

The Painswick Beacon

Sine praeiudicio

Volume 32 Number 8

November 2009

Radio Painswick opens on air for Xmas?

On Tuesday 20th October the Painswick Valley Community Radio Group met for the first time to plan a pilot project to create a weekly hour-long programme of Painswickian content, using the frequency and technology of Stroud FM (107.9FM) or listen online at www.stroudfm.co.uk.

The project is being led by Stephen Rowley, who describes himself as a community artist who has started up three community radio stations over the last 10 years: COMM FM in Bristol, Cam FM and Stroud FM, where he has a regular Tuesday slot with his 'Acoustic Breakfast Show'. Over the past few months he has joined forces with our own Martin Slinger to cover a lot of Painswick stories.

Stephen says, "We know that we have a number of regular listeners to the show in Painswick. My thoughts are that there are a lot of knowledgeable people in Painswick, and many of these people are retired and able to produce programmes during the day. They also have the likelihood of making more interesting 'talk' programmes, than the music repeats that Stroud FM usually puts out during the day."

Other members of this embryonic group include Chris Scott, who has recently retired from over 30 years in commercial radio, Stephen Friar, a writer who has recently returned to Painswick after 30 years exile and Jack Burgess, who has always fancied himself as Terry Wogan and also aims to see how the Beacon can usefully contribute to the project.

The ultimate aim is a regular Painswick hour of music, talk, discussion – maybe even radio drama – drawing on Painswick's rich and eclectic mix of community activities and interesting people, with opportunities for programme sponsorship or advertising from Painswick businesses. The next step is actually to create a pilot Painswick programme. For this the Group would like to invite all Painswickians with an interest in getting involved to join them on Tuesday 10th November at 10.30am in the Town Hall. The airwaves await!



Remember, remember...

Firework Safety Quiz

1. What is the first thing to do before lighting a firework?
2. How do you know if you are buying quality legal fireworks?
3. Where should you light fireworks?
4. It's always good to have _____ handy when having a fire-works display.
5. How many fireworks should you light at a time?
6. If a firework does not work after lighting it, how long should you wait before trying to light it again?
7. Should small children handle and light fireworks?
8. What should you do if a firework fails to work after lighting it?
9. Where should you store fireworks?
10. How should you dispose of a discharged firework?
11. How should you carry fireworks?
12. What safety equipment should you wear when lighting a firework?
13. How many fireworks should you carry to the lighting area?



Answers on page 7

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON FIREWORKS SAFETY

...but Painswick closes for 2010!

County Councillor Joan Nash reports that much of the centre of Painswick will be closed to traffic for extensive road works for up to five months from January next year because of a recent gas escape. The work, which is in the high risk category, needs to be done both for safety reasons and to maintain a gas supply for the village. She says she fears that it will be disruptive, inconvenient and noisy for the duration of the work.

There will be three phases,

1. Complete closure of Edge Lane from the Lychgate to Blakewell Mead and up to the small lane to the entrance to the Croft – 7 to 8 weeks from late January into March
2. Traffic light controlled single traffic from the Lychgate to the Lamp on the A46.- about 5 weeks in March and April
3. Complete closure of the A46 from the Lamp to Gloucester Street crossroads – about 5 weeks, starting in April, finishing in May.

After this work is finished there will be about 12 weeks work to be done around the Upper Washwell/Canton Acre area.

The Beacon has been told that Gloucester Highways and the Gas Contractors will be holding a "drop in" session in the Town Hall between 2.00 pm and 7.00 pm on Wednesday 25th November, to which members of the public and traders are invited to raise their concerns and ask questions. Plans are also in hand for a Public Meeting to provide more explanation of the extent and timing of the work.

At a meeting between the Parish Council and John Kay of GCC Highways on Thursday, 29th October, a strong request was made that the Beacon be kept informed of actual contract dates and other associated matters as soon as they are known so that the public have reliable information upon which to base personal and business plans well in advance. On behalf of the Painswick business community, Rob Lewis, secretary of Painswick Matters, emphasised that they would be working closely with the Parish Council to find ways of minimising the impact on businesses.

As a final comment, Joan said, "I feel that a lot of lessons were learnt from the Salmon Springs work in 2007, and every effort will be made to ensure proper signage and regular information updates. There is one more unknown in the equation: work to be arranged to rebuild the road at Coopers Hill (A46 towards Cheltenham). I will be kept informed of any news on this work. I hope that residents will attend the information sessions and the Public Meeting so that questions can be answered by the experts."

On other pages this month - crime, what crime? **Christmas** creeps closer, Painswick's sign of the times, **Players** get curiously, Xmas **crackers** and Green goes **Gold**



PARISH COUNCIL

The meeting opened with the presentation by Barbara Pond of the GRCC (Gloucestershire Rural Community Council) of the Hallmark Level 1 Certificate to Jackie Herbert, chairman of the Painswick Centre Trustees. Hallmark "promotes the delivery of effective and well-managed village halls through a quality standards scheme". Jackie Herbert thanked the Parish Council for their support and said that the Centre would be doing the Level 2 assessment in December.

Police Report

PCSO Colin Drewett reported on police activity and concerns in the village.. The vehicle speed and HGV checking trials had now been completed, A number of fines for speeding had been issued but nothing had been identified concerning HGVs. A member of the public said that he had seen two large foreign registered HGVs going through the village recently. Colin reminded the meeting that if you see a HGV which you think might be breaking the law, take the registration number and the company name, make a note of the time and date and phone 08450 901234.

The police are also investigating a case of criminal damage caused by motorcycles and 4 wheel drive vehicles on the golf course.. The gate to the golf course behind the Royal William pub has now been locked shut reducing access to one point. Enquiries are continuing. Colin advised the public to close and lock windows and doors in houses and cars to deter opportunist break-ins.

Colin reported how useful the Key Information Network System (KINS) was to the police. More members, particularly younger ones, are required to join the local group to provide a greater cross-section of the community.. He said the youth club and the school had been approached. Meetings are quarterly and give the police a chance to hear of local concerns and helps them allocate resources to tackle problems.

County Councillor Report

Joan Nash, our local Gloucestershire County Councillor, made a presentation to the meeting concerning road closures to repair the gas main through Painswick (see separate article). A public meeting will be held in mid-November with experts from the Utilities concerned and Gloucestershire Highways to explain why this urgent work is necessary and how it will be carried out.

Mrs Nash's report may be seen at the Town Hall. Two points of interest include:

- **Food Waste:** Gloucestershire has joined the South West regional "Love Food Hate Waste" campaign for four weeks beginning 12th October with events taking place to encourage the reduction of waste food.
- **Potholes:** A new inspection regime has been set up to ensure permanent repairs are carried out on the first visit. The reporting number still remains the same - 08000 514 514

Sustainability Act

The Sustainable Communities Act 2007 (Amendment Bill) which was presented to Parliament by David Drew, our MP, and has the support of all the main political parties, is now waiting for its second reading. The Act requires the Secretary of State to invite local authorities to submit proposals to promote the sustainabil-

ity of local communities. As the Act did not include parish councils, the Amendment Bill seeks to correct this. "Local Works", the organization campaigning to implement the Act, is seeking funds. The meeting agreed to make a donation of £25.

Meeting Rooms Survey

It was proposed to include the meeting rooms survey in the Parish Plan. Ela Pathak-Sen said that the Plan and the Design Statement had much in common and the latter was useful when making planning applications. Terry Parker suggested that the Design Statement should be a chapter in the Parish plan which will more acceptable to the District and County Councils. The working group will meet to discuss the proposals and report.

Allotments

Caroline White reported that she had prepared a draft Action Plan for the Working Group and a Site Information Form to record details of each site, both of which have been circulated to members for comment. Once the form is finalised she will create a scoring system to be used with the factors listed on the form. She will also investigate the appointment of a Land Agent and agreeing a budget.. The Working Group, which will hold its first meeting on the 4th November, will consist of five people, three Parish Councillors and two members of the public. Four members of the public have put their names forward and two are still to be selected. The three Parish Councillors will be Caroline White (chair), Martin Slinger and Ela Pathak-Sen (not Andy Cash as reported incorrectly in last month's Beacon). No offers of land have yet been received.

Painswick Cemetery

Martin Slinger proposed to the meeting that, having consulted the War Graves Commission, the Parish Council should cut a one metre wide path from the cross path to each grave and then around each gravestone. The grass would be kept to a height of 2 to 3 inches and in the spring the old turf would be dug up and reseeded. The area above the top path would then remain for the grass to grow and wild flowers.

Telephone kiosks

The Clerk reported that BT was offering "for adoption" four telephone kiosks with all their telephony equipment removed at a charge of £1 each. These kiosks, which would still have an electricity supply, are situated at Pullens Road, The Park, outside Sheepscombe old post office and in Slad. The Parish Council would be responsible for maintenance, insurance and electricity. The Slad kiosk is threequarters of the way through the listing procedure and therefore would not require "adoption". The meeting decided to set up a working group to consider all the issues connected to "adopting" one or more kiosks, vandalism being one of the main concerns.

Housing Needs Survey

The Housing Needs Survey forms prepared by the GRCC (Gloucestershire Rural Community Council) were circulated to members. The first form asks for general information about your home and the people who live in it. The second one is for people who wish to move home within the parish or family members, currently living outside the parish, who wish to return. Both

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forms are anonymous and do not ask for any information which would identify individual households. Members expressed some concern at the intrusive nature and complexity of some questions. There was also concern at the cost of the survey which the Parish Council may have to cover. The meeting agreed to proceed with the survey once the question of cost had been clarified.

Recreation Ground Trust

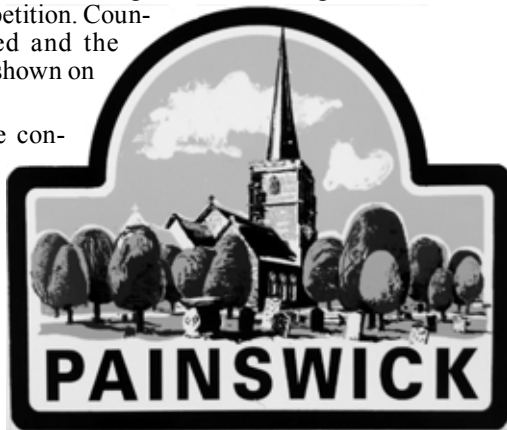
Terry Parker circulated a memo stating the position of the Parish Council as Trustee for the Recreation Ground Trust. In 2000 the Parish Council received a letter from the Charity Commission stating that the Parish Council, as a corporate Trustee, was the sole Trustee of the Recreation Ground Trust and not individual Parish Councillors. In order to ensure the Trust's separateness from the Parish Council, a Recreation Ground Trust "committee" was set up consisting of the 12 members of the Parish Council. This arrangement should be formalised and there should be clear demarcation between meeting as members of the Parish Council and meeting as the Trust's committee.

Some concern was expressed about ownership of the land but it was agreed that the assets of the Trust (principally the Recreation Ground) are owned by the Trust and not by the Parish Council.

Village Signs

The Clerk showed the meeting the two winning entries for the Village sign competition. Councillors then voted and the winning entry is shown on the right.

Members were concerned about payment. It is understood that the Painswick and District Conservation Society will pay for the signs and the Parish Council for add-ons.



Kings Mill Lane to close

Gloucestershire County Council have advised us that Kings Mill Lane will be closed, from its junction with A46 to its junction with Stamages Lane, from 8.00am to 4.00pm on Tuesday, 10th December to allow for cutting back overgrowing trees and vegetation from power cables.

For more information, contact Caroline Cogram on 08000 514514, email caroline.cogram@gloucestershire.gov.uk.

Ready to shred

A hedge cuttings shredder and a chipper will be available for residents' use at The Pound in Gloucester Road on Saturday 5th December between 9am and 12noon. The service is being provided by the Wyevale company.

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A Painswick crimewave?

...who knows?

Recently, we have received anecdotal evidence of a significant increase in crimes of burglary and theft in Painswick. At the same time a number of readers have approached us asking why we no longer carry statistical and brief textual reports provided by the police on a monthly basis, a service which we know from the Beacon reader survey earlier this year was much appreciated. Lest readers feel that the Beacon has chosen not to publish reports of action by the police hereabouts, we feel we should let it be known that nothing could be further from the truth.

We have made serious efforts to restore such information to our pages. However, all we have been able to extract from Gloucestershire Constabulary Press Office is the statement that it is no longer possible to provide crime statistics at local level. The Press Office also provided us this month with a press release headed "Do you lock your doors?", which – apart from the obvious advice to make properties secure – carried the headline statement: "In the last three months the Stroud area has seen a reduction in burglaries by 20% ..."

What is not stated is whether any of these were in Painswick, or what the reduction was in real terms viz. were there 80 burglaries instead of 100, or have the crooks moved to Cirencester instead?

The Beacon is reliably informed, but has no way of ascertaining the minutiae or indeed the accuracy of each case, of a flat in the very centre of the village being stripped of all gold and diamonds and private papers strewn around. Other unlawful entries or thefts have been reported in the last month in the vicinity of Friday Street, Castle Hale, Gyde House, Kingsmill Lane and Orchard Mead.

We can obtain no details of any of these events. Could there be a connection between some burglaries being on Sundays and timed to coincide with church services? Who knows? And why are we not briefed by the police?

In fairness, we should add that the PCSO for the Painswick area, Colin Drewett did respond to our request for anything particular that was an issue at the moment in Painswick. He responded thus:

"We would like to appeal to local residents to report any suspicious activity at the golf course following a few incidents of criminal damage at the site. The club have been suffering with incidents of criminal damage in which unknown offenders have been driving cars over the green and intentionally causing significant damage to them. We'd like to encourage people to report any incidents they witness or any vehicles acting suspiciously in the area by calling 0845 090 1234 or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111."

The Beacon looks forward to carrying updated news: if and when we receive any.

LWB/JRB

Painswick Parish Council NOTICE

Allotment Land

The Council is looking for land to provide allotments for parishioners.

The Council would like to be advised of any land within the parish, including Painswick, Sheepscombe, Slad and Edge that is available for purchase or rent.

Please contact the Council Clerk if you know of any land that could be considered.

*Roy Balgobin
Clerk to the Parish Council*



It can't be Christmas already... can it?

Painswick Country Market

Christmas is fast approaching and our bakers need to have your orders for cakes, puddings and mince pies. We are now selling local beef so, if you are planning on beef for Christmas, why not put in an order? Orders can be given at the Market on Fridays from 10.00am to 11am or by phone to me on 812471.

The last Market for 2009 will be Friday, 18th December and we shall reopen on Friday, 15th January 2010.

Do call in on Fridays and see our wide selection of home-made cakes, savouries, jams, marmalades, chutneys and honey. We also have local vegetables, free-range eggs and now local beef, together with plants, craft and jewellery. After shopping why not sit and have a welcome cup of coffee and a slice of cake?

Pamela Westcott

Christmas Fayre in Sheepscombe

The Annual FOSS and Sheepscombe Xmas Fayre takes place on Sunday 29th November, 12.00 - 3.00pm in the village hall. This is a festive event for old and young. Visit Santa's Grotto, drink mulled wine, buy handmade presents, enjoy a light lunch, and much much more.

Pauline Lindeque

Conservatives party

Painswick Conservative Committee are holding their usual Christmas party at the Town Hall on Saturday 5th December, commencing at 7.00pm. All Members and guests are welcome.

A light-hearted pictorial fun quiz will feature, as will a raffle, and drinks, canapes and mince pies will be served. Neil Carmichael, Conservative Parliamentary Candidate for Stroud, will be in attendance.

Tickets, costing £6.00 each, are available in advance by contacting Jason Bullingham on 814293, or John Couch on 813848.



Christmas Bazaar & Coffee Morning at Ashwell

The date for your diary this month is Wednesday 18th November in the lounge at Ashwell House and plans and preparations are well under way at the Day Centre. Do come to join us between 10.30-12.00 noon that day and, once more, we thank Michelle Elliott, (the Warden) for kindly allowing us to use this lovely hall.

If you came last year, no doubt you will recall the happy buzz of conversation round the hall as friends meet up and sit to chat over coffee/tea and biscuits. But do leave plenty of time to shop and buy your raffle tickets!

We have a super selection of cakes, biscuits, jams and preserves for sale and our bric-a-brac stall is well known for surprises! Often people find a Christmas gift or two at bargain prices. All the money we raise this year will go towards our Christmas lunch - always a highlight in the Day Centre calendar. A warm welcome awaits you and your friends on the 18th so, see you there!

Monica Ireland

Joint Charities Coffee Morning

Avoid the last minute rush and join us at a Charities Coffee Morning on Saturday November 14th, 10.00am - 2.00pm in the Town Hall. A wide range of gifts and goodies will be available, and you'll have the chance to avoid the crowds and last minute rush that the Christmas Season inevitably brings.

Charities that will be there include Mencap Homes Foundation, DASH, The Jennie Marsh Trust, The Family Haven and the Marah Trust. You'll be able to buy beautiful Christmas cards, mini hampers (idea as a small gift for a single person), edible Christmas treats, hand-made cards for any occasion and hand-crafted jewellery. Cakes, other craft items and gifts will also be available. Please show your support.

A warm welcome awaits!! For more information, please contact Chris Campbell on 812600.



Here we come a wassailing!

On Monday, 21st December, there will be Christmas carols all around Painswick, in aid of Lideta (*see opposite page*). Come and join the carol singers at Gyde House at 5.30 pm for mince pies and mulled wine.



Once suitably warmed and tuned up, the merry wassailers will sing their way around Painswick, calling at the Royal Oak, the Falcon, the War Memorial and elsewhere. Full itinerary in next month's Beacon,

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Harvest Lunch

A big thank you to all those who came and supported our Harvest Lunch. As the accompanying pictures show, the Painswick Centre was packed with 130 people all sharing a community lunch. We raised a massive £980 for our Painswick link with the community of Lideta in Ethiopia. This is all thanks to the generous help of Brian and Ximena from Olivas who cooked a delicious meal and also to members of the Youth Club and their friends who helped serve and wash up, including Hatty McCormick, Isabella Nunez and Isabella Weatherall, pictured below left, all aged 7, from the Croft School.



Trip to Lideta

In November the vicar, John Longuet-Higgins and Iris McCormick are setting off with a small group from World Vision to visit the community of Lideta and take a look at the projects which the people of Painswick have been supporting for the past 3 years. The money raised by the people of Painswick has been spent on micro-finance loans, books for schools, supporting children orphaned by HIV/Aids and providing business training and education projects for the people of Lideta.

Many people still ask, "What is Lideta?" Well, Lideta is a slum area that has built up around the enormous market in Addis Ababa called Mercato. People affected by war and famine have come to the capital in search of a new start and they have ended up living in Lideta. Conditions are cramped with little or no sanitation or services. Many are affected by HIV and Aids and unemployment is high. It is a place where families have survived despite desperate poverty and where our financial assistance has the potential to really transform lives.

It will be so exciting to visit the people we have heard about over the years. For the McCormick family it is particularly exciting as Iris will be able to meet their sponsored child, Tsion. Tsion is 8 years old and we have been exchanging letters and cards for two years.

The Croft school have been very involved with the Lideta project and we will be taking colourful pictures, drawn by the children of Croft school, together with fairtrade footballs and pencil cases given by each class for the sponsored children who are at the heart of the World Vision project in Addis Ababa.

Services of Remembrance

The annual Service of Remembrance will be held in St Mary's Church at 10.50am on Sunday 8th November.

On Remembrance Day itself, Wednesday 11th November, also at 10.50am there will be a short service at the War Memorial during which wreaths will be laid.

All local organisations are invited to participate in the wreath laying ceremony.

Everyone will be most welcome at the services.

Annual General Meeting



The Chairman and committee of CTAP warmly invite you to their AGM on Thursday 19th November at 7.30pm in St. Mary's Church Rooms, Painswick.

The meeting will be followed by refreshments, and then our local Parish Councillor and member of Our Lady & St. Thérèse church here in Painswick, Ela Pathak-Sen, and one of the Anglican Beacon Benefice clergy (based at St. Mary's) Jeff James will give a talk, "Kingdom Values in the workplace"

Ela Pathak-Sen has a background in health services management, having worked at director level in the NHS. She was instrumental in developing the Citizens Council model for NICE and has worked on patient and public participation initiatives internationally, nationally and locally. Ela now runs her own company – Commotion, and works with the NHS and other voluntary bodies to deliver high standards of care, taking account of what the public and patients have to say.

Jeff James is the Chief Executive of Wiltshire Primary Care Trust, responsible for arranging healthcare, by agreeing contracts with GP's, dentists, pharmacists & optometrists, as well as with the NHS Trusts that run ambulance, hospital, community & mental care services. Jeff says his budget for 2009/10 is £630 million!

This should prove a most interesting evening – relevant to us all! We look forward to your support.

Rita Bishop, Secretary CTAP

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Letters



The inclusion of letters, maximum 150 words, in these columns does not imply that the Beacon committee endorses the views expressed, or otherwise.

Save the Library!

From Harold Wood, Dormy House, Painswick:

Throughout this Summer (!) I have been in the Tourist Office and for several years previously.

One of the benefits of this has been watching the children of all ages tumble into the library, their voices and eyes bright with enthusiasm and anticipation.

I would think it criminal if this were to stop. So I appeal to you: if you have a lot of disposable cash, and you have friends similarly situated, will you do your best to help continue the library service? Not only for the children but for the many older people who rely on this service. Please, please, HELP!

Super Trooper at 50!

From Julia Mundell, Stonecroft, Cheltenham Road:

On the 12 September 2009 I held a garden party to mark my Half Century. I was not only blessed with fantastic weather but also the company of 100 wonderful friends and family who joined my encore of Abba's 'Super Trooper'.

I apologise to the village if the Jazz band and DJ was a little loud that evening. To compensate for the noise I can tell you £1300 was sent to Macmillan Cancer Care. Donations were accepted rather than presents. Special thanks to Jane Garbett for finding the best jazz band ever!

It remains to thank you all for making my birthday so special and helping raise such an amazing amount of money for Macmillan.

Gyde, conservation and those allotments

From Leonard Chittenden, Painswick & District Conservation Society:

With all due respect to Joan Nash and her support to Painswick over the years, we must take issue with her remarks in the last Beacon.

First, nobody is trying 'to create a Conservation Area' on Gyde Field. Gyde House Conservation Area, including Gyde Field was designated by Stroud District Council in 1990, in order to "preserve or enhance" the character and appearance of Gyde House and the surrounding open spaces. Stroud District Council would have advised the Gyde Trust at that time. The Parish Plan, approved 2002, supports the designation.

Second, there is no anti-allotments campaign in Painswick, but good judgement must be exercised on their location. Unfortunately, the Parish Council sought only to check whether locating allotments on Gyde Field would require planning permission and did not consider the visual impact on the conservation area, amongst other issues.

Pavement parking?

From Ross Munro, Stoneleigh, Gloucester Street:

Do I understand that the vigorous action being taken against business A boards in Painswick is because these are obstructing motorists from parking on the pavement?

From Cllr Barbara Tait, Churchill Way:

Following Joan's statement in the October Beacon, several residents have questioned me about the status of Gyde field. I don't wish to be controversial in any way, but I do feel that the record needs to be set straight.

The area around Gyde House - including the whole field to the front, which includes Hoyland House and Gyde Barn - was designated a Conservation Area in June 1990.

The Painswick and District Conservation Society have asked Stroud District Council to approve a small extension to it, to include Gyde Road and the Almshouses. This is still awaiting a decision. I do hope that this helps to clear up any confusion.

Postal pleasure

From Mrs Kate Low, Richmond Painswick:

I wish to convey my thanks to the new Painswick post mistress Karen Judd for her kindness shown to me recently and being so helpful in providing a valuable service to villagers. It is a pleasure for me to visit the post office.

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More from El Contador...

Christopher Piper-Short with another account of life and customs in his new home in the Spanish village of El Contador:

Painswick and El Contador have many things in common. Foremost, is the friendliness of the people. Like Painswick, all will wish you good day in the street or wave a greeting as they pass by in a car or tractor, even to strangers. Impromptu meetings take place in the village shop or around the baker's van, so Geraldine can disappear for half an hour or more, just buying bread. For me however, a visit to the shop was at first an odd and embarrassing experience.

In rural Spain, because it is beneath the dignity of a man to shop for groceries and so on, it is assumed that you are there for a pack of cigarettes or a bottle of wine, so you are served in front of everyone else. First thing in the morning, the village ladies in their dressing gowns and curlers are amazed when I ask for perhaps a kilo of onions and a bag of sugar, but they smile indulgently and shake their hairnetted heads sadly. Moreover, one is not expected to say please or thank you, they think you strange if you do. Oddly enough though, you will be wished "Adios" when you leave. It is something of a shock to hear even a child in a shop say "give me a whatever" without a "please". It is spoken almost as an order.

At a zebra crossing people look surprised if you stop, but do not wave their thanks as they cross. It is not rudeness to the Spanish. In a bar, as you walk in, you wish everyone and no-one in particular "good day" and you will get a response from most. It's all contradictory and takes some getting used to.

My Spanish cultural educational experiences always come with a jolt. I was having coffee with a Spanish friend in a bar at second breakfast time, around 10.30 am, when four huge workstained builders came in, sat at a table and were served a bottle of dry sherry, drunk from beautifully cut tiny crystal sherry glasses and a tapa each (tapas is plural by the way). My jaw dropped and my friend told me to stop staring. Can you picture that scene in The Oak or The Falcon ?, or maybe at the Surgery, as you are waiting for your appointment, the entire staff, doctors included, disappear to a bar for second breakfast - consternation at the top of Gyde Road !

Back in the village shop, Geraldine was drawn into a conversation with two elderly ladies about the quality of the local wine. By this I don't mean the excellent local Rioja which, at a Euro a bottle is excellent, as some of our friends in Painswick and Slad will testify. I refer to the products produced in the dark, dank and dusty recesses of barns around the village. Two samples were produced for us to try, supplied in a plastic cordial bottle and what looked like a motor oil container. Tasting began and ended in under ten seconds.... it made an excellent drain cleaner. A few days later Geraldine was accosted by her suppliers. To avoid hurt feelings, she complimented them on the quality of their brews. Later that day, two even larger containers appeared on our doorstep...

Library News

Some Facts and Figures

During the course of the summer, July, August and September, 6333 people visited the Library and Visitor information point. This number excludes small children who do not register. 5489 books were loaned - this is 1000 more than the same time last year and 1500 more than 2007. The library staff handled 339 reservations, in which books were ordered from other libraries in Gloucestershire or other parts of the country. The number of young children attending Baby Bounce has doubled and the largest group for an activity during the school holidays was 25.

This does not mean we are resting on our laurels. We are still trying to set up activities for adults, either speakers or 'get togethers' and would welcome any pre-school, school or childminder visits. If any of our customers have any other ideas, please do let us know.

Story Time this month will be celebrating the 20th birthday of Elmer the Elephant on Tuesday 17th November at 3.45pm. Do bring your elephants along to share in the fun. There will be a special story time in December where we will be sharing the story of Mr Big and making up to two seasonal decorations for children to take home.

Baby Bounce will continue each week on Tuesdays at 2.30pm with some new songs and rhymes.



New Stock

There are eighteen more shelves of stock out in the library now so do come and see if you can find something new to read! The library staff look forward to serving you.

Kath, Lesley and Sheila

Remember, remember...

Firework Safety

Answers to the front page quiz

1. Read the warning or caution label carefully and follow all directions.
2. Always buy from a reliable seller.
3. Always light outdoors away from combustible material, buildings and plants.
4. Water.
5. Light only one firework at a time.
6. Never try to re-light a firework.
7. No.
8. Wait for 15 to 20 minutes and then dump the firework in a bucket of water and let it soak.
9. If at all possible, don't store fireworks. If you have to store them, store them in a cool dry place and keep them out of the reach of children.
10. Soak them in a bucket of water before disposing of them in a trashcan.
11. Carry fireworks in their original bag or box.
12. Eye protection should be worn when lighting fireworks.
13. One. All other fireworks should be kept at a safe distance so they don't accidentally become lit.



THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON FIREWORKS SAFETY

Library Opening Hours

Monday	Closed All Day	Thursday	10.00am – 1.00pm
Tuesday	10.00am – 1.00pm	Friday	2.00pm – 5.00pm
	2.00pm – 7.00pm	Saturday	10.00am – Noon
Wednesday	Closed All Day		

Catholic Church - Mass times

The time of Sunday Mass at the Catholic Church in Friday Street has been changed. Mass is at 5.00pm on the first and second Sundays of the month and at 8.30am on the third and fourth Sundays. Where there is a fifth Sunday, Mass will be at 8.30am. The changed times are subject to review.

**Our Lady
and
St. Thérèse**



Pat Burrows

Painswickian of the Year

Once again, it's time to choose a Painswickian whose exceptional qualities and contributions to our local community justify the accolade of Painswickian of the Year.

We would like you all to think who you would like to nominate for the Beacon committee to consider. But we need to receive nominations by Saturday, 12th December, at the latest: we like to carry a picture and a few words in the January issue to brighten up the New Year.

Your nominee can be young or old, male or female, an individual or a couple: someone who you feel brought credit to the village in the past year or gave exceptional service to the local community.

Let us know your nomination and why, in no more than 100 words, on a postcard marked POY, delivered to the Beacon box, or by email to beacon@painswick.net with POY in the subject line.



Curiouser and curiouser...

Things changed very rapidly at the end of September and our article in the last Beacon did not reflect reality – if such a thing exists. "Confusions", as we said, has been postponed. "My Friend Miss Flint", due to replace it at the end of November, was cancelled because a member of the cast withdrew and replacements were unavailable. At the AGM on the 30th September, the Society decided to do rehearsed play readings of 3 one act plays for members, family and friends.

George Krasker, the director, writes:

Painswick Players will present, on 5th December in the Cotswold Room of the Painswick Centre, "An Evening of Extraordinarily Edifying and Enthralling Entertainment" It will consist of three short pieces, read with suitable accompaniments to an audience of PP members, family and their friends, by a troupe of Accomplished, Ambitious and Awfully Good Amateur Actors.

The three pieces will be

- An Adventure of the Celebrated Detective, Mr Sherlock Holmes, entitled "The Affair of Lady Fairfax" written by Mr Dick Charlton. This 20-minute piece includes all the well-known Holmes features ("Elementary, my dear Watson") as well as a host of puns, one-liners and other ways to keep the audience very amused.
- "The Fifteen Minute Hamlet" written by Mr Tom Stoppard: this is the essence of Hamlet. First the audience is told what the story is about, then the story is told in a rapidly-moving series of scenes, and then the Encore drives the story home. The play is full of Shakespearan quotations!

- "One Month To Pay or, The Sailor's Return" written by Mr Brian Burton is a traditional melodrama, with all the well-remembered features of the genre: pathos, skulduggery, a cliffhanger, a deus ex machina to resolve it, and a happy ending with the villain discomfited and the hero welcomed back to the bosom of his family.

It looks like a fun evening!

Tickets will be available at £3 from the 1st November from the Chairman and will include a minced pie and a glass of mulled wine. All proceeds after expenses will be donated to the Sue Ryder Care Home in Leckhampton. So remember it's now Saturday 5th December at 7.30 pm in the Cotswold Room.

Painswick Players Costumes

Over the years we have collected or made many garments. These we are always happy to lend to anyone given a few provisos:-

- Please always fill in the book supplied
- Do not borrow anything labelled for a current production
- Most of all, when returning costumes, please put them back where you found them.

Any questions or help about costumes please phone 814548

We are often offered clothing for our store but unfortunately, unless the garments are very special we can no longer find room for such donations. Please do ask if you think we might be interested but we hope no offence will be taken if we decline your offer.

If anyone would like to help in organising and sorting costumes for productions, you would be very welcome.

Ann Dorman



Fair Trade Fiona is after approachable Agent Lou

"Aren't we lucky to have such a delightful and approachable Village Agent" was the reaction of members of Yew Trees WI after Lou Kemp came to talk about her work at our October meeting. The work of a Village Agent is officially described as "Providing older people in Gloucestershire's rural communities with easier access to information and services". Although this accurately defines what Lou does, she provides so much more. Her warm and friendly manner will surely result in more people seeking her assistance.

At our November meeting Fiona Short is coming to talk about "Traidcraft". Established in 1979 as a Christian response to poverty, "Traidcraft" is now the UK's leading fair trade organisation. It runs development programmes in some of the poorest countries in the world, and campaigns in the UK and internationally to bring about trade justice. Ladies, do come and learn more at 7.30 pm in the Town Hall on Tuesday 24th November (£2.70).

Celia Lougher

Enigmatic Bletchley Park

Probus are planning a trip to Bletchley Park, an installation pivotal to the outcome of the war, on Monday 9th November, leaving Stamages Lane Car Park at 8.30am.

Anyone interested in adding their name to the list in case there is a vacancy should get in touch with Ken Gibson on kayjaygibson@yahoo.com or telephone 01452.372326



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Local History Teaser

This smartly presented group was one of the fore-runners of a valuable team still playing a vital role in Painswick today. The uniform has changed and there were more of them than today's team, but can you say who they were and approximately when the picture was taken? Answers next month.



Last month's photograph dated back only to November 1989, despite appearances to the contrary. It was taken on the occasion of the replacement outside the Post Office of the Norwich Union 19th century firemark with a replica. The original had disappeared and Norwich Union had the replica made after a plea from the Parish Council. It was carried in on a Royal Mail coach pulled by four Hungarian grey horses. The lady next to the coachman was Anne Smith who recognised herself and emailed her recollections of the occasion. Ros Harris also responded writing of the magnificence of the coach and horses when they are displayed at various shows.

If you have a photograph which would be of interest to readers we should love to hear from you.

Carol Maxwell

... and Local History Society

On 20th October Mr Ron Patterson, chairman of the Sheepscombe History society presented an analysis of life in Sheepscombe in the 19th century. This was largely based on a review he has carried out of the seven censuses from 1841 to 1901. The picture presented was largely one of decline, particularly of population which fell from 686 to 450 over those years and over a longer period fell from 803 in 1801 to about 300 in 1940. During the 60 years under review the number of households fell from 160 to 110. This largely represented a decline in opportunities for employment particularly in agriculture and cloth making.

Life expectancy was not high. In 1841 half the population was under 20 and very few indeed reached the age of 80. Trends which were more encouraging were in illegitimacy and infant mortality. In 1841 15% of births were illegitimate, but by the end of the century these were down to 1%. Infant mortality though high was better than the national average. Nonetheless no less than 13 people appeared in every one of the seven censuses, and a substantial majority of these were men, no doubt reflecting the fact that women went into service at some time during their lives.

There were some interesting statistics relating to personal names in Sheepscombe. A heavy proportion of boys names were the names of English kings or biblical, and similarly with girls. But these are always subject to fashion. Surprisingly no girl was given the name Victoria until near the end of the century. By far the commonest surname was Sollars; at one point something like half the people in England that carried the name Sollars lived in Sheepscombe.

Very few members of the population had been born anywhere other than in Sheepscombe or in neighbouring parishes. There were exceptions however with the wife of the schoolmaster born in Danzig and the vicar in 1841, the Rev Joseph Ostrehan, born in Barbados. Mr Ostrehan supplemented his income by taking in boarders whom he instructed in matters of Greek and Latin grammar. Many of these pupils came from a distance, many of them from Ireland, and most of them went on to obtain degrees at Oxford and Cambridge. In 1841 Mr Ostrehan's household consisted of himself, his wife, six children, six students and four servants. His most famous student was Chichester Samuel Fortescue, who after obtaining a first class degree at Oxford went on to become Member of Parliament for Louth, served in a number of Gladstone's cabinets and after losing his seat entered the Lords as Lord Carlingford. Throughout his life he kept a diary, which includes a full account of his years in Sheepscombe from 1838 to 1841. This has now been edited by Mr Patterson and published by the Sheepscombe History Society from whom it is available at a price of £6. The next meeting will take place at the Croft School, 7.30pm, on Tuesday, 17th November when Mr Gwilym Davies will give a presentation on folk songs of the Cotswolds. Everyone is welcome.

Hywel James



A Celebration of Autumn

The Painswick Horticultural Society was treated to a fascinating talk focussing on autumn colour and interest in the garden. Duncan Coombs, Senior Horticultural Lecturer at Pershore College, included a large number of shrubs and herbaceous perennials that extend the long autumn season well into November and into the New Year.

His slides illustrated how trees and shrubs develop from giving us spring interest, through the summer and into a final, triumphant spectacle of autumn colour. The Clerodendrum (right), for example, combines white, scented flowers with red sepals and bright blue berries whilst the crab apple, Malus 'Red Siberia' (left), will provide decorative, scarlet fruits throughout the winter. We also learnt how important it is to plan our planting schemes and to consider the lower angle of the sun in order to maximise the sun's rays shining through the brightly tinted foliage.



Our next meeting is at 7.30 on the 11th November at the Town Hall. It will be a joint meeting with the Bird Club and we will be listening to Andy Purcell talking about 'A Calendar of British Wildlife for the Gardener and Bird Watcher'. If you are interested please come and join us.

Elizabeth Gardam

DASH rolls out in the valleys

It's exciting news. DASH (Delivering Aid to Stroud Homeless), which was pioneered by a small visionary group in Painswick to work alongside the Marah Trust to address some of the needs of the homeless and marginalised in Stroud, has now spread to the Five Valleys and encompasses communities in Pitchcombe, Stroud, Brimscombe, Chalford and Minchinhampton.

It's a truly Ecumenical and Community Project that everyone can be involved with, and the response to date has been amazing, and support continues to grow.

Our aim is to highlight, month on month, some specific needs that can be met through the generous donations by our local communities.

In November we are concentrating on the provision of Emergency Packs of food that will provide a cushion for those who are perhaps new to the area, or who find themselves in short-term difficulties with housing or with their benefits. A lot of food provision comes in via the many donations of produce from School and Churches following their Harvest Celebrations, and we are hugely grateful for these gifts. In November DASH are collecting the following items for inclusion in the Emergency Packs.

- Dried skimmed milk (In a bottle shaped container that makes up into 5 pints)
- Easy-cook boil in the bag rice (500g - 5 sachets per box)
- Boxes of Cup-a-Soup (5 sachets)

As an advance notice we are also collecting gifts of boxes of biscuits as well as pairs of socks and various toiletries in time for Christmas.

In Painswick, donation points can be found in Churches on Sundays, and at Murrays Estate Agents and the Royal Oak Public House during their opening times.

Should you need further information, please contact your local DASH Co-ordinators Alison Robinson on 812286, or Frances Watson on 812071.

Many thanks in anticipation of your support

Chris Campbell, Marah/DASH Liaison



Coffee Morning

There will be a coffee morning at Painswick Town Hall from 10.00 – 12.00 noon on Saturday 21st November.

Come and enjoy some good company over a hot drink and support Christian Aid at the same time. Also available are home-made cakes, a raffle and a selection of attractive gifts including china and glassware.

Please put this date in your diary. For more information, please contact Katherine Davies on 812966.

Best of British Day at Richmond

A wonderful day of all things British was celebrated at Richmond Village on 16th September.

Residents and staff joined together for a day of traditional stalls and activities to raise funds for CLIC Sargent.

Pictured right, Susie Oakley, Village Manager, as Elizabeth I and Jo Wetherall as a Spice Girl, whilst below Susie is caught enjoying a wee dram with Resident Betty Herbert!

Thanks to all of the residents and staff who played such a big role in making the day such a success, £940 was raised in total.

Kate Low



Sheepscombe Summer Ball

A (very) advanced date for your diary: Sheepscombe Midsummer Ball will be held on Friday 25th June 2010 at the Grand Marquee, Sheepscombe Village Hall. Tickets will be available early in the new year.

For further information, contact Patricia Mahendran: patricia-mahendran1@hotmail.com.

Hosts wanted

Gloucester Nightstop Host Recruitment is a Supported Lodging Scheme to accommodate young people aged 16-19.

Do you have a spare room that could make this sort of difference to a homeless young person? We are looking for people that have an empathy with young people and are able to offer a room and support for up to six weeks. In return you will receive training, support and payment of up to £160.00 a week.

One young person commented after a Nightstop: "They (the hosts) were very nice people and made me feel very welcome. I was grateful of their hospitality. If Nightstop wasn't there, I would be walking the streets, cold and hungry".

If you are interested please call for more details on 01452 331330.

Help!

Painswick Lunch Club at Ashwell House urgently needs volunteers to help serve lunches on some Thursdays. It only takes two hours, once a month and no cooking is involved. Please call me on 813091: just leave a message if I am out and I'll get back to you. Thank you.

Helen Baker





Painswick Bird Club Working Quarries and Wildlife

On the occasion of the Club's tenth anniversary, David Boag opened our eyes through an enthusiastic, illustrated talk on the rich diversity of bird and other wildlife in active quarries. Despite the noise and visual intrusion of traffic, blasting and excavation of minerals, ravens and kestrels nest on rock cliffs, flowers cover restored embankments and waders feed in pools in the depth of the workings. David explained that such a galaxy of wildlife could never be found on the agricultural land the quarries replaced.

Dulcie Brotherton

At the meeting we paid tribute to the late Dulcie Brotherton, a founding member of the Bird Club, its first secretary, and very much an ambassador for the Club both within the community and beyond where she established good relationships with other clubs and the RSPB. Her hard work, great enthusiasm and warm hearted nature were appreciated by all.



We join hands with the Painswick Horticultural Society for our next meeting on Wednesday 11th November at 7.30pm in the Town Hall. Andy Purcell will bring more of his enthralling pictures on a "Calendar of British Wildlife". As usual, visitors will be very welcome.

Bill Boydell

New seat in Hollyhock Lane

The Parish Council has had many requests from residents to position a seat or bench in Hollyhock Lane.

The Council's attempts had been unsuccessful until Michael Campbell of Avonleigh offered to make some of his land available for the siting of the bench/seat which he would donate in memory of his late mother-in-law.



The Parish Council is grateful to Michael for his kind offer. A temporary seat is currently in place, briefly appreciated by these two 'locals', whilst discussion takes place about the type of seat most appropriate to the location.



The new seat is expected to be in place shortly.

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VILLAGE Agents November News

I have been getting lots more reports from you on a weekly basis of all sorts of horrible things going on. Some people have been getting calls from criminals pretending to represent BT. They are told that they owe (say) £30 and are about to be cut off unless the money is paid there and then (giving your financial details). Please **don't ever give out your personal financial details** when a company has called you. I received an email supposedly from the tax office telling me I was owed a rebate which would be paid onto my credit card by giving them my details. Naturally this wasn't genuine; the tax office would never contact me in this way or ask for credit card details. There are lots of others varied but all requiring you to pass over personal details. What's the saying "If it's too good to be true, it is"?

What I really want to discuss this month is the shaky topic of "falling". One third of men and women over 65, fall each year and this figure rises as we get older, to greater than half for people 80 and over. But why do we fall? Sometimes it can be as simple as needing to clean our glasses, or indeed go for an eye checkup. It's often because we're wearing ill-fitting shoes or slippers; "but they're so comfortable" I hear you cry! Those who know me, know I nag about the dangers of rugs and general clutter in the home. Perhaps you have an underlying infection or need your medication checked. A really simple and avoidable cause is dehydration and making sure you drink more also helps to improve concentration. Sadly, it can simply get harder to walk as we get older and to keep our balance and if you haven't considered having a personal lifeline, I urge you to get one NOW. We are fortunate to have a Falls Clinic at Stroud Hospital where you can be assessed and hopefully it will be discovered why you are falling. There is a great facility there too called the Active Balance Classes which run for 10 sessions and I went along to witness them myself last month. I joined a small group of 5 men and women who went through a series of activities all aimed to improve our balance (no matter how bad it was). I had a great time because it was done with humour and kindness ably led by James, the physiotherapist and finished off with a well deserved cup of tea and biscuits.

I really urge you to visit your GP if you've been having some falls and ask to be referred to the Falls Clinic. On a good day a fall can bruise our ego but on a bad day an injury can be fatal, or cause serious reduced mobility, independence and can lead to a downward spiral of loss of confidence, depression and ultimate isolation.

Please call me on 07776.245767 if you would like to arrange a home visit to talk about any aspect of this article or anything else that may be bothering you

Lou Kemp

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Golf

New Steward at Golf Club

Following a succession of stewards at Painswick Golf Club, catering has been taken on last month by Jean Kendrick, a club member for 5 years. A new vitality has emerged and Jean has quickly re-introduced Sunday lunch for all members, and visitors are welcome. A programme of social events has been created, including a Christmas menu. Previous Social Members are invited to renew their membership at £25 and to benefit from a £10 meal discount if introducing a new member (£35).

The clubhouse, with its outstanding views over Sheepscombe valley, is available for a variety of family events from wedding receptions, wakes, birthday and wedding anniversary parties, private dining or meeting facility. Please contact Jean on 812180 to discuss your requirements.

Adrian Layton- Smith

The entire club was saddened by the sudden passing of one of its longest serving officers, Adrian Layton- Smith. Adrian was a 30 year committee member, former Captain and President, and had valiantly fought leukaemia for a year. His funeral was well attended by friends from afar and at the clubhouse afterwards.

Competitions and matches

Meanwhile the Golf Club continues to have a full programme of competitions and matches in the Mens, Ladies, Seniors and Junior Sections. The annual Winter Fourball competition started on 18th October with a full entry and some exceptional scoring, in excellent cool conditions with the course presented as well as it has been for 40 years – according to some of the longest serving members. The Juniors Section has grown to nearly 50 members, whose development is managed by Simon Overthrow, with club night on Thursday for all youngsters. Already 3 juniors have represented the club A team, 5 have single figure handicaps and Simons son, Kenny has been a regular County player and came close to halting Carl Gyde's progress to his tenth victory in the Club Championship.

Membership is available to all sections with regular coaching available through club professional Marc Cottrell, who can provide details of alternative subscriptions on request at the club shop or by phone.

Forthcoming Events

13th November: Dining and Music Evening. £9.50 each
27th November: Dinner and Dance to 'Face to Face'. £20 each
25th December: Christmas Lunch – 5 courses. £35 each
31st December : New Years Eve Party

Contact Jean at the clubhouse on 812180 to make your reservations or call in and have a drink at the bar.

Badminton

Ladies have you ever played badminton? Did you enjoy it? If the answer is "yes" come along to the Painswick Centre at 2 pm on a Tuesday afternoon and join a small group of like-minded females. Several members had not played Badminton for more years than they cared to mention until they discovered this group where everyone is encouraging and friendly.

For more information contact: Liz Major 813045.

Rugby

Painswick's fine start to the 2009/10 season has continued in October. An excellent win over the Bristol club Aretians in the Gloucestershire Junior Vase has drawn them against another Bristol club, Bishopston, in the semi-final. Painswick will have particular reason to be "up" for this match as it was Bishopston who were responsible for Painswick's sole defeat this season at Bristol on 17th October.

October results

[(L) indicates Gloucestershire League Division 1, (M) Citizen Merit Table]

Sat 3rd.

(L) Ashley Down 1st XV 18 Painswick 1st XV 19.

Painswick United 25 Gloucester All Blues 2nd XV 13.

Sat 10th.

(L) Painswick 1st XV 37 Dursley 1st XV 0.

(M) Berry Hill United 39 Painswick United 7.

Sat 17th.

(L) Bishopston 1st XV 28 Painswick 1st XV 17.

(M) Painswick United 5 Stroud Nomads 12.

Sat 24th.

Gloucestershire Junior Vase (Q/F)

Aretians 1st XV 7 Painswick 1st XV 10.

Sat 31st.

(L) Painswick 1st XV 26 Longlevens 1st XV 7.

(M) Painswick United 0 Dursley 2nd XV 17.

November fixtures

Sat 7th. (L) Bream 1st XV v Painswick 1st XV. (M) Cirencester 2nd XV v Painswick United.

Sat 14th (L) Painswick 1st XV v Old Bristolians 1st XV.

Sat 21st. Gloucestershire Junior Vase semi-final. Painswick 1st XV v Bishopston 1st XV.

Sat 28th. (L) Brockworth 1st XV v Painswick 1st XV. (M) Painswick United v Brockworth 2nd XV.

Sat Dec 5th. (L) Painswick 1st XV v Old Cryptians 1st XV. (M) Painswick United v Old Cryptians 2nd XV.

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Tennis

Club Tournament

Painswick's annual closed tournament took place at the end of September. The results were:

Men's Singles – Dan Omnes beat Paul Duncliffe (3 sets).

Ladies Singles – Alicia Barnett beat Megan Butterworth.

Men's Doubles – Paul Duncliffe & Duncan Ross best Dan Omnes and Jimmy Haycraft.

Ladies Doubles – Lucy Moir & Megan Butterworth beat Sharon Hall and Amanda Porter.

Mixed Doubles – Philippa James & Duncan Ross beat Mary and Dan Omnes.



Club Secretary, Ruth Smith, writes to report that it was a good finals day with about 40 watching - tea and cakes served too! Pictured are the men's finalists and the ladies doubles winners



Summer of success for Alicia

The end of summer term at Stroud High School was the start of a busy and hard summer of tennis for 15 year old Painswick club member Alicia Barnett. The first week of her school holidays saw her travel to Ilkey in Yorkshire with the Ladies County Tennis Team where she won 5 out of her 9 matches., helping Gloucestershire retain their league position. At the end of that week Alicia went to the National Tennis Centre at Roehampton, playing for Team Bath U16s (Bath University Academy team) in the Aegon National Junior Club League Finals. She contributed to their success by winning both her singles and her doubles matches, and Team Bath went on to comfortably beat Nottingham Tennis Academy and become National Champions.

From here Alicia went on to play in 3 consecutive major tournaments in Jersey, Torquay and Birmingham, achieving runner-up in 4 singles finals and victory in the Jersey U16's doubles final. The last week of her summer break saw Alicia compete in the Gloucestershire County Closed tennis Tournament at the East Gloucestershire Tennis Club, there she reached the finals of both the girls U16s and U18s singles where she played Sophie Brazell in both finals beating her 6/4 6/0 in the U16s and 6/0 7/5 in the U18s to become County Champion in both age groups. Alicia then played with Sophie Brazell as her partner in the U16s doubles final which they won beating Sam Collins and Flora McFarlane.

ArchiTecs

Did you spot that the carved stone last month was from the oh-so-obvious front door arch of our very own Town Hall, pictured right?



This month, we really think we will catch you out.
The edifice on the left forms a lid on something pretty important, but a lid on what?

Get fit for Winter!

Winter Circuits are due to start again. Are you gearing up for a winter holiday? Do you want to ski harder, longer and without fatigue? Are you keen on sports and want to get fitter for next season? Come along to winter circuits, which focus on balance, agility, muscular strength and muscular endurance, giving a good cardio-vascular workout - a fantastic base for all sports.

Classes are run by Action Professionals with Five Valleys Physiotherapy Clinic. Join us at Painswick Rugby Club from 6.30-7.30 on Monday evenings starting from 2nd November, running through til March 2010. Places are limited. Please call Action Professionals on 01452.312724 or Five Valleys Physiotherapy Clinic on 01453.755948 for further details.



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Croft School News

Congratulation to Mrs. Hartley

We are pleased to inform you that Mrs. Hartley's baby was born on Monday, 28th September, a little girl called Maisie. Mother and baby both doing well.

- Jo Weatherall (Chair)
- Karen Ticehurst (Treasurer)
- Linda Yates (Secretary)
- Jamie Gately (Pool rep)
- Jo Lynam (Playgroup rep)
- Pete Bradshaw
- Emma Bradshaw
- Iris McCormick
- Anne Haworth
- Holly Lynall
- Veronika Dutfield
- Sam Twigg
- Alison Phillips
- Kate Parsley
- Anne Marie Randall
- Sarah Carlile
- Sally Greenwood

Harvest Festival

Thank you for your tremendous support of our Harvest Festival. The food donations were collected that afternoon and I know how grateful they were for your generosity.

McMillan Great Coffee Morning

Congratulations to Class 3 for their supreme organisation of last week's coffee morning. I was so impressed to see how they worked in their teams. A grand total of £395.40 was raised, beating last year's record figure. Thanks to all who helped on the day, made cakes or came along to support.

Milk

I have been asked to clarify the situation about school milk. If you would like your child to have milk each day, you need to arrange this yourself with Cool Milk by logging on to www.coolmilk.com or asking at the school office for a form to complete. Children under the age of 5 and those receiving free school meals are eligible to free milk, for others there is a charge.

School Council

I have been delighted to see how many children are putting themselves to stand for the School Council. It shows a great level of engagement and commitment on behalf of your children. The committee has been elected to serve for the whole year, but the other children who stood will have the chance to take part in other sub committees throughout the year. I don't know the results of the elections yet as this goes to press. I will send you a list in the next newsletter.

Reminders from Mrs Rudd

Mrs Rudd also urgently needs back your data collection sheets, if you have not already sent them. This was a green sheet sent home recently with your child's details, emergency contact numbers etc. It is vital that we have up to date information, and we have already had examples this term where we have tried to contact parents only to find that contact numbers have changed. If no changes are necessary, please just sign the form and send it back to us.

PTA Committee

We have a record number of parents serving on the PTA committee this year, which is fabulous. I am grateful to them all for their hard work for the school. They are:

School Crossing Patrol

Mrs Spicer has been transferred by our cleaning contractors to another school. The children have said goodbye to her today and we will all miss her. She will be replaced in her cleaning and care-taking duties by the contractors, but we now have to work to find a new School Crossing Patrol. I am sorry to say that until further notice the crossing will not be manned. If you know anyone who may be interested in taking on this role, maybe in a job share capacity, please let me know.

Sue Rudd, Secretary, Croft School Tel 812479

Bugsy Malone DVDs

We have a few remaining copies of our summer show, now available for the bargain price of £3. Please send the money to the school office if you would like a copy.

Absence from School

Please remember that authorised absence from school can only be granted if you apply in advance by filling in a form available from the school office or from our school website. I am able to authorise holiday absence, but I am not always able to do so. I have to consider the timing and your child's overall attendance rate when making this decision. I have noticed that several parents have requested that children leave early on a Friday in order to go away for the weekend. This does not fall within what I am allowed to authorise, and will only be agreed in exceptional cases for a specified reason.

Recycloop

We collect empty print cartridges, ink jet or laser, and old mobile phones for recycling. The money raised forms part of the budget for the school Council. Your child should have an envelope for sending in small cartridges. Please keep this until you need it or pass on to a friend or neighbour. If your place of work could donate items for us to recycle, that would be a welcome boost to the funds.


From the next newsletter onwards I will re-introduce the 'find out more about' slot. This will give you information about an aspect of school life or guidance about how to support your child's learning at home. If you would like to suggest a topic for inclusion, please email me or drop me a note.

Janet Hoyle, Headteacher



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Croft School: Calendar

TERM 2

Mon 2nd Nov	Term 2 began
Thu 5th Nov	Individual and family photographs (am)
Fri 6th Nov	Class 4 Assembly 2.30pm
9th - 11th Nov	Book Fair after school
Wed 11th Nov	Open Evening 5.00 – 7.30pm
Thu 12th Nov	Open Evening 3.30 – 6.00pm
Fri 13th Nov	Class 2 Assembly 2.30pm
Fri 20th Nov	Children in Need day
Fri 27th Nov	Class 3 Assembly 2.30pm
w/c 30th Nov	Last week of after school clubs
Wed 2nd Dec	Class 1 presentation to parents 2.30pm
Fri 4th Dec	Class 5 Assembly 2.30pm
Wed 9th Dec	Infants' Christmas show 2pm
Thu 10th Dec	Infants' Christmas show 2pm
Mon 14th Dec	Juniors' Christmas concert 7.00pm
Tue 15th Dec	Christmas lunch
Wed 16th Dec	Christmas parties
Thu 17th Dec	Pantomime trip to the Everyman Theatre 'Sleeping Beauty'
Fri 18th Dec	End of Term 2 (2.00pm)

Painswick Playgroup

My son came home wide eyed and full of wonder a few weeks ago, when I asked him what he did at playgroup, he replied in



almost a secret whisper "Beaty, has ridden on an elephant" and for a three year old, that is an impressive feat indeed. It took me back to three years ago, when my eldest son had

also come home and shared with me the exact same news, of bravery and adventure. What this news signifies, is that the current topic at playgroup is the Indian festival of Diwali and that the children are learning about India, by smelling different spices and trying on sari's, not thank goodness riding on elephants!

Playgroup is such fun and there is always so much to do and friends to play with. The children are really enjoying playgroup being open all day too and feel so grown up taking in their lunch boxes for lunch club, just like the big boys and girls next door at school!

Emma Bradshaw

Painswick Toddler Group

Every Wednesday (term-time only) from 1.30-3pm at the Painswick playgroup building, the Croft Primary School, Churchill Way. Children get to interact while mum's get to have a chat! Babies, toddlers, mums, dads or carers welcome! Prices are £1.20 per child and £1.50 for two + children. Price includes Tea/Coffee for mums and juice/biscuits for the children.

For more information please contact:

- Emma Smith 07798.672227
- Jennie Barber 07769.695772
- Rebecca Fowler 07812.215326
- Jo Living 07747.011247

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Beacon Conservation

Project Juniper

You may know that Painswick Beacon is blessed with a number of Juniper bushes, though they are all about the same age. This is worrying because it suggests that the healthy looking berries on the female plants are not resulting in successful new seedlings. Decline of Juniper across the chalk and limestone of southern England is widespread, with losses of 70-80% recorded for many counties, despite conservation effort.



Against that background it is no surprise that Juniper is a Biodiversity Action Plan priority species. Hence the project. The aim is to demonstrate effective regeneration of Juniper and associated plants by piloting three management techniques on 17 carefully selected sites. Painswick Beacon is one of these. Local site inspection and selection on the Beacon will have taken place by the time you read this. It is probable that some of the many berries will be harvested, checked for viability and sown in suitable "scrapes". Also cuttings will go to experienced nurseries for propagation.

Why are Junipers important? They are the specific host for over 40 species of invertebrates and fungi, and the aromatic berries are prized for flavouring gin and are frequently used in cooking, skin care and homeopathic preparations. And they look good.

Date for your diary

On Thursday 10th December we shall have the Painswick Beacon Conservation Group's AGM in the Church Rooms at 7.15 p.m. for 7.30 p.m. start. After the formal business, including reports on the year's activities, we expect to learn more about the Junipers and other plants from Tim Wilkins, of Plantlife, who is the project co-ordinator.

Working Party News

The first four working parties this year have made impressive progress. We have concentrated on clearing overgrowth from the extreme south-west corner of the Beacon's Site of Special Scientific Importance (SSSI). This is from the Ramblers' car park in Golf Course Road up the eastern edge of the Plantation. We expect to continue this on Saturdays November 14th and 28th and December 12th (See The Village Diary) up to and beyond the road that bisects the Plantation, by the next walker's car park. Do come and join in or as some friendly locals have done already, come and tell us what you think of our efforts. We also expect very welcome help from the Cotswold Wardens early in December. On Thursday 3rd, Tuesday 8th and Thursday 10th December they will be helping clear an area that has largely reverted to woodland. If you are likely to come (between 10 am and 4 pm) do please let me know (tel. 812624) in advance so that we can ensure there are enough tools and sufficient 'spacing-out' to ensure safe working.

David Allott, Chairman



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Christmas Fair: Saturday 14th November

Get ahead with your Christmas shopping by visiting the Painswick Centre's Christmas Fair on Saturday 14th November. A wide range of stalls are booked, selling Christmas decorations, gifts, food, handmade cards, and much, much more. The Fair will run from 10 to 4pm and admission is free. Seasonal refreshments will be available throughout the day.

The Trustees are running two stalls, for good-quality used books and toys, the proceeds from which will be devoted to the latest Centre projects. If you would like to sell any books or toys on the stalls (with a donation to the Centre) please 'phone Wendy Workman on 814022. For more information about the event or to book a stall, please contact Wendy.

Hall to Pipe in the New Year

A date has been set for the first of two major projects at the Centre, in which new heating pipework, radiators, and wood flooring will be installed. We can now confirm that the main hall (only) will be closed for business from Monday 14th December 2009 to Friday 17th January 2010. All the regular users of the main hall have been briefed about the project, which has been scheduled to minimise disruption to hirers. An appeal for funds to help with the costs will be launched next month.

Painswick Centre is First Hallmark Award-winner in Stroud District

Finally, the Trustees and all the other volunteers involved in running the Centre are delighted to receive the Level 1 Award of the Hallmark Scheme operated by Action with Communities in Rural England (ACRE). The Scheme is designed to foster the delivery of effective and well-managed village halls through a quality standards scheme backed up by a system of peer visits, which provide independent, external validation of achievement.



On behalf of the Trustees, Jane Rowe accepted congratulations and a cheque towards the Centre's work from Krista Harris, Regeneration Officer at Stroud District Council, in a presentation at a Village and Community Halls Network meeting held last month in Stone. Krista reported that the Painswick Centre is the first community hall in the District to gain a Hallmark Scheme award.

The picture (courtesy of Stroud News & Journal) shows Barbara Pond from Gloucester Rural Community Council presenting the Hallmark Award itself to Jackie Herbert, who received it on behalf of the Trustees of the Painswick Centre, at the October Parish Council meeting. Jackie commented that this was an achievement not simply for the Painswick Centre but for the local community who all share in its ownership, and expressed her thanks to the Parish Council for their continuing good advice and support throughout the year.

Gloucester Salvation Army Band Christmas Concert

Feel like a joyful evening out? Then please make space in your diary for the Gloucester Salvation Army Band which returns to the Painswick Centre for another fabulous concert of seasonal music on Friday 4th December at 7.30pm. In addition to some memorable carols for everyone to enjoy, the Band will dip into its extensive repertoire of popular and traditional music to entertain us. Refreshments will be available before the start of the concert and during the interval.

Tickets £5, in advance from The Chairman or Post Office (both New St., Painswick), or, subject to availability, on the door. Enquiries to: Jane Rowe, tel 813228.




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The AGM: Moody, powerful, grandly structured

The PMS's annual general meeting must be one of the best around. Its 2009 AGM attracted such a large attendance that extra chairs had to be found. The attraction was the excellent recital given by our local musicians Robina Sabourin, cello and Robert Burgess, piano after the AGM and they were duly rewarded.

Opening with the first movement of Brahms' Sonata Op.38, a moody, powerful and grandly structured work, with its soaring middle theme in the minor giving the cello centre stage, then giving dominance to the piano which perhaps explains why Brahms gave it the title 'Sonata for piano and cello' rather than the other way round. Robert, like Brahms himself in its first performance, 'let the piano rage on' to the consternation of his cellist, as the excellent programme notes explained, though Robert adopted a rather more considerate approach that allowed Robina to share the honours. The wistful minuet and trio of the second movement in quiet contrast, left us wanting the emotional outpouring of the final movement to complete our enjoyment.

In contrast to Brahms, Chopin was much more concerned about the balance between cello and piano, so it was good pairing to hear Chopin's Cello Sonata Op. 65 played alongside the Brahms. Here Robina showed her virtuosic abilities in the two middle movements with Robert faithful to Chopin's more restrained approach that some musicologists think un-Chopinesque. They finished with William Squire's Tarantella. Squire was one of the most popular British cellist and his Tarantella a delightfully light-hearted piece to end their programme. Altogether a very satisfying recital that left us wanting more.

As to the AGM itself, Naomi Dunn retired from the committee after having contributed seventeen years of sterling service, first as publicity officer and then as secretary for which she was most heartily thanked by chairman, Lawrence Turner. Ann Williams, who proposed a vote of thanks to Robina and Robert, and Chris Swain joined the committee. Oh yes – and Barbara Thorley told us the Kings Singers will feature in the 2011 season but before that the 2010 season has Tasmin Little with her violin.

Maurice Maggs

The Fifth was the best!

That was the general opinion of the audience that filled St.Mary's Church, Painswick to listen to a programme of Russian Sacred and Folk Music sung by the "Voskresenije" (Resurrection) Vocal Ensemble from St. Petersburg on their fifth annual visit on 13th October. It takes its name from the city's beautiful Resurrection Cathedral and was founded in 1993 by its conductor Jurij Maruk, former choirmaster of the St. Petersburg Radio and Television Choir. Some of the members have been with him since the beginning and whenever younger members leave to develop their career, the group is refreshed by recruitment from the St. Petersburg Conservatoire.

They are on a two-month tour of Britain and coupled with a month in Switzerland and six weeks in Germany and Austria, this is an exhausting schedule.

No exhaustion was noticeable in the unaccompanied singing by the eight vocalists – tenors, baritone, basso profundo (gorgeously Russian!), sopranos and alto – who were a delight to hear. The first half was devoted to sacred vocal pieces: three by Rachmaninoff, with the fifth movement of the All-Night Vigil outstanding, Archangelsky, Tschesnokov, Verdi and Saint-Saens, each with a different soloist.

The second half, with the lady singers now wearing traditional Russian shawls, was devoted to Folk Music, a traditional music culture for many generations as well as a demonstration of the contemporary artistic creativity of the Russian people, with each folk tune introduced by the choir.

So ended a most enjoyable concert which raised over £600 for Christian Aid.

Ralph Kenber

Glazunov remembered

"Glazunov was a great but now largely forgotten musician composer" is how Maurice Maggs succinctly summed it up in his excellent, most professional wide-ranging presentation of the composer's music on 1st October.

He first burst upon the Russian musical world as an astonishingly precocious boy whose first of his eight(!) symphonies he had started on at the age of 14, was endowed with remarkable musical gifts and astonishing mastery of technical aspects and became one of the greatest composers of chamber music Russia has produced. After initially associating with innovative Russian nationalist composers, towards the end of his career he came to be regarded as a member of the old school, of living in the past and he made no secret of being a musical conservative.

He is mainly known today for "The Seasons", a ballet in three scenes and his challenging violin concerto. We heard recordings of these and of many of his other works, beginning with that astonishing First Symphony.

Like the other listeners, I learned a lot – and enjoyed a lot!

Ralph Kenber

George Lloyd discovered

The Group were given a very interesting presentation by Ian Hiscock about the relatively unknown English composer George Lloyd, 1913-1998. Ian drew our attention to several other - neglected-English composers who had written interesting pieces.

Lloyd was born at St Ives. At the age of 21, he composed an opera Iernin, first performed in Penzance. It tells the story of how one of the stones in the Nine Maidens circle came to life as Cunaide. We heard extracts; its music is wild and mystical. Cunaide met a hunting party and fell in love with Prince Gerent. Unhappily, she was held to be a witch and was chased away, and she turned back into stone. In 1935 Iernin was performed in London, where it was a great success.

Lloyd also composed several symphonies, and we heard extracts from two of them. Ian introduced us to Lloyd's Symphonic Mass (1993), a powerful piece. Other works included a Requiem for organ and choir, and a Concerto for violin and strings which Ian took us through. Its first three movements all involve what Ian called a "despair motive", which however is resolved in the fourth movement.

We heard some beautiful music and Ian's presentation was sensitive and coherent.

Richard Burges Watson



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Jo Beard

Tucked into the Personal Column on the back page of our last issue we congratulated Jo Beard of Gloucester Road in Painswick upon national recognition of her services to those with macular disease. She has, for eight years, been organiser of the Stroud group of the Macular Disease Society, and shown here with the Chairman of that Society Peter White, presenter of BBC Radio 4 'In Touch' programme, in London just before we went to press. Incidentally, Peter first presented Radio 4's programme for visually impaired listeners back in 1974, and has been blind since birth.

Behind every brief mention of this sort lies much more of a story, and this is no exception. Jo has lived in Painswick for over ten years and first became involved with the Society as her first husband John Brazier suffered from a rare form of macular disease and started losing his sight in his forties. Having 'jumped through all the hoops' with John, she felt that she might be able to make a contribution by helping those with sight loss to access the extensive help and support that she knew was available.

Macular disease involves the loss of central vision and is the most common form of sight loss in the industrialised world; in the United Kingdom more than half a million people are thought to be affected by MD which is usually age related. It can be a frightening and disabling condition but the Society can help by making people aware of such things as the local Sensory Services team from Social Services, the benefits service run by the Department of Work and Pensions, audio books, newspapers and magazines, electronic reading equipment and magnifiers (Stroud MD group has some of this equipment available for members to use at home), the free BT directory enquiries service, daily living aids, plus local guided walks, the hotels run for sight impaired people and their families, and the audio-described performances arranged by the Everyman Theatre Cheltenham which the Stroud group members much enjoy. Also in Cheltenham there is the County Association for the Blind who have a visitor and befriending service as well as an excellent resource centre which Stroud group members visit regularly.

The 2009 MD Society's awards scheme was the first ever of its kind and Jo was one of a group of doctors, nurses, eye clinic



staff, rehabilitation workers, fund raisers and volunteers. Said Jo "I was delighted and quite humbled to be chosen for such a prestigious honour, but our group members have given me so much and I know that macular disease gives most of them a tough time. I am lucky to work with RNIB campaigners and with St. Dunstan's and locally to have the sympathetic ear of our M.P. David Drew who asks the right questions for us in the Commons and answers any SOS I send him".

The Stroud group meet at Nailsworth on the third Wednesday morning of every month and members find the fellowship and social contact a truly beneficial experience. There are three Painswick residents among the 45 group members, and there are 16 gentlemen in the group - which is unusual. "I must be doing something right!" says Jo. "And we do have a new chap from Richmond - more from Richmond would be welcome".

To end on a very happy note, Jo was married last spring at St. Matthew's Church in Cainscross to John Beard, a Stroud resident whom she met at U3A and who is helping the County Blind Association to run Stroud Blind Club in Stonehouse.

Please phone Jo on 813594, or Doug Harris on 01453.823178, if you want more information about any aspect of macular disease or the Society. You too will be talking to someone who is permanently optimistic and up-beat.

LWB

Getting plastered with David



David Judd is a real enthusiast about so much of his work. He is a perfectionist and takes great pride in a job well done. What does he do? David is a plasterer who has been lucky enough to work on some amazing buildings including the British Museum, many fine churches and ambassadors' houses. He also points out that he, of course, brings the same professional approach to all his work however modest or small.

From the age of 18, he developed his skills with Bowmans, a large company famous for their specialist refurbishment work in the City and the West End of London. He considers himself lucky because, by the time he decided to work for himself, he had acquired a truly broad range of skills of the trade. From ornate refurbishment to straightforward plastering, from old to contemporary, David's work is always interesting and his enthusiasm doesn't wane.

Husband of Karen Judd, our new post mistress, David at present can be with his family only at weekends because his work is still largely based in the London area. Naturally his aim is to find enough work locally to be able to live permanently in Painswick and to become truly part of the community. With such a professional approach and so much skill to offer, we're sure this aim will soon be achieved.

Carol Maxwell

Beacon subscribers		
as at 21st October	2009 - 2010	This date last year
New or renewed after lapsing	74	63
Renewed from last year	492	517
Total including postal	566	580

BEACO-DOKU

Derived from Sudoku, Beaco-doku replaces the numbers with letters.

Last month's answer used the letters from CONKER - as you can see, bottom right.

In November, we remember 'gunpowder, treason and plot' and that Guy Fawkes. So, as a tribute to all those who, at some time in their lives, have wanted to blow up Parliament, see if you can fill the blank squares in the grid below so that each column, each row and each block of six squares contains each of the six letters, F-A-W-K-E-S, without repetition.

S				W	
		A			S
	W			S	
		S			
				F	
				A	E

R	E	C	O	N	K
N	K	O	C	E	R
O	N	K	E	R	C
E	C	R	N	K	O
K	O	E	R	C	N
C	R	N	K	O	E

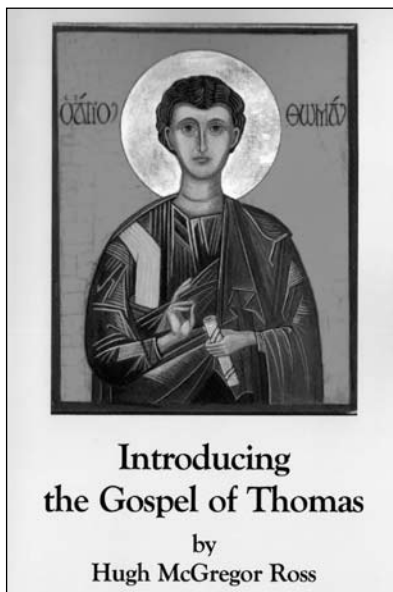
Hugh on Thomas

In his 92nd year Hugh McGregor Ross has just published a new book, called *Introducing the Gospel of Thomas*.

This Gospel discovered in Egypt in 1945 records 114 sayings of one of the Great Souls of mankind, most of them unfamiliar to us. This book starts you on the Gospel. It tells how the ancient document was created and hidden in the sands of Egypt for sixteen centuries, and how it was discovered and escaped destruction. It also offers a fresh perspective on spiritual concepts that are directly relevant today.

It is available as an e-book (details from 813072) as well as a normal printed book from

The Little Fleece and all other bookshops.



Angela on Christmas

"Last week I was allocated to the Social Work Department in the hilltop town of Bethlehem where I was asked to deal with a very bizarre case. As you will know there are a lot of visitors in the town at the present in connection with the 0001 census..."

So begins the first humorous tale on a Christmassy theme in *Prose, Poems and Puzzles for a Modern Christmas*, written, published and printed by Angela Newing. Angela has been recounting her stories at the Painswick Singer's Christmas Concert for a number of years and many people, including myself, have asked to have copies or in my case whether we could publish one in The Beacon. So now she has gone one better and published herself! There are 12 stories and a number of poems and quizzes all written or devised by Angela. The booklet costs £1.50 from the Post Office or from Angela on 814360. All profits will go to the Painswick Singers.

How does the story end?

"I tried to e-mail an urgent report on this case but there is nowhere to plug in my laptop and I cannot get a signal on my mobile. I predict a very difficult and uncertain future for this baby. He is 'at risk' and should immediately be placed on the Child Protection Register."

Charles Dorman

'Christmas Crackers'



There will be a pre-Christmas Sale of Paintings, Plants, Original Cards and other goodies by two 'Stroud Open Studio Artists' - Carolyn Galloway and Penny Payne at Painswick Town Hall on 28th and 29th November, from 10.00am to 4.00pm.

Everything very affordable. The perfect Christmas gift! All most welcome.



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Where on Earth is Heaven?

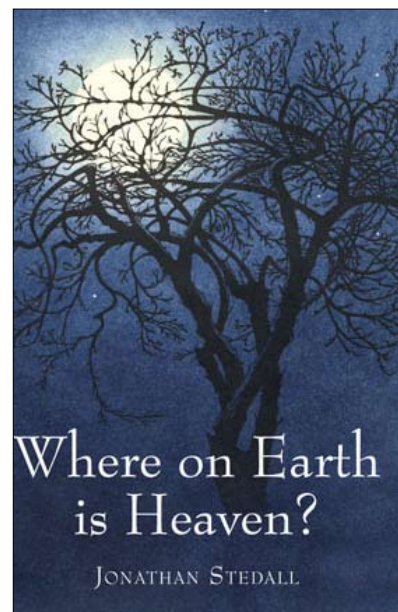
Yesterday, Friday December 4th, at 8.00pm, local author Jonathan Stedall, gave a short talk at The Space in Stroud about his new book 'Where on Earth is Heaven?'. This was followed by a 50 minute film made up from clips from his work as a documentary film-maker. He said that it was this experience as an observer and listener over many years that he draws upon in addressing the question posed by his title – a question asked by his young son over twenty years ago.

Working at the BBC alongside some of the most thoughtful and creative minds of our time – John Betjeman (pictured right), Laurens van der Post, E.F.Schumacher, Malcolm Muggeridge, Mark Tully and Alan Bennett – Jonathan's quest has taken him into the African bush,



by train to Arcadia with the Nigerian poet Ben Okri, and by bicycle into the lanes of Cornwall. He says that whether in Romania for Easter, among the hill temples of northern India, or on the streets of San Francisco, it has often been encounters with so-called ordinary people that have enriched his search.

His films about Tolstoy, Gandhi and Jung, and about the educational and curative work inspired by the insights of Rudolf Steiner, have also been milestones on this journey. He comments, "Where on Earth is Heaven? is essentially a personal journey that mirrors, I believe, the remarkable upsurge of interest in spirituality today. Among the themes I address are life after death, the evolution of consciousness, reincarnation and karma, eternity and infinity, the seven phases of life, angels and demons, dying and becoming, creation and creativity, and the age-old saying: As above, so below."



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Roy Bryce Welbourn

March 1948 – 25 September 2009

Roy's sudden death was a great shock to his family, many friends and neighbours so it is fitting that his tribute should appear in



The Painswick Beacon, which he distributed for many years.

Roy was well known around the village for his wicked sense of humour and fondness for practical jokes, which brightened up the lives of many. He took an active part in the community by helping people in various ways. Some examples are delivering water during the 2007 floods, welcoming new

neighbours, clearing the churchyard and volunteering in the Benefice Office.

He enjoyed playing the part of the Chairman in the Centenary Music Hall at the Painswick Centre, pictured below.

Roy was born in Cheltenham and trained as an actor and teacher at the Rose Bruford College of Speech and Drama. He had a passion for the spoken word and enjoyed providing voice-overs for radio and television. Having obtained a BA(Hons) and then an MSc at the University of Bristol, he became a training and development manager for many companies and charities, including The Children's Society.

Many will cherish their own memories of Roy and he will be sadly missed, especially by his wife Susan and daughters Anna and Fiona.



Gold from Green

St Annes Bed and Breakfast has received the prestigious Gold Leaf Award from The Green Tourism Business Scheme.

In 2006, when it was introduced into the South West, St Annes and The Rococo Gardens were amongst the very first tourism businesses to join the scheme which monitors the green credentials

and carbon footprint of participating tourism businesses.

Iris McCormick, who runs the B&B with husband, Greg, said "Following this year's environmental audit, we were thrilled to be rewarded with the Gold Leaf standard. We have really enjoyed being part of this scheme. Our guests express genuine interest and appreciation for the measures we take to reduce our environmental impact. Since a large proportion of our guests are walking the Cotswold Way, they already have a real respect and love of nature which fits well with our green ethos."



PROPERTY REPORT for October from Murrays

A glimmer of light has finally spread across the housing market. House sales have continued to rise for the third consecutive month, fuelled by cheap borrowing rates and more importantly a shortage of homes coming to the market. Halifax has reported a 1.6 per cent increase in prices in September throughout the UK, which has increased speculation that this will accelerate hopes of a market recovery. This is obviously good news for us, as we at Murrays have seen a large increase in our sales over the past few months. People have seen a more positive view from the media on the housing market urging them that it is a very good time to buy and there are still plenty of bargains out there to be found. This time last year when the housing market was nearly at its lowest many people decided to go into rented and wait for the market to "bottom out", this may well now be the case and we are seeing more and more proceedable buyers coming out of rented and looking for property to invest their money in. The biggest trouble that we are having now is that we are not replacing the stock that we are selling and really need some more property to offer people. So if you are thinking of selling and are not sure about doing so at this time of year then please ask us to pop along and give you a free valuation and some advice about what to do. There is never a wrong time to put your house on the market as you never know who is going to come through the office door and what they might be looking for!

Despite the lack of property around we have taken on some lovely new properties including Doveton Lodge, an immaculate four bedroom house in Hambutts Mead, Heatherbank, a very spacious six bedroom detached family house with lovely views, 16 Gyde House, a very smart two bedroom apartment within The Gyde, Jays Hill, a lovely three bedroom bungalow in The Park, 32 Ashwell, a well presented three bedroom house with views to Longridge and 3 Winnycroft Cottages, a large attached four bedroom house with lots of potential in Upton-St-Leonards.

Properties that are currently under offer are Greenhouse Barn on Greenhouse Lane, Kingsmill Lane Cottage, Brookhouse Mill Cottage also on Greenhouse Lane, Inglenook Cottage in Pitchcombe and Sunny Bank in Whaddon, and properties that have now sold are 2 Churchill Way and 15 Hyett Orchard.

James C Murray



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NOVEMBER

Sat	7	Sue Ryder Care Christmas Fair <i>Landscapes & Seascapes at Home and Abroad</i> Oils & watercolours by Angela Cash & Roger Jones (+ Sun 8th)	Town Hall Town Hall	9.45am to 12.00noon 10.00am to 5.00pm
Sun	8	Remembrance Sunday Service	St Mary's Church	10.50am
Mon	9	Probus visit to Bletchley Park Short Mat Bowls - Mondays. Tel: 813627 Community Lunch: Hosts - Puffins Yoga (Mondays) contact Kim 812623	Stamages Car Park Town Hall Christ Church Hall Sheepscombe Vill. Hall	8.00am 10.30am 12 noon to 1.15pm 6.30 to 8.00pm & 8.15 to 9.45pm
Tue	10	Dog Training Club (Tuesdays)	Christ Church Hall	9.30 to 12.00noon
Wed	11	Remembrance Day Civic Service Yoga (Wednesdays) contact Kim 812623 Bingo: Wednesdays - Tel. Ann, 813911/Liz, 813139 Bird Club: A Calendar of British Wildlife - Andy Purcell	War Memorial Sheepscombe Vill. Hall Painswick Centre Town Hall	10.50am 9.30 to 11.00am 7.30 to 10.00pm 7.30pm
Thu	12	Yoga - All Abilities (Thursdays) Cotswold Room 812623 T'ai Chi: Thursdays - Contact 812344 Jolly Stompers Line Dancing: Beginners - Thursdays Experienced beginners - Thursdays Music Appreciation Group: Handel - Alex Nichols	Painswick Centre Town Hall Town Hall Town Hall Town Hall Cotswold Room, Painswick Centre	9.30 to 11.00am 9.30am 12.00 to 1.00pm 12.30 to 1.30pm 7.30pm
Fri	13	Country Market - Coffee available - Every Friday	Town Hall	10.00am
Sat	14	Painswick Beacon Conservation Group scrub clearance working party. (location check 812709) Christmas Shopping and Pamper Fair (enquiries to 814022) Black Tie Dinner and Auction of Favours	Painswick Beacon Painswick Centre Richmond Painswick	10.00am to 1.00pm 10.00am to 5.00pm
Mon	16	Community Lunch: Hosts - Catholic Church	Christ Church Hall	12 noon to 1.15pm
Tue	17	Cotswold Care Fashion Show Local History Society: Folk Music and Songs of the Cotswolds - Gwilym Davies	Painswick Golf Club Croft School	7.00pm 7.30pm
Wed	18	Probus: Evolutionary Pessimisms - HG and Other Wells - Roger Hennessey Ashwell House Day Centre Coffee Morning Parish Council	Shires Room, Falcon Ashwell House Town Hall	10.00am 10.30am to 12.00noon 7.30pm
Thu	19	Churches Together AGM and Speakers	Church Rooms	7.30pm
Fri	20	Friday Club AGM followed by "Handbell Ringing" with Steve Colman	Town Hall	1.45pm (AGM)
Sat	21	Copy dateline for December Beacon Christian Aid Coffee Morning	Town Hall	10.00am to 12noon
Mon	23	Community Lunch: Hosts - Women's Fellowship	Christ Church Hall	12 noon to 1.15pm
Tue	24	Yew Trees W.I.: Annual Meeting and Talk on Traidcraft	Town Hall	7.30pm
Thu	26	Music Appreciation Group: Ivor Gurney - presented by Philip Lancaster	Cotswold Room, Painswick Centre	7.30pm
Sat	28	Painswick Beacon Conservation Group scrub clearance working party. (location check 812709)	Painswick Beacon	10.00am to 1.00pm
Mon	30	Community Lunch: Hosts - Christian Aid Group	Christ Church Hall	12 noon to 1.15pm

DECEMBER

Tue	1	Juniper Hill scrub-clearing work party. Contact 813823 Sparkling Christmas Sale - ends Friday 4th.	foot of Juniper Hill, Wick Street Patchwork Mouse	9.45am 1.00am to 5.00pm
Wed	2	Probus: The Archers at Agincourt - Ian Shapter	Shires Room, Falcon	10.00am
Thu	3	Cotswold Care Fundraising Group Christmas Dinner		7.00pm
Fri	4	Croft School PTA Christmas Fair Friday Club Outing to Bath Christmas Market Salvation Army Brass Band Seasonal Concert - enquiries to 813228	Croft School Painswick Centre	3.30 to 6.00pm 7.30pm
Sat	5	December Issue of The Painswick Beacon published Conservatives Xmas Party and Quiz - Drinks, canapes & mince pies. Tickets £6. Tel: 814239 / 813848	Town Hall	7.00pm



		Painswick Players present <i>The Affair of Lady Fairfax, The Fifteen Minute Hamlet & One Month To Pay or, The Sailor's Return</i> for members, family and friends.	Cotswold Room, Painswick Centre	7.30pm
Mon	7	Community Lunch: Hostess - Margaret Hodge	Christ Church Hall	12 noon to 1.15pm
Wed	9	Probus: Christmas Dinner	The Hill, Stroud	
Thu	10	Music Appreciation Group: Christmas Social	Cotswold Room, Painswick Centre	7.30pm
Sat	12	Painswick Beacon Conservation Group scrub clearance working party. (location check 812709)	Painswick Beacon	10.00am to 1.00pm
	12	Theatre Club visit to Malvern	Stamages Car Park	1.00pm
		Handel's Messiah performed by Wycliffe Choral Society, conducted by Christopher Swain	St Mary's Church	7.30pm
Tue	15	Yew Trees W.I.: Christmas Gathering	Town Hall	7.30pm
Fri	18	Friday Club Christmas Lunch		
Sat	19	Painswick Singers Christmas Concert: followed by mince pies & mulled wine	Christ Church	7.30pm
Mon	21	Christmas Carol Singing around Painswick for Lideta – Meet at Gyde for mince pies and mulled wine before setting out	Gyde House	5.30pm

2010

JANUARY

Wed	6	Probus: The Severn Bore - Chris Witts	Shires Room, Falcon	10.00am
Thu	7	Music Appreciation Group: Haydn - Howard Allen	Cotswold Room, Painswick Centre	7.30pm
Tue	19	Local History Society: Early English Allotments - John Looseley	Croft School	7.30pm
Wed	20	Probus: County Air Rescue Trust Bird Club field trip to Cotswold Water Park	Shires Room, Falcon Gateway Centre	10.00am 10.30am
Thu	21	Music Appreciation Group: Surprise - Iain Cooper	Cotswold Room, Painswick Centre	7.30pm

FEBRUARY

Wed	3	Probus: You Cannot be Serious - Brian Partridge	Shires Room, Falcon	10.00am
Thu	4	Music Appreciation Group: Chamber Music - Norma Kay	Cotswold Room, Painswick Centre	7.30pm
Thu	11	Bird Club: The Wildlife of Shetland - David Scott-Langley	Town Hall	7.30pm
Tue	16	Local History Society: Old Paths of Gloucestershire - Alan Pilbeam	Croft School	7.30pm
Wed	17	Probus: You Will Remember This - A Musical Journey - Ron Nott. Joint meeting with the Ladies	Church Rooms	11.00am
Thu	18	Music Appreciation Group: A Good Blow - Robert Nichols	Cotswold Room, Painswick Centre	7.30pm

MARCH

Tue	2	Music Appreciation Group: Concert Outing to Birmingham Symphony Hall	Birmingham	7.30pm
Wed	3	Probus: A World of Men - The Great White South - Ken Gibson	Shires Room, Falcon	10.00am
Thu	11	Bird Club: Islands of the Indian Ocean - David Cramp	Town Hall	7.30pm
Tue	16	Local History Society: Streetwise - Exploring Towns - Aylwin Sampson	Croft School	7.30pm
Thu	18	Music Appreciation Group: Strike up the Band - Michael Kerton	Cotswold Room, Painswick Centre	7.30pm
Sat	27	Painswick Music Society Concert - Tasmin Little (violin) & John Lenehan (piano)	St Mary's Church	3.00pm

APRIL

Thu	1	Music Appreciation Group	Richmond, Painswick	7.30pm
Sat	10	Painswick Music Society Concert: The Carducci Quartet	St Mary's Church	3.00pm
Tue	20	Local History Society: Research Evening	Croft School	7.30pm
Thu	22	Music Appreciation Group: Concert Outing to Colston Hall	Bristol	7.30pm
Sat	24	Painswick Music Society Concert: The Talich Quartet	St Mary's Church	3.00pm
Thu	29	Music Appreciation Group: Members Night	Cotswold Room, Painswick Centre	7.30pm

MAY

Sat	8	Painswick Music Society Concert: Jayson Gillham, Piano	St Mary's Church	3.00pm
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NEW APPLICATIONS

ST MICHAEL'S COTTAGE, PARADISE. Two storey extension to rear of existing property.

RICHMOND VILLAGE CENTRE, STROUD ROAD. Variation of condition 23 of Outline Planning Permission S.01/450 to allow construction of an overflow car park on area formerly used by contractors.

HYETT ORCHARD, HYETT CLOSE. Works to lime tree.

OLD HOUSE, NEW STREET. Internal and external alterations.

WEE COTTAGE, NEW STREET. Internal and external alterations.

CONSENT

OLD EBWORTH FARMHOUSE, THE CAMP, SHEEPSCOMBE. Installation of 6 no. solar panels and a new twin wall flue.

THE TYTHE BARN, PAINSWICK COURT, SHEEPSCOMBE. Erection of Garaging/Storage (existing stables to be demolished).

PYLL HOUSE, SHEEPSCOMBE. Erection of detached car port and workshop building.

PYLL BARN, JACKS GREEN, SHEEPSCOMBE. Erection of a single storey outbuilding for the storage of garden tools and machinery. Alterations to existing wall and erection of new section of wall.

LITTLE PLACE, HOLLYHOCK LANE To trim, reduce height & spread of TPO 317a.

SPRINGFIELD LODGE, SLAD. Erection of open oak framed porch with pitched roof, erection of dormer window in place of existing rooflight and modification of chimney stack on south side of property.

STONECHAT COTTAGE, NEW STREET. Roof alterations to store areas to include insertion of skylight, works to improve timber outbuilding and erection of shed and pergola to property within the curtilage of a listed building.

3 WORDINGS MOUNT, SHEEPSCOMBE. Retrospective application for the extension to dwelling and cladding with natural stone (revised application following permission S.08/1208/FUL).

RICHMOND VILLAGE CENTRE, STROUD ROAD. Replacement of existing rooflights with dormers and addition of new dormers.

BEECHVIEW, FAR END, SHEEPSCOMBE. Erection of a replacement dwelling. (Revised application following permission S.09/0381/FUL)

RICHMOND VILLAGE, STROUD ROAD. Widening 4 no. dormer windows. Lengthening 4 no. rooflights. Adding 2 no. lancet windows. Replacing an external door.

CROSSINGS, LONGRIDGE, SHEEPSCOMBE. Proposed two storey rear extension and raised deck.

PLAN WITHDRAWN

HYETT ORCHARD, HYETT CLOSE. Remedial works to 2 no lime trees (TPO 317).

PLANNING PERMISSION GRANTED AFTER APPEAL

BEACON HEIGHTS, CHELTENHAM ROAD. Erection of replacement dwelling.

APPEAL DISMISSED

COTSWOLD HEIGHTS, CHELTENHAM ROAD. Erection of 1.4m metal railing.

MINI-ADS

Horse wanted to buy or loan: Desperately seeking a 15hh+ horse for long term loan or purchase by competent adult rider. Must be safe and sensible while hacking. Edge: 813040 (evenings)

Aquarium wanted: 3ft+ aquarium and cabinet wanted. No fish required but gravel etc would be useful. Edge: 813040 (evenings)

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For sale: Habitat circular metal garden table (700 mm) and two chairs. Excellent condition. £35.00. Phone 814004

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The Sharpening Service. Kitchen knives, garden tools and rotary mower blades. For free advice and a quotation, telephone Rupert Miles at Bisley on 01452 770788

Dynamic Yoga Class at Pitchcombe Village Hall. Classes on Tuesday evenings 7.00 to 8.30pm. All ages and abilities welcome. Class costs £8.00. Contact Rob on 01452.503262

Sparkling Sale at the Patchwork Mouse. Party clothes, Stocking fillers, Christmas tree gifts, Cards and lots, lots more. Starts Tuesday, 1st December, ends Friday 4th. Open 10.00am to 5.00pm each day.

For Sale - Philicorda electric organ. V good condition with manuals and stool. Offers. tel 814186.

Pool table 6' x 3' Hand built, sturdy, folding. Balls included. £190. tel 814186.

Wanted car seat for baby due at Christmas(!) Tel 812167.

MINI-ADS - Free to subscribers.

For non-subscribers there is a flat charge of £5.00. For commercial/business mini-ads priority and space constraints apply.

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The Personal Column

Rachel Taylor and Jenny Gaugain

Baby

Congratulations to ANDY and ELOISE COULSON on the birth of their son Finn Anthony David on October 20th, a brother for Harvey and Monty and a third grandson for David and Helen Patrick.

Welcome

We would like to welcome Mrs AUDREY MORELAND who has moved from Cirencester to Richmond;

also Mr FREDERICK SNOWDEN (*pictured*) who has moved from Chelmsford, Essex, and who, although 88, has already undertaken a Poppy round. Mr Snowden's daughter, Katherine Davies, and family live at Rudge House, Edge Lane.

Farewell

We are sorry to say goodbye to JIM and MARGARET HODGE who are moving back to Scotland, with their daughter, Emma.

Change of House

JOE and ANNE JAMES are moving from Ashleigh, Gloucester St to Gloucester Rd.

Get well soon

We hope for a speedy recovery to MARY PAGE and GORDON ANDERSON who have been in hospital recently.

Condolences

Our sincere sympathies go to the family and friends of KEITH CRANE, BARRY RAE, MARGUERITE MAY, LILY COURTS and MARJORIE SPEED who have all died recently.



Personal Messages

Freda Huddleston wishes to thank all her friends for their kindness and good wishes during her time in hospital.

Susan, Anna and Fiona Welbourn would like to thank all their friends and neighbours for their love and support following the sudden death of Roy on 25 September 2009.

They are deeply touched by the cards, letters of condolence and flowers received. Painswick is such a caring community and they are grateful to everyone who visited and telephoned during this time.

Our most sincere thanks to Revd David Newell, Revd John Longuet-Higgins, David Archard and Jean and David Ryland.

Keith and June Crane. Elizabeth, Sue and their families would like to thank all of Keith's neighbours and friends for the love and support over the last few years and at the time of his death on 26th September.

We are devastated to have lost both of our wonderful parents in a matter of 10 short months. We are however, thankful that they are both no longer suffering and are sure that they are together once more.

We would very much like to thank all those who visited Keith during his time in hospital and recently when he was at The Richmond Care Home. He spoke of the visits and they certainly cheered him up.

We have been comforted by all the cards and letters we have received and we appreciate how much our parents will be missed in Painswick.

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Beacon Committee

Co-ordinating Editor this month

Jack Burgess 812167

jackb@painswick.net

Personal Column

Rachel Taylor 813402

rachel212@btinternet.com

Jenny Gaugain 812599

f.gaugain@sky.com

Diary

Edwina Buttrey 812565

em-m.buttrey@virgin.net

Feature writers

Carol Maxwell 813387

Carolmaxwell@talktalk.net

Jack Burgess 812167

jackb@painswick.net

Leslie Brotherton 813101

mr@lesliebrotherton.com

Sport

Terry Parker 812191

terence5545@btinternet.com

Advertising

Dermot Cassidy 813737

dermot@painswick1.freemove.co.uk

Distribution

Celia Lougher 812624

celia@lloydstone.plus.com

Treasurer

Richard Aspinall 812379

rgrasp@tiscali.co.uk

Subscriptions

Shirley Clark 812378

shirclark@talktalk.net

Quiz

Charles Dorman 814548

chasdorm@googlemail.com

Directory

Carol Maxwell 813387

Carolmaxwell@talktalk.net

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