

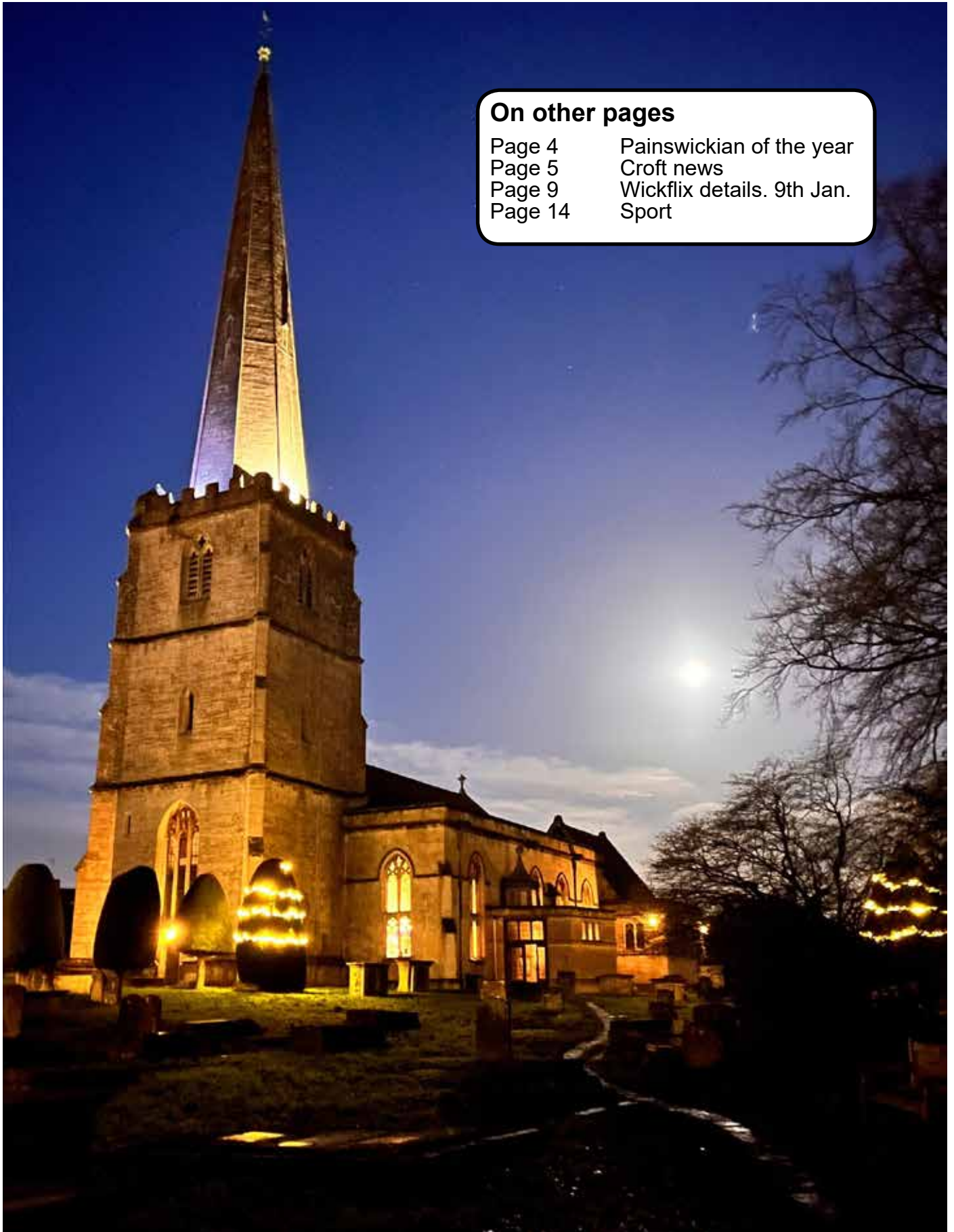
The Painswick Beacon

Volume 48 Number 10

January 2026

On other pages

Page 4	Painswickian of the year
Page 5	Croft news
Page 9	Wickflix details. 9th Jan.
Page 14	Sport



LOCAL COUNCIL NEWS - from the Parish Council meeting held on Wed. 10th December. reported by David Allott

Parish Council

Consider and confirm the recommendations of the Finance and Personnel Committee

No increase to the hiring charges for the Town Hall and Pavilion for the year 2026/2027

The Grants for Painswick were approved as recommended..

Stroud Citizens Advice	£400
County Air Ambulance	£100
Painswick Friday Club	£100
Cotswold Wardens	£200

The Council unanimously agreed to request a precept of £151,200 for the year 2026/2027 being a 3.91% increase.

Ward Reports

The chairman reported upon the partial drainage clearance works along Tibbiwell Lane.

District Council Report

Countering Fraud:

The Counter Fraud and Enforcement Unit have had a recent success. They prosecuted an individual who had failed to disclose his multiple jobs and had received salaries and other benefits totalling £236,000. He was sentenced to 3 years for fraud.

Brimscombe Port Re-development:

The Council will now choose a new developer partner to regenerate the old port, restore the canal basin and build up to 150 energy efficient homes. Many developers have shown interest in being chosen.

The project is funded by NLHF (National Lottery Heritage Fund) grant of £15.4 million plus £4 million from partners. This will enable full completion and reconnection at Saul Junction.

Local Plan:

The Council is disappointed that the Planning Inspectors have rejected some new evidence for the draft Local Plan.

Grants:

"Caring for the Cotswolds Grants" are available for between £500 and £5,000 under three different themes: Nature; Communities; Climate.

County Council Report

LGR Local Government Reform:

The Council has decided to support the single unitary option. SDC has decided likewise. Central Government will decide.

Planning committee

Present..Cllr Andy Cash Cllr Ann Daniels Cllr Adrian Gyde Cllr Sandra Hunkin Chairman Cllr Fiona Mackenzie-Jenkin Cllr Robin Roberts Cllr Selina Gibb

1 Apologies were received from Cllrs Rosie Nash, Ian Massey and Roey Parker

2. Declaration of Interest
There were none.

3. To approve the Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 15th October 2025. The Minutes were approved and signed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

4. Matters requiring a decision:

a. S.25/2097/VAR 4 Court Orchard Variation of condition 2 (approved plans) from S.23/2522/HHOLD - alteration to front extension. The Committee agreed to Support this application.

b. S.25/2176/VAR Rockleigh, Kings Mill Lane Variation of condition 2 (approved plans) from S.25/1146/HHOLD - amendment to design. The Committee agreed to Support this application.

c. S.25/1987/FUL 2 Wordings Mount, Sheepscombe Erection of a garden store and carport. The Committee agreed to Support this application.

d. S.25/2179/LBC Edge House, The Green, Edge Lane, Edge Alterations and repair of an existing two storey stone outbuilding (retrospective). The Committee agreed to Object to this application as it considers that the retrospective application is incomplete as it doesn't specify the roof materials. It appears that the original Cotswold roof tiles have been replaced and those fitted are not in keeping with a listed building. In addition the Committee agreed a new opening on the ground floor level has been made which does not lend to the character of the listed building.

e. S.25/2059/HHOLD Stable Courtyard, Painswick Lodge Conversion and extension of garage to provide staff accommodation. The Committee agreed to Support this application.

f. S.25/2057/HHOLD Painswick Lodge Erection of a first floor window to annexe and alterations to the landscaping. The Committee agreed to Support this application.

g. S.25/2058/LBC Painswick Lodge Internal and external alterations to existing stable and annexe building including alterations to internal layout and fenestration. The Committee agreed to Support this application.

5. Date of the next Planning Committee meeting – Wednesday 7th January 2026 in Painswick Town Hall at 7.00 pm.
THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 7.26 pm

Front page picture:

Accredited to Emma Hiatt, member of the Painswick Community Choir and volunteer at the Rococo Garden.

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The Town Hall repairs

The Town Hall was flooded earlier this year and the drying out process is now complete. However, repairs must be carried out to the flooring - this work is booked in for W/C 2nd February 2026.

ALL BOOKINGS FOR W/C 2ND FEBRUARY 2026 ARE THEREFORE CANCELLED. We sincerely apologise for the inconvenience this may cause.



Police Report

Reported crime statistics for Painswick taken from the Gloucestershire Constabulary web site.

October

Cotswold Mead ASB
Bisley Street ASB

September

Gloucester Street ASB
Hollyhock Lane Theft
Ashwell Other crime
Gyde Road Violence
Greenhouse Lane Public order
Violence

Violence includes sexual assault.
ASB=Anti-social-behaviour. Locations given mean in "vicinity of".

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Do you wish to advertise in the Painswick Beacon during the year April 2026 – March 2027. Requests can now be submitted.

Existing advertisers will be contacted by email in mid-January inviting them to renew or amend their requirements. New advertisers are invited to get in touch and a booking form must be completed. The form provides more details including prices. It is available directly from me or from our website www.painswick.beacon.org.uk - click on "how to advertise" from the homepage.

As advertising space is limited, we operate a priority booking period which closes on 14 February. Requests received before that date will be treated as if received on that date. Space is then allocated with priority given to local businesses, existing advertisers and with the aim of achieving a mix of business types. In most of the last few years, requests have exceeded the available space and some requests have had to be turned down. But if space remains or becomes available later, requests are considered on a first come first served basis.

Peter Rowe (01452 813228) advertising.beacon@painswick.net

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.

Maximum word limits around 250

Recently many Clubs and Societies have been sending in reports well over the 250 limit, often over 340 words, which leaves the editor with no choice but to edit them down in order to fit in other entries.

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Painswickian of the Year - Frances Watson

The Painswick community is without doubt very caring. Many local residents are involved in good work and acts of kindness. Frances Watson is one such person. However, in Frances' case it is a matter of many, oh so many, good deeds and activities over many, many years. Not surprisingly therefore and certainly justifiably she has been voted Painswickian of the Year.

Compassion and the urge to do whatever is necessary for the good of others is fundamental to Frances' approach to life. She and husband John came to live in Painswick in 1982. John ran the National Trust bookshop in Bisley Street and Frances was a speech therapist. She worked for the Learning Disability Service for some years and later for the National Patient Safety Agency, a branch of the NHS. All of her work was with people with learning disabilities - a perfect background, providing essential skills together with her caring nature, for her involvement in the many projects and activities in Painswick during the ensuing decades.

Perhaps the major achievement emanating from her work with disabled people was the formation of the charity Building Circles. Frances had become increasingly aware of the fact that the people with whom she worked needed more than just being looked after. She understood that they would benefit enormously from friendship. She formed a project which led to a community service reaching out to disabled people and Building Circles was thus created achieving independent charity status in 2007. Its primary aim is to alleviate the feeling of loneliness and isolation often experienced by people with learning disabilities.

From its Painswick beginnings it has blossomed into an outstanding charity across the county. Developing continuously, it encompasses many different sorts of activities and interests and many people are involved. There is now much interaction between communities and so much good will. Painswick is certainly very supportive and very much involved in many of the wide ranging activities of the charity. So much good will has been generated here in Painswick as a result. The benefits are countless and everyone involved is totally committed and enthusiastic.

Frances was for many years the lynch pin of this wonderful organisation though, typical of her characteristic modesty, she herself would always claim she was merely 'background support'. As runner-up in the national 2018 Directory of Social Change award her work with vulnerable and marginalised adults was described as outstanding. And then, shortly afterwards, she was awarded an MBE for her exceptional work with and for people with learning disabilities. Her commitment to improving the lives of vulnerable people and at educating others to develop a better understanding had been tirelessly constant and positive.

Frances is still very much involved in the activities of Building Circles and obviously has a passionate belief – and rightly so - in what it is doing. However, that is not all. She is an active participant in, indeed the secretary of, Churches Together Around Painswick, which of course is focussed completely on unity and cooperation. In her words "It is a true togetherness." She is a member of the PCC and is very active in the pastoral care team. On a wider scale she is always willing to accommodate committee meetings for various groups in her house for a range of good purposes, her wonderful hospitality noted by many. Also noted is her kindness, her receptiveness, her ability to listen and to communicate, all of which has led over the years to her being able to offer effective help to so many individuals facing difficulties. True to character she has done this very many times, always quietly and publically unnoticed. Early in the Ukraine crisis Frances did not hesitate to offer a home to a Ukrainian refugee and for the next three years Julia (Yuliia) was her guest. Julia fled from very tragic circumstances and Frances without question understood her needs and immediately offered the necessary care. She is also involved in the movement Christian Solidarity Worldwide, arbitrating for and sending letters, especially at Christmas and Easter, to prisoners of conscience.

Closer to home, Frances is a keen member of the gardening club, of the poetry group and enjoys keeping fit in the strength and balance class, so an active member of the community. A caring, supremely kind, generous, community-minded, benevolent, altruistic, compassionate lady, Frances Watson is unquestionably a much valued and much loved Painswick resident. Over many years she has worked continuously, and always modestly, for the good of others and continues to do so. She definitely deserves the title Painswickian of the Year.



Carol Maxwell

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Croft Primary School News

The Autumn term at The Croft has flown by and was exceptionally busy with lots of events taking place!

The children participated in many sporting events, including cross country where some children were invited to country trials as they finished in the top ten. We completed a Park Run 'takeover' which is reportedly only the second time since lockdown where the Park Run reached more than 100 runners! The girls football team were league champions after scoring 23 goals and only conceding 3. They then represented The Croft with pride at the finals night which placed them as one of the best 8 teams in the Gloucester area. The boys football team also represented the school at a tournament at Oxstalls where they only conceded 1 goal across all their games.

The lead up to Christmas saw the children enjoy a pantomime - 'Red Riding Hood' – the show was a huge hit! Thank you to Friends of The Croft who supported this visit. The children and staff enjoyed taking part in the Painswick Goodwill Evening; we hope you enjoyed listening to them! Our nativity performances enjoyed by everyone who watched Mole Class join Hedgehog and Fox classes to perform 'The Big Little Nativity!'. We completed our Christmas celebrations with a carol service at St Mary's and our Christmas jumper and lunch day.

We are always looking for volunteers to come and help in school – hearing readers, talking to the children about an area of expertise, or helping with grounds improvements. Please do get in touch via admin@croft.gloucs.sch.uk if you are interested in volunteering.

Rebecca Gore

Vacancy for a School Governor

The Croft School in Painswick has a vacancy for someone to join the Governing Body. The Croft is a thriving Primary school rated 'Good' by Ofsted. The role of a governor is to ensure that the school is well run, meets its legal obligations, and sets the highest standards for the education it provides for its pupils.

Governors attend six main board meetings plus other committee meetings every year. We also try to get to know the school well by spending time in the school and attending school events.

Our governors bring a range of skills and experience to the role. It is not necessary to have a professional background in education. Any experience of a governance role in other fields would be valuable but not essential. Above all, we need people with the energy and drive to help us make the school the best it can be. We would particularly welcome people with a track record of community outreach or fundraising, and any links to businesses or organisations in the local area would certainly be of interest. One of our goals is to extend the reach of the school more widely into the community, so there is a real opportunity for a new governor to bring expertise in that area.

If you think this is an opportunity which could be of interest or you would just like to find out more, please contact the chair of governors, Alastair Duncan, at aduncan@croft.gloucs.sch.uk to arrange a discussion to explore the role.

Painswick Playgroup

This term the children have enjoyed the topics All About Me and Hibernation. They were very excited to have the chance to look at a decommissioned Air Ambulance and have had lots of fun in the woods at Forest School. All things Christmas have been the main focus for last few weeks, and we welcomed the Reverend Sarah and Victoria Soutar from The Croft to read the Christmas story to the children and sing Carols.

The Playgroup now welcomes children from two years of age and offers wrap around care between 07:45 – 17:00 term time only. If you would like some more information please contact the Playgroup Manager, Sharron at painswickplaygroup@yahoo.co.uk for further information.



Journeys with meanings

The first meeting of the Local History Society for the new year will take place at the Croft School on Tuesday, 20th January starting at 7.30pm. John Putley, a very knowledgeable and entertaining speaker, will give a presentation on Pilgrims and Pilgrimage in Gloucestershire. Everyone welcome.

Carol Maxwell



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Benefice News

Our clergy letter this month is from the Revd Paul Kenchington. Paul is a retired priest and part of the Beacon Benefice ministry team. He is also a great worship leader but if you're not a church-goer you may have spotted him at the library in Painswick where he is a regular volunteer.

January: Dark. Depressing. Broke. Bored. Right?

Wrong! Here in the Beacon Benefice our churches are buzzing!

We are so excited to be launching Alpha on Monday evenings – I can't think of a better way to start the New Year, actually.

You've done this before, haven't you...

Yes – quite a bit actually, but each time I have a different experience and learn something new. It's great!

So Paul, what even is Alpha?! It's for any adult, right?

Yep, for all adults of all faiths and none. Alpha is a series of interactive sessions that freely explores the basics of the Christian faith. No strings, no catches.

Come along for dinner and meet new people, watch a talk and see what you think – share your thoughts if you want to, and hear from others.

In other words, Alpha is free. There is no pressure. Everyone's welcome.

And what about Alpha Youth?

Well, that's for young adults. It's space for real open conversations about life, faith and purpose.

At Alpha Youth, you get together, watch a short episode on faith and simply talk about it – no charge, no pressure, and no judgment.

Tell us more...Each episode is designed to explore and unpack a new question around the Christian faith and spark conversation. Think connection, content and conversations.

Connection: We'll be connecting in person over food.

Content: 10 sessions over 8 weeks on life, Christian faith and purpose.

Conversations: you can say anything you like or nothing at all – but remember to be respectful, obviously.

ALPHA and ALPHA YOUTH START ON MONDAY
19 JANUARY 2026 at 7PM, CHURCH ROOMS,
PAINSWICK.

Curious? call 07356 246338,
scan the QR code or just come along!



Probus Club



At the November meeting, Paul Murphy entertained us with tales about Charles Dickens accompanied by some wonderful photographs. We heard how the young Dickens liked to explore around the south of England, with some keen observations finding their way into his books. For example, the Leather Bottle Public House in Cobham was described in the Pickwick Papers, the serialised story that enjoyed enormous success and enabled him to buy Gads Hill House in Kent which he had much admired as a child.

Dickens' private life was somewhat scandalous with several liaisons, including with his "housekeeper" and later two of his wife's sisters! Maria Beadnell, an unrequited love when he worked at a solicitor's office, became Estelle in Great Expectations.

A plaque in Westgate Street in Gloucester commemorates James (Jemmy) Wood, who was miserly but perhaps one of the wealthiest commoners of the time, referring to him as the inspiration for Ebenezer Scrooge in A Christmas Carol; a dispute over his will probably inspired the legal proceedings in Bleak House.

On the 4th December the club enjoyed a splendid Christmas dinner at the Painswick Centre expertly organised by our retiring President Michael Houghton, ably assisted by Vivienne Johnson. Following this a most amusing speech was given by our newly installed President Nick Slader.

Robin Vick



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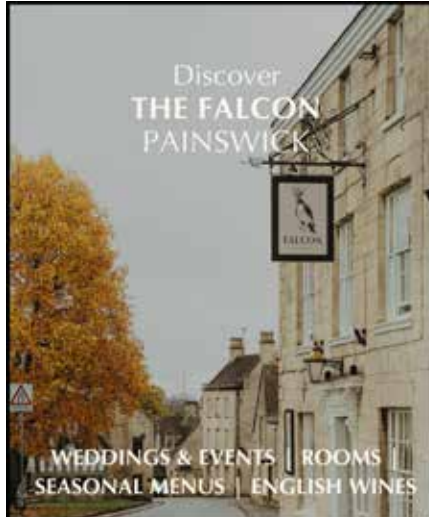


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Written by Dr Ian Donald, a retired Consultant Gerontologist, this course helps us explore how we can respond to the challenges we face in the later stages of life – both in ourselves and caring for those we love

Dates: Fridays

16 January: What do we mean by Ageing?

30 January: Discovering God's purpose for our ageing

13 February: Praying for healing in the frailty of old age

27 February: Giving and receiving care

13 March: Dementia and personhood

27 March: Dying Well

Time: 11.45 to 1.15pm

Venue: Painswick Town Hall

Cost: £15 per person for all 6 sessions - including a study guide & refreshments.

Interested? then contact: Frances Watson 07779173373
email franatcran@outlook.com or Pippa Medcalf
07740514230 email pippa.medcalf@nhs.net

Ela Pathak-Sen

Painswick Rococo Garden Carol Concert

There was an exceptional Carol Concert in St Mary's Church on Thursday, 4th December, fundraising for Painswick Rococo Garden. The Garden's previous Director, Dominic Hamilton, led the carol singing from the organ and accompanied violinist, Cathy Thompson, with Ave Maria by Bach and two versions of a movement from Vivaldi's Four Seasons.

We were very impressed by "Bell-Tide", a group bringing handbell ringing teams together to play more challenging works. The talent was astounding. The evening concluded with our local Painswick & Corinium Community Choirs performing some festive and wintry songs.

Joyce Barrus



Camille Saint Saens, Chopin and a New Year

PMAG ended 2025 and will start the New Year with talks inspired by two of our most entertaining presenters who have sadly left us. Both, as committee members, have had a huge influence over the years regularly giving entertaining talks on a wide range of subjects.

Ann Williams has been a lynch pin of the group and Painswick as a whole. She had elected to talk about Saint Saens the prolific French composer who celebrates his 190th birthday and her choices included extracts from, amongst others, his opera Samson and Delilah and the Carnival of the Animals performed by the Kanneh Mason family. The finale brought the rousing conclusion of his Organ Symphony recorded in Chicago by Daniel Barenboim and miraculously incorporating the organ of Chartres Cathedral which seemed to represent Ann's love of France and her full and varied life.

Reg Wrathmell, a gifted pianist in his own right, had a matchless knowledge of great performers of the past and present and has given many recitals in Painswick. He had elected to give a talk on Chopin early in this New Year. In his memory was scheduled on DVD a 60th birthday concert given by Daniel Barenboim in Chopin's Warsaw.

Along with Dr Charles Garstang they will be sadly missed but we can be certain that they would want PMAG to continue to flourish and embrace its future.

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

Thursday January 8th DVD "THE WARSAW RECITAL"

Thursday January 22nd Mozart's connection to Haydn

Note change of venue to Richmond Village for the following (still at 2:30PM)

Thursday February 5th Bach's Brandenburg Concerti-a musical detective story

Dennis Morgan
Howard Allen

Dr Tim Brain

Michael Grey

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Happy New Year from everyone on the Field Club Council!

We start the New Year with our popular lunch gathering this year to be held at The Frocester George on Wednesday January 14th (for members and guests). Secure your place with a £10 deposit and chose what you'd like to eat on the day. Further information available by email from Peter Cornish: peter.cornish@yahoo.co.uk. Our first talk of 2026 'The Eurasian Hobby and its presence in the Cotswolds' will be held in Box Village Hall at 2.30pm on Tuesday January 20th. Our speaker, retired vet Richard Tyler, has had a passion for ornithology since he was a small boy and believes the Hobby to be one of our most exciting and interesting breeding birds in the UK. His illustrated talk will provide a general introduction to this bird supplemented with details from Hobby breeding surveys in the Cotswolds over the last few years.

This will be followed on Wednesday 4th February at 2.30pm in the Painswick Centre by retired bookseller, actor and storyteller Andy Meller giving us an illustrated talk with the intriguing title 'Tolkien and the Cotswolds – the shaping of Middle Earth'. The talk will examine the lives of both Ronald and Edith Tolkien from their early beginnings in South Africa and Gloucester respectively and will consider just how much the Cotswolds, and Gloucestershire landscapes in particular, shaped their own lives and those of the characters about which JRR Tolkien wrote. For example, St Edward's Parish Church in Stow-on-the-Wold (pictured / Martyn Gorman: CC BY SA 2.0), is believed to be the inspiration for a 'Hobbit Door'.



Our bi-monthly gatherings are free to Members but open to the public (£5 at the door). No need to book, just drop in. Further information about the Club and its activities (including the full list of lectures and Membership details) can be found on the CNFC website www.cotswoldsnatsfield.club.

Sylvia May cnfcsecretary1@gmail.com

Memories of the Pin Mill (1974-1978) By Eric Harris

Episode 2: First Impressions

It didn't take long to be impressed by the Pin Mill. Once things got going there were +/- 10 paper clip machines, each churning out product by bending and cutting wire at rates of up to 300 per minute. There were 2 main sizes – Large and Small, and 3 designs – Plain, Lipped and No Tear. These machines were reasonably modern. In complete contrast there were machines which looked like massive spiders juddering as they produced ticket pins – little swords that were used to stick the prices on joints of meat in a traditional butcher's shop. These machines were wonderful pieces of engineering, but only ran at 15-20 per minute. There were a number of presses, both manual and automatic which allowed you to stamp sheets of metal into a variety of shapes and sizes. On one side there were some amazing machines that produced hair pins and kirby grips. These ran via a system of large bands driven from a shaft suspended several feet in the air. Although run off mains electricity, you could see how in the past they could have been run directly from the water wheel powered by the Painswick Stream. In 1974 you could still see the remains of the wheel, and the sluices used to control the water flow are still there today. To my eyes it was like stepping back in time to the Industrial Revolution, and it was fascinating.



Ken the Foreman assigned me to work on these machines. He introduced me to Robin Barnes. He was a fellow student – like me he was off to University later in the year. He seemed like a cool guy. He was probably a year older than me, but came across as far more grown-up. He went to Rock concerts and talked about bands I'd never heard of. We got on fine. I was also introduced to Bert Wright – he was a lovely man, of indeterminate age. He had sleeked-back grey/black hair, glasses, and wore a grey overall which stayed amazingly clean in what was often a dirty job. He said very little, and that very quietly but powerfully. During the tea breaks, he indulged in beautifully-crafted roll ups. He was very good on the machines and, once I was up to speed, the 3 of us made a good team.

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Painswick Community Support

Community Lunches

REMINDER

Please note that one of the Community Lunches hosted by The Croft School Y6 Class will now be held at the Church Rooms NOT the Town Hall on February 2nd. This is due to the closure of the Town Hall for the w/c February 2nd while flooring repairs take place. The remaining lunches will all take place at the Town Hall as usual.

The schoolchildren will be preparing, cooking and serving the lunches for the community on February 2nd and February 9th so your support would be much appreciated

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
On behalf of Painswick Community Support

Cranham Local History Society

The Society will be holding a film show by Kate Peake, entitled 'Aerial views over the Cotswolds' in the village hall on the 8th January 2026, at 8.00pm. Visitors £4 to include refreshments.

Jan Whitton

Theatre Outing

- Gilbert & Sullivan's The Gondoliers

I have arranged an evening outing to The Everyman Theatre, Cheltenham, on Tuesday 24th March to see a performance of The Gondoliers, a 'fizzing comedy of mistaken identity', performed by the English Touring Opera, starting at 7.30 pm. Tickets have been reserved in the Stalls at the special group price of £25 each (instead of full price £44). Contact me if you are interested in purchasing a ticket, by tel. 813228.

Optional minibus travel is also available; leaving opp. Cotswold Mead/Rugby Club bus stop 4.45 pm, and Stamages Car Park 5.00 pm (cost



£20 per person), allowing time for a meal in Cheltenham. Organised via the Friday Club.

Jane Rowe



Friday 9th January
The Painswick Centre

Wick-Flix Kicks Off 2026 with a 40th Anniversary Classic

Back to the Future

Wick-Flix returns to the Painswick Centre in January with a much-loved film that needs little introduction. On Friday 9 January 2026, local audiences are invited to enjoy Back to the Future, celebrating the film's 40th anniversary.

First released in 1985, Back to the Future has become one of the most iconic films in cinema history. Starring Michael J. Fox as teenager Marty McFly and Christopher Lloyd as the unforgettable Doc Brown, the film combines science fiction, comedy and adventure in a story that continues to delight audiences of all ages. When Marty is accidentally sent 30 years into the past in a time-travelling DeLorean, he must ensure his parents fall in love before he can make it back to the future.

The screening marks the start of the Wick-Flix 2026 season, once again bringing big-screen favourites to Painswick. Screenings take place at the Painswick Centre, offering a friendly, relaxed cinema experience close to home.

This year, Wick-Flix is also introducing reduced-price children's tickets at £5, making the screenings even more accessible for families. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

The evening promises a nostalgic and entertaining start to the New Year, whether you're revisiting a favourite film or seeing it on the big screen for the first time.

Back to the Future (PG)
Friday 9 January 2026
Painswick Centre
Doors 7pm. Film starts at 7:45pm

Further details, including film times and booking information, can be found on the Painswick Centre website.

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So young, so talented

Natural ability in the world of arts and crafts is of course the key to developing the necessary practical skills. This is definitely the case when applied to one of Painswick's youngest and exceptional artists. Jemima Falshaw is 16 and already noted for her beautiful artwork.

Jemima has always loved art. As a pupil at the Croft School she was already drawing and painting to a high standard and was also making decorative articles such as little hedgehogs. She enjoys using a variety of media and materials including papier maché, water colours, pen and ink, textiles and, now mainly, acrylics. This love of experimenting with a range of materials and ideas has resulted in an amazing collection of works of wonderful creativity and skill.

At present one of Jemima's aims, and there are others of course, is to produce beautiful homeware. She is very aware of the fact that, apart from its functional purpose, homeware should be visually appealing. After all, it is something we have to live with daily. As a result she has produced mugs, coasters, tea towels, crockery and aprons featuring some of her beautiful designs and images. Jemima explains that these designs are inspired by nature and the local countryside. The resulting items certainly reflect this inspiration - appealing, charming and displaying highly skilled craftsmanship.

Jemima is currently a student at Westonbirt School in her GCSE year. Explaining that the school has been very encouraging, especially teachers in the art department and those in the design and technology department, she was inspired to spend the summer holidays this year designing and preparing art work for the Westonbirt Flower Show held in September. She was amazed at how many visitors were attracted to her work despite being surrounded by professional stall holders and in fact many of her pieces sold out. A one day show, it was a great success for Jemima, making all the effort she had put in over the summer worthwhile.

Further encouragement came from a Dyson engineer who came to the school to organise a workshop for Jemima's design and technology course. Impressed by her skills and artistic talent he suggested she set up her own business sooner rather than later. The result is Jim Jam Homeware, her business selling high quality, beautiful homeware. Jemima is passionate about art and totally dedicated to developing her already excellent skills as well as running her own business. A veritable achievement for one so young. Currently some of her lovely homewares are available in the Wick Street farm shop Wild. She can be contacted at facebook jimjamhomeware or Instagram jim_jam_homeware.

Carol Maxwell



The Arts Society Painswick

2B or not 2B :An Illustrated Story of Drawing.

On 12th December Painswick Arts Society closed 2025 with a beautifully illustrated talk by Painswick artist and historian Lynne Gibson.

From the charcoal cave drawings of Chauvet-Pont d'Arc around 600BC Lynne took us to the exquisite silverpoint of late Medieval Monastery workshop model books. By the Renaissance, drawings were created in personal sketch books with Holbein's progression from sketch books to finished masterpieces a fine example of changing requirements for drawing.

Lynne discussed the materials used including the emergence of the first 'lead' pencils using graphite(Plumbago) from Cumberland in the 17th century. War with Britain cut off the great arts centre of Paris from its major source of drawing materials. This led to the invention in 1789 of the modern pencil by grinding graphite with clay then heating and inserting within the wooden case. A new art form emerged.

The H and the B was explained as well as the emergence of colour pencils (1920's) and crayon. Exquisite ink drawings by Ingres and Hockney were discussed and materials such as pastel (Degas and Seurat) and Sepia (Samuel Palmer) and their uses were explored. Lynne closed her brilliant talk with a quote from Spike Milligan "Said Hamlet to Ophelia, I'll draw a sketch of thee. What kind of pencil shall I use? 2B or not 2B?"

The Arts Society first meeting of 2026 is Thursday 12 February at the Painswick Centre : 'John Constable: Chocolate Box Painter or Maverick?' Full details on website :theartsocietypainswick.org.uk

David Cutler

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Creativity workshops for all

Artistic creativity is without doubt both an excellent form of self-expression for the artist and a joy for the viewer. Yvonne Greenidge is an artist, recently arrived in Painswick, who believes passionately in the value of artistic creativity for all who practise it. To this end she is keen to encourage Painswick residents to experience the benefits to be gained by participating in a range of activities and creative workshops which she is offering to all.

Yvonne is recognised widely as an outstanding teacher of creative arts and crafts with many years of experience as such. Essentially the aim is for her students to design and create a three dimensional piece of artwork. This can include pottery, clay beading on wood, making and decorating clay pieces, needlework, cloth work, beadwork, painting and much more. Yvonne's role is to explain and teach the fundamental process and skills involved from which the student will then be able to produce their own final piece.

With many years of teaching in schools and in disability and mental health centres, Yvonne's creative art work with children is outstanding - the results are stunning. All children are welcome and they can work individually or in small groups which of course is an excellent exercise in developing team work skills. Yvonne is also a specialist in working with children with disabilities. These workshops are not just for children – adults are more than welcome too.

Yvonne's early life and schooling was in London. Then she went to Barbados where she qualified in pottery at a training institute. During the next few years she worked as a potter in Barbados and also taught pottery in schools thereby gaining valuable experience. Returning to England she taught in schools and mental health centres in London, then to Cheltenham where she taught at St John's School. Yvonne's son is in London where he is very well known as a potter.

The possibilities for designing and creating something special are endless - a toy, jewellery box, personal bag, picture frame, ornament, painting etc etc. You can even decorate cup cakes with real artistry! Amongst a wonderful range of equipment there is a small sewing machine ideal for use by children. All the basic materials are provided by Yvonne along with her teaching and encouragement. The results materialising from her workshops are stunning.

Yvonne recognises and understands both the educational value of her workshops but also the immense feeling of joy and fulfilment gained by those participating. What she does is truly inspirational. Her lovely workshop is located above Premier store right in the centre of Painswick and all are welcome. She can be contacted by phone or text 07368 589966. We are indeed lucky to have Yvonne in our midst.



Carol Maxwell


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I hope it is not too late to wish everyone all best wishes for the New Year. If you are still thinking about New Year resolutions, why not make this the year you come and help PBCG. All aspects of our work are being

well received and the progress being made is obvious for all to see. We are a very friendly group who work hard to keep the Beacon in good shape for all to enjoy.

We have completed another section of track repair running up the first fairway from the Golf Club using a load of aggregate delivered from Moreton Cullimore Ltd. Thanks are due to them as they have agreed to supply aggregate at a generously discounted rate because we are a registered charity. We currently have enough funds to permit another four of five sections to be improved.

The photo right shows our last work party before Christmas where we enjoyed festive food and mulled wine and an area where we have pushed back the woodland edge from the grassland. Cut logs have been deposited in the car park by the golf club for people to take away. Our cows have had their three-week vacation on Cud Hill and have done a very good job of grazing the grass back. They are now back on the Beacon after being successfully walked back along the wildlife corridor for the first time.



Paul Baxter.

Painswick Music Society 80th anniversary season



One of Painswick's annual highlights is the spring concerts, organised by the Painswick Music Society. In preparation for our 80th Season I've been fascinated to find more about the extraordinary history of the society. The driving force was violinist, Mrs Salusbury Baker (known professionally by her maiden name Mercia Stotesbury) who was born in 1897 and attended Ryeford (now Wycliffe) school. She took advanced violin training with the leader of the London Symphony Orchestra, and gave numerous solo recitals, BBC "wireless" broadcasts during the 1920s and a pioneering televised recital. In 1939 she married William Salusbury Baker and throughout WWII

they invited musician friends (some very famous!) to perform at their home, "Viners" in Pitchcombe. in aid of the Red Cross. Once peace returned, they were able to realise their ambition to set up a music charity in the heart of Painswick.

The first concert was on 30th March 1946, at 3pm, in the Institute Hall (now the Painswick Centre), which was the concert venue until 1985, after which we relocated to St Mary's church. Four concerts every springtime has been the normal pattern throughout, (except for a forced pause in 2020 due to the Covid pandemic). As part of our 80th Season celebrations, a souvenir booklet will be available at each of our concerts, giving a detailed history and complete catalogue for well over 300 concerts... so far!

The 80th Season will begin on 14th March at 3pm with the Adam Heron Trio (winner of the 2020 Harriet Cohen Bach Prize). Their programme will include Mozart's Trio K548 - first performed in Painswick in 1956. The 28th March concert will be the Meliora Collective, a multi-instrumental ensemble. Their programme will also link back to our history, including Beethoven's Septet Opus 20, first heard in Painswick in 1951. Our third concert (25th April) will be given by Grammy-nominated British vocal ensemble 'Voces8' and our fourth concert (16th May) will be a piano recital by the ever popular Sir Stephen Hough. Full details are at www.painswickmusicsoc.co.uk, including on-line booking.

Painswick concerts now attract new audiences, travelling from far and wide, but our core goals remain much the same as in 1946. The committee is always looking to strengthen high quality live music-making - for all - through diversity in performers and musical genres, and through extending participation by young people - as listeners and performers. Look out for an extra concert in October 2026, to be given by Gloucestershire Youth String Orchestra. Finally, we are delighted to announce that celebrated pianist Clare Hammond will be the Honorary President of Painswick Music Society, commencing January 2026. Please contact us to find out more.

Email info@painswickmusicsoc.co.uk Martin Woodhead, Chair

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Painswick Banner

The first appearance of the historic 'Painswick banner' came sometime around the beginning of the twentieth century and over the next twenty years or so it was seen at various events in the town. It has a lot of symbolic elements, referencing various aspects of Painswick life, several of them humorous, but its origins have always been a bit obscure. Karen Price-Payne is convinced however that the banner was created by her great-grandfather, Arthur Meeze, perhaps best known in Painswick for his role in shooting at the weather-cock on the churchspire (now in the Stroud Museum and used as its logo).

That at least is the story that has been passed down in her family and there is photographic evidence to support it. A well-known photo shows Arthur Meeze and his family posing with the banner alongside the stocks and a later

one shows the banner in the garden of his house. A tongue in cheek pamphlet about the origins and symbolism of the banner, allegedly written by Polyphemus Pointer, is also believed to have been written by Arthur.

Now Karen herself has created a full-size replica of the original banner, with a remarkable attention to detail and in December she brought it to Painswick for the first time, erecting it (with permission) in the church. It will return for the Painswick Feast and Clypping in September and she hopes that it will in due course find a permanent home in the village.



Library book club



The next meeting of the Library Book Club is on Monday 12th January, 1.30 - 2.30 and we will be discussing *The Boy from the Sea* by Garrett Carr. In February we will

meet on 9th to discuss *Borderliners* by Peter Hoeg. If you are interested in joining our book club please come along to one of our meetings. We always welcome new members. For further information email painswick.library.bookclub@gmail.com

Pat Andrew

Painswick Gardening club

Quiz Masters, Mike and Toni Lambert joined us to give us a Quiz for our Christmas event on December 17th. This very successful event, accompanied with wine and cheese, completed our 2025 programme.



We are back on January 14th with a talk by The Chatty Gardener, Mandy Bradshaw entitled: "Through the Garden Gate". Mandy is a Cotteswold-based gardening Journalist. Also a photographer, she gave us a fascinating talk on working as photographer at Chelsea, last year. So we are looking forward to seeing through garden gates. We're at the Town Hall, doors open at 7 pm when you can have tea/coffee or perhaps a glass of wine and catch up with friends and gardeners. Mandy's talk starts at 7:30 pm. Visitors are welcome @ £5.

Joyce Barrus

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Painswick Sports

assembled by John Barrus

Saturday 13th December saw a busy day of sport at Broadham



Football

Painswick Football first team was playing Harrow Hill, one of the top teams in their league, with the match ending in a draw 2:2. Painswick currently lie 6th in the table.

Rugby

Painswick rugby team are back participating in league Rugby. On Saturday 13th December they were against Cheltenham North achieving a resounding win 33:7 in the Gloucester and District 1 league.



Pickleball Christmas Party

Took place at the Recreation courts with silly games and party food and drinks.



Annual Football Match.

Painswick v Sheepscombe

The match this year took place in cold but fine conditions at the Corinium Stadium in Cirencester.

Painswick started slowly conceding three goals in the first 15 minutes. In the second half Painswick came out strongly levelling the score at 3:3.

Painswick were well on top at this stage but missed a penalty and Sheepscombe struck back with 3 quick goals. The match finished 6:5 to Sheepscombe.

Chloe McCarthy BTEC Nat Dip

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Jottings

Willow trees. There are great numbers of varieties of this tree, the one you see around here on our stream banks and areas where it is wet. If they grow too close to buildings, they can send roots down sewage pipes and septic tanks, blocking them.

By planting willow sticks near streams and rivers, the saplings grow extensive root systems which stabilise the banks and reduce slippage. Trees can regenerate from stumps and can grow several feet in a season. In the days gone by, when fully grown, they were pollarded, producing branches for use as stakes and rails.

Another variety is the Cricket Bat willow where they are planted in straight lines up to 40 to the acre and grown straight for some 15 to 20 years before being cut down being, by then, about 20 feet high. One tree can make some 40 bats after it is cured. Then another used for weaving and basket making.

Then another is planted close together in clumps is used for purifying waste and sewage water absorbing nitrates, phosphates and pollutants, leaving clean water. This is called a "biorefinery" and every few years the willows are cut back and the tops dried and used as biofuel.

Willow is grown as a popular and highly effective biomass fuel: cut and chopped up by big machines (like big forage harvesters and tractors and trailers) and carted off to provide fuel for power stations.

Martin Slinger



A Sparkling New Programme for The Friday Club plus a Guided Tour of Colesbourne Park

By the time you read this article, the Friday Club's 2026 programme has started, with a talk from Stroud District Council's Animal Welfare Services. These include the Dog Warden Service, handling lost/stray dogs and eliminating dog fouling. The small team also inspect and issue licences to kennels, catteries, stables and breeders, investigate complaints about noisy dogs, and encourage professional dog walkers to observe a Code of Conduct setting out best practice. Reports of animal cruelty are referred to the RSPCA. Their final message to the public: please keep your pet's microchip up to date with your current address and contact details.



On Friday 23rd January, at 2.30 pm in the Town Hall, we welcome local resident Penny Govett who will be talking about British Art. Penny was a member of the 1991 Turner Prize Jury that 'broke the mould', awarding the prize to a young sculptor, Anish Kapoor. Penny will share her expertise on contemporary art of the '90's.

We have turned the closure of our regular meeting room in the Town Hall on Friday 6th February into an opportunity, by arranging a Guided Tour of Colesbourne Park, famous for its collection of snowdrops and other early flowers. The afternoon will cover the history of Colesbourne Park and the Elwes family and an introduction to the amazing diversity of snowdrops. The guided walk around the grounds will be led by the head gardener Katie Reynolds, and owner Sir Henry Elwes, pictured standing in a swathe of *Galanthus S. Arnott*. To join the visit, tel. 813228. Price per person £17.50 including refreshments.

Jane Rowe

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Property Report

New properties onto the market are relatively few at the moment, although a number of properties have been recently reduced, so there may be some that are now available at attractive prices. The most outstanding of the new properties is Hambutts Orchard on Edge Lane (Hamptons, £2.4 million) a striking modern property, completed only in 2022 to a very high specification and commanding uninterrupted views down the Painswick Valley.

Up past the Royal William, Cranham Close on Prinknash Corner (Murrays, £1.05 million) is a detached house with 5 bedrooms, 4 reception rooms and a separate garage block set in landscaped gardens. Or for a home in the heart of the village, 9 Churchill Way (Hamptons, £325,000) is a mid-terraced house with 3 bedrooms and a garage to the rear. At Richmond Village, Independent Living Apartment 4 is a one-bedroom apartment with its own private entrance, as well as a private balcony with views of the Painswick Valley. It is available at £400,000 through Murrays, or directly from Richmond Village, who also have a choice of two Assisted Living Apartments for sale - see their website for more details. All apartments at Richmond benefit from access to the Wellness Spa with 16 metre swimming pool, Pilates studio, fitness sessions, sauna, steam room and spa treatments.

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Retired musician, new to Painswick. Inspired by ideas, technology, and mindful conversation. Interested in local connections - people who value humour, sincerity, curiosity, depth, and a common cultural language. Bertie. dataonion@outlook.com.

Mini-Ads

Primarily for Painswick residents. Text maximum 30 words. Flat charge £6. Free to subscribers for private sales. £6 for business use, holiday rentals. etc.

Provide text, your name, address and contact details with payment in advance. More info call Peter Rowe, or mail:advertising.beacon@painswick.net

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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
	Paradise Art Studio evening classes. takepart@paradise-house.org.uk	Paradise House	6.30 - 8.30pm
Tuesdays	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 466617 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
	Weds Pop-In restart from October 1st . Meet up for a cuppa, chat and other activities.	Town Hall	10.00 - 12.00pm
Thursdays	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
	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	
Fridays	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. cgswain@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

January

Sat	10	Painswick Beacon published		
Sun	11	Holy Communion (BCP)	St Mary's Church	9.30am
	11	Family Worship	St Mary's Church	11.00am
Mon	12	ALPHA	Church Rooms	7.00pm
	12	Community Lunch provided by Christian Aid	Town Hall	12.00 - 1.15pm
	12	Library Book Club	Library	1.30 - 2.30pm
Tues	13	Morning prayer	St Mary's Church	9.00am
Wed	14	Cotteswold Naturalists: New Year Lunch. Pre-book 01453 823286	The George, Frocester	12.30 for 1.00pm
	14	Gardening Club: Through the Garden Gate - Mandy Bradshaw	Town Hall	7.00 for 7.30pm
Fri	16	Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs	Painswick Centre	6.00pm
Sat	17	Rococo Garden opens for the snowdrop season	Rococo Garden	10.00am
	17	Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs	Painswick Centre	4.00pm
Sun	18	Holy Communion	St Mary's Church	11.00am
Mon	19	ALPHA	Church Rooms	7.00pm
	19	Community Lunch provided by Local History Society	Town Hall	12.00 - 1.15pm
Tues	20	Morning Prayer	St Mary's Church	9.00am
	20	The Well	Church Rooms	6.00pm
	20	Cotteswold Naturalists: Cotswold Raptor Project - Hobbies: Richard Tyler. Enq 07798 817193	Box Village Hall	2.30pm
	20	Local History Society: Pilgrims and Pilgrimage in Gloucestershire - John Putley	Croft School	7.30pm
Thurs	22	Painswick Music Appreciation Group: Relationship of Mozart and Hayden - Howard Allen	Town Hall	2.30pm
	22	Painswick Probus: Wye Valley Aerial Tour - Kate Peake	Painswick Centre	11.00 for 11.30am
Fri	23	Friday Club: British Art in the 90s - Penny Govett	Town Hall	2.30pm
Sun	25	Deadline for all Beacon copy		
	25	Beacon Praise	St Mary's Church	11.00am
Mon	26	ALPHA	Church Rooms	7.00pm
	26	Community Lunch provided by Yew Trees WI	Town Hall	12.00 - 1.15pm
Tues	27	Morning Prayer	St Mary's Church	9.00am
		Yew Trees WI: Wassail Wassail All over the Town: Stephen Rowley	Church Rooms	7.00 for 7.30pm

February

Mon	2	Community Lunch provided by Croft Primary School	Church Rooms	12.00 - 1.15pm
	2	Alpha	Church Rooms	7.00pm.
Tues	3	Morning prayer with coffee	St Mary's Church	9.00am
Wed	4	Cotteswold Naturalists: Tolkien's Gloucestershire - The Real Middle Earth - Andy Mellor. Enq 690989	Painswick Centre	2.30pm
Thurs	5	Painswick Music Appreciation Group: Bach's Brandenburg Concerti - Dr Tim Brain	Richmond	2.30pm
	5	Painswick Probus: Treasures of Hereford Cathedral - Gil Gibbons	Painswick Centre	11.00 for 11.30am
Fri	6	Friday Club and Yew Trees WI: Guided Tour of Colebourne Garden. Pre book 813228	Colebourne Park	1.45 for 2.00pm
Sat	7	Painswick Beacon published		

Personal Column

Congratulations

To ELLIE AND JIM TREMLIN of Wild Wick Street Farm Shop & Cafe, on the safe arrival of their beautiful baby daughter - Lily Maple Joy, born on November 25th.

Condolences

To the family and friends of ANN WILLIAMS who died on December 1st aged 84. Ann was involved in many of Painswick's organisations and societies including the Rococo Garden, where she volunteered for many years, the Friday Club and the Music Appreciation Group. Ann was also a past Painswickian of the Year. Her service of thanksgiving was held at St Mary's Church on December 15th.

To the family and friends of ROGER STEWART, who passed away peacefully at home on Thursday, December 4th, aged 81 years, following a courageous battle with cancer. Beloved husband to Gill, loving father to Paul, Simon, and Fiona, and a longstanding resident of Edge. The family will be having a small private cremation service in December, followed by a celebration of life memorial service at St. Mary's Church on January 19th, at 11:30am, and then a wake at Painswick Rugby Club. All friends and acquaintances welcome.

FRANCES DIANE PARSONS

of Paradise went home to be with her Lord Jesus Christ in Heaven at 6.30am on October 26th at Gloucester Royal



Hospital aged 80. Beloved loving wife of Roland and true friend of many other 'Bible Believing Christians' in Gloucester and London. Her funeral was held on December 6th in the Chapel at Painswick cemetery preceded by a procession through Gloucester's main streets to King's Square to express thanks for her life's work.

Viviens Tribute to her sister Ann Williams

Ann was born in Liverpool, in May, 1941. When she qualified as a Physiotherapist, she worked in the Mile End Hospital, The Royal Free, and The London Hospital. Then, private practice in Harley St. treating many well-known patients – Frank Sinatra's ex-wife, Eva Gardiner, Mr Pearl of "Pearl and Dean" and Mary Peters, the Gold Medal Pentathlete of 1972 Munich Olympic Games. Mary came to see her in the last weeks of Ann's life. A great lift and connection with her past life.

Ann moved to Painswick in 1983. She went into physio practice with Libby Graesser in Stroud, before setting up her own practice at home in Vicarage Street.



She made trips to see family in New Zealand and on the Queen May for Literary events. She and her sister, Vivien loved going to their little pied et terre in Antibes, in the south of France.

She was a volunteer at the community library, Tourist Information Centre, Friends of Rococo Garden, and was President, Chairman, Vice Chairman and Programme Secretary of the Friday Club over many years. She was involved in Busy Bees, a WI group, Cotteswold Naturalists Field Club (CNFC) and The Arts Society. She was a committee member of the Painswick Music Appreciation Group, (PMAG) organising speakers and giving talks; and Painswick Music Society (PMS).

She loved her home where there is so much evidence of her creativity and work – water colour paintings, her tapestries, her many books on all sorts of topics, her many CDs and her garden.

Mike Irving, giving the Eulogy, said "Ann was enthusiastic about life and lived it to the full. Vivien: We feel for you and hold you in our hearts and prayers and thank you for sharing your dear sister with so very many of us".

Ann's sister Vivien and Mike Irving

Thank You

"Vivian would like to thank everyone in the village who supported her when her sister, Ann Williams, passed on 1st December, 2025. She was very grateful for the kindness, and flowers. It was a great comfort to know that Ann had so many friends around her."

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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Carol Singing around Painswick

Picture shows carol singing in Gloucester Street, one of the venues around Painswick. 'If anyone would like to join us next year, please contact Pippa Dickinson on 01452 812965 and we will contact you next December.'



Pictures from the Naughty Elf Trail

Another successful event run by The Friends Of The Croft School.



NEXT ISSUE

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