

The Painswick Beacon

Sine praeiudicio

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Painswick Gateway Project

£67,745

The Working Group set up by the Parish Council to prepare proposals upon a way ahead for the Gateway Project, re-unifying the old school premises (Church Rooms + the Library) to form the equivalent of a community centre with some commercial dimensions, presented a written report to a specially convened meeting of the Parish Council on Monday last week, the 19th February. Peter Rowe was their main presenter, and he methodically outlined the situation prevailing at that time so that the several local residents who attended might also appreciate the complexity and yet radical implications of what seems to be potentially possible on this site.

In essence, little has changed since the Core Group reported last September other than that the focus has increased to reveal that many chicken-and-egg scenarios lie ahead.

Significantly, the village has voted with its cheque books. At the time of the meeting £67,745 had been pledged by 184 people towards an estimated £120,000 requirement; these pledges ranging from £10 to £10,000 - and all within just two or three weeks! Additionally, Christ Church committed a large percentage of the sale of their cottage behind the meeting hall in Gloucester Street - estimated to amount to £170,000. The combined total, after allowing for a Gift Aid supplement which is possible if the pledges are to a charitable trust, would be (£170k + £120k + £25k) £315,000; this seemingly adequate to meet the cost of purchase from the County Council, expenses associated with purchase, and a working capital fund to fully deal with initial repairs and maintenance. A few more pledges have been received, and others will be welcomed.

A professional survey of both sets of premises has been undertaken, at the expense of the two churches, so the Working Group have not only been able to soundly base their assessment of such liabilities for the earliest phase of any redevelopment, but have created a situation in which negotiations with the vendor, the County Council, can be realistic.

The Group prefaced their report as follows:

Summary

The conclusions of the Working Group are:

- *There is a strong support in the community for the project, notwithstanding the lack of certainty, as is demonstrated by the 184 pledges of support. All 184 pledges include a financial commitment. While the majority of pledges were from Painswick addresses, there were a number from other villages in the parish.*
- *The amount pledged is substantially less than is needed if the indicative purchase price advised to the Core Group is to be met. In view of the strong support and substantial total pledged, the Working Group believes that Gloucestershire County Council should be approached to test*

On other pages this month: a 100th birthday, patients tax patience, trips in several directions, the Easter market on Thursday, curry before Kathmandu, glittering music offerings, new unrunners chill out, our Parish Council exposed, the time over the pharmacy, field shelter rethink, Croft shelled, and Stroud Road revisited.

whether there is room for negotiation. To this effect, a letter has been drafted and will be sent if the Parish Council supports the recommendations below.

- *The project is dependent on the support of the Parish Council. It is recognised that the Council wishes to see more detail, before giving unequivocal support. It has not been possible to produce business plans within the time and resources available. However, the Working Group will require a valuation of the library buildings to be obtained before entering detailed negotiations with the County Council, and seek the Parish Council's financial support to carry that out.*
- *If the Parish Council wishes the project to continue as recommended, the Working Group will reform and would wish to co-opt a few other individuals who would be willing to share the workload. If a leader can be found, then he or she should be co-opted.*

The Working Group recommends that the Parish Council support the project to the next stage:

- *The Working Group will then write to the County Council to determine whether they are prepared to negotiate on the indicative purchase price and make a commitment to supporting the library for a number of years.*
- *If a positive indication is obtained, the Working Group would seek an independent valuation of the Library buildings, which the Parish Council is asked to fund.*

The Working Group wish to acknowledge the support of many individuals and organisations. Particular thanks are given to Christ Church (in refraining from letting Chapel Cottage), St Mary's and Christ Church for funding the structural survey, and all those who have made pledges. We are impressed with their generosity.

Peter Rowe was at pains to suggest to the Council that if it felt that the ideas contained in reports could never be made to work, they should vote now against proceeding any further. He also posed similar questions, such as whether the Council would be supportive of later grant aid applications, or putting precepted funds into a project, or changes of use of the library buildings, and urged them to vote against forthwith if not willing to earnestly consider such options.

Before the formal meeting of the Parish Council got under way the Chairman invited members of the public, which included those on the Working Group, to ask questions or express views.

David Harley reminded the meeting that the setting up of a Village Trust was an imperative, but that knowing whether GCC was willing to negotiate upon the sale price was a preliminary step; until then matters are in a limbo. Norman Rampton not only reminded the Council that its strong and continuing support is essential at every stage of any redevelopment, but that the survey into utilisation of premises throughout the village as recommended by the earlier Core Group remains outstanding but is also of great importance if needs are to be properly evaluated and/or any grant aid is to be sought.

There was lengthy discussion by the Council during which some expressed the view that no financial commitment could

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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 COMMITTEE

Richmond Painswick

The Chairman, David Hudson, circulated copy of the decision of the District Council to refuse the application for erection of 16 one and two-bedroom lower priced apartments, and their reasons, and made mention of further correspondence being on file and his understanding that the applicant intended to appeal.

Terry Parker spoke strongly suggesting that a letter should be sent to the District Council (SDC) drawing attention to the manner in which this Council's comments upon the application were incorrectly set out in the SDC agenda, having objections prefacing them which had not originated from the Council. Further, the views of the Cotswold AONB Group were not given among the consultations, neither were those of the County Surveyor upon highway matters - alternative wording having been inserted. He felt that separately or together these discrepancies were a matter of very real concern. It was agreed that in future the Clerk to the Parish Council would check the wording of Parish Council comments with those appearing in the SDC's planning schedule.

Ann Burges Watson referred to the fact that no mention had been made of demographic or employment issues in the SDC report, another matter of concern.

District Councillor Barbara Tait, who was attending the meeting, said how sorry she was that the error had occurred, but could not comment further as the matter was going to appeal.

It was agreed that a letter expressing these concerns be sent to SDC.

Trees: preservation etc

The committee received advice it had sought from the District Council regarding protection of trees on development sites but found the regulations contradictory and confusing. It was agreed to seek further clarification.

PARISH COUNCIL

Field(Youth) Shelter - Recreation Field

The Council received an 8-page report from the Neighbourhood Wardens, Andrew Foster and Gerry McGrath, upon the implications of erecting a shelter on the Recreation Field, taking into account opinions expressed by neighbours of the field and young people themselves.

A lengthy discussion ensued during which the wardens suggested that wherever such a shelter might be erected on the field some conflict was probable with neighbouring property owners. They commended that consideration be given to investing in alternative ways to meet young people's expectations through positive rather than passive activity provision.

It was agreed to defer consideration of the matter pending a further report in a few month's time.

Gateway Project

Arising from the Special meeting of the Council held on the Monday (*see separate report*) the Chairman circulated a draft letter to the County Council, jointly, with the Working Group, seeking negotiations for the community to purchase their property. It was agreed to build into the letter information about the order of funding already raised by the public.

Casual vacancy

The public notice of the 'casual vacancy' created by the resignation of Johnny Johnston to ascertain whether ten or more electors wished to request an election had led to only two requests, these from a husband and wife - neither existing Parish Councillors. A process for co-option agreed at the Council's meeting on 21st February was revisited. Three people have expressed interest and it was agreed they be invited to meet Members informally last Saturday, and the Council will meet specially to vote (by secret ballot) on 28th February. (*As this is just after we go to press the outcome will be reported next month, maybe complete with a photo!*)

Whitehorse Lane - handrail

The Council voiced its disappointment that SDC had not fulfilled its stated undertaking to fit a handrail for the full length of the steps up from the lane to the footpath below Painswick Centre.

It was agreed to make further strong representations.

Stroud North Bus Link

The Chairman reported that this service will be discontinued from 31st March but that many of its features will be adopted by the Stroud Ring & Ride service - operating pick-ups between 8.00am and 4.15pm. The new service was planned to begin on Monday 2nd April.

The County Council will be writing to all who have previously used the Link service informing them of the changeover, and the manner in which they can obtain roughly equivalent service thereafter.

Importantly, SDC travel tokens (not passes) can be used on the Dial-a-Ride services.

Horse riding - Painswick Beacon

Enquiries into the legality of horse riding across all parts of the Beacon, including in some instances through fairways, were reported to the Council.

An interpretation of advice from English Heritage was that horse-riders were not confined to designated bridle paths but were at liberty to use the entirety of this common land.

It was reported that the Painswick Beacon Conservation Group were in the

process of making representations to the Manorship Estate and it was therefore agreed to await the outcome of those discussions before re-examining the subject.

However, the increasing lack of respect between users of the Beacon was deplored, and it was hoped that consideration for the needs of others would be restored.

Code of conduct of Members

Council noted that these were being re-drafted and a consultation paper was available.

It was agreed that the seeming trend to revise some of the 'harsher' conditions for volunteers to render public service was a concept to be welcomed.

Quality Parish Council status

The rules regarding such status, towards which this Council is steadily working, were also being reconsidered - not least the condition that over 80% of members must be elected.

The Council supported a request from the Clerk that he attend a 4-day event within which his own quest for the Certificate in Local Council Administration status, and hence recognition of competence to serve a QPC, would be 'fast tracked'.

Parish Council 'surgeries' - Painswick

There was a report upon the first such surgery held on Saturday morning 10th February in the Town Hall. This was regarded as a successful endeavour and further occasional surgeries are under consideration, the next being likely in May this year.

Pavement sweeping

It was reported that little, if any, pavement sweeping had been undertaken by SDC staff in recent times. Evidence of such shortcomings were pointed out for Pullens Road and Gloucester Street.

Members felt that regular sweeping was not only desirable, but important for public safety - not least where decomposing leaves represented a hazard in wet or freezing conditions.

It was agreed to investigate the matter.



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100 years young Gina Stone

The Beacon is delighted to have had the opportunity of capturing a photograph of Georgina Stone at Ashwell House on the occasion of her 100th birthday on 20th February.

Gina has moved from her home in Whiteway, to which she and her husband Hugh retired in 1968, and now lives with her daughter Maureen in Haresfield. Somewhat frustrated by being less agile than was once the case, it was a joy to hear about past times. Trained as a librarian, with experience in Gateshead, Kendal and Newcastle, Gina exuded pride in her profession and is full of happy memories - as well as looking forward to what tomorrow may bring.



The full report prepared by the Working Group, and placed before the Parish Council, can be seen in the Town Hall, or on their web site.

www.painswick.info

Readers who can access the site are urged to do so, since we are unable to do justice to that report in these columns.

The report includes

- background following the decision of the Parish Council to follow up the findings of the Core Group,
- initial focusing on the 'library' issue, but realising the need to widen its study

to look at other ways of generating income to sustain the project through other community and commercial uses

- meeting expectations of the two churches
- a gateway from the Stamages Lane Car Park into the village through the churchyard
- fostering a regeneration in Painswick, and arrest the gentle decline into a dormitory
- the absence of resources available to the Group or its successors, not least for professional advice/work
- structural aspects of existing buildings
- it being vital to secure a leader with vision, prepared to voluntarily accept the mantle to see the project through
- formation of a Village Trust
- negotiations with St Mary's Church and with Christ Church
- the preparation of a business plan
- a phased approach being essential.

The Working Group believes that grant funding for this project could be secured. However, to secure the level of funding necessary a business plan would need to be prepared - so that the information required in funding applications could be set out in a coherent manner. The District Council advised, and the Working Group accepted, that if grant funding was to be secured, the support of the community and of the Parish Council was essential. In particular, the District Council felt that the Parish Council would need to decide on its priorities for Painswick - particularly since it felt that requests for funding support could arise for the Painswick Centre, the Town Hall and for other buildings as well as this project.

LWB

► continued from page 1

be made until the whole situation is reviewed once more, after the County Council has responded to a request to enter into negotiations regarding purchase by a village trust. While the continuing support of the Parish Council was recognised, it was also understood that it could not itself become the owners and/or operators of the enterprise if grant funding is to be sought in the future.

As was pointed out by the Chairman, the role of the Council is to arrive at a view which represents the community as a whole, and that it cannot disregard the fact that there are some who have already expressed reservations or opposition to any such scheme.

Clearly there was pressure upon the Parish Council, given the requirement that the County Council insisted upon a village response within the next few days. Some members expressed reservations relating to aspects of the project as at present conceived and felt that these could be addressed if the County Council signalled a willingness to accept a serious negotiating position, given the evidence currently on the table.

The upshot was unanimous support for the resolution:
"The Parish Council together with the Working Group write to Gloucestershire County Council to determine whether they are prepared to negotiate on the indicative purchase price and make a commitment to supporting the library for a number of years."

The Working Group have published their detailed report on the web, and this can be accessed at www.painswick.info

*The Beacon realises that there are, not surprisingly, differing points of view about this potentially important project, so we will welcome **brief and reasoned points of view**, for or against or neutral, which we can summarise here if space permits by our next closing date for copy (see back page). **Postcards particularly appreciated.***



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Visit Salisbury?

Eight seats are left on this coach organised by the West Mercia Area of Nadfas for Tuesday 17th April.

The main purpose is to allow people the opportunity to visit Mompesson House (NT) to see the collection of 18th century glass, "Captain Turnbull's Obsession". This is the first time the entire collection (350 glasses) will be on view and of course there is plenty to see in Salisbury and a wide choice of places to eat including Mompesson House itself.

The coach leaves Painswick around 8.30/9.00am and Salisbury around 4.00pm. For further information please contact me on 812521.



Anne Leoni

Police liaison

Within each of the areas overseen by an Inspector of Gloucestershire Constabulary regular meetings are convened so that any member of the public can meet the Inspector and relevant members of his staff to discuss matters of mutual concern.

When notice is received in time we carry that information in these pages. The venue for such meetings moves around the Stroud valleys so that access is easier for some who would otherwise need to rely on public or private transport. The most recent such meeting was held here, in Painswick, at The Falcon Inn on the 8th February.

One cannot help but occasionally hear glib criticism of the police, but this is surely unreasonable when they go to considerable lengths to try to face up to any matters drawn to their attention, constructively or otherwise. One would have thought, therefore, that a meeting right on our 'doorstep' would have attracted some interest.

In reality only seven members of the public turned up, four of which were from Painswick - including the Chairman of the Parish Council. Inspector Nick Holmes had PCSOs Des Moore and Tanya White with him, and their co-ordinator Sally Dopson; an impressive line up.

Space does not permit an exhaustive report, but the agenda and minutes make interesting reading. Subject matter included the 'grading' of calls upon the police so that responses can be prioritised, stop-and-search operations, achievements, use of ASBOs, statistics comparing the 3rd quarter of the years 2005/06 and 2006/07 revealing 75% increase in domestic burglaries but 50% decrease in 'other thefts'. Many questions were raised with the Inspector, including why crime statistics needed to distinguish between racial origins, progress in dealing with drug problems, farm crime protection, obstruction caused by disabled drivers parking on pavements, and boy racers.

Very interesting!

LWB



January

The timing of collation of police statistics is such that we cannot present them here for the immediately preceding month.

We think they are of interest, even so. Ed.

Reuben Wyatt reports

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

He goes on to say "Please remind everyone that if we do get any more frosty mornings this year, not to leave their cars unattended with the engines running; also to lock any valuables out of sight.

Please note that of the 6 thefts from motor vehicles, 5 took place on Painswick Beacon.

07734.068276

As we went to press we received a report from the Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator for Gloucester Street, Angela Hudson, that "There has been quite a spate of vandalism against cars and property in Gloucester Street and The Croft areas. Perhaps residents could keep an eye out for any possible perpetrators".

Mothering Sunday

18th March

A special Mothering Sunday service will take place at St Mary's Church at 9.30am on 18th March.

The theme will be "Coming Home", and we shall be including artwork and drama from local children, along with the traditional distribution of fresh flowers for mothers. We hope to share Simnel cake after the service. There is a warm welcome for everyone - do join us.

Andrew Leach

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Quiz begs the question

Although we can now affirm that this year's Village Quiz will take place at the Painswick Centre on Saturday 10th March, we are just a little surprised that there were only 18 entries as we went to press. Last minute conversion welcome, but please don't delay beyond next Monday - the 5th! The doors will open from 6.45 for a prompt start at 7.15pm.

Last year The Coasters - Jolly Stompers Dance Group, managed by one point to hit the top spot; so interest is aroused for this year's result. Not only clubs and societies can enter; a great deal of good-natured fun comes from rivalry between streets/locations.

The entry charge of £16.00 per team of four remains the same as last year, essentially to cover catering costs. The bar will be open at the same time as the doors, from 6.45pm, and we aim to be reading out the last question about 10.30pm. There is no need to be coy about entering as the answers are a team decision so that the combined brain power in each team is brought to bear on a wide variety of questions.

Please get your team entries to the Beacon (c/o Longhope, Blakewell Mead, Painswick GL6 6UR) with (1) Actual name of the team, and, hopefully, a humorous alternative (2) An address and telephone number for contact purposes (3) A cheque for £16.00 payable to The Painswick Beacon, and lastly (4) An indication of how many in the team are vegetarians.

We hope that teams will bring a suitable mascot, and we will be awarding a prize for the one that our 'judge' thinks is the most imaginative.



Lideta

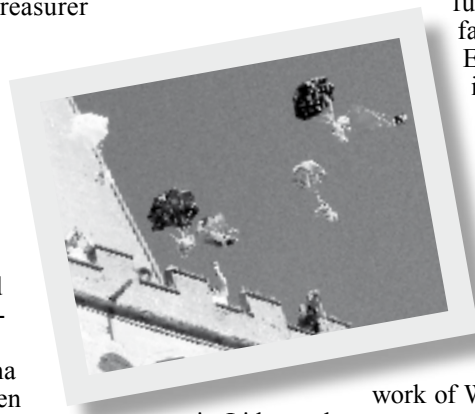
It is hard to imagine anywhere on Earth more different from a Cotswold valley than the chaotic, crowded township of Lideta, a sub-city of Addis Ababa in Ethiopia. Two hundred thousand people, many of them migrants from the drought-stricken countryside, live together in a densely packed urban area. Sanitation is poor, HIV/AIDS is prevalent, and the vast majority of people live on less than \$2 a day. Many do not get enough to eat.

The charity World Vision has a long-running programme to help improve the lives of people in Lideta. World Vision provides training for residents of Lideta who are trying to run their own businesses, informs local people about the importance of hygiene, provides education and training on the control of HIV/AIDS, and supports the schooling of local children.

Snowdrops and teddy bears

In 2006, our local churches raised over £3000 to help support the work of World Vision in Lideta. Further events will be held this year. There has already been a highly successful "Snowdrop Supper" in Painswick, which raised £375.

And on 29th April there will be a "Benefice Bear Jump" from the tower of St Mary's Painswick. (Price £2 per jump. Refunds if chutes fail to open.)



Everyone is invited - along with their very bravest teddy bears!

If you are interested in helping to support the

work of World Vision

in Lideta, please contact any member of the local steering group:

Anita Bradnum 812484 Yvonne Rawson 813978 Iris McCormick 812879 John Dickinson 812965 (contact for Benefice Bear Jump) Alan Tyson 813052 John Longuet-Higgins 812334 Mike Pickin 812306

...or simply turn up to one of our events.

Variations on Variations

Painswick Music Appreciation Group



Before introducing the evening's programme Chairman Alex Nicholls spoke movingly of Doreen Boon who died on 3rd February. She had been a long-standing member of the Group and its treasurer for the past three years.

The Kenber-Maggs duo who were our presenters started with a few self-deprecating remarks from Ralph followed by a brief explanation from Maurice about the title of the programme, which left some still puzzled. However, our anxiety subsided when he told us that in the C18th and C19th there were devices on sale that could manufacture any number of variations on a theme without the need for any knowledge of music.

Maurice then regaled us with a wealth of examples ranging from Mozart's 'Twinkle Twinkle', Schubert's 'Abegg', Chopin's Etude in C sharp minor (played at breakneck speed by Richter) and some Schumann and Chopin studies. More examples followed, complete with Schoenberg's extraordinary 'Kaiserwalzer' during our hot chocolate and biscuits interval.

Ralph had examples ranging from Nielsen's overture to Carmina Burana that seemed to be a complete lapse of concentration when we were given an excruciating rendering by an American soprano of a Mozart aria; this seriously calling into question Ralph's future as a member of this Group!. Soothing pieces followed and the evening drew to a close with Maurice selecting Rachmaninov's 18th variation on a theme of Paganini.

Richard Purdy

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Shame Increasing number of missed appointments at the Surgery

Patients visiting Hoyland House may notice from time to time a poster on the Waiting Room notice board highlighting the number of wasted appointments in any given month.

At the end of each calendar month, a search is performed to find all those appointments that have been missed – this means the number of patients who “did not attend” for that month, without cancelling the appointment in advance. In October last year, at the start of what is generally the ‘busy season’ for GPs, 30 appointments were missed. When you calculate that each GP appointment is between 10 and 15 minutes long, this translates to 7½ hours of wasted GP time. To put it another way, if you consider that each GP session is 2½ hours long, this equates to 3 full surgery sessions. In December, the number of missed appointments had risen to 37. You can understand then how disheartened I was to find that the number of missed appointments for January 2007 was a staggering 54! This is a dreadful 13½ hours of wasted GP appointments.

Many patients have struggled to get an appointment when they have needed it because we have been so booked over the Winter period. In most cases, patients have attended for our emergency triage at the end of the morning session. Whilst patients have been seen, they would have had to wait for a long time in the waiting room before being seen and then may not have seen the GP they had wanted to see.

We appreciate that sometimes it can be difficult to get through to the surgery, because the telephone lines are busy, and this is especially so between 8.30am and 10.30am. Sometimes, patients just forget the appointment perhaps because it was booked so far in advance, or they no longer need the appointment but forget to let us know.

We have to accept that the number of appointments we offer will never truly meet the demands of the population, but could we make a heartfelt plea and ask patients to cancel any unwanted appointments – it doesn’t matter how near the appointment you cancel, we can almost always offer it to someone else!

With thanks

Nicola Hayward, Practice Manager

Quality days out

Seats could be available on some truly remarkable half and full day trips from Painswick to places of unique interest. Painswick Horticultural Society have just published their programme of 2007 spring and summer outings, for which bookings



are accepted on the morning of 28th March between 10.00am and midday in the Church Rooms.

Obviously they are essentially seeking to meet the expectations of their own members first, but

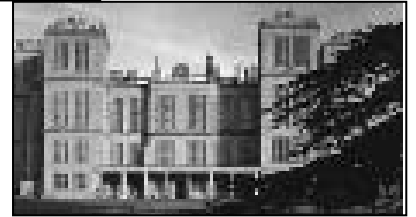
completely filling one or two coaches is highly unlikely; there could be one spare seat, there could be a dozen, and the Society will be only too pleased if non-members are interested in joining them.

And, where are they going?

Between 18th April and 15th August visits will be made to Hardwick Hall near Chesterfield, Tyntesfield in North Somerset, Wisley Garden in Surrey, the Botanic Gardens in Bristol and Abbey House Garden in Malmesbury.

Interested?

Why not get more information, before the end of March, from Philip Berry on 813227 or the Outing Secretary Gus Gaugain on 812599?



Holy Week

This year Holy Week falls during the week beginning

Sunday 1st April.

For details of the various services, please

see the notice boards at places of worship in and around the village.

Sheepscombe School Jumble Sale

This grand event is being held on Saturday 31st March in Sheepscombe Village Hall. The provisional starting time (so it is best to check) is 1.30pm.

Hot bacon butties, tea and cakes and lots of jumble!

For information and collection of jumble please contact Helen on 01242.524460



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Annual invitation to subscribe

As ever, the Beacon committee gratefully thanks all who have given us their support across the last year; advertisers, contributors, distributors and subscribers. In last year's message we said that 'nothing would please us more than there being a majority of households within the village of Painswick giving us that subscription support, there only being 4 in 10 such households at the moment'.

We can now say just how pleased we are, because we moved from 40% to 53% in the last twelve months. This considerable increase not only means a great deal to the committee, but has enabled us to increase photographs and space for articles/reports.

So, our hope for this year? That the 53% is maintained or exceeded, and that the Beacon you receive each month continues to be worthy of your support. As usual, an envelope and subscription slip is enclosed with this copy of the Beacon. Now that we can no longer 'bank' cash it will be appreciated if subscriptions are **all** by cheque - please - payable to *The Painswick Beacon*. In response to requests, and by way of subscription guidance, each copy costs about 50p to prepare and print.

Thank you.

Easter at Painswick Country Market

Our Easter Market this year is on **Maundy Thursday** as usual (no market on Good Friday).

We can now supply Free-range eggs, a service which is proving to be very popular.

New suppliers have expanded the range of vegetables and our usual choice of preserves; bulbs and plants change with the season.

We also have found new enthusiastic cooks who are supplying us with a truly delicious variety of cakes, scones, puddings and savouries.

Why don't you come in and see for yourself? Perhaps have a coffee and taste something that you know is fresh, home made and wholesome.



Patricia Davey

Cookery Demonstration by Rob Rees

St Mary's Flower Guild extend an invitation to all our readers to see Rob Rees demonstrate his skills in the Church Rooms on Wednesday 4th April at 7.30pm.



This not-to-be-missed opportunity is one of several efforts to raise funds for the major Flower Festival on 26th July.

Tickets are priced at £10.00, which includes a glass of wine, and available now from The Chairman in New Street, any members of the Flower Guild, or by lifting the telephone and dialling 812427.

Coaches to London and Bath



Seats are still available on the coach to London on Wednesday 21st March.

Fare £12. Outward journey is 8.30am from Stamages Car Park and Homeward at 6.30pm from Northumberland Avenue.

A coach has also been arranged to go to Bath on Wednesday 11th April. Fare £8. Outward at 10.00am from Stamages Car Park and Homeward 5.00pm from Bath.

Bookings for both outings may be made with cash or cheque, payable to "Painswick L & B Outings" from Joan Truman, Little Place, Hollyhock Lane, Painswick, GL6 6XH. Enquiries – Joan Truman 813965 or Pauline Berry 813227.

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Random excerpts from school newsletters:

Furniture to Nicaragua

We were recently very pleased to donate some unused furniture, mostly chairs, and other equipment, such as overhead projectors and whiteboards, to a local charity called the Peace and Hope Trust.

These will be reconditioned and sent to schools in Bluefields, a poor community on the coast of Nicaragua.

House Captains

The captains for this term are:

- BEACON Michael Jones
- JUNIPER Samantha Taylor
- RUDGE Matthew Longuet Higgins

Shoebiz collection

We had a target to collect 100 pairs of shoes, but in fact gathered 192 pairs, which will provide funding for community care workers in Malawi. See the website www.shoebizappeal.org.uk for information about the appeal.

Sainsbury and Tesco vouchers

New collection boxes are in school for Tesco Computers for Schools vouchers and Sainsbury's Active Kids vouchers.

Previously we have exchanged the Tesco vouchers for digital cameras, software for the infants and data loggers for the juniors, and with the Sainsbury vouchers we received playground equipment, footballs, netballs and resources for swimming. So please collect again this year.



Shell

Science Workshops

On 7th February, children at The Croft enjoyed hands-on science workshops sponsored by Shell. Years 4 to 6 learned more about electricity and carried out investigations with circuits. Children in Year 1 took part in a workshop with a circus theme, investigating forces.



The Croft School Swimming Pool

– Thirty Five Years On

Thirty five years ago this year the Croft School first opened its swimming pool, a facility unheard of for a village school at the time. Since then countless children have learnt to swim whilst at the Croft and enjoyed the benefits of having a swimming pool for their use in the village.

The pool and its surrounds have had several revamps over the years, the last major one being in 1998. The PTA are now in the process of fundraising to upgrade the pool once again. £3000 has already been raised to cover the new tiling, fencing and paving, but the new automated chlorine pump required is going to cost a further £5000. Local businesses, Murrays, Richmond Village and Cotswold Resurfacing have already donated £400 for which we are extremely grateful. To raise further funds the PTA are selling paving stones at £20 each which will be engraved with the family name and laid around the pool. If you are interested in purchasing a paving stone, no matter how long ago you or your children left the Croft, please send your name and address with a cheque made payable to Croft School PTA and send to Wendy Workman c/o The Croft Primary School, Churchill Way, Painswick, GL6 6RQ.

There is also a fundraising 'Ladies' night' planned for Friday 9th March at 7.30pm at the school with a chocolate fountain, bodyshop products, massage and jewellery – a must for all you Mums (and Grans too)! Tickets are £2.50 from the school office or £3.00 on the door. Please contact Wendy Workman on 814022 or Susie Jones on 812775 for further information.

On a final note, if anyone has any old photographs of the pool, or any special memories, please send them to Wendy at the school where the children will be putting together a scrapbook to celebrate the re-opening, once again, of this marvellous facility.



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"Snow, Pigs & Ducks...!"

Unlike many Gloucestershire schools, the snow on the 8th February didn't close Painswick Playgroup, instead the children wrapped up warm and brought their sledges with them to play on. As you can see from the photographs the children (and grown ups!) had great fun playing outside and sledging on the Croft School field. The children have also been busy in February celebrating Chinese new year which this year is year of the pig, they have been eating rice and noodles and making pig masks, you can see from the picture how great the masks are!



We tried hard to invent a caption for this picture, but gave up.

There is also a date for your diary, Painswick Playgroup will be celebrating Easter with a 'duck race' - no not real ducks you will be pleased to know, but the yellow rubber kind that you are more likely to find in your bath! This

will take place on Good Friday, 6th April 2.00pm - 4.00pm on a local stream. The race is just being planned at the moment and the 100 ducks are currently in training! More details will follow in the April issue of the Painswick Beacon, so watch this space to find out how you can get involved.

And finally... Painswick Playgroup is celebrating its success in being awarded funding through Gloucestershire County Councils 'Early Years Seed Challenge' to build a new toilet block that will include disabled facilities, Well done.

Emma Bradshaw

ArchiTecs



Last month's teaser was from our own Beacon postbox.

This month we stay with small features. Can you locate this *Bombus hortorum*?



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Meningitis Trust Coffee Break

We are holding a coffee morning on March 21st from 10.30am- 1200, at Richmond Painswick, in aid of The Meningitis Trust Coffee Break 2007.

We will be offering a cup of coffee and slice of cake for £1.50. There will also be a bring and buy table, donations would be greatly appreciated and can be delivered to the village prior to event or on the day, and there will be a raffle.

Everyone is welcome to join us and we look forward to seeing them on the day. Your support will help the Meningitis Trust continue its life-saving work.

Susie Oakley and staff

Hot Ticket for Nepal

A reminder that Carole Holland, who has trekked in the Nepalese Himalayas and is involved with the local charity EPHC (Education, Protection and Help for Children) in Kathmandu,



which is a refuge for children who would otherwise be begging on the streets, has arranged to raise some funds for them next Friday.

The 9th March at 7.00pm in Sheepscombe Village Hall is the place when trekkers, energetic but mature, will recount with photos, the travels and adventures of their latest trip to Tibet and Nepal. There will be a bar, raffle and a delicious curry supper.

Still time to get tickets at £10 from Chris and Dick Williams on 813360.

Not keen on moving into a care home?

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Ladies up the junction

The first meeting of the year got off to a flying start for Yew Trees WI when Bruce Hall, gave a fascinating talk on the Cotswold Canals. The decision to make it an 'open evening' was a popular one to judge by the large audience including a high proportion of men who attended, thus surprising the speaker who had thought he was going to spend a cosy evening with a small group of ladies! His excellent slides covered all 37 miles of the two separate waterways that once linked the Severn to the Thames. The Stroudwater Navigation which stretches from Saul Junction to Stroud was built to accommodate sailing barges known as 'Trows' which had to be unloaded when they arrived at the Port of Brimscombe, because here they joined the narrower gauge Thames & Severn Canal. The cargoes were transferred to narrow boats which were 'legged' through the 2¼ mile tunnel at Sapperton en route to The Thames.



Bruce's slides covered restoration work that has already been achieved, and problems that have to be overcome before the canals can return to being a navigable route from Saul Junction to the River Thames thus forming a link with other canals and making possible several large circular routes. A really exciting prospect! Bruce's wholehearted commitment and infectious enthusiasm for this daunting project is so great I don't think anyone in his audience doubts it will succeed.

At our meeting on Tuesday 27th March we are looking forward to welcoming three intrepid members of Sheepscombe WI who spent a month last autumn trekking in the Himalayas. We hope that their illustrated talk entitled 'Tibet and Nepal Adventure' may act as an inspiration to some ladies of Painswick.

Do come along to be inspired, or just to wonder at the energy of others! Please note a change of venue; our meeting will be at 7.30pm in The Church Rooms.

Celia Lougher 812624

The Stuart Singers of Minchinhampton

An Evening of Music for All

A concert conducted by Gerry Palmer, and accompanied by Barrie Cooper is being held in St Mary's Church Painswick on 30th March at 7.30pm.

This concert is to support St John's Church, Sheepscombe, to raise funds to provide a toilet with disabled access, and water and sewage facilities, The Water/Loo appeal.

Tickets are £6, from The 'Chairman', New Street, Painswick 810820 or from Arthur Lucas in Sheepscombe 812281

Gloucester Choral Society

On Saturday 24th March 2007 at 7.30pm, the Society will be performing Beethoven's "Missa Solemnis" – one of the greatest works in choral repertory. Andrew Nethsingha is conducting and soloists include Marianne Cotterill, Jeanette Ager, Allan Clayton and David Stout, together with forty-five musicians of the Regency Sinfonia.

A Special inclusive offer, including transport, is available to Painswick area residents. A Beavis coach will be waiting at 6.30pm in Stamages car park for departure at 6.45pm returning at about 10.00pm. Tickets are £22.00 (front nave) or £17.50 (rear nave) inclusive of discounted seat prices and coach fare.

To use this service, please send a cheque (made out to Gloucester Choral Society) to Gordon Owen (Treasurer) at Kemps Orchard, Kemps Lane, Painswick, GL6 6YB providing your name, address, contact 'phone number and stamped addressed envelope (for return of tickets).

Gordon Owen 812841

A North Pole marathon ? !

Yes, Steve Boswell, a serving officer with the Army Training Regiment in Lichfield as Physical Training Instructor (and son-in-law of Duccio Leoni) will undertake this strenuous run under sub-zero temperatures on the 15th April to raise funds for the Royal Star & Garter Home.

Details of the 2006 run can be seen at www.npmarathon.com. Any retired military man will undoubtedly appreciate any effort to raise funds for this very worthy cause.

If you wish to sponsor him in his endeavour, please contact 812521.

Steve Boswell Age: 39

Profession: Army Physical Training Instructor

Joined the British Army aged 16 - career serving in UK, Germany, Canada, Kenya, Belize and Bosnia. Qualified as a PTI 1989. In 1999 specialised as Remedial Instructor - providing Exercise Rehabilitation at Headley Court for 5 years. Currently based at the Army Training Regiment, Lichfield, as Warrant Officer Class II overseeing physical training for new recruits to the Royal Signals and Royal Engineers.

Always a keen sportsman; youngest British black belt in Kyokushinkai karate aged 12. Actively involved in rugby, orienteering and cross-country running, and has twice completed the London Marathon. In recent years, he has added rock climbing and snowboarding, travelling through Europe and Canada in pursuit of these activities.

2003 successfully completed Marathon des Sables, running 151 miles in 6 days across the thankless Sahara Desert and raising some £10,000 for charity.

A lifetime's physical exertion led to Steve having bilateral hip resurfacing operations in 2005/6, from which he is now recovering. Having managed the world's hottest, now ready to undertake "The World's Coolest Marathon". He is keen to "test" the new metal hips, and where better to do so than The 2007 North Pole marathon?



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The 17th year of Helen and Anne's coffee morning

This will be held in the Town Hall on Saturday 17th March 2007 from 9.45am to 12 noon.

Our Main Charity this year is helping to sponsor a child with disabilities to go to Lourdes, and experience the beauty of the French Pyrenees. The child will be travelling under the auspices of Hosanna Children Pilgrimage Trust (H.C.P.T.A.). A young doctor called Michael Strode founded the Pilgrimage Trust in 1956.

Roger Standen of Hyett Close and his friend asked us if we would do this; Roger is from a Salvation Army background and his friend Gemma, although an ex-pupil of St Peter's in Gloucester is an Anglican. St Peter's school goes to Lourdes every year and this friend, who has been helping since leaving school, has asked Roger to join the group this Easter.

The helpers have to pay their own expenses but are asked to help towards the funding of the child's costs, so it is a truly Ecumenical cause. A donation will also be given to Father Franco in Papua New Guinea and to our Lady and St Thérèse in Painswick.

There will be a raffle, Bric-a-brac, Books, Plants, and a Cake stall. Orders will be taken for fresh flowers (it is the day before Mothering Sunday..!) and Roulades (For Easter).

Entrance fee £1.50 which includes home made biscuits and seconds of tea, coffee or hot chocolate.

Donations are welcome; do come and support this event. Further information available on request.

Helen 813091 and Anne 812521



Painswick Centre

News for March

If music be the food of love then Painswickians will have to go a little hungry soon. The Blues Nights, for so long the main provider of music at the Centre, will

soon be no more, as Paul Gray has decided not to stage these events any longer. Two weeks ago "The Animals" (pictured) gave their usual fabulous performance but after 'Never the Bride', in two weeks time, the Blues Nights will be no more.

When Frances Sarah Williams gifted the Painswick Centre to its residents it was primarily to provide a concert hall for the village and surrounding areas, so it is a very sad day when we can no longer provide regular musical evenings. Now, during its centenary year, one of the most important uses of the Centre will be no more.



There will still be the odd occasion when the concert hall will be used for its original purpose. The Gloucester Police Choir, for example, will be appearing early next year, but the regular Saturday evening music events will disappear.

I'm sure if anyone would like to provide some sort of financial support to the staging of regular musical evenings in the future, something can be arranged. After all, the Painswick Centre belongs to its residents and not to the Trustees. So, if you have any ideas please give Paul Gray a ring, or contact me on 814070.

The next event to be staged by the Trustees is the Crafts & Antiques Fair to be held in the Centre on Monday 7th May. There are still 'tables' available, priced £14.00. Application forms available.

Ralph Drew

Crack cancer Easter Bingo

June Gardiner and Suzie Coates are organising one of their first class Bingo evenings for

Friday 23rd March

in the Town Hall.

The queue can start whenever you like, but the doors will open at 7.00pm, ready for the traditional 'Eyes Down' half an hour later. Only 50p a book, and £1 a flier.



Some fabulous prizes have been collected, there will be a raffle, and free coffee and biscuits at half time.

And all in aid of the Crack Cancer Campaign, towards which the Painswick efforts have topped £40,000 - no mean effort.

Local road development

The Sheepscombe History Society's next meeting is on the evening of Thursday, 15th March, at 7.30pm in Sheepscombe Village Hall.

The speaker will be Peter Minal, and the title of his illustrated talk is "How we got our roads - the story of local road development."

Refreshments will be served, and all are welcome to attend; there is no admission charge.

Ron Paterson Chairman

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Painswick's PARISH COUNCIL

Parish and town councils throughout England are passing through a period of significant change, and the Beacon felt that this may be an opportune moment to remind citizens of the scope and scale of operations of our own Parish Council.

The principal changes are steadily increasing devolution of powers and functions to receptive councils which have gained recognition of a status of 'Quality Parish Council'; this being characterised by such as efficiency in discharge of business, qualification of its clerk, budget management, and so on. At this point in time Painswick is striving to obtain such recognition.

An article of this length cannot do more than identify the basic facts which may, in turn, help to reveal the significance of Painswick Parish Council, representing as it does the whole civil parish of the villages of Painswick, Edge, Sheepscombe and Slad and land between – a population of about 3000 occupying over 1300 dwellings.

Property portfolio

The Council owns and maintains a surprising range of properties, some large and some very small indeed. The Parish Council manages all highlighted here.

The Town Hall in Victoria Square has to be the most readily identified asset, containing as it does two of the village's meeting rooms and the Council's administrative base, **the parish office**.

The **Recreation Ground** was left in Trust to the village and its four acres of ground are managed by the members of the Parish Council as Trustees. A **play area with play equipment** is located in one corner of the field, a significant attraction for children. Elsewhere on that ground lie **two pavilions**. One is maintained by the council, originally created to serve sports clubs/teams playing on that field, but latterly the base for youth activities and occasional booking by others. The second pavilion is leased by the Parish Council to the bowls and tennis clubs, it being situated alongside the two hard tennis courts which are owned and maintained by the tennis club. The land on which the courts are built belongs to the Parish Council.

The 19 acres of **the Plantation**, alongside the Gloucester Road, were gifted in 1946 to the Parish Council, as trustees for the people of Painswick, by the Misses Margaret and Lucy Hyett in memory of their father Sir Francis Hyett and their grandfather William Henry Hyett. Designated as a SSSI the variety of trees and other flora and fauna form a pedestrian sanctuary open to the public adjacent to the Cotswold Way National Trail. To assist access to that trail, for walkers arriving by car, **a car park** is maintained alongside the Plantation. Nearby is the **Painswick cemetery**, peacefully set on a slope of Painswick Beacon, nowadays the main burial plot for the parish; within the site lies **a non-denominational Chapel** for private prayer or services associated with interment. The Council's full time handyman resides in **The Lodge** at the entrance to the cemetery, where **a workshop and council store** are also located, and **council maintenance vehicle and machinery** are based.

The **memorial ground**, opposite the Town Hall and alongside New Street, is in the ownership of the Frederick Gyde Trust. The trustees are the members of the Parish Council who have responsibility for the upkeep of the trust land. The upkeep of

the **War Memorials** and their curtilages in the parish is the responsibility of the Council.

The ultra-modern public conveniences located in Stamages Lane car park are owned and operated by the District Council, but the older **public conveniences** in St. Mary's Street, adjacent to the old bath house are owned and maintained directly at the Parish Council's expense; these are close to scheduling for upgrading or replacement in the near future.

Of lesser size, but tangible significance to the public, all 11 **bus shelters** in the civil parish are owned and maintained by the council, as are several **notice boards** and at least 20 **bench seats** for the weary or those admiring the scenery. Many **general litter bins** as well as **dog litter bins** are located throughout the parish. Several **areas of grassland** are maintained, mostly common land such as **Edge village green**, specific verge land, etc.

While not in the direct ownership of the Parish Council, it arranges regular inspection on behalf of the County Council of some 48 miles of **153 designated footpaths** which criss-cross the entire civil parish. One footway in particular, **New Drive**, which crosses the lower part of the Painswick village, is directly maintained by the Council.

Policy and determination

Responsibility for the management of all the services mentioned here resides, through powers set out in legislation, with the **Parish Council**.

The composition of the twelve-member Council is made up of seven Councillors elected for the Painswick ward, two each for Sheepscombe and Slad, and one for Edge. These Councillors hold office for four years, after which all such appointments fall vacant. In the event that a casual vacancy occurs during the four-

year period an election solely for that post may be held if ten electors so request; if such does not happen, co-option is undertaken from those offering to serve.

The conduct of Council business conforms to strict procedures, mostly laid down in **regulations** or **within standing orders** devised by the Council itself. Propriety has always been the cornerstone of the conduct of members of the

Council and in seeking Quality Parish Council status every effort is made to apply the highest standards of conduct and discharge of business in as open a manner as can be achieved - 'transparency' in contemporary parlance. All meetings, except where matters of strict confidentiality apply, are open to the public and their raising any matter they wish in the fifteen minutes at the start of a meeting is available.

The Council's work is, in considerable measure, delegated to six committees.

A **Finance and General Purposes** committee oversees all financial matters, and lays down procedures to be followed; in particular the committee devises a budget of income and expenditure and monitors its discharge. A crucial function is the preparation of a budget for the following year, April though to March, and, after deducting monies directly accrued by the Council from such as letting of its premises or sale of burial plots, seek to balance that budget by precept upon the District Council - a sum it is required to levy on behalf of the Parish Council upon residents of the civil parish. By way of illustration the total budget for 2007-08 is £75,420 and the precept £64,250.

The District Council is the regulatory authority for all planning matters and its procedures for considering all applications include seeking the views of the Parish Council. Such views are generated through a **Planning Committee** which has been granted full

delegated powers by the Council and comprises all 12 members of the Council.

The remaining standing committees of the Council are **Plantation, Cemetery & Parish Maintenance and Town Hall, Traffic and Footpaths**. Each committee meets as and when necessary and may determine matters within its remit which have been specifically delegated. Where such is not the case, recommendations are made to the Parish Council for determination.

There are, from time to time, matters which do not naturally fall within the purview of a specific committee and the Parish Council may appoint a **working party** to study the issue and make recommendations.

The Parish Council is required to convene an **Annual Parish Meeting** which is a forum for report upon all aspects of the Council's endeavours in the preceding twelve months, including its audited accounts, and members are questioned or views expressed by the general public - the electors. Painswick invites its two District Councillors and County Councillor to attend and similarly report.

The Parish Council has prepared a **Parish Plan**, the second such document prepared in the country and created after exhaustive public participation and consultation.

Management and administration

The Parish Council determines its policies for the management of its properties and services, but the discharge of decisions made

is almost always deputed to the **Clerk to the Council**, Roy Balgobin. The Clerk is trained to undertake these duties, and competent in interpretation of regulations and constraining circumstances. This application of professional expertise is a further requirement for Quality Parish Council status.

The Clerk maintains all records of the Parish Council, prepares and publishes all notices of meetings, reports and minutes. He is the Council's treasurer, responsible for all **financial trans-**

actions of the Council. He makes the **arrangement required for the Annual Parish Meeting**, and any and all **public notices**.

A **Parish Office**, in the Town Hall, is open to the public between 10.00am and noon for enquiries, etc. on Wednesday and Friday mornings.

The Clerk in Painswick has an **Assistant Clerk**, Liz Fisher, whose primary duty is the maintenance of all planning documentation - a service to which the public seek frequent access.

Direct services to the public include allocation and **sale of interment plots, plots for cremated remains, requests for headstones and use of the cemetery chapel**, as well as **maintenance of cemetery records** which contain information about every plot dating back to 1862. The Clerk deals directly with those seeking **booking of accommodation** in the Town Hall or the former rugby club pavilion.

The Parish Office is the reference point for the public to obtain

'green' garden refuse sacks and dog litter bags. It is also the point to which the **public can refer matters of concern** such as vandalism, damage to public property, potholes on the highway, malfunctioning street lighting. The office is also a point at which **photo-copying** is available for the public.

The Clerk, with assistance from the District Council, maintains a **Council web site** to which anyone may turn at any time for extensive information, including links to the District Council's own site. All details of planning applications are published on the District Council's web site, thus obviating the need for residents to have to travel to the Council's offices at Ebley Mill.

The Clerk oversees the duties of the **Parish Handyman**, George Hodder, whose remit is, to say the least, wide ranging. He undertakes **grass cutting, the upkeep of the cemetery and its chapel, maintenance of such as seats and bus shelters, emptying of public bins**, and so on. Other supervision of staff occurs with such as **cleaning of the Town Hall** and the public conveniences, or **occasional contracted services** such as the annual maintenance of play equipment on the Recreation Ground or maintenance of the former rugby club pavilion.

In recent times the Council, in partnership with the District Council, employs the services of a **Neighbourhood Warden** who spends the equivalent of two full days a week in this civil parish. Allocation of assignments is overseen by the Clerk. These Wardens direct their attention to social issues of concern such as the incidence of graffiti, exuberant behaviour by youngsters, parking regulations, etc.

While numerous matters of concern to residents are the responsibility of the District or County Councils, the Clerk to the Parish Council is fully apprised of those which fall in their domain, yet is the **recipient of enquiries** on almost any matter from the general public.

Local and voluntary

As may be deduced, from the information set out on these pages, the range of duties of our Parish Council, its members and staff, is considerable.

It is important to remind ourselves that all Councillors undertake their duties on behalf of the public voluntarily, only a minimal allowance to cover their essential expenses being afforded.

Their support staff are, as can be seen, the very minimum necessary and they are reliant upon their own efficiency to carry out their work within limited hours.

As and when, as seems inevitable and possibly desirable, further responsibilities are placed upon this first tier of local government existing working practices will inevitably have to be reviewed.



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www.painswick-pc.gov.uk**

Stroud and District

Citizens Advice Bureau

I am asking you to remember the work of the Citizens Advice Bureau within our community. The rate of inquiries is ever rising and many are highly complex issues requiring hours of in depth casework. Our volunteers and a small paid staff work as a wonderful team together, dealing with homelessness, welfare benefits, debt, relationships, taxes and utilities, housing and immigration etc. Basically we help with anything.

We are an independent charity that offers a free impartial and confidential help and advice service to anyone. All too often we see people who have reached crisis point, who have been misled or are confused. Citizens Advice Bureau is the only free, local general advice agency. There is no other covering the whole district. We have out-reaches at Berkeley, Dursley and Wotton under Edge, with our main office being in Stroud.

Stroud and District Citizens Advice Bureau dealt with 49,332 issues in 2005/6 and we made contact with 12,233 people; roughly 1 in 8 of everyone living in our area.

You can help by putting the word around that we need more volunteers, who are given extensive training. We also need people who can help with administration and fundraising.

Please write to Adam Cain, Citizens Advice Bureau, Unit 8 - 1st Floor, Brunel Mall, London Road, Stroud, GL5 2BP or telephone me on 01453.842439



June Cordwell

Concert Programme for 2007

This year's series of concerts in St Mary's Church promises to be one of the best ever. The first concert kicks off with two international megastars – Felicity Lott and Graham Johnson. Three further concerts then take place at two-weekly intervals.

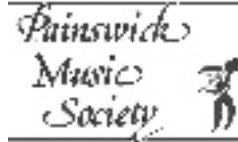
The full programme is:

- | | |
|------------|--|
| 24th March | Felicity Lott (soprano) & Graham Johnson (piano) |
| 14th April | Daniel de Borah (piano) |
| 28th April | Kungsbacka Piano Trio (<i>see photo</i>) |
| 12th May | Rasumovsky Ensemble |

The first concert is a little earlier than last year, so please get your bookings in now. Membership of the Painswick Music Society is amazingly good value at only £32 and gives entry to all the concerts and a musical evening/AGM later in the year. Otherwise tickets may be booked for each concert separately at £15 for the first concert and £12 for subsequent ones. Priority will be given to those purchasing memberships.

The booking forms were sent out to all recent members and, if you are on the list, you should have received one about a month ago. If you would like to join or have not received a booking form, please telephone the Treasurer, Hywel James, on 812419. Further details of the concerts are on these forms and the full programme is also available on the website: www.painswickmusicsoc.co.uk. The Society is grateful for the support of "The Chairman" who is also selling tickets and memberships again this year.

Peter Rowe



London Bridges Walk

Enjoy a great day of sight-seeing and support Kidney Research UK by walking eight of London's Bridges on Sunday 24th June.


Community Fundraising Manager, Helen Haynes told the Beacon that "2007 marks the fourth year of this event and we are looking forward to making it the biggest and most exciting London Bridges Walk ever. Be a part of something special and make a real difference by helping us fund research to save lives!" Interested? Call Kidney Research UK on 08456.121226, email events@kidneyresearchuk.org or visit www.kidneyresearchuk.org

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Letters

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

John Sharwood Smith writes:

80 years ago I encountered a book of Fables. The text was dull and forgettable, but the illustrative woodcuts were skilled and memorable. Such was one of a surly dog in a hay manger, intent on denying access to a hungry cow - memorable indeed since it was instantly recalled I read in our Beacon that our Councillors, apparently quite *au fait* with Demographic Trends viz, that octogenarians in need of some care were multiplying yearly, and surely aware that many elderly Painswickians cannot afford the Richmond Care Village's existing apartments but were indicating, in 'significant numbers', a desire to move into the cheaper (proposed) apartments waiting to be built, yet nonetheless voted 5 to 3 to oppose its construction.

P.S, I have to declare an interest. In this context my wife, Felicity, and I are two very, very hungry cows.

W	I	R	m	a	p	A	f	a	a
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Can you find 19 words associated with Justice?

- CABINETS
- CHAIR
- CLERK
- CLIP
- COMPUTER
- DESK
- FILES
- INTERNET
- KETTLE
- MANAGER
- MILK
- MONITOR
- MUGS
- NOTICES
- OPERATIVES
- PAPER
- PASSWORD
- PROGRAMMES
- RECEPTION
- STAPLES
- TEAPOT
- TELEPHONE
- TYPIST

We Came, We saw and We Were Truly Indulged!

The invitation sent out to you all to come and be "indulged" at "Olivers" a couple of weeks ago, was well and truly taken up, and I am immensely proud to say that the evening was a tremendous success.

In total, 22, talented people offered their skills and products, in the very lovely home of Kevin Washburn and Penny Lyons. The indulgences ranged from full aromatherapy body massages, Thai head and neck treatments, relaxation techniques, hand and facial treatments, to stunning hand made jewellery, scarves, cards, and so much more.

What made this evening so especially unique was that all these people can be found close to home, and how lucky are we to have such a plethora of talent at our doorstep.

Apart from putting smiles on over a hundred women's faces, the aim of the evening was to raise money on behalf of Cranham Village C of E Primary School. We would like to say THANK YOU to the following:

- Barclays Bank, who very generously are meeting the monies raised £ for £, giving a grand total of £1,516
- Kevin Washburn and Penny Lyons for opening all of their home to host this event
- Sainsburys and Tesco for their donations towards the catering.
- Those from "The Friends of Cranham School" who worked so hard on the night.
- Ali and Dave Stevens for providing table cloths from Paragon Cleaning Services
- Cranham Village Hall for the loan of their tables
- The kind and generous donors of raffle prizes and those who gave cash donations

Most of all, thank you to everyone who came on the night and supported us; the atmosphere was tremendous, and I hope we can do something similar in the future...maybe for men?

Lou Kemp Chair of the Friends of Cranham School

Red footed



Our afternoon meeting on 20th February included many welcome visitors. Terry Wall, a professional wildlife photographer treated us to a spectacular power-point presentation of the wild life of Lesbos and the Galpagos Islands. Lesbos is the second largest Greek Island off the Coast of Turkey and as there are no beaches for sand and sun worshippers it is relatively unspoilt. Being a 'stopping off' point for migratory birds it is a 'birdies' paradise. The Galapagos, which helped Darwin to formulate his theory of adaptation of species to their environment, was illustrated by the variation of species on different islands. We have all heard of the blue footed booby but did you know there was a red footed one?

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 27th March at 7.30pm when Bob Axworthy will be giving an illustrated talk on the Wildlife of Trinidad and Tobago. All welcome!

Joan Cooper



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White and Black



Its not only the children who were having fun in February's snow!

This enthusiastic group were to be seen running in the dark around the snow covered Rugby Ground in Broadham. They are part of a new running group called The Painswick Unrunners i.e. moderately unfit people, aiming to get fitter, raise some money for good causes and run The Stroud Half Marathon next October. To achieve their aim they are running to a training plan, starting with a 5K race in Cardiff in mid-March. For anyone interested in joining the group, please contact Rosemary Sanderson at Rosemary.Sanderson@gmail.com. You will be made very welcome.

Give them a wave if you see them running around the area over the next 8 months and help them raise money for The Croft School and The Williams Syndrome Foundation.

If you would like to sponsor them, you can do this online at www.justgiving.com/painswickunrunners.

Rosemary Sanderson

'Sophie' Salver

Shortly before Christmas Roger Turley, Chairman of Painswick RFC, met with the Marquis of Aberdeen, Lord Alexander, and his Mother the Dowager Marchioness, Lady Anne, at Meadowbank, Painswick, for an informal lunch. During the meeting Lord Aberdeen presented to the Rugby Club a Silver Salver inscribed in memory of Lady Sophia Gordon, his sister, known to those at the Rugby Club and locally as 'Sophie'. Lady Sophia, who had lived at Meadowbank for many years, before her untimely death, was a great supporter of local sport and was an avid supporter of Painswick Rugby travelling with the team around the county and further a field.

The Silver Salver was presented to the club as a tribute to 'Sophie' and her long standing relationship with the Club and will be competed for each year in a 'local derby' match between Painswick and Cainscross 2nd xv.

The first of these matches is due to be played in March this year and all those who remember Sophie are encouraged to come along to Broadham Field.

Sarah Hinds

Tennis Club News

Painswick Tennis Club has, once again, been celebrating the achievements of club members. Congratulations this month go to...Lorraine Ristic, head coach at the club, who reached the semi-finals of the Veterans National Championships in Birmingham in February. Sadly Lorraine was unable to complete her match due to injury which has probably cost her the chance to be

selected for the world team championship in Turkey.

...James Barnett, Ed Williams and David Reid for being selected to play in the U18 County Cup in Scotland over February half term, and to Lucy Moir for her selection to play for the girls' U18 team (Alicia Barnett and Sarah Thomas were also selected but are unable to attend).

...and to George McDuff, Jamie Gordon, Pippa Speed and Barnaby Jackson who represented Gloucestershire in the U10 Masters Cup 2007 against Avon on 11th February. Gloucestershire were narrowly defeated by eleven matches to thirteen.



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Rugby

Painswick first fifteen were at home last Saturday in a Premier Division league match against Old Richians. The game had several interesting moments, one of which was when Painswick were awarded a penalty, only to have the referee's attention drawn to an incident which resulted in an Old Richians' player being "sin-binned". At the time the visitors were leading by 12 points to 7. Following further discussion the referee blew his whistle for half-time seemingly having reversed his decision to award the penalty. Although eventually losing the game, the Painswick pack, in particular, had an excellent match and it was fitting that their converted try came through a charge down and skilful follow-up by hooker Matt Combs. The visitors' backs always looked threatening and it was much to Painswick's credit that they restricted Old Richians to their two tries. There was an unusual occurrence in Painswick's Premier Division game against Avonmouth Old Boys when the referee was struck on the back of the head by a clearance kick which forced him to retire with mild concussion and the match to be abandoned. The game will be replayed at Painswick on 7th April.

Results [(L) indicates league match: (M) Merit Table].

Sat 3 Feb. (L) Painswick 1st XV v Avonmouth OB 1st XV. Abandoned.
 Sat 10 Feb. No matches. Waterlogged pitches.
 Sat 17 Feb. (L) Whitehall 1st XV 34 Painswick 1st XV 0.
 Sat 24 Feb. (L) Painswick 1st XV 7 Old Richians 1st XV 17.
 (M) Cinderford 3rd XV 50 Painswick United 0.

Fixtures

Sat 3 Mar. (L) Matson 1st XV v Painswick 1st XV.
 (M) Cheltenham Sabres v Painswick United.
 Sat 10 Mar. Painswick 1st XV v Stroud.
 Painswick United v Old Centralians 2nd XV.
 Sat 17 Mar. (L) Painswick 1st XV v Frampton Cottrell 1st XV.
 (M) Widden OB 2nd XV v Painswick United.
 Sat 24 Mar. Tewkesbury 1st XV v Painswick 1st XV.
 Painswick United v Cainscross 2nd XV.
 Sat 31 Mar. (L) Cirencester 1st XV v Painswick 1st XV.
 (M) Painswick United v Cirencester 2nd XV.



Our photographs show Painswick scrum-half Tom Unwin sending out a long pass from the scrum, and Russell Thornton 'collecting'.



Cricket

The Annual General Meeting of Painswick Cricket Club was held recently at the Broadham Clubhouse.

Officers elected were as follows: President, Mr Jack Smith; Chairman, Mr John Hogg; Honorary Secretary/Director of Cricket, Mr Ian Hogg; Honorary Treasurer, Mr Robert Cook. First Eleven Captain, James Cook; Second Eleven Captain, Wayne Lee; Third Eleven Captain, Max Barnard. Junior Cricket Coach, John Hogg; Under 15 Coach, Dominic Barnard; Under 13 Coach, Wayne Lee; Under 11 Coach, Paul Morris.

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Sundial at Painswick Pharmacy

Nutgrove House

You may have recently noticed an intrepid lady working on scaffolding outside the pharmacy in New Street. On introduction you will have found out that this was Harriet James carrying out restoration work on the sundial which had fallen into a state of disrepair.

The dial probably dates from the C18 – a period when sundials, rather than clocks, were the standard time-keepers. Before the advent of reliable clocks sundials were used to set clocks. It was not until the electric telegraph was introduced in the 1840s that a national standard time was introduced. Even then many places continued to stick to local time rather than adopt GMT. In Painswick the difference between the sundial and GMT can be up to 25 minutes. It is clear that this sundial is an accurate scientific instrument as well as an ornament to the building.

The restoration work has involved removing and cleaning the fragile gnomon (shadow-caster) and backing it with another brass plate of the same shape to build it up to its original thickness. The face of the dial has been cleaned by hand with water and a crack in the stone stabilised with an epoxy stone glue before finishing with a lime mortar / stone dust mix after the gnomon was reset. The lines and numerals on the face have been repainted by hand.

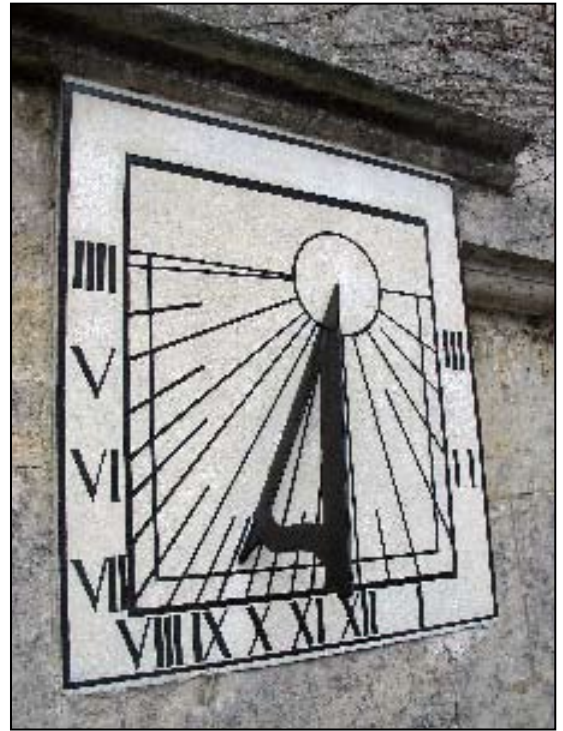
The photographs show the sundial after the restoration work.

It is anticipated that a wall plaque at street level will record historical information, brief details about the restoration and an explanation to passers-by of 'sundial time' with a graph giving the daily difference between the sundial and their watches.

Very little about the history of the sundial has surfaced to date despite searches in local history records. The stone slab on which the dial is laid out is unusually set into the edge of a blanked-off window perhaps indicating some connection to the period when the window tax was enforced. It is also possible that the dial was made and installed by a local clock or watchmaker – in those days the only way to regulate a clock was to use a sundial.

There is an inscription of painted lettering across the top of the dial stone which begins 'Vi...' but the rest is illegible. It might have been a Latin motto or dedication. If any reader has an old photograph of the sundial or can shed any light on the history of the dial or the building, it will be gratefully received. (Any information, no matter how small, to Leonard Chittenden locally on 814854 or to Harriet James on 01985 – 216311 please. Please note that the scaffolding is being left in place until mid- March in anticipation that information will be forthcoming and the inscription can be added)

The restoration work is being funded by the building's owner, Mike Powis with contributions from Painswick Parish Council, The British Sundial Society and Painswick and District Conservation Society.



Painting and Drawing Classes

Classes have begun for the New Year and if you would like to learn more about how to paint and draw now is a good time to start. Courses of six weeks are taught in small friendly groups usually six, which allows for lots of individual support. Over the months all aspects of art practice are covered, including landscape, still life and working with the model, and are suitable for the beginner or more experienced artist.

If you think you might be interested in a taster or would like more information please call Jane Garbett on 812176. At the time of going to press the venue is not confirmed, but likely days are Monday and Wednesday in Painswick.

Our apologies to Allen Hale

Our article about Allen's retirement, and closure of the butchers in Painswick, was accidentally chopped short last month, mid-sentence. For those who wondered how it ended, here it is in full:

Always a 'glass half full' sort of character, Allen says he's looking forward to retirement, being able to spend more time with his family, and pursuing his many other interests. "I don't intend to be idle!"

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Local History Teaser

It really would not be very advisable to stroll down the middle of this road nowadays. It does look rather different now but its location should not be too difficult to identify. What may be more of a problem is when the picture was taken. We would be pleased to hear from anyone who is able to offer an answer.

Last month's photograph roused some curiosity with regard to location though no-one was able to give a precise answer. It was, in fact, Knap Bank (Kings Mill Lane). The group posing for the picture comprised staff of Reeds Mill, now Painswick Mill. Unfortunately, no-one was able to date it. We are always keen to hear from anyone who has photographs which would present a challenge to readers.

Carol Maxwell



... and the Local History Society

Consumption, the bells and a fine building

At the February meeting of Painswick Local History Society Helen Briggs and David Archard gave yet another of their highly entertaining and very informative presentations on matters local from the past.

They began with a description of Painswick's tuberculosis sanatorium, opened in 1900 and covering eight acres of Croft Field. Painswick was considered to be the ideal location for the treatment of this illness, the only known cure at the time being fresh air. The layout and design of the sanatorium was focused entirely on this principle. Wooden chalets raised above the ground had open verandas where patients were encouraged to sleep. During the day they walked in local areas such as the Plantation or sat in revolving shelters to take open air treatment from the most clement angle possible. At two and a half guineas a week plus extras for laundry etc, often for up to six months, the sanatorium was certainly not a treatment centre for the poor. It closed some time during World War 1.

Helen and David then went on to some tales from back copies of the Parish Magazine, including the story of the jubilant re-opening of the ring of twelve bells in 1821 which coincided with the unhappy death of Queen Caroline.

Lastly, we were taken through the process of transforming what had been Samuel Wood's mill, then Skinner's Brewery, into a beautiful home. By the 1980s this building was in a very poor state and the story of how Burdocks went about renovating it and incorporating many details and features rescued from various establishments in Painswick was fascinating.

At the next meeting of the Society on Tuesday, 20th March, starting at 7.30pm at the Croft School, Mr Hugh Conway-Jones will talk about Gloucester Docks Past and Present. Everyone is welcome.



Carol Maxwell

Comic confusion or serious drama?

A couple of readers have approached me to say that they found last month's column a bit confusing. (*What the poor soul means is that neither of those who struggled through to the end could understand what he was going on about: plus ça change! – Editor*) So, let me explain...

Painswick Players next production (3rd, 4th and 5th May at the Painswick Centre) is Confusions by Alan Ayckbourn, which consists of two comedy playlets - Between Mouthfuls and Mother Figure - about crumbling relationships and the mess they leave behind. Although both plays are linked in terms of characters, each will be directed by a separate director: Kevin Parker, Lesley Wolowiec and newcomer Anne Laupe.

In Between Mouthfuls, two couples at adjoining restaurant tables are overcome with confusion when they realise they have an unwelcome common bond, involving mutual indiscretions. This produces one of those moments when you just wish you were anywhere else at all. The process of increasing embarrassment is assisted by a suitably disdainful waiter, who focuses our attention alternately between the two sets of conversations. A confusing twist to the plot-line spices the ending.

Mother Figure focuses on a highly unusual household where an over-motherly mother has come to confuse children with adults and treats both the same. This extends to her highly confused neighbours who have been invited to dinner. Ayck-

bourn's command of language and sense of the absurd produces a subtly disturbing comedy.

So, that's 3rd, 4th and 5th May at the Painswick Centre, Confusions by Alan Ayckbourn...OK?

Meanwhile, over at the YiPPies, the ubiquitous (and never knowingly confused) Lesley Wolowiec tells me that our younger thespians are moving away from comedy and keen to try 'serious grown-up acting', which is certainly nothing that the rest of us have ever attempted! She is mooted the possibility of putting on Ian Serraillier's Silver Sword.

This is a gritty tale set in Poland in the 1940s and features a family torn apart by the war as the father is sent to a concentration camp. Eventually he escapes but on his return home, he finds that his wife has been sent to Germany to work and his children are thought to be dead. He meets and befriends a young boy, to whom he gives a silver paper-knife in the shape of a sword. The boy promises to look out for the missing children and to tell them their father is journeying to their mother's family in Switzerland. There is, thankfully, a happy ending and a family re-union brought about by the Silver Sword. Serious stuff, indeed.

On the other hand, they might do Alice in Wonderland...

I hope that's all clear!

Jack Burgess



Make a difference for Sick Children in Gloucestershire by joining The Pied Piper Appeal Sponsored Slim

Are you beginning to panic as summer approaches? You've booked your holiday but will the clothes fit?

There is still time to shed a few pounds and really make a difference. 7lbs = 1" loss from all those vital statistics and 14lbs (1 stone) = a whole clothes size smaller! All you need is the motivation to make the effort and that is what The Pied Piper Appeal is offering you when it launches its 6 week Sponsored Slim course on Thursday April 19th at Gloucestershire Leisure Centre (GL1) between 5.45pm – 7.00pm. All you have to do is turn up!

After that there are various options available:-

1. Diet on your own and return 5 weeks later on May 24th for the final weigh-in.
2. Weigh in weekly between 5.45 – 6.00pm (£1 per week)
3. Attend a weekly class at GL1 between 6.00-7.00pm (£3 per week)

The Sponsored Slim is being run by Helen Cook who has over 29 years experience of helping people of all ages to shed excess weight. You will be provided with a complimentary diet sheet and an exercise schedule, both of which are optional and designed for those of you who have not already got your own favourite dieting routine.

The final weigh in takes place on Thursday May 24th - just before the May Bank Holiday.

Imagine how wonderful it could be - feeling so much slimmer for the Bank Holiday weekend and knowing that in the process you have also benefited the sick children in Gloucestershire by contributing to one of The Pied Piper Appeal's current fund raising projects.

The Pied Piper Appeal is currently raising money for a variety of projects approved by the Appeal Trustees.

Imminently there are two projects to be funded:-

For the new Children's Centre at Gloucestershire Royal Hospital.

- A specially designed warming blanket which circulates warm air around children who are hypothermic. Total cost £1,800

For children's area in the Accident and Emergency department at Gloucestershire Royal Hospital

- Various items of medical equipment specifically designed for children, to enhance the resuscitation facilities. Total cost is £22,418.

Ongoing projects include:-

For the new Children's Centre at GRH

- A hoist and three different sized bath chairs for the Special Needs department. Total cost £5,570.
- Portable beds for parents to sleep at their children's bedside. Total cost £5,860.
- This project has already been ordered following a generous donation from Lincoln Financial Group.
- Large scale games and toys for the Adolescent Room and the Outside Space.

The list is, not surprisingly, much longer than we can fit in our page, but we think you will get the idea! Ed.

PROPERTY REPORT for March from Murrays

Activity in the property market continues to amaze us. Despite the surprise interest rate rise in January and the recent bad press, the level of confidence and rising number of property sales continues unabated.

All our offices are reporting selling more than their supply. Normally at this time of year we are building our stock of property for sale ready for the Spring, but this year they are selling far quicker and although our instructions have been steady our stocks are as a result down, leaving us unable to satisfy the constant flow of new buyers coming through our doors. At the beginning of April we are in London at our Mayfair Office doing our Spring Cotswold Property Presentation, and we desperately need more quality instructions to display there.

With the introduction of the compulsory Home Information Packs in June, we have been expecting an influx of property coming to the market before the deadline to avoid the cost of having a HIP prepared, currently, if you are already on the market before the 1st June, sellers have nine months dispensation before their HIP has to be done. Anyone wishing to know more about HIPs, please give us a call or pop into the office and we will be pleased to answer your questions. We are al-

ready providing HIPs for some of our clients and all our staff and undergoing a training program.

Recent activity in Painswick has also been good for the time of year.

Completions and sales include 3 Berry Close, Museum Cottage in Vicarage Street, Willowmead at Upton St Leonards, Craythorne at Coopers Hill, Eversley in Friday Street, Stoneleigh in Gloucester Street, Byways in Stamages Lane and 7 Haresfield Court. There have been some good new instructions too: - a really appealing four bedroomed period cottage in Vicarage Street, a rather special very spacious bungalow on The Highlands, a four bedroomed detached house in Edge Road with lovely garden, a two bedroomed Victorian terrace in Cheltenham Road, a three/four bedroomed nearly new town house in Stroud Road, a most impressive five bedroomed family house in Stamages Lane, a striking Victorian family house and also a beautifully converted former pub both in Pitchcombe, a substantial three bedroomed Cottage with swimming pool at Haresfield, another quality apartment in Haresfield Court and quite a rarity, a quarter acre building plot in the village. If you are thinking of moving in 2007, please take advantage of one of our free market appraisals.

Clive Murray



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MARCH

Sat	3	Theatre Club Outing to Cheltenham Cream tea and Poetry Reading	dep. The Falcon Painswick Centre	1.30pm
Sun	4	Painswick Beacon Conservation Group scrub clearance (location check 812709)	Painswick Beacon	10.00am to 1.00pm
Mon	5	Austerity Lunch: Hosts – St Mary's Guild	Christ Church Hall	12.15pm to 1.15pm
Tue	6	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	7	Probus: Cider with Rosie Country – Mr J Fern Bingo: Wednesdays – Tel. Ann, 813911/Liz, 813139	Ostlers Room, Falcon Painswick Centre	10.00am 7.30 to 10.00pm
Thu	8	Jolly Stompers Line Dancing: Beginners Experienced beginners – Thursdays Tea Dances – Thursdays Music Appreciation Group: Franz Joseph Haydn	Town Hall Town Hall Painswick Centre Cotswold Room	12.00 to 1.00pm 12.30 to 1.30pm 2.30 to 4.30pm 7.30pm
Fri	9	Country Market with coffee available Friday Club: Snowhill Manor today and yesterday Curry Supper in aid of Kathmandu children (see p.9)	Town Hall Town Hall Village Hall	10.00am 2.30pm 7.00pm
Sat	10	Village Quiz	Painswick Centre	6.45 for 7.15pm
Mon	12	Austerity Lunch: Hosts – Horticultural Society	Christ Church Hall	12.15pm to 1.15pm
Wed	14	Horticultural Society: Pruning – Sue Gibson Women's Fellowship – Trekking in Nepal: Diana Davis	Town Hall Christ Church Hall	7.30pm 7.30pm
Sat	17	Helen & Anne's Annual Coffee Morning – (see p.11)	Town Hall	9.45am to 12 noon
Mon	19	Austerity Lunch: Hosts – Christian Aid Committee	Christ Church Hall	12.15pm to 1.15pm
Tue	20	Local History Society: Hugh Conway-Jones: Gloucester Docks – Past, Present & Future	Croft School	7.30pm
Wed	21	Coach to London £12. Enquiries – 813965/813227 Probus: The Long Bow – Brigadier I Shapter Coffee & Gateaux Morning Coffee morning in aid of Meningitis Trust (see p.9)	Stamages Car Park Ostlers Room, Falcon Christ Church Hall Richmond Painswick	8.30am 10.00am 10.00am to 12 noon 10.30am to 12 noon
Thu	22	Music Appreciation Group: Two for the price of one	Cotswold Room	7.30pm
Fri	23	Friday Club: Creative Glass Art Easter Bingo - Crack Cancer (see p.11)	Town Hall Town Hall	2.30pm 7.00 for 7.30pm
Sat	24	Copy dateline for April Beacon Music Society Concert: Felicity Lott & Graham Johnson (see p.14) "Missa Solemnis" Gloucester Cathedral (see p.10)	St Mary's Church	3.00pm
Sun	25	Painswick Beacon Conservation Group scrub clearance (location check 812709)	Stamages car park	6.30pm
Mon	26	Teenage Activity Day at Wood Cottage Falconry School For details Tel: 812552 Austerity Lunch: Hosts – Richmond Homes	Painswick Beacon Seven Leaze Lane, Edge	10.00am to 1.00pm From 10.00am
Tue	27	Bird Club: The Wildlife of Trinidad & Tobago - Bob Axworthy. Followed by AGM Yew Trees WI Tibet & Nepal Adventures	Christ Church Hall Town Hall	12.15pm to 1.15pm 7.30pm
Wed	28	Horticultural Society: Outings booking morning (see p.6) Teenage Activity Day at Wood Cottage Falconry School For details Tel: 812552 Women's Fellowship: Antiques – Midge Leney	Church Rooms Church Rooms Seven Leaze Lane, Edge	7.30 p.m. 10.00am to 12 noon From 10.00am
Fri	30	Concert by The Stuart Singers	Christ Church Hall	7.30pm
Sat	31	Women's Fellowship Coffee Morning Sheepscombe School Jumble sale (see p.6)	St Mary's Church Town Hall Village Hall	7.30pm 10.00am to 12 noon approx. 1.30pm

APRIL

Sun	1	Painswick Beacon Conservation Group scrub clearance (location check 812709)	Painswick Beacon	10.00am to 1.00pm
Tue	3	Horticultural Society: Outings booking morning Teenage Activity Day at Wood Cottage Falconry School For details Tel: 812552 Theatre Club outing to Malvern	Church Rooms Seven Leaze Lane, Edge	10.00am to 12 noon From 10.00am
Wed	4	Horticultural Society: Outings booking morning Teenage Activity Day at Wood Cottage Falconry School For details Tel: 812552 Probus: Walking across America – Mr C M O'Brian Flower Guild: Cookery demonstration by Rob Rees(see p7)	The Falcon Church Rooms Seven Leaze Lane, Edge Ostlers Room, Falcon	6.00pm 10.00am to 12 noon From 10.00am 10.00am
Thu	5	Country Market – Easter Market – with coffee available Cotswold Care Support Group meeting Music Appreciation Group: Film Music	tba Town Hall Ashwell House Cotswold Room	tba 10.00am 2.30pm 7.30pm
Fri	6	No Country Market		



Fri	6	Procession of Witness Concert by The Painswick Singers – Mass in C by Mozart (Coronation Mass). Organist – Christopher Boodle, Conductor Brian Etheridge	St Mary's Church St Mary's Church	10.25am 7.30pm
Sat	7	April Issue of The Painswick Beacon published		
Mon	9	Teenage Activity Day at Wood Cottage Falconry School For details Tel: 812552	Seven Leaze Lane, Edge	From 10.00am
Wed	11	Coach to Bath £8. Enquiries – 813965/813227 Teenage Activity Day at Wood Cottage Falconry School For details Tel: 812552	Stamages Car Park Seven Leaze Lane, Edge	10.00am From 10.00am
		Horticultural Society: British poisonous plants - Michael Leech. Plant sale	Town Hall	7.30pm
Sat	14	Music Society Concert: Daniel de Borah	St Mary's Church	3.00pm
Tue	17	Nadfas trip to Mompesson House, Salisbury (see p4) 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 with guest speaker Music Appreciation Group: Members Night	Church Rooms Cotswold Room	7.00 for 7.30pm 7.30pm
Fri	20	Friday Club: Painswick Tombstones	Town Hall	2.30pm
Tue	24	Yew Trees WI: The History of Home Sewing	Church Rooms	7.30 p.m.
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' (see p.5)	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 Painswick Players: Alan Acykbourne's Confusions (also Fri 4th & Sat 5th)	Ashwell House Painswick Centre	2.30pm 7.30pm
Fri	4	Friday Club: 'My Gran's a Gypsy'	Town Hall	2.30pm
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	Horticultural Society: AGM – followed by Painswick in Bloom – Philip Berry (plant sale)	Town Hall	7.30pm 8.15pm
Sat	12	Music Society Concert: Rasumovsky Ensemble Christian Aid Week begins	St Mary's Church	3.00pm
Tue	15	Local History Society: Annual Outing		
Wed	16	Probus: Early British Computing - Mr M P Coast	Ostlers Room, Falcon	10.00am
Fri	18	Friday Club: The History of Twinning's Tea	Town Hall	2.30pm
Tue	22	Yew Trees WI The Village Shop – Marian Beagley	Town Hall	7.30 p.m.
Wed	23	Annual Parish Meeting	Town Hall	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 an evacuee'	Town Hall	2.30pm
Thu	7	Cotswold Care Support Group meeting	Ashwell House	2.30pm
Wed	13	Probus: Churchill – the 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 Broadham Ball	Broadham Fields	tba 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	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
Tue	24	Yew Trees WI: Dundry Nurseries – Chris Evans	Town Hall	7.30pm
Wed	25	Probus: Ladies Lunch (to be confirmed)		
Thu	26	to 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	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



PLANNING MATTERS A summary of information from the Parish Council.

NEW APPLICATIONS

ROCKFIELD HOUSE, STROUD ROAD
Erection of garage with housekeeper's flat above.

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

THE OLD CARRIAGE HOUSE, EDGE
Erection of 1st floor extension & single storey extension to rear.

RICHMOND VILLAGE CARE CENTRE, STROUD ROAD
Erection of 16 one & two bedroom care apartments associated with existing close care retirement community.

HAZELBURY HOUSE, NEW STREET
Replacing damaged & decayed dormer windows to front elevation to match existing windows in all detail.

DAMSELLS FARM, SHEEPSCOMBE LANE, PAINSWICK
Refurbishment of ancillary existing building within the curtilage of the dwelling comprising: re-roofing with stone tiles & conservation rooflights, new hardwood windows & doors, new lath & plaster waterproofed lining internally to walls to create domestic space.

THE OLD SUNDAY SCHOOL, SLAD
Erection of 2 storey extension (demolition of existing extension), conversion of roofspace to bedroom/bathroom.

THE LIMES, 6 COURT ORCHARD
Erection of an extension & alterations to dwelling.

10 GLOUCESTER ROAD
Erection of a 2 storey extension and replacement garage.
DAMSELLS FARM, SHEEPSCOMBE LANE, PAINSWICK
Alterations to roof of farmhouse.

LAMP HOUSE, VICTORIA STREET
Re-instatement of house & self contained annexe/flat into single dwelling. Internal alterations & building repairs, insertion of windows.

THE PATCHWORK MOUSE, NEW STREET
Change of use from retail to residential. (Renewal of permission 02/172)

LABURNUM COTTAGE, SHEEPSCOMBE
Erection of 2 storey extension.
THE OLD HOUSE, SLAD
New French doors and wainy-edge timber board cladding to east elevation of old garage, part of existing outbuildings.

KENIDJACK, BACK EDGE LANE,
EDGE
Erection of greenhouse.

DAMSELLS FARM, SHEEPSCOMBE LANE, PAINSWICK
Retrospective application for refurbishment of dwelling.

ST MICHAEL'S RESTAURANT, VICTORIA STREET
Retrospective application for signage at front of building.
TOCKNELLS COURT, CHELTENHAM ROAD
Re-roofing & inserting insulation at Tocknells Court and Court Cottage.
Installation of satellite dish.

TOCKNELLS COURT, CHELTENHAM ROAD
Replacement of barn doors and weather boarding.

THE SCHOOL HOUSE, STROUD ROAD, EDGE
Erection of a balcony

REVISED PLANS

YEW TREE HOUSE, NEW STREET
Convert guest annex to a self contained flat. Main changes: Removal of dormer window.

CONSENT

4 CHURCHILL WAY
Erection of front porch.

CORVARA, COTSWOLD MEAD
Erection of a conservatory.

THE WITHYHOLT, PAUL MEAD, EDGE
Remove existing flat roof to 1st floor & replace with low pitch tiled roof.
COURT HOUSE, HALE LANE
Construction of dry stone wall.

GREYSTON COTTAGE, PINCOT LANE
Erection of 2 storey side extn.

YOKE HOUSE, YOKEHOUSE LANE
Erection of an extension to replace existing garage.

GREEN RIDGES, COTSWOLD MEAD
Garage conversion and new balcony.

CATBRAIN QUARRY
Retrospective application for the erection of a building to house air filtration system.

DAMSELLS FARM, SHEEPSCOMBE LANE, PAINSWICK
Alterations to barn.

REFUSAL

RICHMOND VILLAGE CARE CENTRE, STROUD ROAD
Erection of 16 one & two bedroom care apartments associated with existing close care retirement community.

PLANS WITHDRAWN

COURTSIDE, HALE LANE
Erection of part single storey & part 2 storey extension linking existing house with Outbuilding. Erection of single storey extension to the outbuilding. Internal alterations.

1 TOCKNELLS COTTAGE, CHELTENHAM ROAD
Installation of a wind turbine.

MINI-ADS

Cashiers required - any age from 15, Saturday or Sunday or both at Prinknash Bird Park 10.00am to 5.00pm. Good pay. Telephone 812727/812458

Andalucia Spain - Villa in foothills above Nerja. 3 bedrooms, sleeps 4, TV, own pool. Wildlife, walks, views. Mountains and Mediterranean. Available July/August £550 per week. Tel 814707 or 0034 642 019686 or e-mail padiwebb@yahoo.com.

Do You Need Help - with - Sorting Paperwork - Organising and filing - Shopping - Cleaning - Dog Walking. Almost anything considered. Complete confidentiality. References available. Rates on request. Tel Sue Conway on 812890.

2.5m Garden Parasol and steel baseplate. Purchased John Lewis 2005. Downsizing. Any sensible offer considered. Tel 813936.

Sheet Music Collection (Extensive) - Brahms, Beethoven, Chopin, Mendelssohn, Schubert. Popular Classics. For Sale £55.00. Telephone 812161.

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Conservatory Furniture - Two seater Settee: 2 chairs, Coffee Table. Laura Ashley Upholstered. Hardly used: £200.00. Telephone 01452.619170 or 07974.747742.

Traditional Spinning Wheel - Good condition with bobbins and carders. For sale £65.00. Contact 823161.

Simple Folding Card Table - As new. For sale £15.00. Contact 813936.

MINI-ADS - non-commercial, maximum of 30 words - are 10p per word with a minimum payment of £1. Maximum of 14 accepted per month. Beacon subscribers have 25% discount.

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The Personal Column

Babies

Congratulations to CAROLINE and MARTIN TAYLOR on the birth of their son, Nathaniel, at the Portland Hospital on 28th January, a first grandson for Ken and Jane Hemming of The Park, and a cousin for Esmé and Harriet Chance,

also congratulations to TALEI and GRAHAM WILSON of Edge on the birth of a son Jacob on 24th January, a brother to Naomi and Sam.

Golden Wedding

Congratulations to ED and JUNE HANNIS who will have been married for 50 years on 9th March.

100th Birthday

Congratulations to GEORGINA STONE who celebrated her 100th birthday at Ashwell House on Tuesday last week.

Get well soon

Our best wishes for a speedy recovery to JULIE MOSELEY, JULIAN REED, JUNE CRANE, BRIAN WILSON and PAULINE ROCHE who have all been ill recently.

Engagement

Congratulations to LAURA DALLEY and JAMES SHOTTON who announced their engagement on 27th January.

Comings and goings

Welcome to PAUL CLARK who has moved to The Stables, Olivers, in Cheltenham Road, also SIMON BROOKS to 3, St Mary's Mead, and Mr and Mrs RADFORD to Lawn Cottage, Painswick Court.

Deaths

Our sincere sympathies to the family and friends of ALEC BROWN, DOREEN BOON and LESLIE LUKER who have all died recently.

Personal Messages

June and Keith Crane would like to thank all their friends in Painswick for the support and best wishes June received during her present stay in hospital.

June is now beginning to make progress following the operation to repair her broken leg and hip. She is looking forward to returning home sometime in March.



Doreen Mary Boon

died (aged 80) on the 3rd February 2007, in Stroud Hospital, after an illness which was thankfully short. It followed diagnosis of untreatable liver cancer on the 16th January.

Doreen moved from London to Painswick on retirement from the Civil Service in the 1980's and, in her usual fashion, immediately involved herself in all activities available. These included the WI, Country Markets, Music Society and many others.

Doreen loved the village and greatly appreciated her many friends who became substitutes for the family she and her husband Charles could not have.

Her Thanksgiving Service at Christ Church URC was conducted by the Revd Heather Whyte on February 15th, following cremation at Gloucester. The service reflected admirably on Doreen's life with both humour and pathos and special reference was made of her insistence on an environmentally friendly funeral. It was attended by very many people and the comments by her friends after the service were a reflection of the loss to the Painswick community that Doreen's death will bring.

Denis Lewis

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NEXT ISSUE

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