

The Painswick Beacon

Sine praeiudicio

Volume 33 Number 2

May 2010

Parliamentary elections

Hustings came to Painswick, maybe seeking the 'grey' vote, when the five candidates for the Stroud Constituency faced this sector of the electorate at Richmond Painswick on 19th April.

For well over two hours, much longer than Radio Gloucestershire - who chaired and recorded the proceedings - anticipated, the opening statements by each candidate gave rise to questioning upon policies by an audience mainly drawn from those resident on site. That said, many attended from elsewhere in the village even though it had been difficult to circulate invitations to groups at quite short notice.

The Beacon refrains from observation upon relative 'performance' by the candidates or how they fielded questions upon such as health, education, defence and care expenditure, and broadening to consider the realities of controlling immigration, the necessity for so many MPs in Westminster, the West Lothian question of Scottish MPs voting upon English matters where the opposite does not apply since the considerable measure of devolution, inheritance taxation policies and the increasing pressures to devolve decision-making to local communities.

Five of the candidates are shown here, with but a fraction of the audience, left to right Graham Gardner from BBC Radio Gloucestershire - Chairman, David Drew - Labour and Co-operative, Dennis Andrewartha - Liberal Democrats, Martin Whiteside - Green Party, Steve Parker - UKIP and Neil Carmichael - Conservative Party.



**Polling
Day**
Thursday 6th May
7.00am until 10.00pm

District Council elections

The Painswick Ward of Stroud District Council elects two to represent the village itself, together with Edge, Slad, Sheepscombe, and the neighbouring settlements of Cranham, Miserden and Pitchcombe - a total of about 3500.

The seat occupied by District Councillor Barbara Tait is not due for contest this year, but that of Frances Roden is.

The candidates who have put their names forward are Frances Roden - Conservative Party, Peter Ralph Adams - Green Party and Joan Moore - Labour and Co-operative.

Annual Parish Meeting

This is being held on Wednesday 5th May, starting at 7.30pm, in the Town Hall.

This is the yearly occasion when all parishioners can hear reports from their elected representatives and question them on relevant issues.

Painswick closed - from 1st June

Details are set out on page 4 of the closure, from Monday 1st June, of the section of New Street between Victoria Square and the junction with Cheltenham Road. From the same date the section between Victoria Square and the Lych Gate/Edge Road will be controlled by temporary traffic signals.

We must brace ourselves for several weeks.

On other pages this month - gardens by coach, new assistant to the clerk, councillor co-opted, any ash mail, Christian Aid prog, toddlers and brownies, some tarmac reserved, our under 17s in national final, local snowboarder extraordinary, crumbly banana bits, a walker heading our way, local technology illuminated, your allotment views still requested, cava man, more with bonnets, and Fiddlers Elbow latest.

PLANNING COMMITTEE

Washwell Farm

Consideration was given to a re-submitted application, the previous one refused by the District Council and unsupported by the Parish Council, for a dwelling to be erected at this Cheltenham Road farm. Members were reminded of its being outside the village envelope, but that there was precedent for conditional approval; further, a Section 106 planning gain had now been offered.

After lengthy discussion it was decided, upon a vote, in which the two non-Painswick councillors present were advised that they could only abstain, to reaffirm their support for the application but to point out that the application was against current SDC policies.

New powers

The Chairman, David Hudson, reported upon information received from central government that new powers were intended for delegation to parish and town councils within which they might themselves determine planning applications, without reference to such as SDC, where affordable housing schemes were being advanced. No firm authority has yet been devolved.

PARISH COUNCIL

Housing needs survey

The Council received a written and verbal report from Martin Hutchings of Gloucestershire Rural Community Council upon this survey which had been mailed to every household in the civil parish.

This lengthy report will, it is hoped, be reviewed in the next issue of the Beacon consequent upon the Council having agreed the recommendations that it be made public (*see page 20*), that copy be made available to the District Council, and that arrangements be made to walk parts of all settlements of the parish with Mr Hutchings in order to identify potential sites for affordable homes.

Parish Plan

Ela Pathak-Sen reported that the Plan's working group, comprising herself, Martin Slinger and Terry Parker, had agreed to advance the updating of the plan under 15 themes. They anticipated co-opting one or two others, and names were mentioned, but would welcome offers of volunteers in-

terested in aspects of such a document.

Allotment review

Caroline White reported that the dateline for public comment within the consultation about seven sites identified for allotments (*see page 4 of the last issue*) had been extended to 14th May (*see official notice on page 19*) consequent upon there not having been clarity in the published documents about Site F being '... in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, within a Conservation Area, outside the Development Boundary'. Letters on the matter had been received from Leonard Chittenden and Maurice Maggs, the latter on behalf of the Conservation Society, contending that the omission invalidated any public comments and that the site should therefore be withdrawn from the list. It was noted by Mrs White that when responses had been received they would be 'scored' and those relating to that site and its being in a conservation area given due weighting. After lengthy discussion it was agreed to continue with the consultation as now re-arranged.

Assistant Clerk

It was reported that Irena Litton had been appointed to this post. (*See report and picture opposite.*)

Library

Terry Parker reported that arrangements had been made to meet the request of the Head of the GCC Library Services, David Paynter, to see the premises, the old LloydsTSB in Bisley Street, for which the Council is currently negotiating the option of a lease for one year in the first instance. Pressed to indicate what might be GCC policy towards library service provision in the future, Mr Paynter had declined to comment on the subject until after the period of the current consultation (all residents have received a questionnaire) on 4th June. He stated that the mobile library would continue for the foreseeable future and the outcome of the survey would be made known in the first week of September.

Letters received from Tony Bradley and Leslie Brotherton were read to the meeting, the letters referring solely to the Stroud Road premises. Mr Bradley contended that the Parish Council is obliged to represent the long term interests of the community and that the retention of the Stroud Road premises is important in that regard. Leslie Brotherton's sought to reinforce his previous urging that the Council does not associate itself with GCC in disposal of the premises while avenues for its retention for community use are analysed in a business-like manner.

Terry Parker reported having spoken with GCC officers and been assured no action to dispose of the premises would be taken before other County Council departments had indicated whether they had interest in the premises. County Councillor Nash reported that the local petition to keep housed library services in Painswick had been passed to the GCC

Cabinet portfolio holder and Mrs Nash regretted that the consultative and decision-making process was taking so long. Ela Pathak-Sen wondered whether GCC might meet part of the first year cost of leasing and operating a form of relocated library in the LloydsTSB premises. Mr Parker reminded the meeting that there being a pathway between the car park and the churchyard was a long held desire of the Parish Council and that the PCC were hoping to discuss such with the Parish Council in the near future alongside their own plans for the Church Room premises.

Ela Pathak-Sen was concerned that the Council was not as clear as it might be as to just what expenditure it was signing up to with the Bisley Street premises, and it was agreed that a special meeting of the Council would be convened to make a decision upon the lease and fully costed plans when all the facts, including the unresolved matter of assured volunteers to operate a relocated TIC, are known.

Gas/road works

The Clerk and the Chairman reported that there was uncertainty about exactly when works would be scheduled in New Street, nor the firm dates for complete closure of the stretch between Victoria Square and Cheltenham Road. This concern was reinforced by Painswick Matters and by John Pearson of The Falcon Inn. The possibility of contracts entered into by such as local hotels for receptions being impeded by rescheduling of road works, with consequential legal redress was also reported.

It was agreed that every effort be made to urge postponement of the whole exercise until the late autumn of this year. (*see page 4 for the latest information received by the Beacon.*)

South West in Bloom

Ela Pathak-Sen drew attention to the possibility of entering Painswick in this competition, and members indicated ways in which the Council might front-run such an entry, with some financing. It was agreed that, because of existing demands on the members, the Council should not enter this year. However they supported Ela Pathak/Sen investigating and taking the proposal forward on her own. She said she would have discussion with the Chairman of the Horticultural Society as to the manner in which there might be coopera-

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tion between the two organisations.

Council vacancy - Painswick

The Clerk reported only one member of the public offering to serve and Rob Lewis was duly appointed.

Juniper Hill - litter sweep

The Council had been asked, by Joy Elworthy of Wick Street, to assist in a one-day litter sweep of this hill top and it was agreed that the Chairman make the arrangements for a date likely to be most suitable for councillors.

GCC premises - Stroud Road

His letter having been read out again under this agenda item Mr Brotherton was invited to comment. He suggested that, as with the PCC, it could only be helpful if there were discussions between Painswick Gateway and the Parish Plan working group. There remained opportunities and options regarding these premises being retained for the village, and his understanding was that there remained significant local funding if the Parish Council were not committed to in any way impede GCC disposal of them.

No response was made, other than from the Chairman who declared that he did not understand just what PG hoped to achieve.

Gloucestershire Vibrant Village of the Year 2010 Competition

This competition is replacing that of the Calor scheme this year. It was unanimously agreed to enter.

Annual Parish Meeting

Ela Pathak-Sen raised the question of whether it was right that this meeting for 5th May, the eve of the General Election, should include reports from District and County Councillors given their political status.

The Clerk advised that the APM must be held in May, but the date was not in-violate.

After mixed views had been expressed it was agreed that the Chairman obtain advice on the subject and revise the date if necessary.

Handing over the reins

After twenty five years of service as Clerk's Assistant in Painswick Liz Fisher has handed over the reins to Irena Litton.

"It's been a lovely job," says Liz and she emphasises the very important element of team work involved. She also points out the fact that the workload has increased considerably. Liz has worked with nine Parish Clerks during her twenty five years in office and three Chairmen of the Parish Council. Liz's daughter, Roz, and her family have moved to Randwick and Liz is confident therefore that she will have plenty to occupy her time in retirement.



Irena is already Parish Clerk in Leonard Stanley which is small in comparison to the role in Painswick, but she is very impressed by the high standards of work and organisation in Painswick and hopes to learn more here. With her youngest child now at school she welcomes the extra hours the Painswick post gives her.

Irena brings valuable existing experience and she is warmly welcomed to her new post.

After so many years of exemplary service Liz is to be thanked heartily and we wish her a very happy retirement.

Carol Maxwell

Volunteers Please!



We are hoping to open the new Tourist Information Centre/Community Project in the old LloydsTSB Bank premises during the week commencing 24th May.

This project is sponsored by Painswick Parish Council to help those who have lost the facilities in the Library, and to promote Painswick and its businesses.

We would like to be open 6 days a week, from 10.00am to 5.00pm Monday to Saturday.

If you have a morning or afternoon free and would like to be part of this exciting new project we would love to hear from you. A short training will be given if necessary, or you may be able to train us!

Please leave your name, address, telephone or e-mail address c/o Anne Smith at the Town Hall, or e-mail me at anne@hyettorchard.plus.com

Thank you for any help given.

Anne Smith

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The gas works . . . hopefully heading towards completion

The contractors have apologised to the Beacon, and yourselves as readers, for the fact that although the information we carried about the sequencing and detail of impending works was correct as we went to press, such failed to take into account the impact temporary traffic lights would have upon work to the Edge Road to Stamages Lane section of works. The congestion which built up was beyond expectations, and it is believed made heavier by the diversions already existing from the Slad Road closure.

Further, the closure of the A46 cannot go ahead on 4th May (next Monday), as was rumoured, as Severn Trent are unable to be certain of completing their Slad Road works until 19th May.

So . . .



Stage Two - a fortnight hence

17th May to 28th May work on Stamages Lane to Edge Road section of Stroud Road using temporary traffic lights.



Stage Three - from 1st June

Closure of New Street between Gloucester Street/Bisley Street and Victoria Square.

The closure period is not known since it will be dependent upon "what is encountered in the ground". The expectation is until a few days either side of 2nd July.

At the same time traffic light control between Victoria Square and Edge Road while that section is undertaken by a second gang.

Given the proximity to the Town Hall, it is hoped that fairly frequent updates about progress of works can be passed to the Clerk, Roy Balgobin, and posted on the council's notice board.

Final connection at Edge Road either completed during closure period or one week after closure period with traffic lights.

Information accuracy

All information relating to highways on this page has been verified by County Highways, the contractors and/or the Parish Council.

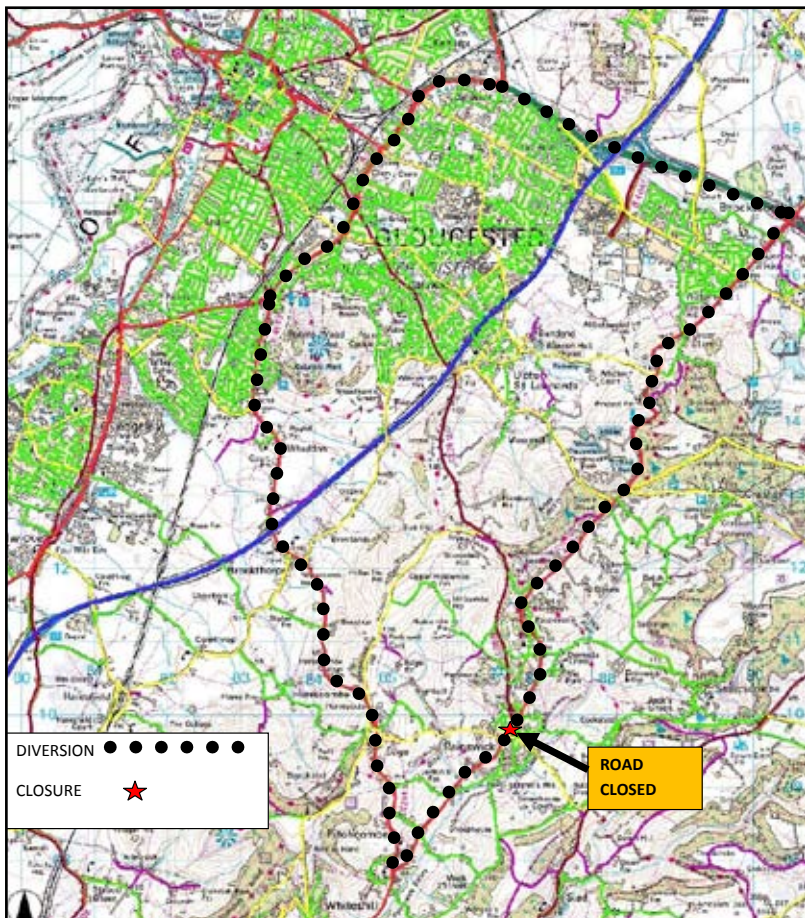
Contacts

As these works are being carried out for Wales and West Utilities the first point of contact is 02920.270653 (this will be advertised on signs on site). If any wish to contact Gloucestershire Highways the number is 08000.514514.



Emergency

Residents who find themselves with an emergency situation as a result of the gas main renewal scheme should call Roy Balgobin on 812722 or 01452.621688.



A46 Coopers Hill Landslip Stabilisation Scheme

Gloucestershire Highways is leading the design and construction of slope stabilisation works for two adjacent landslips affecting the A46 at Coopers Hill, just south of Green Street. The affected section of carriageway is approximately 300 metres long and passes over the embanked and retained side long ground in an area of known landslip terrain. The defects comprise landslip-related tension cracks across both running lanes and structural cracking and down-slope rotation of a retaining wall. The tension cracking has associated subsidence of the carriageway over approximately a 40m length and whilst movements have been known to occur over the last 30 years, sudden and extensive movement was recorded in the summer of 2007 following the heavy July rainfall and flooding experienced in the County during that time. Numerous patch repairs have been undertaken since then to maintain ride quality. Monitoring of the site has proven movement to be ongoing.

It is anticipated that these major engineering works can be carried out without a full road closure.

Traffic management will be set up to allow vehicles to pass through the works in single file, with signals in place to control the direction flow. Every effort will be made to minimise disruption to the travelling public, however as with all major reconstruction works in the highway some delays and disruption will inevitably take place.

The construction work is planned for the period between July and December 2010.

The cost of the scheme is estimated to be £3.2 million.

Further information can be obtained from Patrick Tiffney at Shire Hall on 425639 or by email at GH@gloucestershire.gov.uk

Happiness is an event called

Christian Aid week

9th – 15th May

The 2010 week, dedicated to this cause, contains all of these elements:

Christian Aid Week Service: Pitchcombe Church, 6.30pm on Sunday 9th May at which the guest speaker will be Nigel Quarrell, CA West Regional Manager "Probably the best speaker in the world"

Shop: Christ Church Hall, Painswick, 10.00am-3.00pm, Wednesday 12th to Friday 14th May

- "Never knowingly undersold", featuring ...
- "Refreshes the parts other beverages cannot reach"
 - *lipsmackin' thirstquenchin' morning coffee.*
 - "Made to make your mouth water"
 - *have a break, have a home-cooked CA lunch.*
 - "Naughty but nice"
 - *fancy goods.*
 - "Exceedingly good"
 - *cakes and preserves.*
 - "P..P..Pick up a Petunia"
 - *garden shop.*

Raffle: Tell us the number of slogans we've borrowed for this article and win an extra ticket for the raffle.

House-to-house collection: Any time, any place, anywhere - don't forget the gift aid, mum!

Poverty - lets end it

Dylan Davies

Computer Information Day for the over 50's

Are you interested in learning to use the computer but have little or no experience? Would you like to keep in touch with friends and family using e-mail or Skype? Have you thought about using the internet to do your supermarket shop, book a holiday, pay your bills or order your favourite book of CD? Did you know that you can research your family tree, find about local services or even check bus timetables online?

Why not come along to our free computer 'taster' session on Friday 21st May?

Demonstrations will last approximately 30 minutes. This will be followed by refreshments and the chance to chat with other older people who have successfully learnt to use a computer and our computer tutors who can tell you all about the Age Concern Gloucestershire computer course.

This is a free event but you will need to book a place with Age Concern Gloucestershire, Bleak House, 26 Station Road, Gloucester GL1 1EW or telephone 01452.422660

This event is part of the Silver Surfers' Day.

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Your Post Office

Last month's list of some of the many products and services offered by the Post Office came as a surprise to many people. There are, of course, many more. For example, did you know that you can buy your home insurance with the Post Office and currently this is offered with a £25 gift voucher if you take out a buildings and contents policy? And on the subject of insurance, Post Office car insurance, which is very competitive, offers complimentary breakdown cover.

A Post Office credit card offers 0% interest on all purchases for the first three months and 0% commission on purchases overseas. There is no annual fee and you can pay your bill at the Post Office. Our Post Mistress, Karen Judd, explains too that there has been feedback from three NatWest customers who have successfully obtained a 'Step Account' enabling them to have free cash withdrawals at the Post Office.

And finally, the winner of the mobile phone top-up competition last month was Karen Ticehurst of Painswick who won £10.

There really is so much more at the Post Office than stamps. It's well worth investigating, especially with such user-friendly opening hours.

Carol Maxwell

Volcanic mail?

Could I please make a simple request of your readers? If anyone has any envelopes delivered since 14th April that indicate in ANY way, delay or disruption, in the normal mail service as the result of the Icelandic volcano I would be most interested to hear from them. I am a Postal Historian and it is most important to record such information for the records, particularly for future students. I would expect to see a cachet saying **MAIL DELAYED** or **SERVICE INTERRUPTED** on the front of the letter. I would also expect it to originate in any country other than UK although the Shetlands and our other islands could be affected.

If it could be kept for my examination I would be most obliged. Please contact me on 813440.

Trevor Radway

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Season concludes with Piano

The last concert in this year's PMS festival of music is Australian pianist Jayson Gillham playing an all-Chopin programme that one finds so rarely in a piano recital. There will be a Waltz, Mazurkas, Impromptu, Scherzo, Rondo Polonaise-Fantasia, Ballade, Berceuse and his famous Barcarolle, all calculated to charm your socks off. Chopin let his fingers dodge all over the place, freewheeling happily with glorious aplomb from one key to another, whether to a related key or to another so far distant as to be like a relative thrice removed. The challenges this presents to the pianist are constant and daunting but something great pianists cannot resist.



Jayson faces these challenges from a remarkable track record of achievements for one so early in his career. After a Master of Arts degree at the Royal Academy of Arts he has won an impressive number of prizes and awards on the international circuit and performed with many of the world's principal orchestras. Most recently he has cast his spell on London audiences, so now folk are now ringing us from London for tickets wanting to hear him some more. The concert is on 8th May in St. Mary's Church at 3.00pm."



Maurice Maggs

Tasmin Little and John Lenehan

Painswick Music Society's first concert of 2010 took place at St Mary's Church on 27th March with a welcome return by violinist Tasmin Little and pianist John Lenehan who entertained a packed audience with pieces old, new (and improvised!)

First, Fritz Kreisler's 1905 Praeludium and Allegro. Originally passed off as an arrangement of a composition by an 18th century violinist it was really all his own work, but never mind who wrote it, we much appreciated it from its grandiose entrance to its final cheerful ramble all over the strings and up and down the keyboards, foretaste of treats to come.

Then two classical sonatas by JS Bach and Mozart. Even in these typical 18th century pieces the players could bring us to the edges of our seats with their dynamics with each piece coming to a rousing close as much as to say 'now beat that!' (not many could)

After the interval the 'big' work of the day, Delius' violin sonata written in his youth and only published after his death. Hearing it for the first time, I was sold. Written under the influence of the composer's American youth, cheerfulness runs through the outer movements with agile contributions from the piano and haunting tunes alternating with bright passages in the final movement bringing it to a satisfyingly rousing end.

Oh yes, improvisations. The last piece was the players' own 'Tchaikovskiana' a set of variations on well known tunes by 'Tchaik' starting with Swan Lake and go-

ing all over his repertoire. We just sat back, enjoyed it and cheered as we did with variations on Vittorio Monti's Czardas to send us home happy.

A fine start to the season, helped by illuminating introductions by Tasmin Little herself.

John Parfitt 813444

The Carducci Quartet

Those attending this performance at St Mary's Church on 10th April were doubly blessed: a warm, sunny afternoon and a sparkling concert. Although the players are youthful, they have been playing together for seven years, combining refreshing vigour with mature musical skill. A measure of their accomplishment is that they have performed at top venues like Carnegie Hall in New York and The Wigmore Hall in London. They have already performed at St Mary's and like both the acoustics and the attentive audience.

Two of the players are from Gloucestershire and the other two from Ireland: two married couples. They share one of the aims of the Society which is to encourage young musicians and have given their second "master class" at the Croft School, with enthusiastic participation: 13 pupils have now said they would like to learn the violin or the cello and it was gratifying to see several children at the concert.

The Carducci's first piece was a quartet in D Minor by Haydn, a joyful performance in complete unison; then a quartet by Moeeran, a composer of Anglo-Irish origin, one of their favourite pieces, in which one could hear a background of folk-songs; and finally a quartet by Beethoven, which

was criticised for its complexity when first performed, but did not seem to cause any problems for the Carducci Quartet. Painswick is very fortunate to be treated to a concert of such high calibre.

Richard Burges Watson

Jazz - on a Sunday


"Jazz on a Sunday" is returning to the Painswick Centre on Sunday 27th June. Jeanne Marlow and her Group will again be playing music by Cole Porter, Irving Berlin and other composers of that era. All proceeds will go to Sue Ryder Care - Leckhampton Court Hospice. Advance tickets can be obtained from 'The Chairman', for £6.00 each, or £7.00 at the door. The concert will run from noon until 3.00pm. There will be a full bar service and the unique Ploughman's Lunch will again be available, £6.00.



This year is the 30th anniversary of the opening of the Hospice. It is the only hospice in Gloucestershire offering in-patient care. Sue Ryder makes no charge for their services, however they need to raise £1.2m each year in voluntary contributions in order to run the Hospice.

So, do please support those people who have given their time to this worthy cause. If you require any other information please telephone 814070.

Ralph Drew and Anne Leoni

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Brownies relief

On 23rd March the 1st Painswick & Cranham Brownies completed a mile for Sport Relief.

Dressed in red we ran/walked 23 times round the infant playground at the Croft School, and many could have carried on for much longer!

The Brownies raised over £250. Well done to them all.

Katherine Davies



Painswick Toddler Group

For a few years now, the toddlers of Painswick and surrounding villages have been meeting on Wednesday afternoons at the Playgroup Building in the Croft School grounds for Toddler Group. Making use of the playgroup building and facilities when playgroup has finished for the day, we run a small and friendly play session throughout term-time. Toddler group gives local children a chance to meet and play together while offering mums/dad/carers a chance to chat over a coffee and help newcomers/new parents in the village to meet others with young children in the area.

Through toddler group the children often make friends with and meet those they will be going to playgroup and school with in future years.

We meet from 1.30pm until 3.00pm, have an hour of play (and in summer months make the most of the enclosed outdoor play area) and then have juice and biscuits and finish off with a sing-song. We also try to arrange meet-ups in the summer holidays at various playgrounds around the area to help with those long school holidays!!

In the two sessions leading up to Easter some of the children made Easter Bunny Ears and we had an Easter Egg Hunt in the outdoor playarea in between the rain showers!

If you have a baby or toddler and would like more information please contact us, or just come along on a Wednesday.

Jennie Barber

07769.695772 Re-Fowler 07812.115326

End of Season Fun

--- well. not quite end of season yet – was provided by our committee members on 1st April by kind invitation again from the Richmond Retirement Village some of whose residents enjoyed listening with us.

Serious classical music alternated with enjoyable not so serious and, judging by the applause, the Gilbert & Sullivan recordings won hands down: great again to hear Yum Yum, Three little Maids, the Lord High Executioner and the Flowers in the Spring from The Mikado; the Sparkling Eyes from The Gondoliers; the Poor Wandering One and A Policeman's Lot from The Pirates; and Buttercup and When I was a Lad from Pinafore.

There were lots of lovely pieces such as Butterworth's beautiful "A Shropshire Lad" and a wonderful Mexican tenor singing some of Mascagni's "Cavalleria Rusticana" before our Chairman Alex stole a close march with smashing military band music played by the Band of the Royal Swedish Air Force which concluded an enjoyable evening



Ralph Kenber



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Gardens by coach

The Society have seats available for members and non-members on the following outings:



Wednesday 26th May, **Hampton Court and Bryans Ground** near Leominster, cost £24.50,
 Wednesday 30th June, **Cottage Herbery Nursery** near Tenbury Wells, cost £16.00,

Thursday 19th August, **Powis Castle** (National Trust), cost £15.00, non members of National Trust pay admission on arrival, members with cards have free admission.

There are also seats available for the Chairmans Spring Social Event on Saturday 15th May, a visit to **How Caple Court** in Herefordshire, cost £25.00 including supper at Miserden Village Hall.

For further information contact me as soon as possible.

Gus Gaugain 812599

Letters

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



Never a dull moment



Spring arrives at the Friday Club - it was smiles all round painting eggs and decorating Easter Bonnets and then prizes awarded. Earlier in March a visit and lunch at Nature in Art had been followed by a shopping spree at Gloucester Quays.

At the next meetings we learn about the United Nations, the Mitfords and Stone Masonry! There will be a relaxing trip on the Toddington Railway on 28th May with lunch provided by the local WI - if anyone would like to join us call Pamela Stewart on 814157 or Jane Robinson 812590 for further details.



GCC premises - Stroud Road

Edward Young, Chairman of Painswick Gateway Trustees, writes:

I deeply regret our Parish Council's haste in deciding to align with the County Council's disposal plans rather than save a significant public building for community use.

I am sad to report that the paper discussed at the March meeting of the Parish Council was put together without attempt to consult with Gateway. Gateway have a larger, clearer picture than the document appeared to have considered.

Do the 500+ signatories to the petition to save the library count for so little? Do the silent sponsors, even now encouraging Gateway with the promise of funds-if-required, not mean anything to the Parish Council?

The Library building, the gateway and all the other objectives are not being given a chance because the PC is turning deaf ears. Gateway exists and will continue to seek ways in which its objectives can be achieved for the community as long as it can.

Disabled parking

Ann Burges Watson, Chairman of the Traffic Committee, writes from the Parish Council:

Painswick has an aging population. There was no disabled parking in the village centre. The Traffic Committee of your Parish Council, in conjunction with Gloucestershire County Council Highways,

recently took the initiative and provided two disabled Parking Bays: one close to the entrance to St Mary's Churchyard and one by Londis. The latter was chosen to enable disabled people to pop into Londis to do their shopping and move on. It was not meant for long-term disabled parking as one or two motorists have tended to use it. If it is used as such we shall just have to lose it, thus depriving our community of a safe place to park enabling them to retain their independence. This slot was welcomed by many but they are now becoming disenchanted.

We trust that our intentions, which were meant to help our Community, will not be frustrated further.



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Tribute production



Alan Ayckbourn's 'Confusions' will be performed by the Painswick Players at the Painswick Centre on 6th, 7th and 8th May at 7.30. This special production of Ayckbourn's brilliantly crafted string of five short, uncomfortably perceptive and witty

takes on modern marriage, morals and manners is being offered as a tribute to Jack Burgess, who died in December. Jack is fondly remembered locally for his many contributions to the village and to the county drama association, especially his acting, directing and writing for the Painswick Players over many years. It is testament to the high regard in which Jack was held that actors from other groups in the area have joined Painswick Players to perform in this play in Jack's memory.

Ayckbourn's play creates an impression of the isolation, miscommunication and confusion of people's lives. It deals riotously, but with sharply pointed undertones, with the human dilemma of loneliness, and the audience is invited to eavesdrop on people and situations which are carefully orchestrated with delicate theatrical ingenuity, typical of Ayckbourn's style, in a memorable evening of wit and farce.

Tickets, at £8 for unreserved seats, are on sale at the Painswick post office, or at the door on the night.



George Krasker

Magra sleuth rewarded

Who remembers the article from Spain in the March edition of the Beacon? This invited readers to answer the question "What is Magra?"

Luckily as a regular visitor to Spain, a reader was able to supply an answer that was accepted. Magra is a very lean cut off the top of a leg of Pork and is often found in Botifarra, a type of sausage.

He had expected to be knocked over in the charge to win a bottle of Rioja but regrettably

there were few entrants. At a short ceremony

in The Falcon on Monday in mid-April, Christopher and Geraldine Piper-Short, who are into a month's visit to the village in which they so recently lived, handed over a bottle of Rioja (to our cameraman) and an accompanying bottle of Cava to the winner Peter Roberts, holding it securely in our picture.

We understand that the contents of the bottle of Cava have now been consumed. Mr Camera took the Rioja to a Beacon committee meeting, to share with his colleagues (he's like that) but was, perforce, needing to maintain custody - having overlooked taking a corkscrew!

The brief and informative discourses from El Contador have become intriguing reading, especially in the winter months, and we will be delighted to continue to publish them, space permitting.



Gloucester Street & Churchill Way

Local resident, Duccio Leoni, recently wrote to the County Council regarding the condition of the surfaces of these two carriageways, distinctive for their deterioration from frost damage.

He has shared with the Beacon the reply received from John Kay, Stakeholder Manager (Central), and we realise this will interest other readers for its publication.

Mr Kay says "I agree that the current carriageway condition in both Gloucester Street and Churchill Way is poor and I am pleased to confirm both locations are included in this years carriageway resurfacing programme. These two locations will be combined into one scheme but due to the narrow width on Gloucester Street and the close proximity to the school a road closure will be required and it is preferable that it is carried out during school holidays. Therefore at the current time it is being scheduled for the October half term due to a number of other schemes in this area.

In the meantime patching repairs will be carried out to keep the network safe to all users".

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Junior Badminton

The juniors have had a very successful season. Eleanor Pickin, Pippa Speed, Dougie Vance, Freddie Speed, Will Moir and Sophie Hall all attended County training sessions at their appropriate age groups.

Eleanor and Pippa played for the County at U13 and U15 level, Sophie Hall played at U15 whilst Will Moir and Freddie Speed represented the County at U17. Freddie has since played in the U17 Inter-Counties Tournament in Nottingham as part of a team of 5 boys and 5 girls. Around 40 counties participate in this tournament.

All players have continued to improve and, for the second time in 3 years, Eleanor Pickin is the winner of the Diana Radway Cup for The Most Improved Junior this season.

Tim Bircher Coach



LTA grass root investment in Painswick tennis

Derek Howorth, President of the Lawn Tennis Association, visited Painswick last week to see for himself the progress at the tennis club with the construction of two additional courts. He was accompanied by Van Willerton, LTA Operations Manager Midlands Area.

With substantial assistance from the LTA these two new floodlit macadam courts are reaching completion and members have already been able to play on them.

An expanded coaching programme, through the Painswick Tennis Academy, is already in place and plans to grow the membership of the Club are being formulated.

In welcoming Derek Howorth and Van Willerton to Painswick Lawn Tennis Club, John Courts, Chairman said: "We have been delighted to receive this 'grass roots' investment from the LTA. It is recognition of the progress which tennis in Painswick is making and we plan to make best use of the additional facilities. We feel privileged to be entrusted with growing tennis in the community although realising we are only part of the wider LTA programme of local investment."

Mr Howorth commended the Club on bringing tennis to all ages and particularly in providing juniors with 'skills for life'. He was impressed with the enthusiastic approach of members and wished the Club every success in the future.

New members are welcome – please contact Ruth Smith 813693.

John Courts

Photo left to right: John Courts, Chairman PLTC, Van Willerton, LTA Operations Manager LTA Derek Howorth, President LTA, Ruth Smith, Secretary PLTC, Roger Stewart, Project Manager PLTC



and a try. We then played Weston Super Mare away, and West Regional Finals against Redruth at Bradford on Arm. Painswick ran out winners 13 – 10 in a superb performance away from them and secure the RFU South West Regional Cup.

The National Bowl semi final was played at Henley on Thames. Painswick drilled side. Painswick ran out winners 13 – 10 in a superb performance for the last ten minutes with many last ditch tackles.

Unwin, Oli Hall, Tim Fenwick, George Jackson and Sam...

Winning this has put the team through to the National Bowl final. Painswick Saints on the 2nd May at 12.45, a magnificent achievement.

Cricket

Today sees the start of the 2010 league season. It is a special day as the Painswick Club will be playing at the Recreation Ground after an absence of many years when the fourth eleven host Uley second eleven. Tomorrow marks another first in the club's history when Painswick Ladies play Frocester Ladies at Broadham. Also tomorrow the club's Under 17 eleven play Thornbury Under 17s at the Recreation Ground.

May fixtures (All Saturday matches are league games)

Sat 1st. Painswick 1st XI v Bredon 1st XI. Bredon 2nd XI v Painswick 2nd XI. Uley 1st XI v Painswick 3rd XI.

Painswick 4th XI v Uley 2nd XI.

Sun 2nd. Painswick Ladies 1st XI v Frocester Ladies 1st XI. Painswick Under 17 v Thornbury Under 17.

Ullenwood v Painswick.

Sat 8th. Dumbleton 1st XI v Painswick 1st XI. Painswick 2nd XI v Dumbleton 2nd XI.

Painswick 3rd XI v Stone 3rd XI.

Sun 9th. Oldlands 1st XI v Painswick 1st XI.

Wed 12th. Gloucester Harlequins v Painswick (16 overs).

Chipping Sodbury Under 17 v Painswick Under 17.

Sat 15th. Painswick 1st XI v Cinderford St John 1st XI. Cinderford 2nd XI v Painswick 2nd XI.

Frocester 5th XI v Painswick 3rd XI. Painswick 4th XI v Slimbridge 2nd XI.

Sun 16th. Witcombe v Painswick. Painswick Ladies 1st XI v Bristol Phoenix Ladies 1st XI.

Wed 19th. Painswick 1st XI v Quedgeley 1st XI (16 Overs).

Sat 22nd. Lydney 1st XI v Painswick 1st XI. Painswick 2nd XI v Lydney 2nd XI.

Painswick 3rd XI v Eastington 1st XI. Woodchester 2nd XI v Painswick 4th XI.

Sun 23rd. Painswick v Cam.

Wed 26th. Shurdington 1st XI v Painswick 1st XI (16 overs).

Cam Under 17 v Painswick Under 17.

Sat 29th. Painswick 1st XI v Kingsholm 1st XI. Kingsholm 2nd XI v Painswick 2nd XI.

Hardwicke 2nd XI v Painswick 2nd XI. Painswick 4th XI v Rockhampton 4th XI.

Sun 30th. Frocester v Painswick.

June

Wed 2nd. Painswick 1st XI v Walls Crescent 1st XI (16 overs).

Thu 3rd. Painswick Under 17 v Old Down Under 17.

Fri 4th. Corse & Staunton Ladies 1st XI v Painswick Ladies 1st XI.

Sat 5th. Redmarley 1st XI v Painswick 1st XI. Painswick 2nd XI v Redmarley 2nd XI.

7s achievement



Chris Hall writes "Painswick RFC U17's have won through to the final of the RFU National U17 Bowl, to be played at Northampton Saints, Franklin Gardens, on the 2nd May. The opposition will be Derby.

The team qualified last year as semi finalists in the Gloucestershire County Cup, and the knock out games have been played through March and April. First round opponents were Chinnor from Oxford who we beat 42 – 5 at Broadham, with Jos Chillingworth scoring 17 points with 6 conversions

beat them 33 – 7, putting us through to the South Devon. This was a very tight match except for a 10 min when we scored two quick tries to take the game all Bowl.

Games against Tunbridge Wells, a very strong, well coached, gritty, dogged performance holding Tunbridge out. Notable performances from Andy Godden, Fred Driscoll.

Final against Derby to be played at Northampton on the 2nd May for the all concerned."

Table Tennis Players wanted in Sheepscombe

Sheepscombe have had a Table Tennis team in the Stroud league since 1951, and at one time we had four teams playing. This year with our one team we have found it difficult to field a full team every match and we need more players for next year. The matches are played September to March, one per week.

If you would like to join our team, or know somebody who would, please get in touch soon. Without extra player(s) we will not enter a team. Entries are required by the end of June.

How old should you be? Well players ranged from 12 to 80+ in the Stroud league this year.

Hugh Tarran 814081 or h.tarran@tiscali.co.uk

Rugby

Painswick's successful season ended with an Easter tour to Belgium where they won the Jupiler Tray in the Gent 22nd tournament. In the match against Towchester Martin Hayward scored all 5 tries in the 55 points to nil victory.

April results (L) indicates league match at 3rd. (L) Brockworth 1st XV 14 Painswick 1st XV 0.

at 10th. (L) Painswick 1st XV 25 Cheltenham Civil Service 1st XV 12.

at 17th. Old Richians 2nd XV 36 Painswick 1st XV 24.

10+ Tennis

On Sunday 18th April the finals of the over 50 tournament were held at Broadham. The ladies doubles had already been completed and was won by Mary Omnes. Mary also won the ladies singles with her partner Michelle Sidwell, beating Sandra Glass and Tonia Robinson in 3 hard court sets. The mens doubles were won by Malcolm Andrew and John Barrus, with victory over Robin Hall and John Crowther in two sets. The mixed doubles was won by Joan Griffiths and Chris Jaynes, who triumphed over Phillipa James and Nigel Barnet in three sets. The mens singles has yet to be played.

Patricia Andrew

Painswick's Snowboard Champion

The British Ski & Snowboard Championships were held in Laax, Switzerland in mid-March. The winner of the blue ribbon event of snowboarding, the Halfpipe competition, was Kate Foster from Painswick. Kate who won the same event in 2008 said that it felt great to be British Champion again. Painswickians will wish to join with the Beacon in offering their congratulations to Kate - pictured centre here - on her achievement. It was a tremendous week for Kate as she also took the bronze medal in the SnowboardX competition.

A halfpipe is a U (half a pipe) shaped out of snow with near vertical walls (20+feet high) that is used in freestyle snowboarding to perform a variety of tricks and aerial manoeuvres. Although similar to the halfpipe used by skateboarders, in-line skaters and BMX riders, snowboarding halfpipes are much longer (generally measuring between 300 and 500 feet),



Police outwitted

It was a fantastic afternoon on Sunday 18th April with glorious sunshine in Whiteshill. Pulse FC played The Police in a football match seeing varying parts of the community join together and enjoying football, food and the weather.



Pulse FC won 5-4 in a game that had quality football, dedication and hard work all round to produce an action packed match. Both goalkeepers received the 'man of the match' award as both teams threatened heavily on attack. It was a great opportunity where several community groups including the local police, The Door, PSALMS and the local churches and others in the Stroud area joined together to work together.

Andy Harding PSALMS

Falcon Darts

Well done to Greg and his men on the first season playing. The Ladies had a mixed season but still held our heads up - 'we'll be back!' Presentation players voting included:

Top: S Kemmett

Runner-up: S Saunders

Improved player: K Vizor

Captain's award: L Hathaway

Both teams would like to thank John Pearson and staff at the Falcon pub. Especially the chefs on their continued support keeping us fed! We all had a great curry night at the end of the season. Thank you, The Falcon.

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Procession of witness

The annual Good Friday procession of witness commenced, this year, from the Roman Catholic church before proceeding into the churchyard of St Mary's and to the Lych Gate for prayers around the Easter Cross.

Support, despite a bitterly cold afternoon, was strong and clearly evidenced the message of commitment of participants.

British Red Cross



In her always interesting and readable piece for last month's Beacon, Lou Kemp - Village Agent - described attending an event which included a talk by Quedgeley Red Cross folk. She explained that in addition to providing medical equipment for short term loan the Red Cross can pick up unwanted equipment and make repairs.


Joan Ashton, the long time Organiser of the 'Painswick Centre - British Red Cross' has pointed out that there may be residents in this area who are a little bemused. Joan points out that many Painswick residents will be aware that the BRC originally had its medical loan section in the Gloucestershire Branch Headquarters in Stroud, Cainscross in fact. Some years ago the building was sold and the store moved to premises in Quedgeley.

The Painswick Centre of the Gloucestershire Branch of the British Red Cross still has a very firm presence in the village, and Joan Ashton will always welcome enquiries from those, young or not so young, interested in knowing more about its work, the training they offer, and ways in which support can be given. Her contact details are 63 Perry Orchard, Upton St Leonards GL4 8DH telephone 01452.617632.

This is an excellent opportunity to remind our readers that Red Cross Week is next week - 2nd to 8th May and Joan and others will be visible around the village. Do stop for a chat, it will be greatly appreciated.

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Local History Teaser

As we eagerly await news of the future of the former bank premises in Bisley Street, it may be of interest to remind ourselves of local buildings previously used as banks. Can you give an approximate date for this Lloyds Bank in Painswick, and are you able to name any other buildings put to a similar use in the past?

Last month's photograph was of Frank Mansell, renowned poet and great local character. Mr Bob Alder explains that Frank Mansell worked for British Telecom, played cricket for Sheepscombe as a fast bowler and lived at Salt Box. Mr Alder gives an amusing anecdote about Laurie Lee and Frank Mansell performing together at Cheltenham Literary Festival. Laurie Lee, whilst reading a poem, had a long 'dew drop' jiggling up and down from his nose as he read and eventually Frank Mansell tossed a handkerchief across the stage which fell short of its destination much to the amusement of the audience.

They finished the performance early as Laurie Lee was apparently worried about the pub closing. Ah, so much for professionalism! Many thanks to Mr Alder for providing this information.

If you have a photograph which would pose a challenge to readers please make contact.

Carol Maxwell

You may recall that in last month's Beacon a poem was featured. It was one of many written by Frank Mansell about our local countryside. *Ed.*

School news gleaned from letters to parents by Janet Hoyle

The PTA committee is working hard to ensure an even better experience at the pool this summer. As well as repairing the pool tiling, they are working on improving the fencing and providing a larger, re-surfaced seating area with a shade from the sun. The energy and commitment of Jo Weatherall and her team have been impressive. Our thanks go to them all.

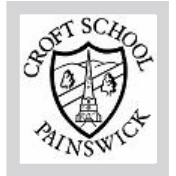
Hamptons Estate Agents are donating £250 towards the cost of refurbishment of the pool for every completion before 25th May. We are very grateful for their support.

Infants art club

We are very grateful to Andrea Sipos and all the other parents who have assisted her, for her organisation of the art club for reception and Year 1 children. They have had a great time. The club started for Year 2 children, on Mondays from 3.15 - 4.15pm from Monday 26th April and may run until 21st June. Volunteers to help with the club (even if you are only able to help one or two occasions) are still needed; please talk to Andrea Sipos (Eszter's mum) on 814277 or at the playground before school.

Instrumental lessons

It is a delight to see the number of children now playing instruments, and the high level at which so many of them play. There is still the opportunity for children (year 2 and above) to start to play a brass instrument. There will be the chance for new woodwind and strings players from September.



Vouchers for schools

We are in voucher season again! Please collect the following vouchers and send them in:

- Sainsbury's Active Kids tokens
- Tesco for Schools and Clubs vouchers (green only – the old blue ones are now invalid)
- Nestle Box Tops for Books
- Times Newspapers Book Vouchers

School crossing patrol

I am delighted to tell you that we have a new School Crossing Patrol, Mrs Fiona Sanders. She has been a great addition to our Meal Time Supervisor team, so the children already know her.

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BEACO-DOKU

Derived from Sudoku, Beaco-doku replaces

the numbers with letters.

Last month we used the letters from **S-P-R-I-N-G** and hope you completed the Doku.

G	N	S	R	I	P
P	I	R	S	N	G
N	S	P	G	R	I
R	G	I	N	P	S
I	R	G	P	S	N
S	P	N	I	G	R

	L		W		E
E					
L			F		
		O			R
O		F	E		L

Since they are now blooming, at last, **F_L_O_W_E_R** comes to mind so see if you can fill the blank squares in the grid above so that each column, each row and each block of six squares contains each of those six letters; but without repetition.

From moor to oak

Sponsored Walk from Dartmoor to Selly Oak Hospital Birmingham

As a former sapper in the Royal Engineers, Doug Hamilton-Cox of Bridford, Dartmouth, tells the Beacon that he will be undertaking a 200 mile sponsored walk for the charity Help for Heroes from his home on Dartmoor to Selly Oak Hospital, Birmingham.

He anticipates passing through Painswick on Thursday 27th or Friday 28th May, and says he will appreciate any publicity or support. Not surprisingly he goes on to say "You will understand that I may need to adjust timings slightly depending on progress!"

The walk will begin from Bridford, on Dartmoor on Thursday 13th May and will take an indirect route, through towns such as Exeter, Taunton, Bridgwater, Bristol, Yate, and Cheltenham, ending at Selly Oak Hospital at noon on Friday 4th June. Selly Oak is the first port of call for wounded soldiers returning from Iraq and Afghanistan. In 2009, Doug walked from Dartmoor to Wootton Bassett and raised over £12,500 for Help for Heroes charity.

His contact details are E-mail sue.hamiltoncox@btinternet.com or telephone 01647.252259 or mobile 07847.728111

Every penny possible raised on the walk is spent on making grants that aim to provide practical, direct support for the wounded.

Looking for a Lost Family

The Beacon has received an enquiry from a Judith Hayman, a Canadian resident, and hopes someone in Painswick can help her.

Judith says "In 1897, at the age of six, Stanley Hayman came to Canada as a Home Child. After a rough start, he ended up in a decent family, developed a career, married and had children. He was my husband's grandfather. In the records of the Annie MacPherson Home, it says, 'This boy comes from Painswick and his relations are very poor.' His birth date is estimated as November 1890.

I have been unable to locate Stanley's birth registration or any record of him in the English census of 1891. Is there possibly someone in Painswick who might have access to information from the relevant time period. We would be so appreciative of finally knowing where Stanley came from and who his relations were. He himself did some looking but the person he hired indentified him with a man who was born, lived, grew up and married in Bath. To his death he thought his well to do family had abandoned him. We cannot undo that, but would like an answer."

Judith Hayman's E-mail address is Hayman@mountain-cable.net

Beacon - copy dateline

Each month we give notice of the dateline for copy for the following issue; this in the column on the back page.

Events can occur after that dateline, of course, and we try to cope with these.

However, some advantage seems to have been taken of our goodwill of late and we have received pleas days beyond the dateline for inclusion.

Life can be somewhat hectic pulling all copy together and setting out pages, a process which might be concluded shortly after that date.

So we must forewarn that any copy received after midnight on that dateline date runs the risk of being rejected.

Juniper Common Litter

The Parish Council is organising a litter sweep of Juniper Common on Saturday 8th May.

Meet at the junction of Stepping Stone Lane and Yokehouse Lane at 2.30pm. Equipment provided. Everyone welcome.

Terry Parker

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Dawn chorus with the early birds

In the Town Hall on 8th April Andy Warren, an Ecological Consultant, was talking to the intriguing title, 'A Wandering Warden, I' - leading perhaps to our Chairman, Bill Boydell being invited for a prior chat on Radio Gloucestershire! It was a joint meeting with the Painswick Beacon Conservation Group.

Andy was recounting as of yesterday, his trainee and warden years with the RSPB in the 1980s. Often living in spartan circumstances, his was an amazing experience from Arctic conditions on Loch Garten to the unlikely location of Sandwell (Birmingham) An impressive scale of earth moving and building operations was needed to separate salt and fresh water reed beds and marshes. He was equally impressive in getting stuck in the mud but by skill and grit, extricating team and gear to conclude each grand plan. His was an array of fascinating shots at the diverse sites with avocet to harrier at Thornham Marsh, black kite and roseate terns on Anglesey, even Mediterranean gulls at Sandwich - from every UK corner a spectrum of ever wonderful birds in the context of an evolving Royal Society Preservation exercise described with huge



enthusiasm and energy, much acclaimed by both the Club and the Conservation Group.

By the time of going to press, Gordon Avery, former County Bird Recorder will have led a field trip at Frampton on Severn to observe Spring Migrants. Early risers will now be looking forward to hearing the dawn chorus at the Ebworth Estate on the 9th May. All are to meet at the Centre off the B4070 Slad/Birdlip Road, approximately a quarter of a mile from Fostons Ash (SO900114) at 4.30am. Rob Palmer, National Trust Warden will orchestrate! Breakfast is available afterwards in Painswick. (Information on 813094)

The second field trip in May will be on Monday 24th at 9.45am when Martin Wright, bird recorder, will identify birds and their song. All should meet on the Coates/Tarlton Road at the canal (SO967003). Residential field trip places on the Gower Peninsula are still available 13 -15th June

Wendy and Martin Addy

Light up with easy technology

Right in the heart of Painswick lies the veritable hub of a sophisticated yet very accessible technological enterprise. Phil Ion runs his fascinating business – Core Lighting Limited – from his home and, apart from the global possibilities, he is keen to increase local awareness of his products.

Phil has developed and produced battery-powered LED lighting for use in a myriad of situations. Basically, it functions on wireless communication to produce many hours of energy-efficient, cheap lighting for both interior and exterior use. Waterproof and unobtrusive, the units, once charged, will provide up to fifteen hours lighting. They are cable-free and therefore easily moveable and are simple to operate. The wonderful colour and fade sequences can be pre-programmed or can be controlled using a mobile phone, iPhone, computer, iPod etc.

First launched last September to great acclaim from event organisers of corporate and public occasions for whom this is a real asset – moveable, simple, effective, with an instant set-up facility - they are a health and safety dream. Phil has refined the design to suit different situations including a rather sleek and attractive stainless steel unit for domestic use.

Phil is keen to point out that his product has real British pedigree. He has commissioned design companies to work alongside himself and the units are manufactured in East Anglia. Hitherto he has engaged one sales distributor in London with global cover but now he is exploring other opportunities locally and nationally including Painswick.

During Goodwill Evening last December Phil's lighting illuminated Friday Street beautifully, making it a very attractive venue on a cold winter's evening. In April his units were used to light up Manchester city centre for Cancer Research UK's Shine event and will be used for a similar event in Cardiff in September. The Patchwork Mouse in New Street has been looking even more attractive than usual recently as a result of Phil's lighting effects and people who have put them to use in their homes are very enthusiastic. They can make such a difference to a dark chimney place or corner, create mood lighting, or light up that special feature. A vast city park or a small domestic space – Phil's lighting is both lovely and effective.

Core Lighting Limited has come to fruition as a result of some very sound experience. Phil gained a degree in electronics and pursued a career in design with Dowty in Cheltenham, moving on to TDK as head of manufacturing. Both situations have been invaluable. Together with two colleagues he bought up a TDK division, selling out in 2006 when he returned to study for an MBA. He then started the present business. It was the experience in wireless systems with TDK which sparked his interest in wireless lighting and now he very evidently combines a real enthusiasm with impressive technical know-how.

Phil's Painswick base – his home – is ideal. Ros, his wife, is a GP, and he has three children, twin daughters, Natasha and Isabel age 13, and son, David age 11.

Phil's lighting is available for purchasing or for hire. The potential is infinite, from businesses, to parties, to major or minor events, buildings, parks, homes, inside or out. This lighting is very impressive and so easy. For more information contact Phil at www.corelighting.co.uk or tel. 813405.

Carol Maxwell



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Quest for John

A second search request has come our way this month, from Liz Moseley of Preston in Lancashire, and we promised to try and squeeze it in if we could. Can anybody help, even though it has to be beyond several living memories?

Liz wrote while visiting Painswick, to say "John, and I are visiting Painswick, hoping to trace ancestors of my family.

I am trying to trace **John Niblett**, christened 27th April 1800, who lived in Painswick and married **Elizabeth Hudd** on 18th February 1822 – I don't know where they were married, though. He was a Millwright Engineer, as was his son **Edward** (b.1827). His other children were **George** (b.1829), **Henry** (b.1831) and **Ann** (b.1833). His parents were, I think, **Samuel and Ann**. Samuel was born c. 1774 in Painswick, and Ann c. 1776.

It is possible that they were Quakers (apparently many people called Samuel were non-Conformists) – or other non-conformist denomination. Tried to find burial ground attached to Quaker Meeting House, but only a few headstones there. Still looking for headstones".

We were encouraged to print this enquiry when we read the concluding phrased of her letter, "Any information would be much appreciated. A very kind lady called Jenny pointed us in the direction of the Quaker meeting House and gave us a copy of the Painswick Beacon. What a lovely place you live in!"

01772.614882 or Email j.moseley99@btinternet.com should do the trick, but the Beacon will appreciate knowing any outcome.

Glorious Buildings

At the April meeting three excellent presentations were given by members, all relating to local buildings but each with a very different approach.

Mrs Barbara Blatchley made us sharply aware of the wealth of beautiful houses influenced by Palladio's style of architecture in Painswick. Mostly 18th century and generally built with money created by the wool cloth industry, many were constructed by John Bryan whose own house, Coombe House in Bisley Street, is a perfect example of the classical style. Beacon House, built in 1760, is, of course, probably the finest example with its exquisite architectural detail and perfect proportions. Lovedays House, Dover House with its Dutch influence, Hazelbury House and Painswick House are just a few further examples of Painswick's Palladio-style houses.

Mrs Gwen Welch gave a salutary lesson in the need to keep a watchful eye on the floors of older properties. The floors of her house, Stocks Cottage, are much lower than the ground outside and the consequent damp problems have necessitated major works involving digging up over a foot depth of concrete. As the house is adjacent to the churchyard there was some trepidation as to what may be unearthed. In the event, animal bones, clay pipes and the like were found but also a heavy round slate and iron object with four bolts was also discovered. Various experts have offered a range of possible explanations but at present it remains a mystery.

David Archard and Ann Daniels showed a different style of beautiful housing albeit on a much smaller scale when they introduced us to the almshouses. Built in 1915 with a bequest from Edwin Gyde, the five blocks each of two houses were designed by Sidney Barnsley in true Arts and Crafts style. The original designs included beautiful oak doors with fine ironwork, interesting stone features and many decorative as well as functional items such as the leaded light windows. For their time they were very advanced with internal lavatories, running water and electricity. Sadly, many of the features were replaced with less attractive materials a few years ago but the almshouses are still carefully managed and cherished by the board of trustees.

The next meeting of the Society is on Tuesday, 18th May when the annual outing will be a visit to Uley.

Carol Maxwell



PROPERTY REPORT for April from Murrays

You cannot have failed to notice that there is a general election on the horizon and many people are asking what this is going to do to the property market?

Unfortunately there are no clear answers to this question and there are an awful lot of people who consider themselves as "property experts" giving all sorts of differing opinions. It really depends on which way the vote goes as to whether we have a new government, the same government or even a hung parliament as to what the future holds. Whatever that future is, it does bring a lot of uncertainty. The thing to do is just look at what is happening in the property market around you. There is an influx of new property coming to the market at the moment in our area and eager buyers with cash in their pockets waiting to pounce on them. This can only mean one thing; more sales! We have increased our own sales at Murrays in Painswick by a staggering 80% since March.

The property market needs to remain positive as it is at the moment and then we can carry this trend through the election and out the other side.

Spring is a great time to put your house on the market as the

weather has now finally improved and houses and gardens are coming back to life again for better photographs. If you should need a free valuation from Murrays then please do not hesitate to give us a call.

We have taken on a lot of new property recently including Culvert Cottage, a very pretty 4 bedroom family house with an acre of garden, Amesbury House, a beautifully refurbished 4 bedroom house on Vicarage Street with its own self contained cottage, 16 Gyde House, an immaculate 2 bedroom apartment in the Gyde, Flat 1 Yew Tree House, a spacious 2 bedroom flat in the centre of the village, Stoneways, a substantial 4 bedroom family house in Edge, Badgers Lawn a beautifully presented 3 bedroom house in Cranham and Woodlea, a 3 bedroom house set in an acre of gardens with stunning views in Slad.

Properties that are currently under offer are 12a Hyett Orchard, 11 Hyett Orchard, 11 Stroud Road, 35 Ashwell, 2 Spring Cottages and Packers on Edge Road, all in Painswick, The Laurels in Slad, Prospect House in Sheepscome and 3 Mulberry Gardens in Robinswood Hill in Gloucester. Properties that have now sold are Wickridge House and 32 Ashwell.

James C Murray



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MAY			
Sun	2	to 8th British Red Cross Week	
Mon	3	Family Sponsored Walk & Picnic - proceeds to Lideta, Ethiopia. Tel: Olive Freeman 813587 Short Mat Bowls - Mondays (contact 813627) Yoga (Mondays) contact Kim 812623	Start Cranham Village Hall Town Hall Sheepscombe Vill. Hall 6.30 to 8.00pm & 8.15 to 9.45pm
Tue	4	Dog Training Club (Tuesdays)	Christ Church Hall 9.30 to 12.00noon
Wed	5	Yoga (Wednesdays) contact Kim 812623 Annual Parish Meeting Bingo: Wednesdays – Tel. Ann, 813911/Liz, 813139	Sheepscombe Vill. Hall Town Hall Painswick Centre 9.30 to 11.00am 7.30pm 7.30 to 10.00pm
Thu	6	General and District Elections Yoga - All Abilities (Thursdays) Cotswold Room 812623 T'ai Chi: Thursdays - Contact 812344 Jolly Stompers Line Dancing: Beginners - Thursdays Experienced beginners - Thursdays and 7/8th Painswick Players production 'Confusions' (p9)	Painswick Centre Town Hall Town Hall Town Hall Painswick Centre 9.30 to 11.00am 9.30am 12.00 to 1.00pm 12.30 to 1.30pm 7.30pm
Fri	7	Country Market - Coffee available - Fridays	Town Hall 10.00am
Sat	8	Painswick Music Society Concert: Jayson Gillham, Piano	St Mary's Church 3.00pm
Sun	9	Bird Club Field Trip: The Dawn Chorus at Ebworth Centre - led by Rob Palmer. (see page 15) Christian Aid Service	Ebworth Centre SO900114 Pitchcombe Church 6.30pm
Wed	12	Christian Aid: Morning Coffee: Lunches: Shop Probus: Women in Wartime. Poems & Readings - Philippa Roberts Horticultural Society AGM & talk followed by refreshments	Christ Church Hall Shires Room, Falcon Town Hall 7.30pm 10.00am to 3.00pm 10.00am
Thu	13	Theatre Club Day Outing to Stratford Christian Aid: Morning Coffee: Lunches: Shop	Town Hall Stamages Car Park Christ Church Hall 10.00am 10.00am to 3.00pm
Fri	14	Christian Aid: Morning Coffee: Lunches: Shop Friday Club: Stone Masonry - Art or Architecture? - Mark Hancock	Christ Church Hall Town Hall 10.00am to 3.00pm 2.30pm
Sat	15	Horticultural Society Outing to How Caple Court & supper at Miserden Vill Hall	Stamages Car Park 2.00pm
Tue	18	Local History Society: Annual Outing to Uley	Uley 6.00pm
Wed	19	Annual Parish Council Meeting	Town Hall 7.30pm
Sat	22	Copy dateline for June Beacon	
Sun	23	Teddy Bear Parachuting: Tel 812879 for information Red Cross Open Gardens	St Mary's Churchyard Around Painswick 12.00 to 2.00pm 2.00 to 6.00pm
Mon	24	Bird Club Field Trip. Songsters at Coates with Martin Wright	Coates - Tarlton Rd near canal SO967003 9.45am
Tue	25	Yew Trees W I: The Barn Owl Centre - Vincent Jones	Town Hall 7.30pm
Wed	26	Probus: Stroud Brewery - Gregg Pilley Horticultural Society Outing to Hampton Court & Bryans Ground in Herefordshire	Shires Room, Falcon Stamages Car Park 10.00am 9.00am
Fri	28	Friday Club: early summer outing - Toddington Railway	
JUNE			
Tue	1	Closure of northern section of New Street (see page 4)	
Wed	2	Parish Council: Planning/Land & Buildings Committee	Town Hall 7.00pm
Sat	5	June Issue of The Painswick Beacon published	
Wed	9	Probus: Life in the Abyss - Roger Jones	Shires Room, Falcon 10.00am
Fri	11	Friday Club: History through War Medals - Christopher Hill	Town Hall 2.30pm
Sun	13	Bird Club: Two day Residential Field Trip: Wildlife on the Gower Peninsula. Details tel: 813823/813094	
Tue	15	Local History Society: AGM	Croft School 7.30pm
Wed	16	Parish Council Meeting	Town Hall 7.30pm
Fri	18	Friends of the Rococo Gardens outing to the Pigeon House, Southam	coach leaves Rococo Gardens 10.00am
Tue	22	Yew Trees W I: The Australian Outback - Bob Price	Town Hall 7.30pm



Wed	23	Probus: From One Language to Another - Tore Fauske Parish Council : Traffic Committee	Shires Room, Falcon Town Hall	10.00am 7.00pm
Fri	25	Friday Club: Life in Stroud 100 Years Ago - Howard Beard	Town Hall	2.30pm
Sun	27	Croft School Summer Fete Jazz on a Sunday (see page 6)	Croft School Painswick Centre	2.00 to 4.30pm Noon to 3.00pm
Wed	30	Horticultural Society Outing to Cottage Herbery Garden near Tenbury Wells	Stamages Car Park	1.00pm

JULY

Fri	2	Friday Club: Tracing Mother - Gilly Padbury	Town Hall	2.30pm
Wed	7	Probus: The Severn Bore - Chris Witts	Shires Room, Falcon	10.00am
Sat	10	Painswick Companion Dog Show & Charity Day Thameshead Singers Summer concert	Recreation Ground St Mary's Church	From 10.30am 7.30pm
Tue	13	Theatre Club Outing to Malvern	Stamages Car Park	6.30pm
Thu	15	Horticultural Society Outing to the Laskett Garden - Herefordshire	Stamages Car Park	1.00pm
Fri	16	Friday Club: President's Meeting	Town Hall	2.30pm
Wed	21	Probus: Ladies' Summer Luncheon		
Tue	27	Yew Trees W I: Beyond the BBC - Roger Jones	Town Hall	7.30pm

AUGUST

Tue	10	Friday Club Outing on River Severn from Worcester to Upton-on-Severn		
Thu	19	Horticultural Society Outing to Powis Castle	Stamages Car Park	8.30am
Wed	25	Theatre Club Outing to Malvern	Stamages Car Park	1.00pm

SEPTEMBER

Wed	8	Probus: Gloucester Docks, Past & Present - Hugh Conway-Jones	Shires Room, Falcon	10.00am
Sat	11	Horticultural Society Annual show	Painswick Centre	2.30 to 5.30pm
Wed	22	Probus: Hidden Gems of Gloucester - Philip Moss	Shires Room, Falcon	10.00am
Tue	28	Yew Trees W I: Bees and Beekeeping - Roger Eldridge	Town Hall	7.30pm

OCTOBER

Wed	6	Probus: Members Talk	Shires Room, Falcon	10.00am
Tue	12	Bird Club: Britain's Breeding Seabirds: Graham Wren APRS	Town Hall	7.30pm
Wed	20	Probus: Hidden Meanings - Peter Petrie	Shires Room, Falcon	10.00am
Tue	26	Yew Trees W I: Demonstration of Enamelling - Jeff Ford	Town Hall	7.30pm

NOVEMBER

Wed	3	Probus: Fylingdales - We are Watching: Mike Speed	Shires Room, Falcon	10.00am
Tue	9	Bird club: Mysteries of migration - Charles Martin	Richmond, Village	7.30pm
Wed	17	Probus: Who'd be a Rugby Referee - Mike Wallace	Shires Room, Falcon	10.00am
Tue	23	Yew Trees W I: Hearing Dogs for Deaf People - Tracey Stevens. Followed by AGM	Town Hall	7.30pm

DECEMBER

Wed	1	Probus: Carry on up the Khyber - Railways in Pakistan: Michael Burdge	Shires Room, Falcon	10.00am
Wed	8	Probus: Christmas Dinner	The Hill, Stroud	
Tue	14	Yew Trees W I: Christmas Gathering	Town Hall	7.30pm
Mon	20	Carol singing around Painswick: Contact Iris McCormick 812879		6.00pm

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NEW APPLICATIONS

ENDERLEY, LONGRIDGE, SHEEPS-COMBE Raise roof line.
3 YEW TREE COTTAGES, SHEEPS-COMBE Erection of two storey extension.
WASHWELL FARM, CHELTENHAM ROAD Resubmission of application 09/1857/OUT for the erection of one dwelling
CEDAR HOUSE, STAMAGES LANE Demolition of existing single garage and construction of double garage
WORGANS BARN, FOLLY LANE, SLAD WARD Variation of condition 1 of permission 05/0372/FUL (extension to time period for implementation)

CONSENT

LLOYDSTONE, STAMAGES LANE Erection of replacement conservatory and 2 storey extension. Internal & external alterations.
OLD SCHOOL HOUSE, STROUD ROAD, EDGE Erection of sunroom.

Land adj. to MILLBROOK HOUSE, KINGS MILL LANE Amendment to application S.09/1177/FUL (New Dwelling) - Proposed Development of a small cellar under entrance hallway and utility of the property.
WESTWOLD, LONGRIDGE, SHEEPS-COMBE Two storey and single storey rear extensions.
BEECHCOTE, LONGRIDGE, SHEEPS-COMBE Demolition of existing car port and garden stores. Erection of replacement garage.
PHOENIX COTTAGE, TIBBIWELL LANE Extensions and alterations.
BEACON HOUSE, NEW STREET Works to TCA 13.

REVISED PLANS

GREENHOUSE BARN, GREENHOUSE LANE Erection of extension

Painswick Parish Council

ALLOTMENT CONSULTATION

Painswick Parish Council is seeking to identify a preferred site or sites for the location of up to 30 allotment plots. A public consultation began on 19th April 2010 with information on seven possible sites being considered by the public.

- Gyde Triangle, Gyde Road
- Land at Mop Tree/ Golf Course adj to A46
- Resthaven Orchard Site
- Resthaven Open Field
- Land at Tibbiwell Lane
- Gyde Field, Gyde Road
- Land at Juniper Hill, Wick Street

We regret that an error was made regarding the Gyde Field information sheet. The planning information for the Gyde Field should state: "The site is in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, within a Conservation Area, outside the Development Boundary".

The Parish Council would like to apologise to all concerned for the error, which is highly regrettable, and invite those who have already submitted feedback forms to amend their forms if the updated information affects their decision in any way.

The Parish Council has amended the remaining information sheets and is highlighting the amendment via posters and local press coverage.

The Parish Council has also agreed to extend the consultation period by a further 4 weeks to provide sufficient time for the public to respond to the amended information. The Consultation period will now close at 4.00pm on Friday 14th May 2010.

Allotment Consultation

· Information handouts and feedback forms are available at Painswick Town Hall and Painswick Post Office.

· Feedback forms can be returned to the Feedback boxes at the Town Hall or at the Post Office.

· Alternatively, please comment via email to clerkpainswickpc@hotmail.com

The Consultation will close at 4.00pm on Friday 14th May 2010.

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MINI-ADS

Garden maintenance, grass cutting and strimming, general clearance, weed control and fence care. Property maintenance; interior and exterior decorating. A professional, friendly and reliable service. Please call Julian on 07895.224863 or juliantelling@yahoo.co.uk

Attention Year 5 parents. Grammar School Entrance exams are early October 2010. Experienced tutor available in Painswick Mondays, Tuesdays or Saturdays; venue to suit. £15 per hour. 01453.753949

Bench, heavy steel: galvanised with frame and cast steel legs. £30 813615

The Sharpening Service. Kitchen knives, garden tools and rotary mower blades. For free advice and quotations telephone Rupert Miles at Bisley on 01452.770788

Aerobics and Fitness Pilates has come to Painswick! Aerobics 9.30-10.30 and Fitness Pilates 10.30-11.30 every Wednesday morning in the Painswick Centre. All abilities welcome. £5 per class. 07747.466807.

Strimmer petrol. Flymo Lite XLT 250+ small lightweight. Five hours use, bought whilst larger repaired. £60 813615

Coopers ash can. Connects to your Hoover, sucks up ash from the fireplace. Almost new. £18 814783

To let - Painswick. Modern cottage style house. Two bedrooms, full central heating and double glazing throughout. Integral garage and road access and parking. £560pcm 813253

Wanted - to rent. 2/3 bedroom unfurnished accommodation in the Painswick area from May. 813642

Video camcorder. 8mm Canon full working order; spare cassettes. £20 814783

VACANCIES

Weekend & Evening Kitchen Porters
Reliable staff needed to assist with washing-up and cleaning in the kitchen in the evenings (5.00 to approx 7.30/8.00pm) and weekends (10.00 am to 3.30pm). Different evenings available.

Carers (including part-time and Bank)
We have vacancies for carers in our 24-bed nursing home for both daytime and night shifts. Experience is essential (NVQ qualifications are preferred). Duties will include all aspects of care.

For information, contact Stephanie Warburton of Richmond Painswick on 813902

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.

Text maximum of 30 words + payment by cheque in advance, to 'The Painswick Beacon', to Dermot Cassidy, 1 Painswick Heights, Yokehouse Lane, GL6 7QS

The Personal Column

Rachel Taylor and Jenny Gaugain

Baby

Congratulations to ANDREW HARRIS and REBECCA CARTER-BOAST of Star Cottage, Hollyhock Lane on the birth of their daughter Flora Bethany Harris on 6th April.

Weddings

Congratulations to RICHARD WOOF and LAURA McKAY who were married on 10th April in Ballykelly, Limavady, Co Londonderry.

Best wishes to MATTHEW PRITCHARD and TRACY MESSENGER who are to be married at 12 noon on 15th May at St Mary's, Painswick,

also to NICHOLAS HILL and VANESSA DOUGERE whose wedding is to take place at 2.30pm, 22nd May at St Mary's, Painswick,

and to QUINN McGOVERN and ZOE FORSTER who are to be married at 4.00pm on 22nd May at Harescombe Church.

Welcome

We would like to welcome Mr and Mrs BROACKES-CARTER who have moved

to Doveton Lodge, 2 Hambutts Mead, also to Mr and Mrs HOSSAIN who have moved to 32 Ashwell.

Farewell

We say farewell to Mr and Mrs PERRILL who have moved from Doveton Lodge, also to Mrs P RUDGE who has moved away to be nearer her family in Liverpool.

Get well soon

Best wishes for a speedy recovery to BOB WATKIN who is in Gloucester Royal Infirmary after undergoing a knee operation; also to SANDRA ILLINGWORTH who recently suffered a fall.

Condolences

Our sincere sympathies to the family and friends of LAURA THOMPSON, KEN OLIVER and ROGER SMITH who have all died recently;

also to DONALD CATHCART on the death of his mother, PHYLLIS CATHCART who died on 3rd April, just ten days before her 100th birthday.

Personal messages

Joyce Hunt and family would like to thank everyone who sent their kind messages of sympathy on the death of Brian.

Eric and Janet Harris wish to thank all who sent kind messages of sympathy on the death of Eric's mother Mary.

Painswick Parish Housing Needs Survey

Copy of the survey report, to which reference is made on page 2 in Parish Council news, and which the Beacon hopes to summarise in its next issue, are available now from the Clerk to the Parish Council at the Town Hall, or from its author:

Martin Hutchings, Rural Housing Enabler, Gloucestershire Rural Community Council, Community House, 15 College Green, Gloucester GL1 2LZ - telephone 01452.528491

NEXT ISSUE
Publication date
SATURDAY
5th JUNE

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including Mini-Ads - Display advertising
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SATURDAY
15th MAY

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