

The Painswick Beacon

Volume 48 Number 9

December 2025



*Christmas Greetings
to all our Readers*

LOCAL COUNCIL NEWS - from the Parish Council meeting held on Wed. 19th November. reported by David Allott

PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS

Traffic: Bisley Street Additional markings are planned which should reduce the number of vehicles being driven the wrong way UP Bisley Street to the A46.

Planters: Following several requests for some flower planters around the village, the Clerk is meeting with the Gardening Club, and on 10th December with two Stonehouse councillors. They have a successful "In Bloom" scheme.

Telephone Kiosks: Councillor Fiona Mackenzie-Jenkin reported that the defibrillator has been ordered for Slad. Also, options for the Painswick kiosk are being progressed as well as some funds having been gathered in.

Cemetery Lodge: After receiving a lengthy progress report from the Clerk

there was a long deliberation. There are clearly a large number of areas and items needing attention, including timbers, floor screed, tiling and chimney flashing. Woodworm treatment is expected too.

For works to the timbers and ground floor screeds the respective quotes of £2,050 and £1,575 from KCJ Ltd were accepted. Quotes for further works will be obtained. Soon an application for a "Warm Homes" grant can be submitted.

COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT

Electric Vehicles: To help adults with care and support needs to stay at home by providing equipment, GCC has provided a new fleet of ten vehicles to add to its Loan Service.

Parent Carer Survey: The SEND (Special Educational Needs and

Disabilities) Local Area Partnership invites all parents and carers of children aged up to 25 to take part in its annual survey.

Local Funding: The new Neighbourhood Fund scheme to support grassroots initiative has been launched. Also your County Councillor, Gary Luff, now has £20,000 to support projects in his division during the next 18 months. If you have a project or proposal do make contact with him. Email: Gary.Luff@gloucestershire.gov.uk and mobile on 07773 778050.

Reduce Energy costs?: "Making your home more energy efficient" is available from the County Council. As well as no-cost, low-cost and some-cost options there is also a list of all current grants and support for which you may be eligible.

DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT

Budget Strategy for 2026-2027: Stroud is likely to, again, propose a 2.99% increase in Council Tax. (Less than the 5% increase expected in many other districts nationally.) Council fees and charges will probably increase by 4% reflecting inflationary pressures. Generally a reduction in Government funding for Stroud is predicted due to the "fair funding" review which will redistribute funds away to the most disadvantaged areas.

Severn Edge nuclear reactor: A final decision is expected very soon on whether the UK's first "small modular" nuclear reactor will be sited at Oldbury on Severn.

Canals Grant: A request has been sent to the National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) for an additional £6.46million to complete a revised programme of community engagement, nature reserve and canal restoration that will enable the project to be completed with connection to the national canal network.

Woodchester Mansion: A grant of £154,000 (plus £30,000 from SDC) has been secured to build capacity and hire two part-time staff to develop this council-owned site with events and partnership activities with the National Trust.



Walk for Peace

As a gesture of support for those forced to endure the horrors of war, especially in Ukraine and Gaza, a local group, including three retired Servicemen, met to walk for peace. Mindful of the fact that Painswick has a Friendship and Co-operation Agreement with the Ukraine town of Slavutych, the walk began at St Mary's church and linked up with the 3 road signs that state 'Welcome to Painswick' and 'Friends of Slavutych' (see photo). The walk allowed time for thought about the appalling deaths and injuries, destruction, environmental damage and grief brought about by conflict. War will happen, but we must never forget that peace is what most of us want and need.

Phil Taylor

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The Judgement of Paris History of a Myth in Painting

On 13th November The Painswick Centre was packed to hear Rupert Dickens, eminent historian and Guide at the Wallace Collection, tell how this subject has been woven into the fabric of European culture for millennia.

Rupert opened by noting how the Judgement of Paris was the prologue to the story of the Trojan War. The antiquity of this monumental story is confirmed by depictions on vases of 650BC with differing versions found on Roman buildings and in Greek and Roman poetry including Ovid and Lucien. Moving to Medieval Art Rupert showed the changing depictions and narratives of this story. Rubens painting the subject no less than eight times and the women by this time were unclothed and subject to the male gaze. Interesting and amusing use of the subject in the 20th century underlined the use of the story as a commentary of attitudes to gender, free will and choice. Magnificent paintings shown with a commentary of wit and erudition were well received by the Painswick audience.

Next meeting is on Thursday 11th December when local artist Lynne Gibson will give an illustrated Story of Drawing. Annual Raffle precedes the talk at 10.30am. Further details on website: theartsocietypainswick.org.uk

David Cutler



Dog Fouling

First, thank you to those dog owners and walkers who have started picking up their dog's mess in the churchyard and to those who now keep their dog on a lead. Following the article in the November Issue on dog fouling in the churchyard there has been a reduction in instances of dog fouling, but unfortunately it is still happening. And despite notices asking them to keep their dogs on a lead, too many dog owners are still letting their dogs run free in the churchyard.

Stroud District Council's dog warden was made aware of the problem by a dog-owning member of the public and as a result is increasing the frequency of visits to Painswick and the churchyard, along with the Police Community Support Officer.

Dog owners need to be aware of the Stroud District Council regulations on this matter:

"It remains a legal requirement for all individuals in charge of a dog (excluding those with a registered assistance dog) to clean up after their dog has fouled. This obligation extends to any location in the District accessible to the public. Those observed not cleaning up may receive a fixed penalty notice of £75, or face a maximum fine of £1000 if the matter proceeds to Court". Furthermore, dog-owners may not be aware of Stroud District Council's "The dogs on leads Public Spaces Protection Order (Extension 2023)".

Earlier in the year Painswick was crowned the overall winner of the 2025 Gloucestershire Village of the Year. A subset of dog walkers risk making a mockery of this award. You know who you are.

*Dylan Davies, Lindsay Gardiner, Churchwardens
Roy Balgobin, Clerk to Parish Council*

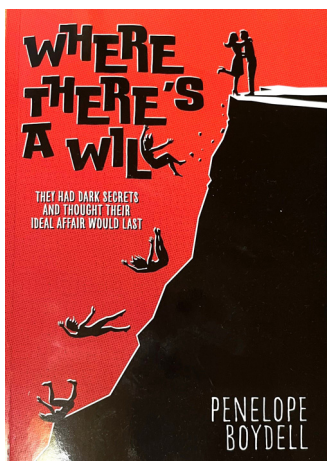


New book by local author Where there's a will by Penny Boydell

The sheer delight of immersing oneself into a story which focuses on intriguing characters is always to be welcomed. That is precisely what a new, fresh off the press book, written by Painswick resident, Penelope Boydell, achieves. Its title is Where There's a Will.

This is a book which has you 'sitting on the edge of your seat' right to the end. The storyline and the characters are vivid and fascinating. Definitely a good read. The book is available at the café in the Painswick Centre, or from Penny, email pjboydell@aol.co.uk or tel. 01452 713094.

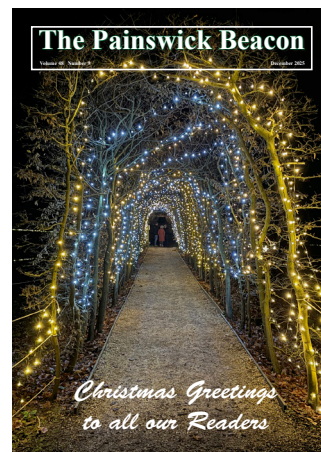
Carol Maxwell



Our Christmas front cover

For this year's cover we have chosen a photo from the Enchanted Garden by Night, the wonderful Christmas attraction now running at the Rococo Garden for its third year. More details in the Rococo Garden report on page 12, where you can also find details of a special reader offer.

Our thanks to local photographer Tony Perks for this beautiful image.



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The most dissolute man in London ... and the most rubbishy place in Gloucestershire



Dr Gillian White's illustrated talks have been described as rather more of a dramatic presentation than an ordinary lecture! This was true when she spoke at the Yew Trees WI October meeting and entertained her audience with the story of William Cavendish, who became the 1st Duke of Devonshire. Early in life he won himself the reputation of being "The most dissolute man in London"! However, his reputation was salvaged by his political career which helped bring the Protestant William and Mary to the throne. Retiring from politics he used his considerable fortune to remodel Chatsworth House and gardens, transforming them into the grand estate visited by so many today. Members were delighted by the large number of visitors that joined us for this open meeting.



A party of 15 members visited Javelin Park and once kitted out in colourful protective clothing (see photo) thoroughly enjoyed a tour of The Gloucestershire Energy from Waste facility. It was fascinating to learn that state of the art technology is used to combust up to 190,000 tonnes of residual waste per year. Steam is then converted into electricity which is enough to power around 25,000 homes. Members came away full of admiration for the skill in which the complexities were explained by our very knowledgeable guide/hostess.

At our Christmas Meeting in the Church Rooms at 7.30pm on Tuesday 16th December members will be entertained by Paul Evans and festive refreshments served.

Celia Lougher 812624

Two pleasant afternoons Maurice Ravel and Fiddlers more than three



Dennis Morgan selected DVD performances which memorably celebrated Maurice Ravel's 150th birthday. This French impressionist's career largely paralleled that of Vaughan Williams who had studied orchestration with him in Paris (his 'French polish'), similarly voluntarily serving in the ambulance corps of their respective countries during the Great War and both seeing "terrible things". The DVD performances began with 'La Valse' followed by the orchestrated versions of original piano works 'Le tombeau de Couperin' and 'Pavane pour une infante défunte'. Finally the 2 ballet suites of 'Daphnis et Chloé'. We visited concert halls in Lucerne, Berlin, the Barbican and Munich under the batons of amongst others Barenboim and Rattle. A very pleasant way to enjoy a post summer solstice Thursday afternoon.

In the second presentation of the month John Herbert took as his subject the violin. After fully describing the wide variety of techniques to generate different sounds from the instrument his CD selections then demonstrated this versatility. We enjoyed music from the earliest Baroque to Paganini and Boccherini through traditional music from Canada (most likely stemming from Scottish and Irish immigrants). In the second half the more conventional sounds of 'The Lark ascending', Massenet's 'Thaïs meditation' and (stretching many of those present) the ultra-modern, but surprisingly rewarding, Philip Glass violin concerto. Equilibrium was restored by the slow movement from the famous Mendelssohn violin concerto.

Next meetings 2:30pm in the Town Hall:-

Thursday December 11th Christmas party Johann Strauss 2 and bring a disc

Thursday January 8th Chopin piano, vocal and chamber music - Reg Wrathmell

Michael Grey

Julian Telling Garden Services

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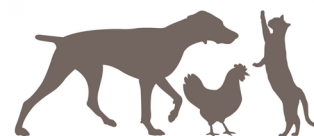
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Probus Club

The mystery of the lost Caravaggio

After the AGM on 6th November, when Nick Slader was confirmed as our new President and Michael Burgon as Vice President, we welcomed Paul Butler who gave a most interesting talk on "The mystery of the lost Caravaggio." The work in question was "The Nativity with St Francis and St Lawrence" which was stolen from the Oratory of St Lawrence in Palermo, Sicily in 1969. Our speaker had just spent a year in Palermo before the theft occurred and was one of the last people to see the original painting in situ.

The theft is considered one of the most significant art crimes in history and the FBI, Italian police and Interpol have all worked towards locating the painting, estimated to be worth £20 million. Many theories have been advanced but investigators generally agree that the Sicilian Mafia has been responsible for its subsequent movements. One informant recalled seeing it being used as a floor mat by Mafia boss Salvatore Riina. Another claimed that it was stolen on commission and the private buyer wept and called off the sale when he saw how damaged it was.

Our speaker thought it now more likely that it has been destroyed, but there is a happy ending of sorts; technological advances have enabled the painting to be reproduced to such a high standard that when a replica was returned to the former position in the Oratory in 2015 it was virtually indistinguishable from the original.

Robin Vick



Local History Society

Medieval Manors in the Cotswolds



A good turn out came to listen to the talk from Simon Draper on Cotswold Manors and started with the definition of what a 'Manor' is: a landed estate originally held by feudal tenure which may or may not include a house, nearly always having a 'home farm' to supply the Lord's needs.

They had the rights to minerals, fisheries, waterways, and woodlands and the Common waste (land not in use for crops). They controlled the mills, baking and brewing using levies to make money.

Back in the Saxon era 750-1100 AD, Manors started to be granted as parcels of land to instill loyalty to the King, with an increase in Viking incursions. The Lords held Manor Courts to decide on tenancy, crops and any other matters needed to maintain control.

We were given examples from the North Cotswolds of two Manorships within a village. These were recorded in the Domesday book, however other examples showed where manors set up their own villages, later becoming towns with market charters, Chipping Norton being one of those described.

Royal Forests were also explained as areas where Forest Law applied and all wildlife belonged to the King. These show in the 1215 Magna Carta and then in the 1217 Charter of the Forest, which came about to limit the Kings ruling over the Forests.

Manorships were also controlled by monasteries, local examples being Moreton-in-Marsh and Stow-on-the-Wold, both becoming farming, especially sheep. Cistercian monasteries were famous for keeping sheep and some depopulated hamlets to increase sheep farms.

The Manorial system started to decline following the Black Death, due to lack of people remaining in their Manorships and the growth of towns. By the early 1500s, the system had ceased to function over most of the country, however it was not until the early 1900s that laws changed to reduce Manorial rights to almost nothing.

An informative and interesting talk that led to many questions, expertly answered and maybe encouraging further investigation into our own area.

Karen Goddard

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Why Christmas? News from St Mary's

What's so important about Christmas? Why should people still be celebrating the birth of a baby born 2,000 years ago? Why are so many people excited about Jesus? Why do we need him? Why did he come? Why did he die? Why should anyone bother to find out?



These are just a handful of some of the questions that I am frequently asked. If you are interested in finding out the answer to any of these questions, it doesn't matter how young or old you are, let's unwrap the Christian faith together – it's time to discover the real meaning of Christmas!

How? Come along to some of the many services and activities that your village church is putting on this December or if you're stuck at home – get in touch. And then in January, why not come to ALPHA for an evening meal (it's free!) and to chat about this and more with other people who also have questions. Each session

unpacks a big question of life, faith and purpose. No pressure. No judgement – just come along and see what you think.



ALPHA Starts
7pm, Monday

19th January 2026 in The Church Rooms, Painswick. For more info and to help us with catering, scan the QR code or email beaconbeneficeoffice@gmail.com. Until then... Happy Christmas from me and all the church!

Sarah Haslam, Rector



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Christmas Services at St. Mary's

Sunday 21st December	Holy Communion	11am
Sunday 21st December	Carol Service	6pm
Tuesday 23rd December	Morning Prayer	9am
Wednesday 24th December	Crib Service	4pm
Wednesday 24th December	Midnight Mass	11.15pm
Thursday 25th December	Family Communion	10am
Sunday 28th December	Beacon Praise	11am

and at Our Lady & St Therese

Wednesday 24th December	Christmas Mass	4.30pm
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Painswick Gardening Club

We had a very informative and enjoyable meeting in November with Emily and Izzy from Highfield Nursery. They brought a selection of houseplants from Highfield Nursery site in Whitminster where they work. They gave general information on watering and composts, showing us examples.



Then they selected specimens on the table and gave tips for keeping them looking healthy in the house. Some needing dry/humid conditions and shaded/sunny aspects.

On Wednesday 17th December, coming up to Christmas, we have Mike and Toni presenting a Quiz, so none of us will know the answers! We're opening up the Town Hall at 7pm for tea/coffee and offering wine and cheese throughout the evening. The Quiz starts at 7:30 pm. All Welcome, guests £5.

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Down the greasy pole with the Friday Club ... and on to Resthaven

Friday Club members had an informative and enjoyable visit to Stroud Community Fire Station on 14th November. Firefighter Anthony Thompson gave a presentation over refreshments on how to stay safe and well, outlining the most common fire hazards in the home. We also toured the Station, which is being modernised, with a new lift, community rooms, and decontamination facilities for firefighters returning from incidents. The station is the last in the county to retain a 'firefighter's pole', which saves precious seconds in response times. And an impressive gym allows the team to stay fit for their duties!

Since our visit, members have already received Home Visits conducted by Firefighters Anthony and Kaye to ensure we have all the necessary alarms in good working order, and to offer further advice based on our individual circumstances.

At our October meeting, David Pugh gave a talk on the history of Resthaven Care Home, Pitchcombe. Resthaven was established by Maud Little in 1938, well before the inception of the NHS, when such provision was patchy. Its original mission was a place of convalescence and healing and was unusual in having its own chapel. Patients paid for their stays, and many shared rooms. Food was mainly vegetarian. Resthaven became a Registered Charity in 1964, and, later, its role changed to a Care Home. Improvements took place in 2003-9, to provide larger rooms for single occupancy to meet present day standards and resident's expectations.

David has also led a project to enhance the outdoor amenities for residents and staff by building a wildlife pond and introducing conservation methods to an otherwise uninteresting pasture. The number of wildflowers has already increased, which will make the views around Resthaven more attractive for all.



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Our final event of the year is Christmas Lunch at Painswick Golf Club, on Friday 12th December. Please pre-book by contacting Sue on 717163. Membership enquiries to Sylvia on 812104.

Jane Rowe 813228

Painswick First for Xmas shopping

Before taking off to shops further afield for your Christmas shopping, do take a look in Painswick first. You might be pleasantly surprised.

The art studios in the Painswick Centre are packed with a range of interesting art items and cards and Kate Rich's little gem of a shop in Tibbiwell is full of appealing potential gifts. Longfield is a veritable treasure trove of children's toys and games, a plethora of lovely bric-a-brac items, puzzles, books and an excellent selection of charity cards. The Thursday morning market in the Painswick Centre car park may surprise you with possible gift items, all locally made, as well as a wonderful range of food on offer.

Our recently opened farm shop, Wild in Wick Street, is definitely worth a visit. Apart from the food on sale there is an amazing selection of gift possibilities on display, all locally produced including pieces featuring stunning artwork by Painswick's 16 year old Jemima Falshaw. Painswick Pharmacy has some lovely toiletries and the Rococo Garden Shop is well worth a visit. In Bisley Street Made in Painswick features a lovely range of locally produced gift items whilst Rupert Aker's The Loovre in St Mary's Street, Painswick Centre café, Premier, the Fabric shop, Juniper and Papillon are all worth a visit before going elsewhere.

For a range of possible gifts and a good selection of cards we should think Painswick First.

Carol Maxwell

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Painswick Chronicle Issue 28 out now

Painswick's past is definitely one of fascinating and often surprising stories many of which have already appeared in all 27 previous editions of the local annual history journal, the Painswick Chronicle. Hot off the press is number 28, revealing yet more newly researched and hitherto unexplored local subjects.

The aim of the Chronicle is to cover a wide range of Painswick's history both in time and subject and this latest edition certainly succeeds in that. Vicarage Street has a truly fascinating past and a detailed study focuses on all the houses and families in part of the street in 1911 – revealing a very different picture from that of today. Vicarage Street housed a very large community and, by contrast, another article tells of one person's memories of growing up in a local farming environment not so far away.

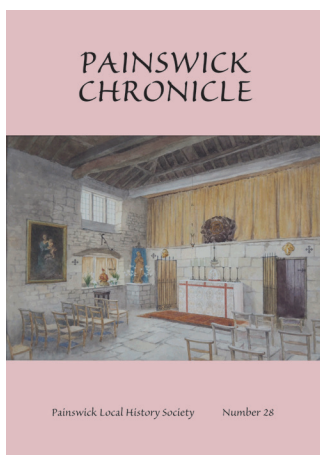
A freshly researched study of Painswick's Catholic church reveals much about its eventual opening as a result of the determined efforts of one woman, from its previous existence as an abattoir, to its rebuild and progress after the destruction caused by the bombing of Friday Street during WW2. Following on from part one (in Chronicle 27) is the second part of the account of a much respected and interesting local family, involved in a range of activities in Painswick, and which covers many years into the 20th century.

There is the history of one of Sheepscombe's public houses with a strong connection to Laurie Lee's mother, this at a time when every village and local community contained several public houses of course. Going back to the 17th century there is the story of one of Painswick's vicars, in office during the very troubled times of the adwoson, and of some of his interesting descendants in Painswick.

And on a very different note there is the intriguing and somewhat eye-opening story of Madame Restell. This is a story of real wealth and indisputable notoriety with a powerful and very definite Painswick connection.

Painswick's rich history is covered in all the Chronicles and this latest edition can be purchased in Painswick Pharmacy and Premier or from Carol Maxwell tel. 813387. Previous editions are also available.

Carol Maxwell



Poppy Appeal

This year the Poppy Appeal raised £571.35. Thanks to the shops and businesses who supported the appeal which is appreciated by the Royal British Legion.

Fiona Chapman
Voluntary Poppy Appeal Organiser.



Painswick Community Support

Community Lunches

A huge thank you to all the community groups who have hosted a community lunch up to Monday, December 8th and to all those who have attended and supported them. Lunches start again after Christmas on Monday, January 5th 12-1.15pm and run every Monday at the Town Hall, finishing on Monday, March 2nd. Your continued support of these is much appreciated with donations shared between some of the local charities/community groups nominated by hosts.

Community Winter Suppers

Following our successful Fish And Chip Night for 60 villagers at the Painswick Centre on October 29th, we are excited to offer a Community Curry Night on Tuesday, January 6th 5.30-7.30pm at the Church Rooms. The food will be prepared by a local chef, Mumma's Meals. Places are limited to 60 and by booking only. The meal is complimentary but donations are welcome for future community events. To reserve your place scan the QR code or call 07956 203087 A big thank you to Painswick Community volunteers who help with setting up and running these free events.



Friday Community Hub

This continues to run every Friday morning thanks to our volunteers, who serve and make cakes every week. It is great to hear how much this is appreciated by our regular guests. Please note there will be no Community Hub on Boxing Day when Richmond would have hosted but, instead, Richmond will host on Friday, January 2nd. There will be transport provided to Richmond and back from outside the Town Hall at 9.45am on January 2nd.

Fareshare

Our collections from Waitrose every Saturday morning are going well. Please be reminded all of the food on offer at the church porch would otherwise be thrown away by Waitrose, so we encourage all villagers to pop along and take whatever you like. Once again, our thanks go to our volunteers involved in this initiative who collect and deliver the food to the church porch; we are very grateful for their support. Please note, collections will continue as normal throughout the Christmas/New Year period. The church is open 9am to 4pm during winter.

If you need help or support or have any questions, please call or email us (mobile: 07956203087, email: painswickcommunity@gmail.com). Our phone is manned 7 days a week from 9am to 5pm.

Delyth, Hannah and Louise for Painswick Community Support

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Memories of the Pin Mill (1974-1978) - Part 1

It's Wednesday 2nd January 1974. I am 17 years old. It's 7.30 in the morning and pitch-black outside. This is not my time of day, but my Mum has roused me, given me a hot breakfast and sent me out into the world. It's my first day down the Pin Mill.

So now I'm standing huddled around the clocking-in machine with about 10 people who are totally unfamiliar to me. I couldn't recognise them even if I knew them because each is contained within a sphere of cold breath. The heating has been switched off since before Christmas, and it is bitterly cold. There's very little talking going on – just the odd muffled grunt about whether the break has gone well. No one talks to me, and I'm feeling quite lost.

Why am I here? Well - I left school in December, and will go to university in October. I'm not planning to tour the world, and lying in bed until lunchtime for 9 months and signing on once a week is apparently not a viable option. Also – I'll probably need some money to buy beer and stuff.

I have visited the office before to see the boss – Mr Smythe, but this is the first time I've been on the shop floor. Does anyone know why I'm here? A big man sweeps through the doors. This turns out to be the Foreman – Ken Bentley – and he at least seems to be expecting me. As the cold breath clears, I can see someone else I know – Doreen Hanks – she lives up Edge Road, and my Mum and I used to see her regularly on our way home from school. She's always been friendly. So – maybe things will be OK. We'll see.

Why am I writing this series of short articles? The Pin Mill closed many years ago now, and most of the people who worked there are no longer with us. I must be one of very few left who can record and share these memories of a wonderful group of people – you might say some of the best of Painswick – who deserve to be remembered. They taught me a great deal, which I have taken into my life and career. I remember that time, and those people, with a great deal of fondness.

Eric Harris

To many people in Painswick today, 'The Pin Mill' will mean very little, but for around 100 years it was absolutely central to Painswick life, employing a large number of local people. Otherwise known as Brookhouse Mill, at the bottom of Tibbiwell, the mill finally closed in the early 1980s and has now been converted into housing. Over the next few months, Eric Harris (pictured below outside the old mill building) will be writing a series of short articles for the Beacon on his memories of the business.



Winter Solstice Candlelit Yoga Kate Beatty and Morwenna Louttit-Vermaat

Celebrate the Winter Solstice and the returning of the light. Come together in our community space at the Painswick Centre under candlelight to honour the darkest day and all its magic. An opportunity to 'slow down, reflect and draw inspiration and innovation for the coming year. Expect a slow moving practice with breath work, meditation and deep relaxation, accompanied by Morwenna Louttit-Vermaat on the harp.

Wednesday 17th December 7.30-9.00pm in the Beacon Hall at the Painswick Centre. kate-beatty.co.uk/book

Kate Beatty

Library Book Club

The next meeting of the Library Book Club is on Monday 8th December 1.30 - 2.30pm. We will be discussing *The Measure* by Nikki Erlick. We will then meet again on Monday 12th January to discuss *The Boy from the Sea* by Garrett Carr.



We welcome new members so if you are interested in a lively discussion about either of these novels, please come and join us.

Pat Andrew

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The Naughty Elf Trail is back

4th December to 4th January

The Naughty Elf Trail will once again be returning to Painswick, with the elves bringing all their cheeky mischief to window displays dotted around the village. After the success of the last few years, this year's trail will run for a whole month from Thursday 4th December 2025 to Sunday 4th January 2026.



There will be a map to help find the elves and there will be a prize for a lucky winner drawn at random once the trail closes. Entrants will be asked to count how many elves there are in total across all the windows. Each map bought will allow one entry. Maps cost £5 and can be purchased at <https://friends-of-the-croft-school.sumupstore.com/>



The event is being run by The Friends Of The Croft School, a registered charity who work hard to raise much needed funds for our wonderful village school. Thank you to all of the local businesses that provide sponsorship and support to help make the Naughty Elf Trail possible. More information can be found on the Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/Friendsofthecroft/>

Kate Ardron

Cobalt Medical Charity



The New Year is the perfect time to support Cobalt's incredible work. First up is The Big Sort (29th December - 15th January). Drop your used Christmas cards into the giant bins at Thirlestaine Breast Clinic and our brilliant volunteers will recycle them into beautiful cards for Christmas 2026. If you'd like to help with the sorting, Cobalt would love to hear from you!

On 5th February, dust off your cowboy boots for Line Dancing at Dunkertons. With a friendly instructor, great music, and plenty of fun, it's a wonderful evening out for all ages. Food and cider are available to buy on the night, and all proceeds support Cobalt.

Then on 21st March, enjoy a refreshing Walk for Cobalt, taking in the history and charm of Cheltenham from Linton House to the Exmouth Pub. Keep an eye out for spring events including the Rare Plant Sale & Open Gardens and the Extreme Colour Run.

To learn more, visit Cobalt's website, <https://www.cobalthhealth.co.uk/support-us/>, call 01242 535922, or email fundraising@cobalthhealth.co.uk

Louise Cook

Stroud Rotary Community Awards

Rotary
Club of Stroud



For the 7th year Stroud Rotary club is offering community awards in the form of grants of up to £500 to registered charities, voluntary organisations and community groups whose work benefits local residents or communities in and close to Stroud.

Priority is given to projects promoted by small groups that offer value for money, work with vulnerable people or deprived communities, are responding to fuel / cost of living crises and are staffed mainly by volunteers.

For more details go to www.stroudrotary.org.uk or email community.awards@stroudrotary.org.uk. The application deadline is 6pm on Saturday 31st January 2026.

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Successful Charity Auction at Golf Club

Over £11,000 raised for Parkinsons and Alzheimer's

The Charity Auction for Parkinsons and Alzheimer's held on 15th November proved to be a roaring success, raising more than £11,000 for the charities. The fun and congenial evening was the brainchild of Liz Hall, whose husband Les is a victim of both.

Liz just wanted to 'DO SOMETHING' and my goodness she pulled it off in style. The gathering of some 115 people was held at the Beacon Bar and Kitchen at the Golf Club and had a real village party atmosphere. Participants happily raised their hands to bid on items from works of art to meals out at local hostellers, to Xmas Hampers and tickets for the Goodwood revival and rides in a vintage Lotus.

Everyone was enthusiastically encouraged to bid by Auctioneer Andrew Young. Matt, chef and proprietor at the Beacon Kitchen had created a most



delicious vegetarian chilli, just one of the many local businesses who willingly came on board to raise awareness and funds for research into these two life-limiting illnesses, which affect so many. Thanks go to all the donors, the bidders, the volunteers who made it happen and to everyone for just being there and creating a magical atmosphere.

If you would like to boost funds to try to support Alzheimer's Research then you can do so by visiting Liz's Just Giving page at https://www.justgiving.com/page/liz-hall-123?utm_medium=FA&utm_source=WA

Libby Graesser

Painswick Summer Ball

Save the date - Saturday 20th June 2026

After a long, ball-less summer we can now look forward to Painswick Summer Ball 2026! The date has been fixed as Saturday 20th June 2026 and once again it will take place at Broadham Fields, with many thanks to Painswick Rugby Club for hosting us.

We will let you all know when tickets are to go on sale, and how to secure them, sometime in the spring. So for now, please put the date in your diaries and await further announcements on this, our brand new theme and, most importantly, the charity we will be raising funds for in 2026. We're working hard to make this our best ball yet!

Painswick Ball Committee

Longfield Xmas Tree Recycling

Don't forget that you can take the hassle out of disposing of your Xmas tree and have Longfield collect it, for a voluntary donation. You will not only be helping reduce your carbon footprint, but also supporting your community hospice. Go to just-helping.org.uk/register-tree Registration closes on 6th January, collections 10th-13th January




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A Festive Stroll Through the Enchanted Garden

With a discount offer for Beacon readers

Looking for something magical to do with the family this festive season? Painswick Rococo Garden is once again opening its gates for Enchanted Garden by Night – now in its third year and fast becoming a favourite local tradition.

**Painswick
Rococo
Garden**



From 28th November to 29th December, the garden will be transformed into a glowing wonderland. Imagine strolling along twinkling paths, spotting beautifully lit follies, and discovering a cosy cabin village tucked away in the woodland. It's brighter, bolder and more enchanting than ever, yet still relaxed enough for all ages to enjoy.

Tickets remain good value – £18 for adults, £9 for children (ages 4–16), or £50 for a family of four. Relaxed sessions are available on selected evenings, and yes, dogs on short leads are welcome too. Beacon readers can enjoy an exclusive 10% discount with the code Beacon10 when booking.

Please note, the garden will be closed during the day throughout December, reopening on 17th January for the snowdrop season.

Why not wrap up warm, gather the family, and make some memories that will last well into the new year?

Marta Gardner

Historic Crimes in December

1745 - Wife Strayed. Whereas the wife of Thomas Wallis Caudle has eloped from her said husband, and taken with her a gold ring, two brass candlesticks, and a little kettle. This is to give notice, that, if she will return, she shall be kindly received; but if not, be it at the peril of any person to entertain or trust her after the publication hereof. *Gloucester Journal*

1815 - William Webb, nurseryman, stealing shrubs from a plantation at Steambridge, Painswick, the property of Rev. Townsend. First offence, fined £2 costs 5/-.

1845 – Isaac Musty, blacksmith, age 43, 5ft.8in., hair dark, eyes dark, visage long, complexion pale, cut on upper lip. Charge - misconducting himself in the service of Mr Savory his master. 14 days hard labour, Horsley House of Correction.

1875 – Eliza Powell, charged with being drunk and disorderly. P.C.Reed proved that she was using disgusting language. With five previous convictions she was sent to gaol for ten days. *Gloucester Journal*

Harriet Keene was committed for seven days for being found upon the premises of Thomas Mills, for the purpose of committing a felony. He had frequently missed things when absent on Sunday evenings, and a policeman watched and found her entering the house. She admitted she went to take some bacon. *Gloucester Journal*

1885 – Arthur Hopson, grocer, age 23, 5ft.9ins, hair brown, religion dissenter, education imperfect. Charge – stealing two ½ lbs of tea, embezzling £4.19s.2d as a servant. Three months hard labour.

Alfred Hale, mill hand, summoned for being drunk and disorderly. P.C.Smith said defendant was turned out of the Red Lion Inn, drunk. He made a great disturbance and acted like a mad man. Fined 10/- *Gloucester Journal*

Dee Williams, labourer, age 18, 5ft.3ins, hair brown, religion church, education imperfect. Charge – obscene language. Seven days hard labour

1895 – Edwin Cooke, drunk on Boxing Day at Painswick, fined 7/6 or seven days. P.C.Reed said that when spoken to regarding his inebriate state the man produced a pocket knife and said “Look out”. He did not attempt to open the knife and subsequently he wisely replaced it in his pocket. The defendant amused the court by saying that whilst being conveyed to the police station he met his sister, whom he accosted thus “Caroline be I drunk?” to which the young lady replied “No you baint”. *Cheltenham Chronicle*
Carol Maxwell

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Track Repairs



Last month we were able to continue with a program of track repairs on the Beacon. If you recall,

three sections and a drainage soak away have already been completed by a contractor. These are all excellently constructed but charged at full commercial rates. They were paid for by the golf club and PBCG and raising funds to complete further sections commercially is prohibitively expensive.

We have just completed a 150m section of the Cotswold Way running north eastwards from the quarry road. This was done using a paid local contractor (Nick Hallard) and voluntary effort in a total of fifty hours. The first two days were spent using a JCB to regrade the old track surface and cutting five swales to encourage water to run off the track before it accumulates in puddles at the bottom. Once this was done a tractor and trailer was used to tip a thin covering of shingle to create a new surface. The sixteen dumpy bags of shingle were kindly donated, via a grant, from the parish council. Thank you. The accompanying photos show some of the action.

The removed soil was used to fill in two of the eroded paths near the road and removed turfs were relocated to repair these paths and edges of the track. It is hoped walkers and golfers will now just use the track and avoid taking short cuts across the repaired areas. The information stone, from beneath the pine tree, has been moved further up the hill to just below the summit steps. Its old position was directly in front of a tee and potentially dangerous. It is now in front of a competition tee but at least this is not used very often and anyone reading it is easily visible and within earshot.

Hopefully, everyone will be happy. There is a good, dry track to use. The golfers now have a smooth approach to the 12th green, and a safer tee shot on the fourth and there will be less compaction damage resulting from people avoiding puddles and mud.

Paul Baxter



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Painswick Sports

assembled by John Barrus

Falcon Bowling Club

You're invited to join us for an evening of Christmas Caroling with Mulled Wine & Mince Pies. Friday December 12th 2025 - 6.30pm for 7pm. Bring your jingle bells and Christmas spirit as we gather to spread holiday cheer through song. We'll be singing classic carols & enjoying the magic of the season. There is No Charge, but a donation would be much appreciated. Festive hats and jumpers optional.



John Newhill

Golf

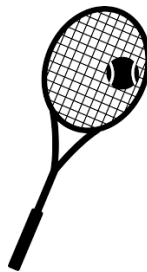
At the recent Painswick Golf Seniors AGM this year's captain Martyn Brown handed over the role to the new captain for 2026 Paul Walsh. The 2025 season matches had proved very successful with 13 wins and 4 losses. There had been 10 Trophy events and 8 mid-week Stableford events. £242.45 was raised for the Royal British Legion by a Seniors Golf competition.



Tennis Club

Painswick LTC held its AGM, where the annual awards were presented: Best player - Charlie Titmuss, Most improved player- Jo Campbell and Club person of the year - James Follows. It was announced that following a successful year the club have entered for Gloucestershire club of the year.

Left: Nigel Barnett with Jo Campbell
Right: James Follows and Charlie Titmuss with Lorraine Ristic.



With the cold and wet evenings playing Table Tennis in the dry and warm is a good way to get regular exercise. The club plays at the Painswick Centre on Wednesday evenings 7.30-9.00pm at a cost of just £5 per session. With three tables and with an average of 7- 9 players there are ample opportunities to play both doubles and singles, all equipment is provided. For more information, please contact David Harris on 07453 027766.

David Harris - Club organiser

Xmas Jazz and New Year lunch

December again already, and at the Field Club we are celebrating with a visit by local Jazz duo 'Utrillo' at Box Village Hall on Tuesday 16th at 2.30pm. Led by pianist Francis Sanville, with Peter Martin on double bass, Utrillo will perform and talk about tunes inspired by jazz greats such as George Shearing, Bill Evans, Dave Brubeck, and Chick Corea. Expect elegant melodies, lush harmonies, and irresistible rhythms that will have both jazz aficionados and first-time listeners hooked. For the band, jazz is more than performance; "Jazz, to me, is all about communication," says Francis. "It's a conversation between musicians on stage and with the audience. It's one of the purest forms of expressive, organic music there is." The performance will be followed by mulled wine and mince pies. This event is free to Members but open to the public (£5 at the door). No need to book, just drop in. Please get in touch if you need further information.



**COTTESWOLD
NATURALISTS'**
— FIELD CLUB —

There is no lecture in the first week of January, but we are now taking bookings for our New Year Lunch on Wednesday January 14th After a very successful event last year, we have decided to re-visit the Frocester George (GL10 3TQ). Lunch is £28 for two courses or £32 for three, with a non-refundable deposit of £10 to book your place. Lunch is open to all Members and their guests. Further information available by email from Peter Cornish: peter.cornish@yahoo.co.uk

Annual Membership of the Field Club costs £25 individual or £40 couple. For further information please contact Membership Secretary John Elbert: CNFCMembershipSec@outlook.com Further information about us can be found on the CNFC website www.cotnsatsfield.club.

Sylvia May cnfcsecretary1@gmail.com



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Shearing of Sheep

Over the last 50 years or so, I have shorn thousands of sheep. First catch your sheep, sit her down on her back side and shear the tummy first. Then, by turning the ewe slowly, keeping the skin tight so as not to cut her, work round her neck, legs, back side and finishing up her back. If she has a lot of wool round her legs and around her head, you have to let her go sometimes and it may take longer than the 3 to 4 minutes it takes normally to shear one sheep.

Different breeds have different amounts of wool. The tummy and back side are the worst parts of the fleece as it can be soiled. Hopefully the fleece is still in one piece when you finish. It is then spread out and rolled up in a proper way and put into a big bag (known as a sheet) which can hold some 40 fleeces. Then it goes off to the Grader. It takes some three years for a Grader to learn how to grade wool and they can be retested every three years to keep them doing their job well. There are some 60 breeds of sheep to grade, with the Merino being the finest and the thickest fibre coming from the sheep of the Highlands. The finest going for clothes etc. and the thickest going for things like carpets.

Wool is very fire resistant and you find it in firemen's uniforms, army clothes and carpets in planes, etc. and water resistant with lanolin being in the fleece. When shearing, the lanolin comes off on to your clothes, so it is best to wear the same clothes for several days. As we say, if you wear your ordinary trousers for more than a week, they can nearly stand up on their own! Your hands become very soft. Some fifty years ago your wool was taken to a warehouse near Brimscombe but this has now gone. Because of modern man-made materials, etc. it became a financial loss to shear sheep. But the price of wool is now going up as more ways are found to use it and more clothes are being made of it. You have to shear your sheep in spring so they don't overheat in the sun, especially as summers are getting hotter. Shearing cleans them and may stop fly strikes.

Martin Slinger

Pantomime returns to Painswick Friday 16th and Saturday 17th January

It has been a long time since a Winter panto has graced the boards at the Painswick Centre (15 years we are told). A group of local residents and young people have decided to try to restart the tradition, led by young local father, George Bancroft-Livingston.

The Jolly Wick Players are looking to raise family spirits in January by putting on two performances of a modern take on Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs, taking full advantage of the wonderful stage at the Painswick Centre. The performances will be 6pm Friday 16th & 4pm Saturday 17th of January with a possible additional performance on Saturday depending on ticket sales.

All monies raised will go directly to the Painswick Centre and tickets are available for purchase in local Painswick shops and cafes as well as online at <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/thepainswickpanto>

Alex Hawkesworth



Volunteer wanted for the Beacon

The Painswick Beacon is still looking for a volunteer to help us, particularly with the organisation of subscriptions and potentially with other areas too, depending on skills and interests.

Subscriptions are a vital part of the Beacon's operation, accounting for around half of our total income. Less administration is needed as we move increasingly to payment by bank transfer, but the management of them is still one of our most important functions. If you could help, please contact us by email to subscriptions.beacon@painswick.net or by ringing Jacek Wolowiec on 01452 813295.

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First ever Xmas Screening The Muppet Christmas Carol

Wick-Flix is delighted to bring some festive cheer to Painswick this winter with its first ever Christmas film screening. On Friday 12th December 2025, audiences are warmly invited to The Painswick Centre for a special showing of the much-loved classic The Muppet Christmas Carol.

To accommodate the seasonal event, December film times have been adjusted, with doors opening at 6.45pm and the film beginning at 7.15pm.

A Favourite for All Ages

A Muppet Christmas Carol offers a joyful, family-friendly retelling of Charles Dickens' timeless tale. The story follows the miserly Ebenezer Scrooge, played with memorable intensity by Michael Caine, as he is confronted by the Ghosts of Christmas Past, Present and Yet to Come. Along the way, he is joined by much-loved Muppet characters including Kermit the Frog as Bob Cratchit, Miss Piggy, Gonzo, and Rizzo the Rat. Blending humour, warmth and classic songs, the film captures the spirit of Christmas in a way that has charmed audiences for generations.

Tickets and practical information

Tickets are priced at £10 for adults and £3.50 for children, who must be accompanied by an adult. All tickets include a free drink on arrival. Wick-Flix strongly encourages advance booking online via the Painswick Centre website, as seats are expected to fill quickly. A limited number of tickets may also be available on the door, subject to demand.

This festive first marks an exciting milestone for Wick-Flix, and we're looking forward to welcoming residents and visitors alike for an evening of Christmas spirit, community and classic cinema.

Ceri Chaplin

Wick-Flix: Review of 2025

As another year draws to a close, the Wick-Flix team is delighted to look back on a fantastic year of community cinema at The Painswick Centre. With a wonderful mix of drama, comedy, biography and family favourites, 2025 brought some truly memorable screenings — helped along by our loyal audience who turn out month after month, whatever the weather.

Thank You

Wick-Flix simply wouldn't be possible without the generosity and support of our sponsors: Murrays Estate Agents, Goddard's Garage, RAK Construction, Woodchester Vineyard, and our new sponsor, Hewars Heating. Their backing allows us to keep delivering high-quality community film nights throughout the year.

A huge thank you also goes to our wonderful band of volunteers, who set up the hall, serve food and drinks, and clear up after each event. Your help is invaluable. And finally, thank you to you — our audience — who come along in all seasons and all weathers. Your enthusiasm keeps Wick-Flix thriving. We can't wait to welcome you back for another great year of films in 2026!

*Dawn, Becky, Ally, Karen and Ceri
The Wick-Flix Organising Team*

Property Report

8 Brookhouse Mill, part of the former Pin Mill at the bottom of Tibbiwell (see Eric Harris's memories on page 9), converted into a 3 bedroom house, but now in need of some modernisation, is available through Hamptons at £300,000. Another conversion, 4 Painswick Heights, part of the former Squash Club on Yokehouse Lane, also with 3 bedrooms, but very much not in need of modernisation, is offered by Murrays at £540,000.

Murray's also have 38 Ashwell, a modern semi-detached 3 bed home with garage and parking (£375,000), while Hamptons have Corinium House in Edge, with 5 bedrooms, $\frac{3}{4}$ of an acre and even an open air swimming pool (in need of recommissioning) at £825,000.

Hamptons (who are sponsoring the Naughty Elf Trail) report that 7 Gloucester Road has quickly gone under offer, as has 4 Coldstream Cottages at Sheepscombe, while both 9 and 11 Hyett Close, 12 Berry Close, Highclouds in Queens Mead and Beacon View at Longridge have exchanged and/or completed. Through Murray's (sponsors of Wick-Flix), 12 Randalls Field, 2 George Court, 12 Gyde House and 5 Berry Close have all gone under offer, while sales of Applecroft and Hedgerow in Pitchcombe and Badgers Walk in Slad have completed.

At Richmond Village, Apartment 4, a one-bedroom independent living apartment, is available at £345,000. Residents enjoy access to the Richmond Wellness Spa with 16 metre swimming pool, Pilates studio, fitness sessions, sauna, steam room and spa treatments. See the Richmond website or ring 01452 810203.

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Regular Village Activities. Please contact Vicky Aspinall on cvasp.26@gmail.com

Mondays	Gentle pilates. Info from Heidi 07970 262538	Painswick Centre	8.45 - 9.45am
	Improvers pilates. Info from Heidi 07970 262538	Painswick Centre	9.50 - 10.50am
	Beginners/improvers pilates. Info from Heidi 07970 262538	Painswick Centre	10.55 - 11.55am
	Ballyhoo modern dance classes. Julie ballyhoochalford@gmail.com	Painswick Centre	from 3.45pm
	Community Choir. Contact sophie@sophiesterckx.co.uk	Painswick Centre	7.00 - 8.30pm
	Short Mat Bowls. All equipment provided. 2.00/session	Town Hall	2.00 - 4.00pm
	Mindful Meditation with Kate. kate-beatty.co.uk/07793 126234	Painswick Centre	12.30 - 1.00pm
	Painswick Singers . Contact Jean Jones 01452 813545.	Richmond	5.00 - 6.00pm
Tuesdays	Paradise Art Studio evening classes. takepart@paradise-house.org.uk	Paradise House	6.30 - 8.30pm
	Zumba with Martina 07891 194396	Painswick Centre	9.45 - 10.45am
	Painswick Art Club £35/term. Contact Joyce Barrus on 01452 812942	Church Rooms	9.30 - 1.00pm
Wednesdays	Rococo Sprites. See www.rococogarden.org.uk	Rococo Garden	9.45 am
	Strength and Balance class for the over 60s. Contact Trish Tenn on 07956 4666617 or tennpatricia@gmail.com	Painswick Centre	10.00 - 11.00am
	Painswick Bridge Club. Contact Peter Sibley on 812126 or Margaret Wilson on 812305	Church Rooms	6.45pm
	Table tennis. Contact David Harris on 07453 027766.	Painswick Centre	7.30 - 9.00pm
	Yoga with Kate. www.kate-beatty.co.uk/07793 126234	Painswick Centre	7.30 - 8.45pm
	Classical Pilates Mat Classes Jo on 07968 799741 or info@daleypilates.co.uk	Painswick Centre	10.30 - 11.30am
	Strength and Conditioning Circuits. www.lovelifeladies.co.uk	Painswick Centre	12.30 - 1.30pm
	After school art classes. Term time only. classes@painswickcentre.com .	Painswick Centre	3.45 - 5.15pm
Thursdays	Weds Pop-In restart from October 1st . Meet up for a cuppa, chat and other activities.	Town Hall	10.00 - 12.00pm
	Morning Market	Painswick Centre	8.15 - 9.45am
	St Mary's Mums, Contact 07833 727701. Term time only	Church Rooms	9.15 - 10.45am
	Nurturing yoga. Contact Kim on yoginikim@icloud.com	Painswick Centre	9.30 - 11.00am
	Vinyasa Yoga. Contact Kim on yoginikim@cloud.com	Painswick Centre	11.15 - 12.45am
	Taichi and Qigong - Perry Loveday 07970 698741	Painswick Centre	2.00 - 3.00pm
	Dog Training Club. Contact Fiona Chapman on 01452 812462 or fiona.chapman123@btinternet.com	Painswick Rugby Club	9.30 - 12.30pm
	Qi Gong Classic Exercise - jeffdocherty@yahoo.com	Town Hall	9.30 - 10.30am
Fridays	Classical Pilates Mat Classes. Contact Jo on 07968 799741 or info@daleypilates.co.uk	Town Hall	5.45 - 6.45pm
	Badminton Club. Contact John Barrus - barrusjp@yahoo.co.uk	Painswick Centre	
	Takeaway Food Night	Painswick Centre	5.00 - 8.00pm
	Yoga for Backs. Contact Kim on yoginikim@icloud.com	Painswick Centre	9.30 - 11.00am
	Ballet with Claire Tracey. Contact BalletClaire@outlook.com	Church Rooms	9.30 - 10.30 am
	Painswick Community Hub Café. All welcome	Town Hall	10.00 - 11.30am
	Church Choir Practice. cgswein@btinternet.com or 01453 822998	St Mary's Church	5.30 - 6.30pm
	Classical Pilates Mat Classes. Contact Jo on 07968 799741 or info@daleypilates.co.uk	Church Rooms	11.00 - 12.00pm
Sundays	Painswick Baby and Toddler Group - Term time only	Youth Pavillion	9.30 - 11.30am
	Mass	Catholic Church	8.30am
	Quaker Meeting for Worship	Meeting House	10.30am
	Aikido www.gloucestershireaikido.club .	Painswick Centre	8.30 - 11.00am



Village Diary

Please let me know your club and society dates for the diary on cvasp.26@gmail.com

December

Sat	6	Painswick Beacon published		
Mon	8	Library Book Club	Library	1.30 - 2.30pm
	8	Community Lunch provided by Catholic Church	Town Hall	12.00 - 1.15pm
Tues	9	Morning prayer	St Mary's Church	9.00am
Wed	10	PBCG Work party: Contact 07971 633242	TBC	9.00am
Thurs	11	The Arts Society: 2B or not 2B - An illustrated story of Drawing - Lynne Gibson	Painswick Centre	10.00 for 10.45am
	11	Painswick Music Appreciation Group: Christmas Party - the waltz not just Strauss - bring a disc	Town Hall	2.30pm
Fri	12	Friday Club: Christmas Lunch at Beacon Bar and Restaurant	Painswick Golf Club	12.30 for 1.00pm
	12	Wickflix: A Muppet Christmas Carol - family evening	Painswick Centre	6.45 for 7.15pm
Sun	14	Holy Communion (BCP)	St Mary's Church	9.30am
	14	Family Christingle	St Mary's Church	11.00am
Mon	15	The Well	Church Rooms	7.00pm
Tues	16	Yew Trees WI: Christmas entertainment: Paul Evans	Church Rooms	7.00 for 7.30pm
	16	Cotteswold Naturalists: Utrillo Jazz duo Enq 07798 817 193	Box Village Hall	2.30pm
	16	Morning prayer	St Mary's Church	9.00am
Wed	17	Gardening Club: Quiz evening with quiz masters Mike and Toni Lambert	Town Hall	7.00 for 7.30pm
	17	Christmas Carols	Richmond Village	4.00pm
Sat	20	PBCG Work party: Contact 07971 633242	TBC	9.00am
Sun	21	Deadline for all Beacon Copy		
	21	Holy Communion	St Mary's Church	11.00am
	21	Carol Service	St Mary's Church	6.00pm
Tues	23	Morning Prayer	St Mary's Church	9.00am
Wed	24	Christmas Eve - Crib Service	St Mary's Church	4.00pm
	24	Midnight Mass	St Mary's Church	11.15pm
Thurs	25	Christmas day - Family Communion	St Mary's Church	10.00am
Fri	26	Boxing day - no Community Hub		
Sun	28	Beacon Praise	St Mary's Church	11.00am

January

Fri	2	Community Hub at Richmond. Transport available from Town Hall at 9.45am	Richmond Auditorium	10.00 - 11.30am
Sun	4	Benefice Communion	St Mary's Church	11.00am
Mon	5	Community Lunch provided by St Mary's Church	Town Hall	12.00 - 1.15pm
Tues	6	Morning Prayer	St Mary's Church	9.00am
	6	Community Curry Night - booking on 07956 203087 or via QR code on poster.	Church Rooms	5.30 - 7.30pm
Wed	7	Holy Communion	Richmond Village	11.30am
Thurs	8	Painswick Music Appreciation Group: Chopin including his chamber and orchestral music - Reg Wrathmell	Town Hall	2.30am
Sat	10	Painswick Beacon published		

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PLANNING MATTERS

Information received from the Parish Council

NEW APPLICATIONS

S.25/2097/VAR 4 Court Orchard
Variation of condition 2 (approved plans)
from S.23/2522/HHOLD - alteration to
front extension.
S.25/2176/VAR Rockleigh, Kings Mill
Lane
Variation of condition 2 (approved plans)
from S.25/1146/HHOLD - amendment to
design.
S.25/1987/FUL 2 Wordings Mount,
Sheepscombe
Erection of a garden store and carport.
S.25/1861/ADV St Marys Church, Stroud
Road,
Erection of an information board.
S.25/2153/TPO Overdale, Slad Road, Slad
TPO 543 - Group of 3 Beech Trees. Reduce
height of two Beech trees by 10m and
one Beech tree by 3m and lopping one of
every 3/4 branches
S.25/2179/LBC Edge House, The Green,
Edge Lane, Edge
Alterations and repair of an existing two
storey stone outbuilding (retrospective).
S.25/2059/HHOLD Stable Courtyard,
Painswick Lodge
Conversion and extension of garage to
provide staff accommodation.
S.25/2057/HHOLD Painswick Lodge

Erection of a first floor window to annexe
and alterations to the landscaping.
S.25/2058/LBC Painswick Lodge
Internal and external alterations to
existing stable and annexe building
including alterations to internal layout
and fenestration.

S.25/2202/TCA The Croft, Sheepscombe
T1 - Yew. Reduce by approx 3m in height.
S.25/2214/TCA Dynevor House, New
Street
Pink flowering cherry tree - Fell.

CONSENT

S.25/1835/TCA Fieldcroft, Sheepscombe
Reduce the height of Maple Tree by up
to 7m.
S.25/1870/TCA The Old Bakery, 3
Cheltenham Road
Prunus pissardii (Cherry plum) - 1m
reduction.
S.25/1641/HHOLD Pincot Cottage,
Pincot Lane
Erection of a two storey rear and side
extension, porch, installation of sewage
treatment plant and associated works.
S.25/1996/TCA The Grange,
Sheepscombe
Dead Willow - Fell by sections to near
ground level
S.25/1946/HHOLD Kimsbury Villa,
Cheltenham Road
Erection of a single storey rear extension.

Personal Column Condolences

To the family and friends of ANGELA
RICH who peacefully passed away on
Sunday, 26th October, aged 98 years.
A beloved wife, mother, grandmother
and well-loved longstanding resident of
Painswick. Angela's funeral service was
held at the Roman Catholic Church of
Our Lady and St Therese in Painswick
on Wednesday 19th November followed
by a private short committal in Painswick
Cemetery.

To the family and friends of CHARLES
GARSTANG who died on Thursday
November 20th.

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 cvasp.26@gmail.com

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Painswick Community Library



New Books

There is another batch of 64 new books available. Forgive me for
just mentioning a few that I liked the look of:
Clown Town by Mick Herron (Adult Fiction)
The Trader, The Owner, The Slave by James Walvin (Adult NF)
There's a Shark in my Pants by Michelle
Harris (Children)
As usual, the full list is on the Library desk
and on the website.

Christmas Opening

As usual, we shall be giving our volunteers a
break between Christmas and the New
Year. Last day of opening will be Monday
22nd December. We will re-open on
Friday January 2nd 2026. We wish all our
customers the compliments of the Festive
Season!

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Take-aways available



Left: The annual Remembrance ceremony held at Painswick's war memorial at 11am on 11th November.



Right: a view from the Rococo Garden's 'Enchanted Garden at Night'.



Painswick's Goodwill Evening on 28th November drew large crowds as well as attracting a visit from Santa and his elves.



NEXT ISSUE

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SATURDAY

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**Deadline for all copy
Sunday 28th December**

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