

The Painswick Beacon

Sine praeiudicio

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January 2014

Painswickians of the Year

The Bishops were somewhat taken aback when given the news that they had been voted Painswickians of the Year, but this characteristic modesty had been predicted by those who had nominated them. Conscientious to a fault in their respective roles in Painswick, David and Rita have done so much (and continue to do so) for the benefit of the community at large.

As churchwarden, a voluntary position, David works with both the vicar and the congregation, mostly involving the fabric of the church but with a spiritual element too. In this role David sees himself as a communicator and support - and those he deals with as such regard him as totally effective and utterly likeable.

He is very keen to move the church into greater involvement with the local social scene and wants it to be part of a wide range of community activities. To this end, David has tirelessly encouraged many groups and projects such as Art Couture Painswick, the Diamond Jubilee celebrations, concerts and the Big Apple Day group to breathe new life into both the church building and the churchyard. It has under his gentle but positive guidance become the vibrant centre of the town.

David is always present, calmly and kindly overseeing all the events going on at St Mary's. He is without exception reliable, patient and very kind, helpful and generous according to many. He works tirelessly across the community, believing that all the churches and the community should work together. He is also a stalwart of the Beacon conservation group, working in all conditions so that others may enjoy this beautiful piece of landscape.

Both David and Rita are volunteers at the Rococo Garden. Rita organises the community lunches at Ashwell from October to March. She is also the secretary of Churches Together, a movement dear to both her and David's hearts - they regard themselves as community Christians, always encouraging all the churches to interact. On a weekly basis on Wednesday mornings Rita is an enthusiastic participant in the Open Book Scheme at the Croft School. This national scheme, which began in Gloucestershire, brings Bible stories into schools through simple enactments. Rita considers this important now that schools no longer have regular Christian assemblies. Before coming to Painswick ten years ago David was a nuclear physicist with the Electricity Generating Board and Rita was a chemistry teacher. Most of their working lives were spent in Cheshire and Scotland. They have a son, a daughter and a very new granddaughter. David is a tower bell ringer and Rita a hand bell ringer. She is also in the church choir, belongs to the Thames Head Singers in Stroud, is in the NWR Stroud branch, exercises with the Puffins, walks with the Monday Morning Walkers and both have some involvement with the Scout and Guide movement. This very active couple touch the lives of many people in Painswick and are much appreciated for their kindness and caring support by all who encounter them. They certainly deserve the accolade - Painswickians of the Year.

Carol Maxwell



Painswick Christmas Lights

If you had fancied a midnight stroll through St Mary's Churchyard the night before the Goodwill Evening 2009, you would have come across two busy men rushing to install the anticipated Christmas yew tree lights in time for the following evening's festivities.

The concept was conceived by Chris Mercer of The Chairman Shop, who teamed up with Phil Ion, of local business Core Lighting Ltd., to design and build the lights. There were several requirements: firstly, that the lights should be portable and rechargeable due to lack of suitable mains power in the churchyard, and secondly that they were designed on a budget due to limited funding. Thankfully, several generous individuals and groups kindly donated to enable the scheme to proceed. Others giving significant support and aid are those who refurbished the

lights this year and significantly the untiring group of volunteers who, on a rota organised by Church Warden David Bishop, go out each day to remove and charge the lights then later reinstall them for evening use.

For this reason the power-packs must be removable. Several other design constraints are important, particularly that the brackets do not cause any damage to the trees. They must also turn on and off automatically at 4:30 and 11pm respectively, and be protected from vandalism, so each light is padlocked to its vandal resistant bracket. The lights did, however, in their first year fall prey to vandalism with wires cut, reducing the total number of units to nineteen. This pointless act of sabotage was sadly not in keeping with the Christmas spirit. There have also been problems caused by a traditional Christmas occurrence: temperatures as low as -20°C and heavy snow which reduced the battery life; however, they have been refurbished this year, with an improved design and robustness. On top of the improvements, many have expressed a wish to increase the number of units; one idea is to light the trees on the churchyard paths, creating a more magical setting for the whole churchyard. However, each unit costs £250, and those creating, maintaining and refurbishing the lights are volunteers. Should any person feeling the spirit of Goodwill or just looking to gift the community, funding and donations to take the project further next autumn would be much appreciated. Please contact Chris Mercer (The Chairman@btconnect.com; 07718 624253) or Phil Ion (phil.ion@corelighting.co.uk; 01452 813405). From the initial idea four years ago, the lights have become an annual tradition for our village and have each Christmas created an enchanting and sparkling churchyard for visitors and residents alike to enjoy.

On other pages this month:

Young Painswickian of the year Page 5
Local Fire Service report Page 5
Painswick Surgery page Page 6
Computer scammers Page 9
What is happening on the Beacon Page 10

Isabel Ion

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS 11th December by Mike Kerton

Reports upon meetings of the Parish Council cannot help but be selective, if only because of space constraints. We try to highlight points of widest public interest, based upon what we see and hear.

The full minutes of Council and committee meetings are available for scrutiny at the Council's office.

PLANNING COMMITTEE

After the meeting was opened by the Chairman, Cllr Rob Lewis, there was a presentation by Peter Wood, a resident of Slad. He and other local residents were concerned by the apparent encroachment by a Developer onto Common Land in Slad. In January 2008 a planning application to erect a cottage at the rear of an existing cottage in Slad was submitted to Stroud District Council. Access to the site was over Common Land. Planning permission, subject to conditions relating to access to the Common Land, was granted by the District Council. The petition which was signed by 45 residents reads:

“COMMON LAND SLAD
REGISTERED NUMBER CL153

We the undersigned as Parishioners of Painswick living in the village of Slad object strongly to the encroachment of our common land by the development behind Woodbine Cottage as approved by Stroud District Council Planning Department. We demand that the amenity value and topography of this land be restored to us. Then Stroud District Council Planning Department does not have the authority to grant planning permission on Common Land. Applications and approvals must be made and given by The Secretary of State for Rural Affairs. This has not been done.”

Cllr Rob Lewis confirmed that the Parish Council would arrange a site visit and that the matter would be discussed at the next full Planning meeting of the Council.

Matters requiring a decision

There were 8 matters requiring a decision. Four of the applications were supported, one was deferred until a report had been received from the local Cllr. The Council voted unanimously to object to the remaining three applications including revisions to a development application at Summer Street, Stroud. The Council were only being consulted on the development at Summer Street, Stroud as the land abutted the Council's Slad Ward. They agreed to maintain their original decision to object to the development.

PARISH COUNCIL

As there were no questions from the public Chairman Martin Slinger opened the meeting moving swiftly onto Council business.

Matters of urgency

Cllr Ann Daniels drew the Council's attention to the draft Woodland

Management Plan for the Plantation that had been produced by Mr Terry Fenton. Together with Chairman Martin Slinger and a member of Painswick Golf Club they had walked around the edge of the Plantation. Several of the trees had branches overhanging the wall along the edge of the golf course. This was preventing the grass growing and it was agreed that the trees would be lopped. Also Ash Trees were being cut down and removed from the site. The report will be forwarded to the Forestry Commission seeking a continuation of the grant. The grant is used to maintain the Plantation and is available for inspection in the Parish Council Office.

Matters Arising

Painswick Youth Club Project: Chairman Martin Slinger had attended a site meeting to discuss the paving slabs, the disabled toilet and replacing the “traps” that were to be fitted to the showers. Larger traps were required as the showers were to be used by footballers and the smaller traps could not cope with the “mud”! Cllr Jason Bullingham asked why the larger traps had not been included in the original quote as it was known that the showers would be used by football teams. Martin Slinger explained that there would be a saving as the planned Power Showers were no longer required.

The Post Office: Good News! A meeting of the Trustees of the Painswick Centre had unanimously agreed to apply to Post Office Services to run a Community Post Office from their premises. A store room would be converted into an office for the Centre's Manager and provide space for the Post Office. Although the venture would be a partnership between the Centre and Post Office Services the Parish Council would provide help and non-financial assistance in finding volunteers. Post Office Services would provide full training for the volunteers.

Cllr Rob Lewis expressed his and local residents frustration over the failure to provide a post box by the side of the telephone box. He requested that a strong letter of complaint be sent by the Council to the local MP, Neil Carmichael, who had promised that the post box would be in situ prior to Christmas. Residents who live in the centre of the village or in Tibbiwell Lane now have a considerable distance to walk to a post box.

Canton Acre Turning Circle: Agreement over matched funding had now been agreed between the County Council and Stroud District Council. It appears that the land in the circle is owned by the District Council and the roadway by the County Council! With the reduction in the size of the turning circle there is a

need to delineate the land between both Councils. A row of different coloured bricks will be set into the new tarmac!

Co-option of Councillors

Three members of the public had applied to be Co-opted on to the Council. They had submitted their CV's but one had withdrawn their application on the evening of the meeting. After studying the CV's the Council unanimously voted to co-opt Mrs Emma Smith and Mr David Oxendale to fill the two vacancies on the Council.

The Council then unanimously voted to co-opt Ms Becca Eccles onto the Land and Buildings Committee.

County Councillor's Report

Although present at the meeting Cllr Jason Bullingham submitted a written report. Following a Department of Health inspection earlier this year the County Council has been rated as one of the top six local authorities in the UK for its ground breaking quality programme checking care services for vulnerable adults. The programme included a review of all adults with learning disabilities who were placed outside of the County. Plans have been put into place to bring as many back as possible to the County.

The County Council are now seeking to improve the way it buys care for the elderly and vulnerable people. No review had been undertaken for over a decade. The Council aims to provide residential services for people with higher needs while helping those who want to remain independent to stay in their own homes as long as possible.

District Councillor's Report

District Cllr Nigel Cooper advised the meeting that the District Council budget had been delayed and would be issued in January instead of December.

Painswick War Memorial

The Clerk, Roy Balgobin, had arranged for an expert to inspect the War Memorial, submit a report on its condition and advise on what action would be needed to improve the lettering on the Memorial. The report had been received. The Memorial is grade II listed with only a slight problem to the lettering. This was mainly caused by the depth of the engraving which allowed lichen to grow into the lettering on the dark side of the Memorial resulting in a colour contrast which caused difficulty in reading the names. The lichen could be easily removed and the stonework cleaned at a total cost of £650. Planning permission

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS Continued

would not be required. There followed a discussion over whether or not the Council's Caretaker could undertake the work. Finally the Council agreed to discuss the matter with the Vicar and the History Society before deciding on the appropriate course of action.

At the conclusion of the discussion it was confirmed that the names on the War Memorial are also recorded in the church. A plea was made by the Chairman for relatives to let the Council know the names of any local residents who had lost their lives in any of the conflicts since the Second World War.

Responsible Financial Officers report

After agreeing payment of the outstanding invoices the Council turned its attention to its Precept Setting Policy for 2014/15. The Clerk advised the meeting that Parish Councils had not been "capped" by the Government for the forthcoming year. Ian James, Chairman of the Finance and General Purposes Committee – FGPC - (the Committee responsible for drawing up the Precept) said that requests for funding had already been received from four local organisations plus three from Council Committees relating to renewing carpets in the Cemetery Lodge, alterations to the public toilets and providing alternative accommodation for the Tourist Information Centre (TIC). After a lengthy discussion the Council unanimously agreed to maintain the same policy as they set for 2013/14 with the addition of seeking a Public Works loan for the public toilets project and matched funding for the new TIC accommodation. Local organisations could be provided with non-financial help by way of assistance with road signs, free advertising and car parking. When setting the Precept the FGPC should endeavour not to increase the amount agreed for 2013/14.

Ward Reports

Cllr Rob Lewis queried the Council's decision not to allow a "target fund raising barometer" to be installed outside the Town Hall – see December Beacon. The request had not originated from the Mothers and Toddlers Group but from The Croft School who were seeking local support to help with raising £20k for the upgrading of their computer equipment. This would assist with the education of young children. He was responding to comments made by the school.

The meeting concluded at 9.30pm

Week of Christian Unity January 20th -27th



Each January, we arrange events to encourage people from all sections of the Christian faith (or none) to come together to share fellowship. EVERYONE is welcomed to each and all events.

Monday 20th January CTAP hosts the Community Lunch at 12 – 1.15pm. Ashwell Centre

Thursday 23rd January Afternoon Tea with the speaker - The Rev Mike Holloway. 2.30pm in St. Mary's Church Rooms

Monday 27th January Agape at The Bistro – 7pm

Bring your choice of readings, music, poetry etc and enjoy a light supper (provided by Catalina). There will be a cost of £10 – including tea/coffee.

Tickets available from Terry Parker (tel.812191)

Rita Bishop, Secretary CTAP

Sue Ryder Christmas Fair



Further to my thanks last month to local people making our Christmas Fair such a success. I would like to say thank you to residents of Richmond Village for having many goes at the tombola, and to Kate Rich of the Antique shop and Chris Mercer of The Chairman for donating prizes. With their help we have been able to raise a substantial amount of money towards an "all singing, all dancing" electric armchair.

Ann Williams

Community lunches

We are very pleased to report that the 10 Lunches held this Autumn have raised over £640 so far this session for our 2 local charities, PSALMS – which runs Pulse Youth club and Messy Church for young people, and The Friday Club – for the older folk in the village.

This amount has greatly exceeded last year's total at this point - so many thanks to all in the community who have contributed so far – by providing soup and service – and by coming as customers.

The Lunches start again on Monday 13th January – 12noon until 1.15pm at Ashwell Centre, off Hyett Close, off Churchill Way. Please put the date in your new diary – and come and enjoy homemade vegetable soups, fresh bread and cheese – costing £2.50 – with 50p for tea or coffee if you want it.

Rita Bishop and David Linsell.

Parish Council Boxing Day Walk

On a beautifully sunny morning there was a good turnout for the walk though fewer in number than in previous years. Because of the saturated ground in the Painswick Valley the walkers made their way along Wick Street and Folly Lane before returning to Stamages Lane car park.



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Meister Masonry and the BBC's "The One Show"

Award-winning Meister Masonry of Painswick, Gloucestershire, were chosen by the BBC to create a stone-carved 'grotesque' gargoyle of chef Gordon Ramsey and comedian Greg Davies, presented to them on The One Show broadcast on Wednesday 4 December.

Meister Masonry were delighted to be recommended for this project by the Stone Federation of Great Britain out of any other stonemasonry company in the country following their award-winning reinstatement of the Prestbury War Memorial.

The work carried out for The One Show by David Bean, Carver Mason at Meister Masonry. David said: "I'm really enjoying this piece of work. The main thing is to get the balance between a good likeness of Gordon and Greg, and simultaneously make it a fun caricature focusing on their distinctive features. There's only four days to get done what would normally take about four weeks – so no pressure!"

Managing Director, Melissa Heather said: "We are so thrilled to have been asked to take on this project for national television. It reflects fantastically on the skills of our team. David Bean is one of our most skilled carvers, and I know that he'll rise to the challenge! We are massively looking forward to seeing the show, and watching the reaction of Gordon and Greg to their 'grotesque' carvings."



About Meister Masonry:

Founded in 1991, Meister Masonry Ltd of Painswick is a close-knit team of stone specialists, led by Richard Heather. The company pursues excellence in stone craftsmanship, quality and customer service. It has an outstanding reputation among some of the country's most prestigious clients for professionalism and value.

The majority of the Meister Masonry team of stonemasons learnt their craft working on cathedral and other church stone carving, following the ancient traditions of their craft.

Contact: See: <http://www.meistermasonry.co.uk> or contact Melissa Heather, Managing Director, Meister Masonry: 01452 814421 or mel@meistermasonry.co.uk for more information.

Stephen Aiano

June's big thank you

June Gardiner has been tirelessly working to raise funds for the Cobalt unit based in Cheltenham for several years. In the past few weeks alone she and her band of helpers raised £1,642.00 from a coffee morning, Goodwill Evening sales and Christmas Bingo. June would like to take the opportunity to say a big thank you to all her helpers and supporters in these endeavours and particularly to partner, John Hogg who has been an indispensable and much valued 'gofer'.

Over the years this magnanimous and caring lady has through sheer hard work and relentless energy raised about £70,000 for the unit. A former Painswickian of the Year, she has quietly produced beautiful hand-sewn fabrics with her team of 'sewing ladies', held raffles, coffee mornings, bingo sessions, garden parties and sold goods at countless county fairs and events. The Cobalt unit is always the beneficiary and its work now covers a range of applications across the county and beyond including diagnostic imaging, MRI scanning for cancer and dementia, free training for healthcare professionals locally, nationally and internationally, health education programmes and research.

June's thanks go to all those who have participated in some way, but it is June herself who should be congratulated and appreciated for doing so much to help this immensely important work to flourish.

Carol Maxwell





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Young Painswickian of the Year

Isabella Weatherall has been voted this year's young Painswickian. Not only has Isabella worked to raise money for good causes but she has also displayed an exemplary attitude towards the welfare and wellbeing of others. At only eleven years of age this level of highly developed caring is to be applauded.

Of the many fund-raising projects she has undertaken perhaps the greatest achievement was swimming the distance of the English Channel earlier this year in a swimming pool. It took Isabella five days, swimming approximately 200 lengths each day. She trained hard prior to doing it but, as she points out, it was still a big undertaking. "Sometimes I felt tired," she says "but I was able to carry on and do it because I knew it had a real purpose." As a result the sponsorship money raised enabled her to give £352.26 to the Hedgehog Hospital in Brimscombe for food and medical supplies and £370 to the Painswick Guides for their activity funds.

This was certainly not the first or only occasion on which Isabella has shown community spirit. Aged seven, she swam 99 lengths of the Croft School pool to raise sponsorship for one of the yew trees in St Mary's churchyard. She is often to be found in the hairdressing salon at Richmond Village where her mum, Jo, is a hairdresser. Here she likes engaging in conversation with her mum's customers and sometimes at their bequest will make greetings cards on their behalf. And this summer with the Guides she helped raise money for Cotswold Care by standing all day behind their stall selling a range of goods.

An ex-Croft School pupil Isabella is now in her first year at Millbrook Academy in Brockworth. She has already been acknowledged by the school as 'gifted and talented in art and design' and likes to work hard generally. The school's nominated charity is WaterAid and already Isabella is thinking of starting to organise a major fund-raising project via the school council of which she is a member. If she can convince the staff of its efficacy this would be another swimming event but involving other students and therefore on a much bigger scale than her previous endeavours.

Painswick is fortunate to have several young people who have worked selflessly for the good of others. Isabella is a shining example of this altruism. She is highly motivated and articulate when talking about her fund-raising efforts, enjoying both the sense of achievement and the knowledge that her efforts benefit many others across the community. She is an inspiration and we are sure you will agree that she is a worthy winner of the award – Young Painswickian of the Year.

Carol Maxwell



ZERO SIX PAPA TWO (Painswick fire engine's call sign)

Welcome to a new column bringing you news and information from Painswick Community Fire Station. We will keep you informed about incidents we respond to, our training and community safety.

Painswick were recently mobilised to a major fire at a recycling plant in Chipping Campden where we spent 6 hours damping down rubbish and monitoring the structural stability of the severely fire damaged buildings. At the time of writing, we have just returned from a call to a fallen tree that brought down overhead lines following strong winds.

In November, Andrew Robinson, Chris Garbett and Mark Hancock spent a week attending a 'First person on scene' (FPOS) training course and achieved the qualification endorsed by the Faculty of Pre-Hospital Care which enables us to provide immediate life support before the arrival of the ambulance service.

January tends to be a busy month training wise, with most of us attending an annual Breathing Apparatus (BA) requalifier training course. This course tests our abilities to safely rescue casualties from buildings which are on fire and smoke filled.

January is also the coldest month of the year when people tend to ask more from their heating. Gloucestershire Fire and Rescue Service attend around 300 chimney fires a year some of which cause serious damage to property.

Have you had your chimney swept recently?

You can download a free chimney safety leaflet at: www.glosfire.gov.uk/downloads/ysafety_gfrs_chimney.pdf If you would like any further home safety advice please call 01452 753333 and ask for the Community Safety Team.

We currently have vacancies for firefighters in Painswick. We are looking for enthusiastic men and women from all walks of life, with the common sense, compassion, tact and demeanour to deal with physically and emotionally demanding situations. You will need to have the ability to work as part of a team and you must work or live within five minutes of the fire station. For more information please visit http://www.glosfire.gov.uk/recruit_ff_retff.html

If you would like to join us please visit: <http://www.glosfire.gov.uk/recruitment.html> and fill in the online form or contact me at mark.hancock@glosfire.gov.uk or by phone 07967316038.

Mark Hancock.

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Painswick Surgery News

Important changes to Patient Transport:

From 1st December 2013, patients are asked to book their own hospital transport without the need to pass on the information to the surgery.

Non-emergency patient transport across Gloucestershire will be undertaken by Arriva Transport Solutions. This is for patients who have a medical condition which means they cannot make their own way to hospital, or get into an ordinary car to be taken by a relative or carer. The criteria that determine patient eligibility for hospital transport is determined by the Dept of Health and is based upon your medical condition. Please ask for a patient leaflet at reception.

If you need hospital transport and think you may meet the relevant medical criteria, you should telephone Arriva Non-Emergency Patient Transport 0845 600 6068

We are very sorry but we are no longer able to deal with hospital transport requests.

The work of the Community Dementia Nurse

A new service is being launched to support GP surgeries in the diagnosis, management and treatment of dementia. The Community Dementia Nurse Service has been set up by the 2gether NHS Foundation Trust as an addition to the very successful Managing Memory Service.

This is the first of its kind in the country providing specialist and direct support to GPs. It also has links to the new Dementia Adviser Service delivered via the Alzheimer's Society.

Each surgery in Gloucestershire is going to be allocated a Community Dementia Nurse and their work will focus around 3 key areas:-

- * Advice and support with diagnosis
- * Advice and support in the management and treatment of patients with dementia
- * Short term intensive treatment plans to address immediate care needs.

Dementia care in Gloucestershire is a key priority for our Clinical Commissioning Group and with an ageing population set to increase even further, we are expecting as a county to treat more people with dementia.

People with dementia and their families who may need extra support, can access the Community Dementia Service through the GP, the Dementia Adviser or the Managing Memory Service. Our 'named' Community Dementia Nurse is Sophie Blakeman and she will be based at Weaver's Croft in Stroud. Access will be via a referral from the GP.

If you need help with regard to a memory assessment, and/or support and advice about services for people worried about their memory, you can contact the Managing Memory together Information and Education Service on

0800 694 880 or by email on:- managingmemory@glos.nhs.uk

The Doctors at the Surgery are available on the following days
Dr Barraclough is here on a Monday morning and all day Thursday.
Dr du Toit works on a Monday and Wednesday.
Dr Evans is here every day bar Wednesday.
Dr Heywood is here every day bar Thursday.

Although the doctor you want to see may not be available every day, we provide GP medical cover from 8.00 am through to 6.30 pm every week day with the reception desk open from 8.30 am to 6 pm Monday to Friday. We unfortunately do not have access to any more funds to pay for any more GP time and as with many NHS resources, more and more demands are being made on General Practice without an increase in the resources to cope with that work.

Nicola Hayward, Practice Manager

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Police Report

Crime statistics for Painswick

In September

Ashwell	2	ASB
Gloucester St	1	Criminal damage
New Street	1	Theft
Gloucester Rd	1	Burglary
Gloucester Rd	1	Vehicle crime
Stroud Rd	1	Burglary
Total	7	Last year Sept 7

In October

Pullens Rd	1	ASB
Hambutts Drive	1	ASB
Gloucester Rd	1	Burglary
Gyde Rd	1	ASB
New Street	2	Vehicle crimes
Kemps lane	1	ASB
Total	7	Last year Oct 5

The Mobile Police Station will be in Painswick on the 3rd and 21st January 12.30-1pm and on 4th February

Internet Pharmacy

There has been a lot of confusion recently about a promotional letter sent out by an internet pharmacy based in Leeds. It looks very official and gives an impression it needs to be filled in and returned. Beware. This letter is not linked with or authorized by the Painswick Surgery or ourselves. It is also nothing to do with the Electronic Prescription service (EPS). However, of course you are free to use any pharmacy of your choice.

The Painswick Pharmacy

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Painswick Centre will have another busy year in 2014. In addition to all the regular uses, outlined last month, there will be some specials for 2014. These include three anniversaries: D-Day landings on 6th June; Laurie Lee's birth on 26th June and the start of the First World War.



Negotiations have begun with The Post Office for a "Post Office Local" to be sited at Painswick Centre, probably beside the skittle alley at the far end of the Car Park. The Parish Council are fully supportive of the proposal and the Post Office representative who steers such projects was clearly keen that it should succeed when he met a number of the Trustees in early December. However, it is not yet a "done deal"; there are many hurdles to clear, such as adaptation of building, public consultation, and the training of staff and their leader team. Most critical will probably be the recruiting of a sufficient number of volunteers to make it work. Initially, the new Post Office, offering most of the services previously provided by the New Street building, would be open on two or three days a week, with the ambition to open more often and for longer hours, as increasing support allows. There are many, many 'mights' and 'maybes'; what finally emerges is dependent on the hands-on help of you Painswickians. Much like the Library, only we locals can ensure that we have the service we want.

While one team will work-up an agreed specification for the building and electrical alterations, obtain quotes and seek offers of grants and donations, another will develop the volunteer proposals, and arrange a public meeting as well as other ways of recruiting support. This is where you come in. If you are keen to support the project and especially if you are willing to be one of those who work behind the counter, please register your interest with the Trustee below or the Parish Council Clerk, Roy Balgobin. Painswick Centre Trustees will organise a public meeting at the Centre, where we can learn more and gauge support. Meanwhile to paraphrase (painfully) John F. Kennedy "Ask not what Painswick Post Office can do for you, ask rather what you can do for the Post Office".

Trustee for Enquires etc.: David Linsell (812464)

David Allott

Probus Women Christmas Meeting

The Cranham Handbell Ringers rang in the season of good cheer with a varied selection of both seasonal and classical pieces at our Christmas meeting. The concert began with the carol 'See Amid the Winter Snow' the purity and clarity of the bells echoing the beauty and simplicity of the Christmas Story. Many carols were originally dances but we stayed in our seats for 'Deck the Halls' but took to heart the chorus 'tis the season to be jolly'. There was also a touch of Caribbean rhythms in 'Mary's Boy Child' and this focussed our thoughts on Christmases around the world celebrated in warmer climes. We dashed through the snow on a 'one horse open sleigh' and admired 'Rudolf's red nose'. The concert ended with a heartfelt 'We Wish You a Merry Christmas'. Delia Mason gave a 'Ding Dong' vote of thanks in the form of a poem she had written. The theme of Christmas cheer was then continued with a lovely buffet held in the Church Rooms. Our next meeting will be on 13th January when Elizabeth Payne will be talking about the Cotswold Canal Trust. This is to be an Open Meeting and all are welcome. As usual we meet in the Church Rooms at 10 am for coffee with a 10.30 start.

Jill Roberts, Secretary

The Beacon Archive

JANUARY 2004

Heavy Goods Vehicles

A report to the Parish Council refers to surveys on HGV traffic through Painswick on the A46. The survey shows a 76% drop in HGV traffic between 1993 and 2003 as compared to an average increase of 2.6% increase on other principal roads in Gloucestershire.

Painswick WI met for the last time in December as at the recent AGM it was not possible to form a committee so a decision was taken to close.

JANUARY 1994

End of allotments

There is a lot of interest in a planning application that has been made to Stroud District Council for outline planning permission for a residential development on land off Kemps Lane for five detached houses with access to Kemps Lane.

JANUARY 1984

Croft land go-ahead

Painswick Parish Council has voted to go ahead with the purchase of the surplus land at The Croft School. The decision was made after a lively debate when the council voted 7 to 3 to accept the County Council's offer of the land for £8000.

Small ... but oh so welcome

Dawn's Shed has been a joy during the past few weeks. You will be pleased to know therefore that it will continue to be open in the new year essentially for the sale of a wonderful range of greetings cards.

And Pete, the fish man, will be back in the Town Hall car park selling his usual excellent selection of fresh Grimsby fish on Friday, 10th January from 8.30am to 11.00am.

Carol Maxwell

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Psalms Quiz Night

Approximately 70 people turned up to the PSALMS annual quiz night on the 16th December. As always it was competitive, fun and a really positive event that engaged people of various ages and backgrounds across the Painswick area. We'd like to thank all who helped pull the evening together as it was an amazing team effort. We'd also like to thank everyone who came and the Painswick Centre for hosting us so well as we eagerly await the youth club to re-open. Well done to 'Merry Quizmas' who comfortably won the quiz, and won vouchers for a coffee at the Patchwork Mouse! The top 5 were:

1. Merry Quizmas 78
2. The Penguins 65
3. Odd Man Out 59.5
4. The Krankies 54.5
5. The Inside Buffalos 49.5

Andy Harding

Beacon Village Quiz



Amazingly, within hours of publication last month the first entry for The Quiz, on 8th March, was received. Was it determination to better their 3rd place last year, or determination not to be relegated? The Painswick Bird Club started our list of competing teams.

We very much look forward to others to take up their challenge, and do bear in mind that there is a finite number we can fit into Painswick Centre. Do please book as soon as you can – foursomes who enjoy friendly rivalry. We promise some chuckles too!

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Yew Trees Women's Institute

Brimscombe Hedgehog Hospital – John Crowther



At the last talk of the year we met John Crowther. John and his wife started the Hedgehog Hospital in Brimscombe five years ago to care for these creatures if they become sick or injured. Hedgehog numbers are currently declining and it is becoming increasingly important that we save as many as possible. The organisation relies entirely on donations and the sale of hedgehog-related items such as T-towels and cards and is run by trained volunteers – last year they treated around 160 individual animals.

Few of us realised that baby hedgehogs are born blind, deaf and totally dependent on their mother. Their prickles do not appear until a few hours after birth which must mean that giving birth is less painful than one might have predicted. The male hedgehog disappears soon after mating, so the female is the archetypal single mother, and she looks after her litter on her own until they are weaned at eight weeks of age. Unfortunately hedgehogs are at risk from innumerable hazards including those in our own gardens. These include pesticides and insecticides, strimmers, plastic netting such as those that may be used to support peas and beans and even having a tidy garden may be hazardous to 'Mrs Tiggywinkle'. Hedgerows provide nesting areas and wildlife corridors allowing hedgehogs to travel around an area so their increasing loss could be another reason for the declining numbers. More recently the badger has also been blamed and it is certainly true that a badger will eat a hedgehog especially if it is injured but there is little research to indicate the size of the problem.

John finished his talk by saying that any hedgehog weighing under 500g should be prevented from hibernating and he encouraged all of us to ring him if we found such an individual. The Hedgehog Hospital will be only too glad to take the animal in and get it through the winter.

The Yew Trees WI will finish their programme for the year with a Christmas meal and entertainment provided by Gilly Padbury among others. The next season of talks and visits starts on Tuesday January 28th. We meet on the fourth Tuesday of every month at 7.30 in the Church Rooms and we would all be so pleased if you would join us – keep your eyes on the Village Diary

Vicky Aspinall



The Painswick Singers

The Painswick Singers annual Christmas Concert attracted a large and appreciative audience to St. Mary's Church on 21st December, welcomed by Mike Holloway, the new Vicar. Vivaldi's jubilantly joyous "Gloria" formed the first half of the concert, setting the tone for the season of good will. Headed by conductor Andrew Hopwood, Ed Jenkins extracted a wonderful accompaniment at the organ from the great score ranging from rumbustious allegro to spacious adagio, with the choir responding with obvious enjoyment as did the soloists Becky Shorter and Kathryn Fleming, sopranos and Sachi Hatakenaka, contralto, all showing the great acoustics of the Church.

Carols formed the second half, some traditional and some not so traditional and it is to be hoped that the dedication, performance and obvious enjoyment of the choir might tempt others to try singing themselves. Anyone wanting to give it a try would be most welcome – contact Maurice Maggs 01452 814092.

Ralph Kenber

Beware The Scammers and that's being very polite



I don't know if it is just the time of year, or whether it's just me, but I have been receiving bogus phone calls and emails at an incredible rate over the last month. There are currently two very active scams, one over the phone (to start with) and the other by email.

Let me paint you a picture – you get a phone call telling you that your computer is causing errors on the network or to your ISP (Internet Service Provider) and you must do something immediately, the person who has called you uses words like Microsoft, Windows, errors, problems and they are just the ones to fix it for you, well there's a coincidence, all you have to do is let them logon remotely to your computer and it will all be fine - if you do that it is just the beginning of your problems! Firstly they will try and charge you for this 'service', I have heard of figures from £50 to £200, secondly they will install software on your computer ranging from absolutely useless and worthless to sophisticated and highly dangerous. They are after your details and will leave remote monitoring and sometimes key-loggers (again to steal your details and transmit them to a remote site). What details do they want? Well the obvious ones are bank details, user accounts and passwords, but also more subtle actions, so that whenever you use the internet you are redirected to the sites they want you to visit, bogus sites offering you great deals, free offers and usually lots of 'free' software (speed up your computer, system cleaners, free anti-virus, registry cleaners) – again these sites will install more malware, trojans and possibly viruses. Suddenly your system is in fact running slowly, erratically, browsing is difficult and the stupid computer is just not doing what you want it to! Better get some more of this software that is going to fix it and all for free – and so it continues!

The obvious answer is when you receive a cold call like this (remember they have called you – you have not been looking for help) is to hang up, don't even bother wasting your time talking to them. If you have unfortunately allowed them to access your computer, remove your computer from the internet, stop any payments, direct debits and inform your bank that you have compromised your details immediately, then contact a computer professional of your choice (not a cold caller, or some too-good-to-be true outfit on the internet) to remove all malware and clean your computer.

The second frequent problem is the humble email. You receive an email from your ISP (BT, Talk-Talk, Plusnet, etc.) or it could be your bank and at the moment they are trying with many service organisations, RoyalMail, UPS, Fedex, and recently Vodafone, Facebook and other messaging companies. They will address you as 'Customer', 'User' and other non-specific terms and invite you to open an attachment supposedly containing an invoice, a returns form, a message or a picture – **DO NOT OPEN THE ATTACHMENT** – this will install at the minimum a Trojan, opening your computer, bypassing your antivirus and system protection, usually stealing your address book and any other data they can get to (as above, bank details etc.).

The old rule still applies, if you don't recognise the sender, if you are not addressed personally or if the email contains strange attachments, includes strange links or asks you to provide or confirm your details – **DELETE IT IMMEDIATELY**. If you have inadvertently opened one of these emails – and they do look very convincing, usually correct logos, fonts and company officials), contact a computer professional and seek advice, it may be as simple as changing your passwords or it may mean that you need to have your computer cleaned and any malware removed.


These are just two of the current scams that seem to be particularly prevalent at the moment, but as always there are many more ways that 'They' are trying to attack you, this BBC website shows a few more and highlights things you should be wary of <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/technology-25200338>.

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Yew Trees add sparkle!

A small leaflet entitled "Exploring Painswick - A short walk around an old Cotswold wool town" was originated by the old Painswick WI. Members of Yew Trees WI updated it, and are now responsible for its printing and sale. Copies of the leaflet are available at 30p each, from The Chairman and The Library. By December the small profit made from their sale had grown sufficiently to enable Yew Trees WI to make a contribution toward the repair and maintenance of the Christmas lights in the Church yard. The ladies of Yew Trees WI felt that helping light up the yew trees - thereby adding some sparkle to Painswick - was an appropriate use of this money! Owners of bed and breakfast establishments etc may obtain small quantities of the leaflet by contacting Celia Lougher on 812624 or Maggie Drake on 813841. All profits made will go to benefit the community so please help us sell as many as possible.

Celia Lougher



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Fewer busy bees on The Beacon?



Painswick Beacon Conservation Group finished 2013 with a final push to complete the scrub clearance in several areas. The most impressive area was Long Quarry where nearly 100 pines were felled and about 30 tonnes of logs sent to the Tocknells Court biomass boiler. On December 17th a team of 17 volunteers, including 12 Cotswold Wardens, and two chainsaw professionals, cleared up and burnt a mountain of pine treetops and raked the quarry banks on the sunny side. Many deciduous hardwoods were then felled on the south side so that their stems and leaves will no longer shade the sunny side! The loyal band also enjoyed mince pies and warm spiced fruit juice.

Last month I offered firewood logs, and/or chainsaw training to any who would do a little work with us in exchange. So far the response has been disappointing; the chainsaw course option will end this month and the "free" firewood will be sold elsewhere. Act now if interested.

2014 will be a calmer year for the Conservation Group; more one of consolidation. Our work party frequency will drop back to the usual alternate Saturday mornings; January 4th, 18th, February 1st, 15th, March 1st, 15th.

A special extra will be the 21st Birthday Party, an evening of feasting and fun at Painswick Centre on Tuesday 11th March. It will be a big Thank You to our many volunteer helpers, both members and others. There is still time to qualify, - our modest annual subscription is only £5.

*David Allott, Acting Chairman
(812624)*



What is happening on Painswick Beacon

The Painswick Beacon Conservation Group is carrying out the removal of pines and scrub in Long Quarry to open up the grassland and to create a "scrape" for juniper seedlings as part of the Higher Level Stewardship agreement. Various other scrub clearance work is being carried out by the Conservation Group and the Golf Club as part of the Higher Level Stewardship agreement, again with the aim of rescuing areas that are being lost to scrub.

The felling of ash trees at the southern end of the Common is again to reclaim areas of grassland and to prevent the ash trees from seeding over the species-rich grassland areas adjacent. The spindles have been noted and will be left. Mike Hoey (from the Golf Club) is organising these works. As recorded in the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting (p2), there will also be some removal of beech limbs overhanging the Plantation wall along the edge of the Golf Course. The shade currently there is preventing the grass growing and it was agreed that the trees would be lopped.

Paul Hackman of Natural England has explained that the clearance work next to the houses on Golf Course Road is outside the SSSI and not related to work under Natural England jurisdiction. Work on Common Land, such as this, is overseen by the Planning Inspectorate and subject to their regulations.

Joyce Barrus

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Badgers on our Farm

Nearly five years ago, Defra asked if they could find a group of farmers locally to test a badger vaccine and came to assess the number of badger sets we had. They installed night cameras around our farm buildings. These stayed for nearly two years with some very good photos of badgers, and other animals, around the buildings at night. Defra fed the badgers red and blue pills mixed with peanuts and syrup to find out where their latrines were.

They came up with two mother sets and fourteen single holes within five hundred metres of our buildings and found that their latrines were all on our property.

They then vaccinated the badgers: Cages were laid out on badger runs for a few days, baited with peanuts and syrup. Then the cages were set. Defra returned early in the mornings to the cages, snipping a piece of hair as to mark, then spot spraying and vaccinating the badgers before letting them go. The spot spray and hair was to identify the badgers which had been vaccinated, so they were not vaccinated again if they came back for more over the next couple of nights. Then the cages were removed.

Defra followed this up with trials to see if badgers could be fed on oral vaccine (when the time comes) by placing the peanuts and syrup under slabs of big stones to stop other animals from getting to it. The badgers soon had the slabs and stones off to get to the food.

Over the last two years of trapping, Defra caught and vaccinated twenty eight badgers in the first year, a three way split of old, middle aged and youngsters. This last time they caught seventeen badgers, which they believe had been babies still underground the previous time.

Martin Slinger

Canals in the Landscape

With the Field Club

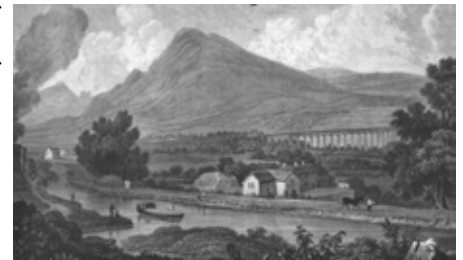


The Field Club's first illustrated lecture of 2014 will be given by Tony Conder on Wednesday 8th January at 2.30 pm, in the Beacon Hall, Painswick Centre.

For many years, Tony was Curator with British Waterways, the body established to care for 2,000 miles of historic waterways and now superseded by the Canals and Rivers Trust. As Curator, he scoured the country for artefacts from the canal age. In the 1980's, he moved to Gloucester to open the National Waterways Museum and helped to develop Gloucester Docks. His talk 'Canals in the Landscape' will reveal the impact of building canals through Britain. Some canals follow a quiet, rural course, along river corridors; others, however, demand magnificent feats of engineering to cross-challenging topography.

Refreshments will be served after the talk and visitors are very welcome at our meetings (£3 charge). Also, please contact me for details of membership or drop into one of our meetings.

Jane Rowe (tel 813228)



"Feathers and Flight" & Winter Wandering :



More excitement at the Club, again meeting jointly with the Gloucestershire Naturalists' Society on 21.11.13 in Painswick Town Hall for a scientific evaluation of "Feathers and Flight" by Dr Tim Sellers.

Species feather counts are amazingly uniform, density highest on head and neck to mitigate heat loss. Linear tracts of feather attachment to wing and body, the narrower, stiffer leading edge of wing feathers (outer vane) and the wider inner vane for overlap confer streamlining, also repelling wind and wet. Distally angled barbs branch to barbules that can hook and unhook, creating a strong mesh and trapping much air for insulation and buoyancy (ergo 'light as a feather!')

So, excitingly emergent, came a vision of the wonder of bird form – flight design clues in Filton's past, even future? Then the demo – lateral airflow over a suspended paper that then rose to the horizontal. Would we find Berneville bewildering (density/ pressure/ velocity theorem) or recognise that greater wing angles of attack confer a much greater lift/drag ratio?

What a fascinating analysis of bird design and flight! Extra wing length enables predators to carry prey, while tail feathers are vital for flight direction and stability and contribute to control in safely alighting from immense momentum. And could peregrine falcons in the Gorge ever get g-force blackout? Going back to school can be good!

The first Bird Club meeting of 2014 will be a Field Trip on the 27th January at the Cotswold Water Park where Philip Williams, bird ringer, will point out some of the area's winter visitors. Meet at the Gateway Centre next to the Spine Road junction with the A419 at 10.00am. Grid reference SU072971. If weather is doubtful, please call 01452 812951

Wendy Addy

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Football mid-season report

The Under 8's and 9's results cannot be published under FA rules but both age groups have teams in the Mid Glos Mini Soccer League. There is also a group for the Under 7's that train on Sunday mornings at the Recreation Ground, Painswick.

As you can see from the activities below Painswick FC fields a lot of teams competitively each week. In addition there are training nights during the week. Anyone interested in joining the Club should call Dave Carlile on his mobile 078 798 66636 or check out the web site www.painswickfc.co.uk

The team results for late November/December have been...
(Picture of the under 8's team opposite)



Under 12's have had a good season so far and are currently 3rd in the Mid Glos Mini Soccer League.

Sat 7 Dec	Painswick FC	2	Wickwar Wanderers	0
Sat 23 Nov	Painswick FC	2	Bream Youth FC	6

The Under 11's are currently 6th in their Mid-Glos Mini Soccer League

Sat 14 Dec	Forest Rangers	3	Painswick FC	0
Sat 7 Dec	Painswick FC	2	Abbeymead Rovers	1

The Under 13's play in the Cheltenham Youth Football League and are currently in 10th position

Sun 15 Dec	Painswick Youth	3	Leckhampton Rovers (Cheetahs)	0
Sun 8 Dec	Lakeside Blues	5	Painswick Youth	1
Sun 24 Nov	FC Barometrics	3	Painswick Youth	2

The Under 14's again play in the Cheltenham Youth Football League and have had an excellent season currently in top spot.

Sun 15 Dec	Fintan	2	Painswick Youth	4
Sun 8 Dec	Painswick Youth	4	Leckhampton Rovers (Cougars)	0

In the Under 14's League Cup the result on the 10th Nov was Painswick Youth beat Gotherington Juniors 6 : 2 Which puts them now in the semi-finals.

In the Gloucestershire FA County Cup, Painswick Youth beat Yate United 5 :4. and now go into the quarter-finals.

The Under 15's again are in the Cheltenham Youth Football League where they are currently 8th,

Sun 15 Dec	Leckhampton Rovers	2	Painswick youth	2
Sun 8 Dec	Painswick Youth	3	Kings Stanley	3
Sun 24 Nov	Painswick Youth	5	Slimbridge	4

Dave Carlile

Badminton

After an enjoyable Autumn of Badminton the Club celebrated Christmas with its annual evening of wine and silly games at the Painswick Centre. The Club still has vacancies for both Monday or Thursday evenings and anyone interested in joining should contact John Wyld on 814349.

The Club welcomes all standards of play but is unable to offer any formal coaching for beginners.



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Golf Club

The golf course and clubhouse is open during the winter months, and is often open when other courses suffer from being waterlogged. Many of us still enjoy the course at this time, though wrapping up warmly and being prepared for wet weather is essential. The warm clubhouse and new caterers are particularly welcoming after completing a round.

There have been a number of social and other competitions in the Seniors' (over-55s) section over the last month. A social bowmaker in late November was won by Brendan Nunan, Roger Anthony and Ian Pringle with a score of 85 points. The Seniors' Christmas competition – a Texas Scramble this year – was won by Phil Taylor, Vern Watkin, Rick Carman and Roger Collier with 55.1 points. And the December Medal (run as a Stableford competition) was won by John Bentley with a score of 44 points. Congratulations to all the winners.

The Seniors' section changes its Captain each year at the start of November. The outgoing Captain, Peter Rowe, welcomed Mike Carter on his appointment.

The Club welcomes visitors – both to play the course and to the clubhouse for food and refreshments. For details of the course, please contact Marc Cottrell on 01452 812615; for details about meals and refreshments, please contact Michael and Tom Horton on 01452 812180.

Peter Rowe



Tennis Club

I would like to take this opportunity to announce that Sharon Hall has decided to retire from her role of administrator and coach from the Painswick Tennis Academy. She has been working very hard along side myself for 8 years now and before that she managed the programme alongside Peter Bolton. Her contribution to the tennis programme has been absolutely enormous and I cannot thank her enough for all of the support that she has given me personally over these last few years and also behind the scenes managing the groups, court bookings, the invoicing, helping organize us coaches (!) and of course everything that she has also done with our younger members on court.

Sharon will be leaving at the end of December so please would you direct all of your coaching and Painswick Tennis Academy enquiries to myself on the contact details below.

Lorraine Ristic Email: thepainswicktennisacademy.co.uk Mobile: 07775 606399

Lorraine Ristic



Rugby

The mini and junior section of the Rugby Club meets every Sunday morning at Broadham and has had a great first half of the season. A number of the age groups have taken part in the annual Gloucestershire Festivals travelling throughout the county and into Bristol as needed. There have also been our usual friendly fixtures with the local sides including Stroud, Minchinhampton, Cirencester and Dursley. In the second half of the season we continue to focus on the festivals and the county cup competition as well as entertaining teams on tour from Pulborough, Cullompton and perennial visitors, Fullarians



If anyone would like to try rugby out then we have age groups from U6 – U17 each with qualified coaches, with 250 children training regularly. We are also a highly sociable club with regular social events, - our next one is the regular Burns Night dinner on 24th January, let me know if you would like to join us.

Chris Hall

Allrunners

The Allrunners, based in Stroud, had their Christmas races at Broadham on Sunday 15th December, starting with the youngsters' races. The Senior Multi-terrain started on Cotswold Mead and took the runners up Stepping Stone Lane, a loop over Juniper Hill and back through the village reappearing at the Finish on Broadham.

Joyce Barrus

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New Year greetings from your Village Agent

I would like to start 2014 with giving details of some very positive and helpful schemes available in our country. First port of call is The Red Cross. Most of us are aware of the incredible humanitarian work they do for people in other countries. Recently they have entered a scheme called "Positive Steps" along with "Mears Safe at Home Service". If you have had, or are at risk of falling, are feeling socially isolated, worried that your house is cold or have relatives living with you who are at risk of falling, they can provide help. They (or Mears) will come and do a free home safety check and can arrange with your consent, the necessary adaptations. Additionally they can provide up to 6 visits to support you. That might be doing some shopping, helping you to access local activities, put you in contact with other agencies, or perhaps collect your prescriptions. This could be a really helpful service if you've had an illness or spell in hospital and are no longer eligible for support through The Enablement team (Social Services), and Age UK's "Home from Hospital" service.

More good news is the "Surviving Winter" grant. 300 elderly people in Gloucestershire are at risk of dying as a result of fuel poverty this winter. A number of our elderly are struggling to keep warm, with many choosing between eating and heating. Winter can be a long, cold and miserable season for some. If you don't really need your winter fuel payment and would like to make a donation, please donate now to the "Surviving Winter" appeal

Are you an older person living in fuel poverty* and need additional support to heat your home and eat properly in the cold weather? A Surviving Winter grant may help. You must live in Gloucestershire to apply. A grant of £125 could assist you with: Paying your fuel bill, purchasing oil, or an oil heater, or go towards your fuel bills, or even buying a warm blanket.

Depending on your circumstances you may be able to apply for additional support and Age UK may also consider applications from other individuals in need who are disabled or suffering extreme hardship.

I look forward to spending 2014 as your Village Agent, so please call me if you are over 50 and requiring help to access information and support. I am also one of the Specialist Agents in this area providing help and support to anyone over 18 affected by cancer (that would include carers, family and friends)

Age UK Gloucestershire, Station Road, Gloucester (01452 422660) and Gloucester and District CAB, 81 Eastgate Street, Gloucester (01452 527202) The Red Cross, Positive Steps 0117 942 5041

*Households are considered by the Government to be in 'fuel poverty' if they would have to spend more than 10% of their household income on fuel to keep their home in a 'satisfactory' condition.

Lou Kemp 07776 245757

Painswick Country Market:



Can You Help?

After the festive break, Painswick's Country Market re-opens on Friday, 17th January 2014 at 10 am. However, the start of the New Year brings fresh challenges with it. Some of our helpers and producers want to retire this year and we will need more men and women to join us in order to continue this friendly, village institution. Would you be willing to help us, or do you know someone else who might be interested?

Treasurer & Manager Sought

We urgently need two people to be our Treasurer and Market Manager. The work of these two roles does not involve attending every Market, because we are a co-operative and have an experienced volunteer team to help you. For example, we have one person willing to deal with the paperwork on the day of the Market, so the Treasurer would not always need to be present. The Market Manager oversees the weekly market, ensuring that it runs smoothly, based on Country Market principles. There is plenty of guidance available, both locally and from our colleagues across the county. Please contact Gwen Welch, our Chairman, on tel. 812540 for more details.

More Cooks Also Welcome!

We are also seeking enthusiastic Cooks to produce cakes and other baking. Alternatively, if your interests lie in making marmalades, jams, chutneys and pickles, we would also like to hear from you. Interested? Then please contact Pamela Westcott on tel. 812471 or me on tel. 813228.

Jane Rowe, Market Secretary, info@painswickmarket.co.uk



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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. Please supply the Beacon with your full name and address although such details will not appear in the Beacon unless you so request.

Village Post Office

John Couch writes:

Am I alone in thinking that the closure of the village Post Office is another aspect of the decline of Painswick?

The increasing demographic, and geographic, needs of the village are now very poorly served by the closure, and this is particularly emphasised in the Festive Season.

Painswick and her residents deserve better.

Parish Council - wake up!

Compliments of the Season to you,

Common Land concern

Gerald Deshais writes

I noticed with interest the letter from Carolyn and John Luke in the Beacon's December edition, regarding a piece of the common where trees were felled. Like them, I was truly astonished and how it had been allowed. Hence, I would be keen on understanding how that situation develops and whether, as they implied, a Commons Act consent application is going to be submitted by the owners, giving people the opportunity to express their views.



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Lots on offer from your Library for 2014



New Year is always a good time to start something new and we've got two computer related activities to (hopefully) tempt you.

There have already been two introductory courses on "Computers for nervous novices" and as they have been so popular Sylvia Steer has kindly agreed to run another one, starting in mid/late February. If you would like to take part please contact Helene Hewett on 01452 814112

For those of you already computer literate and interested in unravelling your family history, Peter Rowe will be running a course over a period of three to four sessions expected to start on Saturday 15th February at 2pm. Places will be limited as the practical aspect will use the two databases available free on the Gloucestershire Netloan library system.

Full details will be available in next month's Beacon and from the Community Library.

You may have noticed in last month's Beacon a reference to the centenary of the birth of Laurie Lee.

The Library already has one event planned and intends to organise more.

If you're dreaming about your holidays we have updated most of our travel guides. There are new guides for several European countries and capitals plus Brazil, China and the United States of America.

As the children's spoken word CDs have proved popular you can now find a range of adult stories on CD, so if you've struggled with "Bring up the Bodies" or just prefer to sit back and listen why not try this new service. (CDs are loaned for three weeks and there is a charge of 60p for a single CD or £1.30 for a multi-pack.)

Finally, last year, we opened as planned in spite of snow and ice and we hope to do the same this year, however, the Library did close early on some days especially in the evening when the temperatures fell below freezing making it treacherous for both customers and volunteers. If you're not sure if the Library will be open I suggest you contact us on 01452 814744 before setting out.

Pat Francis Librarian.

Croft School News

School Governor Vacancy (voluntary role)



Following our advert in the Painswick Beacon in June 2013 our Governing Body has been joined by Ian Cridland and Barbara O'Dwyer. Ian is a Chartered Chemical Engineer, and worked for 30 years in the oil industry in various technical and managerial roles. He has been a school governor before, at a primary school in Kingston, Surrey. Barbara has been head teacher in four primary schools over the last 20 years, in Essex, West Berkshire and until July this year in Oxfordshire. We are delighted to have Ian and Barbara on our team and hope to successfully fill our current vacancy for a Community Governor.

As a Governor, your duties will include setting the school's strategic direction, policies and objectives and approving the budget. You will attend and contribute to meetings of the Governing Body and relevant committees depending on your interest and expertise.

If you would like to know more about becoming a Community Governor please contact either Mrs Ceris Towler, Head Teacher or Mrs Liz Little, Chair of Governors.

Donations of wool

The children of The Croft School are turning their hand to weaving next term and the teachers would be very grateful for any donations of blue, green or brown wool. If you have any spare balls of wool of those colours you would like to donate, please either contact Ella Skelston on 07912 756473, who will gladly come and pick it up, or drop it off at the school reception. Many thanks in advance for any donations.




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Country Studio

Country Studio held its Christmas party on Tuesday 17th December, in the Church Rooms. A Buffet lunch with wine, a chance to socialize and look at members' work portrayed on the walls. Also a Table Sale and Raffle. A friendly group, we support and help each other in our own work. We have a couple of demonstrations from visiting artists during the year. We also have an annual exhibition in August.

If you are interested in joining this informal group, we meet every Tuesday morning in the Church Rooms

Contact Glynnis Mayes on 814148 or Malcolm Minnie 813662.

Music Appreciation group



An eccentric record collection selection is what we enjoyed listening to on 28th November, played by our eccentric record collector friend and member, Dennis Morgan who, believe it or not, possesses more than five thousand recordings! Amongst others there were works by Beethoven, Delius, Strauss, Handel, Mozart, Debussy, Britten and Saint-Saens and we had to guess who the first person or group of people mentioned in each piece was connected to - someone that would be revealed later. This turned out to be our wonderful singer Kathleen Ferrier with landmarks of her exciting career. An entertaining and instructive evening.

And then our cheerful Christmas Social on 12th December. As in previous years there was an excellent buffet supper combined with light-hearted musical entertainment comprising a quiz and Andrew Brotherton (Leslie's son) providing a delightful ending of the evening on his jazz and acoustic guitars.

Next meeting 9th January with Howard Allen presenting "Three B's".

Ralph Kenber

PROPERTY REPORT for January from Murrays

Firstly we would all like to wish you a happy New Year and hope that you all had a lovely Christmas and enjoyed the festivities. Murrays are also delighted to announce that we now have a new addition to our team - Jamie Dalrymple Hamilton MRICS FNAEA.

Jamie is a Chartered Surveyor with over 30 year's experience advising on the marketing and sale of all types of residential properties who has lived locally at Barton End, Horsley for most of that time. After graduating from the Royal Agricultural College, Jamie qualified as a Chartered Surveyor in 1981 and worked for Knight Frank in Scotland initially before returning to the Cotswolds in 1987, when he joined Jackson-Stops and Staff in Cirencester and was latterly Director in charge of that office.

Murrays are a progressive firm who all share Jamie's belief in offering the highest levels of personal service while embracing the latest technology. The internet now allows all firms to compete on an equal footing when it comes to marketing properties, but it is how these opportunities are exploited which is crucial. Marketing has always been a particular interest of Jamie's and he especially looks forward to using his extensive experience in helping Murrays' clients receive the best possible service in this respect. We look forward to working together and also using his expertise for our future progression in the housing market.

The last couple of months have again been hugely successful for us with property still coming to the market and being sold all the way up to Christmas, traditionally a quiet time, but not this year! Nationwide have said that there was a 0.6% rise in house prices in the UK in November which is 6.5% higher than in November 2012, the strongest rise since July 2010 but they are still 6% below the 2007 peak. They are also predicting that house prices will continue to rise in the New Year and that the market will continue to grow. Remember that if you are thinking of selling in the New Year then all you need to do is give us a ring on 01452814655 and we will give you a free market valuation, or visit our website - www.murraysstateagents.co.uk. It looks as though we are in for a positive year ahead!

Despite the time of year we have continued to take on lots of lovely new properties including The Fiery Beacon, a Grade 11 listed part commercial and part residential gallery and 4/5 bedroom house right in the centre of the village, Highfield a spacious Cotswold stone 3 bed family house on Edge Lane with panoramic views (already under offer), The Bunch of Grapes, a detached 4 bed Cotswold stone house with large garden and lovely views on Cheltenham Road, 14 Gyde House, a contemporary 2 bed apartment within the famous converted Gyde House and grounds and Shetlands, a charming detached Cotswold stone cottage on Far End Sheepscombe which is believed to be one of the oldest houses in the village!

Properties that we currently have under offer in Painswick alone are Highfield and 2 Hambutts Cottages, both on Edge Road, 8 Canton Acre and 14 Canton Acre, 17 Hyett Orchard, 18 Upper Washwell and 10 Randalls Field off Kingsmill Lane. Also under offer through the Painswick office are: 44 Acres of land in Holcombe near Painswick, Uplands, on the Painswick Beacon, Chandos on Cranham Corner, Hazelning in The Vatch, Slad, Leverets Barn in Brimpsfield and No 1 Maitlands in Brookthorpe. Properties that have now sold are 3 Hambutts Cottages in Painswick, Rectory Barn in Bisley and Far End House on Far End in Sheepscombe.

On a slightly different note I thought I would let you know that I have now successfully climbed Mount Kilimanjaro, an amazing experience, for Cancer Research UK raising over £6,000 and would like to thank all of you that have supported and helped along the way

James C Murray - Partner

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JANUARY

Sat	4	Painswick Beacon Conservation Group Scrub Clearance Working Party: location check - 812709	Painswick Beacon	10.00am to 1.00pm
Sun	5	Holy Communion (BCP) Mass Sung Eucharist Evensong	St Mary's Church Catholic Church St Mary's Church St Mary's Church	8.00am 8.30am 9.30am 4.00pm
Mon	6	Short Mat Bowls - Mondays (contact 813627) Yoga (Mondays) contact Kim 812623 Painswick Community Choir - Mondays (Enquiries: Sophie 01453 298138)	Town Hall Sheepscombe Vill. Hall Painswick Centre	10.30am 6.30 to 8.00pm & 8.15 to 9.45pm 7.00 to 8.30pm
Tue	7	Zumba Gold dance fitness class for Seniors: £5 pp Tuesdays Bingo: Tuesdays – Tel. Ann, 813911/Liz, 814890	Painswick Centre Ashwell House	10.00am 6.30 to 9.00pm
Wed	8	Yoga (Wednesdays) contact Kim 812623 Probus: Life & Times of Glubb Pasha - Brian Ashworth Cotteswold Naturalists' Field Club Lecture: Canals in the Landscape - Tony Conder. Enq. 813228 Horticultural Society: Conservatory & House Plants - a Survival Guide - Philip Aubrey Table Tennis sessions - Wednesdays. Enq. 812464	Sheepscombe Vill. Hall Painswick Centre Painswick Centre Church Rooms Painswick Centre	9.30 to 11.00am 10.00am 2.30pm 2.30pm 7.00 to 9.00pm
Thu	9	Yoga - All Abilities (Thursdays) Cotswold Room 812623 T'ai Chi: Thursdays - Contact 812344 Dog Training Club (Thursdays) Jolly Stompers Line Dancing: Beginners - Thursdays Experienced beginners - Thursdays Music Appreciation Group: Three B's	Painswick Centre Painswick Centre Town Hall Church Rooms Town Hall Town Hall Town Hall	9.30 to 11.00am 9.30am 9.30 to 12.00noon 12.00 to 1.00pm 12.30 to 1.30pm 7.30pm
Fri	10	No Country Market (until 17th Jan) Friday Club: The History of Inn Signs - Angela Panrucker	Town Hall	2.30pm
Sat	11	Saturday Walking Group: for info Tel: 812965	Stamages Car Park	10.00am
Sun	12	Holy Communion (BCP) Mass Family Communion	St Mary's Church Catholic Church St Mary's Church	8.00am 8.30am 9.30am
Mon	13	Community Lunch: Hosts - Painswick Centre Trustees	Ashwell Centre	12 noon to 1.15pm
Tue	14	Cupcakes for Carers & dependents: for info tel: 813326	P. Centre Green Room	1.30 to 4.30pm
Wed	15	Parish Council Meeting	Town Hall	7.30pm
Fri	17	Country Market reopens: Coffee available - Fridays	Town Hall	10.00am
Sat	18	Copy Date for February Beacon Saturday Market; various stalls Painswick Beacon Conservation Group Scrub Clearance Working Party: location check - 812709	Town Hall. Lower Room Painswick Beacon	10.00am to 4.00pm 10.00am to 1.00pm
Sun	19	Holy Communion (BCP) Mass Sung Eucharist	St Mary's Church Catholic Church St Mary's Church	8.00am 8.30am 9.30am
Mon	20	Community Lunch: Hosts - Churches Together	Ashwell Centre	12 noon to 1.15pm
Tue	21	Local History Society: The Origins of Pub Signs - Angela Panrucker	Croft School	7.30pm
Wed	22	Probus: Why Restoration Matters - Mike Guest, Chairman Cotswold Canals Trust	Painswick Centre	10.00am
Thu	23	Christian Unity Week: Afternoon Tea with Revd. Mike Holloway speaking Music Appreciation Group: The Romantic Piano	Church Rooms Town Hall	2.30pm 7.30pm
Fri	24	Friday Club: Teddy Bear's Triumph - Harvey Sagar	Town Hall	2.30pm
Sat	25	Burns Night Supper at Hortons	Painswick Golf Club	
Sun	26	Holy Communion (BCP) Mass Service of the Word	St Mary's Church Catholic Church St Mary's Church	8.00am 8.30am 9.30am
Mon	27	Bird Club: Winter Migrants: A walk in the Cotswold Water Park with Philip Williams; Meet at Gateway Centre (grid ref; SU072971) Community Lunch: Hosts Yew Trees W.I.	Cotswold Water Park Ashwell Centre	10.00am 12 noon to 1.15pm

		Christian Unity Week: Agape at the Bistro. Tickets £10 from Terry Parker	Cardynham House	7.00pm
Tue	28	Yew Trees WI: My Career in Policing - Dr Tim Brain Painswick Players playreading: Everyone welcome	Church Rooms 2 Gyde House	7.30pm 7.30pm
FEBRUARY				
Sat	1	February Issue of The Painswick Beacon published Painswick Beacon Conservation Group Scrub Clearance Working Party: location check - 812709	Painswick Beacon	10.00am to 1.00pm
		Theatre Club Outing to Bath	Stamages Car Park	11.30am
Mon	3	Community Lunch: Hosts Painswick Golf Club	Ashwell Centre	12 noon to 1.15pm
Wed	5	Probus: Gloucester Cathedral Through the Ages - Peter Petrie	Painswick Centre	10.00am
		Cotteswold Naturalists' Field Club Lecture: A Medieval Norwegian Pilgrimage - Dr Steve Blake. Enq. 813228	Painswick Centre	2.30pm
Thu	6	Music Appreciation Group: Up Down and Around	Town Hall	7.30pm
Fri	7	Friday Club: Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust	Town Hall	2.30pm
Sat	8	Saturday Walking Group: for info Tel: 812965	Stamages Car Park	10.00am
Tue	11	Cupcakes for Carers & dependents: for info tel: 813326	P. Centre Green Room	1.30 to 4.30pm
Wed	12	Horticultural Society: Plant Hunting in the Mountains of South America - Dr K Ferguson	Church Rooms	2.30pm
Thu	13	Bird Club: Bulgarian Wildlife - Helen Mugridge ARPS	Town Hall	7.30pm
Sat	15	Saturday Market; various stalls Painswick Beacon Conservation Group Scrub Clearance Working Party: location check - 812709	Town Hall. Lower Room Painswick Beacon	10.00am to 4.00pm 10.00am to 1.00pm
Mon	17	Community Lunch: Hosts Friday Club	Ashwell Centre	12 noon to 1.15pm
Tue	18	Local History Society: Do You Remember Adlestrop - Tony Conder	Croft School	7.30pm
Wed	19	Probus: The War Years in Words and Music - Malcolm Lewis	Painswick Centre	10.00am
Thu	20	Music Appreciation Group: Handbells	Town Hall	7.30pm
Fri	21	Friday Club: Antarctica - Sally Lamerton	Town Hall	2.30pm
Tue	25	Annual meeting of Painswick Country Market & Lunch. Enq. 813228 Yew Trees WI: Shelterbox - Disaster Relief Charity: Liz Odell. Open Meeting	Town Hall Church Rooms	10.30 for 11.00am 7.30pm

MARCH

Sat	1	Painswick Beacon Conservation Group Scrub Clearance Working Party: location check - 812709	Painswick Beacon	10.00am to 1.00pm
Tue	11	Cupcakes for Carers & dependents: for info tel: 813326	P. Centre Green Room	1.30 to 4.30pm

Entries for the Village Diary should be sent direct to **Eddie Buttrey at: mikeandeddie@thebuttreys.com**

Cobalt's 'Big Sort' Volunteers needed

Takes place in January each year, where a team of dedicated volunteers help us to sort all the used Christmas cards into designs for next Christmas. This year's 'Big Sort' will take place from Monday, 6th January, until Friday 24th January.

We're always grateful for volunteers to help us with the sorting. We sort at Linton House, Cheltenham every day (Monday to Friday) from 9am-4pm and each day is split into 2 shifts: 9am-1pm and 1pm-4pm. Please can you spare us a few hours on one or more days during the sort? If you would like to get involved then please phone Mary Peterson on 01242 535920 or email mary.peterson@cobalthhealth.co.uk

Please note, the last date we can accept Christmas cards is Wednesday January 15th 2014. We are happy to accept any other types of cards throughout the year.

Many thanks for your continued support..

Pat Glanville

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PLANNING MATTERS

Information received from the Parish Council

NEW APPLICATIONS

DOLPHIN HOUSE, Vicarage Street
Yew Tree x 1. Prune back the stub branches to the main stem. 3m from ground level. Undertake branch reduction work to the primary branches by 3m. Reason. To leave the tree with a compact grown, increase the light levels in the garden.

PAINSWICK VIEW, Back Edge Lane, Edge
T2 Sycamore – Minor Crown Thinning.

THE OLD VICARAGE, Damsells Mill Lane, Sheepscombe
Fell two Silver Birch trees.

HILL HOUSE, Gloucester Street
Fell 3 Lawson Cypress trees and 1 Malus trees to near ground level.

COURT HOUSE, Hale Lane
Change of use from Residential to a 'mixed use' comprising C3 Residential and C1 Guesthouse accommodation.

8 WHITE HORSE LANE,
Rear dormer extension.

BUTHCHERS ARMS, Damsells Mill Lane, Sheepscombe
Internal and external alterations and extension to provide new toilet facilities and extended dining. Provision of cold store with shelter and demolition of existing lean-to-store.

EDGE HOUSE, The Green, Edge Lane, Edge
New Wall to replace derelict wall at the front of the property.

THE GRANGE, Sheepscombe
Conversion of coach house to create ancillary accommodation.

KNAPP FARM, The Vatch, Slad
Change of use of agricultural yard to domestic dwelling, proposed new garage, proposed extension and new access gates/walls.

CONSENT

LONGHOPE, Blakewell Mead
Erection of dwelling

THE MALT HOUSE, The Green, Sheepscombe
Minor amendment to Listed Building Consent S.12/0620/LBC

THE REDDINGS, Slad Road.
Erection of replacement extension and a detached garage/gym/studio building. Creation of additional vehicular access.

SHEEPSCOMBE HOUSE, Jacks Green
Internal alterations to cellar floor.

SHEEPSCOMBE HOUSE, Jacks Green
Free standing aluminium and glass structure over outdoor swimming pool.

VALLEY WAY, Vicarage Street
Palm – Fell by sections to near ground level.

DOLPHIN HOUSE, Vicarage Street
Yew Tree x 1. Prune back the stub branches to the main stem. 3m from ground level. Undertake branch reduction work to the primary branches by 3m. Reason. To leave the tree with a compact grown, increase the light levels in the garden.

MINI-ADS

COACH TO BATH

There will be spare seats on the (Theatre Club) Coach to Bath on Saturday, 1st February, leaving Stamages Car Park at 11:30 am. The return fare will be £10:00. If interested, please ring 812332

BUSINESS

Babysitting Painswick resident, well mannered and polite, student at Cheltenham College, available for babysitting: I am 17, have my own transport and am experienced with childcare. Please call Liberty on 07850 349901

New Year Spring Clean? Housekeeping/Cleaner £10 per hour (One off Cleans available fixed price only) Excellent References. Incl. Gardening - shopping - ironing. Tel: 07784385540

Exceptional, secluded building plot on village boundary with full consent S.13/2099/FUL: magnificent views. Part single storey; with full curtain-wall glazing. Detail <http://baggyannie.com>. Closed bids by 30 January. Document details 01452.260046 or 813101.

Cottage in Centre of Painswick: 2 good-sized bedrooms, kitchen-diner, sitting room, downstairs bathroom, gas ch; small garden. £675 per month/ 01452 812419 or (evenings) 01773 830691

'Housemother' role needed for a Juice Retreat business. Making fresh juices, looking after the guests etc.. Painswick location, flexibility and car essential. Part Time/Flexible hours. Contact Helen at Helen@lilou.me.uk or on 07749518024

Sheepscombe Ball

Sheepscombe Ball will once again be taking place next Summer - Friday 27th June at Sheepscombe Village Hall. Tickets will go on sale from this month) Please contact me on lindseybeer007@btinternet.com or phone and leave a message on 01452 810783.

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Thank you

Beacon subscribers

as at 22nd December	2013- 2014	This date last year
New or renewed after lapsing	41	47
Renewed from last year	448	516
Total including postal	489	563

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Text maximum of 30 words + payment by cheque in advance, to 'The Painswick Beacon', to Joyce Barrus, Millcroft, Steppington Lane, Painswick GL6 6RU

BIRTHS

To RICHARD and LAURA WOOF a daughter Evie Kate on 10 December, sister to Isabella and second granddaughter for Mike and Jackie Woof.

Congratulations to ALEXANDER and WULAN MEARNS on the birth of their first baby a boy, Luke Alexander born on 30th October in Singapore, second grandchild for Diane and John Mearns, also congratulations to HANNAH MEARNS and DAVID LANSDOWNE on the birth of their second child, a baby girl Darcy Mae born on 9th December in St Thomas's London, a sister for Cameron and third grandchild for Diane and John Means.

THANKS

Linda Cooke wishes to thank Richmond, Mick at the chemist, and the biggest thank you to Mick and Jill at the Royal Oak for all their support when I did the "Race for life".

The Personal Column

Jenny Gaugain

You could help Jenny Gaugain, if you would relay information about those you know and for whom a mention in the Personal Column would be appreciated.

His Honour Kenneth Smithies

The Funeral Mass for retired Judge, His Honour Kenneth Smithies, was held in St Mary's Church on Friday 6th December. The Requiem Mass was arranged by the Society of St. Pius the Tenth and celebrated in the Tridentine (Latin) rite.

The Society was formed in 1970 in order to continue with the Roman Catholic Church's liturgy which existed prior to the changes introduced in 1964. The Vicar of Painswick, Rev Mike Holloway, said "We're very pleased we were able to help our Roman Catholic friends with this funeral. It's always good when the different branches of the Christian Church can co-operate and

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web site - about us

www.painswickbeacon.org.uk

for current issue and archive, our history and aims, the annual directory, village maps and the current weather forecast

Painswick Playgroup

The children of Painswick Playgroup took part in their highly anticipated Nativity this December, to a packed out audience of parents, grandparents, carers, and siblings from The Croft and guests from Resthaven Care Home. As always, we were treated to the most wonderful show. The children, some as young as 2 1/2 performed the traditional Christmas Story and sang Festive carols, to the delight of the audience - there was not a dry eye in the house! On behalf



of the parents, we wanted to say a big thank you to the Staff for arranging such a wonderful performance and for all their hard work this term, and especially to Beaty who directed the Nativity - her last as sadly she is due to 'retire' from Playgroup in 2014 to look after her Grand-children (not exactly retirement!).

Did you know Painswick Playgroup is a non-profit making organisation with Ofsted Outstanding status. This year we are fundraising to improve equipment for the children - please look out for further information regarding our main fundraiser - The Easter Egg Hunt - it's going to be amazing! Please support us by attending with your families - it's a magical day!

Lizzie Gordon

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