more light hearted, **The Painswick Singers** (pictured below) had their Christmas Concert on Saturday, 20th December in St. Mary’s, Painswick. Normally conducted by Andrew Hopwood, they will have Geoff Poole at the front on this occasion. They practice on Monday nights in the Painswick Church Rooms.

Ralph Kenber reported “that the Painswick Singers stretched themselves in some unfamiliar strands of Christmas music that clearly delighted their audience. But familiar strands were there too in a well constructed programme that followed their customary mix of choral items from the choir together with solos and readings and, unusual this year, organ solos.

The centrepiece was a selection from Vaughan Williams’ Cantata Hodie: with several readings that added lots of humour to the evening, greatly appreciated by the audience.

The Painswick Choir performed in the traditional Service of Lessons & Carols at St. Mary’s Church, on Sunday, December 21st. They meet regularly in St. Mary’s Church.

There is so much talent in Painswick and the Stroud Valleys



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The Bells

Painswick is fortunate in having one of the best rings of bells in the country and the current ringers have a difficult task living up to the achievements of their predecessors. Even today few towers have beaten the most notable record which was the ringing of 17,187 changes in 11 hrs and 32 mins in November 1930.

There are believed to have been bells at Painswick in the 1600's soon after the tower was built but details of these are not known. The current bells are based around a set of 10 that were cast by Abraham Rudhall in his foundry at Gloucester in 1731. This family of bell founders considered them to be amongst their best work. Over the years there have been various additions to our bells and there are now a total of 14 bells in the tower including the original 10 bells. The heaviest, tenor, bell weighs nearly 26 cwt. The bells are now hung in a metal frame. Visitors can admire the timbers from the original wooden bell frame which was used in the construction of the Lychgate at the west entrance to the churchyard.

The ringers are known collectively as the "Ancient Society of Painswick Youths". This society was formed in 1686 and thus can claim to be the oldest society in Painswick. Bell-ringing used to be an all-male preserve and ringers were paid. Nowadays it is a volunteer activity for young and old, male and female.

The bells are rung regularly for the main Sunday services (starting at 9.00 am for the 9.30 am service) and for weddings and other special occasions such as Art Couture. We practice on Tuesday nights starting at 7.30 pm. Ringing visitors and potential ringers are welcome. The ringing chamber entrance is up the steps on the north face of the tower (underneath the clock face).

Deborah Foreman Tower Captain

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PMAG

Two exciting ventures guided us into the next year.

First a tremendously widespread "Jazz Talk" presented by Robert Nichols: on 27th November. Not jazz as we know it - tuneful but quiet. Then increasingly exciting – The Joe Louis Blues, Gershwin Fascinating Rhythm, Tala Farodast, Misterioso and Humphrey Littelton: Get out of here and go home. By which time our feet tapped madly!

Secondly, on the 11th December our annual Christmas Party. Food and drinks were plentiful and first-class as was David Simpsons' quiz – friendlier than some we had in the past.

David will present Life and Music of Gustav Mahler on 8th January, 2.30 – 4.30 pm.

Ralph Kenber



YEW TREES WI TAKES TO THE AIR

Mark Cummings wakes up our County every weekday morning as a presenter for Radio Gloucestershire. His lively, informative and entertaining style brought animation to our November meeting. He talks easily to people and he wandered around asking individuals to record the top ten things that they regretted, memories of what their grandparents had taught them and anecdotes of Painswick life.

His energy for his job was infectious. How many people would get up at 3.30 a.m. to go to work and then later in the day write as a columnist for Cotswold Life, spend time with his family and then give talks until 9.00 p.m.? Mark is driven by his enthusiasm for and love of Gloucestershire.

He had us laughing at the way he had "kidnapped" tourists in the Northern Cotswolds and brought them by coach to the Stroud Valleys to show them the beauty and interest of our area. Also he had experienced "Parking Nemesis" in Stamages Lane car park when he had taken issue with the ticket machine (as we all have!).

Finally we recorded the ten to eight time check for his programme next day. Fame at last!

As this was the 10th Anniversary of the founding of the Yew Trees WI members enjoyed a slice of the delicious cake made by Mary Sparks and a glass of Prosecco. At the A.G.M. Jane Burt was unanimously re-elected as the President for the coming year together with a full set of committee members. 2014 has been a very successful year thanks to the help of so many people.

Janet Jenkins

Sports reports

assembled by John Barrus

Junior Rugby

Painswick Mini rugby have had an excellent start to the season with all teams competing well in their various fixtures and competitions.

The U/6 and U/7 sections are thriving with up to 25 boys and girls making their first steps into tag rugby and more importantly enjoying the game and the free hotdogs at the end! . Unfortunately the u/8's still struggle for numbers and would welcome additional boys and girls and any support with coaching. In the slightly older age groups the U/9's have had a fantastic start to the season with a squad of 14 local boys and two young ladies beating Minchinhampton, Hucclecote, Cirencester and Bredon (for the first time) as they have really progressed, moving from tag to tackle rugby for the first time. Their success has been emulated by the U/10 who under coach Steve White from the village have progressed to the 1/4 finals of the county cup having defeated bigger local rivals along the way. They too were victorious in a hard fought local encounter against Bredon. The U/11's (pictured) also have had a series of competitive games and enjoying their rugby with trips to Hucclecote and Stroud. Within the junior section all age groups are represented and this year the combined U/17's & U/18's have had a series of Sunday afternoon games and this new format seems to be working well at keeping the players involved at this age. It also gives a strong contingent of players who are nearly ready for the senior game.

Off the field the club will be hosting its annual Burns Night supper on 25th January - please contact Chris Hall for details. For mini, junior or senior rugby please visit the website Painswickrfc.org for more details. PS don't forget the Painswick Summer Ball, Friday 26th June.



Rugby

Painswick 21. Cheltenham Saracens 27

Painswick put in a much improved performance to run promotion contenders Saracens close and earn a valuable bonus point. Saracens were leading at half-time 22:0, however in the second half Painswick scored three tries, all converted, and were trailing by just one point with five minutes to go. Unfortunately Saracens regained possession and added a try near to the posts to take the match.

Badminton

Painswick Centre makes Badminton play impossible.

An early Christmas present to the Badminton Club was the introduction without discussion of low hanging Christmas decorations in the hall, which whilst very attractive, forced the Club to play elsewhere for five weeks. This treatment of the Club after being a loyal customer twice a week for 37 years has angered the 27 members the vast majority coming from Painswick. Not the service you expect from the Painswick Centre.

The Club did manage to hold its Christmas "fun and games night" including a new game of hit the balloons providing a fitting end to an otherwise excellent year of Badminton.

The Club usually plays on Mondays and Thursdays 8-10pm. New members welcomed.

Contact John Wylde 01452 814349

Golf

Have you thought of taking up golf as one of your New Year Resolutions? An invigorating walk across the Beacon, interspersed with hitting a small defenceless ball with a club. Healthy and therapeutic? Or just to meet up with friends for a sociable round of golf. To encourage new members, the club is offering a special deal of membership to the end of March for £75. For more details, please contact Ann Smith on 01452 380279 or email: secretary.painswick@virginmedia.com

The Seniors' section held its monthly medal (a stableford competition at this time of year) on 11th December. Gerry Wilson and John Courts both scored an excellent 44 points – but Gerry came out winner with a better 'back 9'. The annual Christmas competition was held on 4th December; this year it was a bowmaker in teams of three, with all to score on the par 3s and two to score on the other holes. The winners were Jim Eva, Norman Pullin and Anthony Fisher with a stunning score of 100 points. And a 4 club greensome competition held at the end of November resulted in a win for Peter Sibley and Duncan Toase. Congratulations to all the winners.

Painswick Golf Club welcomes visitors both to the course and to the clubhouse. Mike and Tom Horton provide meals and refreshments to members and visitors, and in addition to the popular Sunday lunch carvery will be starting a Wednesday lunchtime carvery in the New Year. Please contact Mike or Tom Horton for details and opening times (812180).

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Letters

The inclusion of letters, maximum 150 words, in these columns does not imply that the Beacon committee endorses the views expressed, or otherwise. Please supply the Beacon with your full name and address although such details will not appear in the Beacon unless you so request.

Speed Bumps

Richard Falconer writes

Jonathon Choat's pleading for speed bumps on the A46 could be an unconscious desire to prevent further incursion of the Tour de France but it would be more convincing if it were also signed by his neighbours, although they might be aware of the likelihood of the vibrations damaging their listed buildings.

On an even lighter note, do be wary of observing the speed limits too rigorously. I was followed from Stroud by a police car at a steady 50 and when I slowed smartly at the 30 limit I nearly collected the police car in my boot.

Parish Rates

David Allott from Stamages Lane writes

There are strong signs that we will all face the painful effects of more cuts in the next four years. The County Council and District Council will have much less money, so they will surely do less for Painswick. During this last year Painswick's resourceful citizens have done much for ourselves; we have long been practical examples of David Cameron's 'Big Society'. We have cleared our own pavements, cut branches so road signs are visible and operated radar guns to help in the campaign to cut speeding. We run our own library and no doubt we will do most of the snow and ice clearing when the predicted freeze arrives. I think we will need to do even more and the Parish Council will need more funds. I do hope our Councillors will be bold, and will increase the Parish rate and reserves soon, before they may get capped.

Hedge laying in Painswick.

We had our hedge laid using the traditional method of pleachers, stakes and heathering (bindings), in 1992, two years after we moved into our house. For about 15 years, we lightly trimmed the hedge every late winter. It was allowed to grow naturally for another 5 years, when it had then reached a height of some 4 metres.



After much searching, we were fortunate to find Robert Price and his son Ben, who are trained in this very ancient of country crafts. The results of their work are astonishingly pleasing to the eye and their work deserves encouragement. We have now ensured that this stretch of hedge will continue to thrive and nurture the many colonies of local wildlife.

Craig Dunn

Rural Jottings

Christmas around the farm

We have been bringing the cattle into the sheds for the winter: As we were walking out across four fields, one of our young farm cats followed, including crossing a stream. This cat stayed with us as we rounded the cattle up and headed for home, not a bit frightened.

It is busy organizing Christmas on the farm, working out the amount of feed needed to be delivered to keep the livestock fed till at least the end of the first week of January. Also, diesel, to keep the tractors and other main farm vehicles going. We still have to feed our livestock over Christmas and the New Year, with our homegrown silage and hay, clean out and bed them down with straw.

We have to ensure our hedges are stockproof. Hedge laying is very expensive to do; and labour intensive, using hand tools. So now, we find it cheaper to use stakes and barbed wire. We tend to buy three or four inch, round stakes, each five foot six long - in the thousands! So thousands of trees are being cut down.

Martin Slinger

Stroud CAB

VOLUNTEERS WANTED INFORMATION AFTERNOON AVAILABLE

Do you have time to spare? Are you looking for an interesting and satisfying volunteer opportunity? Stroud & District Citizens Advice Bureau needs more advisers and receptionists to help us meet the advice needs of our community.

The CAB is a busy and interesting place to volunteer, helping many people to resolve their problems. As a Receptionist you would get to meet a variety of people, being the first point of contact for our clients. As an Adviser you would be given full advice training and support to help clients resolve their problems. We have opportunities at our main bureau in Stroud and at our Dursley outreach and are looking for people who can spare 4 to 8 hours a week.

If you would like to find out more about volunteering with the CAB, come along to our Information Afternoon on Wednesday 14th January at 3:15pm at the Stroud CAB offices. We are located on the First Floor of Brunel Mall, London Rd., Stroud GL5 2BP (car park level 2A - where parking is free after 3pm). Please email denise.stride@stroudcab.org.uk to let me know that you plan to attend.

There is also more information on our website www.stroudcab.org.uk or look at the Citizens Advice volunteering page on www.citizensadvice.org.uk.

Denise Stride, CAB Administration Manager

Thank you

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Renewed from last year	454	448
Total including postal	504	489

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LovePainswick – moving forward for 2015 and Notice of an Inaugural Meeting

Since establishing LovePainswick as a business focus group associated with the Parish Council at the beginning of 2014, it has galvanised local business folk and community groups behind a desire to improve the promotion of Painswick for the benefit of the whole community. Key achievements have included establishing a significant and growing social media presence (specifically @LovePainswick on Twitter and Facebook), supporting the return of the Painswick Feast, holding regular surgeries/forums and, most recently, the development of a new brand for the town.

It is now time for this group to take the steps to become independent so that it can achieve even more, albeit the aim of the group remains “to increase the profile of Painswick both within the community and externally with the aim of sustaining local businesses and community groups”. Membership equally remains open to all local business and community groups within the Civil Parish of Painswick, including Painswick, Edge, Sheepscombe and Slad.

Notice of Inaugural Meeting: a small working party has formed to develop the Terms of Reference for this group to exist outside the Parish Council and these will be presented to all those who would like to attend on Thursday 22nd January at 7pm in the Town Hall. This meeting will also elect up to 8 Management Group members, agree the objectives for 2015 and present the new brand that has been developed drawing on local but internationally renowned branding talent. LovePainswick is a group for all who are interested in promoting Painswick both within the community and to visitors. It would be fabulous to see you on the 22nd!

Abigail Smith



Cup Cakes For Carers

Just to let everybody know that we had an enjoyable teaparty on December 9th. We now have a basic group who manage to come most months and several people who are so welcome to drop in from time to time. We still have space for a couple more so if you would like a short break from looking after a family member or friend do come along. As an added bonus, sometimes, mysteriously, we may be able to help you in some way. We have a drop-in tea party (free) in the Green Room at the Painswick Centre from 2.00-4.30pm on the second Tuesday of the month. Phone Pat on 813326 or Andrea 812464.

Pat Burrows

PROPERTY REPORT for January from Murrays

Firstly Murrays Estate Agents would like to wish everyone a very Happy New Year and hope that you have all had a lovely Christmas and enjoyed the festivities!

Murrays have enjoyed an extremely successful 2014 with our sales looking to be a very positive 60% up on the previous year! We are also delighted to have now moved to a much bigger premises in Stroud so things are all looking to be going in the right direction!


So what's going to happen in the New Year...? As I sure most of you know that from 4th December 2014 the Chancellor announced that there is to be big change in the stamp duty. Under the old rules, you paid a flat rate depending on the value of your property – that same rate applied to the entire transaction. Under the new rules the rate changes on a sliding scale, just like income tax. Stamp duty will therefore be calculated as follows: £0-£125,000 – no stamp duty, £125,000-£250,000 is 2%, £250,001 – £925,000 is 5%, £925,001 – £1.5million is 10% and more than £1.5million is 12%. Thus meaning that 98% of home buyers will now be paying less than before. For example for a property bought at £510,000, the total stamp duty would have been £20,4000 (a flat rate of 4%). Now that home would attract a stamp duty of only £15,500, and you'll be saving £4,900. This can only be a good thing for the property market and it looks as though this will boost the market in the New Year. In our opinion, the Chancellor's reform of stamp duty will prove a major boost to the property market in the New Year. The old 'slab system' only distorted the market while on present prices the vast majority of purchasers will see significant savings which should boost demand. Looking further ahead however there is the prospect of the General Election in May 2015, the result of which is currently more difficult to predict than ever.

Unfortunately the one thing the property market hates is uncertainty. So our advice to anyone thinking of selling next year is seek professional advice and plan ahead now. Take advantage of the impetus this reform to stamp duty will provide, before the inevitable hiatus in April/May when prospective purchasers will almost inevitably hold back to see who is in power thereafter. If you are looking to sell in the New Year then please ask us for our professional and experienced advice and for your free valuation give us a call on 01452814655.

We have again taken on many lovely new properties recently including Hope Cottage, a beautifully renovated 4 bedroom cottage on Gloucester Street, a plot of land with full planning for a 3 bedrooms house in Cotswold Mead, The Eagle, an impressive 6 bed Grade 11 listed former Coaching Inn and Public House on the Cheltenham Road in Pitchcombe with 4 acres, Millfield, a substantial semi detached family house in Cranham with panoramic views and 2 Daisy Cottages, a pretty and well presented 2 bedroom cottage in Epney.

Properties that are currently under offer are Baraclough House in Hambutts Mead, Painswick, Carsebreck on Kingsmill Lane, Painswick, Yew Tree Cottage on New Street, Painswick, 4 The Croft, Painswick, Vermont in Cranham and Lypiatt Cottage in Miserden. Properties that have now sold are Wycke Cottage in St Marys Street, Painswick, 4 The High Street in Upton St Leonards and 1 Daisy Cottages in Epney Cross, Epney.

James C Murray (Partner)



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JANUARY

Sun	4	Holy Communion (BCP) Mass Sung Eucharist Thanksgiving for the Birth of a Child	St Mary's Church Catholic Church St Mary's Church St Mary's Church	8.00am 8.30am 9.30am 11.30am
Mon	5	Painswick Valley Toddler Group - Mondays (school term time only) Short Mat Bowls - Mondays (contact 813627) Yoga (Mondays) contact Kim 812623	Pitchcombe Vill. Hall Town Hall Sheepscombe Vill. Hall	9.50 to 11.30am 10.30am 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	6	Zumba Gold dance fitness class for Seniors: £5 pp Tuesdays. Tel: 07766 101790 Health Walk (One Hour) - Tuesdays: Enq. 813228 Bingo: Tuesdays - Tel. Ann, 813911 / Liz, 814890	Painswick Centre Town Hall Ashwell House	10.00am 1.45 for 2.00pm 6.30 to 9.00pm
Wed	7	Yoga (Wednesdays) contact Kim 812623 Probus: Rail & Road through East Germany - David Thorp Painswick Toddler Group - held at Painswick Children's Centre: Wednesdays Table Tennis - Wednesdays Cotteswold Naturalists Field Club Lecture: Treasures & Trinkets - Kurt Adams. Enq. 813228	Sheepscombe Vill. Hall Painswick Centre Croft School Painswick Centre Painswick Centre	9.30 to 11.00am 10.00am 10.30am to 12noon 7.00 to 9.00pm 2.30pm
Thu	8	Yoga - All Abilities (Thursdays) Cotswold Room 812623 T'ai Chi: Thursdays - Contact 812344 Dog Training Club (Thursdays) Jolly Stompers Line Dancing: Beginners - Thursdays- tel. Julie - 01453 752480 Experienced beginners - Thursdays	Painswick Centre Town Hall Church Rooms Town Hall Town Hall	9.30 to 11.00am 9.30am 9.30 to 12.00noon 12.00 to 1.00pm 12.30 to 1.30pm
Fri	9	No Country Market (re-opens 16 January) Friday Club: The Death of a King - Peter Petrie	Town Hall	2.30pm
Sat	10	Painswick Beacon Conservation Group scrub clearance working party: location check 813734 or 814205	Painswick Beacon	9.00am to 1.00pm
Sun	11	Holy Communion (BCP) Mass Informal Holy Communion	St Mary's Church Catholic Church St Mary's Church	8.00am 8.30am 9.30am
Mon	12	Women's Probus: 50 years Before the Mast - Liz Hall / Life in Malaysia in the early 70's - Sylvia Steer Community Lunch: Hosts Painswick Centre Trustees (off Churchill Way)	Church Rooms Ashwell Centre	10.00am 12.00 to 1.15pm
Tue	13	Cupcakes: Support group for helpers of homebound through illness: Tel 813326	P. Centre Green Room	2.00 to 4.30pm
Wed	14	Gardening Club: Growing & Storing Veg. - K. Ferguson	Church Rooms	2.30pm
Fri	16	Country Market re-opens: Coffee available - Fridays	Town Hall	10.00am
Sun	18	Holy Communion (BCP) Mass Sung Eucharist Christian Unity Service: & Dedication of Boards from Christ Church	St Mary's Church Catholic Church St Mary's Church St Mary's Church	8.00am 8.30am 9.30am 4.00pm
Mon	19	Community Lunch: Hosts Churches Together around Painswick (off Churchill Way)	Ashwell Centre	12.00 to 1.15pm
Tue	20	Local History Society: History of Newspapers / Citizen Newspaper - John Lovell	Croft School	7.30pm
Wed	21	Probus: Commercial Energy Efficiency - A Common Sense Approach - Mike Brain, Severn Wye Energy Painswick Players Coffee Evening Parish Council Meeting	Painswick Centre Church Rooms Town Hall	10.00am 7.30 to 9.30pm 7.30pm
Thu	22	Churches Together around Painswick: Afternoon Tea & Speaker - an RAF Chaplain	Church Rooms	2.30pm
Fri	23	Friday Club: 'Teddy Bear's Triumph' - Harvey Sagar	Town Hall	2.30pm



Sat	24 Copy Date for February Beacon	Painswick Beacon Conservation Group scrub clearance working party: location check 813734 or 814205 Quizaid 24 in aid of Christian Aid Burns Night Supper (Hortons) Tel: 812180 to book table	Painswick Beacon Sheepscombe Vill. Hall Painswick Golf Club	9.00am to 1.00pm 7.00 for 7.30pm 7.00 for 7.30pm
Sun	25 Holy Communion (BCP)	Mass Painswick Praise	St Mary's Church Catholic Church St Mary's Church	8.00am 8.39am 9.30am
Mon	26 Community Lunch: Hosts Yew Trees W.I. (off Churchill Way)	Churches Together Agape: Tickets £10 from Terry Parker	Ashwell Centre The Bistro	12.00 to 1.15pm 7.00pm
Tue	27 Yew Trees W.I.: Country Dancing - Rev. Mike Holloway		Church Rooms	7.30pm
Wed	28 Cotteswold Naturalists Field Club Afternoon Tea: Portsmouth & Hampshire Reunion. Enq.01453 836618		The Hub, Minchinhampton	2.30pm
Thu	29 Painswick Players Play Reading contact Jill 01452 810888			7.30 to 10.00pm

FEBRUARY

Sun	1 Holy Communion (BCP)	Mass Sung Eucharist	St Mary's Church Catholic Church St Mary's Church	8.00am 8.30am 9.30am
Mon	2 Community Lunch: Hosts Painswick Golf Club. (off Churchill Way)		Ashwell Centre	12.00 to 1.15pm
Wed	4 Probus: Discovering a Family Tree - Dennis Halliday	Cotteswold Naturalists Field Club Lecture: Crystal Mountains - Dr. Roy Starkey Enq. 813228	Painswick Centre Painswick Centre	10.00am 2.30pm
Fri	6 Friday Club: Pottery Demonstration - Neil Alcock	Cotswold Caribbean Carnival with Pantastic steel band. Enq./tickets: email jenjevans@hotmail.co.uk	Town Hall Painswick Golf Club	2.30pm 6.30 to 10.30pm
Sat	7 February Issue of The Painswick Beacon published	Painswick Beacon Conservation Group scrub clearance working party: location check 813734 or 814205	Painswick Beacon	9.00am to 1.00pm
Mon	9 Probus Women: Stained Glass - Richard Cann	Community Lunch: Hosts - Falcon Bowling Club (off Churchill Way)	Church Rooms Ashwell Centre	10.00am 12.00 to 1.15pm
Wed	11 Bird Club: Garden Birds - Top Ten Facts - Edward Drewitt: joint afternoon meeting with Horticultural Society		Church Rooms	2.30pm
Sat	14 Theatre Club Outing to Oxford Theatre	Valentines Night Italian Dining (Hortons) Tel: 812180 to book table ABBA Tribute Night: Tickets £14	Stamages Car Park Painswick Golf Club Painswick Centre	11.00am 7.00 for 7.30pm 7.00 to 11.00pm
Mon	16 Community Lunch: Hosts - Friday Club (Off Churchill Way)		Ashwell Centre	12.00 to 1.15pm
Tue	17 Local History Society: Painswick & Stroud Clothiers - Ian Mackintosh		Croft School	7.30pm
Wed	18 Probus: What men should know about Prostate Cancer - Jim Laing		Painswick Centre	10.00am
Fri	20 Friday Club: The use of colour in our daily lives - Marion Zacks		Town Hall	2.30pm
Sat	21 Painswick Beacon Conservation Group scrub clearance working party: location check 813734 or 814205		Painswick Beacon	9.00am to 1.00pm
Mon	23 Community Lunch: Hosts - Richmond Village (Off Churchill		Ashwell Centre	12.00 to 1.15pm

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

S.14/2632/HHOLD BARN TO SOUTH OF HOLCOMBE HOUSE
Single Storey Extension to Barn.

S.14/2650/LBC & S.14/2649/HHOLD LAND AT BROWNSHILL COURT, Wick Street

Reinstatement of stable outbuildings.

S.14/2592/LBC & S.14/2593/HHOLD THE GABLES, Friday Street

Removal of early 20th C partitions at first floor to reveal decorative 16thC plasterwork ceilings. Repair plasterwork using traditional methods and materials. Erection of new partition walls corresponding with the limits of the plasterwork ceilings. Provision of new bathroom. Convert current stone garage to a bedroom for a dependant relative for whom the applicant is the registered carer. Erection of single storey extension adjacent to new bedroom on existing garden terrace to form library/sitting room.

S.14/2694/HHOLD THE COACH HOUSE, Sevenleaze Lane, Edge
Two storey side and single storey rear extensions.

S.14/2568/FUL LAND PARCEL WEST OF PROSPECT COTTAGE, Bulls Cross, Sheepscombe

Application for two new dwellings.

S.14/2503/VAR HOME COTTAGE, PLOUGH COTTAGE AND PIPPINS COTTAGE, Well Farm, Wick Street

Removal and/or variation of conditions (b) and (c) as attached to Planning Permission S.296/F

S.14/2709/TCA WOODSEND, Butt Green Whitebeam x 1. Remove the leaning stem over the footpath. Norway Maple. Reduce 2m from the tips.

S.14/2755/LBC GAZEBO AND BLOW FAMILY MEMORIALS, Sevenleaze Lane, Edge. Replace tiles on roof.

S.14/2740/HHOLD FOXBURY, Damsells Mill Lane, Sheepscombe

Residential extension and internal alterations, plus new window and door arrangements throughout existing dwelling.

S.14/2733/FUL BLAKEWELL FARM, Edge Road. Demolition of existing outbuildings to be replaced with garage and store.

S.14/2741/HHOLD & S. 142827/LBC TOPHAMS, Friday Street

Demolition of single storey rear extension. Construction of new single storey rear extension. Alteration to existing stair.

S.14/2759/LBC BROWNSHILL COURT, Wick Street. 1. Lower cill level and replace window to utility room on ground floor. 2. Reinstatement doorway in blocked opening in plant room on ground floor. 3. Insert fanlights into existing arches above two doors in hallway on first floor. 4. Modify stair in Laundry on second floor for safe entry and addition of mezzanine.

S.14/2780/HHOLD . 9 THE CROFT
Front extension to private dwelling house.

S.14/2842/ADV & S.14/2843/LBC

OLD BAKERY, New Street

Erection of one hanging sign for business.

S.14/2830/HHOLD 1A UPPER WASHWELL

Insertion of rooflight and formation of French doors to gable elevation.

CONSENT

S.14/2186/FUL 4 COURT ORCHARD
Erection of two dwellings.

S.14/1488/LBC C R A N M O R E COTTAGE, Vicarage Street

Remove decaying 'lean to' of glass/brick and perspex roof, which includes 'outside' toilet, within its boundary – replacing it with a conservatory/garden room of same width of 3.90m, but deeper from 1.48m to no more than 3.50m.

S.14/2316/HHOLD

CRANMORE COTTAGE, Vicarage Street

Remove decaying lean to replacing it with a conservatory/garden room. Also erect a wooden garden shed in top terrace garden.

S.14/2370/TCA THE ROWANS, Sheepscombe

T1 and T2 Maple to re-pollard. T3 mature Maple to be reduced in height by 15ft. T5 Dead elm to be felled.

S.14/2291/HHOLD HIGHGROVE HOUSE, Lower Washwell Lane

Replacement of ancillary buildings with extension to lounge and family room (86sqm to be demolished, 88.31sqm extension), plus new detached garage and garden store.

S.14/2016/FUL HOLCOMBE FOLLY
Erection of an agricultural storage barn.

REFUSED

S.14/2284/CPL 1A UPPER WASHWELL
Insertion of velux rooflights on rear elevation & French windows to side elevation

WITHDRAWN

S.14/2591/HHOLD BLAKEWELL FARM, Edge Road

Demolition of existing outbuilding to be replaced with proposed double garage .

BUSINESS

New Year Resolution, **learn french**, with Native Speaker, all levels, 20+ years experience, free introductory lesson, call Sylvain on 07779819602

Wanted 4+ Bedroom house to rent. I run a health/detox retreat in Painswick, and I'm looking for a property to use for the retreat next year. www.thejuiceretreat.co.uk helen@thejuiceretreat.co.uk

Tutoring in French (native speaker) for adults and children. Individual tuition and workshops. Bénédicte : 07884 791 743 or vabeneprod@gmail.com - www.vabeneprod.weebly.com

Tree work: landcare services: Tree Work to Big Trees: Small Trees: All Trees: Clare, John & Zeb Painswick 01452 812709: 07969 918121: johnrhodes@phonecoop.coop

Firewood: Ash & Beech Firewood: Call Zeb on 07850 647486. Painswick

Gardener with 30 years+ experience seeks regular or one off work. Own equipment, pruning speciality, well versed for all scenarios. Free quotes / hourly rates (minimum 4 hrs). Visit www.eco-landscapesstroud.co.uk or ring J-L Bos on 01453-299245.

Child Care / Housekeeper Cleaning/Ironing. Honest, reliable lady seeks employment. Experienced. Excellent references available. Tel: Tracy 07971780854 / 01452 770433

Village Therapies – balanced health, naturally. Systematic Kinesiology: food sensitivities, digestive problems, stress/emotional issues, pain/structural issues, weight management. Massage: therapeutic, deep tissue, natural facelift. Tel 07745128331, e-mail jilly@villagetherapies.com

Sabina Marland at www.anaturalhealing.com at Painswick surgery - great for sports injuries, sinusitis, hormonal difficulties, migraine, ME, stress/trauma/emotional issues, pain relief, IBS, digestive issues and many more - Tel. 812290.

Work wanted by fit and reliable 20 year old young man. Anything considered, gardening, labouring, decorating, cleaning etc. Please email allen-owen@live.co.uk.

New Home needed for The Painswick Community Press and associated equipment. Have you got an unused stable or outbuilding where we could store our Orchard Group Equipment including the community apple press? Ideally somewhere with a source of water and electric where we could do some pressing during the autumn months? Tel: Iris or Greg for details 812879

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MINI-ADS are free to subscribers.

For non-subscribers and all in the Vacancies or Business category there is a flat charge of £5.00. Text maximum of 30 words + payment by cheque in advance, to 'The Painswick Beacon', to **Joyce Barrus, Millcroft, Steppingstone Lane, Painswick GL6 6RU**

Most of us spend a lot of time indoors in winter, so it's important that you are comfortable and safe there. And it's essential that you keep your home warm. Low temperatures increase the risk of flu and other respiratory problems and can raise blood pressure. Blood pressure takes longer to return to normal in older people after being out in the cold, increasing the risk of heart attacks and strokes. The colder your home, the higher the risk to your health. Keep your main living room around 70°F/21°C, and the rest of the house should be heated to at least 64°F/18°C.

VILLAGE Agents

Many of us worry about rising fuel costs, so it's important to make sure you're not missing out on any benefits or discounts you're entitled to that will help you keep your home warm.

Most people born before 5th July 1952 are entitled to the Winter Fuel Payment in 2014-15 to help with heating costs. This is a tax-free payment of between £100 and £300 paid to you between November and December. Previous recipients should have been paid automatically, but if this is the first year that you are eligible, contact the Winter Fuel Payment helpline to ensure that you don't miss out.

If you receive Pension Credit, or certain other benefits, you're automatically paid a Cold Weather Payment when the temperature is at 0°C (32°F) or below for seven days in a row. You may be entitled to a Warm Home Discount on your electricity bill if you receive Pension Credit or if you're on a low income. It's a one-off discount usually made between October and March. Check with your energy supplier or ask an advice agency such as Age UK. Find out more at www.gov.uk/the-warm-home-discount-scheme. Contact your energy supplier if you're having trouble paying your bills. Companies should not disconnect all pensioner households during the winter months. I am aware of some help available at

the moment for grants for "surviving winter". If you would like to know more, give me a ring. Check your current energy tariff and shop around to see if you can get a better deal. Age UK have a fact sheet called "switching Energy Supplier". If you are unable to get it from them, I can get you a copy. The Age UK Group has an association with E.ON which offers an Age UK energy tariff. For more information, call E.ON on 0800 015 6784.

The Village Agent scheme is county wide, helping over 50's with information and support. Please call me to arrange a home visit.

Age UK Advice: 0800 169 65 65

Lines are open seven days a week from 8am to 7pm.

www.ageuk.org.uk

Charis Grants

Directs people to grants to clear utility debts owed to certain energy providers. Tel: 01733 421 021 www.charisgrants.com

Citizens Advice Consumer Service

A consumer advice and complaints service.

Tel: 0345 404 0506 www.adviceguide.org.uk

Energy Saving Trust

Provides free advice on saving energy.

Tel: 0300 123 1234 www.energysavingtrust.org.uk

Home Heat Helpline

Provides advice for people having difficulty paying their fuel bills. It offers advice on cheaper payment schemes, grants for insulating homes, how to get on to the Priority Services Register for extra services, and information on extra government benefits.

Tel: 0800 33 66 99

Information taken from Age UK "Winter wrapped up" guide

Lou Kemp 07776 245767

Rococo Reflections

The closed season at the Garden surprisingly is a hive of activity and with no visitors we can really get stuck into all that disruptive maintenance work. This year branches and trees have tumbled as we carried out all the recommended tree surgery required for a Garden open to the public. We have a formal survey done once every five years which highlights where trees or branches are showing signs of weakness.

During the middle of December we installed a series of unusual sculptures which will be on display during the start of the year. The most notable is a 7ft high snowdrop made from pieces of mosaic. We first saw this at the Malvern Spring show and felt it was something that we just had to have to share with our visitors. Snowdrop gardens always compete at this time of the year to claim they have discovered a new variety, I think this year we will trump them all.

Paul Moir






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The Christmas draws on Goodwill Evening produced the following winners:

Hamper - Ann Newhill
Stocking - Ethan Cookson.

Story time Story time will continue for pre school children on Monday afternoons, at 2.15 pm, restarting on 12th January. Stories, rhymes, songs and movement !

Village Diary

Joyce Barrus is setting up a Village Diary to enable all organisations to know what each other is up to and to avoid clashes and duplications! Further details to follow.

Book Signing by Charles Evans 24th January

Charles is a local author who has written a novel "Falklands Revenge". He will be at the library signing copies from 11.00 – 1.00 on Saturday 24th January. Coffee and biscuits will be available. Proceeds from the book are going to military charities.

New Books

New books include Richard Flanagan's The Narrow Road to the Deep North – winner of the 2014 Booker Prize, and all the other shortlisted books. Also we have new books by Santa Montefiore, Peter May and Kirsty Wark. In the junior section, Jeff Kinney' Diary of a Wimpy Kid – the Long Haul and Hannah Shaw's Stan Stinky books. A list of new additions to library stock is available in the library every month –look out for your favourite authors.



Advance Notice The Library AGM will be held on Thursday 12th February 7.00pm in the library. Finally Don't forget we are on Twitter (@Painswicklib) for up to date news and events

Ian Cridland



"Painswick Gardening Club - a Quizzers Treat

A month on and it's positively balmy: well maybe that's a bit of an exaggeration but it is still incredibly mild. Yesterday I spotted snowdrops just coming into flower in my garden and they aren't the early variety. It's inevitable that with so much going on in December, dates and times of events will clash but, despite this, many Members turned out for the quiz night which proved to be a great success and I don't think anyone went home disappointed! Members were greeted by resplendent red festive tables, wine and nibbles and the evening was happy, relaxed and fun from start to finish. Steve Quinton (Head Gardener at the Rococo Garden) was a great quizmaster and his involvement was much appreciated by us all. Teams were incredibly competitive with some notching up points that were within a whisker of each other. I think some Members will be swotting up on all things gardening for next year in an attempt to get their hands on the trophy!

A couple of days later, 8 Club Members met up at Cotswold Gardening School in Gossington for a wreath making workshop taken by Caroline Tatham. Caroline is quite the expert: so much so she was asked to craft wreaths for Highgrove this year. Needless to say, our morning was great fun (a little more competition!) and after sifting through the overwhelming assortment of bits to embellish the wreaths with, we left with a new skill and unique masterpieces! We are in the process of sharing the pictures on the website (www.thepainswickgardeningclub.com).

DON'T FORGET that our talk on 14th January starts at 2.30pm in the Church Rooms and should tickle the taste-buds as we hear from Keith Ferguson about all things edible in the vegetable world.

And before I sign off for 2014, just another reminder that the Gardening Club is in the process of arranging a trip to the Malvern Spring Show on Saturday 9th May '15 (more details to follow). We would really appreciate it if Members could let us know if they are interested either by email or at our next meeting so we can have a clearer idea of numbers. Wishing everyone a Happy and Healthy New Year."

Caroline Bodington (Committee Member)

Simon Gyde

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FFI Telephone: 07716 605175
Email: annepolet@yahoo.com

The Personal Column

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.

Birthday celebration

MAURICE MAGGS celebrates his 90th Birthday on January 6th. He is one of our local music enthusiasts and supports our local choirs as a bass singer. He is also active in the Music Society and the Music Appreciation Group. Obviously music, particularly singing, is good for us!

Thank you

I am so thrilled to have won the fabulous Library Christmas Hamper this year and would like to take this opportunity to thank all the staff and wonderful volunteers for all the work they do in the library throughout the year. With thanks, Anne Newhill.

Thank you to the Painswick Parish Council, particularly Chairman, Martin Slinger, for coffee and mincepies at the Country Market Friday morning, 19th December. Excellent social venue for meeting up in the town and buying some of the locally produced vegetables, cakes, plants and Christmas presents.

Pantastic Christmas Concert 2014

Thank you to those who joined us for the Pantastic Christmas Party at the Painswick Pavilion. There was a real feeling of festive fun with great music, Christmas nibbles and mulled wine. The Pantastic band has been rehearsing since May 2013 and currently has a senior group of year 7's and junior section of year 4 and 5's. Both junior and senior bands performed exceptionally well on the night and a recording was made on the evening. The Pantastic Christmas CD is available to purchase (£7.50 each, £5 for 4 or more). All proceeds go to purchasing new pans and tuning the current instruments at an annual cost of £50.00 per year. Email jenjevans@hotmail.co.uk or visit Pantastic website www.pantasticpainswick.co.uk to order and find out more information.

Cotswold Caribbean Carnival in Painswick - Feb 6th !

The Pantastic steel band kindly invites you to join us for a unique Caribbean Carnival at the Golf Club in Painswick on Friday 6th February. With guest bands Panache, Deerpark Pans and Mango Jam Jazz Band. Please join us for a fun filled musical extravaganza. 18:00 Doors open, ticket price £5:00 adults (incl. welcome drink), children free 18:30 Food to purchase - Caribbean nibbles and main course / bar 19:00 Steel bands performance. 20:30 Mango Jam Jazz Band. 22:00 Disco We look forward to seeing you in colourful dress code ! Prizes for best Caribbean costume. Ticket bookings / enquiries please email jenjevans@hotmail.co.uk

Jenny Evans

Beacon Village Quiz

Saturday 7th March

in the Painswick Centre.

Teams of four please which could come from a club or society, local street or just a group of friends.

If you wish to reserve a table then a quick email to barrusjp@yahoo.co.uk will prompt an acknowledgment or drop a note in the Beacon post box. The cost per team including light refreshments will be £18.

Congratulations

HOLLY FALCONER a Painswick girl who volunteered as part of our ACP photographic team for the Festival this year has had some of her ACP images included in a National Geographic Feature. This is an amazing coup for Holly and we are very proud of her. *Judie Hill*

Condolences

Our sincere sympathies to the family and friends of REV CANON SARAH JAMES who died peacefully at Badgeworth Court on 9th December after a long illness. She first came to Painswick in 1964 with her husband Hywel, and became leader of the Young Wives Group in 1968. Hywel and Sarah moved to Manchester in 1974 and then in 1976 to Chislehurst. Sarah became a Reader in the Church of England, subsequently Warden of Readers and President of the Mothers Union for the Rochester Diocese. When they returned to Painswick in 1996 Sarah became Warden of Readers for the Gloucester Diocese. She was a member of General Synod for many years. She was ordained in 2007. After many years serving in the parish of St Andrews, Churchdown she retired in 2011.

NEXT ISSUE

Publication date

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for editorial attention only use

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or hard copy - preferably typed

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web site - about us

www.painswickbeacon.org.uk

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

The Beacon Team

Co-ordinating Editor this month

John Barrus 812942

barrusjp@yahoo.co.uk

Editing Associates

Peter Jenkins 812724

pdj.beacon@gmail.com

Terry Parker 812191

terence5545@btinternet.com

Next Month's Editor

Terry Parker 812191

terence5545@btinternet.com

Personal Column

Jenny Gaugain 812599

f.gaugain@btinternet.com

Diary

Edwina Buttrely 812565

mikeandeddie@thebuttreys.com

Feature writers

Carol Maxwell 813387

Carolmaxwell@talktalk.net

Sport

John Barrus 812942

barrusjp@yahoo.co.uk

Distribution

Celia Lougher 812624

celia@lloydstone.plus.com

Treasurer

Richard Aspinall 812379

rgrasp@tiscali.co.uk

Advertising

Joyce Barrus 812942

joycebarrus@yahoo.co.uk

Subscriptions

Jacek Wolowiec 813295

wol.braemar@gmail.com

Directory

Carol Maxwell 813387

Carolmaxwell@talktalk.net

Associate

Leslie Brotherton 813101

mr@lesliebrotherton.com



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