

The Painswick Beacon

Sine praeiudicio

Volume 38 Number 10

January 2016



This Christmas two local choirs, Painswick Singers and Thames Head Singers, along with members of the Capriol Orchestra, joined together to sing Part One and other excerpts from Handel's Messiah and a variety of carols, along with some congregational carols on 19th December. Conductor was Andrew Hopwood and the choir was accompanied by Christopher Bootle on the organ.

If you would like to be part of the Painswick Singers, please do come along to a Monday evening rehearsal (7:30pm) or email Painswicksingers@gmx.com to join the fun.

Painswickian of the Year

Ann Williams was somewhat taken aback on receiving the news that she had been voted Painswickian of the Year. She was lost for words, an unusual state for such a gregarious and outgoing lady who, it has to be said, is known for her tireless involvement in so many Painswick causes and activities.

Ann came to live in Painswick in 1983 and is now very much a part of all those positive aspects of life here. She is a volunteer in the Community Library and also with Tourist Information. She serves on the committee of Friends of the Rococo Garden where she is also a volunteer. Responsible for publicity with the Music Society, Vice-Chairman and programme secretary of the Friday Club, an SLG committee member (the liaison group which aims to effect greater integration of Richmond Village into the local community) and a committee member of the Music Appreciation group you could be forgiven for thinking that there was no time left in Ann's busy schedule. Far from it!

She is a member of Busy Bees, formerly a WI group, which meets to knit jumpers for children in Africa. And for her own pleasure Ann belongs to the Field Club, PADFAS and she practises Tai Chi. At home she loves tending her garden and does beautiful tapestry work, evident in the lovely cushion covers adorning her chairs.

Ann grew up in Liverpool where she also trained as a physiotherapist, her lifelong career. She moved to London to work and then spent a couple of years practising in South Africa which she recognises was an interesting and important life experience. She returned to London where she worked in Harley Street and continued there even after moving to Painswick, commuting weekly. Eventually she opened Five Valleys Physiotherapy in Stroud, but also had the Cottage Clinic above her garage in Vicarage Street until she retired. Of Painswick she says, "I love it. It was the best decision of my life to come and live here." She knows many people locally- and they in their turn think very highly of her. Enthusiastic, motivated, community-minded, positive, hard-working, full of life and vitality, a 'people person' are some of the words given to describe her. Most of all she is known as someone who works tirelessly in the background for all the groups for whom she volunteers, never seeking publicity for herself and always the first to offer help or assistance where needed.

This lovely sociable lady, whose positive outlook and unflinching energy and enthusiasm continually benefit our community, assuredly deserves the honour of being voted Painswickian of 2015.



Carol Maxwell

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS from the meeting held December 9th 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

The meeting was opened by Chairman Cllr Rob Lewis. Apologies had been received from Cllrs Emma Smith and Steve Morris. As there were no public questions the Chairman moved swiftly on to the Agenda.

Matters arising

Chairman Rob Lewis advised the Meeting that he had attended the Stroud District Council's Development Control Meeting on the 8th December. He had presented the Council's objection to the proposed development of land south of the Park – see article in December issue of the Beacon. Although "The Officers" had recommended approval of the development the Council voted to reject the proposal. The Chairman wished to place on record his thanks for the hard work of the Clerk's Assistant Irena Litton in preparing the position paper and to District Councillor Nigel Cooper for his support.

Matters requiring a decision

There were thirteen matters requiring a decision.

- Land at Summer Street, Stroud. Residential development for up to 20 dwellings (including a minimum of 30% affordable housing), demolition of stables, planting and landscaping informal open space, surface water attenuation, a vehicular access point from Summer Street and associated ancillary works with associated open space and landscaping with all matters reserved with the exception of the main site access. The Parish Council have been asked to comment on a Consultancy only basis by Stroud Town Council to whom the Application has been made. There was unanimous agreement to object to the proposal as it fell within an "Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty".
- Old Fleece, Bisley Street. Proposed change of use from offices to Hair Salon (A1) on ground floor and a single apartment on the upper floors. Unanimous agreement to support the application.
- Woodlea, Slad Road. Demolition of attached coal and bin store. Construction of new extension and conversion of existing garage to provide an annexe for a dependant relative. Unanimous agreement to support the application.
- Tocknells House. Two applications – one for a listed

building. Erect a greenhouse and potting shed following demolition of the existing potting shed. Unanimous agreement to support the applications.

- Mobile Home, Lyncombe Farm. Retrospective application for siting of mobile home with terrace and small decking area for temporary period of three years. After a long discussion the Council agreed to defer their decision until the next meeting and seek advice on this application from the District Council.
- Hammonds Farm, Wick Street. Alteration and adaption of agricultural buildings to enclose a biomass boiler. Unanimous agreement to support the application.
- Rosebank Cottages, Slad. Demolition of 1960's lean-to to allow construction of single storey extension. Conversion of lean-to to relocate WC. Unanimous agreement to support the application.
- Tamarin, Longridge, Sheepscombe. Demolition of existing bungalow and erection of replacement dwelling. Outline application only. Unanimous agreement to support the application, subject to full planning application.
- Cotswold88 Hotel, Kemps Lane. Urgent works required to repair and rebuild garden pagoda roof (near to collapse) and retaining stone wall to upper level of garden which has serious structural movement and likely to fall away. Both are in the hotel grounds. Unanimous agreement to support the application.
- Land Parcel to North of Hill Farm – Revised Plans. Erection of agricultural building. Cllr Martin Slinger declared an interest in this application and left the meeting whilst it was discussed. Unanimous agreement to support the revised application. Cllr Slinger then returned to the meeting.
- The Chalet, Bulls Cross. Application for Certificate of Lawfulness for existing use. As the Chalet has existed as an independent dwelling since the early 1970's unanimous agreement to support the application.
- Lyncombe Farm, Cheltenham Road. Application to fell or coppice various trees.

Unanimous agreement to support the application

PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman Martin Slinger opened the meeting and as there no questions from members of the public moved quickly on to the main Agenda. The Clerk, Roy Balgobin, reported that apologies had been received from Cllrs Emma Smith and Steve Morris.

Matters of Urgency

Cllr Mike Fletcher reported to the Meeting that he was still in negotiations with possible tenants of the converted conveniences in St Mary's Street.

County Councillors Report

County Councillor Jason Bullingham was unable to attend the meeting but had circulated his November report. The County Council are currently seeking views on how to prioritise the funding available for public transport. The Draft Local Transport Plan includes policies and scheme priorities across all modes of transport. Meetings have been held across the County in late November and early December. The consultation will end on 5th February 2016.

The report also outlined the extension of the Telecare Response Service pilot to other areas including Painswick. See article on page 3.

District Councillor's Report

Neither of the District Councillors were present at the Meeting nor had a report been received.

To consider a request from Art Couture Painswick for support towards the ACP Festival 2016

A request for the Council to support the 2016 Festival had been received from ACP. After discussing the matter the Council unanimously agreed a £500 grant towards the printing costs and would assume responsibility for the temporary road closures and providing the traffic cones

Gloucestershire Fire and Rescue Review. Proposed closure of Painswick Fire Station

Clerk Roy Balgobin advised the Meeting that 52 people had signed the online petition and a further 600 had signed the petitions in local shops and businesses. The petition was available for signature via Social Media.

Arrangements would be made for the Chairman, Cllr Martin Slinger, to personally deliver the petition to the Chair of the County Council.

To receive and consider a report on

the Parish Council IT and agree the recommendations

Cllr James Cross had carried out a detailed survey of the Council's existing IT equipment. The survey identified the need for staff to be able to access information when away from the office, regularly back up records on a separate hard disc, improve security, have the ability to prepare spread sheets and enable staff to work independently whilst in the office rather than waiting for a "free screen". The recommendation was that the existing IT equipment be replaced, cost £1,100 plus a monthly update charge of £6.99. There was unanimous agreement to replace the IT equipment.

To consider a quotation for the restoration of the Town Hall kitchen

Clerk Roy Balgobin advised the meeting of the need to update the Town Hall kitchen. By providing a "Boiling Water" system there would no longer be a need to boil kettles thus providing a safer environment for users. The total cost of replacing the units and new "Boiling Water" system amounted to £3,550. The work would be carried out whilst the lower ground floor Hall was closed to repair the damage to the floor. The Council unanimously agreed to proceed.

To agree to take part in a scheme to take on an apprentice handyman

Clerk Roy Balgobin recommended to the Council that thought be given to appointing a local young person as an Apprentice Handyman. Over an 18 month period the person would, whilst working, study for a level 2 NVQ. All of the training would be funded by Government and an employment contract

would be drawn up by CAPITA who would also be responsible for selecting a suitable local candidate and for ongoing assessments of the Apprentice. Cllr Abigail Smith asked who would be responsible for monitoring the job training. The Clerk confirmed that he had formal experience as a Trainer and the Handyman George Hodder would be responsible for "on the job" training. Cllr Ian James formally proposed that the Council take part in the scheme and appoint an Apprentice Handyman. The proposal was unanimously supported by the Council.

Responsible Financial Officers Report. To consider recommendations of the Finance and General Purposes Committee made during its meeting held on 25th November

The Council agreed payment of the various invoices. Cllr Ian James then formally proposed:

1. Town Hall charges – to remain unchanged
2. Painswick Youth and Community Pavilion charges – to remain unchanged
3. Painswick Cemetery charges – to remain unaltered
4. To agree Section 137 Grants
5. To agree the Budget for the Financial Year 2016/17
6. To agree the Precept for the Financial Year 2016/17

The Precept for 2016/17 was to be set at £95,000, a 5% increase over the previous year. This figure includes provision for:

- Funds for the new kitchen units

- Funds for the Apprentice Handyman
- Funds for the new boiler system
- Support for the Tourist Information Centre

The proposals were unanimously agreed by the Council.

Ward Reports

Cllr Mike Fletcher reported that there was a blocked gully on the Cheltenham Rd (A46). The Clerk will notify the appropriate authority.

Cllr Roey Parker reported:

- That a blocked drain on Church Hill had been reported but no action had been taken. The Clerk will investigate.
- A plan to improve parking at the school in Sheepscombe has been submitted to the Traffic Committee.

Cllr Roey Parker then asked if a date had been set for the launch of the faster Broadband. Cllr Rob Lewis advised the meeting that the roll out date was proposed for December/January but to enjoy the faster speeds subscribers may need to update their Routers to the latest model.

Cllr Ian James requested that £250 from Ward funds be allocated to helping Sheepscombe set up a Senior Luncheon Club.

A letter had been received from Cllr Steve Morris in which he advised the Council that the allocated Ward Funds were no longer required for the Slad Community Orchard project. Instead the funds would be used for:

- Replacing the flower troughs at the War Memorial
- Placing a Valley Map in the Bus Shelter on the B4070
- To assist in providing costumes for a Nativity Play

The Meeting closed at 8.40pm

County Councillor's Monthly Report - Telecare Response Service pilot

Telecare and Gloucestershire Fire & Rescue Service have extended their partnership with the initiative now rolling out to more areas of Gloucestershire. Telecare is an initiative that uses special sensors placed around the home to detect potential emergencies such as falls, fire, flooding, carbon monoxide and gas leaks.

Currently in Gloucestershire to benefit from the Telecare service you need at least two people who can respond to alerts 24/7. However, this can be difficult in rural areas, which is why this scheme is being rolled out. The new response service operates 24/7 365 days a year and can be accessed by anyone living in the pilot areas who has linked Gloucestershire Telecare equipment and does not have local family or friends that can respond. Telecare officers will be training retained fire officers on how to react to the situations they may be faced with when responding.

Following a successful pilot scheme in the county earlier this year where Gloucestershire Fire and Rescue Service (GFRS) responded to Telecare alerts in the Cotswold, they will now take on alerts in the Cinderford, Lydney, Coleford, Newent, Painswick, Winchcombe, Tewkesbury, Dursley, Nailsworth, Wotton and Tetbury areas.

The extended pilot areas should have been fully operational by the beginning of December 2015.

*Cllr. Jason Bullingham – Phone 01452 812037
Email: Jason.bullingham@gloucestershire.gov.uk*

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NHS award for Blood donation

Martin Slinger recently went to Blenheim Palace to receive this prestigious award for giving blood over 100 times. Only three others in Gloucestershire qualified to receive the plaque and medal. Martin started giving blood soon after starting work in 1963, and has kept it up twice a year for the next fifty. He also graduated to the Platelet level donating three times a year and is carried out locally in Gloucester.

Platelet donations enable the blood to clot and are vital to help patients with cancer, leukemia, those undergoing transplants and for those who have suffered a major haemorrhage. One platelet donation can save the lives of up to 3 adults or 12 children. Not everyone is able to give platelets but if you are interested you can register your interest online at www.platelets.blood.co.uk or phone 03001232323 for more information.

John Allen of Cotswold Mead also has received the award for 75 donations and also gives Platelet donations and there may be others in our village with similar awards which we are not aware of.



Regular Blood Donation

It used to be possible to give blood on a regular basis in Painswick at the Painswick Centre however when numbers fell below 100 this service was withdrawn.

Only 4 out of 100 people give blood nationally on a regular basis, yet giving blood is quick, safe and simple and will save lives. Should you wish to start giving blood the nearest point is Stroud and you can call to express interest and find out more by phoning 03001232323.

Community lunches

We are very pleased to report that the 10 Lunches held this Autumn have raised over £740 so far this session for our 2 local groups, Cup Cakes for Carers who continue to support the many carers in the village with meetings each month; and Play Painswick which is working to improve the facilities on the Rec. Many thanks to all in the community who have contributed so far – by providing soup and service – and by coming as customers – as this mid-way total has exceeded ALL previous years.

The Lunches start again on MONDAY 11th 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 £3.00 – with 50p for tea or coffee if you want it.

Rita Bishop and David Linsell.

Wassailing Saturday 23rd January

Come and join us for the Wassailing procession: 5pm from St. Marys Church rooms. Bring warm clothes, torch, rattles & drums! Live music, great affordable food and bar in church rooms from 6pm.

Iris McCormick



Travels in Ethiopia With the CNFC

The Cotswold Naturalists' Field Club (CNFC) continues its 2016 programme with a talk by Ann Dickinson about 'Travels in Ethiopia' on Tuesday 19th January, at 2.30 pm at the Hub, in Tobacconist Road, Minchinhampton. Ethiopia is one of the oldest Christian states in the world, with records of Christianity dating from the fourth century and possibly earlier. Important ecclesiastical sites still survive in this, Africa's oldest, independent country. We look forward to Ann showing us some of her sketches and paintings done on tour, as well as talking about the flora, fauna and culture. Afterwards there will be a chance to meet and talk to other members over tea, coffee and cake. For further details, please contact Peter Wilson, tel. 01453 834486, email: peterwilson@dsl.pipex.com

On Wednesday 3rd February, John Finney will talk about the work of the John Muir Trust which owns and cares for some of the finest wild places in Scotland including the summit of Ben Nevis, the remote Knoydart peninsular and part of the Cuillin mountain range on Skye. With breath-taking images to illustrate his talk, John will examine how the Trust, which takes its name from John Muir, the Scots-born founder of the modern conservation movement, goes about protecting wild places for people and wildlife.

Jane E Rowe, Membership Secretary 813228

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Painswick Gardening Club;

“50 Shades of Green”

Well it's just a couple of days before Christmas and I'm thoroughly enjoying this rather odd balmy weather with no need to be muffled up in layers of chunky knits....I know; we'll be paying the price shortly but at least Spring is only just around the corner! I think that my garden is at least 2 weeks ahead of where it was last year with clumps of snowdrops and aconites already in flower; beautiful.

And talking of warmth; there was a wonderfully warm festive glow in the Church Rooms a few weeks ago when the Gardening Club gathered for the annual quiz. Members and visitors were treated to a lovely embellished venue with wine, nibbles and a chance to catch up with friends and neighbours.....and take part in a quiz. A big 'thank you' again to Steve Quinton and his lovely assistant for compiling the quiz and acting as Quizmasters. The evening was filled with laughter (raucous laughter on a couple of tables - you know who you are!) and fun and the odd moment of silent disbelief when a couple of rather obscure questions were asked. Competition for the Quizzers Cup was fiercely fought and, with only a few points separating all teams, the Bamboozlers were worthy winners and now have the 'responsibility' of polishing the cup for the next 12 months! A very small cup was presented to the Hopefuls but we won't dwell on that!!

On behalf of the Committee I'd like to say 'thank you' to everyone for supporting the event and for the generosity of support with the raffle; it really is appreciated.

Don't forget that the January talk on Wednesday 13th (Church Rooms) starts at 2.30pm. Sue Russell's talk "50 Shades of Green" promises to be really interesting as it's all too easy to overlook what we see as being a background colour and, if like my husband, you're red/green colourblind, it's 50 shades of brown! If you're not a Member but you fancy the topic and have a spare hour or so, we'd love to welcome you as a visitor (nominal charge).

Wishing everyone a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Caroline Bodington (Committee Member)

George Mathers Memorial Charity Concert

George Mathers died on 11th October 2015 aged 96 after a short illness.

George was well-known in Gloucestershire as an architect and musician. He designed many schemes locally and nationally including several churches, one of which has since been listed.

George was very committed to making music accessible to everyone. While he lived in Sheepscombe, he was involved with the Painswick Music Society, helping to select the musicians and designing the printed programmes. He founded the award-winning Oriol Singers which have performed several times in Painswick. For many years, he also ran the Music at Park House concerts at his own home in Cheltenham. At George's request, a charity concert will be held at Pittville Pump Room, Cheltenham on Sunday 10th January 2016 starting at 3pm, doors open from 2:30pm

Entrance free. Generous donations please for Cheltenham General Hospital Intensive Care Trust and Painswick Music Society. For more programme details, please visit musicatparkhouse.webs.com

Mary Mathers

Jottings

Driving a tractor, especially with a trailer, is very different to driving a car. Of course, you are going much slower, though the modern tractors can go a fair speed. So you get a queue of traffic building up behind you. On our local narrow, twisting roads where there is nowhere to pull over, vehicles overtake you in the most dangerous of places because they just cannot hang on for a few more minutes.

Tractors years ago were not much more than 20 horse power (hp). Now 200 hp is now becoming more common, so you moved from travelling at 10 mph to 30 mph. And, of course, our roads have not got wider. The same applies with the trailer or equipment the tractor is pulling - a trailer now can be 20 tons gross weight. This comes with an increase in length. Our tractor and trailer combination is over 35 feet in length. Also, modern trailers have extra wheels at the back so you need a wider turning circle than before.

Martin Slinger

Family History Research

Are you interested in researching your family history? Do you need help to get started? Or looking for someone to do it for you? Or something in between?

Can I help you? I have been doing family history research for about twenty five years, am a member of the Society of Genealogists, and have run courses "Getting Started with Family History" at Painswick Community Library in 2014 and 2015. If interested, please call me for a free meeting to discuss what you are looking for, whether I can help and likely costs. All charges for my time will be donated to our local Citizens Advice service (previously known as Citizens Advice Bureau).

Peter Rowe (01452 813228)



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Messy Church Report

November's Messy Church was all about gifts; the gifts we can give to other people and the gifts that God gives to us. It began with everyone having a go at the crafts available, one of which was a gift box the children decorated and then put chocolate's inside to give to someone. The children loved mixing around the various different crafts on offer, whilst the adults enjoyed a warm drink and lots of lively nattering and laughter. Everyone then headed over to the Church where they heard more about God's good gifts to us such as love, the skills we have and his Son, Jesus, followed by a little hint of Christmas as we talked about Jesus' birth and the gifts which he received and also a short sing song. The afternoon then came to an end as everyone shared dinner together, delicious spaghetti, potato and sausages and chocolate brownies! A great afternoon full of conversation, crafts and a chance for people to hear about the gifts we receive and the gifts we can give.

January Event

It's a new year so this month we will be considering new beginnings with crafts, games, songs, a celebration time followed by tea for all. In particular we will be making 'thankful jars', cleaning up old coins to make them as good as new, planting seeds, creating notebooks and so much more. All children must be accompanied by an adult but coffee and cake is ready on arrival!

3.30 – 5.30 Thursday 14th January in the Church Rooms, Painswick. Fiona Gill (fiona.gill@psalms.uk.net)

Other Messy Church Dates for 2016

- Thursday 11th February
- Thursday 10th March
- Thursday 12th May
- Saturday 11th Jun (Messy Fun Day, 10:30am-12:30pm @ Painswick rec)
- Thursday 7th July
- Thursday 13th October
- Thursday 24th November

Fiona Gill



Week of Christian Unity January 18th -25th 2016

Each January, CTAP arranges 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.

Sunday 17th January Unity Service 4.30pm at Our Lady & St. Thérèse Church, led by Canon Tom Gunning.

Monday 18th January CTAP hosts the Community Lunch. 12 – 1.15pm. Ashwell Centre.

Thursday 21st January Afternoon Tea with the speaker, County Councillor Brian Oosthuysen who will be talking about the Stroud Food Bank and other social issues.

2.30pm in St. Mary's Church Rooms.

Monday 25th January Agape at The Bistro – 7pm. Bring your choice of readings, music, poetry etc and enjoy a light supper (provided by Catalina & Marian).

There will be a cost of £11 – including tea/coffee.

Tickets available from Terry Parker (tel.812191)

Rita Bishop

News from St. Mary's

January sees us move into the season of Epiphany after the Christmas festivities. Epiphany lasts for four weeks starting on 6th January and ending on 31st January with Candlemas. Epiphany is associated with the visit of the Wise Men to see the infant Jesus. They brought him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. These gifts have eternal significance. Gold represents a king, frankincense a deity and myrrh impending death so they are all prophetic about the life of Jesus. At the Feast of Candlemas on 31st January we remember the presentation of Jesus in the temple at Jerusalem and the prophecies of Simeon and Anna

During January we celebrate Christian Unity Week from 18th to 25th January. This week is set aside especially to pray for unity throughout the whole Christian church. Great strides have been made in cooperation between different Christian denominations over recent years although we recognise that we still have a long way to go. We are fortunate here in Painswick with the good relationships existing between all our churches through Churches Together Around Painswick.

On 29th January we are holding a special youth service in conjunction with PSALMS entitled "On Fire". This service will be held in the church rooms commencing at 7 pm. There is an open invitation to all young people to attend this service as well as others who would like to come in support.

This month sees the departure from us of Revd Canon Helen Sammon who is moving to pastures new. Since her return from Tanzania Helen has been living in Cranham and helping out with taking services in the Beacon benefice as well as doing other work in the Diocese. On 5th January Helen is being licensed as Priest in Charge at Highnam Church together with associated churches at Rudolf, Tibberton and Taynton. We are grateful for the help Helen has given us here and we wish her God's blessing in her future ministry based at Highnam.

David Newell

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Police Report

Croft School

Just prior to the school term completing, there was an incident close to the school whereby a motorist reversed their vehicle onto the driveway of a resident and hit a mother who was waiting for their child. This was predominately caused by the inconsiderate parking of Parents/Guardians attending the school to drop of their children i.e. parking in driveways of residents, parking on pavements used by adults and children, and visibility being restricted. **WARNING** - Appropriate action will be taken in 2016, by relevant authorities if the situation fails to improve.

Incidents

There have been a small number of "Theft from vehicles", and a "burglary from a dwelling" in December. Please remain conscious of crime reduction measures by putting lights on at dusk within a dwelling to deter potential burglaries and also clear all vehicles of tools or valuable items when parked on the Highway or Driveway.

M5 Motorway

Average speed cameras are now in place on the M5 northbound between junction 13 for Stroud and 12 for Quedgeley due to roadworks. Gloucestershire Constabulary's Central Ticket Office said "We want to make everyone aware that the average speed cameras are now active and if you exceed the speed limit through them then you will receive a fixed penalty notice and points on your licence. "Since the cameras were activated on the 15th of December we've had over 300 people caught exceeding the speed limit. No matter how bad that Christmas jumper from your Uncle Fred is, it's got to be better than points and a fine!" In the New Year the cameras on the southbound side will be switched on as well.

Happy and a SAFE New Year for 2016 Colin Drewett.



History society

- Stand and Deliver!

At the January meeting of the Local History Society, John Putley will give a presentation on the county's most infamous – and there were plenty – highwaymen and what became of them. Gloucestershire apparently had more than its fair share! John's presentations are always highly entertaining but also thoroughly researched and very informative. Tuesday, 19th January, 7.30pm, Croft School. Everyone welcome.

Carol Maxwell

Olivas is understood to be re-opening in the New Year with renewed vigour



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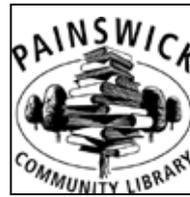


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Thanks - double thanks!

The first thank you is to all those who took part in the "PLUS" on-line survey. Out of 87 people who came into the library during the week beginning 16th November nearly 75% completed the survey, and some of those who didn't were not eligible because they were children. So that was a great response, many thanks. The surveys will be analysed and when we have the results we will let you know.

Second thanks to all those who responded to our request to use the library more in the month of November! However, though we had good issue figures, and even better visit figures, we did miss our target of 1,000 issues in November. We regularly have over 400 visitors every month and the monthly average is 458. So I hope that many of you will make a New Year's resolution to use the library & borrow more books!

To attract you in, here are the new books for January:

ADULT NON FICTION

BENSON Richard, The Valley. HOLMAN-HUNT Diana, My Grandmothers and I. ORWELL George, Down and Out in Paris and London. REID Jamie, Doped.

ADULT FICTION

BALDACCI David, Memory Man. Crime; BARKER Pat, Regeneration and Toby's Room; BUSSI Michel, After the Crash; CORNWELL Bernard, The Empty Throne; FOLLETT Ken, Triple; GRAHAM Winston, Warleggan; JAMES P. D., Original Sin. Crime; KABLER Jackie, The Dead Dog Day. Crime; KERR Philip The Lady from Zagreb; McEWAN Ian, Solar; McKENZIE Sophie, Here we lie; NEMIROVSKY Irene, The Misunderstanding; SHAMSIE Kamila, A God in Every Stone; STIBE Nina Man at the Helm.

JUNIOR FICTION

BARNES Phil, My Teacher's a Robot. YJF; TOMLINSON Jill The Gorilla Who Wanted to grow Up. YJF; WALLIAMS David The Bear who went Boo. Picture book; WILLOUGHBY Holly & Kelly First Term at L'Etoile. YJF

And a final reminder that the library is re-opening on Monday 11th January at 2.30pm.

Then at the usual times:

Mondays	2.30pm – 5.30pm
Wednesdays	10.00am – 1.00pm and 2.30 – 5.30pm
Fridays	10.00am – 1.00pm and 2.30 – 5.30 pm
Saturdays	10.00am– 1.00pm

Ian Cridland



Painswick Probus - "A Woman In A Man's World"

On 25th November Painswick Probus welcomed Lynn Hilditch to talk about her life and career in air traffic control for the RAF. Coming from a military family with a father in the RAF, Lynn initially rebelled against her father's wish that she also join the military. However after a brief period in nursing she applied to the RAF for a position in ground support. This was the 1960's and positions for women were very limited and military attitudes were very male chauvinistic. Lynn passed the exams for intelligence and aptitude and, to her relief, was offered a post to train in air traffic control where she would have some contact with the flyers rather than in fighter control hidden away underground.

Lynn entertained her audience with stories of her progression through the ranks in air traffic control in the UK and overseas bases and with examples of the rules and attitudes that women faced at that time. Over a six year period Lynn rose to the rank of Flight Lieutenant but had to resign her post in the RAF when she married and started a family. Over the next decade or so Lynn raised a family of three children but by 1984 the military attitudes to married women had changed and general government legislation on sexual equality meant that she could re-apply to join the RAF despite having dependant children.

She re-trained in air traffic control taking in the new technologies that had been developed and adapting to the new 'language' of air traffic control. There followed a second career of around 16 years based at RAF Brize Norton and RAF Cerne before her retirement from the RAF around 2000. Although legislation and attitudes towards women had changed over the time she had spent in the RAF and now they could serve at the front line, she still felt that women had to over-perform to be regarded equally to their male counterparts. However her audience were left in no doubt that she would have put many of her male colleagues in the shade

John Wylde

Barbara's 105th birthday –

Barbara Legh-Smith (pictured) celebrated her 105th birthday on the 15th December. As well as a card from Her Majesty the Queen, Barbara happily received many friends throughout the morning all wishing this remarkable lady a very Happy Birthday.

Carol Maxwell



PSALMS

- Quiz Night

We had an excellent evening on December 7th for the PSALMS Club Pulse annual Quiz Night at the Painswick pavilion culminating in an unexpected sudden death round. Well done to Mike and Margaret Holloway and his team whose mantle is now graced with the infamous trophy! Thank you to the LMG and others who gave so generously. For those who are interested, here are the answers to the questions from last month's Beacon; the most fractured human bone is the clavicle, the animal on the golden Flemish flag is a lion and the thing that is both a French wine region and a luxury American car is a Cadillac.

Fiona Gill



The Frampton Lakes Reconnoitre - on December 1st.

The sun shone briefly, then the winter winds did blow, did blow! The Club hastened behind the Court to a towering, ageing beech where holed up was a tawny owl, camouflaged to perfection. At Court Lake's island edge below willows, came the haunting sight of grouped cormorants, black and still and all the more sinister in half open wing posture. Beyond the lily patches was an avian species array, in ceaseless motion with an elegant gadwall pair up-ending, four little grebes diving, even shovellers dabbling and an angrily arching mute swan pair sweeping their shifting territory. Twice even, came the horizontal, meteoric dash and blue flash of yes, the tiny kingfisher! So much more was seen, before repairing to the wooded area near the in-fill site and a flurry of goldfinches only, rather than summer's siskins, warblers and other finches. Hurrying for home rather than hypothermia, we gazed back to the spectacle of a totally leaden sky over the blazing haze of orange winter willows – as a brilliant yellow helicopter bird flew by! Huge gratitude then to Gordon Kirk for leading us so expertly to view the Frampton Lakes' winter wonders.

Our next meeting is on Tuesday, February 2nd at 7.30 pm in the Town Hall when Steve Watson will relate his 30 year experience of the Symonds Yat Peregrines including video footage. Visitors will be very welcome (£3.00).

Wendy Addy

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Creativity and Colour!

A HUGE thank you to everyone who made ‘An Evening with ACP – In Colour!’ such a success and to all those who came and enjoyed, we had a blast!

On the 28th November, one of our fantastic sponsors, Core Lighting illuminated St Mary’s Church with vivid colour, transforming it into the dramatic backdrop for the catwalk show, featuring the very best of acp festival costumes.

After the display, the models led our guests to the Beacon Hall by lantern light where presecco and canapés were waiting. Local band, Mango Jam, kicked off the celebratory tone with the festival favorites, followed by an auction hosted by Will Fair, featuring exclusive prizes including fine art, collectables and once in a lifetime experiences!

We were very proud on Saturday night to reveal our “Queen of the Cotswolds”. This dress was created for us by Adnan Bayyat courtesy of his PR company “Pronghorn”. Adnan is a

generous supporter of acp and has created this beautiful piece of wearable PR especially for us using over 3000 paint brushes which have been individually attached with paper clips, sewn on to the crocheted dress. It truly is a work of art and is now on display in our gallery.

The acp gallery is open from Thursday - Sunday 10am - 4pm, showcasing the very best of acp festival wearable art, alongside new merchandise such as exquisite jewellery, scarves, ceramics, cards and quirky wearable art gifts! Please see our website for more details; www.canvasforcreativity.com



Rosanna

Fairtrade

Chocolate Tasting

Saturday 6th February 10.30 – 12pm at The Town Hall

Who could resist a moment testing delicious Divine chocolate, hot chocolate, chocolate cake and all things chocolatey?

Come along, everyone welcome - a perfect moment to stock up on a Fairtrade Chocolate treats. Yummy!

Iris McCormick



Cup Cakes for Carers

December’s meeting was well attended, with old faces and new, coffee and cakes, plenty of conversation and entertaining yarns.

It doesn’t have to be a full house. In mid-month, I threw off recent lethargy and drove to Chipping Sodbury where a bi-monthly folk club opened very quietly, to begin with. This has happened occasionally at Cup Cakes, but I’ve always learned a lot.

The folk club’s day waxed comfortable as we talked about people and music, and I got over my parking problem.

Then a surprise visit from old friends brought delight into the proceedings. That’s the thing, I thought, about meeting people with like minds.

We have a drop-in tea party (free), usually in the Green Room at the Painswick Centre from 2.00-4.30pm on the second Tuesday of the month. Phone Pat on 813326.

Bill Cochrane

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2015 - Another eventful year

Below are highlights reported in some of the Beacons during the year.

February Tibbiwell resurfacing

Gloucestershire Highways undertook a difficult job in January of the resurfacing of the road in Tibbiwell. The surface of which had deteriorated considerably over the years and the job took longer than expected



March New Nave ceiling for St Mary's

Visitors entering the Church during the last week in February would have been surprised to see a Cherry Picker in the Church. Not picking cherries but being used to assist in the replacement of the dull brown wooden panels.

Screening of "Casual Vacancy"

The BBC's Politics Show screened on the first of March attempted to see if the scandal, scheming and skullduggery as visualized in the BBC drama "Casual Vacancy" reflected Parish Council Meetings in the Cotswold area and they chose Painswick as an example.

May Tourist Office opens in a new home

The Painswick Tourist Office opened for the summer months in the former gravediggers hut within St Mary's Churchyard. Previously the Tourist Office was located in the Town Hall and before that the Painswick Library building.

Community Speed watch team

With the establishment of the Community Speed Watch team some of the team have also signed up to use the "mobile vehicle activated sign" previously purchased by Painswick and Bisley Parish councils. In the week commencing 15th June the committee had recorded approximately 150 vehicles exceeding the speed limit.

June Election results reported

Neil Carmichael (C) wins the Stroud Constituency with 27813 votes over David Drew (L) with 22947 votes.

New Waste and Recycling arrangements

The Parish Council Meeting was informed that the current 15 year multi services contract with Veolia expires next year to be replaced by a new contract with Ubico. The main features will be the introduction of a weekly collection of food waste, optional garden waste collection for a fee, and charges for bulk waste collections.



July Pathway from Stamages Lane car park opened at last

The new pathway between Stamages Lane car park and the churchyard was opened officially by the Bishop of Tewkesbury on Sunday 14th June. This will allow a safer access to the village from the car park running between the Church Rooms and the Old Library building.



Aug New wide mouth post box

As had been promised the long awaited wide mouthed post box was positioned on the corner of the A46 and Victoria Street by the Royal Mail on Monday 20th July.

October Another successful Painswick Feast

Numerous people attended the Painswick Feast again this year which was held in conjunction with the annual Clypping Service at St Marys. The guest preacher at the Service was the Archdeacon of Gloucester.

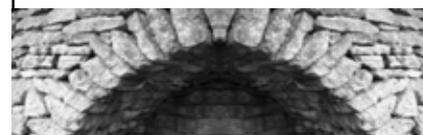
November Painswick Fire Station – Closure threat

Gloucestershire Fire and Rescue Service are seeking your views on its future service provision for our area. The Service paper contains two main proposals backed up by relevant facts. A drop in event was held at Painswick Town Hall on 17th November.



2015 will be remembered for the wet and warm November and December. Picture shows daffodils on a footpath in Painswick on the 20th December and there were plenty of examples in local gardens.

JAIMIE CAHLIL in PAINSWICK



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Anne-Marie Randall
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10, 20, 30 years ago

Nov 1985

Crisis time for Guides and Scouts
First the Scouts and now the Guides – The sad truth is that for all their pleas for help and frequent SOS notices these two long standing Painswick units have had to be disbanded due to the failure to find new leaders.

Nov 1995

Anger over latest power cuts
Midland Electricity has promised to look into the reasons for the continuing problems with the Painswick electricity supply. This follows a further series of power cuts which have angered residents; one of the most recent was a five-hour cut in supply.

Nov 2005

Beware of pigeons
In recent months we have seen a significant increase in the pigeon population in and around the village. Their numbers are now such that concern is being expressed about the damage they are causing to various buildings within the village.

Dec 1985

Staff morale at The Croft School
The Governors have sent a letter to Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education. It

followed a resolution passed unanimously at the Autumn meeting of Governors expressing concern at the current low state of morale of the teaching staff in the school at the current position and rewards for their profession in the county.

Dec 1995

Dispensing application refused
The application by Painswick Surgery to run a dispensary for patients in outlying areas has been turned down. The decision was made by the Gloucestershire Family Health Service Agency following a special meeting in Painswick Town Hall. The application was turned down because of the effect it would have on the Painswick Pharmacy in New Street.

Dec 2005

History revealed
Three new information points have been installed in blocks of stone at the car park entrances to Painswick Beacon. They explain why the Beacon is such a special and important place.

Jan 1986

New Domesday survey of buildings
Early in 1984 residents may have been bemused by a visit from an inspector of historic buildings. Over the next two months inspectors will re-appear in order

to undertake the re-survey of all listed buildings in the Parish of Painswick on behalf of the Historic Building and Monument Commission for England

Jan 1996

New Clubhouse
Building work starts this month on the new Clubhouse for the Falcon Bowls Club. The work is planned to be completed by May.

The PTA plans to keep the swimming pool at the Croft afloat with a promises auction to be held at Painswick House on 9th March to raise funds.

Jan 2006

Painswick are winners again
Back in August Painswick had won the "Village of the year" award for Gloucestershire. Since then the judges have assessed all the winning villages in the south west region and have awarded Painswick as winners of the South West Regional Award for best facilities and activities for senior citizens. Councillor Martin Slinger received the award and a cheque for £500 will follow.



Painswick Centre news

Pyrenees by the Hexagon Theatre Company

On Saturday December 5th, in the Beacon Hall, the Hexagon Players performed a very entertaining and amusing play, called Pyrenees, written by David Greig, a leading British playwright. The play begins with a middle-aged man who is found unconscious in the snow with amnesia; the story unfolds around attempts to establish his identity. The Players enjoyed the facilities at the Centre, and we hope that they will return again soon.

Attic Sale

The next Attic Sale will be held on Sunday January 31st, 2016 in the Beacon Hall from 10-2pm. As per usual we will have bacon butties and tea and coffee on sale from the kitchen. So be prepared with all your goodies and recoup your Christmas outlay! Tables available for £10.

Mike Steed

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Adult Ballet – a new class for Painswick

There's exercise ... and then there's exercise with that something extra which makes it special. Ballet is a wonderful combination of strength and control together with the beauty and artistry of dance. Furthermore, anyone can participate regardless of age, shape, size or gender.

On the exercise side, ballet is first-rate for developing core strength, flexibility, good posture, stamina, balance, strong muscles and coordination. It also very effectively works your mind and muscle memory together. Add to this the musicality and the beautiful dance quality and the end result is a feel-good factor, both physically and emotionally. It is about dancing for fitness and fun in a relaxed atmosphere. Starting on Friday, 8th January, Claire Tracey will be holding a weekly adult ballet class in the Church Rooms at 9.30am. These one-hour classes are open to all. Experience is not necessary and beginners are welcome as well as those with some previous knowledge albeit possibly a long time ago! You can work at your own level and wear whatever allows you to move comfortably.

Claire (second from the right in the picture) is a highly qualified and experienced teacher of ballet to both children and adults of all ages at all levels. She is attentive and thorough in her teaching and definitely makes it fun and sociable. She also trained as a professional dancer in London where she danced with a contemporary dance company whilst teaching the dance element of a college performing arts course.

This is a lovely opportunity to start the New Year with something a little different but definitely beneficial in all respects. Do go along and experience for yourself the sheer joy of dancing which ballet undoubtedly gives.

Carol Maxwell



New Massage Clinic at The Painswick Centre

From January 28th 2016, Sharon Stuart will be running a new clinic at The Painswick Centre. Sharon is a fully qualified and experienced Sports, Remedial and Holistic massage therapist and will be running the clinic every Thursday afternoon in the Green Room, from 1-6pm.

Massage is beneficial for relaxation, injury rehabilitation and easing muscle tension. As the type of massage used is specifically tailored to the individuals needs, it is relevant and beneficial for all ages.

Sharon is offering a 50% discount on all treatments booked for 28th January and 4th February, so why not start the New Year with a treat to sort out all those niggling aches and pains?

For further information or to book, please contact Sharon on 07912 225700 or email sharon@stuartequine.co.uk or see website for more details and price list www.stuartequine.co.uk/human-massage (Pre booking is required)

Sharon Stuart



Lately we have been working hard to open up some areas behind the cemetery. The aim being that by taking out trees and scrub, it allows species-rich grassland to recover. This little quarry is ideal habitat for the Duke of Burgundy butterfly; the Duke is an elusive butterfly, rarely seen on the Beacon but we know it's there! Our spring season starts on Saturday 9th January and continues fortnightly until the end of April. All dates can be found in the diary and on our website painswickbeacon.wordpress.com New members and volunteers always welcome.

Polly Lillico Chair PBCG

Painswick Theatre Club

In December members of the Painswick Theatre Club saw the stage adaption of Daphne Du Maurier's Rebecca, a tale of intrigue, romance and jealousy, at the Oxford Playhouse. Brilliantly presented on a single set, it was all the drama and tension expected of the original story but with music and high jinx! All agreed it was not what was expected but highly entertaining.

The next Club visit is to see a matinée performance of Rehearsal for Murder, a classic who done it, on Saturday 30th January at the Malvern. Tickets to include transport, are available to member and non-members, for details contact Ross on 812575 or Sue on 676723.

Diana Barclay who has retired from chairing the Theatre Club for over 25 years wishes to thank all those who attended her farewell meal at the Falcon on 1st December. The festive meal for 26 members was highly enjoyable and she wishes the new committee members - Ross, Sue, Chris and Judith every success in keeping the Painswick Theatre Club going from strength to strength.

Ross Munro

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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.

Cars and the Croft School

Janet Crispin writes from, Corvara, Cotswold Mead.

On Wednesday 16th December 2015 my daughter was standing on the pavement at the bottom of the drive to her house in Churchill Way, waiting to see her daughter safely across the road after school. A car was parked on the pavement in front of her house. The owner walked past my daughter, got into her car with her child and proceeded to reverse into my daughter. Fortunately, she was not knocked over but was very shocked. Had it been her daughter she would have been knocked over and the car would, quite likely, have gone over her. There was a Police car parked at the school entrance so my daughter reported the incident to the officer.

The arrogance shown by many parents is unbelievable. They drive along the pavement, turn into residents' drives and block the road without any consideration to other road users.

There is a major accident waiting to happen in Churchill Way during school drop off/pick up times.

November Jottings

Richard Aspinall of Paradise writes

In December's "Jottings" article by Mr Slinger he incorrectly describes the operation to treat the unfortunate consequence of over-eating apples by cattle. They would be treated with a rumenotomy not 'an emergency caesarean'. I am a veterinary surgeon of some vintage and when practising in Norfolk in the mid 1970s we often had to perform rumenotomies to remove metal detritus from the rumens of cows. This came from the waste and floor scrapings of the local Campbell's soup factory which the farmer used as a cheap nutritional supplement for his milking herd. These animals were not in danger of bloat but from penetration injuries from nails, screws, coins and bits of wire.



Yew Trees W.I. - AGM

Our Speaker in November was Jayne Morriss, Chelsea award-winning floral artist and demonstrator for the National Association of Flower Arrangement Societies. We were very fortunate to engage such a prestigious and talented speaker. She showed us how to make beautiful festive arrangements to suit everyone giving many tips on suitable plants and affordable decorative features. Her stunning door welcoming garland, and several table centres made very popular raffle prizes.

We also held our AGM that evening when we reviewed our year of events and elected our committee for 2016. Jane Burt stood down as President and Vicky Aspinall presented her with a beautiful bouquet to thank her for her work over the last two years. Vicky was then elected as our new President.

If you are interested in joining WI you will be assured of a warm welcome. We meet in the Church Rooms on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 7.30 Why not come along and join us?

CHRISTMAS GATHERING

The WI year was rounded off on December 15th with a delicious home-made lasagne and salad followed by traditional orange and mince pies. We then gathered around a display of photographs of 33 members in their childhood for a guessing game. Some were easy to recognise by a defining feature such as curly hair but who was the girl standing on a horse or wearing a smart coat with a velvet collar?

Our first meeting of the New Year will be on January 26th when Ann Williams will give a talk on "You never know who you'll meet as a Physiotherapist"

Janet Jenkins



PMAG

Yet another stimulating eccentric mixture of music from Dennis Morgan who gave us the last presentation of the year on 26th November. Lesser known composers - Satie, Jenkins, Barber, Reinhard and well known ones - Saint-Saens, Mahler, Rimsky

Korsakov and Vaughan Williams, solo instruments (2 orchestral compositions transcribed into piano and flute solos), orchestral and choir music. Rather exciting!

And then our Christmas Tea Party on 10th December. A large audience listened to excerpts of Handel's Messiah and "My Christmas" by Gran Carlo Menotti, took part in a music quiz arranged by Alex who described it as "easy" - so easy that the winner got 5 pieces right out of 12!!! and then the buffet tea: quality, variety and size of portions such that there was no room for any more meals that day! A great party.

Ralph Kenber

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Sports reports

assembled by John Barrus



Golf Club

It is time to work off all that delicious food and drink over Christmas and New Year. Come out and have a game of golf at Painswick Golf Club! The course has become a bit muddier

with the recent heavy rain, but the water drains quickly away. The course is open when many other courses are waterlogged. Visitors are most welcome.



Congratulations to Angela Woodward who was elected Ladies captain for the coming year at the recent AGM of the Ladies Section.

In December, Duncan Toase (Seniors' Competitions Organiser) tempts the senior golfers out with a series of social competitions. On 3rd December he ran the Seniors Christmas competition – a bowmaker – played in teams of three. Two teams ended with 89 points – with Mike Carter, Jim Eva and Ian Pringle the winners on the basis of scoring better on the last nine holes. Then on 10th December he organised the monthly stableford competition – the winner being Peter Rowe with 43 points. And finally on 17th December, he ran a 5 club bogey pairs competition with the winners being Henry Cownie and Peter Rowe with plus 11 points. Congratulations to all the winners, and grateful thanks to Duncan for organising our competitions through the year.

Painswick Golf Club welcomes visitors in the clubhouse for refreshments or meals, Sunday lunches and celebratory events. Please contact Mike or Tom Horton for details and bookings (812180).

Photo above shows from the left: Angela Woodward, Sylvia Walker, Lorna Sparkes, Ann Smith and Sarah Taylor.

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Badminton

Painswick Badminton Club held their annual Christmas Fun & Games night on December 21st with their usual repertoire of silly badminton based games.

The club will return to more conventional badminton in the New Year when they meet on Monday and Thursday nights in the Beacon Hall. Anyone interested in playing friendly, social badminton can ring Nicola Robinson on 01452 699693 or John Wylde on 814349.



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- One-to-One and small group Mat based Pilates in small private gym at Washbrook Farm
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- Weekly Group Pilates Classes in Painswick & Edge
- Weight loss and Nutritional Advice

For more information and class schedules please contact:

Nicki Marsh
01452 813285
07870 953159
info@trainwithnicki.co.uk



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Rococo Garden Free for Painswick residents

December has been a busy month in the Garden as the team prepares for the start of our 2016 season on 10th January. The team have been hard at work pruning the 125 espalier heritage fruit trees, as well as a final haircut for the maze and plenty of other maintenance tasks to make the garden neat and tidy.

Coming up in January is our free Sneak Peek event exclusively for Painswick residents on 15th and 16th January. Look out for an invitation which should be coming through your letter box separately.

As Painswick residents you will be our welcome guests with complimentary entry to the garden and free hot drinks to keep out the January chill. Find out more about our exciting plans for the future with our new Director, Dominic Hamilton. And there will be a chance to find out more about the garden with our Head Gardener, Steve Quinton, at talks throughout the day.

Our Friends and volunteers will be around to answer your questions about our magical valley - a restful, hidden world, a unique and magical space. They will be able to point you in the direction of our renowned snowdrops, which are likely to be well on their way, given December's unusually warm weather!

We hope you will think of Rococo as your garden, indeed your local space to use throughout the year. Joining the Friends of the Garden will give you a full year's free entry for just £23 (£39 for a couple). And remember that we are dog-friendly too!

Tim Toghill, trustee.



Picture shows the finish at Broadham of the Cotswold All Runners Christmas race on Sunday 20th December.



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Like most of us, I am astonished at how quickly the last year seemed to fly by and as is the general flow of life, it had its high, low, dragging, joyous, uplifting, frustrating, exhausting and some just “getting by” times. Some moments to be treasured such as waving my son off to start his studies to be a doctor, heart breaking times saying goodbye to beloved friends whose lives seemed cut short far too soon. Living through the drudge of a long awaited building project at home, and then having the thrill of seeing it come together. Moments of feeling powerless and impotent as I watched others I love struggling in ill health. Chasing my tail combining the many and varied roles I am fortunate to have.

It's not that dissimilar to the ebb and flow of the time I have had as your Village and Specialist Agent. I have been more than fortunate to have been in this role for the last 9 years (some villages for less). Times of frustration, not having the knowledge to hand of how to help you or being able to help but not take away pain, or loneliness or fear. However, that has been more than compensated for when I have been honoured to be allowed to walk by your side, to laugh with you (a lot!), to cry with you, to drink copious cups of tea, to share great pleasure when you've received the help you needed or we resolved a worrying issue. Sometimes nothing could be resolved but none the less you have told me how much it helped knowing that there was someone there who would endeavour to do their best for you, chase referrals, and support you in making decisions. There have been times of feeling great pride being part of the original team in what was thought of as a pilot project, to now being part of



a team of 40 agents working throughout the county and being a role model to other counties across the country.

Not on the scale of going through school and going on to university but I feel enormous personal satisfaction looking back on how much I have learnt. I have gone from having no knowledge what so ever about dementia, and now as with my other colleagues, am a “Community Dementia Link worker”.

In my role as Specialist Agent, I have been able to support individuals over 18 and their families, who have been affected by cancer. I am truly grateful for that privilege.

If you look up the role of the Village Agent, it is described as: to work with the over 50s in Gloucestershire, providing easy access to a wide range of information that will enable them to make informed choices about their present and future needs. The aim is to help older people feel more independent, secure, and cared for, and to have a better quality of life”.

While that describes the remit of a Village Agent, it doesn't touch the experience of being one.

You may by now realise that the time has come for me to say goodbye as your Village Agent. Thank you so much for everything you have given to make my life so much richer; I feel deeply honoured.

Your new Village Agent is Gill Cannon and she will be available on the same mobile number. I know she will do a great job and I will still be very much involved in the Village Agent scheme in my new role of Village and Community Agent peer supporter.

Lou Kemp 07776 245767

PROPERTY REPORT for December from Murrays

Firstly Murrays Estate Agents would like to wish everyone a very Happy New Year and hope that you have all had a lovely Christmas and enjoyed the festivities!

Murrays have enjoyed an extremely successful 2015 with our sales looking to be a very positive 50% up on the previous year, despite the frustrating lack of new instructions! We have also taken on more staff – expanded our lettings team and have seen a big improvement with having spent our first year in our new Stroud office. The end of November and December have been unseasonably busy with many of our buyers wanting to exchange and complete as quickly as possible so that they can spend their first Christmas in their new home.

The first three months of 2016 is going to be quiet an interesting and significant one to watch. The government have issued further changes in stamp duty on “buy to let and second homes” which come into force in April. There is already evidence that some lending institutions are looking again at their products because of this so there is a definite incentive on vendors who are thinking of selling next year to bring their plans forward, especially if their property is an ideal buy to let or second home as this part of the market may drop away once the new regulations are in place. Nationwide have said in their report that there has been a slight softening in house price growth in November and that house prices had risen by 0.1% but that the general consensus is that things are looking good for the new year ahead. We here at Murrays are very proud of the fact that as a company owned and managed by a family whose name remains above the door we develop lasting relationships with our clients and continue to have increasing and lasting success throughout the Cotswolds, mainly to do with our friendly and professional touch. Please ring us on 01452814655 for your free valuation and advice on the future sale of your properties

We have continued to take on lots of lovely new properties over the festive period including High Croft, an impressive 5 bed detached Cotswold stone family house in a stunning elevated position in Edge with amazing views across to Painswick, 4 Stroud Road, a beautifully restored 3 bed period house right in the centre of Painswick, Pear Tree Cottage, a charming 3 bed Cotswold cottage off Vicarage Street, Painswick (already under offer) and Flat 2 Yew Tree House, a unique 2 bed top floor apartment with great views across the church.

Properties that we currently have under offer are 6 Stamages Lane, Painswick, Mount Pleasant Cottage, Vicarage Street, Painswick, Pear Tree Cottage, Vicarage Street, Painswick, Sunnybank, Halfway Pitch, Pitchcombe, Nation House in Bisley and 7 Haresfield Court in Harsefield. Properties that have now sold are 33 Ashwell in Painswick, Columbus Cottage on Cheltenham Road, Painswick and 12 Hyett Orchard in Painswick.

James C Murray - Partner

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JANUARY

Sun	10	Holy Communion (BCP) Mass Informal Holy Communion	St Mary's Church Catholic Church St. Mary's Church	8.00am 8.30am 9.30am
Mon	11	Painswick Valley Toddler Group - Mondays (school term time only) Probus Women: Travellers Tales - Nicholas Clark Short Mat Bowls - Mondays (contact 812464) Community Lunch: Hosts - Painswick Centre Trustees (Off Churchill Way) Yoga (Mondays) contact Kim 812623	Pitchcombe Vill. Hall Church Rooms Town Hall Ashwell Centre Sheepscombe Vill. Hall	9.50 to 11.30am 10.00am 10.30am 2.00pm 12.00 to 1.15pm 6.30 to 8.00pm & 8.15 to 9.45pm
		Community Choir Have Your Say' Church Group: every Monday - contact Rev. Roger Leigh 01452 536325.	Painswick Centre Church Rooms	7.00 to 8.30pm 7.30 to 9.30pm
Tue	12	Zumba Gold dance fitness class for Seniors: £6 pp Tuesdays. Tel: 07766 101790 Health Walk (One Hour) - Tuesdays: Enq. 813228 Cupcakes: Support group for helpers of homebound through illness: Tel 813326 Bingo: Tuesdays	Painswick Centre Town Hall P. Centre Green Room Ashwell House	10.00am 1.45 for 2.00pm 2.00 to 4.30pm 6.30 to 9.00pm
Wed	13	Botanical Illustration classes - Wednesdays - mornings or afternoons. Pre-book:07810 725772 or via website: www.botanic-illustration.co.uk Yoga (Wednesdays) contact Kim 812623 Painswick Toddler Group - held at Painswick Children's Centre: Wednesdays Holy Communion Gardening Club: Fifty Shades of Green - Sue Russell Table Tennis - Wednesdays Parish Council Meeting	Painswick Golf Club GL6 6TL Sheepscombe Vill. Hall Croft School St. Mary's Church Church Rooms Painswick Centre Town Hall	9.30am to- 12noon & 1.00 to- 3.30pm 9.30 to 11.00am 10.30am to 12noon 12 noon 2.30pm 7.00 to 9.00pm 7.30pm
Thu	14	Yoga - All Abilities (Thursdays) Cotswold Room 812623 T'ai Chi: Thursdays - Contact 812344 Dog Training Club (Thursdays) Jolly Stompers Line Dancing: Beginners - Thursdays- tel. Julie - 01453 752480 Experienced beginners - Thursdays New Pilates Class - Thursdays contact Nicola 07870 953159 or nmarshes@hotmail.com Messy Church	Painswick Centre Town Hall Church Rooms Town Hall Town Hall Town Hall Painswick Centre Church Rooms	9.30 to 11.00am 9.30am 9.30 to 12.00noon 12.00 to 1.00pm 12.30 to 1.30pm 3.30 to 5.30pm
Fri	15	No Country Market until 22nd January	Church Rooms Town Hall	
Sun	17	Holy Communion (BCP) Mass Sung Eucharist Churches Together Unity Service	St Mary's Church Catholic Church St Mary's Church Catholic Church	8.00am 8.30am 9.30am 4.30pm
Mon	18	Community Lunch: Hosts - Churches Together Around Painswick (Off Churchill Way)	Ashwell Centre	12.00 to 1.15pm
Tue	19	Local History Society: Stand & Deliver - John Putley	Croft School	7.30pm
Wed	20	Probus: Walking the Zambezi - David Lemon Evening Prayer Parish Council Meeting	Painswick Centre St Mary's Church Town Hall	10.00am 6.00pm 7.30pm
Thu	21	Music Appreciation Group: The Three Choirs Churches Together: Afternoon Tea & Talk by Brian Oosthuysen - Stroud Food Bank & other Social Issues	Town Hall Town Hall Church Rooms	2.30pm 2.30pm 2.30pm
Fri	22	Country Market re-opens: Coffee Available Friday Club: Edith Cavell - Peter Petrie	Town Hall Town Hall	9.30 to 11.00am 2.30pm
Sat	23	Copy Date for February Beacon Painswick Beacon Conservation Group scrub clearance working party: location check 01452 520524 Wassailing around the village: followed by hot drinks, live music & supper: Tel. 812879. meet at Town Hall	meet at Cemetery car park at 8.45am meet at Town Hall	9.00am to 12noon 5.00pm



Sun	24	Holy Communion (BCP) Mass Painswick Praise	St Mary's Church Catholic Church St Mary's Church	8.00am 8.30am 9.30am
Mon	25	Community Lunch: Hosts - Yew Trees W.I. (Off Churchill Way) Churches Together Agape at The Bistro: Tickets £11 - Tel. 812191	Ashwell Centre Cardynham House Bistro	12.00 to 1.15pm 7.00pm
Tue	26	Yew Trees W.I.: You Never Know Who You'll Meet as a Physiotherapist - Ann Williams	Church Rooms	7.30pm
Thu	28	Painswick Players Play Reading: Tel. Sue - 01452 676723		7.30pm
Fri	29	On Fire: Music, prayer, praise, participation & pizza!	Church Rooms	7.00 to 8.30pm
Sat	30	Theatre Club Outing to Malvern to see Rehearsal for Murder: contact Ross - 812575	Stamages Car Park	12.30pm
Sun	31	Mass Benefice Communion Attic Sale	Catholic Church St Mary's Church Painswick Centre	8.30am 10.00am 10.00am to 2.00pm
FEBRUARY				
Mon	1	Community Lunch: Hosts - Painswick Golf Club (Off Churchill Way)	Ashwell Centre	12.00 to 1.15pm
Tue	2	Bird Club: The Peregrine Falcons of Gloucestershire - illustrated talk - Steve Watson	Town Hall	7.30pm
Wed	3	Probus: Ancient Egypt: Wildlife Art Detective - Jackie Garner Cotteswold Naturalists' Field Club Lecture: Protecting the UK's Wild Places - Prof. John Finney. Enq. 813228	Painswick Centre Painswick Centre	10.00am 2.30pm
Thu	4	Music Appreciation Group: 3 Famous Firsts	Town Hall	2.30pm
Fri	5	Friday Club: Camping on the Skeleton Coast - Janet Jenkins	Town Hall	2.30pm
Sat	6	February Issue of The Painswick Beacon published Painswick Beacon Conservation Group scrub clearance working party: location check 01452 520524 Fairtrade Chocolate Tasting	meet at Cemetery car park at 8.45am Town Hall	9.00am to 12noon 10.30am to 12noon
Mon	8	Probus Women: The Pen & The Polisher	Church Rooms	10.00am
Tue	9	Cupcakes: Support group for helpers of homebound through illness: Tel 813326	P. Centre Green Room	2.00 to 4.30pm
Wed	10	Gardening Club: Cut and Come Again Perennials - June Ritchie	Church Rooms	2.30pm

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

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NEW APPLICATIONS

S.15/2690/LBC & S.15/2689/HHOLD
TOCKNELLS HOUSE

Erect a greenhouse and potting shed following demolition of existing potting shed.

S.15/2684/FUL HAMMONDS FARM,
Wick Street.

Alteration and adaption of agricultural buildings to enclose a biomass boiler.

S.15/2447/FUL OLD FLEECE, Bisley Street

Proposed change of use from offices to Hair Salon (A1) on ground floor and an single apartment on the upper floors.

S.15/2643/HHOLD WOODLEA,
Slad Road

Demolition of attached coal and binstore. Construction of new extension and conversion of existing garage to provide an annexe for a dependent relative.

S.15/2737/LBC C O T S W O L D 8 8
HOTEL, Kemps Lane

Urgent works required to repair and rebuild garden pagoda roof (near to collapse), and retaining stone wall to upper level of garden which has serious structural movement and likely to fall away. Both are in the hotel grounds.

S.15/2725/OUT T A M A R I N ,
Longridge, Sheepscombe

Demolition of existing bungalow and erection of replacement dwelling.

S.15/2746/LBC & S.15/2745/HHOLD
ROSEBANK COTTAGES, Slad Road,
Slad

Demolition of 1960s lean-to to allow construction of single storey extension. Conversion to lean-to to relocate wc.

S.15/2845/FUL THE FRITH, Slad Road, Slad

Subdivision of a property, raised front extension with storage underneath, flue, terrace and balustrading and single storey rear extension.

S.15/2758/HHOLD
5 CLATTERGROVE COTTAGES

Replacement raised conservatory with elevated decking area & steps to south east elevation of property.

CONSENT

DROVERS CORNER, Longridge,
Sheepscombe

Extensions and alterations to existing house.

EMERALD HOLLOW, Cheltenham Road

Replacement dwelling.

S.15/2181/FUL BARNs

ASSOCIATED WITH KNAPP HOUSE,
The Vatch

Conversion of redundant barn and piggery to Micro-Distillery.

S.15/1985/FUL HAMMONDS FARM,
Wick Street

Addition of 50 Solar Panels to steel portal frame barn.

S.15/2402/LBC FLAT 18, Gyde House,
Gyde Road

Internal and external alterations.

S.15/2448/LBC OLD FLEECE, Bisley Street

Proposed change of use from offices to Hair Salon on ground floor and a single apartment on the upper floors.

REFUSED

S.15/1297/FUL LAND EAST OF, A46
CHELTENHAM ROAD AND SOUTH
OF THE PARK

Erection of eight 3-5 bedroom market houses and nine 1-3 bedroom affordable dwellings.

S.15/2140/HHOLD

WASHBROOK MILL, Edge Road

Extensions and alterations (alternative scheme to S.15/2142/HHOLD)

S.15/2449/LBC ROSEBANK

COTTAGES, Slad Road, Slad

Fireplace opened up to full extent of the inglenook. Partition wall erected in attic. Staircase on ground and first floor replaced. Cupboard and doorway enclosing stairs, removed and altered.

Attic window top wall/ceiling excavated to reveal original beams. Plaster has been added, next to stairs, going up to the attic has not been replaced with lime mortar. Balustrade has been erected to surround the new staircase in the attic. The current balustrade will need LBC as it's not part of the original staircase.

WITHDRAWN

S.15/2312/HHOLD SKIPPETS
COTTAGE, Damsells Mill Lane,
Sheepscombe

Create private off street parking for two cars.



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Retired couple seek detached 4/5 bedroom house c3-3500 sq.ft., or smaller and suitable for extension, with manageable garden. Building plot also considered. If you are thinking of selling please contact geoffrewall@aol.com or call 029 20515554

Babysitting and Gardening

18-year-old experienced in gardening and babysitting available in the Painswick area - DBS checked, with references available. Please contact sebhewel@gmail.com for details and availability

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MINI-ADS

Small Schreiber wardrobe for sale: 76 cm wide, 166 cm tall and 52 cm deep. £10, buyer collects. 812942

Tumble drier for sale 'Sensodry 6 kg load', old but in good working order. £45 or near offer. Buyer collects Tel 814360

The Personal Column

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

Congratulations

To PETER and MARY ROBERTS who are celebrating their Golden Wedding anniversary on February 19th. Thank you to all their friends and neighbours for all their help and support since moving to Painswick 6 years ago and in particular to their daughter Alexandra, son-in-law James and their children.

Condolences

To the family and friends of BILL VARAH who died peacefully in Richmond Village on 30th November aged 91 years. Bill was the husband of the late Phyllis, father of Mark and John and a loving grandfather and great grandfather. Sincere thanks to all the care staff at Richmond Village for the kindness shown to Bill.

To Marion Sadler and all the family and friends of PETER SADLER who died on December 19th after a long illness.

To Dorothy Ash and all the family and friends of NORMAN ASH who died on December 22nd. Dorothy and Norman moved from Painswick to Langport, Somerset approximately ten years ago but will be remembered by many in Painswick. The funeral will be at Taunton Crematorium on January 8th at 12.00pm.

Beacon Village Quiz



Saturday 12th March
in the Painswick Centre

Teams of four please which could come from a club or society, local street or just a group of friends.

If you wish to reserve a table then a quick email to barrusjp@yahoo.co.uk will prompt an acknowledgment or drop a note in the Beacon post box. The cost per team including light refreshments will be £20.

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Dry Stone walling



Editors Farewell

At the December Beacon editorial team meeting, members expressed their appreciation to Peter Jenkins for the contribution he had made during the five and a half years in which he had been a member of the Beacon Team, not least as an alternating editor, and their disappointment that he had decided to retire from the production of the journal. Our photo shows Beacon Team Chairman, Richard Aspinall, presenting Peter with a copy of John and Sally Rhodes "A Journey through Gloucestershire".



The above picture shows knitted models of the Nativity made by 6 members of the Friday Club and is on display in our library. Our plan for next year is to complete a knitted display of "the twelve days of Christmas" which we will need to start in the summer! Perhaps setting up a "knit and natter" group to be held in the library if enough people are interested.

Sue Kerton

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NEXT ISSUE

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

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