

The Painswick Beacon

Volume 45 Number 2

May 2022

Good Friday witness



Photo: Trevor Radway

The traditional procession of witness with the cross took place on Good Friday as usual.

Be part of Painswick's Jubilee Bunting

Over the long weekend of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, the village will play host to lots of events to celebrate, and it needs to look the part: so of course we need some bunting! Every person, every club, every group, every society, is invited to decorate a jubilee flag, which will then be sewn together to create some very special bunting, unique to our community.



The Jubilee Bunting will not only decorate the village over the long weekend, but will also be a snapshot of Painswick in 2022 and a keepsake for the village for years to come. Huge thanks to those businesses and groups who have already pledged a donation to help cover costs.

We will also need volunteers to offer to help sew lengths of bunting, and people who could help put the bunting up on Wednesday 3rd, and take it down on Monday 6th June. Please do email me at susieandrews101@gmail.com if you can help.

You will be able to collect a plain flag (or flags) to decorate from the following places – please keep an eye out for posters and online for an announcement when they are ready:

- Handmade in Painswick Café
- Painswick Pharmacy
- The Oak
- Painswick Community Library
- The Painswick

Susie Andrews



This Friday 6th May the film is West Side Story at the Painswick Centre 7.00 for 7.30pm

Painswick's Egg Hunt

After two years of lockdown and a smaller than usual committee arranging this year's hunt was a challenge.

However the efforts of the volunteers really triumphed and brought the village together on what was a beautifully sunny Easter weekend.

The egg hunt was a great success and raised a grand total of £3,978.15 for the playgroup funds. Many thanks to everyone who supported the event by taking part in the hunt or supporting the other activities - the cake stall, raffles and tombola and face painting.



More pictures of some of the eggs can be seen on the back page.

On other pages:

- Page 3... PPC decision on War Memorial
- Page 4... Painswick Open Gardens
- Page 4... Changed copy deadline for June Beacon

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

from the meetings held on 20th April

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 and on-line at the Parish Council's web site.

PLANNING COMMITTEE

The meeting started at 7pm.

Present: Cllrs Rob Lewis (Chairman), Andy Cash, Ian Massey, Roey Parker, Martin Slinger.

Apologies for absence: Cllrs Rosie Nash and Ann Daniels.

Matters requiring a decision

S.22/0719/HHOLD. 1 Swiss Cottages & Darkest Peru, Kings Mill Lane.

Erection of single storey extension with alterations to roadside parking.

S.22/0709/HHOLD. The Buddings, Slad Road, Stroud.

Alterations to existing garage to provide store.

S.22/0711/LBC. The Buddings, Slad Road, Stroud.

Reduce the garage front by approx. 2.7m. Reduce front roof upstand.

The Committee agreed to support the above applications. During the discussion of S.22/0709/HHOLD & S.22/0711/LBC Cllr Andy Cash declared an interest and left the meeting

S.22/0607/FUL. Land at Beech Lane, Painswick.

Replacement of existing timber stable & construction of timber field shelter.

The Committee agreed to support this application but were concerned about parking.

S.22/0636/LBC. Hambutts End, Edge Road.

Replace window to kitchen, reception room 1, bedroom 1, (sash window and small side window) and bedroom 3 (attic side window), repoint rear and side elevation. Replace plastic guttering to side and rear elevations. (Retrospective).

The Committee objected to this application as the Members were concerned that the white PVC guttering was not in

keeping with the listed building status and agreed to ask that the District Council's Conservation Officer visit the site prior to determination.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7.20 pm.

PARISH COUNCIL

The Meeting started at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllrs Martin Slinger (Chairman), Andy Cash, Rob Lewis, Ian Massey, Roey Parker, Abigail Smith.

Apologies: Cllrs Ann Daniels and Rosie Nash. County Councillor Sue Williams and District Councillor Jason Bullingham also sent their apologies.

REPORTS

County Council. Cllr Sue Williams had submitted a written report prior to the meeting. In summary:

Ukraine. At its meeting on 23rd March, the full council agreed and affirmed that, "We stand with Ukraine and offer our full support for the people and their government in the face of unprovoked aggression." We will "provide any reasonable help and support to all Ukrainian nationals living in Gloucestershire and recognise the generosity of the public in offering homes to refugees." We will "work with District colleagues and GARAS (Gloucestershire action for Refugees and Assylum Seekers) to provide support for all refugees who arrive in Gloucestershire to help ensure that accommodation is appropriate, safe and sustainable." Finally, "this council extends its thoughts and prayers to members of the Gloucestershire Ukrainian community and pays tribute to the incredible generosity the people of Gloucestershire have shown in their personal efforts to support the humanitarian response to this crisis."

Health & Social Care. The council is undertaking a six-week consultation period relating to the proposed closure of four of its existing care homes, The homes are at Orchard House, Bishops Cleeve, Westbury Court, Westbury, Bohanam House,

Gloucester and The Elms at Stonehouse. The consultation findings will be reported to the cabinet members in June when they will be asked to make a final decision whether or not to proceed with the closure of the four homes. The report states that residents do not need to do anything at the moment. They will continue to receive the care they need. If plans to close are approved residents and those who support them will be fully supported in finding the most appropriate way to meet their needs.

New special school for Stroud proposed.

The proposed new school would offer 60 places for children aged 4-11 years with moderate and additional learning difficulties (MALD), for the academic year 2023/2024 in the school building formerly occupied by Severn View Primary Academy. The county council is asking parents and carers, head teachers, and local residents, especially those who live close to the proposed location for the new school to share their views on the proposal.

Repair, re-use and help for a greener Gloucestershire.

The report states that "Repairing and reusing items is even better for the environment than recycling, it can save money, reduce carbon emissions, reduce plastic waste, and reduce resource use. If everyone in Gloucestershire repairs just one item, more than 600,000 items could be saved – the equivalent of 125 lorries of recycling. Repair Cafes have been set up across the county, where talented volunteers can repair items for you. Items such as clothes, electronics, furniture, bric-a-brac, and bikes are all regularly brought along and repaired. Those people that have DIY or crafting skills are encouraged to get involved and share their skills at their local Repair Café. There are Repair Cafes all over Gloucestershire, including in Cheltenham, Cirencester, Yorkley, Newent, Tewkesbury, Stroud and Nailsworth." The report asks that we get involved using #GreenerGloucestershire on social media, with our stories, hints and tips on repair.

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District Council. There was no report.

Parish Council Chairman

Cllr Slinger gave the following report.

“We are now moving forward to a New Year in the life of our Parish Council hoping that the worst of the Covid is now past. When you see that even with Covid, we are moving forward and that we have managed to obtain some funding to update the Audio/ Visual Equipment in the Town Hall. People are coming to me in frustration that things are not moving fast enough for their liking on decisions made. It takes time mostly out of our control to get information from other bodies but unfortunately that is life at the moment.

It is with great sadness that I have to tell you that Councillor Kate Amos has to leave the Parish Council. We wish her luck in the future. We have had a large number of planning applications come before us, and now with planning meetings every two weeks, occasionally it means the start of the Parish Council meeting is delayed for a few minutes.

New Councillor. The Council, having received one application for co-option to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Cllr Edward Boulton who was leaving the area, agreed to the co-option of Mr Adrian Gyde.

Land & Buildings Committee recommendations

War Memorial Hedge. The Council agreed the following recommendation.

“After giving due consideration to the advice from the SDC Arborist and Conservation Officer that the Yew Hedge is providing excellent environmental protection to the Listed War Memorial and that any removal of the Hedge would have a tremendously negative, visual and protective impact on the War Memorial and its surrounds, the Council agrees that no action to remove or reduce the Yew Tree Hedge is undertaken and that the normal annual maintenance of the hedge is continued”.

War Memorial. The Council agreed the following recommendation.

“After giving due consideration to the SDC Conservation Officer’s advice, the Council agrees that it will pursue a standalone method to in script or to erect a plaque to record the names of the fallen on a separate

column or plinth, as it was not considered appropriate to make any alterations to the Listed War Memorial”.

Resolution to the Gloucestershire Association of Parish and Town Councils (GAPTC).

After a lengthy debate the Council agreed the following resolution to be submitted to the GAPTC.

“All holiday let establishments be, as a minimum registered, so that each District/ LPA is able to monitor and control the number and usage of such properties.

Ward Reports.

- Community Speed Webinar. Cllr Abigail Smith reported that she would be attending the webinar.

- Emergency Plans. It was reported that the Chairman and Vice Chairman would be attending a meeting to discuss Emergency Plans.
- Sheepscombe 20 is Plenty. Cllr Roey Parker reported that the “20 is Plenty” bins signs in Sheepscombe have been well received.
- Emergency road closures. The Council expressed its concerns about the lack of suitable traffic management for emergency road closures, giving two recent examples along Pullens Road and Gloucester Street. It was agreed to discuss these concerns with the County Councillor.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.25 pm.

Painswick Parish Council – Chairman’s Annual Report 2021 / 22

We are delighted to see groups coming together and returning to some form of normality in Painswick and our villages after what has been a very difficult period for the community.

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to the Painswick Community Support Group who have been instrumental in setting up a Painswick Hub, this has been extremely successful. Currently you can have chat, a cuppa and a piece of cake for a small donation on most Fridays. The Group are also working closely with other Community Support Organisations to provide the best welfare coverage throughout the Parish. The Council are currently updating our Parish Plan and this will go out for Public Consultation, so we would value public input.

We have ordered two further defibrillators, one for the Painswick Centre, funding kindly provided by the Painswick Senior Fitness Group and one to be installed on the Painswick Golf Club, our thanks to our County Councillor, Sue Williams for securing the funding. The Community were able to obtain from the Gloucestershire County Councils "Building Better fund" to hold a Christmas Event, our thanks to the Volunteers at the Painswick Centre for the organisation of the events.

The Council are currently considering the War Memorial to preserve it for the future by retaining those lost names.

We are working with a local Community Volunteer Group to explore the installation of Electric Vehicle charging points.

Ash dieback has been a problem within the Parish, and we have needed to undertake some felling on the Recreation Ground. The Council is working on a replacement tree planting scheme throughout the Parish.

With the increase of people out walking our footpaths and commons, please ensure that your dogs are kept under control, and that fouling is picked up.

Finally, I would like to extend my uttermost thanks to everyone in the Parish that makes it such a wonderful place to reside and ensuring an excellent community feeling of wellbeing, my fellow Councillors for all the hard work they have undertaken over the past 12 months and our two clerks and our dedicated grounds staff.

*Martin Slinger
Chairman of the Parish Council*



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Painswick Open Gardens

After a two year Covid-induced gap, Hamptons Painswick office are delighted to announce we will once again be hosting our immensely popular Painswick Open Gardens on Saturday 28th May from 11am to 3pm. All proceeds raised from the day will go to support our company charity partner, Cancer Research UK, for whom Hamptons have so far raised over £350,000.



Tickets will be available on the day from the Painswick Centre from where we will also be selling a small range of plants along with tea, coffee and cakes to help rejuvenate tired legs. We have been granted permission for visitor parking on the recreation field accessed from Lower Washwell Lane from where there is a footpath leading through to Bisley Street with further parking available in the Stamages Lane public car park.

We expect to have many properties opening their garden gates for us on the day and would like to express our thanks to those who have already committed to join us in this fund-raising venture. If you would like to help out by opening your garden or by offering to bake a cake or donate plants we'd love to hear from you on 01452 812354 or at painswick@hamptons.co.uk

Nearly one in two of us will have cancer at some point in our lives. Why not invite your friends or family to visit you on the day and take them to explore some of Painswick's hidden gardens and help us in our mission to raise funds for Cancer Research UK to help beat cancer.

Downton House open garden

The garden at Downton House, Painswick is opening again for the National Garden Scheme – 1.00 to 4.30pm on Wednesday 11th and Thursday 12th May (entrance in Hollyhock Lane).

The money raised will go to the National Garden Scheme which last year donated over £3 million to nursing charities, including Macmillan Cancer Support, Marie Curie and the Carers' Trust.



Last year, the garden opened for the NGS just as lockdown restrictions were being relaxed and visitors were delighted to be outside, pottering around a garden and then sitting having tea and chatting happily to strangers. It was a very welcome return to normality after being cooped up for so long.

Jane Kilpatrick said, 'I was so pleased that we manage to raise over £700 last year. This year, we are opening on two afternoons so we should be able to beat that total. I do hope people will come and support us. The garden always looks good in early May and there will be plenty of delicious cake.'

Jane Kilpatrick
01452 813861

Church garden -

Spring update

The Gloucester Diocese has recently awarded a faculty, for work on the flower garden, in the Churchyard, to continue.

A paved area has been established, to facilitate the use of the new compost bins and a yew hedge has been planted, which in time will screen these bins. Some additional planting has contributed to enhancing the area, which looks particularly attractive, at present. Many of those, who use the footpath through the churchyard, have remarked on how pretty it looks. If, when you are walking past, you spy a weed, do feel free to pull it out!

As the garden will need continuing care, to maintain it, in good order: extra volunteer gardeners would be welcomed, as well as contributions of plants and money. If you are able to help in any way, do please contact the Garden Committee, care of the office at the Lych gate.

Joan Wells

Copy deadline

Due to the double bank holiday for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations and the need publicise all the events taking place over the weekend it has been decided that the publication date for the June Beacon will be Wednesday 1st June.

As a result we also have to bring forward the copy deadline **Thursday 19th May**

Please make a note of this and endeavour to get all your usual reports in by this date.

With thanks for your cooperation.

The Beacon Team


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Community Hub

Our thanks to Richmond Village for hosting the community hub coffee morning on Friday 25th March. The morning was well attended, in part due to Paul providing transport and being so accommodating - thank you Paul. Villagers and residents were able to enjoy coffee and cake together - the cakes were delicious! Our next quarterly get-together at Richmond will be on Friday 24th June where we hope to be in the rooftop garden, weather permitting. Once again transport will be provided, departing from the Town Hall - times to be advised.

Good Friday

We were pleased to welcome (CTAP) Churches Together Around Painswick on April 15th who joined us at the Community Hub for coffee and Hot Cross Buns after the Good Friday procession of witnesses.

Lions Club Message in a Bottle Initiative

This has been well received and we will continue to offer these kits every Friday. Kits will be left in a box on one of the tables. If you are unsure how this initiative works, please ask one of the volunteers or committee members or email/call the Painswick Community Support (details below).

Digibus

We are hoping to have Digibus Gloucestershire visit us soon. Digibus is a resource-filled double decker bus which travels around Gloucestershire stopping at community hubs and towns to provide free digital guidance. The project aims to improve skills and confidence using digital technology, to help better connect people and reduce social isolation. All ages are welcome; training is delivered by the Digibus trainer and onboard volunteers. If you need help to start shopping online, have a mobile device question, want to understand more about internet security or perhaps want to know more about how to navigate GP websites then Digibus can help. A date for the Digibus visit will be in the next edition of the Beacon.

Support

We would not be able to offer Friday community hub without the support of villagers who donate their time to run the kitchen or who donate delicious cakes, tray bakes and biscuits. Thank you.

We also want to thank those who attend and enjoy the hub - your generous donations to the hubs 'pay as you feel' tin means we have so far raised around £500. We are now considering how to donate proceeds back into the village; further details will be in the June Beacon.

Future dates for your diary

Friday 20th May - drop-in visit from Vicky Allen, Sportily's new sport and faith leader for the Beacon community and surrounding villages.

Friday 24th June - Richmond Village hosting Friday community hub

Friday 24th June - drop in visit from Debbie Collicott, Painswick Community Police Officer (Richmond Village)

If you need help or support or have any questions, please call or email us (mobile: 07956203087, email: painswickcommunityt@gmail.com). Our phone is manned 7 days a week from 9am to 5pm).

Louise Smith on behalf of Painswick Community Support

Jottings

It is more important these days to know what you are growing in relation to grassland, flower meadows, and other types of seeding.

If your grassland is getting a bit bare with spots where there is no growth whatsoever, we can "over seed". Machines have been designed to drill new seed into your existing grassland without ploughing it up as we used to do.

Much of the permanent grassland we have in our valleys has been there for hundreds of years. There are a lot of commercial seed mixtures available now for different purposes. They can be sown in spring or autumn. A lot of modern grassland is of the ryegrass type because this grows fast and produces great bulk. Herbal over seeding is mostly ryegrass with added red clover for protein. This clover also improves the yield and the quality of the crop. These mixes give good regrowth after repeated cutting. They are deep rooting to withstand hard conditions and even the heavy grazing by sheep.

Hay/haylage mixtures for horses are made mainly up of ryegrass, timothy and meadow fescue. Timothy grass makes the mixture more palatable, improves the winter hardiness and produces good spring yields.

There are mixtures which can cope with both wet and drought conditions as well as heavy clay soils. Specialised mixtures are designed for horse paddocks/fields, race courses and polo pitches. They are hard wearing and can tolerate heavy wear and repair.

The Countryside Stewardship (CS) provides financial incentives for farmers, woodland owners, foresters and land managers to look after and improve the environment. So we are encouraged to plant mixtures with an abundant supply of small seeds during the winter for farmland birds.

Wild flower mixes are sold for casting on field margins to provide pollen and nectar-rich flowers for pollinators and beneficial insects including bumblebees, solitary bees, butterflies, hoverflies.

Other mixes are available for different situations such as woodland edges, shade, limestone, clay, acid, alkaline, dry and damp, so you need to get the right mixture to fit your situation. There is a mix for your lawn.

Martin Slinger



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Painswick Surgery

The Surgery is lucky enough to have a Patient Participation Group (PPG) who volunteer their own time to share their considerable combined experience and skills to assist in improving the level of care we offer. One member pointed out the effectiveness of a recent open letter from the CEO of Octopus Energy pointing out facts and figures to demonstrate what they had tried in relation to fuel costs. She suggested I do the same. So with information gleaned from NHS Digital and Business Information and elsewhere, here goes.

Nationally, patient satisfaction with GP performance has plummeted from 83% to 32% in the space of a few years. Patient satisfaction is important to us and we are distressed that it is decreasing, but even more concerning is that, nationally, over 60% of GP's report that workload pressures mean that the care they offer is not actually safe. In the past 12 months we have delivered 37,339 appointments to our 4797 patients. 23,796 of these were face to face and 14,777 were on the same day they were requested. The average number of consultations delivered per patient at Painswick was 10% higher than the national average. This is no mean feat given that despite tabloid headlines GP consultation rates nationally are actually 20% higher now than before Covid. An even bigger difference is that our consultations are almost 50% longer than average. We long ago chose to offer 15 minutes as opposed to 10 minute consultations. Decreasing this would be an easy way to increase appointment availability but is something we have thus far avoided.

Data from the Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCG - our immediate bosses) shows that the proportion of elderly at Painswick is a sobering 57% higher than the Gloucestershire average. It's a simple fact that elderly patients on average will have more chronic conditions and require more appointments than middle-aged ones. Six times as many. Demand simply exceeds supply. That sounds awful. Like I'm blaming patients for living so long! But it's simply stating the facts. So to cheer you up I will tell you that the other day during triage I thought to myself that "this patient is only 74". If you are under 75 your GP thinks you are young! The practice does weekly care home ward rounds and the NHS England (NHSE) asks practices to aim to see four residents a week. Last week we saw 27.

This is all fascinating but why is it still so difficult to get an appointment and what are we doing about it? NHSE contractually funds us for 1.875 doctors per day. We supplement this with a salaried doctor (thank you, Dr Albright), using contributions from the Retainer and Extended Hours schemes (thank you, Drs Barraclough and Brown) and by mentoring our two GP Registrars in training (thank you, Dr Cole and Dr Jamshaid). The full cost of these additional doctors is not met by the NHS schemes and must be subsidised. Last year we used profits from Covid vaccinations (thank you volunteers) but this year each of the Partners has had to commit £20,000 of their own money to do the same. Despite this, the need for appointments is so high that we fully expect waiting times, and complaints, to rise.

NHSE are also very well aware of the problem but have so far been unable to fulfil their promises of 5000 extra GPs because as fast as new doctors are recruited, others are burning out and leaving, often quoting as the reason the inability to do their job properly due to lack of time. In response, the Five Year Plan to reform General Practice was rolled out in 2019. Central is the Additional Roles Recruitment (ARR) scheme, to which has been committed significant thought and resources. £750 000 last year and £1 billion this year have been used to recruit 16,000 ARR staff. But not a single one is a nurse or a GP. The plan is that GPs will become clinical team leaders and increasingly your appointment will not be with a GP but with a Physio, Pharmacist, Social Prescriber or any one of the 13 ARR roles. There are cases where the advantages are clear. But there are also significant concerns, not least how patients will react. Many GPs feel that we might be turkeys voting for Xmas, but the bottom line is we have little choice. The Five Year Plan is going ahead and this year's contract was imposed on us. And on you.

The changes involved are considerable. Implementing these at Painswick is the responsibility of the Primary Care Network Clinical Director, which sounds very impressive, a lot less so when you boil it down and it turns out that's just me, and I already have a day job! Every part of the plan involves a contract, a template, targets and meetings. So many contracts. Sooo many meetings! Each of which involves one of the Partners and takes time away from direct patient contact. In the long run, the light at the end of the tunnel is that the new ARRs will result not only in better GP retention, improved access to appointments and greater community-placed care but will also contribute to decreased hospital admissions, less bed-blocking and perhaps mark the end of ambulances queuing at A&E. In the short term, however, any change brings pain. So despite being "over-doctored", cramming patients into every available slot, working well beyond contracted hours and subsidising the NHS from our own pockets, we are not able to meet demand, and things will get worse before they get better. Last year those 16000 ARR's contributed just 0.4% of total appointments at GP surgeries. Given all the above it is remarkable that one of NHSE's more ambitious targets this year is for 60% of GP patients to find making an appointment "easy or very easy". Forgive me a wry smile, and perhaps some choice words. We understand and share your concerns. We look forward to continuing a productive liaison with the PPG. They are there to represent you and your interests. I am confident they will do all they can to help you, and us, through these changes.

Please remember what is happening and why. And try not to shoot the messenger.

Dr Rhys Evans

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The concert will take place at Holy Trinity Church, Stroud, GL5 2HX at 7.30pm on Saturday 21st May. Tickets (£12 – under 14s free) are available from Stroud Subscription Rooms, Stroud Town Council Offices, Citizens Advice offices in Stroud and Cirencester, at the door (subject to availability) or direct from ourselves.

Ann Horner (01452 812128)

Peter Rowe (01452 813228)

Fencing on the Rec - request for your views

Over the last few months we have had some enquiries about putting up fencing around the play equipment on the Rec, and a suggestion to put up a fence to create a designated area for dogs to be allowed off lead.

Fencing the play equipment has been tried previously with a fence erected but then removed only a few years later due to persistent vandalism, and has been reconsidered again several times since by the council. Indeed current advice by RoSPA (Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents) is to not fence off play equipment. However, mindful of the number enquiries we have received and societal changes prompted by the pandemic, including increases in both dog ownership and outdoor leisure, the Parish Council would like to invite further comments from residents on these matters to provide a broader community view for consideration.

You can provide your comments at the upcoming Annual Parish Meeting, a drop-in style event where you can come and talk to Councillors and other guests about various matters of interest, or via email to the Parish Clerk clerk@painswick-pc.gov.uk

Abigail Smith

Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations



Full details of the planned celebrations are not yet available but keep your eyes open for posters around the village and on social media for details of the events.

- Thu 2nd June - Lighting of the Beacon (details still to be confirmed)
- Fri 3rd June - Various street parties around the village
- Sat 4th June - Sports tournament at Broadham Fields (TBC)
Cream Teas in the Church Rooms - 3.00 - 5.00pm
Live music at the Oak - evening
- Sun 5th June - Churches Together Around Painswick Open Air Church Service
11.00am - 12.00pm St Mary's Churchyard - followed by picnics
Jubilee Celebrations at the Painswick Centre 12.00-3.00pm
More live music at the Oak in the evening

Mary Queen of Scots



On Wed 6th April 2022 we were treated to another repeat visit by Dr Gillian White who excelled herself with her intriguing interpretation of the historical evidence surrounding the life of Mary Queen of Scots

and identifying the gaps which have sometimes been filled by imaginative researchers.

Mary became the Queen of Scotland 6 days after her birth and was crowned 9 months later. When Henry VIII invaded Scotland 5 years later, with the aim of extending his kingdom, Mary's mother opposed the union and took her daughter to safety in France. At the age of 15 Mary was married in Notre Dame to the heir to the French throne, Francis, the Dauphine of France. Then followed 2 years of tragic deaths: first, Henry II (Mary's effective father), then her mother, and finally her French husband. Gillian described this as the pivotal period in Mary's life.

Should Mary remain in France or return to Scotland where the religious and political climate was tense? Whom should she marry with a view to bearing a successor? Should she lay claim to her friend and first cousin once removed Queen Elizabeth's throne? The rest is, as they say, history.

Henry Hall



The club has soldiered on despite the intervention of covid to some of our presenters. Sadly our audiences have been at a low ebb and support from new

members will be most welcome.

On 31st March we enjoyed a DVD concert of the Berlin Phil conducted by the composer John Williams with selections from many of his film scores.

On 14th April by way of contrast Duncan Richardson took 'Musical Miniatures' as his theme. He used a wide selection of songs, chamber music and small orchestra. His range of composers was diverse and enthralling – Bach, Mozart, Schubert, Beethoven, Tchaikovsky, Schoenberg and Shostakovich.

We look forward on 28th April to Alex Nichols on the Requiem and on 12th May to Reg Wrathmell on Rachmaninoff. We conclude our season on 26th May with a Jubilee Tea Party when music from the coronation of Queen Elizabeth will be played.

Howard Allen.

News from St Mary's

We are now in the season of Easter which lasts for seven weeks until we get to Whitsun. During the Easter season we celebrate Ascension Day, the time when Jesus left the twelve disciples and ascended into Heaven. We will celebrate Ascension with a benefice service which will be at Cranham Church on 26th May at 6.30pm. The preacher will be Canon Michael Irving.



During May, the Painswick Music Society will be staging their last concert of this Spring season. It will feature Iyad Sughaver on piano on Saturday 14th May at 3pm in St Mary's church. Iyad is a renowned Jordanian-Palestinian pianist. Tickets cost £23 each and are available via tickets@painswickmusicsoc.co.uk or by phone 077890060.

During May we celebrate Christian Aid Week which runs from 15th to 22nd of the month. There will not be a door to door Christian Aid collection this year but envelopes will be delivered in the village for people to make their own individual contributions to Christian Aid. This work is more vital than ever this year in view of the suffering in Ukraine. At the start of the week on Sunday 15th May there will be a Christian Aid speaker at the morning service at St Mary's which starts at 10am. For other Christian Aid events please see the separate notice elsewhere in the Beacon.

In addition to our usual church services in the Beacon benefice we also conduct monthly Communion services at Richmond village and Resthaven. The Richmond service is on the first Wednesday of the month at 10.30am in the Richmond library. The Resthaven service is on the third Tuesday of the month in their chapel at 11am.

David Newell

Foodbank Collection

Thank you all for your very generous donations throughout the Covid outbreak. We are now facing another crisis, increase in fuel costs and food. This has put many more people on the poverty line seeking help. The Foodbank are inundated with requests and are having to send out more deliveries than ever. Please give generously. Our next collection is on Wednesday 11th May 10am -12 noon in Stamages Lane car park and at the stocks by St Mary's Church Painswick.

The following items are recommended but anything would be gratefully received. Tinned Ham, Fray Bentos Pies, Instant Noodles, Fruit Juice, Squash, Jam, Marmite, Peanut Butter, Chocolate Spread. We have plenty of Pasta, Tea and Cereal! Thank you.

If you wish to donate on line Foodbank banking details are: CIO sortcode 09-01-29 Acc 21994911

Once again many thanks for your support.



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Christian Aid Week 2022

Christian Aid week runs from the 15th to the 21st May with a focus on hunger and poverty. For the first time in a generation, global poverty is rising, pushing more of our global neighbours into a struggle for survival.



In Zimbabwe, the climate crisis is causing aching hunger for families. The combined effects of the Covid-19 pandemic, conflict and drought have robbed parents of the power to provide for their children. And 7,000 miles away, the war in Ukraine will drive up food prices around the globe. Without the fertiliser and food - like wheat and cooking oil - that Ukraine and Russia produce, vulnerable families will be pushed even deeper into hunger.

Our gifts this Christian Aid Week could help families in Zimbabwe and elsewhere set up water taps on their farms, learn to grow food and provide seeds that thrive in drought - giving them all they need to turn their dry, dusty lands into gardens of hope.

The Painswick Valley Christian Aid committee will be dropping off donation envelopes during CA week. Anyone wishing to donate can return the envelope to the Lychgate office. Those wishing to donate online can do so at: <https://envelope.christianaid.org.uk/envelope/painswick-valley>

In addition, we will be running our usual events at St. Mary's Church Rooms, Painswick:

Thursday 19th May

Salmon Supper 7.30pm. Tickets £20, 3-course salmon supper including complimentary glass of wine. Advance booking required, call 812966

Friday 20th & Sat 21st May

Garden Shop 11am - 4pm, Ploughman's Lunches 12 - 2pm, Cream Teas 2-4 pm

Join us this Christian Aid Week and help turn hunger into hope.

Thank you, the Painswick Valley Christian Aid Committee

PS And thank you to all who attended the Lent lunches in the church rooms, these raised £485 for the DEC Ukraine appeal.

May at The Painswick Centre

Don't miss this month's takeaway Food Nights on Thursdays:

Thurs 5th May	Gurt Wings (award-winning free range fried chicken)
Thurs 12th May	Bella Mia Pizza (woodfired sourdough pizzas)
Thurs 19th May	Soul Fries (incredible loaded fries)
Thurs 26th May	Burgerlish (organic grass fed beef & vegan burgers)

The Morning Market (every Thursday 8.15-9.45am) continues to grow. Alongside free range meat, bread & pastries, fresh seafood, coffee & cake, free range eggs and goats cheese, we now have fresh homemade meals from Mama's Family Food, and new this month spring flower posies from Whistler Blooms.

Always check our social media and website (www.painswickcentre.com) for up-to-date listings, and our noticeboards at the bottom of Bisley Street are also a great place to find out what's happening.

Love Painswick

With something for everyone, the third Love Painswick Community Fair will take place at The Painswick Centre on Saturday 21st May, 10 – 3. There'll be animals, food, stalls, author readings, mini photography sessions, cream teas, art, aromatherapy, and much more. Love Painswick is about promoting local businesses big and small, and especially giving those who don't have traditional shop or business premises a chance to show off the amazing things they do. Although there will be stalls to browse, it's about much more than just shopping; it's about getting to know the businesses that are such a key part of our community. Keep an eye out online for more info about what to expect on the day.

Susie Andrews

Bootique: The Ball Edit

If you've managed to get your hands on tickets to the Painswick Ball – or you've got another special occasion coming up this summer, from a prom to a smart wedding – you'll need a dazzling outfit... Painswick's very own preloved and vintage clothing sale is back with a special event on Saturday 7th May to fix you up. Bootique: The Ball Edit will present a collection of party and occasionwear, shoes and accessories, to help you get ready for the summer party season. We can also sell on your behalf, so if you have some things you'd like us to sell for you, please email us at info@bootiquesale.co.uk.

The Painswick Centre, 11-3, Sat 7th May. Entry £4. Prebook your tickets at www.tinyurl.com/bootiqueball.

Becks Brooks



Upcoming screenings

Wick-Flix will be showing West Side Story on Friday 6th May (after Covid stopped play and forced a postponement in April). It's a new retelling of the classic musical romantic drama, full of glorious cinematic shots of New York, dazzling dance routines, and standout performances from the cast. Directed by Steven Spielberg, it won three Golden Globes and was nominated for seven Oscars.

In the months ahead we hope to show the following films – and to bring back our popular canapes & Quality Street! -: Dream Horse, Belfast, Death on the Nile, The Courier, The Last Bus. Please note, from June we will be moving our showings to the second Friday of the month.

Wick-Flix Steering Group



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Farming then and now – Martin Slinger



Our Parish Council leader is an entertaining raconteur regaling us with a fascinating and entertaining history of rural life centred around farming in and around Painswick. Martin, an esteemed local farmer, talked about the changes in farming from 1942 onwards. He needed no introduction as he is well known in the village.

Red poll cattle were milked by hand, hay and straw were grown as well as mangels (mangelwurzelns). Milk churns were left at Edgemoor by his family and seven other farmers which were taken to Cadbury's in Frampton-on-Severn. Hayricks were thatched and the family made a living on only 50 acres of land. Martin's family now have four farms. Broken-down machinery on local farms was mended by one man only. There was a wheelwright in Broadham and Bonnie the carhorse was shod in Gloucester Street in Stroud.

Silage was first produced in the 1950's and in the 1960's power machines were now pulled behind tractors. Modern ploughs now plough 12 furrows instead of the two when Martin was young.

Nowadays, much has changed. Red tape abounds, 50 types of wheat and grass are now available, but we cannot grow bread wheat in this country anymore. Crops are baled and most straw goes to the Welsh valleys and Cornwall, and there are few dairy herds. Where there used to be 38 farms in the Painswick valley, there are now only six or seven. The nearest market is near Swindon and supermarkets control prices. Farm work needing heavy machinery is contracted out (you cannot have a £100,000+ machine sitting in a shed doing nothing for six months of the year).

Our well-known local "boy" Martin with his wide knowledge of local flora and fauna told many amusing stories about his life and fascinating facts about our locality through the decades.

Our next meeting is on Tuesday May 24th (7.30pm in the Church Rooms) and includes a talk by Dr Gillian White entitled Queen Victoria: a Life in Portraits.

Jennie Preece

Carducci Quartet and Clare Hammond Concert

Painswick Music Society opened their 76th season of Saturday afternoon concerts on 26th March in St Mary's Church with pianist Clare Hammond and the Carducci Quartet.

This season a focus of the Carducci is on female composers and appropriately the concert opened with the String Quartet of Fanny Mendelssohn. Written in 1834, it was at the time an almost unique composition for a female composer. Carducci brought out the flowing romanticism and fine melodies of this lovely work, demonstrating that Fanny's talent matched that of her more famous brother. For the second half of the concert Clare Hammond joined the quartet to provide the pianistic underpinning of the great Schumann Eb major Quintet. Clare's melodic lines of great clarity and feeling complemented a fine performance by the whole quintet, which was enthusiastically received by the packed audience.

However, the centrepiece of the concert proved to be the highlight. Carducci showed why they are acclaimed across the world and have won international prizes for their performances and recordings of the complete canon of Shostakovich Quartets. Painswick was treated to a performance of the 1964 Quartet No 9 which provided a masterclass in the interpretation of Shostakovich. Four players in complete harmony combining the intensity and attack this music requires, with the seemingly effortless changes of rhythm and mood within the structure played without a break. The control demonstrated in the final breathtaking finale brought a collective WOW moment to the audience at the conclusion of this great work. A performance to live long in the memory.

The bar has been set high for the forthcoming concerts in this 2022 season.

David Cutler

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Right trees right place



This month I make no apologies for using Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust's quarterly magazine as reinforcement of thoughts I have harboured for some time. For many people trees and woodlands represent our deepest connection with nature. Ancient woods are indeed a complex ecological web of many species, a single ancient oak can be the habitat for over two thousand species from birds to fungi. As we are becoming increasingly aware of climate change, the ability of trees to absorb carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and lock it away for centuries in their branches, roots and in the soil, appears to be an added bonus.

While important, trees are not the only answer to solving the climate and wildlife crisis. Chalk downs, hay meadows, peatlands, heathlands and our own limestone grassland all have extraordinary value for wildlife and sequester large quantities of carbon. In a past article I alluded to glomalin. This is a very carbon dense compound produced by the hyphae of subterranean fungi in healthy soils. It is very resistant to bacterial degradation and so, over time, carbon is stored safely in the ground. A mature wood will, at any time, have trees which are decaying and in doing so release their CO₂ back into the atmosphere. Over a long time scale (hundreds of years) woodlands are only carbon neutral.

There is a bias at present to plant trees, as evidenced in decisions to plant degraded habitats rather than restore them to their natural state. Shallow peat soils are particularly at risk from tree planting. Creating new woods in these areas will release more CO₂ than the trees take up because of soil degradation. The mid 20th century saw vast areas of peat bog drained and planted with conifers, largely for the tax benefit of large landowners. Sphagnum peat bogs are the best habitat for absorbing carbon and they also hold back water, easing flooding problems after heavy rain. They need preserving and garden composts containing natural peat should be banned now! Unfortunately many tree planting schemes may fail. They are funded by grants with no allowance for after care and often inappropriate trees are planted in the wrong place. Ideally trees should have a local provenance, grown from local seed. The folly of imported saplings is well illustrated by the ash dieback, imported from Europe. The best solution is to allow natural regeneration, as the trees which develop will be most suitable for their environment and the end result will be a more balanced habitat.

On the Beacon we have a golden opportunity to improve approximately 30 hectares of secondary woodland which have had no attention for at least fifty years and are quite species poor. It will involve cutting down trees allow sunlight into woodland rides, glades and coppice areas, but the benefit to wildlife will be fantastic. Less common saplings of hornbeam, spindle, gelder rose, lime and juniper can be transplanted from other areas of the Beacon to enhance the number of tree species present.

Paul Baxter

Spring forward!

How fantastic to start our new season of speakers with so many returning and new faces in the audience. After such a long period of absence it's good to know that you are as keen as us to get together again.



Debbie, our Chairman of nearly 10yrs announced that she would be standing down along with Marianne and Catherine who have both served 8/9yrs each! We will however, all still be supporting the club. The remaining committee, Mary, Ione, Philippa and Yvonne will be looking to the members for their help and enthusiasm to take the club forward for the future. This could be a more flexible way for members to participate without needing a regular commitment. There will be further discussion on this at the next meeting.

Mary introduced Howard Drury from John Massey's garden at Ashwood, who gave us a fascinating insight into the nursery and ever evolving seasonal garden which John's parents bought several decades ago. John, a self taught horticulturalist is renowned not only for the nursery but his innovative plantings, which have unsurprisingly not only gained him multiple gold medals but also the Victoria Medal of Honour for his contribution to horticulture!

Our next speaker is Bob Brown from Cotswold Garden Flowers near Evesham with his talk entitled "So many plants, so little space" which reflects the vast catalogue of his rare and unusual plants, which he trials at his nursery before allocating them his unique garden rating. A man who tells it as it is!!

We do hope you will join us at the earlier time of 7pm on Wed. 11th May for refreshments, conversation and ideas before the talk.

Catherine Bond

The logo for "Interiors & Gardens" featuring a decorative scroll and a photograph of a house's interior.

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Gigabit broadband for Painswick - an update

We provided the initial set of addresses of interested parties - a total of 46 properties - to Openreach a while ago and they have now responded with an initial scope and cost for the scheme - this is their initial computer-modelled estimate. It is based on a community of 972 premises and all but one of our 46 interested parties is included; however, I think the missing one is a mistake since other premises with the same post code are included, so I am attempting to get this resolved with Openreach.

Openreach have provided an initial estimated cost of approximately £650,000 to roll out FTTP in Painswick. This is where our gigabit vouchers come in. Openreach has verified that our area is fully eligible for the Government's Gigabit Broadband Voucher Scheme which provides £1500 for a residential voucher and a £3500 for a business voucher. This means that when the time comes for people to "sign up", to make the project viable, we will need, approximately:

340 residential premises, and 40 business premises.

Or in other words, around 40% of all properties in Painswick. Is this achievable? Well, in my mind, there is only one way to find out. So what's next?

There are several key stages to completing the Fibre Community Partnership process illustrated by the graphic below:



Now that we've got the estimate, I believe we are safe to proceed to the next stage of getting a final estimate. However, I do not wish to go it alone and therefore I would like to get your opinions; please feel free to respond. I would also like to get a small team in place so that we can work together to get this important project delivered, so please think about what contribution you might be able to make. Bear in mind that from pressing "go" from now to getting FTTC installed can be as little as six months, so there will be a lot to do, mainly around communicating the scheme, its benefits and ensuring that people know what to do and are reminded to do it at the right time.

george.elphick@aquabubble.org
George Elphick

Painswick Valleys Conservation Society AGM.



The arrival of Covid at the beginning of 2020 caused us to cancel the AGM at short notice, along with our planned outing to Frampton Court. We hope to welcome members and new members to the AGM on Thursday 12th May at 7.00 for 7.30 in the Church Rooms. There will, as always, be refreshments included and we hope for a lively discussion on the current planning issues in and around Painswick, so we can reflect members views when commenting on local planning matters

Your Society has continued with key elements of its work over the past two years, despite Covid constraints. We have continued to monitor planning matters and local planning applications, commenting to Stroud District Council where necessary.

The District Council, in its Revised District Plan, is proposing a site for 20 houses on a greenfield site adjacent to Lower Washwell, outside the Painswick settlement boundary. We have objected to this on the basis of the visual impact on the rural landscape, poor access and impact on road safety. We have supported, with others, the efforts to retain those parts of the infrastructure of our villages and joined with objections to the application to change Cardynham House from B and B to residential use. New challenges have emerged with the pressure for redevelopment of existing residential properties with land prices high, as well as the piecemeal sale of fields, resulting in proliferation of sheds and caravans in the landscape.

We hope to see you and welcome existing and new members. Members £4.00 or £6.00 double.

Barbara Tait
Chairman

Julian Telling
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Historic crimes in May

1832. Joseph Lusty guilty of paying Charles Holder, weaver, his wages in goods instead of coin. Fined £9.

Daniel McCarty, begging in Painswick. Hard labour for one month in Horsley House of Correction.

Daniel Holbrow aged 11, labourer, 4ft, sandy hair, brown eyes, large scar between his eyes, a mole near his navel, two scars right shoulder, guilty of stealing a purse with two half crown pieces, eight shillings, six sixpences and ten halfpence. One month in Littledean and twice whipped. Conduct in prison – very bad.

1852. James Kibble aged 23, hair dark brown, eyes brown, visage long, two moles forehead, large burn scar right breast, has partially lost the use of left arm, charged with stealing at Stroud a pair of shoes the property of the Guardians of the Stroud Poor Law Union. Ten weeks hard labour in Horsley House of Correction.

Mary West v Emma Cook – a case of assault. A long colourful report implying that much gin drinking had gone on all afternoon at the Golden Heart ending in a punch-up outside. Fined 1/- and 13/- costs and in default 14 days imprisonment. *Stroud Free Press*.

1882. Thomas Gardner, assaulting and threatening his father, Peter Gardner. Ordered to find two sureties for six months or a month's imprisonment. *Gloucestershire Chronicle*.

Edwin Clift, a boy of bad antecedents, sent to prison for ten days and to a reformatory for three years for stealing eggs from a barn in Painswick. *Gloucestershire Chronicle*.

Sidney Betteridge, of Painswick, charged with riding at Brookthorpe on a wagon without reins. Fined 5/-.

Charles Mills aged 19, labourer, guilty of wounding with intent. 12 months hard labour.

1902. Henry Smith left a horse and cart standing in Cheltenham Road, Painswick for an unreasonable length of time. Fined 7/- *Stroud News & Gloucester Advertiser*.

William Swinford aged 18, slaughterman, embezzled £1.2s.11d and 3s.7d, money paid to him by Mrs Kemp and Mrs Jones for his employer Charles Webb, butcher. 'My weeks wage was not enough to keep me. I wanted some more and I had it.' Gaol for 21 days hard labour. *Citizen*.

Carol Maxwell

The Rococo Garden is open throughout May from Wednesday to Sunday 10am until 5pm with the addition of Mondays and Tuesdays during the two Bank Holiday weeks. No advance booking needed – you can just turn up if the weather looks good. Which it hopefully will, as May is always one of best times in the Garden! There's plenty of new life including the fantastic displays of fruit and vegetables in the Kitchen Garden filling out, full of early summer promise.

Painswick Rococo Garden

We have recently teamed up with the very successful team behind the Nursery at Miserden who are now supplying our plants. As well as a range of gorgeous specimens outside the Café, we have further plans for a dedicated sales area onsite with an even bigger range. And it's looking great! For more information see the news page on our website rococogarden.org.uk.

Looking a bit further ahead, we have been selling lots of tickets for the Handlebards' performance of Twelfth Night. We've just added an extra evening of Twelfth Night as the performance on 1 July has sold out – which I think is a Rococo record! To get your tickets for the new date, Saturday 2 July, visit rococogarden.org.uk. Shakespeare's comedy onsite here is a very special experience.

Regular readers will know we have an excellent range of food and drink made with ingredients from the Garden. With warmer evenings on the cards, we've just brought out our very first Pale Ale brewed using Fuggles and Magnum hops grown in our Kitchen Garden. This zingy, citrusy brew is the perfect summer evening drink, in my view! For a limited time we are offering a "3 for £10" mix and match deal on our own-label beers in the Shop, so if you are a fan of our Amber Ale too, now might be the time to top up!

We have more changes on the cards over the coming months and will bring you all the news as and when we can. In the meantime, why not call in for one of the best coffees around, browse our new plant area or just to enjoy the peace and tranquillity of our beautiful valley!

Tim Toghill, Volunteer



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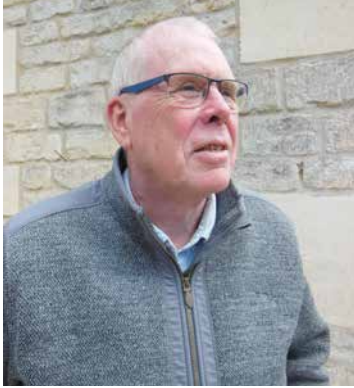
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Time for change, for the better

It is probably fair to say that most of us have a set idea of the sort of person who spends time in H.M. prisons. 'Out of sight, out of mind' is the solution – or is it? How many of us have a real knowledge and understanding of either the system or indeed of the real reasons which lead to people committing crime? Does ignorance result in prejudice? Britain has approximately 85,000 people currently incarcerated – the highest number by far in Europe.

The problem is complicated. It is possible however that, if we want to make a difference, help can be sourced at our level, ie community level. The situation is twofold with help and support needed for both victims and perpetrators of crime. For the victims it is essentially a question of understanding how to ensure it never happens again. And for the offenders, without doubt, with the right help and opportunities they can succeed and become useful members of the community. They can make the transition from being socially excluded to being socially included. So how can we as individuals and communities become involved in starting to make these long overdue positive changes happen?



John Podmore has a wealth of experience and knowledge in this highly complex and indeed controversial field of study and activity. He is Honorary Professor of Sociology at Durham University and an author. He spent 25 years in the prison service as Governor of HMP Brixton, Belmarsh and Swaledale as well as being a prison inspector and head of the corruption prevention unit. He has also latterly worked internationally on a number of prison-related projects. Additionally he has worked with a number of charities, is currently a trustee of the Painswick Centre and as a canal enthusiast is actively involved in the Canal and River Trust.

John is very keen to open a real debate on the subject of community help and support. As he points out, places such as Painswick are fortunate in having strong caring communities which are well placed to provide opportunities and make a positive contribution towards a range of potential projects and actions. John will be giving a presentation on the subject on Tuesday, 14th June, starting at 6.30pm, at Painswick Quaker Meeting House. Without doubt this promises to be an inspiring and stimulating session hopefully leading on to positive action.

For further information about the evening please contact John Linsell, tel. 01452 812936 or email johnlinsell249@gmail.com

Carol Maxwell

Cotteswold Naturalists' Summer Programme



Our next visit is to Hawkwood College, an independent centre for education, located in a stunning location overlooking the Painswick Valley. The College is based in a Grade II listed House and Stables, originally built for the mill-owning Capel family. In 1845, William Capel engaged George Basevi, architect of the Subscription Rooms and the wings at Painswick House, to design a 'Tudor Gothic' villa in the Cotswold-style. Our visit takes place on 12th May, beginning with refreshments and an introductory talk about the College's objects and ethos. The Head Gardener will take us on a guided tour of the grounds, including the walled garden, pasture, woodland, and natural spring. The adjacent Hawkwood Farm is farmed by Stroud Community Agriculture, a community-led enterprise, growing organic/biodynamic produce for its members and College use. Contact 01453 823286 for last minute places.



The Club is also taking bookings for a three-day visit to East Sussex (15-17th June) by coach to explore the country homes and art of the Bloomsbury Group. We shall visit Virginia Woolf's home, Monk's House at Rodmell, and Charleston House, the South Downs home of artists Duncan Grant and Vanessa Bell. From there we travel to Berwick Church to learn about the project to conserve the church paintings originally created by the artists Duncan Grant, Vanessa Bell, and Quentin Bell. The trip concludes with a visit to Elizabethan Parham Hall. We will be based in Newhaven with dinner organised in local restaurants. More details: tel. 01453 873262.

Our next Newsletter will be available in May; please contact me for a copy.

Jane Rowe 813228

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Time to unwind



Blossom Robin is highly qualified in reflexology and body massage. It is good to report therefore that she is now offering treatments in the Painswick Centre.

Reflexology and massage can help with a wide range of stress-related conditions including sleep problems, IBS, anxiety and low mood as well as muscular aches and pains. An added bonus is that sleep and relaxation are enhanced. Both reflexology and massage expertly done are low risk and medically approved. Such treatments offered in the calm pleasant space of the Green Room in the Centre can be truly beneficial to all, both men and women, with the welcome opportunity to unwind and revitalise body and spirit.

Blossom explains that treatment is tailored to each individual's needs and with 20 years experience and excellent qualifications she is well placed to offer a range of appropriate treatments. She is committed to using good quality natural products in her practice having worked for some time from Neal's Yard Remedies in their therapy rooms.

Whether for physical pain relief or de-stressing and eliminating tension Blossom's treatments provide the ideal therapy. She is now taking bookings for Tuesdays 10.00am-4.00pm at the Painswick Centre in the Green Room. For more information visit the website www.blossomrobin.co.uk and to book call or text 07552653651 or email sblossomrobin@gmail.com

Carol Maxwell

Litter pick and fires

Members of Painswick Beacon Golf Club and Members of the Painswick Beacon Conservation Group (PBCG) joined forces on Sunday afternoon, 10th April, to litter pick on Painswick Beacon.

As in previous years, Painswick Parish Council provided litter pickers, gloves, black bags and sanitizer. With their insurance, a Risk Assessment in place and maintaining Covid-19 social distancing we collected 15 bags of litter.

Painswick Beacon is a manorial site and common with a golf course and club. Members pay green fees which go towards paying for a green keeper to maintain the course in prime condition, keeping the fairways open and clear. The Cotswold Way, a long distance path from Chipping Campden to Bath, passes across the top. Walkers have superb views over Gloucester to the Malvern Hills and beyond, back to Stroud and across to Cranham.



Members of the conservation group, PBCG, undertake scrub clearance of the surrounding areas to enable open access to the public. Left unmanaged, the site would become overgrown and impenetrable. We have bought seven Dexters to graze the grass to keep it short to enable herbs to thrive on the poor limestone soil. Because of these specialised plants, and the insects associated with them, Painswick Beacon has been designated a site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).

Unfortunately there has been a recent spate of deliberate fires which can threaten this fragile environment. Especially during this very dry spell, a fire could spread fast and it would be difficult to get a fire engine to it. So far, we have been able to put them out with the water in the cattle troughs. Our cows are enclosed with the "non fence" system and could escape if necessary, we hope.

Joyce Barrus



The litter and fires get bigger! - A burnt out car being removed from the Beacon



Do you have photos of the Painswick Club?

Some of you may know that for the past 18 months, we've been busy researching the amazing history of The Painswick Centre/Institute/Club/Stute for a permanent display in the lobby. We've collected some fascinating facts, press cuttings and photos of the people and groups that make up the Centre's history, including a visit from Princess Di, how it was briefly requisitioned by the MoD in WWII, and the link between the Centre and Lea & Perrins sauce. But one part of its history we haven't been able to find many pictures of is the Painswick



Club. For those of you who may not know, the Working Men's Club was a fundamental part of the Institute from when it opened in 1907 until its eventual closure in 1997. Safe to say the divorce between the Club and the Institute was an acrimonious one, but for over 90 years the Club was a central part of life for the community, somewhere to relax and socialise.



The pictures included here show the sum total of photos we have managed to glean of the days of the Club, so we are asking for your help. Do you have photos you can share



with us of members enjoying the club? The history of the Centre is the history of the community, and the history display won't be complete without properly showing what the Club was and what it meant to people. If you have anything to share please email Susie at marketing@painswickcentre.com

Photo details:

1. The opening of the Painswick Institute & Working Men's Club, September 1907 (courtesy of Gloucestershire Archives)
2. The Club committee in its 50th year in 1957, sitting outside the double doors into the Beacon Hall
3. Players at the billiards table in the Club in 1972 (courtesy of Trevor Radway's article 'The Ups & Downs of Painswick Billiards Club' in Painswick Chronicle no.22)
4. The naming of the Gardiner Room (now the cafe) in 1973 after Bob Gardiner, Club secretary 1929-60 (courtesy of Bob's grandson James Price)

Susie Andrews

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Library news

How to save money at your community library –

In addition to free library membership and book issues we also have many other resources you can access at no cost.

We have recently renewed our Which? subscription with current magazines available to read in the library and back copies on file.

Each week we have the current Stroud News & Journal available in the library as well as The Times newspaper purchased each Wednesday and Friday.

There is also an excellent facility called Libby which you can use to access ebooks, audiobooks and popular magazines using your library card number. Details can be found on the Gloucestershire Library website. Over 198 magazines are available from a wide range of subjects and include New Scientist, Good Housekeeping, Radio Times, National Geographic, Countryfile and Simply Sewing. The magazines are downloaded for three weeks just like library books and (like books) it is possible to renew them. By downloading them you can read offline or stream them to save space on your device. I have been using this for many months now and am very impressed with this facility.

Gloucestershire County Council has an Ask Us team available to help with any questions you may have on any subject. Staff will research the information you need free of charge and get the results back to you. The Ask Us phone number is 01452 426991 or email ask@gloucestershire.gov.uk.

There are other facilities available, currently including online access from home to Ancestry, the family history database, and it is well worth checking out the Gloucestershire Library website for more information.

Happy Reading

Pat Pinnegar

Interpreting the Gloucestershire landscape

The Local History Society in April heard a fascinating talk on 'Interpreting the Gloucestershire landscape'. The speaker, Nicholas Herbert, was for many years editor of the Victoria County History of Gloucestershire, so knows the County and its landscape well.

Before the Enclosure Acts in the Georgian period, much of the County's land was either common pasture land or farmed in narrow strips. Farmhouses tended to be grouped together in villages, often with a small close attached. The effects of this system can still be seen in various different ways in fields, commons and in villages and sometimes a fall of snow can show up patterns in the landscape that are normally hidden. After enclosure, farming gradually became more concentrated and isolated farmhouses in the countryside became more common. The way in which particular villages developed did vary though as the speaker was able to show through a comparison of Rendcomb and Chedworth. Rendcomb had a large Manor House or country estate, which dominated development, while Chedworth grew more organically, ending up spread out in a more linear fashion. How might the effect of some of today's developments show up in the landscape in a hundred years' time?

The Society's next meeting is the annual outing, which this year is to the gardens and house of Brockworth Court on 17th May. Contact enquiries@painswicklocalhistorysociety.org.uk for more details.

Alastair Jollans



Library Book Club

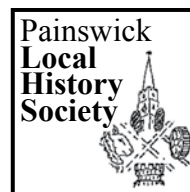
The next meeting of the Painswick Library Book Club is on Monday 9th May, from 1.30 - 2.30.



The book under discussion will be: Such A Fun Age by Kiley Reid. It was longlisted for the 2020 Booker Prize.

New members are very welcome to join us. For further details email painswick.library.bookclub@gmail.com

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Painswick Sports

assembled by John Barrus



Gloucestershire Development Coach of the year ...Charlie Ferrett

Charlie joined Painswick Tennis Club in September 2018 becoming Head Coach in September 2019 since when he has been a great asset to the club.

Charlie has expanded the Senior and Junior coaching by his welcoming approach, punctuality and enthusiasm.

He is inspirational on-court, delivering and nurturing the next generation of players from mini tennis beginners through to successful County juniors. Charlie also encourages seniors in group sessions and individual coaching.

Congratulations Charliea well deserved award.

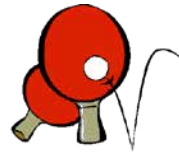
Joan Griffiths



Painswick Table Tennis

Needs a new organiser if it is to continue.

Table Tennis has now stopped for the summer, It may or may not start again in September depending on whether a new organiser can be found, as I have finished after twelve years.



David Linsell

Badminton

This year's annual mixed doubles tournament was held on the 21st April. The final was played between Roy Woodward/ Julia Richardson against Steve Pratt/ Rachel Bolt.

After a competitive game Steve and Rachel were the winners. The picture shows the finalists with Steve and Rachel on the right with the cup.



The main season has now ended and recommences in September. However summer badminton will continue on Thursdays at the Painswick Centre open to anyone for a £3 fee.

Contact: Boo Hussain on smh801@gmail.com





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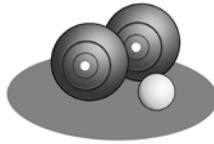
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Falcon Bowls

We were lucky enough to have a fine day for our Open day. Eight very keen new bowlers attended and enjoyed some tuition and help from our more experienced bowlers, which was followed by home made scones, jam and cream as well as a variety of muffins. Everyone tucked in with gusto!



Bowls is for everyone and probably the most inclusive sport there is, so why not give it a try for free at Falcon Bowls this summer?

For more info contact: Sue Butler 01452 546507 suejohn123@btinternet.com. Or pop up to see us behind the Falcon Inn, New Street, Painswick G16 6UN

Painswick Golf Club

The change in weather has had a big impact on the course – the dry spell has firmed up the course and shots run much further. This is a big help for me as I do not hit the ball so far.



In the Seniors section, the winter pairs competition was completed. This was a better ball stableford competition over six rounds – one round each month from October to March – with the best five scores counting. Robin Hare and Finlay McLean were the winners with an excellent aggregate score of 232 points. At the end of March, John Hitchcock won the Arthur Paget Trophy with an outstanding score of 50 stableford points. The midweek stableford held on 7 April resulted in a three-way tie between Robin Hare, John Barrus and Nigel Cooper all with 38 stableford points. Ties are resolved by looking at the best scores in the last 9 holes and this gave Robin Hare victory. Congratulations to all the winners.

Painswick Golf Club welcomes visitors – whether golfers wanting to play our unique course or visitors wanting to make use of the clubhouse for refreshments and meals. Please call 01452 812180 for more details.

Peter Rowe

Welcome Vicky

Vicky Allen is the new minister for Sportily in Painswick. Still relatively new to the area she is however definitely finding her way around and is keen to learn as much as possible about local life and the community. She recognises the need to know the people and the area first before deciding exactly how best to take things forward. ‘I want to do it the right way,’ she says at the same time emphasising her desire to focus on a wider range of people within the community.

Vicky grew up in Shepperton and studied at Norwich University where she gained a degree in photography specialising in sport in 2017. She also became involved in pastoral care and sports ministry. ‘I learnt so much whilst in Norfolk,’ she says, ‘combining photography and sports coaching.’ She also qualified in children’s fitness which meant she could work in schools delivering sessions with a Christian ethos. She worked for the diocese of Norwich for two years organising a range of events for children. Vicky’s vision is that sport, media and faith can be combined to really beneficial effect.



Without a doubt she is certainly very committed. She is about to complete another degree, in theology, and has just achieved a level 2 gym instructor course which covers both children and adults. She is indeed passionate about holistic wellbeing and explains that Sportily is now about all ages not just youth. For example she sees families engaging more in combined activities and older people being more involved with children and movement sessions. At the same time she is also very aware of the fact that the media ‘is ingrained’ in today’s children, therefore very significant and, as such, needs to be taken into consideration.

Vicky is determined to integrate those activities which are current but points out that for her ‘it has to be purposeful, not done just for the sake of doing it.’ Such an approach generally proves to be beneficial both physically and spiritually and also more fun. She has been coaching in schools for four years and has already begun working with Cranham School, taking active RE sessions at the Croft and running the youth club after school on Mondays.

Vicky Allen is fully committed and certainly teeming with positive ideas for taking our young people (and the rest of us) forward regarding health, wellbeing and faith – a winning combination. Her energy, belief and enthusiasm are palpable and Painswick is undoubtedly fortunate to have her in its midst. For more information the website is www.sportily.org.uk and Vicky can be contacted by email vicky.allen@sportily.org.uk

Carol Maxwell

Worrying about money?

A new leaflet has been produced by various local groups in conjunction with Stroud District Council for those in the community who are concerned about finance and signposting where they should go to find help in different situations.

Step 1 is to identify the problem from suddenly finding you have no money, perhaps awaiting a benefit decision, the challenges of money just not going far enough or you have gone into debt.

Step 2 is to consider possible options:

1. Council Support Schemes
2. Ways to maximise your income
3. Seek debt advice
4. Seek benefit advice
5. Are you eligible for a hardship payment
6. Can you challenge a decision?

Step 3 Where can I get help?

The leaflet lists a number of agencies who can provide free and

confidential advice in different situations and details which options from Step 2 they can give advice upon. It also lists other agencies offering advice on energy efficiency, housing, debt & finance advice, healthy start vouchers

Citizens Advice Stroud and
Cotswold Districts
Wotton Debt Advice
GL Communities Advice Service
P3
Clean Slate
Warm and Well
Energy efficiency advice
Community Wellbeing Service
The Churn
Shelter
Step Change
Turn2Us
MoneyHelper
Healthy Start Vouchers



A digital version of the leaflet is available at: www.worryingaboutmoney.co.uk/stroud-and-cotswold or if you would like a hard copy please contact Painswick Community Support

Property report

Tucked away on Hollyhock Lane but with a big garden, Croft Edge (Murrays, £1,000,000) is a unique 1930s house with 4/5 bedrooms, designed for the artist Cedric Kennedy. Also very central and almost opposite each other, are two properties on Cheltenham Road. Greenacres Cottage (Hamptons, £1.1 million) is a large detached house, backing onto the Recreation Ground, while Roseleigh (Hamptons, £300,000) is a smaller mid-terraced cottage with 2 bedrooms and a courtyard garden. Near the top of Tibbiwell, Murrays have Upper Cottage (£795,000) a 4 bed period home with a separate 1 bed annexe and a garage and near the top of Vicarage Street, Hamptons have Flax Cottage (£425,000) with 3 bedrooms and a private garden.

Across the valley in Wick Street, 5 Juniper Cottages (Murrays, £575,000) is a 2/3 bed cottage with great views and a log cabin / studio in the garden, while in Paradise, St. Michael's Cottage (Hamptons, £1.5 million) combines period features with modern luxuries and more great views. Further afield, Sweetbriar in Cranham (Murrays, £695,000) is a modern detached 4 bed house in the heart of that village and Horsepools Piece in Edge (Murrays, £900,000) is a large detached 5 bed bungalow with a huge garden. But if it's land and the country lifestyle you want, Weavers Mill near Pitchcombe (Murrays, £1.5 million) is a detached 5 bedroom house with around 9.5 acres of land.

In a market that is still moving quickly, properties going under offer this month include Bramble Cottage in Vicarage Street, Mandalay in the Highlands, Stonecroft in Hambutts Mead, Hill House in Gloucester Street, 8 Brookhouse Mill and Cherry Tree Cottage at Longridge (all Hamptons) as well as The Old Inn in George Court and Howitt Villa in Vicarage Street (Murrays). 13 Berry Close, Butts Cottage in Edge Road, Meadownook in Gloucester Road, The Lamp House in Victoria Street, and both Rosemary Cottage and The Gallery in St. Mary's Street have all exchanged and/or completed.

On Saturday 28th May, Hamptons are again hosting a Painswick Open Gardens event to raise funds for Cancer Research UK. Lots of gardens open to visit and the Painswick Centre open for tea and cakes along with a variety of plants for sale.



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Mondays	Gentle pilates. Info from Heidi 07970 262538	Painswick Centre	8.45 - 9.45am
	Improvers pilates. Info from Heidi 07970 262538	Painswick Centre	9.50 - 10.50am
	Beginners/improvers pilates. Info from Heidi 07970 262538	Painswick Centre	10.55 - 11.55am
	Ballyhoo modern dance classes (primary grade modern). Info from Julie ballyhoochalford@gmail.com	Painswick Centre	from 3.45pm
	Community Choir. Contact Sophie sophie@sophiesterckckx.co.uk	Painswick Centre	7.00 - 8.30pm
	Short Mat Bowls. For beginners and experienced players. All equipment provided. 2.00/session to cover refreshments	Town Hall	2.00 - 4.00pm
Tuesdays	Drawing classes. Info from Susan Skester skester@outlook.com	Painswick Centre	9.30 - 12.00pm
	Zumba with Martina 07891 194396	Painswick Centre	9.45 - 10.45am
	Painswick Art Club	Church Rooms	9.30 - 1.00pm
	Rococo Sprites. See www.rococogarden.org.uk	Rococo Garden	9.45 am
	HIP Pilates 50. Contact Joannedaleypilates.com/07968799741. From Januaury 11th	Zoom Class	11.00am
Wednesdays	Strength and Balance class for the over 60s. Contact Trish Tenn on 07956 4666617 or tennpatricia@gmail.com	Church Rooms	10.00 - 11.00am
Thursdays	Morning Market	Painswick Centre	8.30 - 9.30am
	Yoga. Contact Kim on yoginikim@icloud.com	Painswick Centre	9.30 - 11.00am
	Nurturing yoga. Contact Kim on yoginikim@icloud.com	Painswick Centre	11.15 - 12.45pm
	Tai chi. Contact Joe on 07960 753782	Painswick Centre	1.30 - 2.30pm
	Badminton (adults). Contact John barrusjp@yahoo.co.uk	Painswick Centre	8.00 - 10.00pm
	Dog Training Club. Contact Fiona Chapman on 01452 812462 or fiona.chapman123@btinternet.com	Church Rooms	10.00 - 12.00pm
Fridays	Yoga for Backs. Contact Kim on yoginikim@icloud.com	Painswick Centre	9.30 - 11.00am
	Ballet with Claire Tracey. Contact BalletClaire@outlook.com	Church Rooms	9.30 - 10.30 am
	Painswick Community Hub Café: serving tea, coffee and homemade cakes. All welcome	Town Hall	10.00 - 11.30am
	Church Choir Practice. Contact Chris Swain cgswain:btinternet.com or 01453 822998	St Mary's Church	5.30 - 6.30pm
Saturdays			
Sundays	Mass	Catholic Church	8.30am
	Quaker Meeting for Worship	Meeting House	10.30am
	Aikido www.gloucestershireaikido.club .	Painswick Centre	8.30 - 11.00am

Village Diary

Please let me know your club and society dates for the diary on cvasp.26@gmail.com

May			
Fri	6	Wick-flix: West Side Story	Painswick Centre 7.00 for 7.30pm
Sun	8	Holy Communion	St Mary's Church 10.00am
Mon	9	Library Book Club	Library 1.30 - 2.30pm
Wed	11	Painswick Gardening Club: Cotswold Gardening Flowers - Bob Brown	Painswick Centre 7.00 for 7.30pm
	11	NGS Open Garden - entrance in Hollyhock Lane, Painswick	Downton House, Gloucester Street 1.00pm - 4.30pm
Thurs	12	Painswick Music Appreciation Group: Rachmaninoff - piano, vocal and orchestral music - Reg Wrathmell.	Town Hall 2.30pm
	12	NGS Open Garden - entrance in Hollyhock Lane, Painswick	Downton House, Gloucester Street 1.00pm - 4.30pm
	12	Painswick Valleys Conservation Society	Church Rooms 7.00 for 7.30pm
	12	Cotteswold Nauralists' Visit to Hawkwood College & optional lunch. Enq 01453 823286	Hawkwood College 10.15am

Fri	13	Painswick Community Hub: Tea, coffee and cakes	Town Hall	10.00 - 11.30am
	13	Friday Club: The Nurse who changed Guinea-Bissau - John Butterworth	Town Hall	2.30pm
Sun	15	Holy Communion for Christian Aid Week	St Mary's Church	10.00am
Tue	17	Painswick Local History Society - Outing to Brockworth Court	Brockworth Court	2.30pm
Wed	18	Painswick Probus: West country defences in WW1	Painswick Centre	10.00 for 10.30am
Thurs	19	Philatelic Society: AGM	Church Rooms	7.30pm
	19	Christian Aid Salmon Supper (advance booking required - call 01452 812966)	Church Rooms	7.00 for 7.30pm
Fri	20	Painswick Community Hub: Tea, coffee and cakes	Town Hall	10.00 - 11.30am
	20	Christian Aid Garden Shop: ploughmans' lunches (12 -2) and cream teas (2-4)	Church Rooms	11.00 - 4.00pm
Sat	21	Christian Aid Garden Shop: ploughmans' lunches (12 -2) and cream teas (2-4)	Church Rooms	11.00 - 4.00pm
Sun	22	Beacon Praise	St Mary's Church	10.00am
Tues	24	Yew Trees WI: Queen Victoria - a Life in Portraits - Gillian White	Church Rooms	7.30pm
Thurs	26	Painswick Music Appreciation Group: Tea party and members selections	Town Hall	2.30pm
Fri	27	Painswick Community Hub: Tea, coffee and cakes	Town Hall	10.00 - 11.30am
	27	Friday Club: Outing - Boat Trip at Symonds Yat		
Sun	29	Holy Communion	St Mary's Church	10.00am
	29	Holy Baptism	St Mary's Church	12.00pm
June				
Wed	1	Painswick Probus: Who do we lock up and why? - John Podmore	Painswick Centre	10.00 for 10.30am
Fri	3	Street Parties to celebrate Her Majesty the Queen's Platinum Jubilee	Various	
Sat	4	Queen's Platinum Jubilee Cream Teas	Church Rooms	3.00-5.00pm
Sun	5	CTAP - Church Service to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee	St Mary's Churchyard	11.00am-12.00pm
	5	Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations	Painswick Centre	12.00 - 3.00pm

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NEW APPLICATIONS

S.22/0647/HHOLD Old
Greenhouse Farm, Greenhouse Lane
Replacement two-storey and single-storey extensions, installation of windows and entry gate piers.
S.22/0670/LBC Old Greenhouse Farm, Greenhouse Lane
Replacement two-storey and single-storey extensions, installation of windows and entry gate piers.
S.21/2440/FUL Land Between 15 And 16 Upper Washwell (Revised Plans)
Construction of a dwelling (demolition of 8 no. garages).
S.22/0719/HHOLD 1 Swiss Cottages & Darkest Peru, Kings Mill Lane
Erection of single storey extension with alterations to roadside parking.
S.22/0709/HHOLD The Buddings, Slad Road, Stroud
Alterations to existing garage to provide store.
S.22/0711/LBC The Buddings, Slad Road, Stroud
Reduce the garage front by approx. 2.7m Reduce front roof upstand.
S.22/0607/FUL Land At Beech Lane, Painswick
Replacement of existing timber stable block & construction of timber field shelter.
S.22/0636/LBC Hambutts End, Edge Road
Replace window to kitchen, reception room 1, bedroom 1 (sash window and small side window) and bedroom 3 (attic side window), repoint rear and side elevation. Replace plastic guttering to side and rear elevations. (Retrospective)

CONSENT

S.21/2625/HHOLD Hambutts End, Edge Road
Rebuild garage on existing base.
S.22/0249/FUL The Worthings, Sheepscombe
Renovation of existing property including new external cladding, first floor extension and addition of roof terrace.
S.22/0338/HHOLD Longridge Farm, Bulls Cross, Sheepscombe
Replacement of an existing single storey extension with a two storey extension and new porch.
S.22/0388/TCA Edge Cottage, Edge Road
T1 Ash - ash dieback, remove.

WITHDRAWN

S.21/3025/HHOLD & S.21/3026/LBC Cotswold Villa, Gloucester Street
Creation of an off-road parking space and installation of EV charge-point, proposed opening between kitchen and living room, and repairs to lean-to store.

MINI-ADS

2 x matching rugs, 3'-10" (117 cm) x 5'-7" (170 cm), modern design, beige with dark red border, in very good condition. £15 each. Phone 813841.

Records and CDs wanted. Any quality, any genre. Good prices paid. 0759 888 5639.

Two Halfords Child Car Seats. Group 2-3 Highback booster. 4-12 yrs (15-36 kgs). Adjustable headrest - washable covers - red/grey. Bought for grandchildren. (used 5x). Excellent condition. £20 each ono. Sandra 01452 814186.

Laura Ashley Balmoral Coffee Table / TV Stand. In Chestnut. Very good condition, 3 drawers. 110cm x 60, height 47cm. £150. 07971 780854.

Plastic plant pots available, free on collection. Large selection of used plant pots from garden centres, various sizes available. Painswick 01452 812942.

Need a **London Pied-à-terre?** Double room available in a 2 bed flat, quiet location (W5), kitchen/reception, 6 min walk to Ealing Broadway (cross rail, central & district line). Call/msg 07533619438.

South Devon Holiday Rental. A lovely four-bedroom house to rent in Thurlestone, South Devon. Ideal for beach, walking, golfing holidays and exploring the stunning South Hams region. Call Vicki 07789 963886.

Gardener Wanted for small garden in Painswick. Hourly paid. Please call 01452 498334

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Personal Column

Condolences

To the family and friends of ELLEN (AKA TERRY) ROHRBECK who passed away peacefully at home with her family on March 11.

To the family and friends of DR JENNIFER CHAPMAN who died peacefully at Richmond Village on the night of Tuesday April 19th. A church service is being arranged.

To the family and friends of PAULINE BERRY of Highfold Farm who died peacefully on April 8th. She will be sadly missed by her son Philip, his partner Karin and all who knew her. Her funeral will be held at St Mary's Church on May 9th at 11.00am

You could help Vicky Aspinall, if you would send information about those you know for whom a mention in the Personal Column would be appreciated cvasp.26@gmail.com



Sunrise from Gyde House
photo by Clare Chad-Daniels

A selection of the wonderful egg designs that were to be found on the Painswick Playgroup's egg hunt

