

The Painswick Beacon

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June 2006

Everest

Painswick resident Sebastian Bullock and his fellow team members last month reached the summit of Everest. The Beacon is certain local residents would wish to join its committee in paying tribute to Sebastian for such a courageous achievement.



Just before we went to press we were able to speak with Sebastian, and his first comment was to express some satisfaction that the team of which he was a member had also undertaken the challenge to raise money, hopefully £15,000 for each of three charities - SOS Children's Villages, Merlin, and Practical Action - these being under the collective 'umbrella' of EverestMAX. Those

who undertake the full EverestMAX challenge do not just scale the highest mountain on earth, they start their journey from the lowest point, the Dead Sea, and can therefore claim a total climb which cannot be exceeded; Sebastian was unable to start from that lowest point.

As readers can find for themselves on the web site, Sebastian Bullock will be 40 this month 'and so this expedition can genuinely be justified on the grounds of a mid-life crisis, if nothing else! That aside, Seb has spent a good proportion of his life in the mountains; working as a ski guide, leading expeditions and climbing. This has all been at the same time as holding down a day job, for eight years in London in the City and for the past seven years as a teacher at Cheltenham College. The EverestMAX expedition was a once in a lifetime opportunity for him, much to the relief of his wife Katherine and 3 children, and should hopefully stave off any feeling of middle age!

"I had an exhilarating yet intimidating experience which was more than just a physical challenge" Sebastian told the Beacon, "with difficulties of coming to terms with realities of climbing at that altitude, and the deep feeling of isolation above 8000me-

tres." He drew our attention to 'blogs' on the web site, and we reproduce some extracts here, and say again - **Well done.**

***Seb On Top** Setting foot into the darkness at 8000m, at 9pm on Tuesday 16th May, en route for the summit of Everest, was a moment of great trepidation for me. This was new territory for me in every respect and the overwhelming feeling I had was of respect for the mountain and of the fragility of my existence on it. On account of setting off from a slightly lower camp, Chris and I were the only people moving on the mountain at that time, and indeed made fresh tracks all the way to the summit. The feeling of isolation was intense throughout the climb, partly because of climbing at night, but also because I found myself focusing intensely on every footstep and handhold, to the exclusion of everything else around.*

***17th May A Marathon day!** Today the Everestmax expedition had its first two Everest summiteers. Seb Bullock and Chris Owen left Camp III at 8.30pm last night and summited at dawn this morning. As a team we had a very anxious night awaiting news. Their ascent wasn't without incident with oxygen running low and exhaustion setting in.*

***19th May** There have been numerous rumours about what Seb and I been up to over the last few days, so we thought we would qualify this with our own true version of events. We left Camp 3 (8000 metres) at 9pm at night on the 16th May. The trail was empty and snow covered. Seb led the way sharply uphill for the first 2 hours until we hit the summit ridge (8400 metres). Good progress was made along the ridge, and we ascended the first and second step without difficulty (despite the batteries in my head torch failing on the first step). Things became hairy when we reached the final snow wall that culminates in the summit. I began to feel tired and my hands became cold. I caught up with Seb (at 8600 metres) who identified the cause - I had run out of oxygen, for how long who knows! Seb wired me up with my new cylinder, and I soon felt better. I also took some medications just in case. Seb and I discussed the merits of continuing - we decided to go for it, especially as we thought we were so close to the top. As always things are not what they appear - it was further than we anticipated. Despite this we made it. Having made the summit none of our digital cameras worked and we had to rely on a cheap disposable camera that I had bought just in case. Lets hope the pictures come out!*



Double Revs

One minister in a family might be considered a blessing. The Newell family have gone one better - they've got two.

Painswick's own David Newell was ordained into the Church of England ministry in 2003, a third vocation, as he points out, taken after he retired. His cousin, Leo, who is visiting England with his wife from their home in Atherton, North Queensland, Australia, was ordained in 2000. He is a minister in the Uniting Church, a hybrid amalgamation of Methodists, Presbyterians and Congregationalists, uniquely Australian and the third largest church.



The cousins met for the first time only in 1995 when David and Jean visited Australia. Since then there has been a steady series of visits in both directions which look set to continue.

Leo explains that his father emigrated from England in the late 1940s, a '£10 Pommie' as the thousands of English emigrants throughout the 40s and 50s were known. His father was a local Methodist preacher as was David's and his great grandfather. As far as they know, David and Leo are the first in the family to be ordained.

What of the future? Leo has two daughters working in London and talks of the possibility of working for two or three years in England himself after retirement. David and Jean are planning their next trip to Australia. Meanwhile, our picture shows David and Leo enjoying time together during Leo's stay in Painswick.

Carol Maxwell

Inside, this month, art by **Quartet**, a **Duke visits**, the **library challenge** fully explained, clipping your **espaliers** painlessly, new **test of centre knowledge**, the fate of the **Fête** last week, **perennial** organisation, **buses** needing support, major flower **festival planned**, young **Tom** attracts award, **concerts** reviewed, **Georgie** bucks the trend, ancient **Egypt** rediscovered, the **election result**.

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS - by Leslie Brotherton

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

PLANNING COMMITTEE

Procedures: Care Centre

Chairman David Hudson raised a question, arising from a potential misunderstanding from the penultimate paragraph of the report in the Beacon (page 6 last month), that Parish Council representatives on the Standing Liaison Group with Richmond Painswick might be construed as expressing support for an impending planning application to which reference was made. The Planning Committee was advised that the SLG had commended a report being published, setting any such application into its historic perspective but that they had no precise knowledge of the detail of an intended planning application. Peter Rowe, not an SLG member, expressed his confidence that members would discharge their planning responsibilities objectively if any application came before the committee.

Procedures: District Council

The committee was reminded of the latest policy of the District Council which required that in circumstances in which any objection was recommended by the Parish Council such would only be taken into account if it accorded with contravention of SDC policies. The Parish Council remained opposed to a requirement, implicit in such an assumption, that parish councillors were 'expert' in their understanding of sometimes complex planning regulations. Councillors were determined to continue to offer advice to SDC based upon their local knowledge of proposals, the interpretation thereof being for the experts employed by SDC. Further, it was resolved to table a motion in support of such freedom of expression at the AGM of the Gloucestershire Association of Parish and Town Councils to be held in October.

PARISH COUNCIL

Mr Dhushy Mahendran was welcomed to his first meeting as a Parish Councillor representing Sheepscombe.

The Council stood in silence in memory of Ron Quelch, a previous member of the Council, who had died in the previous week.

Officers

The Council appointed its committees, their chairmen and representatives on other bodies for the ensuing year. Terry

Parker was re-elected Chairman of the Council, and David Hudson Vice-chairman - although he intimated his hope to retire from the Council next spring.

Recreation Field Pavilion

The Council noted discussions having taken place with the management committee of the youth club regarding the request from Tim Friend to use these Council-owned premises as a base for activities he was now organising on the field under the auspices of the Painswick & Stroud Local Area Ministry (PSALMS) project. It was agreed that having another well super-

vised youth organisation operating from these premises could only be beneficial to the existing club, at which attendances

had dwindled significantly in recent weeks, and it was agreed to negotiate for such an arrangement forthwith.

Painswick Beacon: common land

The Council received the information it had requested from the agents acting on behalf of the Manorship that whilst horse-riders had a legal right to use all dedicated bridleways on Painswick Beacon, the agents had not given permission for the use of the bridleways to be extended to include motorised activities of any sort.

Library

The Council received an outline report from David Hudson upon the open meeting held on the previous Monday. Members also received a 3-page report tabled at that meeting from the Study Group which had volunteered its services at the previous public meeting on 13th April. (See report pages 8 and 9).

The key points he raised were that the County Council wished to dispose of the library building, complete with in excess of £80k of maintenance arrears, but they were undertaking to continue to provide library services to the village even if such might be of significantly less size - and a mobile library was not ruled out. He suggested that the Study Group report offered one path towards a resolution but that a 6-month limitation of time before GCC made decisions was not helpful. Norman Rampton was invited to speak to the Council on behalf of the Group and emphasised that the Sword of Damocles was hanging over the library and its premises, but hoped that the Parish Council would give the Group its 'blessing' to get on with seeking the best solution.

Several members spoke in support of the quest for a solution to retain library services in a fixed location, hopefully taking into account the need to 'move with the

times' towards the most contemporary of service being offered. Upon a suggestion from the Chairman it was agreed in principle that if a temporary alternative base for the library were required the upper hall of the Town Hall could be considered.

The Council supported the Study Group, who were meeting at the end of the month to consider whether and in what way they might tackle the challenge 'triggered' by GCC.

Recreation Field - youth shelter

Martin Slinger and the Chairman reported their research into possibilities of providing

a shelter/rendezvous for young people located on the Recreation Field away from residential property. It was agreed, subject to checking whether planning consent is required, to obtain a shelter of a type popular with young people in Nailsworth as shown in the picture.

Broadham - pavilion

The Council received a detailed proposal from the pavilion management committee to receive an allocation of £1000 from the Margaret Hampshire bequest towards the furnishing of a secondary lounge area in the pavilion, this being created in response to meet the significantly increased use of the grounds and pavilion by young people.

Road resurfacing - Tibbiwell and Victoria Street

Ann Burges Watson reported that the County Council had advised her of their intention to resurface pavements and carriageway in these streets and sought the Council's observations as to whether October was a suitable time of year. The Council supported the date, and agreed that the Traffic Committee should consider any alterations which might be included in such works, this forming part of a further report already anticipated.

Cotswold Way Information Centre

The Chairman and Martin Slinger reported having had discussions with Jo Ronald, of the National Trail Office at Standish, upon the local desire to have a mid-point information centre for the Cotswold Way National Trail (being relaunched in 2007) located in Painswick. They had been advised that the initiative was with Painswick to put forward proposals for consideration by her and the NTO, for which some funding may well be available in 2007-08.

Bus shelter - Stroud Road/Broadham Field

In response to the invitation of the County Council for suggestions regarding the possibility of their allocating Section 106 funds for new shelters it was agreed to support Ann Burges Watson's suggestion that an attractive shelter be located on the Broadham side of Stroud Road at the existing bus stop.



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Annual Parish Meeting

This year's meeting was held on 24th May and, maybe surprisingly, attracted only three members of the public.

Considerable effort had been expended by councillors preparing reports upon the working of the Parish Council across the past year, printed across our centre pages last month. Chairman Terry Parker drew attention to several matters which had arisen since then, including the council's offer of a Plan B for a possible relocation of the library and its support of the Study Group's efforts, and the seriousness of a reduction in the number of young people attending the youth club. Praise was given unreservedly to staff Clerk Roy Balgobin, Assistant Clerk Liz Fisher and the even more 'visible' endeavours of Handyman George Hodder.

Reports were thoroughly prepared and presented by County Councillor Joan Nash, and District Councillor Barbara Tait - accompanied by Frances Roden in her newly elected capacity.

The business of the Beacon is to communicate, as best we can, what is happening in and around Painswick; so we conclude (as may our representatives) that there is widespread satisfaction with the administration of this first tier of local government - and the next two as well.

Vandalism in Painswick Plantation

During the hours of Sunday/Monday (21st/22nd May), a small mature Beech tree was vandalised in the Plantation near the Walkers' Car Park. Someone tried to cut the tree down with a hand-saw, resulting in the tree being left in an extremely dangerous situation.

I was told of this on Monday morning and the tree was safely dealt with that afternoon. Besides being a danger to the person who damaged the tree, it also posed a danger to the public who use the Plantation. This was vandalism to a sound tree which involved George Hodder's, the police's and my time, not least in the pouring rain. There was also the expense of having the tree professionally dealt with. Dangerous trees are felled when necessary by authorised persons after consultation, and only with written permission from the Parish Council.

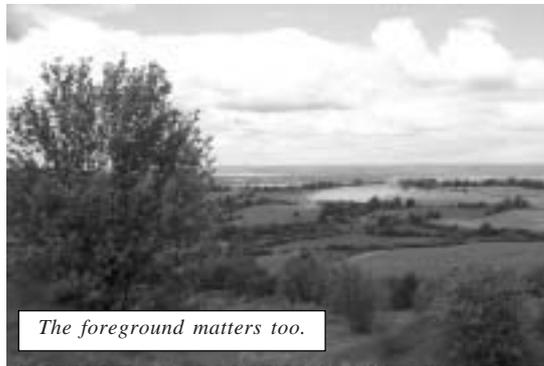
Ann Daniels Chairman - Plantation Committee



Beacon Clear-Up

Make a note in your diary – Sunday 18th June at 2.00pm – for this year's Beacon Clear-up. The meeting point will be at the car park near Catbrain Quarry on the road crossing the Painswick Beacon. It will be sign-posted. Like last year, the Parish Council is providing litter pickers, plastic gloves and waste sacks, etc. All volunteers will be most welcome. Please give me a call for further details.

While the litter is not quite so bad as last year, there is still a lot particularly adjacent to the car park and in the quarries. When I was checking the area, I found an old computer, a deep freeze, a sofa and



The foreground matters too.

three armchairs and a pile of thirty tyres, as well as lots of smaller items. I will try and persuade the local authority to take away the larger items before we start.

Last year, some twenty-five people – from teenagers

to seniors – decided to not just talk green but act green! Come and give us an hour or two of your time to make one of our favourite open spaces more attractive for us all.

Peter Rowe 813228

Use them or Lose them

The County Council is currently reviewing the future of evening public transport services in the Stroud area and new timetables will be published shortly. The future of the Stroud North Link service is also under consideration with the possibility of moving to a fixed timetable rather than the present Demand Response Service where residents telephone 01452.423598 to make a booking.

The Parish Council is concerned that parishioners use this excellent service in order to safeguard its future.

Please "Think Bus". It really is **USE IT OR LOSE IT**.
Terry Parker, Parish Council Chairman

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Painswick's Royal Visit

To celebrate the centenary of the Painswick Centre, at this year's Victorian Costume Ball on Saturday 8th July, we are delighted to say that Queen Victoria will be honouring us with her presence for the evening accompanied by her lady in waiting and personal guard.

The Queen, alias Sue Spoonley was actually born in Selsley and moved away from the area when she married some 40 years ago to live in Llandrindod Wells where she takes the part of Queen Victoria each year for the duration of their annual Victorian Festival. Sue was delighted to be asked to return to the area and will be residing for the night with Jack and Jean Burgess in Cotswold Mead, travelling from there to arrive at the Centre for the commencement of the ball at 8.00pm.

Should you wish to join us for the evening and even be introduced to the Queen, tickets priced at £7.00 for dancing, including refreshments will be available from the Shetland Shop or by phoning Geoff or Joy on 01453.833150. For those who are not sure on the dancing aspect spectator tickets will be available at £4.00 including refreshments so do come and enjoy an evening of music and perhaps think of joining us for the dancing next year. There will be a bar facility too for the thirsty!

There will be a dance workshop on Thursday 6th July, from 7.00-9.00pm at the Centre for anyone who would like to learn some of the dances for the Ball, most of which are very simple to do as the emphasis is on making the evening as relaxed and enjoyable as possible.

Should you need Victorian costumes for the evening contact Jackie Herbert as the local players have an extensive wardrobe which is available, or failing that Cotswold Costumes in Nailsworth also have a large selection for hire.

Please book your tickets early to avoid disappointment and have a memorable evening.

Geoff & Joy Dancing for Pleasure

Poop Scoop Bags

As part of its Parish Tidy scheme, the Parish Council has poop scoop bags for sale.

They are available at the Parish Council office on a non-profit basis. 10 bags cost 25p.

The council hopes that dog owning residents will take advantage of the facility.

Roy Balgobin Clerk to the Parish Council

Perennial(s)

Susan Bowers gave us an informative talk at our May meeting on the work of 'Perennial', formerly known as the Gardeners Royal Benevolent Society - the only Charity formed to support gardeners. The Society was founded by Charles Dickens and exists to support horticulturists in need and we were asked to pass their name on to anyone who would benefit from their help. Their work is little known and funds are hard to raise.

AGM 2006

Philip Berry, Chairman, reported on an interesting and successful year. Sadly our President, Pauline Lamont, has resigned due to ill health. She was warmly thanked for all her hard work. Brenda Dunn was elected as our new President. We wish them both well in the future. Philip was pleased to report that the recent ballot had shown 89% in favour of the retention of our name. There has been an increase in our membership so prospects for the future are good. During the past year members have enjoyed a variety of speakers, many interesting outings and several good social events. Good company, interesting places and good food have been enjoyed by all and each a bonus to our shared interest in gardening.

Future dates for your diary: **Annual Show - Saturday 9th September** at the Painswick Centre 2.30pm-5.30pm. Our next meeting - 7.30pm 11th October at the Town Hall 'The Magic of the Outer Hebrides'

Betty Harris

The Painswick Educational Trust

This Trust was formed some twenty years ago to help Painswick young people with their training and education. We are like many others short of funds and are finding it difficult to meet some of the applications from deserving students at a time when they are having to spend more than ever on their education and training.

If anyone feels that they would like to donate to the fund in any way at all or would like to know more about the Trust do call me on 812588 or send a donation to Joy Edwards, The Plough, Jacks Green, Sheepscombe, Stroud, Glos. GL6 7RD. Please make cheques payable to the Painswick Educational Foundation.

Thank you.

Joy Edwards

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Rare indeed

Hemeris lucina, the Duke of Burgundy, is the only one of its species which lives in Europe.

Strange to tell, one found its way into the Cedric Neilsen cottage during one of the stormy evenings we had a couple of weeks ago. Initially thought to be a moth, closer examination revealed that this was indeed one of those rarest of butterflies, just a few being found on Painswick Beacon, Juniper Hill and Edge Common - these being the most notherly sightings ever made. Having a diet of cowslips and primroses, its captivity was of course short-lived.



Mental Health Unit for the Elderly

Weaver's Croft is a purpose built unit for those over working age with mental problems. These range from depression or confusion to full blown Alzheimer's. The unit is situated in Stroud just below the hospital and provides facilities for assessment, rehabilitation, day care and respite care.

Gordon Horner has drawn the Beacon's attention to the current situation.

"Any of us who have had to care for elderly relatives will know how invaluable it is to have these services (especially respite care) available near to their home.

As part of an emergency cost-cutting exercise to balance the books this year, the Partnership Trust (which runs the mental health services in Gloucestershire) is planning on closing Weaver's Croft, together with other units in the County, and centralise the service in Charlton Lane, Cheltenham. The "consultation period" lasts for only 5 weeks starting on 22nd May which gives minimal time for the public's views to be heard. There are no plans to have any open meetings so that those who are, or may in the future be, affected can have their say.

If the closure goes ahead there will be both a reduced number of beds and decreased accessibility, skills and services for patients and relatives. There are suggestions that the community services will be increased, but no plans have been proposed for how this is to be done or funded."

Mr Horner points out that the League of Friends of the Stroud Hospitals are very concerned about the decrease in the service offered to the elderly of Stroud and the surrounding areas and the lack of adequate consultation. They are also planning a defence of the Maternity Hospital and the reduction of surgery at Stroud General, but in view of the very short consultation period allowed, there is extreme urgency needed in taking action to defend Weaver's Croft.

They urge that those concerned about the situation write, without delay, to the 'powers that be' such as the Secretary of State for Health, 79 Whitehall, London SW1A 2NS, but include David Drew MP, Stroud Labour Party, 5a Lansdown, Stroud GL5 1BB

An Artful Trail of Open Studios

Three Painswick artists are part of an 'arts trail' of ten **Open Studios** along the Painswick Valley from Stroud to Miserden, which will be throwing open their doors over two weekends in June (9th -11th and 16th - 18th) from Friday evening to Sunday evening. The Painswick Valley trail is just one of five **Open Studios** trails involving over 80 artists working in the five Stroud Valleys, as part of the month long **site06 Arts Festival**. Full details of the festival are available at Painswick Library, including the times of special 'artbus tours' leaving from the Subscription Rooms in Stroud.

The idea of **Open Studios**, according to Jane Garbett, whose Vicarage Street studio - Dover Mews - is participating, is not so much about selling, as welcoming people in to see what individual artists are doing, how they do it and to raise the artists' profiles in the community. Jane, who is also launching a 'complete beginners drawing class' on 21st June, will show abstract paintings inspired by nature. She can be reached on 812176.

Right opposite is the Pear Tree Cottage studio of photographer Georgie Brocklehurst (phone 812741), who is keen to demonstrate how she produces superb portraits using very traditional large format cameras and 19th Century processing techniques. Georgie emphasises that all visitors will find a very welcoming, summery, non-threatening, non-selling, garden meandering sort of arty experience. To complete the picture, there are even rumours of home-made lemonade!

The third studio open shows the work of Pippa Tideman (2 Tibbiwell Gardens, 814325) and Lorraine Robbins. Both artists are currently exhibiting drawings and paintings at the Museum in the Park, Stroud and lecture in art at Stroud College.

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Beetle ahead

Two dates for your diary!

Make a date in your diary NOW! On Saturday 12th August at 7.00pm, in The Church Rooms! Yew Trees WI are organising a Beetle Drive which they hope will prove fun for all the family – young and old alike. It will be an informal evening with a buffet supper and a raffle to raise funds for Mencap Stroud and District Homes. Details of ticket sales will follow.



Ladies, if you are free on Tuesday 27th June do come along to the Town Hall at 7.30pm when Sara-Jane Hasman is going to talk about The Everyman Theatre in Cheltenham – Past, Present and Future. A very warm welcome awaits both visitors (£2 each) and prospective members. See you there?

Yew Trees WI was well represented when Sheepscombe WI played host to three neighbouring Institutes at a 'Group Rally' in Sheepscombe Village Hall on 16th May. Seventeen members of Yew Trees enjoyed an excellent meal in friendly company, followed by the highlight of the evening -- entertainment provided by a Sheepscombe WI member. Known to her fellow members as Cathy --- but to everyone else as the internationally celebrated harpist Catherine White -- Cathy began by explaining how the harp works. She also regaled us with some tales of touring America (a harp is not the easiest of instruments to transport!) and entranced us with her exquisite playing.

Celia Lougher

Charity lunch

I would like to thank everyone who supported the Charity Lunch in aid of Cancer Research on Wednesday 10th May. I was overwhelmed by the kindness and generosity from all who came as well as from those who weren't able to come. We raised over £280, and had an absolutely fantastic lunch with the added bonus of glorious sunshine.

I have managed to return most bowls and dishes to their rightful owners; please contact me on 812243 if yours has not come home to roost yet!

Many thanks to you all for making it such a great success.

Carole Smith

library info

I know that this a particularly unsettling time both for customers and the staff at Painswick Library. However we want to give you our assurance that we will continue to work on your behalf to provide the best possible service we can.

Please continue to let us know the type of books you want on the shelves. We exchange books with other libraries every month on a rota basis, but we can always add to our stock if necessary.

An early reminder for our younger readers that this summer all the libraries will be running "The Reading Mission" (you may remember that last summer we had "The Reading Voyage". This is a national initiative to keep children reading during the school holidays and will consist of clues, quizzes, stickers and all the exciting bits and pieces they enjoyed collecting last year. At the end of "The Mission", those children who have completed the challenge will receive a Certificate of Achievement. We hope to have all the information available by the beginning of July, ready for the children to register.

Kath, Jess, Anne and Janine – your Library staff

Stroud District Council - election

Three candidates stood in the election on 4th May, party results being
 Conservative 1160
 Green 385
 Labour 185

Frances Roden, pictured here, will therefore be joining **Barbara Tait** to represent the Painswick Ward.



Richmond 'Open Day'

The detail of this 'Open Day' had not been arranged when we last went to press, but Richmond Painswick tell us that the main points are:

- Sunday 11th June, 11.00am to 4.00pm
- Central Courtyard at Richmond Painswick
- Valerie Singleton, a keen Richmond Villages supporter, will be there
- Wine, soft drinks, canapes and afternoon tea
- Band
- Exhibition of proposed Phase 3 development
- Viewing point for Phase 2
- Show apartment available for viewing
- Those wishing to drive should park at the Painswick Rugby Club carpark from which a shuttle bus will operate to and from Richmond Painswick (No parking, please, in Cotswold Mead.)
- Those who do not have transport and wish to attend should contact Sue Bishop or Susie Oakley on 813902 and arrangements will be made for them to be collected and returned
- Any other queries, please contact Sue Bishop or Susie Oakley on 813902



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OPEN DAY
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Open Gardens in Sheepscombe

Gardens will be open on Sunday 18th June from 1.00 to 6.00pm in aid of the Village Hall development.

Tickets at £5.00 can be purchased on the day at the Village Hall and will give access to all of the gardens. Parking available at the Village Hall and Trench Hill.

Home-made teas await visitors at the Village Hall itself.

The Beacon has been told that it is 30 years since quite such an event was held in Sheepscombe!

Gwyneth Gibbens

Espalier pruning

An introductory course for espalier pruning of fruit trees (heritage varieties of apples and pears) will be taking place on Thursday 27th July at the Rococo Garden. Paul Moir tells the Beacon that a fruit tutor will give guidance in summer pruning the trained espaliers around the extensive Kitchen Garden.

The course will run from 10.00am to 4.00pm and coffee and tea will be provided, but attendees will need to bring a packed lunch.

Secateurs and pruning equipment will be provided, but those attending will be welcome to bring their own equipment if they have an old faithful pair.

Further information, including the enrolment fee, can be obtained telephoning 813204, or by writing in to reserve a place. If you would like further details about this course please contact Chris Hitchcock (Head Gardener), at the Painswick Rococo Garden.

Conservation matters !

The Conservation Society's AGM was held on 26th April in St Mary's Church rooms, followed by drinks and then a guest speaker. These were the more important points made. Financially, and as a result of the successful 'millenium video' production and our subsequent investments, the Society is now well funded. Increasingly, therefore, we are looking for appropriate local projects to support and suggestions are welcomed from Beacon readers.

Our contribution to the wrought iron lamp above the Town Hall steps is a good example of what we could consider. Meanwhile the video itself is now increasingly dated and so we are disposing of the few in stock. They are mainly, but not entirely, in overseas TV lineage (NTSC and SECAM) so no reasonable offers will be refused for early Christmas presents!

On planning matters the District Council has now computerised their systems and Painswickians with broadband internet access can examine such applications on line, that is without needing to visit Ebley Mill or our own Town Hall. Phone 01453.754442 for assistance on this. While the number of local planning applications (114) was 15% down in 2005, two of them deserve comment.

Firstly, an application was made in November 2004 to carry out renovations in the Rococo Gardens and also to install a wheel chair lift near to one of the garden walls. This would have opened up the gardens to many visitors otherwise unable to get down into the steep sided valley and we supported it. However the Garden History Society, a body with statutory powers, eventually asked for the chair lift element to be withdrawn otherwise they would have refused consent to the whole application. We feel this is regrettable.

The second application, which we are opposing, should be of greater concern to all who live in this area, and particularly in the Slad Valley. It concerns part of the bridle path that runs uphill from Steanbridge Mill to join Catswood Lane, locally known as King Charles' Way for historical reasons. Under the 1981 Wildlife & Countryside Act it has been possible for such a right of way - based on horse drawn vehicles - to become a Byway Open to All Traffic (BOAT) and on this basis a local cross country motor cycle and trail riding group have applied for access. In fact they already using this but without authority. The impact on the Slad Valley and our AONB therefore needs no explanation but this is now one of about 50 such applications overwhelming our County Council. Fortunately the government has recognised the absurdity of its legislation and it is hoped that retrospective amendments can be introduced into what is anyway a complex and drawn out process. The matter is therefore somewhat in limbo, but not our opposition.

Two changes were made on our Committee: Stephen Price, of Slad, has stood down after some eight years of giving mature and reliable advice and we are all much in his debt. His place has been taken by Warren Knock, also from Slad. At the same time Edward Young, of Loveday's Mill, has had his co-option confirmed and formally joins us. Otherwise the four remaining committee members were re-elected; Carolyn Luke, Leonard Chittenden (membership), Maggie Drake and Tessa Scot-Simmonds, as were the officers under the rules namely Maurice Maggs, Secretary, Richard Burges-Watson, Treasurer, and myself as Chairman.

After some complimentary drinks the evening ended with a superb talk by Jonathan McKechnie Jarvis of the Gloucester Diocesan Advisory Committee. In this he spoke about his responsibilities for the conservation, maintenance and (often) alteration to any churches in the Gloucester Diocese, and he made his points with numerous slide photos. The number of subsequent questions extended far beyond the expected closure and the applause was proof of the audience's appreciation.

Douglas Robinson

Nagshead visited

It was a perfect spring Sunday when members of the Painswick Bird Club met at the RSPB Reserve at Nagshead in The Forest of Dean. Ably led by Mike Robinson, members enjoyed the sunshine, the new beech leaves, blue-bells and above all the bird song. A fair number of birds were seen, including a pied fly catcher.

Our June meeting is a guided walk to Barrow Wake, a high Cotswold valley where we hope to see yellow hammers, linnets and pipits as well as butterflies and flowers. Meet at Barrow Wake viewpoint car park near Birdlip on Tuesday 20th June, at 9.30am.

Joan Cooper



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Library - new context

Firstly, to update events in chronological order - while those with a deeper concern rummage among recent issues of the Beacon to remind themselves of the history of these fast-moving developments.

Most of the thirteen volunteers who put their names forward at the 'Friends of Painswick Library' meeting on 13th April put in a great deal of work teasing their way through the numerous points raised on that occasion to see if there was a coherent policy or set of suggestions they could pull together to present to their fellow citizens and the GCC Cabinet Member for Libraries, Tony Hicks, when he came to the village for his scheduled visit on 15th May. Not a great deal of time, when one considers that all were busy people anyway - and their task was far from straightforward.

However, this Study Group 'bit the bullet' and came up with three sides of A4 to place before all who might be concerned - an audience which was sure to increase as the attendance of well over 50 demonstrated nearly three weeks ago. Their underlying conclusion in relation to the library premises was, as we published last month, to **'vigorously seek to retain these premises and examine the manner in which they might be integrated/developed in some measure with those managed by St.Mary's Church to the rear, on behalf of the village as a whole'**.

Their first paper, entitled **'A changing scene'**, was where the Group set out items which it regarded as, and we quote,

FIRMLY ON THE AGENDA IN THE SHORT TERM viz 1-3 years

County Council Library - its structural deterioration and questioning of the revenue costs and (hence) continuation within premises at its present location; all within context of changing public expectations

Care Centre - significant requirement for library/books services (within next 12 months) with upwards of 80 residents with varying degrees of mobility

Churches Together Around Painswick - currently examining the viability of continuance of their existing venues for worship and/or ancillary activities

Painswick Centre - continuing to seek to attract regular and occasional users to boost revenue to fund modernisation and upkeep

St. Mary's Church - inadequacy of Benefice Office space and its difficult location, extent of use of church rooms to meet revenue requirements

Cotswold Way Information Centre - an identified requirement located at its mid point and alongside the National Trail which is to be re-launched in May 2007

Churchyard/Tombs restoration project - requirement for standing exhibition open to public

OTHER ASPIRATIONS SEEKING AN AGENDA PLACE

Art Exhibitions - desirability of near permanent display facilities, as well as improved opportunities for specific showings

Village Archives - depository of artefacts and documents, preferably with displays and research facilities

Box Office - both for locally organised events but also trips/outings by several organisations

Tourist Information - reinforcement/enhancement of facility voluntarily run by local people

Pedestrian link churchyard-car park - to enhance access to the village and avoid need to navigate dangers of extremely narrow

pavement at Lych Gate corner

Tourist/Cyber Café - welcoming service adjacent to the car park and within these facilities.

They deduced that "At first sight these short and long-term hurdles appear to each require separate resolution by the organisations concerned.

However, motivated by (a) the near immediacy of the requirement of the County Council to demonstrate strong local efforts/action to improve utilisation of the library, (b) current dialogue among the Churches Together Around Painswick, and (c) indications from St.Mary's seeking collaboration with others to consider resolution of these community issues by the management/development of their premises towards a wider community project, systematic studies into the feasibility of achieving such a goal are commended."

The Study Group's second paper was entitled **'Library services'** and addressed the issues of policy of the County Council towards their library. It asked numerous questions about running costs, their intent for use of the premises, whether voluntary staffing was acceptable, and so on. (More about elucidation of information later in this report.)

The third paper was prefaced by three strong statements:

- THE INFORMATION AVAILABLE AT MAY 2006, summarised on the first page, HAS LED A LOCAL STUDY GROUP TO THE CONCLUSION THAT A MAJOR COMMUNITY BASED EXERCISE SHOULD BE IMMEDIATELY PUT IN HAND.
- REPRESENTATIONS SHOULD BE MADE TO THE PARISH COUNCIL TO SEEK ITS ENDORSEMENT OF THIS EXERCISE AND ITS DETERMINATION OF THE MANNER IN WHICH IT SHOULD BE CARRIED OUT, AND BY WHOM.
- THE FOLLOWING STRATEGY IS COMMENDED, PREFERABLY COMMENCING WITH THE SUPPORT OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL BY ITS PROVIDING THE ASSISTANCE SOUGHT AS SET OUT ON THE PRECEDING PAGE.

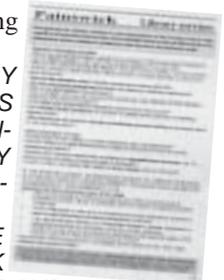
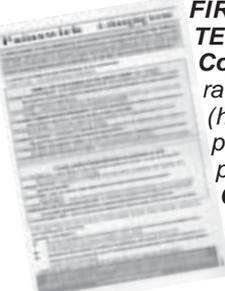
followed by, under the heading **'Managing change'**, its strategy 'for considering the feasibility of a community based solution'.

STAGE ONE Information gathering

.1 Consider essential participants and establish core study group with appropriate skills/interests (4 to 6 people). Publicise this and involve all likely partners/stakeholders.

Note that the skills of others may need to be sought and brought to bear in consideration of specific aspects, e.g. capital finance, forward budgeting, architectural matters.

- .2 Establish role of GCC and Parish Council.
- .3 Identify resource to meet cost of administration of study group.
- .4 Need to share information on all buildings on the site. Ownership plans, condition surveys, existing covenants, rights of way etc.
- .5 Potential uses/users/ other denominational groups/ potential benefits to be established in more detail. Examine scope for closer integration of Library premises with Church Rooms including demolition of outdated outbuildings for replacement as improved access and potential for new build (if required). GCC assistance with feasibility?



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.6 Consult local groups, appropriate agencies, and other denominations as to potential needs and satisfaction with present premises - try to ensure sensitivity with other local providers such as Painswick Centre (former Institute building), Town Hall etc.

.7 Consider and initiate involvement with potential sources of financial assistance.

STAGE TWO Draft Project work

.1 Firm up brief for future uses and purposes. More detailed architectural and financial viability study.

.2 Consider formation of suitable organisation for future ownership and management - e.g. some form of Community Trust. Seek guidance and information on this.

.3 Consider details of funding of project and seek understandings with other user groups.

.4 Maintain information releases to the public and interested parties.

Time scale

.1 Seek to complete Stages One and Two by the end of 2007.

Note : The above items are a guide only to the various steps and sequences to be followed. (See comment below.)

STAGE THREE Implementation from 2008 onwards

.1 Finalise technical reports

.2 Finalise plans/planning applications including Listed Buildings consent

.3 Finalise negotiations with GCC on library use and ownership

.4 Finalise partnerships with other users

.5 Finalise funding including grant applications

.6 Finalise new Trust and management arrangements

.7 Ensure regular flow of information to public and interested parties

The public meeting convened by County Councillor Joan Nash on 15th May was very well attended indeed, with over fifty present

Assistant County Librarian Jo Hand set the scene, the challenge facing Painswick. She referred to the dilapidated state of the premises, their being over-size for library purposes and there being no access for the disabled to the meeting room upstairs. The catchment area it serves is the lowest in the county. Opening hours are 16 per week. Visitor figures for 2005-06 were 20657, an increase upon 19716 in the previous year, but still in the lowest 4-5 in the county. Some 559 people borrowed books, placing Painswick library in the bottom 2 county wide. Time spent on computers had risen from 53% of capacity to 71%, a marked improvement upon the previous year.

The running costs of this library are about £34,000 in the current year, excluding books, and other stock. The arrears of maintenance on the premises now exceeds £80,000.

The ensuing contributions by the public were wide ranging and constructive. In addition to those identified by the Study Group, already set out here, there were keen feelings that the book stock was poor and that such had, over recent years, 'lost' readers. Donation of books was suggested, but their becoming part of the

county-wide stock was a deterrent. Others sought extended opening hours to meet a variety of needs, including those of after-school children, but it seemed that using voluntary staffing had limitations - not least if such were to replace regular library staff.

Councillor Hicks addressed the issues in the Study Group's document, of which he had advance copy, and those raised earlier in the proceedings. He warmly welcomed the report, and complimented those concerned in its preparation. The most significant fact to firmly emerge was that **the County Council does not require premises as large as those currently occupied and is determined to sell them**; under present legislation it would be possible for the local community to purchase such premises at some 20% below the open market valuation. If **alternative smaller suitable premises** can be found such would be investigated but, failing that, a mobile library service would discharge the undertaking given to maintain a library service to the village.

The expectation of the Study Group regarding **time scale** that up to 18 months would be required to complete its researches, etc. (see detail above) was unacceptable to the County Council in that they anticipated determining their future in the present premises before the end of this year. Such meant that they would wait until **early December to see if a viable scheme to incorporate a library was formulated by the community**, but Mr Hicks stated that he was far from optimistic that such could be achieved.

The County Council anticipated being able to maintain its budget at the current level, but did not have any resources beyond about £50k across all 39 library buildings for property maintenance. No funds could be made directly available for professional services such as building surveys or design, although he would look into making the most recent reports upon the precise condition of the building available.

In summing up, Tony Hicks reiterated that he held a pragmatic view. **If Painswick suggested alternative premises, temporary or permanent, GCC would be interested in renting them; if not, the present use of the Stroud Road building would cease within twelve months.** No assurances could be given about the future of the Tourist Information Centre. He welcomed the considerable work already undertaken by the Study Group, and the wider community interest/concern expressed, but believed that any solution to secure library services on this site in the longer term would rely entirely upon local community initiatives.

The Parish Council discussed the public meeting two days later on 17th May (see report page 2) and 'agreed in principle that if a temporary or permanent alternative base for the library were required the upper hall of the Town Hall could be considered'.

The scenario - the challenge

County Councillor Joan Nash, the meeting, and the Parish Council, have signalled to the Study Group that it is hoped they, or some of their number, will attempt to discharge the tasks set out in their report - Stage Three.

The Beacon has, here and in previous reports, done its best to set out the facts; even though we will probably attract criticism for the space we have used! We, too, hope that the Group can take this task on board in the long term interest of the whole community.



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Playgroup active



It has continued to be busy, busy, busy at Painswick Playgroup. As part of their "transport" project, a group of children visited Stroud Fire Station and had lots of fun climbing on the fire engines, using the hoses and finding out about the work of the firemen and women ... as well as operating the siren!

In May the staff and children had a "Wear Something Red" day to raise money for the British Red Cross. They also made their own biscuits for morning snack complete with red decorations. Lots more activities are planned for the remainder of the year including a trip to Painswick Library and the summer outing to the Cattle Country near Berkeley.

Painswick Playgroup is currently full but will have places available from September 2006. Those interested in enrolling should contact Beaty Bell, the Playgroup Leader, on 813316.

Susie Oakley

Newsletter notes

A Safari Supper

For those of you new to the school that have not experienced a Safari Supper, what happens is that you move around the village eating a different course at three different houses, and with different groups of parents, until everyone finally meets up at a central location for coffee at the end. Alison Bullingham is kindly organising such an event. Please support the PTA, help raise funds for the school and have a good night out on 10th June.

The whole of Class 4 spent a day and half in a **brass workshop** recently, resulting in a very impressive performance for the whole school. Afterwards, several children expressed an interest in learning to play a brass instrument.

Congratulations to Douglas Fair, Kit Kirby, Matthew Longuet Higgins and Hamish Mackellar. They were part of the Painswick Rugby Club Under 10s team who were runners up in a South of England tournament recently.

Please continue to send in:

- Wildlife for the pond
- Tesco computer vouchers
- Sainsbury's Active Kids vouchers

The **Gloucestershire T Shirt Day** was well supported, raising £135.

As agreed between the local authority and the charities involved, half of this was kept by the school and half went to charities supporting disabled children. These are:

- The Spring Centre, which supports children with disabilities and their families
- The National Star College, which provides residential, further education and independence training for young people aged 16 to 25
- The Severn Sound Money Mountain, raising money for local charities and non profit making groups.

Swimming lessons will begin again after the break. As the pool is open for only a few weeks of the school year, we will be taking the children swimming more often this year. Every child will swim every week, but we will try to fit in a second session in most weeks, especially for the younger classes, as our priority is to get everyone swimming if possible.

Junior children will be involved in the **district sports** events on the following dates in Stroud: Monday 12th June - Jumping and throwing and Monday 19th June Track events

Janet Hoyle

and a BIG thank you ...

As reported in the May issue of the Beacon, nearly 400 visitors joined in the fun of our Easter Egg Trail at the Rococo Gardens on Friday 7th April enabling us to raise a staggering £1350 for Painswick Playgroup funds. The money will enable us to undertake some essential repairs to the building and purchase some new equipment.

The success of the afternoon was down to a lot of hard work both in advance and on the day by volunteers from the playgroup committee, staff and parents.

But we really owe a large debt to the local community for helping to make it happen. In particular, we would like to thank the ladies from the Painswick Puffins who kindly gave up their Friday afternoon to look after the stalls, for which there was a continuous flow of customers. Thanks also go to Paul Gray at The Shetland Shop for selling tickets on our behalf; the Londis Store in Painswick for donating a very large number of Easter eggs as well as Tesco and Waitrose in Stroud for their generous donation of chocolate eggs. Of course we couldn't have attracted so many people without the beautiful setting of the Rococo Gardens for which we thank Paul Moir and the Rococo Garden Trust, as well as to Victoria Elvidge for access to the gardens via the parklands.

Children in Classes 3 and 4 had a super trip to the Waterways Museum in Gloucester on the 19th May, for an Ancient Egyptian day. They took part in a make and take workshop, making all sorts of Egyptian masks, games and models. They also enjoyed an Egyptian quiz. The highlight of the day was meeting Howard Carter, learning more about the discovery of Tutankhamen's tomb and the mystery surrounding his death.



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The next event organised by the Trustees is the second Country House Sale to be held in The Painswick Centre on Sunday 4th June, between 10.00am and 3.00pm. So far we have a very good selection of 'Sellers' with a product range varying from Bangladeshi Silks to a complete garden irrigation system! However, we'd still like more so if you're interested in raising a little cash from those unused items in the attic then there is still time. Whether you wish to sell, donate or help on the day, please get in touch with Ralph Drew on 814070.

Half the proceeds will go to the Croft School Library and the other half to pay for urgent maintenance work at The Painswick Centre.

We have now set the date for the Fashion Show which will be held on Tuesday 19th September, in the Main Hall of the Centre, starting at 7.30pm. The price of admission will be £6.50 which will include a glass of wine and some nibbles. The clothes will be supplied by local retail group JUST-IN together with Nightingales. We are still looking for models so if you feel the calling of the cat walk then do please let us know. If you have any other ideas for events in The Painswick Centre then we'd be pleased to hear from you or, if you and your friends would like to use the skittle alley, the Main Hall or any of the smaller private rooms for a special birthday party we'd be happy to hear from you.

The month of June begins the lead in to the Centenary of The Painswick Centre and the Beacon has kindly agreed to run a series of 'Do You Know' to tell readers a little more about its history and the various clubs which regularly use the facilities. If you can add further information regarding the history of The Painswick Centre then please send your comments to the Beacon who we are sure will be happy to publish them.

Ralph Drew

The Painswick Centre News

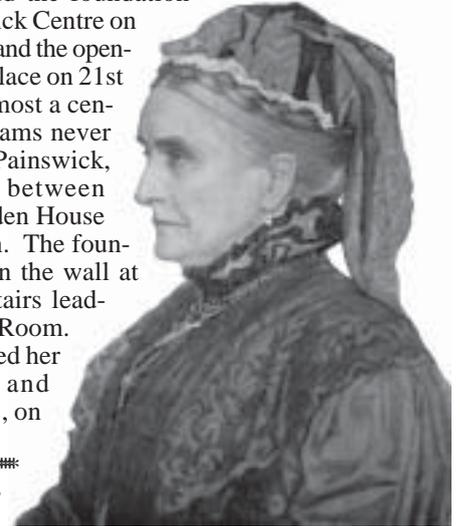
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The Painswick Centre was gifted to the residents of Painswick by Mrs Frances Sarah Williams, pictured below. She also gifted the playing field behind the Centre at the same time.

Born in 1827, the daughter of James Perrins of Cheltenham, she married her cousin, James Dyson Perrins of Davenham, near Malvern. Her husband was a founder member of Lea & Perrins sauces at Worcester.

She had four daughters, the eldest of whom was Frances Isabel who married the Reverend William Herbert Seddon in Malvern in 1881. He was the Vicar of Painswick from 1886 until 1890 and again from 1897 until 1917. When they married Frances Isabel decided that the then vicarage was not acceptable so they moved into Gwynfa, now known as the Painswick Hotel. The cottage next to the hotel still retains the 'Gwynfa' name. James Dyson Perrins died on 26th February 1887. Frances Sarah's second marriage in January 1897, at the age of 70, was to the Reverend Thomas John Williams, Vicar of Over Winchendon, in Buckinghamshire.

Mrs Williams laid the foundation stone for the Painswick Centre on 8th December 1906, and the opening ceremony took place on 21st September 1907, almost a century ago. Mrs Williams never actually resided in Painswick, dividing her time between Davenham and Garden House in South Kensington. The foundation stone is set in the wall at the bottom of the stairs leading to the Cotswold Room. Mrs Williams outlived her second husband and died, at the age of 91, on 13th March 1918.



If you can add any other information on the history of the Painswick Centre please contact Ralph Drew on 814070.



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A Summer Evening . . with The Thames Head Singers

One of Gloucestershire's best-known chamber choirs, the Thames Head Singers, will be singing at **St. Mary's Church** at **7.30pm** on **Saturday 1st July**, in aid of the churchyard Table Tombs Restoration Fund. Come along and enjoy a varied programme of choral music, including favourites from Elgar, Vaughan-Williams, George Shearing and several novelty numbers. Tickets are £6.00 each. Tickets may be purchased in advance from Enid Walklett (813268), Rita Bishop (814205), from The Chairman shop in New Street, or just come on the evening and purchase at the door. This is an opportunity not to be missed!

In February 2005, the Thames Head Singers celebrated their 25th anniversary. They have performed a wide repertoire of sacred and secular music since their foundation in 1980, often raising money for local and national charities such as the Cotswold Care Hospice. Rehearsing in Stroud, the Singers perform concerts and accompany services all over Gloucestershire and beyond, including weekends at Bath Abbey (2003), Worcester Cathedral (2004) Hereford Cathedral (2005) and Bristol Cathedral this year. You can also hear the Singers perform at St. George's Church, Nailsworth, at 7.30pm on Saturday 8th July.

Rita Bishop

Concert reviews:

Thomas Allen - extraordinary

The internationally acclaimed baritone Sir Thomas Allen came to St Mary's Painswick for the second concert of the season. The packed audience was not disappointed.

In the first half we had Schumann's Dichterliebe (poet's love) a cycle of 16 songs recalling his courtship of his wife Clara. In the wrong hands lieder can pall but certainly not with Sir Thomas. We were armed with a script telling us how the star-crossed Schumann was getting along while the singer's fine articulation and command of contrasts among the pieces was outstandingly well supported by Malcolm Martineau at the piano. Unlike much earlier music, these pieces have accompaniments which can stand in their own right and Mr Martineau made the most of them. The happy rapport between the performers was plain to see: a quite outstanding experience. If leider worry you, listen to a real expert: we did and were enlightened.

Then two Englishmen and one American. First the cheerful early twentieth century Roger Quilter, whose settings of Elizabethan songs and Shakespeare verses was great simply as entertainment which the performers, adding a few witty comments, seemed to enjoy as much as we did: indeed for me the tour de force of the day was 'Blow Blow Thou Winter Wind'. After that some more serious stuff from Peter Warlock who died mysteriously and young but not before writing some mystical pieces full of chromatics: mostly very 'third programme' but we did get his hilarious 'Yarmouth Fair' before we were sent on our way with Aaron Copland's jolly settings of American folk music. This was not just entertainment but a fine singing lesson for the many amateur singers in the audience: great to see and hear how a master does it.

John Parfitt

Nicola Eimer, Piano

Introducing her programme, Nicola recalled that her last visit to Painswick had been four years ago. All the pieces she would be playing were personal favourites.

She started with a sonata by Haydn, in E flat major, which she played with sureness of touch and complete involvement. Nicola continued with two Impromptus by Schubert. The first, No 3 in B minor, had a dominant theme with some demanding variations, which she handled skillfully. The second, No 4 in F minor, she compared to a Hungarian dance, a vigorous and lively piece with some rapid changes of tempo. After the interval, Nicola played Brahms' Rhapsody in B minor, followed by three of his Intermezzi. The tempo moved from majestic and severe to lyrical.

We then left the German tradition for the French. Nicola explained that Debussy captured the artistic mood of the time, which was moving towards Impressionism. She played his three Estampes, prints, dream-like images. The first, Pagodes, used a pentatonic scale to convey an oriental flavour; then La Soiree dans Grenade, conveying a Spanish mood; then Jardins sous la pluie, reminding one of Monet. Nicola's final piece was Chopin's Ballade No 4 in F minor, underlining her ability to move from the haunting to the melodic to the energetic coda. Her encore was a sarabande by Bach.

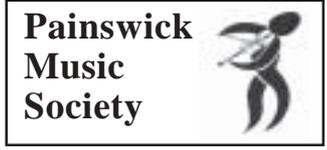
Nicola's performance was a delight, played with great expression and musicality, and captivated her audience.

The Allegri String Quartet

The Quartet was led by Peter Carter, who had been their leader for 28 years until his retirement in 2005, to replace their advertised 1st Violin Daniel Roland on 13th May. The Quartet must have found it difficult to move back to Peter Carter's more classical style after a year with Roland. To judge from their faces, the Quartet were hardly Allegri and seemed less than completely coordinated. We still heard some wonderful instrumental work, in particular from the Viola (Dorothea Vogel) and the Cello (Pal Banda).

Joy was not a dominant motif in their programme. They began with Schubert's String Quartet in C minor, the Quartettsatz D703, which makes a restless and nervous start though carried along by its familiar theme. They continued with Shostakovich: his String Quartet No 3, which reflects the impact on him of The Second World War, also restless and unsettling, with a quiet and meditative conclusion. Their final work was Beethoven's String Quartet in A minor, written in his last two years during which he had a serious illness. It starts on a melancholic note, picking up to a more cheerful conclusion.

Richard Burges Watson



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Care Centre

CJ Clarkson of Queensmead writes:

Surprise, surprise Richmond Painswick needs to build more 'affordable (cheap) units' for the benefit of Painswick residents. Like a persistent door to door salesman who has his foot in your door they blame everyone else for their poor project management and expensive products.

True the Group of Four have been naïve and Stroud District Council while embracing the concept of preservation are quite happy to sell the village to the highest bidder. No longer the Queen of the Cotswolds just a courtesan. Do we need two libraries, two shops and another restaurant? Richmond are not a charitable organisation and intend to profit now they are here. The benefits to the community remain to be proven.

and Leonard Chittenden of Prospect Terrace writes:

I became very concerned on reading the article on The Richmond Painswick Care Centre in the May 2006 issue of The Beacon. My concern focused on two issues;

1. The prospect of another planning application to further enlarge the Centre.
2. The Beacon appearing again to be acting as a publicity agent for the developer.

On the first issue, the proposed application, as described in the article, will considerably increase the size of the development which is already much too large for this very sensitive site. To describe the development as "fitting comfortably into the vernacular of Painswick" is, (avoiding an appropriate but uncouth word), utter spin (in the vernacular of New Labour!). The development is a monster – there is nothing wrong with the concept or the quality, it is simply in the wrong place. The developer seems to have been fully aware of the risks being taken in proceeding within the confines of the existing site approval. To seek to extend the development on the grounds of financial viability appears to be an unusual approach - since when has financial viability been a parameter for granting planning permission? The other implicit argument put forward for extension is an apparent

ruling by the Planning Inspectorate that Stroud District Council was wrong in restricting the development to the current confines. Perhaps The Beacon could publish the wording of that ruling. I feel sure that it will be seen that the case is not as clear cut as we are being led to believe. There have already been a number of supplementary planning applications to alter the scheme originally approved by the District Council. This appears to be development approval by stealth, with each supplementary approval having the weight of precedent in its favour. Unfortunately a point is reached where the development ends up being considerably at odds with the original approval – in this case a very controversial approval by the narrowest of margins. Any further application will, I hope, be treated on its merits without such precedents being accepted as a prime reason for approval.

On the second issue many will be perplexed to see that the full-page article in The Beacon is not attributed to any individual or organization. However as it bears the Richmond Village logo can it be assumed that it was written by the developer? Clarification is required please. If this should be the case did the editorial team not consider that such an article might appear to lack balance, unless it was qualified by a statement regarding attribution? Alternatively, if the article was provided by the Standing Liaison Group why does it bear the Richmond logo? Can we be assured that the next issue of The Beacon will clarify these issues and make space for a full page of residents' comments on the article? It would also be useful to newer residents in the village if the names of 'The Group of Four' and 'The Standing Liaison Group' were published.

Wally Walters of High Clouds in Queens Mead writes:

Without passing an opinion on the Richmond building project, I would question some of the assertions, anonymous but under the Richmond logo, which appeared in the May issue.

These put at jeopardy the integrity of the Beacon.

The claims that representations by Richmond Villages were "meticulous" but that the alternative, approved by the SDC, was "inadequately considered" are clearly biased opinions, but are put forward as facts. What is the evidence for these assertions,

The article to which correspondents refer was prepared by the Standing Liaison Group. Ed.

particularly the slur on the integrity of SDC officers?

As there is no reference, in the Structure Plan or the Inspector's Report, to the assertion that "the Inspector ruled that the SDC decision was wrong, and that permission should have been given to build below the 105m contour", could the Beacon substantiate this assertion by quoting the appropriate reference?

Hilary and David Simpson write from Cotswold Mead

Regarding last month's issue of the Beacon, we would like to comment on the article about "Richmond Village",

1. Again a whole page in the Beacon has been devoted to its development. Were it the developers who put in this article, we trust they paid a full page advertising fee. On the other hand, if one of the editorial team entered this article, then surely their unbiased reporting and disinterest must be seriously questioned.

2. How very upsetting for a developer to have to build such expensive and profitable apartments! How inconvenient for them! They cannot blame anything other than their own plans.

3. No way should any more development be allowed on this site. Already it is immensely intrusive with the high level of density of building. This site cannot sustain any more development of any description.

We understand that several opposing letters have been sent to the Beacon and it is hoped that adequate space will be found for them to be included. Balanced publishing must be a priority of such a broadsheet.

and Tony Bradley writes from Stamages Lane:

I write as a fully retired member of the Group which originated the Richmond care home project reported in the May Beacon. At the time of the public meeting in 1997, when the project received overwhelming support, it was envisaged that the sheltered housing associated with the care home would be provided in a variety of sizes to suit most potential residents.

It seems that the additional housing currently planned will achieve this. It is to be hoped that the plans will receive full public support and that the delays and frustrations experienced with the original planning application will not be repeated.

Lime tree

We summarise a letter from John Mantell, from Hyett Orchard:

He wrote to explain that he purchased his house in 1989, with its small patio garden but large lime tree, and that the District Council had approved pruning when requested at 2/3 yearly intervals since 1992.

Mr Mantell was, to say the least, displeased that this year the Parish Council had objected to his application on grounds that it would best be left "for a few more years", and SDC had refused his application.



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Gloucester Choral Society

After the dramatic intensity of "Gerontius" last April the Society's Summer concert presents a varied programme, in which the solemnity of Mozart's Requiem mass contrasts with a lively Bach cantata and the soothing melodies of Eine Kleine Nachtmusik. The Requiem has a curious history and for many years myths abounded. It was commissioned by Count von Walsegg in mourning for the death of his young wife. Mozart began energetically but died (1791) before completing the mass. His widow, needing the fee, persuaded Mozart's pupil Sussmayer to complete the work, which he did with great competence.

The work itself is of the quality we expect from Mozart's mature period. Renaissance Requiems omit the Credo and the Gloria but include the Dies Irae. Sussmayer says he orchestrated the incomplete sections from his close familiarity with Mozart's intentions; in doing so, he did the world a great service.

Bach's Cantata No. 51 "Rejoice in the Lord in all Lands" is sheer baroque exuberance, featuring a coloratura soprano and solo trumpet and a joyous contrast with the solemnity of the Requiem. Ruth Holton is the soprano and Gavin Wells the trumpeter. Stephanie Marshall, Mark Milhofer and Tim Mirfin augment the team of soloists for the Requiem and the orchestra is the Regency Sinfonia. Andrew Nethsingha conducts.

The performance is on **Saturday 8th July in Gloucester Cathedral, at 7.30pm**. The usual special inclusive offer including transport is available to Painswick residents. A Beavis coach will be waiting in Stamages car park for departure at 6.45pm, returning at about 10.00pm. Tickets are £21 (centre nave) or £17 (rear nave) inclusive of discounted seat prices and coach fare.

To use this service please send a cheque (made payable to Gloucester Choral Society) to Gordon Owen, Treasurer, Kemps Orchard, Kemps Lane, Painswick, GL6 6YB providing your name, address, contact 'phone number and stamped addressed envelope.

Bernard Day

Bledisloe time

The Parish Council has entered Painswick in the Bledisloe Cup Best Kept Village competition.

The judging period starts today, 3rd June, and continues until 16th June. The council asks everyone to help by being even more zealous than usual in keeping the streets in the centre of the village free from litter.

Pet care

The Beacon sometimes receives information about services promoted from beyond the parish boundary and just does not have the space on these pages, or in our Directory, to carry it all.

That said, we were intrigued to hear about one based in Abbeymead which could be of particular interest to pet owners who (say) do not have their own car any longer, are moving house, or are otherwise extremely busy, yet need to obtain 'out patient' pet care.

If this should be the case further information about Animals at Home (Gloucestershire) Ltd, part of a growing national franchise, which tells us it 'provides a complete range of pet care services within the local areas' can be obtained from Jean (pictured here) or Wendy on 01452.621535



Day Retreat



Churches Together Around Painswick have organised a Day Retreat at Rodborough Tabernacle URC on **Tuesday 13th June**. This is a chance to talk and be challenged, to listen to one another, pray and share ideas on what it means to be Christians together in the 21st Century. As branches of the true vine how might we bear more fruit? As churches might we combine our resources and contribute together to a new community centre as proposed under current Library discussions? In the peaceful and different surroundings of Rodborough there will be time for thinking and inspiration.

The day runs from **9.30am to 3.00pm** and we ask that people bring their own food, but drinks will be provided. More information about the programme is available at each church in the CTAP area - or you can ring Rita Bishop (814205).

Jane Jennings-Taylor

Wordsearch



THIS MONTH WE HAVE CONCEALED NO FEWER THAN SEVENTEEN TOOLS WHICH A CARPENTER IS LIKELY TO USE.

Last month, continuing with a Gallic flavour, we invited readers to find fourteen French cities in our grid, all with populations over 170,000. Here they are, in population order too!

PARIS - MARSEILLE - LYON - TOULOUSE - NICE - NANTES - STRASBOURG - MONTPELLIER - BORDEAUX - RENNES - LE HAVRE - REIMS - LILLE - SAINT ETIENNE



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Cricket

The wet weather has caused the cancellation of a number of fixtures.

Fine start for Painswick

Painswick have begun the new season with the first eleven gaining impressive victories in both the County Cup and the Village Championship. In the County Cup, Painswick outplayed Bourton Vale, on paper the stronger side, to win by a margin of 53 runs. Painswick have a home fixture against Old Bristolians/Westbury in the next round. Painswick had a walk over in the first round of the Village Championship as Birdlip were unable to field a side.

Last Saturday at Broadham against Bredon in the second round of the Village Championship, the visitors were dismissed for just 114 runs in a 40 overs match with Lee Nicholson the pick of the bowlers. Bredon play in the second division of the Gloucestershire/Wiltshire league which is a division above Painswick. In reply David Boon batted with considerable patience for his 59 runs and was unlucky to be out with just a few runs needed for victory. Painswick (pictured here) won with 6 wickets remaining.

Results (Saturday matches all league games. *Indicates not out).

Sat 6 May. Newent 1st XI 165 all out (D Cave 4-51) Painswick 1st XI 168-6 W Von Mollendorf 53).

Charfield 2nd XI 166-5 Painswick 2nd XI 167-7.

Sat 13. Painswick 1st XI 84-5 against Frampton on Severn 1st XI. Match abandoned - rain.

St Stephens 2nd XI v Painswick 2nd XI. Cancelled. - rain.

Sat 20. No matches - rain.

Sat 27. No matches - rain.

Sun 28. Village Championship. Bredon 1st XI 114 all out Painswick 1st XI 116-6 (D Boon 59).
Fixtures

Sat 3 June. Painswick 1st XI v Birdlip 1st XI. Hatherley & Reddings v Painswick 2nd XI.

Sat 10 June. Fairford 1st XI v Painswick 1st XI. Painswick 2nd XI v Cheltenham C S 2nd XI.

Sun 11 June. Painswick v Stroud.

Sat 17 June. Painswick 1st XI v Cinderford St John 1st XI. Haresfield 2nd XI v Painswick 2nd XI.

Sun 18 June. Painswick v Rackenford.

Mon 19 June. Painswick v Essex Ploughboys.

Sat 24 June. Painswick 1st XI v Tewkesbury 1st XI.

Sun 25 June. Painswick 2nd XI v Shurdington 2nd XI (League match).

Tue 27 June. Painswick v Thornham.

Sat 1 Jul. Painswick 1st XI v Cirencester 1st XI. Painswick 2nd XI v Gloucester C S 2nd XI

Sun 2 Jul. Painswick v St Stephens.

Sat 8 Jul. Newent 1st XI v Painswick 1st XI. Painswick 2nd XI v Charfield 2nd XI.



Tennis

The Summer league programme is in full swing with Painswick LTC men having six teams entered in the Gloucestershire League and the ladies five.

Rugby

Painswick were very pleased to hear that, because the Premier Division of the Gloucestershire League is to be enlarged by two teams, they will not be relegated.

Martin Hayward told the Beacon that retaining the Premier Division status is important to the Club not least because it makes Painswick more

attractive to players who, for one reason or another, may be seeking a change of club.

A disadvantage of the increased number of clubs in the Premier Division is that Painswick will now have to play 22 league games rather than the previous 18. This means there will be limited scope for friendly matches. The Club's Annual General Meeting is on Friday 9th June.

Badminton

Each year the Club organises Junior Badminton coaching at the Painswick Centre for around 16 youngsters with local Badminton Coach Tim Bircher.

With improving standards of play, this year the team of William Allen, Freddie Speed, William Moir and Ben Garbett achieved the Club's best ever result, being 3rd out of 6 teams in the Area Intermediate Under 15s league.

Congratulations also go to Freddie Speed who represented the County in the Under 12 boys.

John Barrus

Flowerfest

The Flower Guild has arranged a Flower Demonstration by Alwyn Page at Sheephouse, by kind permission of Mr and Mrs Gardner, on 14th June followed by Afternoon Tea and a chance to look around these lovely gardens. Tickets £10 from me on 812427, or Dawn at the Patchwork Mouse, or any member of the flower guild.

This is the first fund raising event to meet the cost of a major Flower Festival to be held next year in St Mary's Church; more details in due course. All proceeds from the flower festival itself will go towards the restoration of our historic tombstones in St Mary's Churchyard.

Other dates for your diary:

12th September - when there will be a Recital in St Mary's Church by **James Coles** violin and **Edith Fellman** harp.

12th December - Christmas Wreath or table decoration Workshop with Deborah Walker and Anne

4th April - Cookery Demonstration by Robert Rees

Friday club 23rd June - a Strawberries and Cream Tea at Yew Tree House in Vicarage Street, by kind invitation of Mr and Mrs Burge. All will be most welcome, entry £1.50 Stalls etc to raise funds for the Friday Club.

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Crime figures for April in the Parish of Painswick:

Total of 7 crimes.

Burglary 1

Burglary non-dwelling 2

Theft 1

Criminal Damage 0

Theft from M/Vehicle 2

Assault 1

Usual crime advice for the summer.

When people are working in their gardens during the nice weather and they are away from their house, make sure they do not leave the house insecure.

Also when they have finished working in the garden to lock all valuable garden equipment away. We always see a rise in crime from garden sheds during the summer.

Pc 24 Reuben Wyatt Mobile Police Station 07734 068276



British Red Cross

May I, on behalf of the Painswick Centre of the British Red Cross, thank the collectors for giving their time and the people of Painswick for their generosity, during our 'Red Cross Week'.

We raised the sum of £602.88.

Joan Ashton



Cranham Fayre

This year's Fayre will be held on Saturday 10th June from 2.00pm at Cranham Cricket Ground.

A fun packed afternoon of activities, games, sports, stalls, refreshments and much more is planned; this includes school dance, climbing wall, dance demonstration, dog show, local craft exhibits, falcon display.



This will be a great afternoon for all the family. Proceeds go to Cranham School. For more details, please call Lou on 863638

PROPERTY REPORT for June by Hamptons International

Confidence has undoubtedly continued to return to the marketplace in the last few months. The number of new applicants registering saw a 20% increase on the same time last year and there are many good quality purchasers prepared to commit once a suitable property becomes available. Demand is mainly for the small cottages up to £250,000 which is a complete about turn from last year and also detached family homes around £500,000 are highly sought after.

Our pipeline of sales agreed is the largest we have ever experienced and if they all exchange we should be heading for a bumper year.

Exchanges in the last month include: Holly House in Slad, Beech View in Sheepscombe, 3 Clattergrove, Combe House in The Park, Dalegarth in Cotswold

Mead and Greenbank at Edge. Recent instructions which have also gone under offer very quickly include Mill View and Bankside in Kingsmill Lane, 4 Churchill Way, Towys in Tibbiwell and other new instructions include two converted barns – Highgrove Barn on the edge of Painswick and Abbey Barn in Slad, both situated in magnificent rural locations; Mirador, Cheltenham Road – a fine spacious family house with tennis court and lovely views and Woodside – a period cottage in Cranham with great potential.

I am delighted to report that as from July 1st Miranda Harding will be taking over the responsibilities of managing the Painswick Office. Miranda joined the team here nearly 18 months ago coming from Hamptons Tower Bridge Office in London and has proved to be a very proactive and

successful sales manager and I am sure will take the office from strength to strength. After 22 years of selling houses in the village I am going to work part time and so retire gradually but will continue to be involved in valuations and wherever my expertise is required. Natasha will be joining us from our Cheltenham Office as a sales negotiator and Lucy who replaced Susan Pyle over two years ago is absolutely invaluable in the smooth running of the office together with Carol, Jill and Merriell.

I would like to thank everyone who has supported me during my time at Hamptons and previously with Lear and Lear. I have enjoyed it very much and I do hope you all will continue to give the new team your full support.

Diane Mearns Associate Director



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Architecs



Last month we wondered whether anyone had visited a hostelry not a thousand miles from Painswick, with this sign dangling outside. Sheepscombe is not far away!

Have you seen these window boxes somewhere?



DATELINE

Contributors are asked to note that the Beacon has moved to a single dateline for copy of any sort for the following month. We are hoping this will be fixed as two weeks ahead of publication.



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JUNE

Sat	3	until 16th Bledisloe Cup: Best Kept Village judging	Painswick village	
Sun	4	Flower Walk - Painswick Beacon Conservation Group led by Cedric Nielsen Country House Sale	from Cemetery car park	1.45pm to 4.00pm
Tue	9	Dog Training Club (Tuesdays) Badminton in the Painswick Centre (Tuesdays)	Painswick Centre Christ Church Hall	10.00am to 3.00pm 9.30 to 12.00noon
Wed	7	Women's Fellowship	Painswick Centre	2.00pm
Thu	8	Jolly Stompers Line Dancing: Beginners Experienced beginners - Thursdays Tea Dances - Thursdays	Christ Church Hall Town Hall	7.30pm 12.00 to 1.00pm 12.30 to 1.30pm
Fri	9	Country Market with coffee available: Fridays Friday Club: Bare foot to Buckingham Palace	Painswick Centre Town Hall	2.30 to 4.30pm 10.00am
Sat	10	Safari Supper (page 10) Cranham Fayre (page 19)	Town Hall	2.30pm
Sun	11	Open Day at Care Centre (page 6) Red Cross Open Gardens	various venues Cranham Cricket Ground	2.00pm 2.00pm
Tue	13	CTAP Retreat Day (page 14)	Richmond Painswick	11.00am to 4.00pm
Wed	14	Probus: Wildlife in the garden – Mr D Cramp Flower Guild demonstration and tea (page 1)	Bisley Rodborough Tabernacle	2.00 to 6.00pm 9.30am to 3.00pm
Thu	15 to 19th	'Quartet' exhibition	Ostlers Room, Falcon Sheephouse	10.00am
Sat	17	Copy dateline for July Beacon	Town Hall	10.00am to 4.00pm
Sun	18	Beacon Clear-up Open Gardens - Sheepscombe	Catbrain Quarry car park from Village Hall	2.00pm 1.00pm to 6.00pm
Tue	20	Bird Club: Guided walk to Coldwell Bottom Local History Society: AGM Jazz Evening no entry fee	Barrow Wake car park Croft School	9.30am 7.30pm
Wed	21	Women's Fellowship Carvery Lunch	Ostlers Room, Falcon	8.30pm
Fri	23	Friday Club: Strawberries & Cream Tea (Stalls etc)	Painswick Golf Club	12.30pm
Tue	27	Yew Trees WI: talk about the Everyman Theatre	Yew Tree House	2.30pm
Wed	28	Probus: They didn't say it was dangerous (Bomber Command) – Mr N Brown	Town Hall	7.30pm

JULY

Sat	1	July issue of The Painswick Beacon published Edge Village Fete Thames Head Singers (page 12)	Edge Village Green St.Mary's Church	5.00 to 7.00pm 7.30pm
Sun	2	Summer Fayre Country House Sale	Croft School Painswick Centre	tba
Wed	5	Theatre Club Outing to Bristol Women's Fellowship Magical Entertainment - Tom Elliott & James Herwood	The Falcon Christ Church Hall	5.30pm 7.30pm
Thu	6	Cotswold Care Support Group Meeting	Ashwell House	2.30pm
Fri	7	Friday Club: Arsenic & Old Lace - Patricia Moroney	Town Hall	2.30pm
Sat	8	Tennis Club Summer Sociariday Club Victorian Costume Ball (page 4) Concert: Gloucester Cathedral (page 14)	Painswick Centre dep Stamages car park	8.00 - 11.30pm 6.45pm
Sun	9	Red Cross Open Gardens: from Stamages Car Park	Painswick	2.00 to 6.00pm
Tue	11 to 15th	'Two Gentlemen of Verona' - Rococo Players	Rococo Garden	performance 7.30pm
Wed	12	Probus: Falcon Bowling Club Meet	Falcon Bowling Green	10.00am
Wed	19	Women's Fellowship BBQ	The Latchetts	7.00pm
Fri	21	Friday Club: Being Chairman of the Parish Council	Town Hall	2.30pm
Tue	25	Probus: Ladies' Lunch at The Hill, Stroud Yew Trees WI: BBC Radio Gloucestershire	Town Hall	7.30pm
Thu	27	Espalier Pruning (page 7)	Rococo Garden	10.00am to 4.00pm
Sat	29 to 4th Aug.	Portway Group of Artists exhibition	Library	

AUGUST

Sat	12	Beetle Drive & Buffet Supper: raffle for Mencap Stroud	Church Rooms	7.00pm
Wdd	23	Theatre Club outing to Bath	The Falcon	12.30pm
Sat	26 to 4 Sept	Country Studio Exhibition of Paintings	Town Hall	10.00am to 5.00pm daily



SEPTEMBER

Fri	8	Friday Club: Pilates - Heidi Hardy	Town Hall	2.30pm
Sat	9	Horticultural Society: Annual Show	Painswick Centre Hall	3.00 to 5.00pm
Tue	12	Flower Guild: Recital Coles and Fellman (page 1)	St.Mary's Church	tba
Wed	13	Probus: The Silk Road – Mr P Covey-Crump	Ostlers Room, Falcon	10.00am
Tue	19	Fashion Show	Painswick Centre	7.30pm
Fri	22	Friday Club Outing to Bristol Zoo		
Tue	26	Yew Trees WI: Travel ...paintings - Peter Jenkins	Town Hall	7.30pm

OCTOBER

Fri	6	Friday Club: Painting with Adele	Town Hall	2.30pm
Tue	10	Bird Club: From Russia with love – Bewick Swans on the move – Jenny Earle	Town Hall	7.30pm
Wed	11	Horticultural Society: The ... Outer Hebrides	Town Hall	7.30pm
Fri	20	Friday Club	Town Hall	2.30pm
Sun	22	Voskresenije Vocal Ensemble from St.Petersburg	St.Mary's Church	7.30pm
Tue	24	Yew Trees WI: Cookery demonstration - Robert Rees	Church Rooms	7.30pm

NOVEMBER

Wed	1	Tennis Club AGM	Sports Club, Broadham	7.30pm
Fri	3	Friday Club AGM: followed by ... "Age Concern"	Town Hall	1.45pm & 2.30pm
Tue	7	Bird Club: Voyage to St Kilda – Helen Williams ARPS	Town Hall	7.30pm
Fri	10	Tennis Club Quiz Night	Broadham Fields	7.30pm
Sat	11	Sue Ryder Care Coffee Morning	Town Hall	9.45am to 12 noon
Fri	17	Friday Club Outing to Cribbs Causeway		tba
Sat	25	Annual Mission Bazaar	Church Rooms	11.00am to 2.00pm
Tue	28	Yew Trees WI: AGM & talk on Local Cheeses	Town Hall	7.30pm

DECEMBER

Fri	1	Friday Club: Flowers for Christmas - Anne Smith	Town Hall	2.30pm
Tue	12	Flower Guild: Wreath and table decoration workshop Yew Trees WI: Christmas Gathering	Town Hall	7.30pm
Fri	15	Friday Club: Christmas Lunch	tba	tba

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Local History Teaser

You probably recognise the location in our photograph – it's New Street. But who is the fine fellow, a well-known character in his time, walking so purposely down the road and where did he live? What is the significance of the pole protruding from the small shop behind? Look carefully and you will see that the picture was taken earlier than appears at first glance.

The Local History Society enjoyed its annual outing in May. Mr Ian Mackintosh, resplendent in cravat, waistcoat and tails, led the group around the notable Victorian parts of Stroud. Addressing us as genteel folk in the 1890s, he gave a most entertaining and breath-takingly comprehensive explanation of life, business and building in 19th century Stroud, causing us all to realise that we had never really noticed some of the truly splendid and very impressive architecture in the town. It was a real tour de force.

The AGM of the Local History Society will be held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 20th June in the Croft School. Ms Nicky Smith will talk about the restoration work recently carried out on the National Trust property, Lodge Park. Everyone welcome.

Carol Maxwell



Beacon subscribers	THIS YEAR	LAST YEAR	
	at 19th May	end May	20th May
New, or renewing after lapsing	125	109	
Renewed from last year	484	434	
Total including postal	609	543	
Dwellings in Painswick village	1057	1057	1
Subscribers in village	531	376	
	50%	35.60%	

Half of 1057

An all-time record has been achieved - and still going strong.

Subscriptions from Painswick village itself - our prime 'target market' - have exceeded all previous targets, and attracted contributions from over 50% of the 1057 households in the village. Please glance at the analysis, and compare with last year - we are absolutely delighted!



The Fête

A classic Painswick challenge last Saturday, when non-stop rain throughout the morning and early afternoon frustrated those setting up stalls in the grounds of Painswick House, and might have deterred the public from braving the elements to attend this first fête of its kind.

On Sunday we were asked to note here that "Victoria and Rusty Elvidge would like to thank everybody for their huge generosity of time and donations and indomitable spirit in disregarding the quagmire of the field and the weather to contribute towards raising over £1500 towards churchyard expenditure".



raising over £1500 towards churchyard expenditure".

Determination and optimism paid off, and the rain suddenly stopped at just the right moment!

PLANNING MATTERS A summary of information from the Parish Council.

NEW APPLICATIONS

4 ST MARY'S MEAD Works to ash tree (T8)

YEW TREE HOUSE, NEW STREET Conversion of guest annexe to self contained flat.

BOUNDARY COTTAGE, BACK EDGE LANE, EDGE Erection of a conservatory
THE BULL, WICK STREET Change of use of existing agricultural access to provide residential access and closure of existing vehicle access.

DOWN COURT, SLAD Erection of a garden room extension and internal & external alterations.

GORSELANDS, BACK EDGE LANE, EDGE Erection of extension

THE ANCHORAGE, CHELTENHAM ROAD Extension to existing dwelling house

29 UPPER WASHWELL Erection of a conservatory to rear of property

REVISED PLANS

BLAKEWELL HOUSE, EDGE ROAD Internal alterations, ground floor rear extension to form dining room, utility,

logstore & garage access, first floor ensuite extension. Main changes: Cedar boarding deleted from garage gable & west side of existing garage.

CONSENT

15 CANTON ACRE Replace existing garage with a shed containing a storage area and summerhouse

THE PAINSWICK CENTRE, BISLEY STREET Conversion of redundant lounge bar, kitchen & storeroom for lease as of-fice/storeroom

MAYFAIRE, SLAD Extension & alterations to dwelling (resubmission following permission 05/1000/FUL)

HOLCOMBE BARN Change of use from agricultural to equestrian.

3 CLATTERGROVE Erection of extension to dwelling

VALENCIA, VICARAGE STREET Installation of a new window & rooflights, erection of a porch and canopy roof. Internal alterations.

BUNNAGE HOUSE, THE CAMP, SHEEPS-COMBE Works to various trees

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MINI-ADS

Male Rabbit wanted, on loan, for breeding purposes - with Georgie, a Painswick rabbit. Contact 07941.135920

Canada. Beautiful home with outstanding views overlooking the sea and islands west of Vancouver. Sleeps eight. Available to let with vacancies in August and September. For details contact 02083.951462 or jso@telus.net

Wood-burner for sale. Boxwood stove, brand new at £115.00. Contact 07941.135920

Lifeshaper - total body aerobic home fitness unit. Only £50 Contact 813737.

France: 20mins Perpignan airport. Quality apartment for 2 people overlooking St.Cyprien golf course and only a few minutes from beaches, restaurants and harbour. £300 per week. Contact 07748154530 or 0033468.316751.

To Let - Semi-detached 3-bedroom cottage approx. 1 mile from Painswick to let from end of August. For further details tel. 0048 895.342047 or e-mail bjkolczynski@wp.pl

France: Near Carcassone. Spacious 2 bedroom comfortable apartment in Limoux Centre. Ideal for restaurants, wine tasting, touring, mountains, beach, all leisure activities. £250 per week. Contact 07748.154530.

Filing Cabinet - 4 drawer, wooden veneer, lockable for Sale. Excellent condition. £25.00. Contact 810960 or rbodington@iee.org

MINI-ADS - non-commercial, maximum of 30 words - are 10p per word with a minimum payment of £1. Maximum of 14 accepted per month. Beacon subscribers have 25% discount. Please send money with mini-ad to Philip Oakley, Stoneleigh, Gloucester Street, GL6 6QN. If paying by cheque, please make it payable to The Painswick Beacon.

FREE of charge

Cannon Electric Typewriter - complete with two ribbons and spare Daisy Wheel. Contact 812378 or 813108

FREE-ADS is a free service for recycling unwanted possessions to good new homes, free of charge, but maximum of 30 words - can be placed in the Beacon Post Box in New Street or emailed to painswickbeacon@supanet.com

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The Personal Column

Babies

Congratulations to IZZIE and TOMASZ SZCZVREK on the birth of their son, Samuel, a brother for Miriam,

also GILL and DANIEL COLBY on the birth of a daughter, Eleanor Mary, on 22nd April, a first grandchild for Hugh and Bet Colby,

and to JO and RONAN LYNAN on the birth of their son Finn, a brother for Caitlin and Harriet,

and ALFIE BRADSHAW would like to announce the birth of his brother Ted on 24th April, a son for Pete and Emma and a grandson for Peggy.

Weddings

Congratulations to DAMIEN WATKIN and KAREN HALES who were married at St. Mary's Church, Painswick, on 27th May,

and to JAMES BODDY and KAREN GARBUTT who were married at St. John the Baptist Church in Harescombe on 27th May.

Golden wedding

Congratulations and best wishes for a happy anniversary to JOAN and JOHN PARFITT on 30th June.

Congratulations

To TOM ELLIOTT of Ashwell House for being nominated as one of Gloucestershire's Young people of the year for 2006 for using his performance skills to raise money for worthwhile causes.

The sick list

Our best wishes for a speedy recovery to PHIL VARAH, JANE SMITH and SHIRLEY PURDY who have had health problems recently.

Condolences

Sincere sympathies to the family and friends of NAN PARKER, IRIS LEWIS, RONALD QUELCH, MAX PUCKRIDGE, JEAN GRAY, JESSICA OLSEN and Lady LINDA EVANS who have all died recently.

Welcome

We would like to welcome JO and RONAN LYNAN with Caitin, Harriet and baby Finn who have moved into Corner Cottage, Victoria Street, from Abbeydale,

also IZZIE and TOMASZ SZCZVREK who are living in the Lower Flat, The Manse, Gloucester Street,

and MIKE and MARGARET WILSON to Tower Cottage, off Kemps Lane.

Personal messages

Richard and Janet Puckridge and their family, now residing in Calgary, Canada would like friends and neighbours to know that Richard's Father, Max, passed away aged 82 years on 9th May 2006 at Hunter's Care Centre, Cirencester. Max had previously resided in Butt Green for over 35 years.

Dulcie Brotherton greatly appreciated the many kind messages received during her recent hospital stay and period of recovery.

NEXT ISSUE

Publication Date
SATURDAY 1st JULY

Copy deadline, all - including •Mini-Ads
•Business display advertising •Diary
using E-mail or the Beacon Post Box
SATURDAY 17th JUNE

Email to

painswickbeacon@supanet.com
or on hard disk.

Photographs, unmodified and in original format, preferably 600dpi + JPEG format. Hard copy, preferably typed, accepted.

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not items for publication,
Stoneleigh, Gloucester Street GL6 6QN

Beacon Committee

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Carol Maxwell, Terry Parker,
Shirley Clark and Philip Oakley
co-ordination and compiling

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Diary: *Edwina Buttrely 812565*

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Directory: *Leslie Brotherton 813101*

Business Advertising:

Dermot Cassidy 813737

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Treasurer: *Philip Oakley 813936*

Subscriptions: *Shirley Clark 812378*

Readers are reminded that a
direct line to Painswick's PC is

07799 624643

E - mails the Beacon is very appreciative of articles forwarded for publication using our Email address **painswickbeacon@supanet.com** This way we save much time or risk of inaccuracies creeping in as information is transferred to the page.

As most readers will be aware, we do not always have the same person to coordinate and compile a particular issue, but whoever it is needs to access the Beacon's Email site. To achieve this our laptop computer is connected at one address to a BT socket, but each of us automatically receives whatever message arrives. This is by far the safest route for contributors to use since sending to an individual member of the committee means the message may not be picked up, the more so should they dare to be on holiday!

Please, use the Beacon address **painswickbeacon@supanet.com**, but copy a message to anyone else on the committee you feel may appreciate it.

DATELINE Contributors are asked to note that the Beacon has moved to a single dateline for ALL copy for the following month. We are hoping this will become fixed as two weeks ahead of publication.

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