

The Painswick Beacon

Volume 30 Number 1

Sine praeiudicio

April 2007

Bombshell for Lower Washwell

In the afternoon of Wednesday 14th March, Adele Denley was clearing an old patch of ivy at the top of a bank in her back garden in Lower Washwell when she unearthed what she thought was an old bottle, except that the 'bottle' had fins at one end and seemed to be made of metal.

Having ascertained that this was certainly no 'bottle', Malcolm proceeded to remove the device with a long pole (don't try this at home, children!) and placed it 'safely' behind a wall. He then called the police. A police sergeant and constable arrived



commendably quickly. Having satisfied himself that this was certainly no 'bottle', the sergeant snapped it on his mobile phone and transmitted the picture to the Army Explosives Devices Team – that's the Bomb Squad to you and me - in Tewkesbury. They also arrived pretty quickly.

The Army identified the device as an unstable Second World War mortar shell, probably American in origin, similar to the one pictured above. The road was then cordoned off and the neighbours evacuated to the home of Nina and Richard Harris, who provided us with the accompanying picture, in which you can just see the Bomb Disposal Unit van and the police car in the background. All waited patiently as the Army team removed the shell and took it to Philip Hinds Farm in Beech Lane, where they carried out a controlled explosion in the field by the mill pond.

So, how did this American wartime mortar shell get to be in Lower Washwell? The most likely explanation is that it was left behind by US servicemen who were encamped in Painswick in the run-up to D-Day in 1943-44 and it was probably a practice shot which failed to explode. Given that there were (apparently) some 5,000 GIs based here at the time, many of whom (presumably) took practice shots, just how many more 'bottles' are lying around waiting to be discovered! You have been warned. As Mrs Denley says,

'I certainly won't be doing any gardening there again!'

JRB



She decided to call in her neighbour, Malcolm Watts, for a second opinion. When Malcolm saw the 'bottle', it immediately brought back childhood wartime memories and he tentatively identified it as an unexploded incendiary bomb.

'It took me back to my school days in the Blitz,' he said. 'We used to collect stuff like this – spent ammunition, bomb fragments and bits from shot-down aircraft - and swap them in the school yard!'



February

In February, PC Reuben Wyatt reports the following crimes in Painswick (January's figures in brackets):

Criminal damage	7 (4)
Theft from motor vehicle	6 (6)
Theft of motor vehicle	1 (1)
Assault	0 (2)
Theft	1 (1)
Burglary	1 (3)
Burglary non-dwelling	0 (0)
Other	0 (3)
TOTAL	16 (20)

Parish Council at full strength again

Three local residents volunteered their services to fill the Painswick village vacancy on the Parish Council which arose from the departure of Johnny Johnston.

At a special meeting of the Council, a few days after all three had an opportunity to informally meet Councillors and learn more about the duties such entailed, a ballot took place and Gill Richards (see photograph) was appointed.

Gill attended her first meeting on 21st March and expressed keen interest in several items on the agenda. Contact details are 813328, email on fandgrichards@msn.com, and home address Kings Mill House, Kings Mill Lane, Painswick GL6 6RT



On other pages this month: up close and personal with David Drew, a jolly result for a puzzling evening, Valerie strikes silver, 200 job seekers care, the big one and a wet one for the Croft, Francaises formidables join Handy Andy, Man Friday on a roll, WI naturally nurtured, the £600 cuppa and a brief encounter with Chiang Kai Shek

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS - by Leslie Brotherton

Reports upon meetings of the Parish Council cannot help but be selective, if only because of space constraints. We try to highlight points of wider interest. The full minutes of Council and committee meetings are available at the Council office and elsewhere.

PLANNING

Energy Conservation

The committee noted that there had been two recent planning applications relating to energy conservation. One had been for a wind turbine which the applicant had been asked to withdraw because of noise considerations (although an alternative type might be considered) and the other for the secondary glazing of a listed building which had been refused by the District Council. It was agreed that there was seemingly less flexibility within planning regulations than might be expected when the public were being urged to adopt measures to conserve energy.

It was agreed to seek to convene a public seminar, to which SDC officers be invited, at which all options for prospective planning applications related to energy conservation could be examined, which may be useful to applicants, after which that Council might publish criteria affecting energy conservation, not least in conservation areas and with listed buildings.

Richmond Painswick

The Chairman, David Hudson, read out the reply received to the enquiry made by this Council (*see p.2 last issue*) expressing concern that the observations made by this Parish Council upon the recent planning application and reproduced in the agenda of the Development Control Committee had been extended by wording not originating from the Parish Council. He quoted the Head of Planning having apologised for there having been a mistake by a clerk preparing the précis who had merged the responses from two consultees while inputting information from their database, and in the proof reading. He went on to state that the committee had been informed of the situation prior to deliberating on the issues. Mr Hudson

felt that this explanation 'put the matter to bed'.

Terry Parker pointed out, however, that no mention had been made in that response that the County Highways views in support of the application had not found their way into the summary of comments by consultees. Peter Rowe also pointed out that at the time the report appeared to be biased, and that the additional comments had been selective in reinforcing the case officer's views culminating in a recommendation for refusal; not one insertion of additional words had been otherwise.

Patchwork Mouse

It was noted that the Parish Council had supported an application for change of use from retail to private dwelling solely on grounds that such approval had been given some few years ago.

PARISH COUNCIL

Caring for Cotswolds Project

Jenny Phelps, the officer responsible for this project with the Cotswolds Conservation Board addressed the meeting, giving a report upon considerable progress made within this civil parish. Cattle-grids have been installed to enable conservation grazing at important limestone grassland sites, these grids securing site boundaries at Juniper Hill, Cud Hill and Huddinknoll Hill. All three sites are species-rich limestone grassland commons which, including Painswick Beacon, are in danger of being lost without proper sustainable management. The project will make it possible for important wildflower species to be re-established on the land and these in turn will act as a species source for a much larger area of nearby arable land which is targeted for grassland recreation. This 'landscape-scale' approach aims to provide important corridors for mobile species.

The project has been made possible by the Rural Development Service now part of Natural England, which provided 80% of the funding.

Carolyn Luke, as a member of the public, expressed some concerns about the type of cattle being used for short periods to graze these parcels of land, not least because some walkers were intimidated by larger cattle. Mrs Phelps pointed out that grazing periods were relatively short on each site and it was hoped that the public would increasingly appreciate the longer term benefits of grazing to protect/preserve other wildlife.

Considerable discussion took place regarding indiscriminate horse-riding in recent times on the Beacon, a practice which could only antagonize golfers and others. David Allott, Chairman of the Painswick Beacon Conservation Group (*see his article elsewhere in this issue*) spoke of their concerns and the need to achieve an understanding between all users of the common, an arrangement Jenny Phelps strongly encouraged – citing success stories elsewhere. There was broad agreement that signs clearly indicating designated bridleways could only be helpful, and that discussions to this end be opened with the Blow Estate.

Police – Painswick

The new Police and Community Safety Officer (PCSO), Linda Day, who was to be responsible for Painswick and nearby areas was introduced. PCSO Des Moore, reported that the police were taking a very firm line with regard to improper parking and that where such was on double yellow lines it would become a criminal offence with effect from October this year. From that time the District Council will be responsible for taking action in the matter, not the police.

Gateway Project

David Hudson and Peter Rowe reported upon the discussions within the Gateway Project Working Group that had taken place that morning and, in particular, on the reply received from County Councillor R Allen, Cabinet Member responsible for libraries, to the matters raised by the

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Parish Council at its special meeting on 19th February (see report last issue p1&3). The letter did not reflect the degree of commitment that had been hoped for, but was interpreted as leaving the door open to negotiations for the sale of the library premises to the village.

Chairman Terry Parker reported having spoken to the GCC Chief Estates Officer that afternoon and that in the (current) absence of a voluntary trust to acquire the property the only body able to do so was the Parish Council itself. Members were not prepared to countenance such an idea, adhering to the original concept that ownership and management of the property, unified with the Church Rooms, should be with an independent village trust.

Lengthy discussion ensued during which the numerous chicken-and-egg circumstances were aired. Without a trust in existence negotiations were seemingly impracticable, the independence of a trust is paramount. Subsequent support of the Council for any applications for grant aid would be essential. A modest 4-figure funding from the Parish Council is almost certainly required for the valuation of the building as well as administrative servicing of a trust. The preparation of a business plan has not received attention pending the outcome of authority to negotiate purchase and affirmation of GCC intent to maintain a library service by renting the premises from the trust. A volunteer leader for the project was awaiting clarification of intent to progress before committing service, and so on.

The Parish Council resolved to support the Working Group's proposals subject to a 'without prejudice' exchange of letters with the County Council, to which would be attached the range of issues identified by the Group including the intent to proceed to form the trust with a 'shadow' membership forthwith, and enter into negotiations while concurrently and vigorously putting all other studies/reports in hand. It was agreed that negotiations should be without any pre-determined sum to be offered as outstanding 'unknowns' existed.



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Fairtrade

The subject of Fairtrade was discussed briefly at the March meeting of the Parish Council following representations from several residents. There are two Fairtrade towns in the region: they are Nailsworth and Stroud. Fairtrade began in May 2000 when Garstang in Lancashire declared itself 'the world's first Fairtrade town'. March 2007 saw the declaration of the 242nd Fairtrade Town in the United Kingdom. The aim of Fairtrade is, as the name implies, to support organisations that pay fair prices to the producers of crops in developing countries.

To become a Fairtrade village the Parish Council must first pass a resolution supporting Fairtrade. A range of Fairtrade products must be readily available in local shops and served in catering establishments. Fairtrade products must be used by a number of local establishments e.g., estate agents, hairdressers and community organisations such as churches and schools. The Parish Council is aware that this already happens here and the intention is to see whether there is sufficient interest for the village to build on that existing activity to sign the Fairtrade Declaration.

It is hoped to have a presentation from local Fairtrade activists at the April Parish Council meeting.

Roy Balgobin, Clerk to the Parish Council

Safer Community Team

Linda Dey, our new Police and Community Safety Officer, is seeking volunteers to join a panel of local people who would meet with her every quarter to discuss matters of concern. She would then take those concerns to a meeting of the Safer Community Team. The initiative is intended to give the policing of Painswick more structure and direction and will enable the police to target issues that are really affecting the community.

If you are interested in joining the panel please contact me at the Parish Council office (812722) or by email, clerkpainswickpc@hotmail.com

Roy Balgobin, Clerk to the Parish Council

An evening with David Drew

David Drew MP will be at Painswick Town Hall on 18th May at 7.30pm.

David Heyes, Treasurer of Stroud Constituency Labour Party, says that this will be one of a series of meetings which our local MP undertakes to give his constituents an opportunity to meet him in an informal setting.

He insists that the evening will not develop into a political rally!



Tea and sympathy and...?

Age Concern invites you to come along to Painswick Town Hall on Wednesday 23rd May between 10.00am and 2.00pm and you may learn something to your advantage!

Jemima Mansell, Information and Advice Officer for Age Concern in Gloucestershire says that an Age Concern Team will be on hand to provide information about services offered by Age Concern in Gloucestershire and to advise on any issues older Painswickians might wish to discuss.

She says, "You'll receive a very warm welcome with free cups of tea and coffee (plus other freebies, for those who arrive there early).

How can you resist?"



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The 2007 Village Quiz

They were all winners!

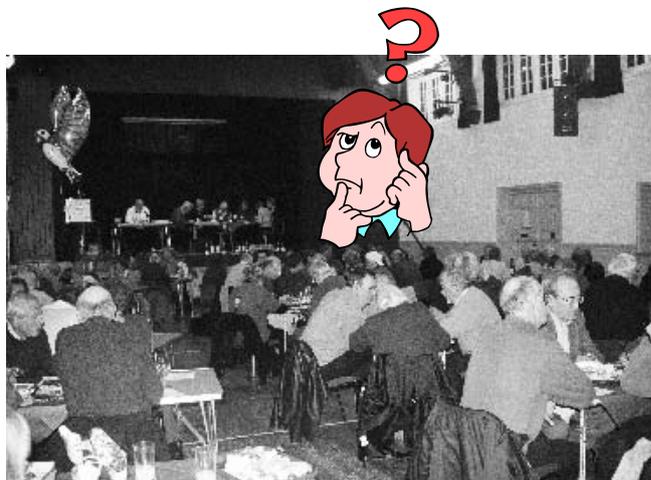
Feedback received, spontaneous of course, tells us that the Village Quiz evening on 10th March was enjoyed by the twenty teams who took part. The 'bug' which was causing so much throat and chest trouble last month put pressure upon entrants and organisers alike, but Painswick Centre was comfortably filled - and much good humour mixed with earnest endeavour was brought to bear as all 11 rounds of questions were posed.

These ranged from those broadly geographical to current news, from characters from stage and film to aspects of sport, and music to knowledge of historical events. An 'O' level in Quizology was not required, although a mix of knowledge among team members was clearly helpful.

Use of the 'Joker', with which a team can double its marks for a particular round, caused the classic distortion of the seeming pecking order as the evening progressed, with the Conservation Society's 'Conservators' appearing to be well in front of the field right up until the refreshment break after 5 rounds. Thereafter that order fluctuated, keeping all on the edge of their seats right up until the last round to bring the proceedings to an end.

The Beacon appreciated the cooperation of all who entered into the spirit of fun for this annual occasion, and again congratulates The (Jolly Stompers) Coasters upon their achieving the highest total number of marks for the second year running, only being three points ahead of their nearest rivals from Paradise residents 'Los Paradisos'.

We do not subscribe to the don't-publish-results-in-case-it-hurts-feelings brigade, so we have listed the full pecking order here, but feel all were winners for taking part in such a sporting manner.



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<i>The Coasters</i>	Jolly Stompers Dance Group	1
<i>Los Paradisos</i>	Paradise Residents	2
<i>The Shepherds</i>	Beacon Conservation Group	3
<i>The Conservators</i>	Conservation Society	4
<i>Band of Hope</i>	PCMS	5=
<i>I Suppanti Ignoranti</i>	Italian Group (Weekly Meetings)	5=
<i>The Searchers</i>	Local History Society	5=
<i>Quinnichlor</i>	Ancient Society of Painswick Youths	8
<i>The Shepherds</i>	Beacon Club	9
<i>Songs and Words</i>	Horticultural Society	10=
<i>Village Idiots</i>	Sarah Oakley's friends	10=
<i>Bookworms</i>	Jenny Gungin and Book Club Friends	12=
<i>Four Wags</i>	Dog Walking Friends	12=
<i>Emmerdale</i>	Ancient Society of Painswick Youths	14=
<i>PC Trainers</i>	Painswick Centre	14=
<i>Bug Dings</i>	Ancient Society of Painswick Youths	16
<i>High Flyers</i>	Bird Club	17=
<i>The Recycled Trainers</i>	Friday Club	17=
<i>Nifty Nifty Bowlers</i>	Short Mat Bowling Club	19
<i>The Hot Rover</i>	Horticultural Society	20



Easter Day Gatherings at our places of Worship in Painswick Sunday 8th April



8.00am.	St. Mary's	Anglican	Holy Communion
8.30am.	Our Lady & St. Therese	Roman Catholic	Mass of the Resurrection
9.00am,	Christ Church	URC & Baptist	Easter Breakfast
9.30am.	St. Mary's	Anglican	Easter Communion
10.30am.	Christ Church	URC & Baptist	Easter Communion
10.30am.	Friends' Meeting House	Quaker	Meeting
11.15am.	St. Mary's	Anglican	Special all-age service

'Aquila' pilot project for Painswick

In the last 30 years the divorce rate has increased significantly. More than 30% of first and 50% of second marriages in Britain end in divorce, the highest rate in Europe. Because family breakdown is an inevitable feature in modern life few people are concerned about this serious social instability. However the consequences of relationship breakdown are usually devastating for those involved including family and friends. The children of divorced parents usually suffer long term emotional damage which in turn affects their own relationships in adulthood.

'Aquila' is a pilot project which is being set up by Gloucester Diocese to support and care for those who have suffered the trauma of divorce or broken relationships. It is for adults from all walks of life who are struggling to come to terms with their current situation, endeavouring to regain self-esteem and rebuild their lives. Most people don't seem to be able to talk about these things in a way which recognises the very powerful feelings of loss. 'Aquila' can help people by introducing them to others in similar situations and creating a supportive recovery group, and then continued companionship and support with the addition of social activities for those who wish to remain in contact following the 'Breakthrough' course.

Our first non-residential course will run over the weekend of the 22nd, 23rd and 24th of June in Painswick.

If you know someone who is struggling to put their life back together again after a broken relationship or divorce and feel that taking part in the Aquila pilot course might be of benefit, please pass this information on to them.

Please contact Christine Birkett for more information, or an application form: Telephone: 01452 740422, email: christine.birkett@ntlworld.com

Flower Guild

St Mary's Flower Guild invite you to a sealed bids offer for 2 tickets to join a conducted tour of Highgrove Garden, the home of HRH the Prince of Wales.

The tickets are a donation to help raise funds to buy the flowers for The Flower Festival on 26th - 29th July 2007, in support of The Restoration of the Tombstones Project. Please send your bids c/o Mr R Barney, Mulberry House, Churchill Way, Painswick, GL6 6RG by Sunday 15th April.

There are still some tickets available for Rob Rees Cookery Demonstration on 4th April, from The Chairman Shop

Christian Aid Week

Hats galore!

In aid of Christian Aid Week (from Sunday 13th May), the Christian Aid shop will be having a Hat Stall. Have you any hats you would like to give that we could sell? Or perhaps you would like to come and try on our selection! If you are going to a special occasion, a wedding, the races (or a Royal Garden Party...?), now is your chance to purchase that dream hat!! If you have hats you would like to donate please contact Jean Newell on 812083 or take them along to Christ Church, Gloucester Street, Painswick on Tuesday 15th May (see below).

Christian Aid Week Events

House to House Collection

Sunday 13th - Service 6.30 pm. in St. Mary's, Speaker - Nigel Graham

Tuesday 15th Christ Church

10.00 - 12.00 & 2.00 - 3.00pm. receiving goods.

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday

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Music in St Mary's

For the first concert of their 62nd season, music lovers in Painswick, had the good fortune to hear a recital by Dame Felicity Lott accompanied by Graham Johnson.

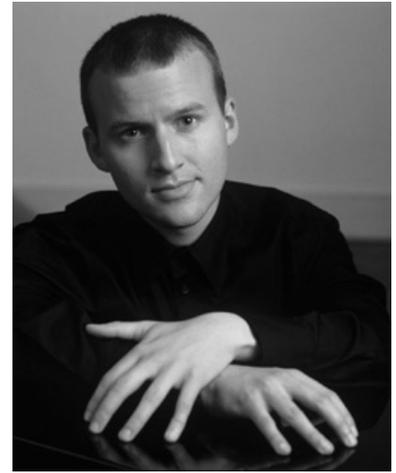
son.

First she sang four songs by Mahler, all on romantic themes, all sung with the same charming manner, the minimum of gestures, in a very clear voice and intonation but each suitably modulated, the accompaniment flowing into the songs. Then on to equally romantic songs by Schumann, and with an effortless switch from German into French, 5 songs by Beaudelaire, mainly poetic and dreamy but showing slightly more sense of mischief, with Le Chat, his tone so tender and discreet, and on to the melancholic and nostalgic, the singing ranging from quiet to full volume.



The sense of an artiste lost in her memories of times past changed quickly in the second half of the programme, when a different Dame Felicity emerged, an actress, entertainer and comedienne, almost like the a music hall star, but never losing the clarity and range of her singing. She captivated her audience with songs by Quilter, Bliss and Britten, in particular a very engaging Polly Oliver. She was perhaps at her best with songs by Noel Coward, which might have been written for her – eg her portrayal of a French girl's comical English lesson, her stately home manner tempered with a great sense of fun. Her performance, faultlessly supported by Graham Johnson, was a rare treat.

Richard Burges Watson



Our next two concerts in St Mary's are on Saturday 14th April and Saturday 28th April respectively.

Daniel de Borah (*pictured above*) will be giving a piano recital on 14 April, and will be playing pieces by Chopin, Prokofiev and Schumann. Daniel is an outstanding young artist sponsored by the Countess of Munster Trust. He was born in Melbourne, studied at the Liszt Academy in Budapest and the St Petersburg State Conservatoire, and has won numerous national and international awards. I always enjoy piano recitals in St Mary's Church, and am particularly looking forward to this concert.

On 28 April, the Kungsbacka Piano Trio will be coming to Painswick. The Kungsbacka comprises three highly acclaimed artists - Simon Crawford-Phillips (piano), Jesper Svedberg (cello) and Malin Broman (violin). They will play pieces by Haydn, Schubert, Shostakovich and Arensky. Following a concert at the Wigmore Hall last year, "The Strad" reported "The Kungsbacka's concert showed immaculate preparation at every turn, yet the interpretations pulsed with inner life". With reports like this, what more can I say?

Tickets for these concerts, and the final one on 12 May (with the Rasumovsky Ensemble) are on sale at £12 each. Even if you have missed the first concert, membership of the Society is still good value at £32 giving entry to the last three concerts and a musical evening with our AGM in October. Tickets are on sale from the Treasurer, Hywel James, on 812419, or from "The Chairman", New Street. Further details of the concerts are on the booking forms, on the website www.painswickmusicsoc.co.uk or from Hywel.

Peter Rowe

Music Appreciation Group

On 23rd March, Gordon Collins talked to us about Twentieth Century conductors who are or were concert soloists, mainly pianists; he gave us numerous musical illustrations. His first example was Andre Previn, who started life as a jazz pianist, and composer of film music, before becoming conductor of various symphony orchestras; a man of incredible all-round ability. Another was Vladimir Ashkenazy, who shared Previn's love of Jazz and like Previn won many piano prizes before turning to conducting. Sergei Rachmaninov reversed the process, giving up conducting to become the outstanding pianist of his generation. Like Previn he came from a musical family and learned amazingly fast.

Rostropovich was one of the great cellists of his day who later turned to conducting. Another giant was Daniel Barenboim, again with musical parents, who gave his first piano concerts in his early teens. He went on to conduct numerous operas (and to marry Jacqueline du Pre). Leonard Bernstein was a man of outstanding talent, as composer, player and conductor; he also learned at a tremendous speed. A final example was Dmitry Shostakovich, a pianist and a great composer.

We heard part of a Shostakovich piano concerto, played and conducted by Bernstein. It was electrifying music. It is hard to imagine how one man could play the piano at such breathless speed and conduct an orchestra at the same time.

Gordon's presentation was indeed magical and he was warmly applauded.

Richard Burges Watson

PAMAG Music season extended

How many remember 9th February, and what extreme weather we all experienced that day? The forecasters predicted ice, or snow, or gales, or anything else they could think of, and each in differing parts of the country and at different times too.

Assured by the coach operators that all would probably be just fine, the Group, and quite a few others keen to enjoy the concert in store, set off for their annual visit to Symphony Hall in Birmingham. On the approach to that city sudden severe icing of the roads brought traffic to a halt, indeed the musicians couldn't reach the hall themselves! Late that evening all returned to Painswick, somewhat frustrated, but grateful for the expertise of the driver.

Symphony Hall, to their credit, offered an alternative concert at no cost and this is to be on what would have been the last night of the Group's season, Thursday 19th April; Joshua Bell will be conducting the Academy of St Martin in the Fields in an all-Beethoven programme, and will be the soloist in the Violin Concerto, plus the Coriolan Overture and the 7th Symphony.

Not to be outdone, the last night of our season will be on 10th May in the Cotswold Room at Painswick Centre - the occasion when members bring their own recordings.

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News for April



The afternoon of Saturday 24th February may have been damp and drab in Painswick, but for those who made their way to the Painswick Centre there was a treat in store.

Pauline Foreman presented an afternoon of poetry and prose entitled "If these Walls Could Speak" – very apt for the Centenary year of the Centre. Pauline was very ably supported by Avril Dorey, Georgina Sutton and Kevin Parker. A delightful selection of varied pieces were recited to us – some humorous, some thoughtful, some touching, from popular authors such as John Betjeman, Joyce Grenfall and Noel Coward, and all cleverly linked to the many events and activities over the past 100 years at the Centre. This was followed by a delicious tea of home baked scones, jam and clotted cream – a perfect end to a most enjoyable afternoon. This event was kindly staged by the Painswick Players.

On Saturday 3rd March Olivers staged their 'Too Hot to Handle' and what an evening that was! Two hundred people packed in like sardines to enjoy a fabulous evening of music, song and dance. This was a really professional show as those who attended will endorse, and all for charity. It really is heart warming to see this troupe giving up so much time to raise money for good causes which is exactly what Frances Sarah Williams had in when she gave us the Painswick Centre. Well done Olivers!

The programme of events to be staged by the Trustees for the rest of this year is as follows. On Bank Holiday Monday, 7th May we have the Antiques & Collectors Fair, still a few tables left. This is followed by the climax of the centenary year with the 'Edwardian Evening to Remember' with Ian Towers, the Wassailers and an auction for Oxfam.

Then on Saturday 26th October, directly from performing at the Edinburgh Fringe, we'll be presenting a concert by Amorata. This is an all female chorus whose programme will include something for every taste. My favourite is their rendition of 'Are you going to Strawberry Fair' joined seamlessly with Simon & Garfunkel's 'The Sound of Silence'. The ticket price for this event is £9.50 to include a glass of wine and nibbles and starts at 7.30pm.

The Painswick Centre would be interested in hearing from other charities in the area who would like to join with them in organising and staging fundraising events in the Centre. The idea would be to share the workload and the profits. If you are interested in exploring this approach please telephone Ralph Drew on 814070.

Ralph Drew

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The event is organised by the Trustees of the Painswick Centre and any surplus after paying all expenses will be used for urgent assistance work on the building.
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Centenary of The Painswick Centre

November 2006 – September 2007

DID YOU KNOW? – NO. 10

The present Badminton Club which uses the Centre had its beginnings in 1977, calling themselves the Village Badminton Club, as there was another club playing there with the title Painswick Club. It was started to enable people to play badminton without outside competitive matches, although the standard has always good and competitive within the Club. The Club has always had a very active social side. The membership grew, and in 1986, after many meetings with the Trustees, we were allowed to use the name Painswick Badminton Club and obtained extra playing time.

The Hall is not perfect for badminton, with only one court and with players having to learn to negotiate the beams, but it is the only local venue in which to play, as permission for a two storey sports hall was not granted at Broadham. In 1999 the Institute changed its name and became the Painswick Centre. Since then conditions have improved, with much better kitchen and toilet facilities. There are now proper lights in situ. Hopefully, the proposed redecoration of the Hall will improve it yet again.

Playing membership has increased and we now have a total of 34 playing members, including a few of the founder members. There is also a social membership for those who no longer play. The Junior section has also been going for a long time and is now very active, with a paid Coach. Membership of the Club for people from outside the Painswick area has always been restricted, keeping the club very much for Painswick people. We play two or three times a week and provide a regular source of income for the Centre.

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Painswick Beacon Conservation Group



Damage from horse riding

During the prolonged wet weather this year considerable damage has been done to grassland on the Painswick Beacon 'Common' and much of this on areas rented from the Blow Estate by Painswick Golf Club. The area is a designated Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) so those responsible are contravening the Wildlife and Countryside Act (as amended) if they 'intentionally or recklessly damage features of an SSSI'. Maximum fines in the Magistrates court are £20,000, or unlimited if taken to Crown Court.



Last month's Beacon referred to a contention from English Heritage that the public may have rights to ride other than on bridle paths. In contrast, the Lord of the Manor and the trustees have made it clear that they wish horses and anyone who is not on foot to remain on the bridleways. Whatever the legal position, (and it is certainly not clear to me yet!) this Conservation Group, Natural England, several responsible local riders and, obviously, the golfers have made it clear that they hope all users of the area will respect the reasonable wishes of others. To

further this a consultative group of users is being assembled to prepare a code of conduct and to agree the wording for a few suitable notices to be installed, mostly at the access points to the Beacon.

Litter

In her January letter to The Beacon Caitlin Workman expressed concern at the rubbish tipped around the Beacon. The parking areas are often worst. If you see any selfish individual tipping and are courageous you might try to ask/tell them to stop. Or you might take their vehicle number and pass it to The Department of the Environment on 0800 807060. The maximum fine is £20,000. Should our policy be 'Stop'em or Shop'em'?

Spring flowers

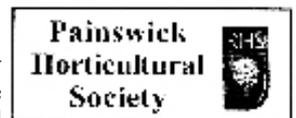
Having cleared a few areas of excess grass and scrub we are hoping to be rewarded with more flowers and insects this year. We will arrange a Spring walk to look for them, probably early in May. Watch for our posters or phone late in April Clare Overhill, Recorder on 812708 or David Allott on 812624.

Pruning with Sue

Former college lecturer, and now garden designer and consultant, Sue Gibson instructed us in a friendly and relaxed fashion in the art of pruning at our March meeting. She demonstrated the range of tools she uses and stressed the importance of quality products that felt comfortable in use. Sue stressed the importance of correct timing when pruning. Vines should be pruned before mid January, but fruit trees in general could be pruned during autumn or winter. Rambler roses need a trim after flowering, with late flowering shrubs being tackled in February or March. With lavender the 'three eights rule' was a good guide. Prune on the eighth day of the eighth month to a height of eight inches. If only everything in the garden was that easy!



We look forward to the return of popular former TV presenter Michael Leach next Wednesday, 11th April, to talk on 'British Poisonous Plants'. We will welcome all interested at 7.30pm in the Town Hall.



Advance Show information

As in past years, some of the classes in the Annual Show on Saturday 8th September, need time to prepare. Forewarned is forearmed! In the **Vegetable Section** there will be a new Class for 3 Beef Tomatoes. The Collection of Salad Vegetables will be deleted, and in its place will be individual Classes for (a) the Longest Runner Bean, (b) the Heaviest Onion, and (c) the Largest Tomato.

The **Handicraft Classes** will comprise: a dressed doll, a knitted hat, a peg bag, a lady's evening bag, an item of embroidery, a bird feeder, a menu card for a celebration, a painting entitled 'The open door'.

Photography Classes will be: a local view, a pattern or a texture, anything from nature, a happy holiday (with caption). All not to exceed 5" x 7" whether mounted or un-mounted.

Philip Berry

New Business at Prinknash Abbey

Simon Chorley, Art and Antiques, has moved into the old pottery building at Prinknash Abbey.

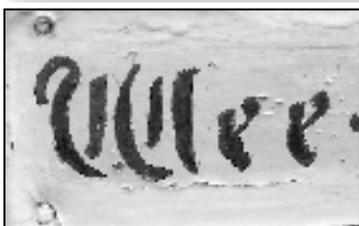
Formerly Bruton Knowles in Cheltenham, the business has occupied its new premises since last August and held its first sale in January. There will be one sale a month preceded by viewing days. Additionally, valuation days and occasional exhibitions and charity auctions will also take place.

Simon, one of three directors of the company, has been in the business for thirty five years. He trained with Arthur Negus and is a Radio Gloucestershire antiques consultant. Asked why the decision to locate at Prinknash he replied quite simply that it offers everything they need. There is ample car parking, it is central and easily accessible from numerous routes, the building is spacious and light and ideal as a sales room, and they have been able to build in all the software required for modern auctions. Local traffic is also starting to notice and come in to look.

Do look out for the date of the next sale and go and look round.

CM

ArchiTecs



Last month's bumble bee - or *Bombus hortorum* as Brother Leslie would have it - is to be found as part of the decorative name-plate on the Beehive cottage in New Street.



And this month, for the super-vigilant, can you place the fragment of a house sign, pictured left?



5000 years of preparation...

...but there is far less mystique about Yoga than the word seems to imply. Kim Brockett, who runs Thursday morning classes at Painswick Centre, explains that it boils down to exercising the mind and body while working on the 'sag and flab'; and participants very gradually build up to a level they are comfortable with. With the exercises one endeavours to do the maximum stretch you can achieve; even the easiest of moves helps make one feel wonderful and be doing the world of good. As well as the progressive muscle toning, posture improvement and general feel good factor, an additional benefit is learning the technique of relaxation and simple meditation techniques which can enable one to switch off from some of the worldly worries.

Kim is a newcomer to Painswick but an experienced teacher of the 'British wheel' of Yoga. Whilst her first Thursday class is extremely popular, the second class (at 11.15am) is not as strongly attended as she anticipated. This class is specifically designed for the over 50s, although you don't have to disclose your age, nor is there even a fixed fee for each class.

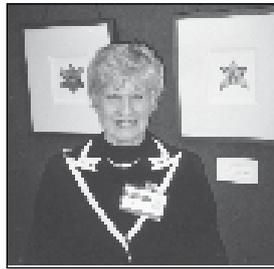
As one participant said to us, "Please come along and try out Kim's class for seniors - there's no commitment, so give it a go! The few Painswick ladies who take part already will be delighted if you would join."

Kim can be contacted on 812623.



Valerie strikes silver – again!

Another RHS Botanical Medal honour for botanical artist and calligrapher Valerie Dugan. Valerie exhibited nine of her beautiful Orchid paintings at the RHS Spring Flower Show at Westminster Hall in London where she was awarded a silver medal. She has as a result been commissioned by the RHS Orchid Committee and Society of Great Britain to become one of their official painters and to paint the next award winning Orchid at the show in March. Her cards of Orchid heads have also been requested and are to be sold by the society. You can see her paintings along with her calligraphy work at her next show she will be having with the extremely well known local landscape painter and Raku potter Ian Shearman. His superb acrylic paintings of the Cotswolds and Cornish seascapes along with his exquisite Japanese style pots are not to be missed.



The exhibition will be at the Painswick Town Hall from Friday 20th April 2.00 - 8.00pm. Then Saturday 21st and Sunday 22nd April 10.00am till 4.30pm admission free. Please come and see us.

200 seek Richmond jobs

The Recruitment Fair held at Richmond Painswick in January of this year was, Susie Oakley tells the Beacon, a great success. Over 200 prospective employees attended the event with over a quarter coming from the Village of Painswick. A further 30 applications were received in the following weeks from people who were unable to attend the event.

The work of conducting the formal interviews and selection is progressing, with the majority of staff expected to join between May and August of this year.

Susie went on to say that "It is looking like the only areas where job opportunities still exist are in housekeeping (including laundry) and catering /hospitality. And there is still a vacancy for an experienced gardener and a weekend receptionist". She confirmed that "Staff will undertake an in depth induction and be offered an individual career pathway, including NVQ training where appropriate".

Anyone interested in the remaining vacancies, or wanting to know more about career opportunities in the future at Richmond Painswick, should contact Susie Oakley or Sue Bishop on 813902.



Wordsearch

No fewer than 27 references to sport squeezed into our frame in this month's Word-Search; most with their '...ing' missing. One is mentioned three times!

Last month we were asking for 19 words associated with Justice, and these were they:

ATTORNEY, CLERK, COURT, CRIME, CRIMINAL, EVIDENCE, GUILTY, JAIL, JUDGE, JURY, LAW, MAGISTRATE, POLICE, PRISON, PROBATION, SENTENCE, SOLICITOR, TESTAMENT, VICTIM



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RED NOSE DAY



Friday 16th was Red Nose Day. For a £1 donation to Comic Relief, children were allowed to wear non-uniform clothes and as this was the BIG Red Nose Day, the accent was on wearing something red and big. The children also filled a large jar with copper coins, so much so that it overflowed and we had to fill a vase as well! In all, we raised £193 for Comic Relief.



From the Head...

Many varied activities continue. In the week before the school break, children in Year 6 served their delicious home made soups (cooked with Debbie Jakeway) at the Austerity Lunch at Christchurch. It was delightful to receive so many messages appreciating their efforts; they were a real credit to the school. The infants enjoyed their excellent PTA party, Class 3 performed a super assembly on their Chinese project, Class 2 enjoyed a Judaism day and Year 5 and 6 children attended a highly enjoyable but challenging day on the subject of slavery at Gloucester Cathedral.

Since the break, children from Classes 1 and 4 worked very hard in after school gymnastics training sessions for staff, Class 2 had an excellent Aboriginal art workshop, our netball team played in an exciting match against the King's School, there was a lovely atmosphere at our coffee morning (see below) and children from each class shared some imaginative and high quality work in our book week assembly. This week, Class 3 heard traditional Chinese stories from a story teller, Year 6 children performed well in the year's Mock Trial Competition and inter-school nature quiz, Class 1 children had a great time at Over Farm (with Class 2 there today). The Country Dance festival and sponsored bounces are still to come!

There is yet more going on, but that is enough to give you a flavour of what our staff are working so hard to provide for the children. Alongside all of this, of course, we are concentrating on developing skills and especially in trying to ensure that all children reach their writing targets. Our skilful teaching assistants are running very successful programmes as a vital part of this.

I am very proud of what your children are achieving and the opportunities that the staff are creating. Let us know what you

think! You will have an opportunity at Open Evening to help us shape what we do next.

Finally, very many thanks to those of you who did such sterling work to help dig the vegetable garden. It is now all ready to go. Plots for each class will be established next week and the children will soon be planting seeds in the classrooms ready to plant out. Each class will also have a herb planter and a potato pot. Thanks to Mr Lewis for masterminding all of this.

Janet Hoyle

Fair Trade Coffee Morning

Congratulations to the Year 5 members of Class 6 for their organisation of the Coffee Morning. The steady stream of visitors spent £330. This will go to charities supporting Fairtrade initiatives. Thanks to everyone who baked cakes and especially to Iris McCormick for all her help.

Governors' News

This term, Governing Body committees consider:

- Curriculum committee:
 - Early Years teaching
 - Progress in raising standards in writing
- Resources committee:
 - Budget for 2007-08
 - Plans for development of the school building

A new committee is also discussing the longer term strategy for development and improvement of the school. You have parents on the GB if you wish to raise an issue with governors or ask a question – Chris Hall, Delyth Allen, Dylan Davies, Victoria Elvidge, Rupert Holmes, John Longuet Higgins and David Perry.



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Karl creates a splash!

On Thursday 8th March, Croft School were delighted to receive a plumbed in water cooler, donated by the accountants Price Davis through the company Water Coolers Direct. Karl Pryce of Gloucester Rugby Club was at the launch event, signing autographs and taking part in a question and answer session with the children in Classes 4 and 5.

Wendy Davis of Price Davis said "My children are educated at the Croft Primary School and so I wanted my business Price Davis to sponsor a water cooler that would give all the children at the school access to healthy drinking water throughout the day. I approached Water Coolers Direct because they were already offering additional discounts to schools."



Playgroup News

It was sad to say goodbye in March to Hannah Ross, who is moving back to Australia. The children had a goodbye tea party (pictured right and below) and Hannah was presented with a memory book full of photographs and pictures that she had done during her time at Playgroup, including the first time she had seen snow! Playgroup would also like to thank Mr & Mrs Ross

for their kind gift of children's aprons.

There are still a few remaining tickets to the Easter Duck Race, taking place on Good Friday, 6th April from 2.00pm - 4.30pm, priced at £4 per person (under 1s FREE). The event is taking place at Freams Farm near Cranham, where there are Easter activities, and the rubber duck race which will be taking place on Painswick Stream just below Tocknells Court. Telephone playgroup if you would like a ticket on 813316.

The children have once again been busy and brought home a beautiful mother's day card in the shape of a flower, with their photos in the middle. They have

also been learning valuable skills about road safety with a visit from the road safety lady, who told them how to cross the road and put their seat belts on in cars (pictured left).

We would also like to welcome Holly to playgroup this term, Holly has just returned from the Falkland Islands where her parents have been working for 2 1/2 years.

Emma Bradshaw



We're on the look-out for...

Painswick Playgroup is also in need of a filing cabinet. If you have an old one or know of anyone who doesn't need one any more, then please let us know on 813316. We are also on the lookout for unwanted toys, such as matchbox cars, Lego people, Barbie dolls, Action Men and ethnic dolls.

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Letters

The inclusion of letters in these columns does not imply that the Beacon committee endorses the views expressed.

Missed appointments

From Anne Leoni:

We should be ashamed in Painswick that so many appointments are made and not honoured at the Surgery. How many of us ring to make an appointment and have to wait 1-2 weeks to see the doctor of choice. The surgery does try and indeed advises to ring at 8.30am to see if there is a cancellation; alas, in January there should have been 54 opportunities but no, people did not make available what they could not use themselves. If it was a private dentist, they would have to pay; if it was a social engagement they would not forget. Let us try to be less selfish.

Painswick Diary

From Maureen Kinnear, Christ Church:

This is really a plea to anyone organising a coffee morning, lunch or other event in aid of charity.

It would be helpful if they would enter the event in the Painswick Diary which is held in the Painswick Woodcraft shop. If everyone did this we could avoid clashes in future!

(The Beacon would also appreciate being kept informed, so that the Beacon Diary is also up to date - Editor)

End of an Era

From Diane Mearns,

(ex) Hamptons Estate Agents:

After over 23 years working for Hamptons I have finally retired to take up some new challenges. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time as an estate agent in Painswick and could write a book on my many experiences of the ups and downs of the property market. I have met some lovely people, many of whom I now call my friends and I would like to thank everyone who has given me loyal support over the years. I look forward to meeting you all around the village in the future.

Butt Green...the Shetland link?

From Michael Lowe, Shetland, email: ml@301upnorf.eclipse.co.uk

Can anyone please help me with an enquiry to prepare for my visit to Painswick in April. My grandfather is recorded in the 1881 census as living at Butt Green - Painswick. There is no house number, prefix or suffix. Is this property recognisable? Does it still stand? I would be most appreciative of any assistance.

Crème de la Crème!

Stroud College's Adult Community Learning department has judged Painswick's French class as one of their top courses.

Every year all the department's tutors are observed to ensure the quality of their teaching. Marie-Christine Stone has been delivering her French course in Painswick all this year and this week was praised for her varied use of teaching styles.

Her manager Emma Clark says, "Not everyone learns in the same way, some learn best by listening and some by acting out. To teach a really good class you have to cater for everyone which Marie-Christine does."

The French class was also praised for its warm and relaxed atmosphere with everyone obviously enjoying themselves. Emma Clark comments, "Learning should be fun and a good stimulating class is a great way to meet new people in your community. We're really pleased that the Painswick class has taken off so well"

Classes start again on Wednesday 25th April. New learners welcome. For more information call Stroud College on 01453 763424.

...or Handy Andy?

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Carol Maxwell



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Local History Teaser

As Spring is upon us and we start to venture out more willingly, the delightful scene depicted in our photograph begins to hold some attraction. Who are these people taking tea and relaxing in the sunshine? Where are they and when was the photograph taken? If you have any ideas please let us know.



Last month's photograph showed the A46 just below St Mary's Home, now of course developed into modern housing. Mrs Audrey Timpson was able to provide a date, approximately 1909, as she herself is in possession of a coloured photograph taken at about the same time and of the same view. We are very grateful for the information.

If you have a photograph which would pose a challenge to readers, we would be pleased to hear from you.

Carol Maxwell



... and the Local History Society

At the March meeting Mr Hugh Conway-Jones gave a truly fascinating presentation on the history and indeed survival of Gloucester Docks.

The canal was eventually opened up in Gloucester in 1827 for cargo-bearing ships and by 1843 there were many warehouses. In some respects the view is still much the same today as many of the buildings remain. In the 1840s though the basin was always crowded and corn and timber mills were built up the road to deal with the cargo. Steam tugs were introduced to tow the ships in. By the 1860s the ships were becoming too big to come up the canal and a new dock was built at Sharpness marking a decline in business for Gloucester. By the 1880s there was a trade depression because of competition from Avonmouth.

By the 20th century timber and corn was being towed up on lighters but little was going out except salt. Barges rather than

ships were operating from Gloucester and there was added competition from the railways. The 1930s saw real deterioration. After this, petroleum barges were the dominant traffic until the 1970s.

What was to be done with the empty docks and warehouses? For a while films were made using old sailing ships. Then the City Council converted the North Warehouse into its impressive new offices. This marked the revival of the docks, with several museums, working exhibits, new housing and the building and repair of traditional vessels in the dry dock.

There are still big plans to develop more housing and factory outlets, a mixture of old and new buildings and a new bridge. Gloucester Docks will certainly play a major part in Gloucester's future economy.

Carol Maxwell

Clockmakers of Painswick?

Did Painswick have its own clockmakers?

We are currently researching the possibility that Painswick may at one time have had one or more craftsmen producing a Painswick clock. It is certain that various traders in the nineteenth century were associated with clocks but what we are unsure about is whether they were making them or simply selling them. Can you help?

If you have a clock with the word Painswick inscribed on it, or if you have any information or knowledge on this subject, we would be very pleased to hear from you. Please contact Carol Maxwell on 813387.

'Antique Roadshow' for Painswick

There will be an 'Antiques Roadshow' on Monday 28th May at 4.00 pm at Painswick Mill in aid of Cotswold Care and the E.C.H.E refuge, in Kathmandu. Philip Taubenheim, Chairman of the Wotton under Edge Auction Rooms, and a regular contributor to the BBC TV programmes, Antiques Roadshow and Going for a Song, has very kindly agreed to help raise money for the two charities. Philip will give a lecture, and value any item you wish to bring along. This will be followed by a salmon supper, a glass of wine and a raffle. A donation will also be given to Mrs Taubenheim's charity, Animal Foundation China.

Tickets are £18.00, available from Joan Wells on 812245, Paula Woodcock on 812845 and The Shetland Shop in Painswick.

Joan Wells

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Tickets are now available at £45 each until 30th May when they will go up to £50. Ticket prices include Dinner, Dancing to Top Catz, and Disco. 7.00pm for 7.30pm through till late. A photographer will also be available, together with an auction and raffle. If you have any prizes for the raffle then Will Fair will be very pleased to hear from you on 07970 477657. Tables are for 10 or 12, or you can take individual tickets as you require. Please contact me by email, chris.hall@portratsoftware.com or phone on 07977.176606 or 814504 to make your reservations. Alternatively you can send cash or cheques made out to Painswick RFC to me at Meadowhill, Lower Washwell Lane. Further information can be obtained from either myself, Andrew Morgan (814202) or Will Fair.

Chris Hall

Rugby

Lady Sophia Gordon

In last month's Beacon issue we reported the presentation of the Lady Sophia ('Sophie') Gordon Silver Salver to the Painswick Rugby Club by the Marquis of Aberdeen, Lord Alexander, and his Mother the Dowager Marchioness Lady Anne. The salver was presented to the club in memory of Lady 'Sophie', Lord Aberdeen's sister, who had been an avid supporter of the club. The salver was to be competed for each year in the matches between Painswick United and local rivals Cainscross. Saturday 24th March brought the first fixture between the two clubs when the teams competed for the trophy at Broadham. Painswick were delighted to be the first holders of the salver when they ran out convincing winners against the Cainscross second fifteen.

Other results

Both Painswick sides lost to Cirencester opponents last Saturday in competitive matches. The first fifteen went down by 54 points to 7 in a Premier Division game at Cirencester whilst the United lost at home by 24 points to 12 against Cirencester's second fifteen in a Merit Table match. On Saturday 17th March the Painswick first fifteen were at home in a Premier Division encounter against Frampton Cotterell but in spite of a spirited performance were defeated by 24 points to 14. Painswick's try scorers were wing-three-quarter James Wynn and centre-threequarter Jake Saunders: both tries were converted by Will Leicester. The United's Merit Table match was also played at Broadham when the visitors were Widden Old Boys. The visitors' name belied the fact that they fielded a particularly young side which at half-time led by 12 points to nil. In the second half Painswick applied considerable pressure which the visitors absorbed until late on in the game when the United's captain, Ian Maller, went over for an unconverted try.

Fixtures

Sat 7 Apr. (L) Rearranged match v Avonmouth Old Boys at Broadham.

Painswick United v Bream 2nd XV at Broadham.

Sat 14 Apr. (L) Painswick 1st XV v Widden Old Boys.

Berry Hill 3rd XV v Painswick United.

Cricket

Painswick Cricket Club Chairman, John Hogg, told the Beacon that all the players are very looking forward to the new season not least because it will bring a number of challenges. The club will be fielding three teams for the first time with the first eleven elevated to the Gloucestershire First Division of the West of England Premiership. A major boost for Painswick is the club's "adoption" by Radio Gloucestershire. This means that the broadcasting organisation will be reporting in depth on Painswick's matches throughout the season. Painswick will host a match against a Radio Gloucestershire eleven towards the end of the season. Painswick are especially pleased over the return of Alastair Bressington who has rejoined the Broadham club from Frocester. The club has also attracted a number of new players.

The early season fixtures are as follows:

Saturday 21st April. 1st XI away against Frocester.

Sunday 29th April. Village Championship. 1st XI away against Oldown.

Sat 5th May. 1st XI home to Tewkesbury. 2nd XI away against Tewkesbury.

Sat 12th May. 3rd XI home to the Fleece Exiles.

Dog Fouling

There have been several instances of dog fouling recently on the Recreation Field and in the surrounding area. The fouling has been particularly evident in the lane leading from Bisley Street to the field. Most dog owners are conscientious in clearing up after their dogs but there is a need to remind some residents of their responsibilities. The Parish Council has positioned bins on the Recreation Field specifically for dog faeces and poop-a-scoop bags can be obtained from the Town Hall.

Roy Balgobin, Clerk to the Parish Council



Hockey

Painswick Ladies results have been varied this season but there is a good spirit in the club and the players are beginning to adjust to playing their league "home" fixtures away from Broadham on the Astra turf at St Peter's High School. The change of venue has been enforced because league regulations mean that teams can no longer play on grass. One effect of the change is that the club is required to meet a £70 charge per match for the use of the pitch. Last Saturday Painswick were at home to Cirencester. The result was a 4 goals to nil victory for the visitors. The previous Saturday Painswick were again at home and had an excellent match defeating Shipton Oliffe by 5 goals to 1.

Painswick's scorers were Claire Ractliffe, Karen Davis (2), Anita Wilson, and Sarah Vocking. On Saturday 10th March Painswick were away to Wotton and although losing by 4 goals to 1 had good reason to be pleased with their committed performance. Claire Ractliffe was Painswick's goal scorer.

Tennis

The clubhouse at Broadham was awash with medals and tennis balls on Saturday 3rd March when the National Junior Club presentations took place. Painswick junior tennis players won seven of the divisions entered – Boys U12 Divisions 1 & 2, Boys U14 Divisions 1 & 2, Boys U16 Division 1 and Girls U16 Divisions 1 & 2. Congratulations to all players and team managers. Sorry Dan... We neglected to mention in last month's Beacon that Dan Omnes was also selected to represent Gloucestershire in the Under18 County Cup in Scotland. Dan is one of our most talented juniors at the club and is only 13, making his selection a special achievement.

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Unrunners Can Run!

They could have spent Mothering Sunday in bed, being spoilt with flowers and chocolate, instead of which the 'Painswick Unrunners' - twelve mothers and one daughter - were battling the elements to run around Bute Park in Cardiff on a 3 mile British Military Fitness Run. Everyone did their magnificent best and completed the run in style and good humour! For most of the group this was their first ever official run and the determination to give it a go and not to give up training throughout some awful weather has been tremendous.

This completes Stage One of the training and the group are now aiming for their next target, a 5 mile run on 13 May. They are leaving the safe haven of The Rugby Ground and can be spotted running along Wick Street and local hills and valleys over the next few weeks. Don't forget to give them a wave. They appreciate all the support they can get.

The online site for charitable donations is: www.justgiving.com/painswickunrunners. Onwards and upwards! Keep on running, girls!

Rosemary Sanderson



Trevor makes Headway for Marathon

Trevor Smith of Kings Mill Lane Painswick will be running in the London Marathon on 22nd April, having at last succeeded in the public ballot after five years of applying. He is looking for sponsorship and has chosen a local charity "The Headway Cotswold Trust" to be the recipient.

Headway offers a wide range of services, including rehabilitation programmes, carer support, social re-integration, community outreach and respite for families and carers of those suffering serious head injury. Headway is about to embark on a "New Build Appeal" with the aim of raising money for a purpose built building to expand on the existing services offered to Gloucestershire. All planning requirements have been obtained. All we need now are the bricks and mortar.

To support this most worthy endeavour, call Trevor on 813693 or contact the Charity Manager, Sam Hall on 01452 312713 at Headway Cotswold Trust, London Road, Gloucester GL1 3PH.



...on a roll

Man Friday has to report that some male mal-contents (m m-cs) in the Club have been causing a disturbance.

The lovely Helen Barry was putting the Club through her exercise routines when a few mm-cs were observed sitting them out, probably wanting to get onto weight lifting. Then the lovely Helen changed tack. Taking six pieces of specially sourced perforated tissue paper, obviously produced by a joined-up government department in accordance with EU regulated dimensions, she folded, she pinked and pinked again, she folded, she squeezed, she teezed, she crimped, she wired, she fanned this way and that way, she teaselled, she weaselled, she fluffed out, she padded out a basal bud (cotton wool) and finally wound a green tape stem. Magic! The most realistic carnation/pink/chrysanthemum/or whatever emerged. The disturbance started when the lovely Helen handed out six pieces of specially sourced paper tissue to all with instructions to DIY. From the m m-cs could be heard a rumbling grumbling rhubarb rhubarbing and what sounded like 'pansies next'. But the room was suddenly a-bloom with all sorts of all-sorted pink, white and yellow flowers.

Realising there was commercial potential in all this at Stroud Farmers Market, and that the bottom would not fall out this particular market, M-F sprang into action. He folded, pinked, crimped, twisted and pulled with the rest.

Magic! Out came a p/c/chrysanth/or whatever until it was snatched away from him by a helpful female who, observing a certain lack of dexterity (fumbling), executed a rescue operation and the rumblings ceased. However, keeping their c/p/chrysanths/or whatever concealed from view, the m m-cs departed with more muttered grumbling rhubarbing pansying still echoing round the hall. M-F felt the absence of perfume with these c/p/chrysanths, so at home he showered his with after-shave to give it masculinity authenticity. Then, looking around for a long-stemmed vase to display his achievement, he found just the job in his bathroom. Which, when you think of it, was the right and proper place to display the six specially sourced and perforated sheets of, would you believe, toilet roll that constituted his c/p/chrysanth or whatever.

The Friday Cub does have fun! Why not join us on one or both of the following outings? Call 812344 or 812203 if you are interested:

- 24th May "Peter Pan on Ice" at the Everyman Theatre, matinee and dress circle. Coach leaves Stamages Lane car park at 1.00pm. Inclusive price £18.50.

- 15th June Kennet and Avon Canal Trip with Hamish Dawson. Day includes 1 3/4 hour canal boat trip, visit to The Tithe Barn at Bradford on Avon, lunch at a canal side pub, and a visit to the amazing canal locks at Caen Hill Devides. Coach leaves Stamages Lane car park at 9.00am. inclusive price £32.00.

Man-Friday

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Nature or Nurture?

“What difference does your personality make to your life experience?” was the question Occupational Psychologist Sally Knowles put to the ladies of Yew Trees WI at their February meeting.

Could we come up with a definitive answer to Sally’s question? We thought it unlikely when we learnt that since the time of Hippocrates in the fourth century BC greater minds than ours have been working on theories of personality! Is it nature or is it nurture that causes us to behave as we do - probably a bit of both. Do we agree with Carl Jung’s belief that “Predictable differences in individuals are caused by differences in the way people prefer to use their minds”? Myers and Briggs evolved a test, which indicates the different ways individuals select to think. We wished we could have spent time discovering how we choose to use our minds. If it all sounds very cerebral, we had our cerebral moments and we also had some lively discussions and a great deal of fun.

On Wednesday 25th April, Yew Trees is playing host to three other WIs at a ‘Hat Extravaganza’ in Painswick Centre. Lynne Bitterlin from The Hat Shop in Prestbury is staging a hat show, after which her audience will have the opportunity to try on hats. The evening also includes canapés and wine. At our next meeting on Tuesday 24th April Maggie Colwell will talk on ‘The History of Home Sewing’. Ladies, come and join us in The Church Rooms at 7.30 pm. Maggie teaches Graphic Art and Illustrating and has lots of material to illustrate her talk, which should be fascinating.

Celia Lougher

Painswick Gateway

It is intended that brief reports upon this village project will be included in these pages on a regular basis.

The situation as the Beacon went to press is that the Parish Council has expressed its support of the Working Group’s proposal that a further letter be sent to the County Council. The presumption is that the County Council’s reply to our letter, which was sent following the special meeting of 19th February, indicated a willingness to enter into negotiations with a new village trust to sell the library premises. At the Council’s request the Working Group has prepared an outline of several matters which will need clarification while these negotiations proceed, and such will be attached to that letter.

Upon receipt of a clearer indication of willingness to negotiate the sale, the Working Group will re-form into ‘shadow’ trustees, independent of the Council and other agencies. They will then, as a matter of urgency, institute a range of enquiries/clarifications/negotiations with different bodies in order to bring together the several pieces of information necessary before an actual contract of sale can possibly be entered into. It is estimated that these concurrent pieces of work could take up to four months.

The Working Group has appointed Leslie Brotherton to act as Manager of the project, at least for this phase. Leslie has indicated that in the event that the ‘shadow’ trustees conclude that the outcome of these strands of work mean that the project can proceed, he will be relinquishing his present active role with the Beacon.

David Hudson - Chairman

PROPERTY REPORT for April from Hamptons

After twenty-three years running Hamptons in Painswick Diane Mearns has decided to call it a day and fully retire from the Estate Agency world. On behalf of Hamptons and the many vendors and purchasers who have bought and sold through her over the years, we wish you a very happy retirement Diane and a well earned rest.

Rather than writing a similar article to the February issue reiterating that demand still outweighs supply I thought I would inform you of two exciting projects which Hamptons have become involved with both Nationally and Locally.

The first is *i*click* which is a National photographic competition for Years 3 – 6 in selected schools across the Hamptons network. So far locally both Sheepscombe and Painswick schools are taking part and I am hoping to get the Cranham school on board too. This year’s theme is ‘Architecture in my Area’. Children are encouraged to think about what they find interesting about their local buildings, take a photo using any type of camera and hand their entries in at school, who will pass them on to Hamptons for judging. Local winners will receive a photography book to the value of £50, and will go on to the national final where £6000 worth of prizes for the students, their families and their schools, are on offer. For example first prize is £1500 worth of photographic equipment for the winner’s school, digital camera, carry case, tripod, memory card, Alton Towers pass and accommodation for 6 people! I will be

arranging local prize giving in late May with the national final taking place in June.

Secondly, Hamptons have just agreed a partnership with The Prince’s Trust which will run over a 4 year period, with a £25k per annum commitment to raising this amount for the charity. We will be organising a Hamptons International/Prince’s Trust Day in September to officially launch it which will involve local branch fundraising and activity. This is a great opportunity for us to give something back to help a great charity.

New instructions: Cockshoot House - a lovely period house with outstanding views, Dean Rise - a grade II listed townhouse in the middle of Painswick; The Three Owls- a 2004 built family house with fabulous views; Kimsbury Cottage in Birdlip; Brookhouse Mill Cottage - a beautiful period house with 3/4acre garden; Beech View in the Park and Selarrok in Cranham, both bungalows with potential; Hay Cottage and Greystoke, both lovely cottages with views in Painswick; New Inn House at The Camp, a lovely period family house.

Sold: Beamsley and Mirador on the Cheltenham road, Lawn Cottage nr Sheepscombe, 3 St. Mary’s Mead, 9 Brookhouse Mill and Dormer Cottage, Butt Green.

May I wish you all a Happy Easter and if you would like a free Market Appraisal do not hesitate to contact me on 812354.

Miranda Harding, Branch Manager

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APRIL

Fri 6	Concert by The Painswick Singers – Mass in C Mozart (Coronation Mass). Organist – Christopher Boodle, Conductor Brian Etheridge	St Mary's Church	7.30pm
Mon 9	Teenage Activity Day Wood Cottage Falconry School For details Tel: 812552	Leaze Lane, Edge	From 10.00am
Tue 10	Dog Training Club (Tuesdays) Yoga: Beginners welcome – Tuesdays - contact Emma 01453 840395	Christ Church Hall Town Hall	9.30 to 12.00noon 10.00 to 1.15am
Wed 11	Coach to Bath £8. Enquiries – 813965/813227 Teenage Activity Day Wood Cottage Falconry School For details Tel: 812552 Horticultural Society: British poisonous plants - Michael Leech. Plant sale	Stamages Car Park Leaze Lane, Edge Town Hall	10.00am From 10.00am 7.30pm
Thu 12	Bingo: Wednesdays – Tel. Ann, 813911/Liz, 813139 Jolly Stompers Line Dancing: Beginners Experienced beginners – Thursdays Tea Dances – Thursdays	Painswick Centre Town Hall Town Hall Painswick Centre	7.30 to 10.00pm 12.00 to 1.00pm 12.30 to 1.30pm 2.30 to 4.30pm
Fri 13	Country Market with coffee available	Town Hall	10.00am
Sat 14	Music Society Concert: Daniel de Borah	St Mary's Church	3.00pm
Tue 17	Nadfas trip to Mompesson House, Salisbury Local History Society: Research Evening	Stamages car park Croft School	approx. 8.30am 7.30pm
Wed 18	Probus: AGM	Ostlers Room, Falcon	10.00am
Thu 19	Painswick Conservation Society AGM + guest speaker Music Appreciation Group: Members Night	Church Rooms Cotswold Room	7.00 for 7.30pm 7.30pm
Fri 20	Friday Club: Painswick Tombstones – Leslie Poole	Town Hall	2.30pm
Sat 21	Copy dateline for May Beacon		
Tue 24	Yew Trees WI: The History of Home Sewing	Church Rooms	7.30 pm
Wed 25	Painswick Group WI: Hat Extravaganza	Painswick Centre	7.30pm
Sat 28	Music Society Concert: Kungsbacka Piano Trio	St Mary's Church	3.00pm
Sun 29	Painswick Beacon Conservation Group scrub clearance (location check 812709) Benefice 'Bear Jump'	Painswick Beacon St Mary's tower	10.00am to 1.00pm approx 11.30am

MAY

Wed 2	Probus: Between a rock and a hard place – Mr E Williams	Ostlers Room, Falcon	10.00am
Thu 3	Cotswold Care Support Group meeting	Ashwell House	2.30pm
Fri 4	Friday Club: 'My Gran's a Gypsy' - George Mills	Town Hall	2.30pm
Sat 5	May Issue of The Painswick Beacon published		
Mon 7	Antiques and Crafts Fair Granny's Attic Sale at The Stonehouse	Painswick Centre St Mary's Street	10.00am to 4.00pm 11.00am to 4.00pm
Wed 9	Churches Together around Painswick Retreat Day Horticultural Society: AGM – followed by Painswick in Bloom – Philip Berry (plant sale)	Rodborough Tabernacle Town Hall	10.00am to 4.00pm 7.30pm 8.15pm
Sat 12	Christian Aid Week begins Music Society Concert: Rasumovsky Ensemble Horticultural Society: Chairman's Spring Social Event to Buscot Park, followed by supper at Miserden Village Hall	St Mary's Church	3.00pm Depart 2.30pm
Sun 13	Christian Aid Service: Speaker – Nigel Graham	St Mary's Church	6.30pm
Tue 15	Receiving goods for Christian Aid Shop Local History Society: Annual Outing	Christ Church	10.00 to 12noon and 2.00 to 3.00pm
Wed 16	Probus: Early British Computing - Mr M P Coast Christian Aid Shop Lunches / Coffee also Thursday 17th & Friday 18th	Ostlers Room, Falcon Christ Church Christ Church Hall	10.00am 10.00am to 3.00pm
Fri 18	Friday Club: The History of Tea – Alan Hudson An evening with David Drew MP	Town Hall Town Hall	2.30pm 7.30pm
Sat 19	Concert: Stroud Choral Society	St Mary's Church	
Tue 22	Yew Trees WI The Village Shop – Marian Beagley	Town Hall	7.30 p.m.
Wed 23	CTAP: Christian Unity Meeting Annual Parish Meeting	Friends Meeting House Town Hall	6.30pm 7.30pm
Thu 24	Friday Club: Outing to 'Peter Pan on Ice'	Everyman	tba
Wed 30	Probus: How to enjoy a bad memory – Mr A Ward	Ostlers Room, Falcon	10.00am

JUNE

Fri 1	Friday Club: Luggage label experiences of evacuee	Town Hall	2.30pm
Thu 7	Cotswold Care Support Group meeting	Ashwell House	2.30pm
Wed 13	Probus: Churchill – last great orator – Mr M Freedman	Ostlers Room, Falcon	10.00am



Fri 15	Friday Club: Kennet and Avon canal trip		tba
Tue 16	Local History Society: AGM	Croft School	7.30pm
Tue 26	Yew Trees WI: The work of Rapid UK	Town Hall	7.30pm
Wed 27	Probus: Wit & Whimsy – Mr M Rafferty	Ostlers Room, Falcon	10.00am
Fri 29	Friday Club: President's Garden Party Theatre Club outing to Cheltenham Broadham Ball	The Falcon Broadham Fields	tba 6.45pm 7.30pm

JULY

Sun 1	Painswick Fete – summer event	Olivers	tba
Thu 5	Cotswold Care Support Group meeting	Ashwell House	2.30pm
Wed 11	Probus: The Magnificent "Seven" – Mr T Picken	Ostlers Room, Falcon	10.00am
Fri 13	Friday Club: Whiteway Colony – Joy Thacker	Town Hall	2.30pm
Sat 14	Painswick Companion Dog Show and Charity Fun Day An Edwardian Evening to Remember	Recreation Field Painswick Centre	From 11.00am 7.15 to 11.30pm
Sat 21	Victorian Costume Ball. For info. Tel: 01453 883150	Painswick Centre	8.00 to 11.30pm
Tue 24	Yew Trees WI: Dundry Nurseries – Chris Evans	Town Hall	7.30pm
Wed 25	Probus: Ladies Lunch (to be confirmed)		
Thu 26	29th Flower Festival The Cappella Singers in concert	St.Mary's Church St.Mary's Church	10.00am 7.30pm
Fri 27	Friday Club: Working Life on the Severn – Chris Witts	Town Hall	2.30pm
Sun 29	CTAP Cricket Match	Broadham Fields	2.00pm

SEPTEMBER

Wed 5	Probus: The Silent Service - Mr J Yates	Ostlers Room, Falcon	10.00am
Fri 7	Friday Club: Canine Partners	Town Hall	2.30pm
Sat 8	Horticultural Society Annual Show	Painswick Centre	2.30pm to 5.30pm
Wed 19	Tying the knot – Life in a Register Office – Mr R Nott	Ostlers Room, Falcon	10.00am
Fri 21	Friday Club: Where paths met – Pat Daly	Town Hall	2.30pm
Tue 25	Yew Trees WI: Victorian Stroud – Howard Beard	Town Hall	7.30pm

OCTOBER

Fri 5	Friday Club: outing 'Autumn Colours – apple shopping		tba
Fri 19	Friday Club: World Authority on Handcuffs – Alex Nicholls	Town Hall	2.30pm
Tue 23	Yew Trees WI: Bess of Hardwicke – Gillian White	Town Hall	7.30pm

NOVEMBER

Fri 2	Friday Club: AGM+ Experiences of a Town Crier	Town Hall	1.45pm
Sat 3	Christian Aid Coffee Morning	Town Hall	10.00am to 12noon
Sat 10	Sue Ryder Care Coffee Morning	Town Hall	9.45am to 12 noon
Fri 16	Friday Club: outing Filkins Cloth Mill/Burford Garden Ctre		tba
Tue 27	Yew Trees WI: AGM + talk on Rococo Gdns – Paul Moir	Town Hall	7.30pm
Fri 30	Friday Club: 100 years in Painswick - David Archard	Town Hall	2.30pm

A Happy Easter to all our readers!



... and a Happy New (Beacon) Year

The new Beacon year - our 30th - has started well with a couple of dozen more subscribers than we had at this time last year. But, complacent are we not! We hope you enjoy (or at least love to hate!) the Beacon each month and, if you haven't yet subscribed, why not do so now?

Subscriptions can be paid by cheque, payable to *The Painswick Beacon* and dropped in the Beacon box outside Murrays Estate Agents in New Street. In response to requests, and by way of subscription guidance, each copy costs about 50p to prepare and print.

Beacon subscribers

21st March 2007	2007-08	2006-07
New or renewed after lapsing	69	83
Renewed from last year	349	326
Total including postal	418	409
Painswick village dwellings	1057	1057
Subscribing households	296	296
Percentage subscribing	28%	28%

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PLANNING MATTERS *A summary of information from the Parish Council.*

NEW APPLICATIONS

BEAMSLEY, CHELTENHAM ROAD. Erection of single storey stable block.
GORSELANDS, BACK EDGE LANE, EDGE. Re-positioning of glazed screen following permission 06/1853/FUL.
COURT HOUSE, HALE LANE. Construction of new party wall to separate Courtside from Court House.
MULBERRY COTTAGE, PARADISE. Proposed new conservatory.
Land at TANGIER COTTAGE, VICARAGE STREET. Erection of bungalow.
PARK HOUSE, THE PARK. 2 storey extension.
DAMSELLS FARM, SHEEPSCOMBE LANE. Refurbishment of existing outbuilding for ancillary domestic accommodation.
CHURCH ORCHARD, FAR END, SHEEPSCOMBE. Replacement of existing conservatory and erection of pergola.
HOLCOMBE BARN, HOLCOMBE. Erection of detached domestic outbuilding.
HOLCOMBE BARN, HOLCOMBE. Removal of conservatory. Erection of single storey extension to form orangery.
DAMSELLS FARM, SHEEPSCOMBE LANE. Change of use of existing outbuilding to domestic accommodation.
LITTLE PLACE, HOLLYHOCK LANE. Reduce the height and spread of yew tree by approx. 1m beyond previous (TPO 317 (a))
CAROUSEL, SLAD. Single storey extension.
BLAKEWELL HOUSE, EDGE ROAD. Ground & 1st floor extension to provide kitchen and en-suite bathroom.
COURTSIDE, HALE LANE. Alterations within the existing house. Extension to form new utility room and conversion of former stables to guest accommodation ancillary to the use of the house.
WOODSEND COTTAGE, BUTT GREEN. Variation of condition 5 (04/2432/FUL) to allow first floor north elevation to be clear glazed & bathroom windows in south elevation to be restricted opening to allow ventilation.
HALEBOURNE, KNAPP LANE. Erection of shed.
COOMBE HOUSE, VICARAGE STREET. Installation of traditional black iron railings along frontage of property. (Retrospective)

REVISED PLANS

THE OLD SUNDAY SCHOOL, SLAD. Erection of 2 storey extension (demolition of existing extension), conversion of roofspace to bedroom/bathroom. Main changes: Scheme re-designed, extension now located on the rear elevation.
LABURNUM COTTAGE, SHEEPSCOMBE. Erection of 2 storey extension. Main changes: 1st floor rear study doors & balcony omitted. 1st floor rear en-suite windows to be obscurely glazed. 1.8m high planted screening along rear boundary. 1st floor west elevation window reduced in size. 1st floor west elevation windows omitted & replaced by roof light and high level round window.

CONSENT

HAZELING, SLAD ROAD, STROUD. (SLAD WARD) Erection of extensions and alterations.
ROCKFIELD HOUSE, STROUD ROAD. Erection of garage with housekeeper's flat above.
THE OLD CARRIAGE HOUSE, EDGE. Erection of 1st floor extension & single storey extension to rear.
HAZELBURY HOUSE, NEW STREET. Replacing damaged & decayed dormer windows to front elevation to match existing windows in all detail.

REFUSAL

Barn at STEANBRIDGE LANE, SLAD. Conversion of barn to residential accommodation for staff or holiday letting.

Coach to Bath

Seats are still available on the coach to BATH on Wednesday April 11th. Outward, 10 am from Stamages Car Park; homeward 5.00pm from Bath. Fare £8. Book now with cash or cheque, payable to "Painswick L & B Outings", to Joan Truman, 'Little Place', Hollyhock Lane, Painswick, GL6 6XH. Enquiries to Joan Truman 813965 or Pauline Berry, 813227.



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London Theatre – Three Tickets "Sound of Music" for Matinee 2nd June 2007 – Royal Circle. Cost £55 each. Accept £40. Telephone 813544 or 07767 846945.

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The Personal Column

Comings and goings

We would like to welcome IRIS SAMPSON and her mother, CHARLOTTEE MISSELBROOK, who have moved into Apartment 6 at Richmond Painswick.

also Mr & Mrs S MUNRO who have moved into Stoneleigh, Gloucester Street

and MARK COSTAR who has moved into Coppins in Sheepscombe and BARON & JOAN BARNETT who have moved into Eversley, Friday Street (which they have re-named 'Gattamora')

and RICHARD QUARRY who is the new owner of The Little Property, Vicarage Street.

Moving within the village are:

ROSALIND HARRIS who has moved from Brookhouse Mill to Dormer Cottage, Butt Green

and PHILIP & JENNY OAKLEY who have moved from Stoneleigh, Gloucester St to Richmond Painswick

Personal Message

Audrey, Stephen and Paul Timpson, and their families, would like to express their thanks for all the sympathy and understanding shown to them during John's long illness. The wonderful letters, cards and continual prayers have been a tremendous comfort, and a measure of your regard for him. We will never forget the loving concern of Painswick people when difficult times arise. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

Awash with books!

Many thanks to all those who contributed to the book/magazine collection for the Mission to Seafarers. A bulging carload of over 400 has been delivered to the Portbury centre which sends their thanks as well.

John Parfitt

We are sorry to say goodbye to the SAMMON family who will be moving to St Barnabas Vicarage, Tuffley at the beginning of May. Revd. HELEN SAMMON has been appointed Vicar of St Barnabas, Tuffley and her time in the Painswick benefice has been much appreciated.

Get well soon

Our best wishes for a speedy recovery to LAURA THOMPSON, BARRY GARDNER-ROBERTS and JOSEPHINE EVANS who have all been ill recently.

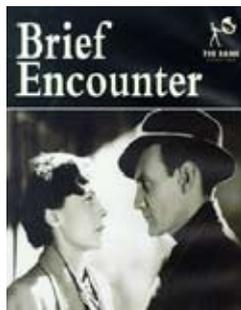
Condolences

Our sincere sympathies to the family and friends of CLARA LEWIS, ISOBEL STANYON, DOUGLAS JONES, JIM BARCLAY and JOHN TIMPSON. who have died recently,

also RUTH de DOURCY IRELAND who died at the age of 101, the same age at which her husband Captain BRIAN de COURCY IRELAND died.

£600 cuppa

Helen Baker and Anne Leoni report that the Coffee Morning held in the Town Hall on the 17th March raised a total of £609.03 in aid of the HCPT (Pilgrimage Trust). On behalf of the Trust Roger Standen and Gemma Tocknell join them in thanking all who gave goods and time and also to those who supported them on the day.



Brief encounters...

Another in our occasional series of encounters between Painswickians and the Great and the Good, the Famous and the Infamous, the Bad and the simply Interesting.

When Mary Harris met Chiang Kai-shek

When the war in the Far East ended in August 1945 I was on a Hospital Ship based in Sydney. Our job was to pick up prisoners of war from Hong Kong, the Philippines and other smaller islands. Christmas time in 1945 we were in Hong Kong.

General Chiang Kai-shek was on a visit there on his way to Formosa, now Taiwan. The army laid on a dinner in his honour to which we were invited. We had a very pleasant evening during which I was introduced to the General and his very elegant and charming lady.

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