

The Painswick Beacon

Volume 43 Number 4

July 2020

Appeal turned down over New Drive field Inspector rules drainage scheme unsatisfactory

In a major victory for local campaigners, the appeal by the landowners against refusal of outline planning permission for building eight houses on the field below New Drive has been dismissed. The original application was refused by Stroud Council on the relatively limited grounds that no satisfactory drainage scheme had been provided, and the inspector has agreed with this reason for refusal. She judged that although there was a satisfactory scheme for dealing with on-site drainage, there was still a risk that development of so many houses on the site could increase the risk of flooding for other properties below it. The drainage technical note submitted by the owners did not follow best practice guidance and referred to 'assumed, estimated and guessed details'.



Campaigners gathered in the field last year (before social distancing)

As the refusal of the application was only on grounds of drainage, the inspector did not consider other matters. The applicants attempted to argue that because this was the sole reason for refusal, then by implication other matters were not at issue. The inspector rejected this argument, pointing out that as an outline application only, there was not enough information to determine the impact on landscape and heritage. This would still have to be considered in any future application.

The inspector also ruled against the application for costs by the landowners.

Refusal of the appeal is to some extent a repeat of history, with an appeal against refusal of permission for eight houses having been dismissed back in 1987. The inspector noted though that the reasons for refusal differed in the two cases and that the policy context had moved on significantly since then.

It may not be as much as another 33 years before the next episode in this long-running story.

Rainbow Church

St Mary's Church was looking particularly colourful for the final Clap for Carers event at the end of May. Lighting by Phil Ion of Core Lighting. Photo by David Richardson.



**The slow return to normal - see inside for news on re-openings
Please support local businesses as they try to get back to some normality**

PLANNING MATTERS

Information received from the Parish Council

NEW APPLICATIONS

S.20/1003/HHOLD & S.20/1004/LBC
Chapel Cottage Gloucester Street
Extension to first floor.
S.20/0964/TCA The Lodge, Gyde
House, Gyde Road
1x Western red cedar - Fell. 1x Cypress -
Reduce in height by 4m. 1x Sugar maple
- Crown reduce by 2m.
S.20/1035/TCA Fieldcroft,
Sheepscombe
Fell (1) Field Maple due to disease. Fell
(1) Field Maple due to excessive shading
and low amenity value
S.20/1040/TCA Stonecroft,
Sheepscombe
Fell cypress and rowan, rowan remove one
branch from to even it up in appearance.
S.20/1032/HHOLD Spring Cottage,
Tibbiwell Lane Ground floor orangery,
first floor extension and alterations.
S.20/1060/TPO The Old Sunday School,
Slad Road, Slad
Copper Beech TPO 298 - T2 - Lifting of
the crown by removal of three of the lowest
primary branches.
S.20/1081/HHOLD The School
House, Slad Road. Slad
Construction of a free standing garden
room.
S.20/1076/TPO Long Finals, Stamages
Lane
Lime tree (TPO 527) pruning is required.
S.20/1135/LBC Rozel Cottage, St Marys
Street
Internal alterations and rear extension.

CONSENT

S.20/0590/HHOLD Dillay Farm,
Painswick
Erection of first floor and two storey
extension and new porch.
S.20/0564/HHOLD Phoenix
Cottage, Tibbiwell Lane
Additional window to first floor bedroom
and new Oak framed open porch.
S.20/0706/HHOLD Clattergrove
House, Clattergrove
Erection of two storey side extension
incorporating existing garage.
S.20/0865/TCA Hambutts House, Edge
Road
Lime (T1) - crown raise to 6m and crown

clean.
S.20/0849/TPO The Vatch Cottage, The
Vatch, Catswood Lane
T1 Sycamore - Remove major deadwood
(over 50mm in diameter) Reduce western
stem by 3.5m. T2 Sycamore - Monolith
to crown break union (approx. 3m) T12
Sycamore - Remove major deadwood
(over 50mm in diameter) and 2 hanging
branches at 12m & 15m south overhanging
road/pavement. T14 Lime - Western
stem at 4m arises from a compromised
compression fork union that is undermined
by a soil pocket on the S side and included
bark, separation gap and fibre buckling
on N side. Install non-invasive, dynamic
bracing system with a minimum tensile
strength of 4 tonnes to prevent excessive
loading on the weakened union. It should
be installed as close to two thirds of the
height from the union to total height of
tree as possible.
S.20/0940/TCA The Old Surgery,
Gloucester Street
Silver Birches x 2. Reduce back by a
third in height and spread in proportion.
Cherries x 3 Reduce in height by 10-14 ft
and the sides in proportion.

REFUSED

S.19/2399/FUL Dutchcombe Farm,
Yokehouse Lane
Revised replacement dwelling, new access
and driveway.

PARISH COUNCIL RESPONSES TO APPLICATIONS

Support for the following:

S.20/0946/HHOLD Wellington
House, Stroud
Erection of single storey extension and
removal of some external wall and doors.
S.20/0947/LBC Wellington House,
Stroud
Erection of single storey extension and
removal of some external wall and doors
S.20/0940/TCA The Old Surgery,
Gloucester Street
Silver Birches x 2. Reduce back by a
third in height and spread in proportion.
Cherries x 3 Reduce in height by 10-14 ft
and the sides in proportion.
S.20/0834/HHOLD Woolgatherers,
Longridge, Sheepscombe
Installation of new solar PV panels on

roof.
S.20/0910/LBC Southfield House,
Vicarage Street
Rear extension to form entrance porch /
garden room.
S.20/0909/HHOLD Southfield
House, Vicarage Street
Rear extension to form entrance porch /
garden room.
S.20/0943/HHOLD Woodlands,
Stamages Lane
Extensions and alterations to dwelling
including detached ancillary garden store.

Support with comments (would like to ensure that the proposals are not detrimental to the public right of way).

S.20/0714/FUL Hillview, Cockshoot,
Sheepscombe
Proposed vehicle access and parking.
Change of use for section of land to
residential.

Neither support or object but comment has concerns regarding the lack of parking provision and are concerned that this will lead to more on street parking.

S.20/0891/FUL 15 White Horse Lane,
Painswick
Erection of dwelling.

During the Coronavirus crisis, Parish Council meetings have been suspended and the response to planning applications has been coordinated by the Parish Clerk with remote input from councillors.

There are now discussions concerning re-starting meetings and we understand that the first Council Meeting under new secure arrangements is scheduled to take place on Wednesday 15th July. Please refer to the Parish Council website for more details.

Additional copies of the Beacon

are available from the Best One or online, where the Beacon can be seen in full colour at www.painswickbeacon.org.uk

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Report from the Surgery

Getting back to some kind of normality

It's all wearing a bit thin, isn't it? Getting very tedious? Hopefully by the time you are reading this the lockdown measures will already be less onerous.

But the pandemic is far from over. The levels are low, but Covid is here to stay and will affect the way we live and work, possibly permanently.

It's been 3 months now and access to almost every NHS portal is still restricted. You have all been immensely patient but we know you are getting fed up. We know because staff at the surgery also have ailments, chronic illness, delayed appointments, family that are ill, isolating, elderly, alone. Some have partners that are furloughed, or are self-employed and in effect unemployed. Despite this they have gone the extra mile, working through Easter, taking on extra tasks, buddying up or working from home when ill. So we understand you are frustrated. But please, don't take it out on our receptionists. This is happening only in a small minority of cases but it is unforgivable and has an enormous effect on morale. Look after them so they can help look after you.

So what are we actually doing? I fear it may not look like much but it feels like everything at once. With our hands tied. Our practice nurse and health care assistants in particular have been well ahead of the curve in innovating in ways that provide key services and in taking on practice infection control. Our core services continue, albeit rarely face to face and we are proactively looking after those known to be extremely vulnerable. We are working carefully and cautiously to keep you and ourselves safe and to prevent the risk of the surgery having to quarantine. We are co-ordinating with care homes, Gloucester Care Services and the Clinical Commissioners to provide enhanced "virtual ward rounds" and structured medication reviews, recognising they were neglected in the early days of the outbreak. We are keeping up to date with the stream of updates, new developments and guidance as hospitals do their best to reconstruct the intricate and complex referral system. Across the county there is an admission we do not have capacity to go back to the way

Barbecue dangers

Much excitement happened on 1st June, when the Gloucestershire Fire and Rescue Service were called out to a fire in the trees behind the rear gardens of Gyde House around 11am in the morning.

This is a reminder to please be careful when disposing of embers after a BBQ, even the next morning, when they may seem cool enough to discard. Thankfully no one was hurt and only limited damage was done to neighbouring trees and undergrowth, but it could have been a very different story, given the hot weather.

Clare Chad-Daniels

things were. So every practice in Gloucestershire is following a uniform approach based on four pillars. In essence it boils down to remote triaging instead of lengthy waiting lists, focusing on the most appropriate care, not least self-care, and breaking down the old barriers between services. It is frustratingly time-consuming and the dreaded Zoom meetings endless, but this is an opportunity to achieve what health leaders have been trying to for years.

Unfortunately we are also seeing a clear increase in the numbers of patients struggling with their mental health. There are however a multitude of available self-help measures that can help in the first instance. The majority of our patients, of all ages, have adapted remarkably quickly to online and remote services and all patients can self-refer to the NHS funded counselling service www.nhs.uk/live-well and www.talk2gether.nhs.uk which is what it sounds like - including drug and alcohol advice. There is a huge amount of information on the NHS App and website and finally the familiar Youtube has many simple and excellent guides to Mindfulness. I have tried it and if a grumpy, 50-something cynic finds it helpful, so might you!

If we are lucky enough to be able to venture out more, please continue to be careful. There is no need for anxiety but simple good habits and hand hygiene will go a long way to making an already low risk negligible. Hopefully we can all get back to enjoying life more. Certainly we will all appreciate it more.

Dr Rhys Evans, Senior Partner

Report communicated via the Patient Participation Group



Anne-Marie Randall
PHOTOGRAPHY
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Martyn – from the Rococo to the Atlantic

Martyn Thornton's training regime, in readiness for his trans-Atlantic rowing feat in December, is remarkable, beyond what most of us would even consider embarking on. Quite apart from that however, he has found time to make a very beautiful seat which now stands proudly in the Rococo Garden.

In connection with the Art in Nature project, Martyn was originally invited by Dominic Hamilton and Chris Scott of the Rococo to create a bench for the Garden. He set to work and, with his rowing plan already taking shape, he decided that the design of the bench would represent his boat on the waves of the sea. 'I took inspiration from the beech hedge by the pond for the leaf shapes on the end of the waves,' he explains.

All the wood – yew for the seat and ash for the waves – was sourced from the Rococo Garden and marine varnish was applied to the finished piece. Carved into the seat are the words 'YOU CAN NEVER CROSS THE OCEAN UNTIL YOU HAVE THE COURAGE TO LOSE SIGHT OF THE SHORE'. The bench now stands in a perfect position on the bowling green with the pond behind and glorious views up through the garden area to the Exedra at the top. It is an exquisite piece of work, stylish, elegant, fascinating and skilfully crafted.

Martyn designed and made the boat bench at weekends over a five month period. There was the small problem of how to transport it from his home in Painswick to the Rococo, fortunately solved when George Hodder kindly came to the rescue with the parish council work pick-up. Once delivered it was carefully unloaded and taken to its new position where it certainly immediately attracted some very admiring glances from visitors. 'It's so beautiful', exclaimed one impressed lady.

The 'boat on the waves' is of course of prime importance currently for Martyn. With a rigorous ongoing training programme the need for funding is paramount. Fund raising is not so easy in the current lockdown situation and of course the whole endeavour is totally dependent on adequate funding. At 62 he is aiming to set a new world record for the oldest man to row solo across the Atlantic, 3000 miles, in under 60 days. Provided he reaches his sponsorship goal he will then be able to donate the proceeds from the sale of his boat to the very worthy charity, Horseheard.



Martyn needs both major and small sponsors and offers a range of possibilities. These include Feed a Rower for a Day £25, the £250 club sees your name on the boat, sponsor an oar for £2,500, Martyn's medical kit for £1000. For just £6.50 you can pay for a meal through the Message in a Meal initiative with ActivEat Foods and at the other end of the scale there are larger corporate sponsorship opportunities at £10,000. Perhaps Painswick could set itself a goal of £5000 or £10,000, individuals and/or local businesses collectively. If this could be achieved Martyn would be more than happy to give a presentation on his return in Painswick Centre about the whole venture.

Please consider this sponsorship appeal. Martyn is a Painswick man undertaking an amazing world challenge. You can contact him by email martyn.thornton@btinternet.com, tel. 07785.350840, there's a website www.atlanticsolo.co.uk, or follow on Instagram @atlanticsolo and his GoFundMe link is www.gofundme.com/f/atlantic-solo Do give your support.

Carol Maxwell

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Midsummer Magic

Since I last wrote, we have been able to open the Garden to the public on a regular basis and it's looking glorious. During lockdown our Head Gardener Roger has very skilfully kept things in great order, and now we have some of our volunteers back, we're able to do even more. Having visitors and Friends back has been a joy, especially as, for some, we were the first place they visited after lockdown.

At the time of writing we're opening Friday to Sunday, from 10am. Online advance booking is essential as visitors are welcomed in 30 minute slots so we avoid queues and are able to manage the numbers in the car park. As the weeks go by, we hope to extend our opening as demand (and government advice) dictates.

We have obviously made a few changes to how we operate to ensure everyone's safety. We have a number of one-way routes in operation, and temporary toilet facilities for the time being. But once inside the Garden you are free to wander and it really does feel like an escape. The Kitchen Garden drank up the rain of the wet week mid-June and is flourishing - when I last visited, the courgettes, beans, beetroot and carrots caught my eye. Of particular interest are the conical hop bines which have really taken off this year. We expect to harvest them in the autumn with the dream of making a Rococo Beer.

We now have a simple takeaway Café offer of hot and cold drinks, cakes and ice cream and again some have commented how lovely it has been to enjoy their first coffee post-lockdown in such beautiful surroundings. Our website and social media carry the very latest information as to what we're up to and what is available.

Our visitors have always appreciated the excellent healthy plants we are able to source. We re-stock each week and I'm pleased to say that our sales recently have exceeded all of our expectations. It's been a pleasure to open up the Garden again and we are all delighted to welcome you back!



Tim Toghil, Volunteer and Trustee

Your Garden Needs You! Join the Rococo Auction of Promises

Everyone knows (or I hope they do) that the Rococo Garden is one of the jewels in the crown of Painswick. It is a beautiful, quirky and unique example of 18th century garden design and we are lucky to have it. However, it is a sad fact that a very wet winter, which limited the number of visitors to see the snowdrops blooming in February, followed by the sudden closure caused by the Corona-virus pandemic has had a negative effect on the Garden's income.

The Friends of the Rococo Garden have decided to try and help the situation by organising an online Auction of Promises. This can be viewed by visiting the auction website on <https://auctionofpromises.com/>

AuctionFortheRococoGarden. We are asking you to add 'promises' from the very small to the very glamorous. For example, you may be offering to cook a meal for two, you may be offering an original painting of someone's house or you may own a chalet in the Swiss Alps and be offering a week's rental for a family - there will be so many examples in between! Promises can be added all month, even when the bidding has started. More importantly we want you to bid for the lots and help us financially to support the Garden. Bidding started on June 27th and runs until July 31st. Please take a look and do your bit. If you need advice, please email me on cvasp.26@gmail.com. If you love the Garden as much as the Trustees and the Friends do, you will want to do your best to help it survive this extremely difficult time.

Vicky Aspinall Chairman of the Friends

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Cattle return to the Beacon.

The seven Dexter cows have been on vacation at Holcombe Farm since last February. The summer drought has meant the grass has not grown as much as in normal years, and they are coming to the end of their grazing. Natural England have given consent to return them to the Beacon on the 1st July. They will be paddocked in an area which has not been grazed for about eight years and needs a restoration graze. When grazing stops, for a few years, grass tends to dominate and smother smaller and more delicate plants. Restoration grazing allows livestock to eat the coarser vegetation and gently break up the surface with their hooves. They are often grazed longer to remove as much vegetation as possible. This allows flower seeds to germinate in the autumn and next spring.



Conservation grazing tends to occur from August and gives more time for plants to set seed before being eaten off. When the grassland is in good condition, grazing is not pushed as hard - more like a quick trim.

As usual we ask regular users of the Beacon to be vigilant and report any problems to the cow check number 07549 338 326. Remember, please keep dogs under strict control around the cows and pick up and remove dog poo. Spring gates should always be shut, no matter how you find them.

Having topped a lot of brambles last month, we have spent several hours spraying the regrowth with a selective herbicide. This will kill bramble and invasive broad-leaved plants down to the roots and stop them regrowing. Several people have commented that we should not be doing this. I would prefer not to, but we have neither the manpower nor resources to do otherwise. The alternative way involves cutting back several times a year, raking off the arisings and hard grazing. Over a number of years the quality of ground cover will improve. We use the minimum treatment to get the job done. The product used has been approved by Natural England and is safe for pets once absorbed into the leaves (when dry in about 2hrs.) Application is by a qualified operator using an approved knapsack sprayer.

Paul Baxter 07971 633 242

New Probate Service in Painswick

For some time, Town & Country Financial Planning, based in New Street, have been offering a Probate service to their existing investment clients. As Martin Falshaw, Chartered Financial Planner at Town & Country says "After all, who better to assist the Executors in identifying and valuing someone's estate than the adviser who would have done this as part of the advice process? And who else is better placed to understand what inheritance tax mitigation measures are in place than the adviser who arranged them?"

Now Town & Country are extending the service to new clients. The service, which is carried out at a 'fixed fee' agreed at outset, is suitable for Executors who wish to play their part but may be unsure of all the allowances that may be available or how to deal with the complexities of the estate and any lifetime gifting. The Executors of the Will are guided through the process, made aware of their obligations and supported in a smooth distribution of the estate.

Martin goes on to say, "In our view there is potential to make significant savings in the legal fees associated with Probate, by paying a fixed fee. We find Executors are reluctant to telephone or email their solicitor fearing that every minute spent talking to the solicitor is being charged at their hourly rate."

To take up this service the Executors will initially need an original Death Certificate and the Original Will (if the deceased had made a Will) before contacting Martin to make a free initial appointment.

www.tandc.org.uk
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Thank You

Richmond Painswick would like to thank you, the local community, for your continued support and kindness. We hope you are keeping well. Please stay safe and let's stay connected.


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Painswick Historic Crimes

Some crimes from the month of July

Eloping – a serious offence

Eloped from his wife and family on the 17th July, Edward Lane, residing in the parish of Painswick. He is about 5 feet 5 inches high, black hair, dark complexion, dark eyes, small-pox very thick about the face, about 34 years of age; his right thumb a little bruised. Had on when he went away a blue coat and smock frock, brown corduroy breeches broad cords, grey stockings, high shoes; went away with one Mary Chandler, who is about 20 years of age, 5 feet high, fully breasted and lusty.

Whoever will give information, or lodge the above Edward Lane in any of His Majesty's Gaols, so that he may be brought to justice, shall receive a reward of TWO GUINEAS, and all reasonable expenses, on application to Thomas Cook, Overseer of Painswick.

Gloucester Journal 30 July 1810

100 years later in 1910 ...

For using obscene language to the annoyance of Eva Sysum, wife of Charles Sysum of Painswick, William Richard Gyde carpenter of Painswick was fined 19/- inclusive. Gloucester Citizen 15 July 1910

Drunk or Extraordinarily Drunk?

A headline from the Stroud News and Journal July 1910.

Edwin Cook, labourer of Painswick, was summoned for being drunk and disorderly on 18th June. P.C. Hayward and Percy Edward Musty, stonemason of Painswick, gave evidence, the latter remarking that defendant was certainly drunk, "but not extraordinarily drunk." Defendant said he was able to go home alright so he could not have been "so extraordinarily drunk." Mr Hyett: You are not charged with being extraordinarily drunk, but simply with being drunk. Defendant added that if ever there was a "caddle" in Painswick he would bet a penny he was always in it. Mr Hyett: That's true. Defendant was fined 12s.6d. Addressing the Chairman, defendant said if ever there was a bit of a row in Painswick the police always brought him down.

July 1890 – yet more drunkenness

Edwin Painter, who did not appear, was summoned for being drunk and disorderly at Painswick on Sunday, 29th June. Fined 10s. Stroud News 4 July 1890

Joseph Weare, of Painswick, who did not appear, was fined 5/- including costs for being drunk and disorderly at Painswick on Sunday morning last. Gloucester Citizen 26 July 1890

A new police station

The Chairman reported the purchase of the New Inn at Painswick for the sum of £240 for the purpose of a police station. The sum of £150 would be required to be spent upon it for this purpose. (Chief Constable's report on county affairs) Gloucester Journal 2 July 1910

This building is now the art gallery on the corner of St Marys Street and Kings Court. Unfortunately we do not possess a photograph of it as either the New Inn or the police station. If anyone has such a photograph we would be very pleased to hear from you.

Carol Maxwell

Toiletries urgently needed!

No doubt many readers are used to donating to the Stroud Food Bank, either by putting items in the box in St Mary's or by leaving them in the crate at one of the supermarkets. Now those donations are needed more than ever.

Since lockdown, the number of people contacting the Stroud Food Bank has soared. Requests for emergency food in April were 3 times the normal level; we provided over 300 people with bags of food sufficient for 3 days. In May, demand was still twice the normal level. We can expect increased numbers of people to be made redundant and homeless in the coming months, no doubt pushing demand yet higher. The supermarkets have responded excellently to the crisis, adding large donations of food to those donated by customers.

But there remains a lack of toiletries. Families who are struggling to afford food, cannot afford toothpaste, toothbrushes, shower gel, sanitary products, shaving cream etc. And of course the all important toilet rolls, soap and hand-sanitiser. Please help!

A donation box is going to be made available in the porch of St Mary's Church on Wednesday 15th July 10am – 12 noon, manned by Stroud Food bank volunteers. If you can, please do call by and drop something in.

*Pippa Dickinson and Pippa Medcalf
Food Bank Trustees
Margaret Radway, Churchwarden
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Tim and scrubs

Crises more often than not can lead to many of us thinking about taking new steps in a positive and, very importantly, altruistic direction. The current situation is no exception. Tim Davies, whose business is Painswick Fabrics in New Street, found himself thinking this way during the early stages of the Covid-19 pandemic. He felt a real need to do whatever he could to help.

From the beginning the NHS was calling for volunteers to become involved. Anyone interested would need to be tested first and Tim straightaway requested such a test. He waited but unfortunately did not receive a reply. A little later he discovered via Instagram a hub of people making scrubs for the NHS. They were desperate for fabric. Tim realised that this was a way in which he could definitely be of assistance.

The fabric, preferably cotton, had to be washable at 60°. That was the only real stipulation and colour, pattern, general appearance was irrelevant. Tim had a shop full of cloth. He carefully selected about 300 metres of eminently suitable fabric which was then collected and taken to a central point in Cirencester. Tim explains that from there the fabric is distributed 'to an army of home sewers across the county'. The resulting scrubs are then given to hospitals in Cirencester, Gloucester and Swindon and also to local surgeries.

Tim's fabric was sent from Painswick on 25th April. It consisted of a range of colours and patterns including that shown in the photograph which was blue with white spots. 300 metres is a very sizeable quantity and represents a considerable section of Tim's business. His donation is both generous and magnanimous.

Opening in 1996, Painswick Fabrics has been selling the very best quality household fabrics at undoubtedly competitive prices to customers from near and far. After all those weeks of necessary enforced closure, the shop is now open again adhering carefully to government guidelines.



Tim's gift was without doubt a truly thoughtful gesture at a time of real need and Painswick should be proud.

Carol Maxwell

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From little acorns ...

Isn't life strange? A wet afternoon, an Aga cooker, a computer tablet and a bit of idle time provided the catalyst that brought me to crack sourdough bread making and putting this new passion to good use.

In February, we were house-sitting in Wiltshire. This particular wet afternoon, I found myself idling away an hour or two. Suddenly, for no apparent reason, I found a recipe for a sourdough starter and decided that I would begin making sourdough bread. Since then, it has become a bit of an obsession.

Another of my passions is raising funds for a school in rural Burundi, one of the poorest countries in the world. The Burundi Education Foundation (Charity Number: 1157811) was set up by Chantal, a very good friend of ours, who came to the UK some 20 years ago as a refugee. One of Chantal's relatives had told her about a small village in southern Burundi which had been asking the government for a primary school for SIXTY years! After hearing this, Chantal worked tirelessly with UNICEF to fulfil this urgent need. Six years on,



the school has been built and now has three classes. The running costs are the charity's responsibility and hence ongoing fund-raising is essential to keep the school going.



The Burundi Educational Foundation School

Normally, we would hold a few fund-raising events each year and encourage interested parties to host an event of their own to widen the circle of supporters. However, Coronavirus lockdown has naturally put a temporary stop to this and I was anxious that their 'cupboard' was becoming bare.

With my thinking cap on, I decided to try and combine two of my current passions. Voilà! How about making sourdough bread and inviting friends to donate five pounds per loaf? Less than four weeks into my new venture and I have baked nearly sixty loaves for the project. This is a temporary measure to keep the school afloat. I don't intend setting up a bakery ...

collection and payment on Wednesday mornings at 11am. I would invite you to please try to support this worthwhile charity either by ordering a loaf or by making a regular/one-off donation online. Contact me on: 07423-080429 or frithwoodfarm@gmail.com Thanking you in anticipation.

Loaves need to be pre-ordered by Sunday night. We then bring the bread to Stamages Car Park for

Angela Lerwill

Painswick Library Book Club



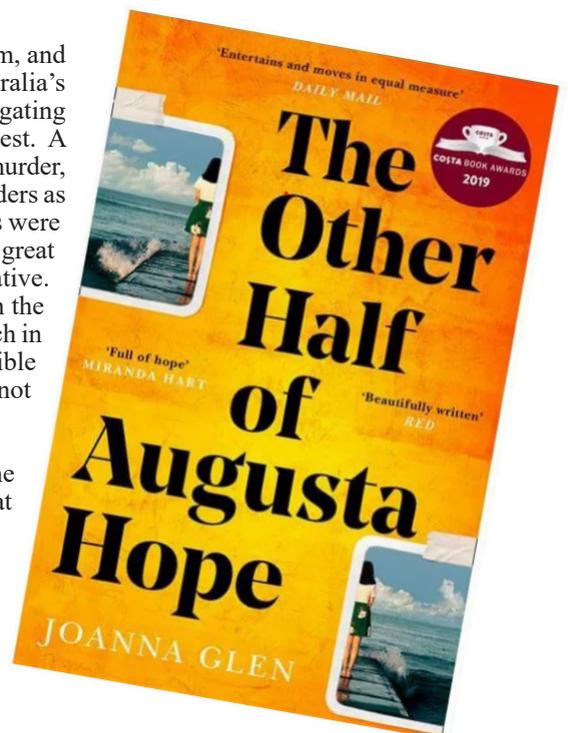
The latest Library Book Club meeting was again via Zoom, and we discussed 'Scrublands' by Chris Hammer. Set in Australia's New South Wales, the plot centred on a journalist investigating a town a year on from a multiple shooting by the local priest. A crime thriller, it contained elements of domestic violence, murder, love and heroism. It met with mixed reviews from our readers as the colourful language and brutality of some of the scenes were not to everyone's liking. However we did agree that it did a great

job in evoking the intense heat and drought that was the backdrop to the narrative. Those familiar with Australia enjoyed the authenticity that the author created in the fictional small town at the heart of the story. It was certainly action-packed and rich in interesting characters and developments. However there were too many implausible characters and coincidences to make it a really convincing plot. Though perhaps not a must read, a page-turner nonetheless.

The next meeting is on Monday 20th July at 2 pm when we will be discussing 'The Other Half of Augusta Hope' by Joanna Glen (pictured right). We are hoping that we can meet face to face by then, but if not another Zoom meeting will suffice.

New or returning members to the Library Book Club are always welcome, and there's absolutely no obligation to come to every meeting. Enquiries to painswick.library.bookclub@gmail.com.

Pat Andrew



Demolished!

For the third in our series of photographs of Painswick buildings that no longer exist, we're in Vicarage Street, where the White Horse pub used to stand at what is now the junction with White Horse Lane. The photo on the right (courtesy of Kath Perrins) was taken in the early 1960s, shortly before the pub was demolished, and shows David Smith approaching the door. The other photo below, looking down the street, is a little older.

In the early part of the twentieth century the pub was run by the Swain family and Arthur Swain, whose daughter Judy still lives just down the street, used to reminisce about lively nights in the White Horse with a young Laurie Lee sometimes playing the fiddle.



Lockdown Puzzle

Can you unscramble these 12 names of thoroughfares in Painswick?

1. Fetch rot (3,5)
2. No can trace (6,4)
3. Drill safe land (8,5)
4. Welsh wear pulp (5,8)
5. Bell bit WI (9)
6. Wet Ernest (3, 6)
7. All drones up (7,4)
8. Reach the old man (10,4)
9. Drat odours (6,4)
10. A kiln smelling (9,4)
11. Tiger craves tea (8,6)
12. A maltese snag (8,4)

Puzzle from Celia Lougher. Answers on page 16



A little light weeding

Could anybody help with an hour's weeding on the flower beds, which run along the back of the churchyard up to the Church Rooms, and have become rather neglected during lockdown? A working party for just an hour or so from 10 am on Sunday morning 12th July could make a big difference and the beds are long and thin enough to accommodate social distancing. Bring your own chosen tools.

Margaret Radway, Churchwarden






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Mary Roberts

Painswickian of the Year 1831

The publication in 1831 of 'Annals of my Village' was an important event for the history of Painswick, particularly in recording the natural history of the area in the early 19th century. Oddly though, the book makes only passing mention of Painswick or anywhere else in the area, and its (anonymous) author, Mary Roberts, lived in London, having left Painswick some 20 years earlier. Did many people in Painswick even notice its publication at the time?

Mary Roberts came from an old Quaker family that traced its history and Quaker connections back to John Roberts, a colleague and friend of George Fox, founder of the Society of Friends. An even more distant ancestor on her father's side was William Tyndale, who first translated the Bible into English, and on her mother's side she was related to the Quaker botanist, Thomas Lawson.

Those connections may have stimulated her interest in natural history and in religion, but it was her family connections with the Lovedays, a prominent local Quaker family, that brought her to Painswick around 1790. There had been a double marriage between the Roberts and Loveday families early in the eighteenth century. The Lovedays owned Mundays (now Yew Tree House) in Vicarage Street and had given part of the land attached to the house for the building of the Friends Meeting House. It was the perfect place for Daniel and Ann Roberts with their young family. Mary was 2 in 1790 and seems to have lived there until around 1811, developing her interest in natural history as she grew up in idyllic surroundings.



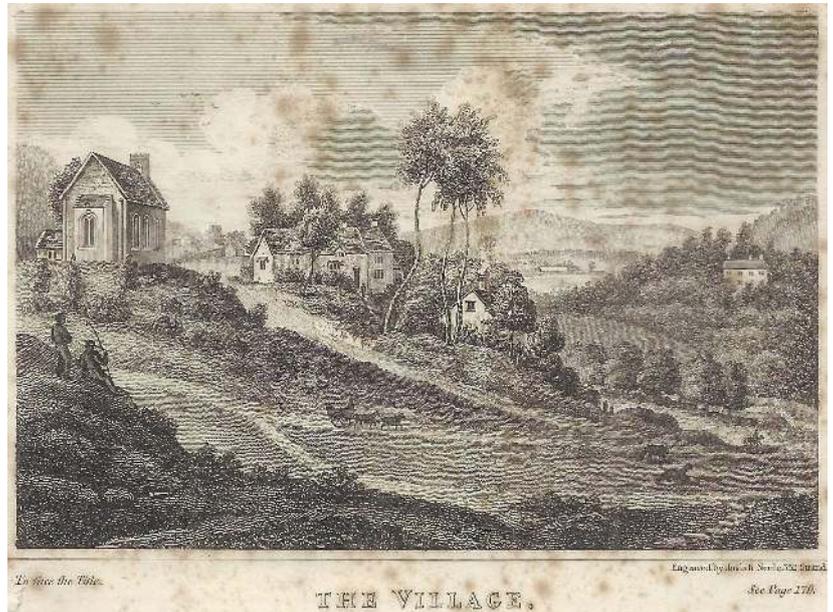
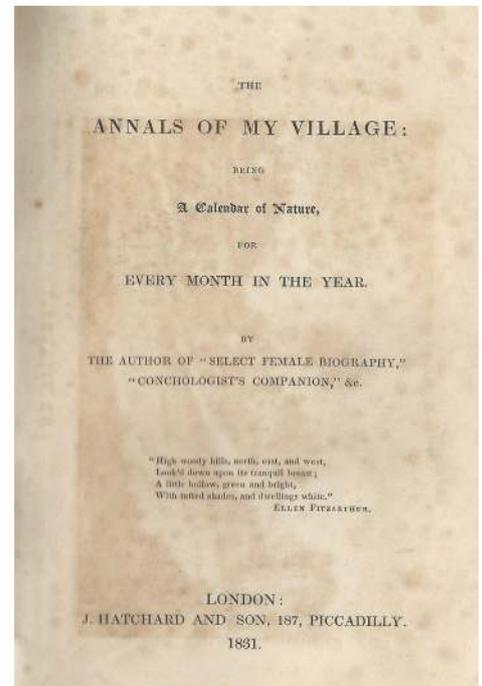
Joanna Southcott

Sadly though there was a falling out with the Quakers. Mary's father Daniel was expelled in 1807 for his belief in the self-described prophetess Joanna Southcott, and the family resigned in solidarity with him. Daniel died in 1811, calling on his family in his will to 'continue firm believers' in Joanna Southcott, but they did later rejoin the Quakers. After her father's death, Mary and her mother left Painswick, her older brother Oade remaining at Mundays, where he seems to have set up a small boarding school, educating amongst others, Edward Newman, later a leading entomologist.

Mary though moved to London with her mother, never marrying, but building a career as a writer.

Her 'Select female biography' appeared in 1822, followed by works on natural history including 'The wonders of the vegetable kingdom'. But it was 'Annals of my Village' in 1831 that made her name. It was presumably based on notes from her time in Painswick, giving a description of the area in each month of the year, and roaming widely over the Painswick and Sheepscombe valleys. So far as we know, Mary herself lived in Painswick, but the village referred to in the title appears to be Sheepscombe, shown in an engraving at the front of the book. Mary Roberts died in 1864 and is buried in Brompton Cemetery.

There is more on Mary Roberts in an article by Elizabeth Skinner in vol. 2 of the Painswick Chronicle, now out of print, but available in more normal times at the library. An electronic copy of the article may be requested from apjbeacon@gmail.com



Frontispiece engraving of Sheepscombe

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Returning to The Croft School



On behalf of the Staff and Governors, I would like to thank all our parents for the wonderful support they continue to provide as we have opened to Reception, Year One and Year Six as well as continuing our provision for Keyworker Children.

All of the children who have returned to school seem very happy, reassured and settled and the staff have adapted admirably, pulling together as a strong team and responding well to any changes. We are acutely aware of the desire to get children back to school as soon as it is safe to do so: we know

in many instances the children are also eager to return – we all share that sense of urgency. We are extremely proud of all the hard work and effort that the children have shown during this unprecedented time and are in awe of the encouragement and support given by our parents. It is a privilege to be the Headteacher of The Croft and to be a part of the community we serve.

Rebecca Gore.

Governor Vacancies at The Croft

There will be three vacancies on the Croft School Board of Governors in September, as the current chair, Dr Ian Cridland, is stepping down as well as Sandi Carr and Benoy Ittyavirah. Between them they have over 18 years of service on the Governing Body. The vacancies are for co-opted Governors, so are subject to approval by the Governing Body.

Anyone with a passion for seeing the Croft School succeed, and be the best school it can be, is invited to put themselves forward. We would like to see candidates with particular connections with the locality here in Painswick, its businesses and activities, as well as an enthusiasm for our children's education and development. However, please consider these positions even if you do not feel you exactly fit the description – the passion and commitment is really what is required!

Contact the Headteacher, Rebecca Gore, in the first instance to find out more. Ring 01452 812479, or e-mail to Head@croft.gloucs.sch.uk

Change News from St. Mary's

We are in ever changing times. I am writing this in the middle of June and by the time you read it at the beginning of July everything will have changed again.



For the church we have gone in the past months from what was our normal in each village, to no public services, then to the churches locked to everyone including the Rector, to permission for the Rector to go in and pray on their own, to permission for churches to open for individual prayer under strict guidelines and we await news on when and how services can begin.

Here in Painswick we have taken the decision that we can safely open St Mary the Virgin parish church for prayer on a Monday and a Friday from 11am until noon. There will be clear signage of where to sit and all hygiene guidelines will be adhered to.

This however may well have changed or will change shortly after the publication of the Beacon so do keep a look out on the notice boards for further news about St Mary's. God Bless

*Rev Janet Turville, Rector
Beacon Benefice, Tel: 01452 245526*

Beacon Subscriptions Reminder

In March we asked for the renewal of Painswick Beacon Subscriptions. Considering the almost immediate situation we all found ourselves in with Covid 19, self-isolation and distancing, we had a good response to the request. This is a reminder for those who have overlooked or been distracted by greater events, that we are still taking subscriptions for the coming year, as we intend to continue producing and delivering the Beacon for you. The help of the Painswick Covid 19 Community Support Group, has been crucial in supporting the delivery of each Beacon to your door and has enabled us to keep publishing throughout lockdown. So please help us by subscribing to ensure the continuation of the Beacon in these difficult times. Email subscriptions.beacon@painswick.net if you need a reminder on how to subscribe.

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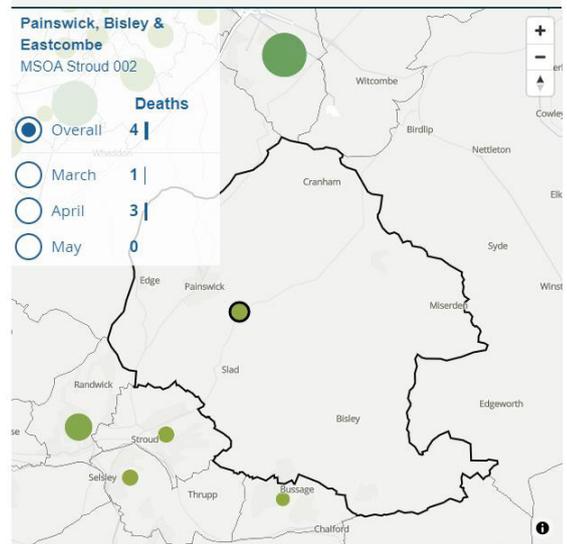
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Coronavirus Statistics

Figures released by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) have shown the extent of the death toll involving COVID-19, broken down by relatively small areas. For the Painswick, Bisley and Eastcombe area (of which Painswick is clearly only a small part) in the three months to the end of May, there were four deaths involving COVID-19 – one in March, three in April and none in May. In the same period there were 21 other deaths, not involving COVID-19.

The data is broken down by areas drawn to include similar levels of population with an average of around 7000 people in each area. Although there is inevitably some variation, the numbers for Painswick's area do not seem to be out of line with the other areas around, and figures for the South West overall are lower than for most other areas. Every death though is devastating for those involved.



Source: Office for National Statistics - Deaths involving COVID-19

Re-opening of the Waypoint

The Waypoint are excited to be able to welcome back everyone from the 4th of July! The Waypoint team have been hard at work whilst being closed and have made some great changes to the clubhouse, all ready for you to come and



visit. There is plenty of space between tables both inside and outside for safe eating. They will continue to keep up to date with the latest government advice and will be back to normal as soon as possible. In the meantime the bar will be open and a limited food menu will be available Tuesday - Sunday. "We can't wait to see you all!"

Joe Biscoe 812180

Painswick coming back to life

At long last the centre of Painswick is beginning to resume an appearance of normality. Several of our commercial businesses are opening their doors and welcome the return of customers albeit with certain specified regulations.

Some are already mentioned elsewhere in this edition of the Beacon, namely Painswick Fabrics, Rococo Garden, Town Hall Post Office, and others i.e. Best One and Painswick Pharmacy have been trading throughout the lockdown anyway. It is pleasing to add two more shops. Kate Rich is back running her dog walking business and will be pleased to open her shop as required suggesting you phone (813712) to check times of opening. Approche too is now open Tuesday to Saturday from 10.00am with ample space for safe browsing. Red Dot Painswick, the art gallery in St Mary's Street, is also open Wednesday to Friday from 10.00am to 4.00pm or by appointment.

The Bistro re-opens on 4th July as a restaurant 12 noon to 3.00pm and 6.30-9.30pm, closed on Mondays. The take-away service which has been operating throughout the past few weeks will continue as well. The Falcon also re-opens on 4th July from 10.00am to 10.00pm and serving food 12 noon to 2.30pm (Sunday 3.00pm) and 6.30-9.00pm (Sunday 8.00pm). A maximum of six guests to each table will be allowed. Both of these businesses will of course adhere to the strict government guidelines with regard to social distancing and hygiene practices.

Longfield, the charity shop in Bisley Street, remains closed but there is a possibility it may re-open some time in July. Updates on the situation will be posted on the website. The Oak too remains closed but the situation regarding re-opening will be reviewed weekly. Needless to say, all our businesses will closely observe current government guidelines for everyone's safety.

Carol Maxwell



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Painswick Sports

by John Barrus

Painswick Golf Club

As government regulations were relaxed to allow groups of up to six people to meet outdoors, from 28 May golfers were allowed to play in groups of four provided social distancing was maintained. A number of other measures set out by England Golf (such as not touching the flagstick) are still in place. So the game itself is now back to something like normality, but the social side remains restricted and the clubhouse remains closed. (but see page 13)



A few club competitions are now being held. The first midweek Stableford was combined with the Seniors' Arthur Paget Trophy (deferred from March) and took place on 11th June. A larger than usual number of players took part – and the competition was won by Mike Sanderson who scored an excellent 41 Stableford points. A new member, Ian Broderick, also scored 41 points but Mike had a better back nine holes (which is how matters are resolved when there is a tie). Congratulations to both players on their excellent scores.

Painswick golf course is now open to visitors. Requesting and receiving confirmation of a tee time is now a requirement (for track and trace reasons). The best way of doing this is via the club's website: www.painswickgolf.co.uk. There is a link on the home page that takes you to the booking page for Painswick Golf Club on GolfNow.

Peter Rowe (813228)

Town Hall Post Office is back



Our Town Hall postmaster is back. For the time being this service is operating only on Friday mornings, 9.30am-11.30am, not Wednesdays. Be mindful and respect social distancing, but do make use of this invaluable service.

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Jottings Old and local names for birds

I was looking at the Baddeley book of Painswick where at the back is a list of some of the old local names for birds. So with us all being on lockdown and we can hear more of the birds singing, I thought about a list of some of the ones I remember.

Owl	Billy Wix, and Pudge owl which is the barn owl.
Falcon	Riphook.
Kestrel	Hoverhawk or Windfarmer.
Merlin	Tweedler.
Song Thrush	Mavis
Bullfinch	Nope or Alp.
Duncock	Shufflewing.
Wren	Stump Toddy.
Goldcrest.	Woodcock or Muff Robin.
Jay.	Devil Scitch.
Starling	Sheep Stare.
Chaffinch	Flackie or Boldie(plus many others).
Great Tit	Priddle Prols
Black-headed Gull	Black Hatto.
Magpie	Meg Pie or Pianet.
Whitethroat	Singing Skyrocket.
Greenfinch	Big Head
Goldfinch	Sweet William or King Harry.
Lesser Spotted Woodpecker	Little Wood Pie.
Redstart	Flirt Tail.
Nightjar	Scissors Grinder.
Long Tailed Tits	many names - Bumbarrel, or Jack in the Bottle, or the best, Hedge Mumerfinch.
Swift	Screech.
Green Woodpecker	Yackle or Eekle.
Fieldfare	Veldwer.
Thrush	Stritch.
Crow	Crawe.

This is just a few. Many have other names as well. Some seem funny in old English.

Martin Slinger

Editor's Note: The book to which Martin refers is 'A Cotteswold Manor, being the history of Painswick' by Welbore St.Clair Baddeley, first published by John Bellows in 1907.

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Peter Minall

The Rev. Peter Minall, who has died at Scarlet House at the age of 93, made a remarkably big impression on Painswick in the twenty years or so that he lived in the village. He and his wife Jean moved to Painswick in 1991 after a career that had included spells as Vicar of Barnwood and as Vicar of Stroud. Before joining the ministry in 1957 he had been a BBC Control Room Engineer, involved amongst other things with broadcasting the 1948 Olympics.

Although nominally retired, Peter was fully involved in church life, officiating as part of the 8am Communion rota, even on Christmas Day and filling in at Painswick and Sheepscombe when colleagues were away. He was a lynch-pin of Christian Aid during his time in the village. But his contributions to village life went far wider. He was involved with Painswick Singers and the Painswick Music Society, where he was instrumental in securing staging and lighting and could usually be seen erecting the lights before concerts. He was Chairman of the Painswick Local History Society for several years and heavily involved in its research activities and publications.

Perhaps most memorably, Peter was a key part of the Painswick Players, which flourished during his time here. As Andrew Leach recalled when Peter left Painswick in 2012, "He brought a great deal of previous dramatic



Peter and Jean Minall



Peter Minall (right) with Neil Webber and Mary Peterson in rehearsals for Chekhov's 'The Bear'

experience to us. We tempted him back onto the stage as the Spanish Ambassador in our 2004 Painswick Festival production of 'A Man for All Seasons' and after that he was hooked! Peter took the lead in 'A Month of Sundays' in 2005 and was a memorably devious courtier, Lord Slitherspin, in our 2007 panto 'Snow White and the Seven Not Particularly Tall People'. He also took part in the Centenary Music Hall and Ayckbourn's 'It Could Be Any One of Us'. Peter's final role for Painswick Players in January 2012 was an absolute scene stealer as Luka, the servant in Chekhov's 'The Bear'."

Peter's wife Jean died in June 2017. This article is adapted from a tribute that appeared in the Painswick Beacon in October 2012 when Peter and Jean moved to Gloucester.

Peter Minall – a personal tribute

Peter was a joy to know. During the time he lived in Painswick I had the pleasure of working alongside him in the history society but also was lucky enough to count him as a true friend through a very sad personal experience.

Peter and I joined the committee of the local history society on the same day in the early 1990s. At the time, committee meetings were rather serious, slightly daunting occasions held in a very formal setting. Peter would usually sit next to me and invariably contrive to make me laugh quietly but uncontrollably at a very inappropriate moment whilst he himself maintained that super serious and slightly sombre facial expression for which he was known. He did eventually hold the position of chairman himself and engaged in some excellent research into various local topics.

When my son died aged just 20 in a terrible accident Peter was a veritable rock. As a vicar, albeit retired, he did not utter, thankfully, the rehearsed words and sentiments we expected to hear. Instead he showed a genuinely felt kindness and compassion, a level of understanding in an incomprehensible situation. We had adopted our son as a very 'damaged' child aged six and Peter understood the wider issues which this involved, having, I believe, adopted a child himself. His support was invaluable. I shall never forget Peter's wit, humanity, humour, interest and, above all, his incomparable kindness.

Carol Maxwell

New Yoga Space with social distancing

Local Yoga teacher Kim Brockett has not wasted her time during lockdown, and the result of much hard work is a new open air yoga space, capable of accommodating Kim plus five students, while still more than meeting the two metre social distancing guideline.

The space is in an old barn at Holcombe Farm and has fantastic views out over the peaceful Spoonbed Valley. Kim will be running a series of pre-arranged yoga sessions that can be booked by contacting her on 07973 504593 or at yoginikim@icloud.com, as well as the possibility of one-off sessions for groups of five people.



Property Report by Beacon Staff

Thorne in Friday Street, newly on the market through Murrays at £595,000, is one of the most historic houses in Painswick, situated right in the centre of the village. It is close to the site of the former George Inn and the old Market Place and has built into it two Doric columns that may have come from the market hall, as well as many other period features.

It is advertised by the agent as 'in need of modernisation', as are Stocks Cottage in St. Mary's Street (Hamptons, £750,000) and Corner Cottage in Victoria Street (Murrays, £400,000), two other historic and very central properties. On the lower slopes of the village, Millbrook House in Kingsmill Lane (Murrays, £950,000) is a more modern detached 4 bedroom house in Neo Georgian style. Further out at The Park, the Byre at Quercus Bluff (Hamptons, £750,000) is a three bedroom house with parking and close to two acres, as well as great views.

Agents report high levels of activity since the reopening of the market. Both Halfpenny Cottage in Tibbiwell and Dormy House in Kingsmill Lane went under offer through Murrays very quickly after coming onto the market. They also have Rockleigh in Kingsmill Lane and Cotswold Villa in Gloucester Street under offer, as well as several properties in the outlying villages. On two properties they even went to sealed bids, as there was so much interest. Hamptons had Kellavie in Wragg Castle Lane under offer very rapidly, and again several properties further out. They report strong interest from buyers moving out from London and the South East, and are using highly targeted social media campaigns to get properties in front of the most likely buyers based on their search histories.

Puzzle answers From page 10

1. The Croft
2. Canton Acre
3. Randaill's Field
4. Upper Washwell
5. Tibbiwell
6. New Street
7. Pullens Road
8. Cheltenham Road
9. Stroud Road
10. Kingsmill Lane
11. Vicarage Street
12. Stamages Lane

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Regular Village Activities In the light of the Coronavirus pandemic most of the activities below may not be running. As we gradually come out of 'lockdown' and events start to run again, please will organisers make sure that I have the correct details.

Mondays	Short Mat Bowls. Contact 812464	Town Hall	10.30am & 2.00pm	
	Yoga. Contact Kim 812623	Sheepscombe Village Hall	6.30 - 8.00pm & 8.15pm	
	Painswick Community choir. Contact Sophie 01453 298138	Painswick Centre	7.00 - 8.30pm	
	Painswick Singers Choir - contact Jean Jones 813545	Richmond Village	7.30 - 9.30pm	
	Pilates - Heidi Hardy. Enquiries 07970262538 heidihardyuk@yahoo.co.uk	Cotswold Room, Painswick Centre	9.00-10.15am and 10.15-11.30am	
	Ballyhoo Dance and Theatre School - all ages. Contact Heidi Hardy 07970 262538 ballyhoochalford@gmail.com	Church Rooms	4.00 - 6.00pm	
	Sheepscombe baby and toddler group - every Monday except holidays. £ 4.00 for first child, £1.00 others	Sheepscombe Village Hall	9.30am	
	Upholstery classes. For information contact Victoria or Sophie on 07835617213 or 07766114940 or www.sew-vintage.co.uk	Painswick Centre	10.00am or 6.30pm	
	Morning /evening prayer	St Mary's Church	8.30am/5.00pm	
	Tuesdays	Painswick Art Club	Church Rooms	9.30am
Gentle Pilates for all. Contact Vicky at abcpilates@internet.com or 07934977171		Painswick Centre	9.30 - 10.30am	
Zumba Gold dance fitness for Seniors £6.50 pp. Contact 07766101790		Painswick Centre	10.00am	
Bingo		Ashwell House	6.30 - 9.00pm	
Rococo Sprites - Nature Connections. For Toddlers in term time.		Rococo Gardens	10.00am	
Nia Holistic Fitness		Town Hall	6.00 - 7.00pm	
Artspace Painswick		The Falcon's Nest	4.00 - 6.00pm	
Morning /evening prayer		St Mary's Church	8.30am/5.00pm	
Wednesdays		Botanical Illustration classes. All day workshops. Prebook 07810 725772	Prinknash Abbey, Cranham	10.00 - 4.00pm
		Yoga - contact Kim 812623	Sheepscombe Village Hall	9.30 - 11.00am & 1.00 - 3.30pm
	Art class (oils) - contact Jane 812176		Afternoons	
	Painswick Bootcamp	Recreation Ground	7.00pm-8.00pm	
	Morning /evening prayer	St Mary's Church	8.30am/5.00pm	
Thursdays	Yoga - all abilities	Painswick Centre	9.30 - 11.00am	
	T'ai chi. Contact Jeff on 07970 303694	Town Hall	9.30am	
	Dog training club.	Church Rooms	9.30 - 12.00pm	
	Art class (oils) - contact Jane 812176		Mornings	
	Jolly Stompers Line Dancing: Beginners. Contact 01453 752480	Town Hall	12.00 - 1.00pm	
	Jolly Stompers as above: Experienced beginners.	Town Hall	12.30 - 1.30pm	
	Pilates class. Contact Nicola 07870 953159 or nmarshes@hotmail.com	Painswick Centre	6.00 - 7.00pm and 7.00 - 8.00pm	
	Morning /evening prayer	St Mary's Church	8.30am/5.00pm	
Fridays	Baby and toddler group - term time only	Youth Pavillion (Rec)	10.00 - 11.30am	
	Adult ballet class	Church Rooms	9.30am	
Saturdays	Artspace Painswick	The Falcon's Nest	2.00 - 3.30 pm	
Sundays	Meeting for Worship	Quaker Meeting House	10.30am	
	Mass	Catholic Church	8.30am	

In case there is an easing of the Lockdown during the month please send in any entries for the Diary to Vicky Aspinall at cvasp.26@gmail.com

Personal Column

Thank you

JOE JAMES died at the end of January quite suddenly after a long illness. Anne James would like to say thank you to the many friends, neighbours and acquaintances who sent letters and cards with thoughtful messages. Several neighbours left lovely flowers and some very welcome home made food, very much appreciated. It has not been easy especially with 'lock down' but the kindness of people has been a great support and access to my garden and our lovely country side is a privilege and pleasure. Thank you.

A big thank you from SUE JOLLANS to all who came to the Plant Sale in Vicarage

Street on 31st May and contributed to raising an amazing £563.52 for the charity Sonne International in its work with street children in Yangon, Myanmar.

Congratulations

To ETELLE JAMES, who celebrated her birthday on 25th May (see article below).

To PAUL LILLEY and his partner GUNN a son Halvar de Quetteville Lilley born on the 18th June in Norway where Paul now lives. A third grandchild to Graham and Jan Lilley of Lower Bumps, Edge.

Condolences

PETER MINALL (Rev) died peacefully, "at a good age", in the care of the kind staff at Scarlet House. Husband of Jean, and father of Rachel, Jonathan, Rebecca

and Anna, he will be fondly remembered also by his grandchildren and great-grandchildren, of whom he was very proud. Peter was born in Hertfordshire in 1926, and settled in Gloucestershire in the 1960s. Following long service in the Diocese of Gloucester, Peter and Jean retired to Painswick where they both enjoyed participating in community and cultural life and made many friends. A cremation will be held at Gloucester on the 15th June. We hope to arrange a memorial service for Peter in Painswick at a later date.

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

Lockdown Birthday Celebrations

How do you celebrate a big Birthday with a very special lady? Sandra Glass had the answer when Cotswold Mead resident Etelle James reached her 98th year on May 25th. With enthusiastic support from Delyth Allen, Pat Francis and the Mead and the Wednesday Ashwell Group helpers, Sandra gathered around 27 people (at a safe distance) to sing "Oh what a Beautiful Morning" and "Happy Birthday" to the Birthday girl. In honour of the occasion we were all encouraged to put on our glad rags and hats. Flags to wave were also the order of the day.

Great secrecy was necessary with Etelle's daughter and son-in-law conspiring behind the scenes to bring Etelle to an upstairs window for a good view of the proceedings.

Of course, it wouldn't have been a real Birthday without presents, cards and cake which were presented when Etelle came to meet her friends and neighbours. With gracious acknowledgment Etelle then withdrew to enjoy the rest of her day with her family. Everyone else continued to party, enjoying a variety of delicious cup cakes and a rare opportunity to catch up on all the local news. A very enjoyable time was had by all - and the sun shone throughout!!

Pat Francis



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Painswick Orchard Group

Apple Press storage needed.

For many years John and Jenny Watts have allowed us to store The Painswick Orchard Group's apple press and equipment in their beautiful Cider House at Prinknash Abbey farm. Sadly, John and Jenny are retiring and moving, so we need to find a new home.

We need something like a single garage or outbuilding. We visit the store a few times a year to check stock and usually lend our press to the Rococo Gardens in during the autumn where the press is in action for a couple of months. Can anyone help?

Please phone Greg & Iris McCormick (812879)

Right: The Apple Press in action



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Pete Llewellyn took this wonderful photo of a field full of Oxeye Daisies just outside Painswick, by Highfold Farm. The field is managed by local farmer Philip Berry under the Higher Level Stewardship Scheme, which amongst other things aims to encourage landscape quality and wildlife conservation. Like many of Pete's photos, it is taken at the 'Golden Hour', just before sunset.

The equally striking photos below, of a sparrowhawk and a bee orchid, were both taken by Peter Jackson at Skinners Mill in Painswick. As Peter comments, it was probably not the peanuts that attracted the sparrowhawk to the bird feeder.

