

The Painswick Beacon

Vol. 26 No.9

December 2003



Wishing peace and happiness
to all our readers for
Christmas and the New Year

**Bumper
Issue**
see note inside

Included in this issue: the **cover picture** artist(s), and others, **Christmas gift opportunity** for a child, importance of **village diary**, that **power non-supply** data, **Broadband** movement, training **dogs**, **JS Bach** in Edge, the **Great Fire of London Town**, competitions with **prizes**, choir heading for the **Beeb**, a **Swedish bazaar**, new **bus to old Gloucester town**, a remarkable event in **Oxford**, ladies for **Badminton**, art and the **renaissance**, serious matters at the

Reports upon meetings of the Parish Council cannot help but be selective, if only because of space constraints. We try to draw attention to those of wider interest, but remind readers that the full minutes of Council meetings are available at the Council office on Wednesday and Friday mornings, as well as Painswick Library.

PLANNING COMMITTEE

Gyde House grounds

The committee took note of a message from the residents' group at Gyde House that they anticipated transfer of the whole of the grounds to their ownership in the near future. It was their intention that no further development take place in these grounds.

St.Mary's development - wall

Alan Shearer expressed his continuing concern regarding the 'so called' stone wall adjacent to Stroud Road on this site. He regretted that a sample of this wall had not itself been approved in advance by the SDC planners, but recognised that it was specified as a rubble wall on the approved plans. As it has turned out to be a hybrid of rubble, stone walling and varied stone he urged that the public write strongly to the Chairman of the developers Wilson Connelly, the planners and others expressing their concerns. The Chairman undertook to obtain a definition of a rubble wall prior to further representations being made.

District Plan

The Parish Council now has copy of the updated SDC Local Plan.

PARISH COUNCIL

Management of Commons

Jenny Phelps from the Cotswold AONB Partnership addressed the Council to clarify the actions now in train to create schemes of sustainable management of several commons in the Painswick area. In particular reference was made to Juniper Hill, Edge Common, Painswick Beacon and Huddinknoll Hill.

While there was much interest shown in the detail Ms. Phelps brought before the Council, the imminent actions relating to Juniper Hill caused discussion and voicing of appreciation of the work already undertaken by Joy Elworthy of Wick Street regarding protection of orchids and the reassertion of growth of juniper bushes.

The AONB Partnership is anxious to advance this work by seeking to revert to grassland pasture and grazing; the support of land owners has been most helpful. The project is likely to attract recognition as being of national importance.

Library and Information Link

The Clerk reported having heard that day from the library service that their review of facilities County-wide was progressing and the proposal of the Parish Council would be taken into account.

It was agreed to closely monitor matters through the County Councillor, Joan Nash. John Stephenson-Oliver urged greater use of the library if its future is to be secured.

Fire emergency

Malcolm Watts reported an incident when a fire outside the village itself had required the local appliance to pass through Vicarage Street recently, only to be obstructed by untidily parked private vehicles. Although the owner of the vehicle had been found within a few minutes, the time lost in making the journey to the fire itself might have been critical.

It was of interest to note that, on the return journey, the car was again obstructing the fire engine!

Road works - Friday Street

Chairman of the Traffic Committee David Hudson reported that works to the pavements and roadway in Friday Street were scheduled to commence on 3rd February and to last three weeks. The apparent cost of these works led Mr.Hudson to believe them to be a waste of money and it was agreed to request these be postponed pending detailed discussion with the Council.

Remembrance Day - recognition

The Chairman, Terry Parker, sought guidance about the manner in which the Parish Council should help lead the occasion of the two-minute silence on the actual anniversary of Remembrance Day, 11th November, in future years. Before taking a decision the ward councillors from Edge, Slad and Sheepscombe would seek advices from their villages regarding the possible main focus being at the Painswick war memorial. It was, however, agreed that a wreath should be laid on behalf of the community by the chairman in future years.

Town Hall - upper floor use

The Clerk reported that he was seeking to encourage use of the upper room in the Town Hall and it was agreed that, where such attracted extensive use by art clubs the standard charge should be waived and a 5% levy taken upon all sales of art work.

Precept 2004-05

The Chairman of the Finance Committee Johnny Johnson reported upon the budget proposed for the next year and the manner in which the budget had been constructed. The Council noted that no 'slack' had been built in to that budget and that any increases had been limited to an over-all 2%. It was agreed to approve a budget in which the amount precepted was £57,730.00.

Village bus link

The Chairman reported that, in the absence of approval of the village bus link which would have served the interest of those wanting to connect with the buses serving Cheltenham and Stroud through Painswick (route 46) consideration was now being given to a subsidised taxi service for that purpose.

Traffic speed - restraint

After some discussion about the sharing of the cost with two or three other villages for a mobile visual display speed indicator for use in the Painswick area and the A46 in particular, it was agreed to invite the developer of the care centre to consider introducing a fixed double sided indicator along that frontage.



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Christmas services

A warm welcome is extended to all at the services listed below.

21st December (Sunday)

8.00am St Mary's *BCP Communion*
 8.30am Our Lady & St Thérèse *Mass*
 9.30am St Mary's *Communion & Baptism*
 10.30am St John the Baptist, Pitchcombe *Family Communion*
 11.00am The Friends' Meeting House *Family Service & Carols*
 11.00am St John the Apostle, Sheepscombe *Matins*
 11.00am St James the Great, Cranham *CW Communion*
 4.00pm Christ Church Baptist URC *Carol Service*
 6.00pm St John the Baptist, Edge *Lessons & Carols*
 6.30pm Methodist Chapel, Sheepscombe *Carol Service*
 6.30pm St Mary's *Carol Service*



24th December (Wednesday) Christmas Eve

4.00pm St James the Great, Cranham *Blessing the Crib (Posada)*
 4.30pm St John the Apostle, Sheepscombe *Blessing the Crib (Posada)*
 5.00pm St John the Baptist, Edge *Blessing the Crib (Posada)*
 6.00pm St Mary's *Blessing the Crib (Posada)*
 11.30pm St John the Baptist, Pitchcombe *Midnight Communion*
 11.30pm St Mary's *Midnight Communion*
 11.30pm St James the Great, Cranham *Midnight Communion*

25th December (Thursday) Christmas Day

8.00am St Mary's *BCP Communion*
 8.30am Our Lady & St Thérèse *Mass*
 9.30am St John the Apostle, Sheepscombe *Christmas Communion*
 10.00am St John the Baptist, Edge *Christmas Communion*
 10.00am St Mary's *Family Service*
 11.00am St Mary's *Shortened Communion*
 11.00am The Friends' Meeting House *Short Meeting*
 11.00am Christ Church Baptist URC *Christmas Day Worship*
 11.00am St James the Great, Cranham *Christmas Celebration with Communion*

For details of services at Prinknash Abbey, please see the notice board

The Family Haven

The Family Haven, provides support to children in Gloucestershire suffering abuse, exclusion, or simply the effects of poverty.

Would you like to sponsor a child in The Family Haven nursery?

Already thinking about Christmas and fed up of buying the same old unimaginative presents for your loved ones? What do you buy the person who has everything?

We have some unique gifts that will inspire and surprise your friends and relatives.

Why not sponsor a child in The Family Haven nursery?

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Gift A Give a child a place on a day trip £5.00

Gift B Give a child a Christmas present.....£10.00

Gift C Give enough art & craft material for creative activities in the nursery for a year.....£50.00

Gift D Give the children a party including food, games & prizes..... £75.00

Gift E Give a child a nourishing midday meal twice a week for a year.....£100.00

Our 'gifts' are unique, meaningful and unforgettable. Whether you are shopping for Christmas, a birthday or an anniversary, a wedding or even Mothers' day, you will find a gift to make any day special - a gift that will help change a child's life.

Your gift will help to keep a child away from abuse, poverty, exclusion and isolation and is an investment into the future of disadvantaged children in our county.



The Family Haven will give your gift to a child living in one of Gloucestershire's poorest areas. At the same time we will send you a Gift Certificate and Thank You to acknowledge your purchase. You can add your personal message on the envelope supplied with the certificate and give it to your friend or family member to explain your gift.

For further information or an order form please contact me, Fundraising & Public Relations Manager, The Family Haven, 31 Spa Road, Gloucester GL1 1UY

Claire McGrath

Cotswold Care

The Autumn Fair, held by the Friends of Cotswold Care Hospice, raised £1,056. We are so grateful to everyone who supported us at this event.

Paula Woodcock

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market With taste

There is more than the product of hours spent over hot stoves or saucepans, garden tools greenhouses, or needles and fabrics on offer to those who visit the WI Market in Painswick Fridays. Much more.



Yes, there are stalls offering cakes, preserves, flow- and plants, eggs, vegetables, gift cards and needlecraft, all of which are popular. The latest producer supplies freshly baked bread, already very popular.

Not only are these on immediate offer when the doors open promptly at 10.00am and customers are welcomed, but the diligent planner can order produce for collection on any future Friday. Thought of that special event? Birthdays and Christmas come to mind!

A novel and thoughtful touch these days is the opportunity purchase a warming cup of coffee or tea and sampling one the delicious home-made cakes while contemplating purchases intended or already in the shopping basket.



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New Street Fair

Rebecca McCabe and I will be having a Christmas fair at Madison House on 10th December between 10.00am and 5.00 pm.

We will be selling Swedish Christmas decorations and Swedish homewares from Rebecca's company Swedish Affair.

There will also be Christmas produce, Christmas cards, photo frames and many other gift ideas.

We will be serving mince pies and mulled wine for guests.

We have decided to donate 10% of the profits from the Christmas fair to Winston's Wish, a children's bereavement charity based in Gloucestershire.



Emma Archard

Bazaar thanks

Thank you to everyone who supported the Charity Bazaar held at Christ Church Hall on Saturday 8th November.

The event raised approximately £1,000.00 for the charities involved, which included Christ Church's Charities of the Year - Mencap Homes Foundation and Send a Cow.

Gill Gyde

Painswick Library

My name is Richard Kennett, many of you will know me as I live in Edge. Recently I took the post of Library Manager at Painswick Library and I have been asked to write a few words to explain what we do at the library and more importantly what we offer.

It's a shame that the library at Painswick is not used as much as it could be. This, in my opinion, is possibly because many people are not aware of the many services on offer.

Like most libraries we primarily exist to lend books and on our shelves we have over 1300 books which include sections for Crime, Large Print and an excellent section for children including picture books and information books. If there is something special that you can't find here, we can generally find it somewhere in the country and have it sent to Painswick for you.

Apart from books we are experts (well I hope so) at answering any enquiries, however obscure, that you may have, whether it be where you can find the nearest 'chippie' or more complex questions about the heritage of your house. If we don't know the answer, usually we know someone that does.

If research is your thing, or if you simply want to check your email, we also have two computers here, which can be used to browse the Internet, FREE of charge. We also run FREE classes for those people who have never used technology, but want to.

As well as all of that we have a wide selection of videos for hire and our prices, which start at £2 for the whole week, are better than any competition from the high street. You can also hire talking books for adults or children to help while away long car journeys for example. We also sell greetings cards, gift wrap and reading spectacles and finally if you've got a club or meeting that needs a venue, we have a meeting room with very reasonable rates.

Please come and meet us, you might be surprised at what's available. We are open Tuesdays 10-1, 2-7, Thursdays 10-1, Fridays 2-5 and Saturdays 10-12. Or if you want more information feel free to ring us on (01452) 812569.

Richard Kennett

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County Council Matters

Education of our children is an important part of County Council responsibilities and many of you will be aware of sweeping proposals to reorganise the secondary schools in Gloucester City.

I hope that all parents of children who are at Gloucester schools, or who are hoping their children will attend them in future, have read the consultation documents and taken the opportunity to respond to the Education Authority. I am very concerned that the proposals will disrupt the education of all children in these schools, and possibly, close some of the highest performing schools in the country.

A new responsibility of the County Council is to set up a Scrutiny Panel for the National Health Service in Gloucestershire. I am a member of the Panel and I have concerns about the important decisions we are required to make with regard to closing hospital wards. I feel that elected members of the County Council have quite enough to decide in running the budgets of the County Council. However I hope that the NHS scrutiny function will become clearer as we strive to work more closely with the Health Service.

With regard to the problem of lorry traffic through Painswick, surveys are being undertaken and the County officers will report in the New Year.

I wish all residents a Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year

Joan Nash

Conservation Group

The Painswick Beacon Conservation Group AGM was held in the Town Hall on 6th November, the main subject being discussion of the secretary's Annual Report.

The financial fortunes of the Group have been considerably enhanced by grants from the British Trust for Conservation Volunteers (BTCV) as part of the People and Places award scheme, and from the Cotswold AONB partnership.

The BTCV grant covers insurance for the Group and the purchase of specific items such as interpretation boards, training courses, tools and equipment, while the Cotswold AONB grant was for equipment to maintain the Beacon's limestone grassland, and for scrub clearing work.

The secretary's report regretted the decline in membership of the Group and, once again, we appeal for people to join us to help maintain this unique landscape of ours. Please do not take the Beacon for granted. We have the funding, we have the equipment, and all we need now is a large number of helping hands.

A part time post for a schools and recruitment officer has been set up by English Nature. Beth Sidaway holds the post and is based at the Ebworth Centre. She is currently helping the Group with the Juniper Project at the Croft school and is seeking help from the Probationary Service for Community Service groups to help with the scrub clearing work.

Cotswold AONB is setting up a unified approach to erecting interpretation boards at three of the entrances to the Beacon and one at Juniper Hill. The Chairman, Malcolm Watts, urged that this work be pushed forward.

The Croft school is involved in propagating juniper shrubs from cuttings taken from bushes on the Beacon. At present the cuttings are being grown on by a nursery in Cheltenham. Eventually, when strong and big enough, they will be planted on the Beacon. The work of repairing the erosion on Kimsbury Hill Fort will at last go ahead in late Spring next year.

The Chairman proposed a vote of thanks to Cedric Nielsen for all his hard work in obtaining the substantial grants awarded to us this year.

The Group proposed a programme for 2004

Try to recruit more members

Make a positive effort to push back the tree line where appropriate by more vigorous felling

Form cleared grassland areas- oases- to encourage butterflies, orchids etc. These areas to be linked by cleared corridors to encourage diversity of flora and fauna.

Use some of our grants to finance expert advisors on these aspects

On a general note, comment was made that the waste bins adjacent to the entrances to the Beacon were not regularly emptied. The Chairman undertook to discuss this with the Parish Council and bring the matter to the attention of Stroud District Council.

Duncan McKenzie

Oh Yes He Has!

Did you see The Dragon's Tale, Painswick's pantomime, last December? Good, wasn't it? And so cleverly written by our own Jack Burgess. Jean Burgess and several other people certainly thought so and, after some nudging and pushing, persuaded Jack to submit it for publication.

Without hesitation, Spotlight Publications snapped it up and, lo and behold, Jack's panto is now in print and available for any company to perform anywhere. "Spotlight liked it because of its originality," says Jean, "but they have changed its title to The Magic Shoes." There are a few minor alterations to the script, mainly involving the play on local names which we all enjoyed so much, but otherwise it remains largely intact.

Jack has always been something of a scribbler. For many years he had written comedy reviews for drama groups elsewhere and soon after arriving in Painswick in 1996 he became involved with the Painswick Players. He started to write for them almost immediately and was soon a great source of energy behind their very noticeable presence and output in recent years. This pantomime is his first major full-length script and his first work to be published. It will be advertised on the Internet and in specialist drama and stage publications.

Jean is very proud of him and rightly so. For Jack though there is a great sense of achievement. This is recognition of many years of hard work. Encouraged by his success, he is now in the process of writing a series of short comedy sketches which he hopes will also be published. "It's behind you" is definitely not appropriate as far as Jack's writing career is concerned. And we in Painswick should consider ourselves privileged to be the first to enjoy his work.



Carol Maxwell

January issue

Contributors to the January issue of the Beacon may wish to note that the date of publication will be Saturday 10th, and not the first Saturday of the month as is our custom. Even our printers, **MAIL BOXES ETC** of Gloucester, take a break about that time of year!

Upstairs Downstairs

The Painswick Hotel and Restaurant held a very successful Open House for residents of Painswick on the afternoon of Sunday, 23rd November. Around fifty Painswickians took up the invitation and enjoyed a magnificent spread of cream teas with musical entertainment from Upstairs Downstairs.

Pauline Young said "We are very thrilled that so many Pains-



wick residents joined us today, but we were very surprised how many had not been here before".

Upstairs Downstairs, which comprises four local musicians: Robert Bateman (baritone), James Barrasford-Lane (tenor), Susanna Davis (mezzo-soprano) and pianist, Robert James, provided a 'taster' for an Edwardian musical evening on Wednesday,



3rd December, featuring a mixture of operatic arias, drawing-room ballads and music hall songs to accompany a country house dinner at the hotel.

The hotel is developing its restaurant to be a major aspect of its service in the community, and we will be reporting more about this in

Roland Boggon



Sue Ryder Care

Again a big thank you to the marvellous and generous people in Painswick for a very successful Coffee-morning on the 29th November, last Saturday.

To those who gave very generous donations and raffle prizes, cakes and other goods, and those who came on the day to support us and to those loyal helpers who worked so hard to ensure all went well, our many thanks again for raising a total of £727.64.

God Bless, and a happy Christmas and healthy New Year

Anne Leoni and the Team

Serious Autumnal Man For All Seasons: Spring Open To Dominant Women!



Given the strangely warped time bubble that the Beacon inhabits, the chances are that you have either just seen (or are about to see) or have just missed (or about to miss) the truly mysterious *Dead Man's Hands* (4th - 6th December, Painswick Centre). Doubtless it was/will be a fantastic success and a fitting end to our 80th anniversary year.

On to the 81st!

As revealed in last month's Beacon, we plan to stage *A Man For All Seasons* in St Mary's Church as part of the Painswick Music & Arts Festival next November. Originally, the idea was to put on Robert Bolt's classic play of Tudor intrigue, in the Church, as our Spring production and we approached the Vicar and the Parochial Church Council with this in mind. However, their suggestion that we stage it as part of the Painswick Festival was too good to miss and we readily agreed to change to the November slot. Thus, we are gearing up to cast the play next June and begin rehearsals before the end of August.

All of which is very exciting but it did leave us with an embarrassing gap in next year's programme, ie what to do in May? Given that *A Man For All Seasons* is 'serious drama' and male dominated, we decided we probably needed something lighter to balance it and something with a predominantly female cast. Not that women can't do 'serious drama', of course. I didn't mean that... at all... it's just that... well... Oh heck... (*When you're in a hole, stop digging - Editor*) Anyway, after some cogitation, we seem to have narrowed it down to two possible options, both comedies: *Ladies Who Lunch* by Tudor Gates and an all-female version of *The Odd Couple* by Neil Simon.

My brain is still trying to come to terms with a female version of *The Odd Couple*: you probably remember the movie with Jack Lemmon and Walter Matthau. The thought of a female Walter Matthau is just too terrible to contemplate! No doubt all will become clear by next month.

In the meantime, Seasons Greetings! mmm... now that was a good play about dominant women!

Jack Burgess Painswick Players
www.painswickplayers.org.uk

Busses to Gloucester - started

In our November issue (page 17) we drew attention to the provisional route and timetable of a new bus service linking Painswick directly to Gloucester; the Royal Hospital and the bus station itself. The County Council's Integrated Transport Unit were seeking the comments of potential users before going ahead with the introduction of a service.

That feedback was essential for the decision-making process, and the Beacon is pleased to report that a positive outcome has been achieved.

We reproduce here the new timetable, in full, for this Wednesday and Saturday (only) Rover European Travel service; routes 256 and 257. The service was introduced just before we published this issue, on 3rd December.

We received the following message from the ITS - "Thank you for your advertisement in the latest copy of the Beacon concerning the proposed new bus service for Painswick. I can now inform you that this service will commence as of Wednesday 3rd December operated by Rover European Travel.

There are a few changes to the proposed timetable, therefore I enclose the new final version. If you could display this in your publication, I would very much appreciate it. As this is a new service, publicity such as this will be vital. Regards, Jonathan Roberts, Public Transport Officer, Integrated Transport Unit on 01452 426343. e-mail jonathan.roberts@gloucestershire.gov.uk"

In a separate communication Mr Roberts said "A 30 minute extension change in Gloucester has been made for the short stay, this will allow passengers more time to join the bus for the return journey. Other than that, the timetable hasn't changed from that previously published.. I just hope now that this service will be a success! Please be aware that the B1 no longer exists, and its replacement the 241 does not run through Painswick. The B1

THE CAMP - PAINSWICK - GLOUCESTER 256/257

Rover European Travel

256 The Camp Village crossroads, Call Way, Millingtons, Lyddell, Miserden, Whiteway, Foster's Ash, B&O, unclassified road Cranham village (Round Church) and return, Post Office, Cranham Corner, A48 Painswick (Cheltenham Rd, New St, Stroud Rd, Starnages Ln car park entrance and return, School Rd, New St, Gloucester St, Cycle Rd to doctors surgery and return, Gloucester Rd, B&O, Upper St Leonards Churchfield Rd, Race, Pitch, Churchfield Rd, Gloucester Upton Ln, Abbeywood Bus, Main Way, Eastern Ave, Barwood Rd, London Rd, Huston Rd, Great Western Rd, Gloucestershire Royal Hospital forecourt, Great Western Rd, London Rd, Strain Way, Station Rd, Bus Station)

(Gloucester (Bus Station) and reverse of above to The Camp village (reverse))

257 Whiteway, Miserden, Lyddell, Welington, The Camp (Call Way, village crossroads and return), Call Way, Foster's Ash, B&O, unclassified road Cranham village (Round, Post Office), Cranham Corner, A48 Painswick (Cheltenham Rd, New St, Stroud Rd, Starnages Ln car park entrance and return, School Rd, New St, Cheltenham Rd), A48 Cranham Corner, Brockworth Painswick Rd, Shugborough Rd, Buckenell, Ropers, Barwood bypass, Gloucester (London Rd, Strain Way, Station Rd, Bus Station)

For other journeys between Gloucester and Painswick see services 10-Gloucester City and 48, changing board at Brockworth, Cross Roads (just between From St and Painswick Rd steps)

Wednesday and Saturday ONLY

Service no	256	257
The Camp, village crossroads	0900	1100
Miserden	0905	1105
Whiteway	0910	1110
Foster's Ash	0912	1112
Cranham Village Hall	0916	1117
Cranham Church	0917	
Cranham Post Office	0919	1119
Cranham Corner, Cranham Ln	0921	1121
Painswick Church	0926	1126
Painswick Starnages Ln car park	0927	1127
Painswick, opp Church	0929	1129
Painswick, Cycle Rd, Surgery	0934	
Lower St Leonards, P O	0937	1137
Painswick Abbey (A48)		1143
Brockworth Ropses Crossroads		1150
Gloucester, Royal Hospital	1008	
Gloucester, Bus Station	1013	1203

Service no	256	257
Gloucester Bus Station		1208
Gloucester Royal Hospital		1212
Brockworth Ropses Crossroads		
Painswick Abbey (A48, opp)		1
Upper St Leonards, P O		1427
Painswick, Cycle Rd, Surgery	1038	1427
Painswick, Church	1033	1426
Painswick, Starnages Ln car park	1034	1426
Painswick, opp Church	1036	1426
Cranham Corner, Cranham Ln	1040	1427
Cranham Post Office	1043	1440
Cranham Church		1
Cranham Village Hall	1046	1442
Foster's Ash	1048	1442
Whiteway	1051	1442
Miserden	1054	1443
The Camp, village crossroads	1131	1432

Bank Holidays etc No service on Christmas, Boxing and New Year's Days. Contact operator for rest of Christmas/New Year period.

Key: Calls by request to set down only
 Flows served in different order
 Substituted by Gloucestershire County Council (B&O)

08 11 03 (T) HMH LMSB, 90 Beacon

was withdrawn due to lack of use. The 23A and 23B, Cotswold Experience, offers a direct service to Cheltenham for Painswick and surrounding villages, on a Thursday and Friday."

The link between the village centre and the Painswick surgery did not escape our attention, neither did the convenience of visits to the Gloucestershire Royal Hospital. The 'turn-round' time for shopping in our County town of about three hours also seems attractive.

We are aware that quite a lot of effort has been put in to create this service, and it goes without saying that it will only be secure if it is used sufficiently to warrant its continuance.

Who cares about ancient woodlands?

This was the question posed and answered competently at the November meeting of the Society by Mr Lynn Callard.

He himself lives in a cottage in such a wood and spoke for the Woodland Trust. This is an organisation which began in Devon with two woods, and now has 360 with a large turnover thanks mainly to membership subscriptions.

The desperate need for such a concern is obvious from the fact 50% of ancient woodland has disappeared since the Great War.

An ancient woodland as explained existed in 1600 and as a result has ferent sorts, wild flowers which in extinct and a rich variety of anim encouraged by fungal growth.

Mr Callard stressed that the future of ancient woodlands lies in our hands. They can only be saved by the Trust having the means to buy them up and by promoting appropriate forestry measures. We must be aware of woodland at risk in our own region and do everything in our power to ensure its survival.

Pauline Lamont

Painswick Horticultural Society 



The Society held its Autumn Supper on 8th November. Invited to comment, Chairman Philip Berry said "Although fish and chips were not on the menu, David Felce's organic fresh salmon, served with imaginative salads from Margaret Griffiths, proved to be a politically correct alternative".

Kimsbury Camp

We were pleased to report, in our October issue, the award of grants to repair the serious erosion around the Iron Age hill fort on Painswick Beacon, known as Kimsbury Camp. In addition to the repairs it is intended to clear scrubland and provide public information boards at the site and work is scheduled to start in June next year.

In its press release on the matter the County Council observes that the work to stabilise and repair the erosion has been drawn up in close consultation with partner organisations to make sure that the archaeology and ecology are treated sympathetically and that the measures used are both environmentally sound and sustainable. The County Council will also be drawing up a management plan to ensure that this ancient monument is properly managed in the long-term.

The site has been included in the Schedule of Ancient Monuments which accords national importance being attached to the archaeological remains. The site, which consists of a series of prominent banks and ditches enclosing an area of domestic occupation, is thought to date from the Iron Age - 700BC to 43AD.

County Councillor Joan Nash kindly drew our attention to the GCC press release in the hope that we would "share it with everyone who enjoys the Beacon".

Age Concern Day Centre

A big thank you for all you Painswick people who called in to our coffee morning on 12th November, a very busy morning - but a happy one - ensured that we realised a profit of £340.

A special thank you to all the helpers who always work so hard, the cake stall was a joy to see, even more so at the end of the morning when it was completely bare!

Once again, thank you.

Pam Bailey

A future for the WI?

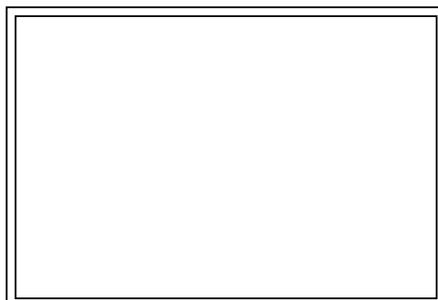
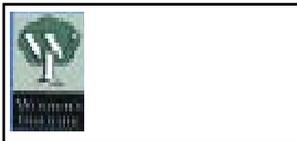
Dorothy Daniels, accompanied by the Gloucestershire WI advisor Margaret Clarke, opened the November meeting by reading the poem 'No' which lists the many items that this dreary month denies us.

After hearing the Secretary's annual report we learned that the 2003 membership was down on the preceding year. In spite of this an impressive number of events and outings had taken place to the great enjoyment of those participating. The Treasurer then presented the detailed financial statement which revealed how her efficient management had completed the year in credit.

Unfortunately the loss of three committee members during 2003 had reduced their number to five making the work of organisation too heavy a load for the remaining few who did not wish to continue unless two new members could be found. After some discussion Margaret Clarke declared that if no one came forward to fill these vacancies Painswick WI would cease to function.

It was agreed that after the Christmas party to be held on 18th December a special meeting to decide the future of Painswick WI would be convened.

Margaret Boucher



Art classes re- mence

"There is to be a re-run of the successful beginners drawing classes in the New Year", says Caroline Tate of Dry Knapps House.

Caroline asked us to remind readers that "No experience is necessary - our structured programme of easy and fun exercises are designed to liberate the artist within the most nervous novice". She went on to tell us that the original drawing class will continue to meet every Friday morning, and they would like to invite others to join the friendly and relaxed group. The aims include exploring and extending drawing skills.

"No experience is needed", said Caroline, "You may be surprised at what you can create".

Beginners meet on Wednesdays from 14th January from 9.30 until midday at the Church Rooms. If anyone would like further information, or reassurance, please contact Jane Garbett on 812176 or Caroline on 813464.

Recital reflections

Those attending the recent recital at the home of Diana and Bob Feilden were privileged to hear the soprano Helen Winter, accompanied by Caroline MacBrayne. A finalist in the BBC Choirgirl of the Year 1992, Helen has a voice of rare beauty, purity and range and her delightful personality shone through her selection of songs by such as Vaughan Williams and Fauré. "The Fields are Full" left the audience spellbound, and "The Song to the Moon" (Dvorák) was deeply moving.

In thanking Helen and Caroline, Diana Feilden compared the soloist's voice to that of the great Isobel Bailey and hoped that Helen will perform in Gloucestershire again soon.

Donations were sent to The Haven and GEAR charities.

Ros Harris

J S Bach keyboard

You are invited to an evening of J S Bach's keyboard music.

This is an opportunity to hear the clavichord, harpsichord and piano in a drawing room setting and to decide for yourself which instrument brings the music to life for you. The instruments will be introduced and played by Alison Gordon.

Campari, Seven Leazes Lane, Edge, 7.30pm Wednesday 10th December.

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Croft School news

Admissions - September 2004

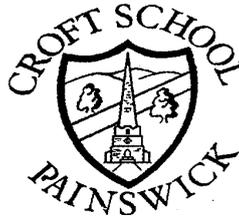
If you have a child born between 1st September 1999 and 31st August 2000, he or she will be due to start school next September.

If you would like your child to come to The Croft School, please contact Mrs Rudd in the school office on 812479. You would be most welcome to come for a tour of the school – contact Mrs Rudd or Mrs Hoyle, the headteacher.

Vacancy

The school are looking to appoint a mid-day supervisory assistant for 1¼ hours per day, this daily during term time. This person will work in a team responsible for the care and safety of pupils during the lunch break, both in the dining hall and afterwards in the playground.

Experience (paid or voluntary) with young children is an advantage, but not essential. If anyone is interested to learn more about the job, please contact Mrs Hoyle (Headteacher) at the school on 812479.



Literacy work

Children are challenged to use a variety of techniques in their writing. This example shows use of different sentence lengths for effect, the use of descriptive adverbs and an ability to make the reader empathise with the character.

Perhaps you could think of continuations from this story beginning:

'Friend or Foe?'

The room was slowly emptying. I had lost count of how many people had walked right past me without a glance. I was lonely, and I felt neglected. More of the locals began pouring in. A spark of hope flared in my mind. Someone had to pick me. An old man stopped right in front of me. This was it. I got ready to stand up, happiness flooding through me. But he looked at me with disgust. He moved on. Later another person came over. It was a lady, and a pretty one too. She stopped and looked at me, almost pitifully. She held out her hand. However, a young girl with red hair took it and they left, leaving me alone in the hall. I was the only one left.

by Eleanor Hyland (Year 6)

The Great Fire of London

Year 1 and Year 2 at The Croft School have been learning about the Great Fire of London. They have talked about how houses were different in the past, and they have made many houses and painted pictures too.

Last week they re-enacted the Great Fire at the school by setting fire to a model which had been made by the children in their art periods for many weeks.

The Great Fire took place in 1666, three hundred and thirty seven years ago. Hundreds of thousands of houses burned down but, fortunately, only six people lost their lives.

The Beacon's intrepid photographer risked life and limb to capture the inferno in the school playground, and many of the architects, engineers, bricklayers, carpenters and painters who built London in the first place.



We were somewhat puzzled by the squeals of glee as the fire took hold and street after street was drawn into the inferno.

Ah, well! All in a day's work.

Front cover

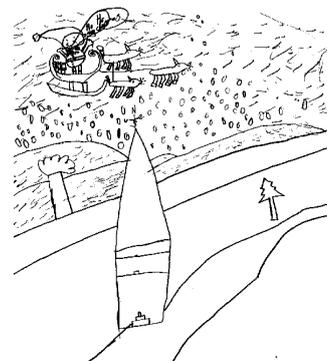
In response to our invitation for youngsters to let us have drawings which we could use this year on our front cover we were delighted to receive several, giving us the challenge of selecting one.

The task was not an enviable one, but we eventually decided that the drawing by Clemency Littler aged 11 from Painswick Post Office was to be the No.1 exhibit. Congratulations to Clemency, who will be receiving some extra pocket money from us for her efforts.

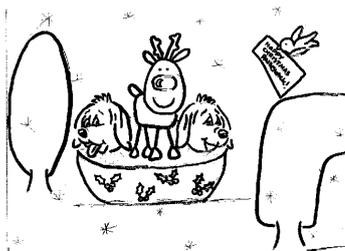
Some examples of others received are shown here in miniature because we were so appreciative of their taking part, and a modest token of our appreciation will go to them too.



Alicia Barnett (10)



Oliver Nayegon (9)



Lucy Moir (13)

Auction of Promises

A tremendous thank you to parents, local businesses and organizations that generously donated promises for our auction on the 8th November.

With over 80 exciting lots available for auction, 55+ enthusiastic bidders mixed with a soupçon of wine the evening was destined to be a success.

Some of the promises that were auctioned included;

- ◆ a 50% reduction off the commission rate if you instructed Murray's Estate Agents to sell your property
- ◆ a state of the art basin from KB2 kitchen and bathrooms
- ◆ tour of the Palace of Westminster and tea with David Drew
- ◆ three month gym membership at Fifth Dimension
- ◆ three course lunch at the Painswick Hotel
- ◆ photo sessions from local portrait photographer Georgie Brocklehurst

Will Fair our auctioneer and Mike Jackson did a marvellous job of encouraging people to bid. Mike himself was at one stage bidding enthusiastically – for a leg wax! The duet were most entertaining and certainly made all the difference to a great evening. The pace of bidding became fast and furious and the competition was fierce in particular for gourmet meals cooked by parents. Parents soon became caught up in the excitement, memorably the couple bidding unknowingly against each other and buyer of a boy's bicycle who has no son! (mentioning no names!)

At the end of the evening all the lots were sold and those present had plenty of laughs as well as picking up some amazing bargains.

All in all, the evening was an enormous success and thanks to everyone's generosity and support the auction (after expenses) raised in excess of £4,000. All monies will be spent on computer equipment for the school and will benefit all the children.

Jenny Evans

**and, from
Sheepscombe School**



PAINSWICK WEATHER						
Report from Sheepscombe School 21st October to 20th November						
date	rain	temperature		pressure	wind	sky
	mm	min °C	max °C	mbar		
21	0	-2.1	10	63	0	blue/clear
22	5	3.1	8	67	0	cbudy
23	1	-2	11	69	0	blue/clear
3	45*	2.3	14.4	69	4fast	cbudy
4	0.25	1.9	13.4	67	1fast	light cloud
5	0	9.2	15.1	64	3 NE	grey/patches
6	0	6.6	14.2	69	0	grey all over
7	0	2.3	13	61	0	clear blue
10	0.5	2.3	14	69	2 SE	low cloud
11	0	1.3	11	72	0	low cloud
12	4.5	-1.6	10.5	75	0	25% cbud
13	0.25	2.2	14	85	0	cbudy
14	0	6.4	14	86	1 NE	blue patches
17	7	-2.9	14.5	81	0	dark grey
18	3	6.4	11.7	87	0	light grey
19	0	6.1	13	91	1 E	light grey
20	0.25	6.4	11.4	94	0	grey
* total for the week						
max °C		figures in bold from Meteorological Office				

Broadband - latest prospects

In our last issue we set out our understanding of the options which might be applied to securing Broadband Internet access for Painswick. Coincident with that report the Parish Council, which had committed itself to do what it can to advance consideration of Broadband services being made available in the area, gave notice of a meeting on 14th November at which the community might look at ways in which it could bring about that advancement.

That meeting attracted about 45 people, 35 of whom carefully recorded their attendance. Enterprises other than BT who might have been able to explain how they might bring Broadband to Painswick had been invited but, although LoopScorpio from Gloucester were represented by Peter Cartwright, there were apologies for absence from ThreeK and DSL-Sats. The Chairman of the Council, Terry Parker, reminded the meeting that **the main benefits of Broadband are**

- (a) that one can access the Internet and continue to have the use of the telephone line at the same time and,
- (b) down-load /up-load quantities of data from/to World Wide Web sites within seconds, which at the moment takes a considerable time to achieve.

Differing views were expressed about the manner in which BT were setting about their marketing of Broadband. Their web site states that at least 500 Painswick exchange (01452 81.... number) subscribers must register an interest before they would consider installing the system. The current total of those expressing an interest is (at the time of going to press) 239; only 48% of the requirement of BT.

To set the record straight there has been an exchange of messages between Geoffrey Davis (see more later) and BT. They were asked two questions, and we reproduce their answers verbatim:

Q 1. At the public meeting it was felt that BT would only consider votes towards our target of 500 if a firm commitment was made, and merely registering 'Interest' would not be enough.

A 1. "Just statements of interest is enough. We do not require interest to be turned into firm orders before we upgrade the exchange. Once you reach trigger the exchange will be upgraded."

Q 2. Because of the high target figure set, some people present would not vote for BT, believing that an alternative provider present would give a more rapid (although more expensive) solution. Is it possible that the 500 target figure could be lowered? Some present even suggested that you would not upgrade the exchange even if the 500 target was met.

A 2. "The new trigger levels are based on a weighted average of the total costs of enabling all these 2,300 exchanges. This means larger exchanges have received higher trigger levels. There are approximately 2000 lines on the exchange, which makes it a relatively big one compared to the others in the set, which is why your target is quite high. We are aware that some of the new trigger levels will be quite challenging to hit and we will seek the help of local and government organisations to enable these

exchanges early or allow us to reduce these targets. Of course we will also continue to work with the hundreds of local campaign groups which have actively supported our registration scheme over the last months and try to encourage demand as much as we can. I don't know who said we wouldn't upgrade the exchange even when the target is met - sorry but that's rubbish! We have been upgrading exchanges for over a year when they reach their trigger level. As I said, we do not require you to turn these into orders, just reach the trigger level."

Loop Scorpio's Peter Cartwright explained that his wireless system could be introduced with as few as 40 or so subscribers firmly indicating the intention to take it up. Mr Cartwright has subsequently affirmed that he is preparing plans to bring the LoopScorpio system to Painswick if such intentions are expressed soon. However, the introduction of their wireless-based system depended on BT's approval to access their equipment and experience indicates that such approvals could take as much as three months. He said that he would not wish to invest a considerable sum of money in setting up the system if there was the possibility that BT might offer their system to Painswick exchange subscribers in the near future.

It was pointed out to the meeting the Local Education Authority (GCC) was considering giving schools direct access to Broadband, including the Croft School. The concept of the village being 'linked into' such a service was, of course, attractive, but by no means assured since the capacity of the service may well be insufficient. The Parish Council has subsequently ascertained that the funding of such provision requires 50% reciprocal County Council funding. Government requires all schools to have the service in place by 2006, and the County Council has established a programme to meet that requirement.

The way forward

It was agreed that there should be an awareness campaign carried out as quickly as possible to establish the number of people with an interest in Broadband.

To assist in this Geoffrey Davis, who lives in Longridge, offered to provide the main community link for the pooling of information of expressed interest. His offer was welcomed by others at the meeting, including those who were also anxious to create a database of local expressions.

The Beacon undertook to include an article in this issue, inviting readers to register their interest with Mr Geoffrey Davis. This we are doing, and attention is therefore drawn to the panel on the opposite page.

With the approval of those registering an interest, their details could be made available to BT and Loop Scorpio immediately, and if necessary in the future to other organisations operating different forms of Broadband services which might prove attractive to residents.

Copy of the information in the panel will, through the Parish Council, form the basis of a leaflet drop to all households with 01452 81.... numbers outside Painswick village. The 81 numbers were known to extend as far as Brookthorpe, Cranham, Edge, Pitchcombe, Sheepscombe and Slad.

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Broadband for Painswick

Painswick Parish Council is committed to promoting the use of Broadband throughout the civil parish, and is asking for your help to ensure that this happens as soon as possible. British Telecom has stated that they require 500 Painswick exchange subscribers to express an interest in acquiring Broadband before they will introduce their system here. By mid-November the number of subscribers registering an interest was 239.

The Parish Council is anxious to create a local register of interest, and was strongly supported in this at an open meeting held on 14th November.

Irrespective of whether you have registered already please act quickly and express your interest to the local co-ordinator at:

info@broadband4painswick.org

It is essential that your e-mail contains the following six pieces of information:

Name and Initials
Title
Full address
Postcode
Full telephone Number
e-mail address

There are other companies interested in bringing Broadband to Painswick. If you would be agreeable to the above data being made available to those organisations in addition to BT, please add the following line in your return:

"I am agreeable to the above data being made available to other companies in addition to BT."

Don't forget, you are not committing yourself to anything by registering, but you will be helping Painswick to acquire a service which is much needed not just by businesses but by many other residents as well.

Terry Parker
Parish Council Chairman

Round Britain whizz!

Imagine sitting dry and warm on a very gloomy autumn evening and, being transported around the islands of

Britain. Also without the horrors of hours stuck on our inadequate motorways



and some very uncomfortable rocky trips on ferry boats with the consequent nausea, and worse.

Well that is what the members of the Painswick Bird Club experienced one evening in November. We had as our speaker that evening a young lady, Miss Helen Williams ARPS, who was very much in command of her subject and her photographic equipment. We saw at very close quarters.. about twenty-five species of sea bird in fine detail. With the aid of wide-angle and long focus lenses, electronic flash and obviously excellent cameras, much patience, and as she admitted - much film. As a past time photographer myself I was drooling over the fine pictures that she produced for our enjoyment.

The evening was brought to a close by the usual vote of thanks and an unusually long applause response from the more than satisfied audience...

Harold Wood

Pumpkins!

Mike Sanderson with a pair of record-breaking pumpkins, the largest shown on the right weighed a massive nine and a half stone (130 lbs) and measured over 1 metre in circumference. It was so big it could only be moved with a wheelbarrow.

The Painswick Giant Pumpkin Competition is intended as an annual event and is open to all local residents who want to show their skill and enjoy a bit of competitive gardening.

Free seeds are available from Mike on 01453.763240



or from The Falcon Hotel, Painswick.

The annual competition will be judged at The Falcon on October 26th 2004.

Interested competitors are asked to seek sponsors to raise funds for a charity - next year it will be the Leukaemia Research Trust.

LETTERS

Power cuts

I was very pleased to see your article in the Beacon [No. 8] about the power failures in Painswick. I attach a copy of the notes I have made about cuts I've been aware of since 22nd September.

Having very recently come to live in the village after 53 years in the Greater Manchester area I am unaccustomed to regular power cuts. I have spoken to neighbours after recent cuts and have been very surprised to hear their resigned responses, e.g. "well, it's been raining very heavily", or "well, the outside temperature went below zero". I have responded by explaining that it rains, at times, in Manchester, but the electricity supply stays on 24 hours a day and 7 days a week. I've also explained that we in Manchester didn't pay any more for our electricity than Painswickians do, and I've stated my belief that a supply with inferior reliability doesn't warrant the full financial return to the supplier.

Regular power-cuts were things we had in the early evenings around 1950 in Manchester - because the generating capacity was insufficient then to supply both the industrial and domestic loads, hence the domestic one was cut off for an hour or two on 'overtime evenings' at the local big industrial-manufacturing estate. Since the mid fifties power cuts were rare - by no means regular. As I understand it, the cuts in Painswick are very limited in area, and they must surely be due to poor maintenance at the local level, or equipment (transformers or lines) which is overloaded. So the supplier will have to invest more of his profit into maintenance or replacement in order to give Painswick the reliable supply for which it pays.

I am building up my data about cuts so that in a few months time I will be able to write to my supplier and ask for a reduction in his charges. I feel fairly sure that he will respond with some 'rules' which let him off the hook, whereupon I will write to the Ombudsman, and then to the area's M.P., etc.. Fighting "lost battles" can be a time consuming and frustrating business, but sometimes they can be won. And, at the very least, one must fight the battle, preferably on the basis of one's own facts.

So thank you for your article which, hopefully, may trigger others to record their own experience and to write to the supplier, Ombudsman, etc. and finally cause the supplier to invest and provide a reliable supply to its Painswick customers.

G. A. Errock

and

I would have written earlier - in fact I did but lost it due to ANOTHER power cut!!

I see that GL6 6UR has had seven power cuts this autumn already. Over here in Edge we had more than that this morning! It was I think 9 but we might even have made double figures. Is it a record?

Whilst I support the collection of data for illustration purposes when addressing Aquila I am not sure that we can afford to wait until the Spring. We have been having cuts almost daily for some time - even during the summer months. If Aquila cannot provide an uninterrupted supply when it is warm dry and light what hope is there that they can do so when it is dark cold and wet? I have asked them this question: whilst they were able to deny any responsibility to pay compensation for last October's interruption by return of post they have still been unable to answer the rest of my letter which sought an explanation for current deficiencies and some reassurance for the future.

I believe that all power companies are obliged to keep records of supply interruptions and have asked to see their records

for this area. They seem curiously shy on the matter of disclosure!

You will I hope understand that I will not take you up on your offer to drop a card into the Beacon box each time we have a power cut. I don't think your box will be big enough and I hate to think how many trees would need to be felled to provide the necessary cards!

Graham Lilley GL6 6PB

Comment on letters

The letters from John Gozzard and David and Hilary Simpson in your November issue, on conservation matters, deserve comment. The Conservation Society does indeed make 'a fuss about the things which demean this lovely village' by working to influence decision makers. We do not claim total success in this any more than does the Parish Council, but a number of projects and revised proposals can testify to our involvement.

John Gozzard's examples span decades of varying regulations, and even none at all, but we agree the St Mary's wall is awful to behold. Professional briefing by Don Juggins and Tony Marden helped me complain to the developer's Technical Director and to the District Council. The Parish Council also made complaints and one lady in Painswick phoned the developer's Chairman.

The sad fact emerged that a rubble stone wall had been specified and this is what we got, built by bricklayers, and the developer had no obligation to improve it. For such a major project the SDC could have demanded a sample length of wall for general approval, but they didn't. Considering how the planning application was pushed through at the time, initially without a site visit and ignoring advice and requests from the Parish Council, the Police and ourselves, we are not really surprised at this.

Any remarks on the Edge Vodafone mast are best assessed knowing how the project was discussed (and broadly agreed) at Dis-

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tract and Parish Council level over fully seven months without any effective communication whatsoever with Edge residents.

The Simpson's letter questioning the 'Care Village' increase in bed spaces to 67 (i.e.. by nearly 40%) should concern everyone. One consequence, if consented to, will be a need for a commensurate increase in visitor and staff car parking spaces. We believe there are already too few for both groups, so where are they (and the extras) going to park? Will this lead to a *post facto* application for further encroachment into the amenity portion of the field? We should be told. Another consequence will be 37 windows in three storeys, overlooking the Cotswold Mead properties, instead of the present 26 windows (allegedly on two storeys) which already withdraw a good deal of their privacy.

We cannot and do not expect The Beacon to publicise all our many actions to manage change protectively in Painswick. Perhaps, therefore, the Parish Council could let us have space on their notice board where Painswickians can read our statements on numerous issues?

Douglas Robinson Chairman

30 mph

Editorial note

We have printed six letters received this month, verbatim. They range in length from 50, through 139, 271, 328, 411 to 422 words, and require two whole pages.

As was mentioned in a previous issue, we do not normally carry letters in excess of about 100 words, and certainly don't when space is at a premium. We urge correspondents to restrain the pen if omission is not to cause disappointment or offence.

Road markings

Like most Painswickians returning home from Stroud in mid-November I was surprised to discover a new road surface near Broadham in the early design made famous by Milton Keynes New Town.

I assume that indicating 30mph three times in fifty yards is only for drivers not able to read the metal upright signs, or is it for cyclists bent over their handlebars?

I immediately contacted the Highways



Department and congratulated them on finding Painswick.

I gently enquired if they could not do more to support the early work of the Scottish entrepreneur John K Loudon McAdam, and lay some of the less flamboyant black variety into the village before the bedrock begins to show.

However, I regret to inform you, dear reader that our Local Authority is not planning any more dangerous expeditions into this area for some time.

Alan Hudson -- Butt Green

Pavements

(Referring to the work to re-pave.)

Never mind the pavement opposite the Town Hall. What about the pavement in the main street to the bus stop which is used by the ordinary pedestrian?

I am sick of stepping aside for mad motorists who race around Painswick. Where is the concern for pedestrians or even the courtesy?

Peggy Bradshaw

Fireworks

During the last week fireworks have been

going off every night from 5.30 pm until at least 9.30pm. Never mind that it is Halloween or Bonfire night - that seems to have very little relevance to what is happening. I know from past experience that this nightly barrage of noise will continue until New Year and beyond.

What sort of mindset do the people of Painswick have? I think it is a case of let's party every night - let's be self indulgent, let's impress our friends and prove that not only are we a rich village, but we are going

to prove it!! Forget the pain and misery caused to our neighbours and, particularly our pets - we're rich, we don't care!!

I know this doesn't apply to everyone - but there must be a hell of a percentage (judging by the high powered fireworks that explode every night) who think in this way.

I personally cannot wait for the Government to implement laws to put a stop to this infringement on my personal space.

I hate the misery that these constant party-goers inflict on my dog, and am annoyed that I have to pay for tranquilisers to calm him down (to little effect, I might add).

I hope that the majority of Painswickians will support me in fighting these louts who would no doubt look down their nose at people on a problem council estate doing exactly what they are doing. Somehow, their partying is different - I don't think!!

Anyway, I hope the sensible portion of Painswickians who support what I say, will join me in advocating a 'cease fire' for the benefit of not only our animals but also our community.

It is now 20.45 exactly, and fireworks have been going off in the direction of Vicarage Street from 19.30 onwards. How much longer I ask myself??

Agitated, frustrated, angry, disappointed resident of Painswick (plus poor afflicted, suffering animal).

Richard Barnett

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Competition page

The Beacon is offering prizes this month in each of our three Christmas competitions. These will take the form of tokens to be exchanged for goods in certain local shops.

This competition is for readers of any age who send us a post card with the answers in the correct order, and their full name and address.

1

VOWELS

We have five vowels in the English language, and they can be used to test our command of that language thus:

1. What is the shortest word in the English language which contains all the five different vowels (AEIOU) somewhere in its spelling?
2. What is the shortest English word containing all the five vowels in their correct alphabetical order (with consonants in between of course)?
3. What is the shortest English word containing all the five vowels in reverse alphabetical order?
4. The Hawaiian word hooiaioa boasts a consecutive string of 7 vowels. No English word can match that, although the word Hawaiian has four. Can you think of a familiar English word containing a consecutive string of five vowels?
5. And what about the longest English word that contains no vowels at all?

2

This competition is for readers under 18 years of age who send us a post card with the answers in the correct order, their full name and address, and date of birth. (If an older person enters, a pat on the head may be awarded.)

ON A BIRD WATCHING HOLIDAY

How many birds can you spot?

Dear Ed,

Starting early we took it easily, and at the Bell Inn, Eton, we picked up Jack Dawling and Ernest. One chatted a lot, so time passed swiftly, but rain on the motorway was a grave nuisance. After lunch I decided to hand over the wheel and steal an hour's sleep, before reaching Ullswater at midnight in gale-force winds.

Next morning on to Scotland, where our hotel is in as fine a glen as I have seen, with rushing stream at the bottom of a steep lovers' lane. It is all that is now left of an old mill, but it is now renovated, and very smart inside - no other one for miles around! Eric rows, though awkwardly, leaving Anne to doze in the stern. Excellent food - no good taking off inches from the waist or keeping wide awake. Nothing is wanting, except perhaps regular kilts and pipers.

Love from all,
Ardelle

P.S. I haven't forgotten that this is a bird watching holiday.

So far we have spotted 30 different kinds, and I have mentioned them all in this letter. You will, for instance, find 'redstart' in the first three words if you look hard enough. Since we have spotted 30, how many can you spot?

This competition is for readers of any age who send us a post card with the answers in alphabetical order, their full name and address, and date of birth if under 18.

3

WORD SEARCH

Our monthly challenge, but very much in the Christmas spirit.

We wonder whether you can find 18 words on or associated with a Christmas tree.

E	E	P	U	R	S	N	O	I	T	A	R	O	C	E	D
E	H	C	A	E	P	O	S	E	S	S	A	L	G	B	R
O	E	A	A	I	F	T	E	N	T	K	A	A	B	U	T
T	A	N	K	R	N	E	L	O	A	M	N	W	O	T	S
E	E	D	T	E	D	F	D	S	P	R	E	H	R	C	O
L	M	L	S	O	F	S	E	S	E	S	R	I	A	H	C
T	Y	E	L	I	Y	N	E	K	C	P	D	S	X	E	A
S	R	S	L	E	O	S	N	O	O	L	L	A	B	R	R
I	I	I	I	C	T	I	E	S	K	N	I	R	D	G	O
M	A	R	R	I	T	I	N	S	E	L	H	U	O	L	L
B	F	I	G	R	S	N	I	A	R	T	C	O	W	S	S
A	F	K	M	P	M	U	P	U	N	C	H	O	N	S	A

We teased you a little last month by not telling you how many words were hidden, items to be found in a bathroom. There were 21, and the answers are below (slightly hidden, in case you want to finish the last Wordsearch off.)

- light-bin
- switch-water
- rail-sponge
- curtain-razor
- toothpaste-mirror
- towel-shower
- washbasin-bathmat
- bath-scales
- soap-flannel
- taps-nailbrush
- plug

Answers for November



The Falcon Inn Christmas 2003

Christmas bookings now being taken for lunches or dinner in our restaurant or why not have your own private party in our Ostlers function room for no extra charge. Groups of 20 to 50 people. Please telephone 01452.814222 and ask for copies of our menus.

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The artist and the quarrymen

As many of you will know, the Rococo Gardens at Painswick House were reconstructed following the designs shown in an old painting. On 21 October, Jane Sale gave a most interesting illustrated talk on the little known artist, Thomas Robins (1716-70), and some of his surviving work to the Painswick Local History Society.

Thomas Robins was born in Charlton Kings and baptised at St Mary's Church, Cheltenham in 1716. He was taught by a Huguenot fan painter living in the district who, when he died, was to leave Thomas his house and 'best furniture'. In the late 1730s, Thomas moved to Bath and was able to mingle with members of society who were to become his patrons and customers. Hand painted fans were something of a fashion accessory of the time. A photograph of one of his fans painted in the mid 1740s showing a view of Cheltenham Spa and Jacobs ladder (on the reverse) was seen, though the fan itself is now in a private collection. He died in Bath in 1770.

He also painted a number of fine houses and their gardens, including Brier Park, Hales Abbey, Sudeley Castle, and Charlton Park. The view of the gardens at Painswick House was painted in 1748 in gouache and watercolour on vellum. The house was then known as Buenos Aires and was the seat of the Hyett family. The paintings of Thomas Robins are notable for their fine detail - the accuracy of which has been demonstrated in his paintings of other properties. Their attention to detail made it possible to restore reliably the Rococo Gardens at Painswick House.

The subject of the November meeting could hardly have been more different but it was every bit as fascinating and as well

presented. Arthur Price spoke to us about Painswick Stone. Mr Price farms at Frocester Court but he has made a lifetime study of Cotswold stone and quarrying, and contributed an article on 'Geology and building materials' to the recent Cotswolds volume of Pevsner's *Buildings of England* (1999). He explained the geology of Painswick Stone and its relationship to other strata, and how as it dips to the south it is quarried underground at Nailsworth and Horsley. It is a freestone, which can be cut in any direction and carved but it does not stand frost well and needs to be shod and capped with a tougher 'weather stone', such as Minchinhampton Stone. This practice can be seen in buildings at Painswick and in table tombs in Painswick churchyard. Painswick stone was used by the Romans in the public buildings of Glevum and from the medieval period onwards has been used widely in Gloucester Cathedral and as far afield as London, York, Exeter, and has even been exported to America. Medieval quarries have been identified in Pope's Wood (see Cedric Nielsen's paper in the *Painswick Chronicle* 5, 24-31). However, in the early 20th century the Painswick Stone quarries succumbed to the cheaper Bath Stone. Mr Price's talk, which was illustrated with maps and plans, old photographs and some excellent photographs of the underground workings, was highly informative and very entertaining.

These two speakers have done the Local History Society proud. Our next meeting is on 20th January when Jim Wise will be speaking about 'The Rebuilding of Prinknash' - all welcome.

Peter Rowe and Mark Bowden

Beware

As I drove through the village on 18th October on a beautiful day, I was admiring the sun shining on Mary's silvery mop of hair as she sat in her motorbility scooter on the other side of the road opposite the Lych Gate and New Street, but the vision was marred by my seeing a girl put her hand into the basket in front of Mary and then get into a waiting car at the corner of Edge Road.

I could not immediately understand or believe what I had seen but took the car number and, after speaking to Mary and ascertaining that she had indeed been robbed, I went home and dialled 999. The police arrived at Mary's house in about ten minutes and immediately phoned the bank to stop her card. I was impressed with their kindness and efficiency. Mary's handbag

containing her money, keys, diary, pension book and debit card and other items had been taken. Mary and I gave statements and I understand there was another witness who did the same. The end result of all this is that to date the girl thief has been caught, but not before she had robbed another wheelchair user in Nailsworth the following week. She has been arrested and is now out on bail awaiting sentence having admitted to these and a number of other crimes.

The handbag containing all the stolen items except the money was found in a ditch near the Taena Pottery by someone looking for a stopcock, who returned it to Mary. Nevertheless Mary has been put to great inconvenience and expense, including having to change all her locks.

The police seemed to be delighted to

have the car number and were very careful in noting down all the relevant facts, which I understand was a major factor in apprehending the thief. So the moral seems to be that if you ever see anything suspicious, quietly write down the car number as it may help to solve a crime! It seems that there are cars like this cruising around looking for vulnerable victims even in Painswick, so I for one am going to be more careful with my handbag and leave it at home when possible.

I was very impressed with the prompt police response, that they caught the thief, and with their kindness with Mary (they even made her a cup of tea) and helped her to be safe afterwards.

Pat

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Get fit for the piste?

Hundreds of thousands of people will be heading for the slopes this year to enjoy the "heady" fresh air, the blue skies the wonderful powder and pisted snow and breathtaking views, to say nothing of the gluwein!

Skiing is a fabulous holiday, but tearing down a mountainside with 2 planks of fibre glass strapped to your feet does not always go without its problems. However, the risk of problems can be reduced if you are prepared for the piste. Injuries can happen mainly when muscles are weak and untuned or not properly stretched.

It is for these reasons that Libby Graesser, Chartered Physiotherapist of Five Valleys Physiotherapy and Sports Injuries Clinic, is running a pre-ski class to "beef up" the ligaments and muscles, predominantly around the knee, although the shoulders, arms, backs and hips are also considered. One of her regular exercisers reminded her that this is her 14th year of classes! This year it is to be held at Painswick Rugby Club, Broadham Fields on Monday evenings, 6.30pm to 7.30pm, starting on Monday, 5th January.

Cost is £5.00 per session, or six sessions for £25.00.

To benefit it is recommended that you sign up for six sessions, if at all possible. Booking, which is important, can be direct to Five Valleys Physiotherapy and Sports Injuries Clinic on 01453.755948.



Gloucestershire Guild of Craftsmen

Mince Pies and Christmas Cheer

The Guild will be holding their traditional Mince Pie evening in the Guild Gallery at the Painswick Centre, Bisley Street on Friday 12th December from 7.00pm to 9.00pm.

Please come along and meet some of the craftsmen.

This will be an excellent opportunity to make that special gift purchase or just enjoy mince pies and drinks and talk to some of the designer craftsmen (and women) in the Guild.



Guild 70th Anniversary and Christmas Exhibition

The Guild is holding a very special Christmas Exhibition of Contemporary designer crafts combined with a 70 year retrospective exhibition in Cheltenham Art Gallery and Museum. The exhibition is in collaboration with and supported by Cheltenham Art Gallery and Museum and Gloucestershire County Council, and will be opened by Nick Capaldi - Regional Executive Director of the Arts Council.

The exhibition runs from Saturday December 6th to Sunday 11th January. There will also be demonstrations and workshops. Contact the Guild for details.

Lost and Found

If anybody in the Painswick area has any work by early members of the Gloucestershire Guild of Craftsmen we would be very interested to hear from them. We would be particularly interested if you would be prepared to lend it for the exhibition.

Please contact me, Coordinator - Gloucestershire Guild of Craftsmen, at the Guild Gallery 814745

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ALPHA Course – something worthwhile

for the New Year?

It's probably hard to think clearly about New Year at this stage in December, being such a busy time of year both at work and at home – facing year-end deadlines with only 3 weeks of the month available, or fitting in Christmas preparations and celebrations on top of all the regular commitments. However, as we know, January always arrives and sometimes with something of an anti-climax. Perhaps having something in the diary to cheer a few of those long winter evenings along towards springtime could be an attractive prospect.

It is not just the churches who use Alpha – this year 113 Universities and Colleges of Further Education are running courses. It is also used throughout the Armed Forces and indeed in many prisons, where Alpha is one of the means of rehabilitation for prisoners. Alpha is inter-denominational and around 7,000 churches ran courses during this autumn.

Do come and join us as we gather over the early New Year weeks to share what we know and discover more about the Christian faith and what God's love for each of us really means.

The Alpha Supper Party on Thursday 8th January at 7.00pm is at Castle Godwyn on the Cheltenham Road – family and friends all welcome -invitations are out and available from Frankie Marsh on 812829 and Lindsay Gardiner on 814282. The Alpha Course starts on 29th January at a village venue and continues for 10 weeks – well worthwhile for the New Year!

Lindsay Gardiner

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Publications for Everyone

Painswick's past is overflowing with interest on all levels. From the serious and significant to the light-hearted and downright funny there's something to grab everyone's attention. Painswick Local History Society strives to record in print as much as possible of this rich picture and its efforts to date are available to everyone. If you have information or knowledge about Painswick's past, however small or personal, we should love to hear from you. After all, the whole story is only as good as its individual parts.

Our current publications are wide-ranging. Issues 3,4,5 and 6 of Painswick Chronicle contain the results of much rigorous research into both academic and lighter topics. Issues 1 and 2 are now out of print though may be available at a later date on CD. Issue 7 is currently being compiled.

Carl Moreland's Painswick: Time Chart of a Cotswold Village is a beautifully presented exploration of Painswick's history alongside major national events. It is available in both hard- and soft-back editions.

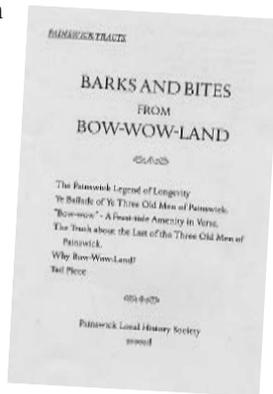
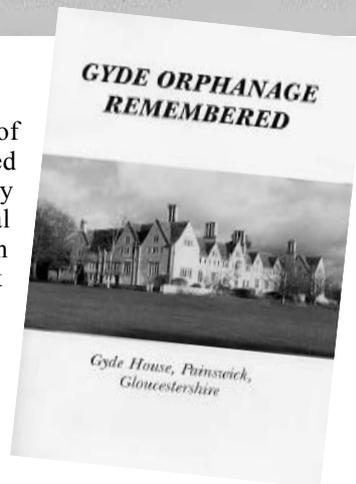
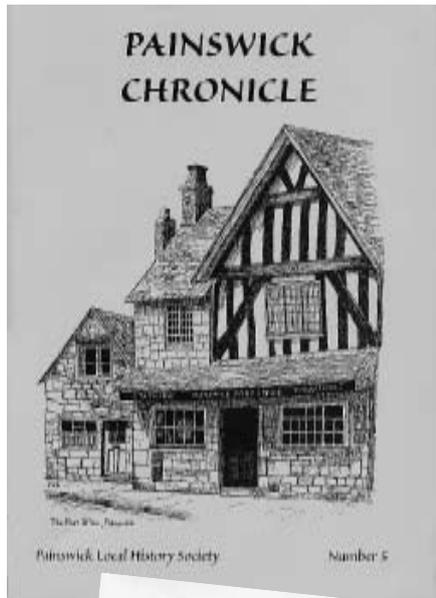
Gyde Orphanage Remembered provides four personal and very poignant recollections of the Home from its very early days through to the 1970s. It is both moving and insightful.

Barks and Bites from Bow-Wow land is a true piece but very much part of our local make-up.

The poems and the explanations are there with illustrations and it makes a good stocking filler.

These publications are all very reasonably priced and, together with our free leaflet on local milestones, represent very good value to anyone interested in Painswick. They are available in local shops or from Gwen Welch (812540) and Carol Maxwell (813387).

Carol Maxwell



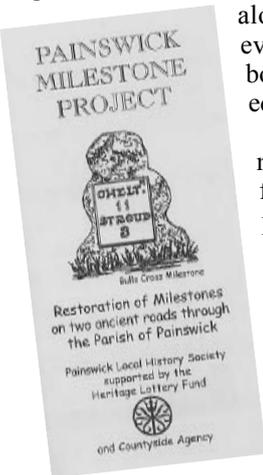
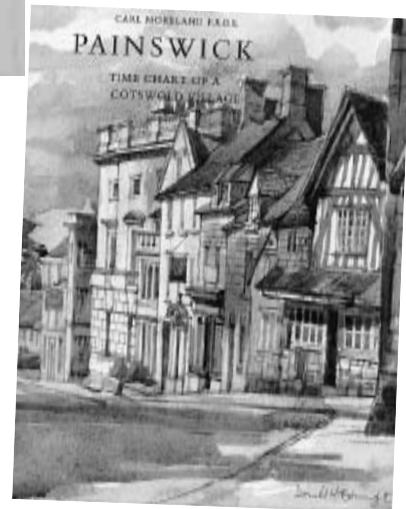
Directory 2004

The Beacon is pleased to enclose with this issue the Directory of all enterprises known to us and operating in or from this civil parish of Painswick.

We hope this is of use to our readers, and to the newer residents in the area.

The layout has been altered to facilitate identification of specific information, not least telephone numbers on a separate line.

We appreciate feedback so that future issues can take your ideas into account. Please note that copy, updated monthly, is posted on our web site.

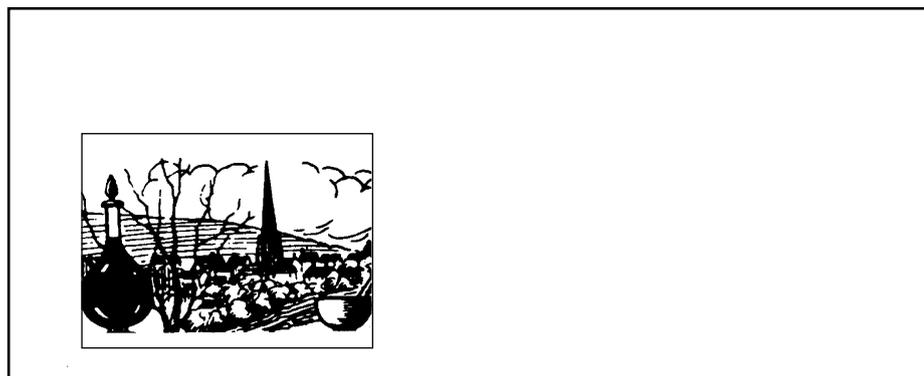
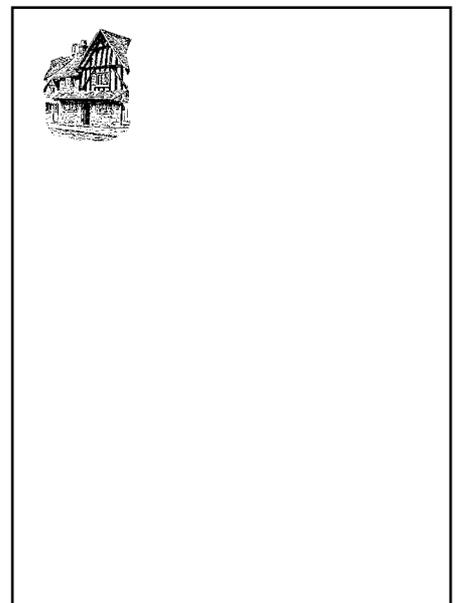


Knitwear thanks

My thanks to everyone who came along and supported my Knitwear Sale in aid of the Bristol Cancer Help Centre.

I have sent a cheque to them for £150.00, which I am sure will be very useful to them.

Barbara Tait



Cricket

The Broadham Clubhouse was the venue for a very enjoyable evening last week when presentations

for the 2003 season were made by Club President, Jack Smith. Club Chairman, John Hogg, told the Beacon that it had always been his wish that Painswick should be a family club and he was particularly pleased to see the considerable number of youngsters at the event. Michael Goddard, son of Robert and Karen, received the trophy for the Under-13 Best All Round Player and our picture shows Michael with the Club President on his right and Club Chairman on his left. There was much applause when Steve Pegram as Second Eleven Captain went forward to receive the Division 4 winners shield. Not so long ago the Second Eleven's future had been looking somewhat uncertain but thanks to Steve's sterling efforts the team has become a very strong unit. The Club had been very pleased to receive the award for the best wicket for clubs in Painswick First Eleven's division. Ian Hogg and Simon Cook deserving considerable thanks for the work they had done to keep the square in first class condition. The club won the Gloucestershire county award in the Village Championship knockout competition and John Hogg was especially pleased that Painswick had also won their own six-a-side tournament as he had presented the trophy some years previously.



an important league match which would have been a disappointment to the Cherry and Whites had they lost. As it was they came away with a single point margin victory. Last Saturday the first fifteen were away to old rivals Cainscross. Although not a league match, there is an added edge to the game as the clubs compete for the Barrie Meadows Cup which was presented in memory of one of Painswick's most respected members. Painswick retained the trophy with a convincing 39 points to 3 victory in which wing-threequarter, Aussie Smith, scored a hat-trick of tries.

Results [(L) indicates league match]

Sat 1 Nov. (L) North Bristol 1st XV 23 Painswick 1st XV 10. Painswick United 9

Old Richians 2nd XV 16.

Sat 8 Nov. (L) Painswick 1st XV 42 Cirencester 1st XV 12. Cirencester 2nd XV 19 Painswick Utd 9.

Sat 15 Nov. Painswick 1st XV 11 Wootton Bassett 1st XV 13. Painswick Utd 20 Newent 1st XV 0.

Sat 22 Nov. (L) Old Bristolians 1st XV 17 Painswick 1st XV 18.

Sat 29 Nov. Cainscross 1st XV 3 Painswick 1st XV 39. Painswick Utd 62

Cainscross 2nd XV 0.

Hockey

Painswick Ladies were at Newent last Saturday for a league fixture. Although the team played well, Newent converted four short corners to Painswick's single goal from Lisa Bircher and ended the match winners by 4 goals to one. The Painswick Ladies were not unhappy with their performance and look forward to next week's game against Lansdown at the Dean Close College ground in Cheltenham. Lisa Bircher was adjudged Player of the Match. Early in the month, Painswick were at home to Cheltenham Civil Service. Again the Cherry and Whites played well with considerable enthusiasm and had the majority of possession in the second half. There was understandable disappointment that the visitors' solitary goal proved the difference between the two sides in a game that Painswick might well have won. Player of the Match was Sarah Vocking.

Rugby

The Painswick teams had mixed fortunes during November. The first fifteen were away to the North Bristol club in a league match at the beginning of the month when they lost by 23 points to 10. The following Saturday they were at home to Cirencester in another league encounter which they won by 42 points to 12. On 22nd November they again travelled to Bristol where they played the Old Bristolians. This was

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Golf Club News

The match season has come to an end for 2003 but competitions continue throughout the Winter.

The Ladies section have had a successful year under the Captaincy of Angela Woodward, with more match wins than usual. In County competitions: Jean Kendrick and Lorna Sparkes came first in the Fraser Foursomes(a 27 hole competition for silver division players, played at Stinchcombe Hill G.C.) and Angela Woodward won the Kit-Kat competition (a nett competition played at Shirehampton G.C.). Angela will be replaced as Captain by Brenda Hurlock at the Ladies A.G.M. on 26th November.

The Seniors section also had their A.G.M. on November 6th when Duncan Toase took over as Captain from Nick Turner.

Painswick Golf Club wish to encourage junior golfers, and free coaching is available. Anyone who is interested in bringing a junior along, should contact 812180 for further information. There is a national shortage of girl golfers, so they would be especially welcome. No previous golf experience is necessary.

The Annual Dinner Dance this year will take place at Bowden Hall, cost £22 a head.

A New Year's Eve Supper and Disco will be held in the Clubhouse, cost £15.50 a head.

A full Social programme is arranged for the next 6 months.

The new steward and stewardess, Les and Caroline Jones, have already taken over and full catering facilities will be in operation from 1st December. Anyone who previously made a booking should contact the steward to ensure that their arrangements match the booking information.

**INTERESTED IN BADMINTON?
USED TO PLAY?
NO LONGER WANT TO PLAY COMPETITIVELY?**

Painswick Ladies meet on Tuesday afternoons at the Painswick Centre for 'social badminton', and welcome new members.

INTERESTED?
Contact

Terry Causon on 813506
Margaret Wallace on 812461

Boxing Day Walk

The annual Parish Council Boxing Day walk will start from Stamages Lane at 10.00am.

The walk is planned so as to return to the car park at approximately noon. Details of this year's route will be published on the various public notice boards nearer the day.

Dogs are welcome but walkers must ensure their pets are kept on a lead at all times.

Tourist and Information volunteers - 10th anniversary



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Painswick would be a lesser place without the Tourist and Information service provided by such a wonderful team of volunteers. They reached an important 'milestone' this autumn as the twenty four who regularly open the office within the Library premises had cause to come together at the invitation of Terry Causon, the inspiration for this service since day one, to celebrate their 10th anniversary at the Painswick Hotel and Restaurant.

The Beacon 'takes it hat off' to them, and we believe Painswickians will too! Terry told us that "We all enjoy the great fun involved in welcoming people from all over the world to the village, and pointing them in the right direction". Readers will be interest to hear that well over 5000 visitors used this important voluntary service this last summer.

Mission to Seafarers

The concert on 3rd October raised over £1200 for this very good cause.

Grateful thanks to all who came along to hear it, to all who helped to put it on and of course a very special 'thank you' to Chris Swain and his Wycliffe College musicians for giving us such an excellent evening.

John Parfitt

The Art of the Early Renaissance

Bristol University are running a course of ten weekly illustrated sessions on The Art of the Early Renaissance on Thursday mornings, commencing on 8th January in the Church Rooms.

The course is suitable as an introduction to Renaissance painting, sculpture and architecture, and for those familiar with the subject.

For detail, or to enrol please call Hilary Betts on 01179.287844.

Music and social

The Music Appreciation Group is holding its pre-Christmas social evening next week, Thursday 11th December.

This is a ticket-only event and if any members have not been in touch and booked their place by Monday evening there could be a serious shortage of buffet or, even worse, wine!

Although the evening is free to members, a booking is essential, so please telephone 813321 without delay.



PLANNING MATTERS

A summary of information received from the Parish Council. Painswick locations unless indicated.

NEW APPLICATIONS

SPRING COTTAGE, STEPPING STONE LANE. Single storey extension
LOWER BLAKEWELL FARM, EDGE LANE. Outline application for erection of a bungalow

4 CLATTERGROVE, CHELTENHAM ROAD. Single storey extension
CLOVERS, KINGS MEAD. Erection of a freestanding swimming pool cover

BROOK HOUSE, GREENHOUSE LANE. Single storey extension
HAZELING, THE VATCH, SLAD. Erection of a garden shed

Land adj. BARNCROFT, BLAKEWELL MEAD. Erection of a dwelling
THE STABLES, GREENHOUSE COURT, YOKEHOUSE LANE. Erection of a porch

Land adj. TALL TREES, COTSWOLD MEAD. Erection of a dwelling & garage

REVISED PLANS

THE ROADSIDE BARN, STROUD SLAD FARM, THE VATCH, SLAD. Alterations to existing barn and extensions to form additional accommodation to Stroud Slad Farm. Main changes: Provision of additional office accommodation in association with Stroud Slad Farm for a temporary 3 year period. Removal of

proposed gallery area.

WINDRUSH, BEACON CLOSE. Erection of extension. Main changes: as built details added.

CONSENTS

TOCKNELLS HOUSE, CHELTENHAM ROAD. Construction of new garden room & renovation of minor outbuilding. Existing conservatory to be demolished
BROOKLANDS COTTAGE, SHEEPS-COMBE. Single storey extension
FOURWAYS, QUEENS MEAD. Demolition of existing garage & sun room and erection of 2 storey extension, conservatory, garage & swimming pool
MEADOW BANK, KINGSMILL LANE. Erection of a single and 2 storey extension, handrails & extension to patio

LITTLE ORCHARD, SLAD. Erection of conservatory

Land adjacent to 14 CANTON ACRE. Erection of a detached house

REFUSAL

WELCOM, THE PARK. Erection of 2 storey extension & internal alterations
LULLINGWORTH, STROUD ROAD. Internal alterations to existing dwelling
Land to rear of LONGHOPE, BLAKEWELL MEAD. Erection of one

dwelling

PLAN WITHDRAWN

BLAKEWELL FARM, EDGE ROAD. Conversion of agricultural buildings to holiday accommodation

APPEALS NOTIFIED

Garden of ARIES, HAMBUTTS DRIVE, EDGE RD. Erection of 1 detached dwelling with separate garage & new access on to Hambutts Drive

LITTLE DENE, COCKSHOOT, SHEEPS-COMBE. Erection of a 1st floor extension, porch & replacement dormer window
DENBURY, THE HIGHLANDS. Erection of extension (resubmission following refusal 02/2190)

DENBURY, THE HIGHLANDS. Erection of extension for dependant relative (resubmission following refusal S.03/669)

APPEAL DISMISSED

SHUTWAY QUARRY, SHEEPS-COMBE. Retrospective application for retention of building for continued use as a workshop

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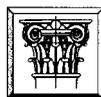
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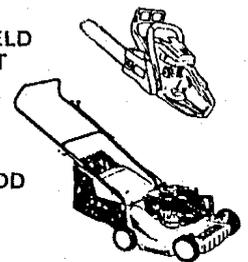
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Finzi

- with local connections

What a pleasure it is to listen to a scholarly and fluent music presenter as happened on 13th November with Iain Cooper, freelance musician and teacher and recently temporary organist at St. Mary's Church. His excellent illustrated talk about Gerald Finzi helped your reporter with the twin task of reviewing what was to him largely unfamiliar music, coupled with serving liquid refreshments!

What emerged was that throughout his life - 1901-1956 - Finzi, contemporary of Vaughan Williams who greatly influenced him, Elgar and Britten and ranking with them in importance, maintained a consistent lyrical style of composition, with nice melodies easy to listen to. His ability to fit his music sensitively to the words of well known poetry, especially Thomas Hardy's which he admired greatly, has not been matched by many other composers and is in some ways reminiscent of the way Bach composed some of his music. (At the time, Finzi daring to set famous poetry to music provoked some criticism) Before the war he was lucky in being financially independent and thus able to compose at leisure without having to rely on commis-

sions, and this accounts for his relatively limited output and his ability to leave works unfinished, to be completed years later. In post-war years, like Britten and Lennox Berkeley he increasingly had to follow deadlines which helped to concentrate his mind and his compositions.

Outstanding among the recordings to which we were treated were excerpts from "A Severn Rhapsody" (1923, from his "Painswick period", for chamber orchestra), "A Young Man's Exhortations" (1926-9, for tenor and piano), "Intimations of Immortality (1938-50 Ode for tenor, choirs and orchestra), Clarinet Concerto (1948-9), Cello Concerto (1951-5) and finally "In Terra Pax" (-1954), for soloists, chorus and orchestra beautifully combining with Wordsworth's Christmas poetry.

Ralph Kenber

and music from the ZOO

On 30th October Richard Purdy entertained the group with a presentation of "Music from the Zoo" — something of a mystery until Richard divulged that the Zoo referred to Bellevue Zoological Gardens in Manchester, which served as the base for the Halle Orchestra under John Barbirolli from 1943 until 1952.

Richard had been privileged to attend these concerts in the late 1940s and played a selection of recordings of the Halle under Barbirolli, much of the music being that he had come to appreciate during those years. English music, much loved by Barbirolli, had pride of place -- we heard Elgar (three of the Enigma Variations and the Introduction and Allegro for Strings) and Delius (Walk in a Paradise Garden). We also learnt of the upbringing of the great

Sir John, and his early musical career as a cellist in London in the 1920s; there followed his first appointment as a permanent conductor (of the Scottish National Orchestra) and then, in 1933, his sensa-

tional move to New York as successor to the mighty Toscanini). What fortune for the UK that he had the courage and vision to abandon such a glittery post and move to a war-torn Manchester! We also listened to music from Massenet (Alsacian Scenes), Wagner (Tristan & Isolde), Verdi (Force of Destiny overture), Sibelius (Valse Triste) and Strauss (Tales of the Vienna Woods) — a mere sprinkling of gems from a true maestro.

Stewart Price

PROPERTY REPORT for December by Hamptons International

This is probably the best time to be selling this year.

In the past two months our vendors have continued to benefit from the increased demand in the market which has seen continuing high levels of buyer interest and activity. During the last quarter demand has outstripped the supply and we have agreed sales and exchanged on over half our register. Even properties that have been on the market for some time are finding buyers and we are now actively looking to replenish our stock in readiness for the January market.

Sales which have completed recently include the last two remaining units at Painswick Heights, Bulls Cross; in Painswick - Nos 8 and 9 Canton Acre; Armany on Golf Course Road, Little Meads, Stamages Lane; 4 Hambutts Cottage; Cotswold House, New Street, and Bell Cottage

where the owner bought 1 West Villas through us at Jacks Green. Also in Slad, Hornbeams has completed — a property which sold within a week of instruction!

Recent new instructions in Painswick include: Alderley — a fine detached house in the Highlands, Aaron House in Butt Green, with option to buy a number of garages, Kingsley House, formerly Chancellors — a large house with commercial use and a garage. Mellguards — a detached bungalow in Pitchcombe with lovely rural outlook and many others in the surrounding villages.

We have introduced buyers to the following properties all hoping to move in before Christmas: Whispering Trees, Lower Washwell; Alabama, New Street, — where a sale was agreed well in excess of the guide price after receiving 15 offers; Byfield House in Bisley Street; 2 Sunny

Terrace, Vicarage Street; Lloydstone in Stamages Lane; Troy in Gloucester Street; Highcroft at Longridge where exchange is imminent and New Inn House at The Camp.

With all this activity it is hardly surprising that we are now looking for more properties to sell, particularly within the village. If you are considering moving in the New Year, do please give us a call and Rupert or myself will be happy to give you a free market appraisal.

Whilst our office will be closed over the Christmas break, our telephones will be manned 7 days a week, apart from Christmas Day and Boxing Day. May we take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy Christmas from all of us here at Hamptons International.

Diane Mearns



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The Painswick Beacon

detail until the next issue
and mostly non-weekly after that

VILLAGE DIARY

DECEMBER

Sat	6	Christmas Fair at Sue Ryder Home, Leckhampton Lunches available Painswick Players production, Dead Man's Hand Last Night	Leckhampton Court Painswick Centre	11.00am to 3.00pm 7.30pm
Sun	7	Painswick Beacon Conservation Group scrub clearing: Contact Pete Bradshaw (814210) Christmas Treat – band, players, and more Jolly Stompers Line-Dancing: Improvers - Sundays	Painswick Beacon Rococo Garden Painswick Centre	10.00am 3.30pm 7.30 to 8.30pm
Mon	8	Austerity Lunch: Hosts - Wives' Fellowship Painswick Tourist Office Volunteers Tea, hosted by Dennis & Diz French	Christ church Hall Ostlers, Falcon	12.15 to 1.15pm 3.00pm
Tue	9	Dog Training Club: Tuesdays Mobile Police Station. Mothers' Union: 'The coming of God at Advent' - Mrs Elizabeth Ward Theatre Club Outing to Malvern	Christ Church Hall Outside Town Hall The Falcon	9.30 to 12noon 10.40am 2.30pm 6.30pm
Wed	10	Probos: Malta through the ages - Miss Barbara Drake Christmas Fair Traditional Tea Dances: Wednesdays Bingo Session: all welcome - prizes (Wednesdays) Horticultural Society Quiz Nite Bach Evening: <i>Tel 812198</i>	Ostlers Room, Falcon Madison House Painswick Centre Painswick Centre Town Hall Camp Ari, Edge	10.00am 10.00 to 5.00pm 2.00 to 4.00pm 7.30pm 7.30pm 7.30pm
Thu	11	Jolly Stompers Line-Dancing: Experienced Beginners - Thursdays Music Appreciation: Christmas Social PCMS/MU Carols, wine & cheese, with a talk by a Member of The Philippine Trust	Town Hall Westmorland House, Kingsmead	12.30 to 1.30pm 7.15 for 7.30pm 7.30pm
Fri	12	W.I. Market: Coffee with "tasters" available, Fridays Orders taken for Christmas produce Guild of Craftsmen – Mince pies and	Town Hall Guild Gallery Edge House	10.00am 7.00pm to 9.00pm 10.30am to 12.30pm
Sat	13	Annual Punch/Coffee & Mince Pies in aid of Pitchcombe & Edge Branch Conservative Assoc. Christmas Carols – Painswick Singers	Christ Church Christ Church Hall	7.30pm 12.15 to 1.15pm
Mon	15	Austerity Lunch: Hostess - Linda Davies	Ostlers Room, Falcon	8.30pm
Tue	16	Jazz Evening: Local Musicians, no entry fee	Town Hall	7.30pm
Wed	17	Parish council Meeting Wives' Fellowship Carol Service	Ashwell House Town Hall	7.30pm 2.30pm
Thu	18	W.I. Christmas Party	Town Hall	2.30pm
Fri	19	W.I. Christmas Market: Coffee & mince pies 75p Carers and Fellowship Group (Lower Washwell) Christmas Party	Town Hall Wynstowe	10.00am 2.30pm
Sun	21	Christmas Songs of Praise – inc. Painswick Choir		
Mon	22	Shortest Day		
Wed	24	Mobile Police Station.	Outside Town Hall	10.40am
	27	Town Hall lower hall closed until 7th January Copy dateline for January to Editorial Team	Town Hall	

2004

JANUARY

Thu	1	Diary dateline for January to Edwina Buttrey		
Sun	4	Painswick Beacon Conservation Group scrub clearing: Contact Pete Bradshaw (814210)	Painswick Beacon	10.00am
Mon	5	Getting fit for the piste – course commences	Broadham Pavilion	6.30pm to 7.30pm
Wed	7	Probos: History of Punch & Judy - Mr Guy Higgins	Ostlers Room, Falcon	10.00am
Thu	8	Talks: Early Renaissance Italy - by Dr Peter Clarkson 10 weeks until 18 March Alpha Supper Party: <i>Tel 812829/814282</i> , followed by a talk "Christianity: Boring, Untrue and Irrelevant" by Rev. John Longuet-Higgins	Small Church Room Castle Godwyn	11.00am - 12.30pm 7.00pm for 7.15pm
Sat	10	Publication of January issue		



Wed	14	Art Classes for beginners – re-run Horticultural Society: Gardens with a difference - Video presentation by Stan Newey	Church Rooms Town Hall	9.30am to noon 2.30pm
Thu	15	Music Appreciation: Antonin Dvorak	Town Hall	7.30pm
Fri	16	WI Market reopens	Town Hall	10.00am
Mon	19	Austerity Lunch: Hosts - C.T.A.P.	Christ Church Hall	12.15 to 1.15pm
Tue	20	Local History Society: The rebuilding of Prinknash - Jim Wise	Croft School	7.30pm
Wed	21	Probus: Pull the other one (Bell-ringing) - Mr M Clifford	Ostlers Room, Falcon	10.00am
Thu	22	Bird Club: Talk by Derek Jackson, on Raptor Identification	Town Hall	7.30pm
Mon	26	Austerity Lunch: Hosts - Horticultural Society	Christ Church Hall	12.15 to 1.15pm
Thu	29	Alpha Course begins - for 10 weeks Music Appreciation: Music in My Life	Christ Church Hall Town Hall	7.15pm 7.30pm

FEBRUARY

Sun	1	Painswick Beacon Conservation Group scrub clearing: Contact Pete Bradshaw (814210)	Painswick Beacon	10.00am
Mon	2	Austerity Lunch: Hosts - W.I. Markets.	Christ Church Hall	12.15 to 1.15pm
Mon	9	Austerity Lunch: Hosts - Catholic Church	Christ Church Hall	12.15 to 1.15pm
Thu	12	Music Appreciation: The Mighty Five	Town Hall	7.30pm
Sun	15	Bird Club visit to Ashleworth Ham to see Migrant Birds	Nature Reserve A417 at Hartpur	10.30am
Tue	17	Local History Society: Burdock & Son - an old- Established Painswick Firm - David Archard	Croft School	7.30pm
Wed	18	Wives' Fellowship: Art demonstration in pastels by Jan Whitton	Christ Church Hall	7.30pm

MARCH

Sun	7	Painswick Beacon Conservation Group scrub clearing: Contact Pete Bradshaw (814210)	Painswick Beacon	10.00am
Thu	11	Music Appreciation: Benjamin Britten	Town Hall	7.30pm
Thu	18	Bird Club: Talk about Keynes Country Park and its Birds - the Head Ranger. (followed by AGM)	Town Hall	7.30pm
Sat	20	Painswick Music Society Concert: Ruth Rogers, violin	St Mary's Church	3.00pm

APRIL

Sat	3	Painswick Music Society Concert: Angela Hewitt, piano	St Mary's Church	3.00pm
Thu	8	Music Appreciation: Finale for 16th Season		
Sat	24	Painswick Music Society Concert: Emperor String Quartet	St Mary's Church	3.00pm

MAY

Sat	8	Painswick Music Society Concert: The Nash Ensemble	St Mary's Church	3.00pm
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NOVEMBER

Sat	6	Music and Arts Festival for two weeks	various	
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The Diary on t' Web

Yet another astonishing, ground breaking first for the Beacon!

The Village Diary is now up on the web www.painswickbeacon.org

Check it out and be amazed!

Village Diary - the art of clash avoidance

A reminder, if a reminder is needed - about the Village Diary.

A large diary rests on the counter of Painswick Woodcrafts, as central and accessible a location as could be imagined in Painswick. This diary is dedicated to receiving, from club organisers, the dates and times of meetings and events they have planned for the year ahead - all of them..

The objective - to try and avoid the clashing of dates where such could be to the disadvantage of any organisation. The objective can only be achieved if everyone remembers to put their dates in the diary as soon as they are contemplated and/or arranged.

The other service is one we try to render in the Beacon itself by asking you to also let us know of these up-coming events. We intentionally try to publish those well beyond the current month so that while committees are actually meeting to make their plans they can readily refer to these pages to see which irregular events are coming along.

Please help yourselves and others by using both of these opportunities.



Triple Congratulations

Saturday, 8th November was a proud day for Ian and Frankie Marsh of Mynd House, The Highlands, when all three of their sons graduated together from Oxford University with Master of Engineering degrees.

Andrew (27) Nicholas (25) and David (23), who began their education at the Croft School, all studied for 4 years at Magdalen College Oxford- the older two reading Engineering, Economics and Management, whilst David completed an Engineering degree in the summer.

Whilst at Oxford, Nicholas and David both played Rugby Union regularly for the University 1st XV (Nicholas was awarded Blues in 2000 and 2001, was capped by England Students and then went on to represent the full England side in the Hong Kong Sevens in 2001) and David received a full Blue for Rugby League in 2003, having twice been on the winning side against Cambridge.

Andrew now works full time for an Anglican church in Hampstead, Nicholas, who gets married on 13th December, is a Management consultant in London and David has recently begun a teaching career at Monckton Combe, Bath.



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If paying by cheque, please make it payable to The Painswick Beacon. Receipts are

Front cover 2004

The Beacon Committee are considering the possibility of reproducing a full colour photograph on the front of our December 2004 issue.

We will be appreciative of the loan of any which depict a 'Painswick Winter Scene', and thought that giving notice now would help attract the amateurs in the community to take to the great outdoors this winter.

Beacon subscribers for 2003-04

at 23rd November

	2003-04	2002-03	2001-02
New or returned	62	75	80
Renewed	573	580	552
Totals	635	655	632

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The Personal Column

Babies

Congratulations to BELINDA and MARK STANLEY on the birth of a daughter, Rosie, in Cornwall on 25th October, a fifth grandchild for David and Sue Stanley,

also BARBARA and STEVE of Juniper Cottages in Wick Street on the birth of their beautiful daughter Layla Amy on 28th October, a sister for Jenny

also to KATHERINE and JAMIE COX on the birth of their son, Oliver Hugo, on 21st November, a first grandchild for John and Caroline Milne

and to LUISA and SIMON CAPIE on the birth of Daniel Simon, a brother for Zak, and fourth grandchild for Angela and Geoff Devito.

Wedding

Best wishes for their future happiness to CLAIRE BARTRAM and DARREN BEDDING who were married at St.Mary's, Painswick on 4th October.

Change of home

HELEN and WYNNE ROBERTS have moved from Cotswold House in New Street to 9 Hyett Orchard,

ANNE MORTIMORE and JAMES have moved from George Court to Avica, St.Mary's Mead.

Welcome

Mr TURNER has moved in to 6 Painswick Heights,

ADRIAN BURLEY who has moved into Bell Cottage in Friday Street,

Lady FINSBERG who has bought Cotswold House in New Street and is moving from London,

Mr Mrs NICHOLLS have bought 8 Canton Acre,

and Rev and Mrs IRVING moving into 9 Canton Acre from Minchinhampton.

Get well soon

Our best wishes for a speedy recovery to PAT DALY and JOHN HOGG who have both been patients in the John Radcliffe Hospital; also to JOHN STANGROOM, PAT ROBINSON and DOREEN BOON all in hospital recently, and PEGGY WAT-

KIN, SALLY BRENNAN, MARGARET RICHARDS, JUNE GARDINER and JOYCE TRANTER who have had health problems.

Condolences

Our sincere sympathies to the family and friends of EMMA SHARPLES, JIM SOLLARS, DAVID GLADWYN and BEATRICE PURCELL who have all died recently.

Birthdays

Congratulations to DORIS WILSON who celebrated her 95th birthday on 10th November, and ISOBEL JONES who was 96 on 18th November.

Thanks

Paul, Charles and Jack Sharples and Joyce and Tim Gibbins wish to express their thanks and appreciation for the wonderful support they have received in their sorrow at the loss of Emma.

Barbara Goddard. John, Robert, James and family would like to thank everyone who so kindly attended Barbara's Funeral Service, and for the many cards and letters of sympathy at this sad time.

Triple congratulations

See page 23

Remembering

Many people will remember Marjorie Miles who created and ran the Shetland Shop from the late fifties, and who has died in Lyme Regis at the age of 92.

Her husband Rob ran the pharmacy in Painswick prior to their move to Lyme Regis in 1969.

Rob is remembered for his contributions to the Beacon under the heading 'Milestones'. Rob died in 1992.

Readers are reminded that the Dog Warden telephone number is
01453 754497

NEXT ISSUE

Publication Date
SATURDAY 10th JANUARY

Items for publication to Editorial Team using the Beacon Post Box (see below) or c/o Longhope, Blakewell Mead GL6 6UR
SATURDAY 27th DECEMBER

Mini Ads to Philip Oakley c/o The Beacon box in New Street by
SUNDAY 22nd DECEMBER

Business adverts to Iris McCormick, St.Anne's, Gloucester Street GL6 6QN
THURSDAY 18th DECEMBER

Diary items (only) to Edwina Buttrey, 14 The Croft, by
THURSDAY 1st JANUARY

Letters and articles for publication are welcomed on computer diskette (returned after use) or by Email to:

painswickbeacon@supanet.com

Items to be published, and other mail for the Beacon Committee, can also be placed in the **Beacon Post Box** in New Street (next to the telephone kiosk).

Please provide your name, address and a contact phone number.

The **Beacon's telephone number is 814500**, and can accept short recorded messages: our **fax is on 01452.814500**

Our web site is **www.painswickbeacon.org.uk**

Beacon Committee
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Terry Parker
812191

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Diary: *Edwina Buttrey*
812565

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Jack Burgess 812167
Sport: *Terry Parker* 812191
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