

The Painswick Beacon

Volume 30 Number 3

Sine praeiudicio

June 2007

Painswick Dog Show and Charity Fun Day

On Saturday 14th July, the annual Companion Dog Show and Charity Fun Day will take place again on the Recreation Field by kind permission of the Parish Council. The event will include Show, Novelty and Obedience classes which will attract a wide range of both pet and pedigree dogs, and feature a special (not to be missed) class for the best dog or bitch from the Painswick postal area! This year the show is raising funds for a very local charity, Canine Partners.

Show schedules are available in advance from the Tourist Information Centre or from the Londis store, but you will also be able to come on the day and sign up for the various classes. Entries will be taken from 10.30am on the day, and judging will begin at 11.00 am for the Show Classes and 1.00 pm for the Novelty Classes.

If you would like to run a stall to raise money for a local charity then this also is the place for you. Chris Campbell, who is organising the stalls, says, "In previous years we've had people from the village running Tombolas, Cake stalls, Raffles, Book Sales, Bric-a-brac, Plant stalls and Refreshments... The scope is enormous!"

So, if you would like to run a charity stall, then please give Chris a call on 812600.

For queries regarding the Dog Show, please ring either Fiona Chapman on 812462 or Michele Phillips on 834351.

Above all, this is a fun day for the village, so book the date in your diaries.



'Painswick Youths' are also top dogs!

Earlier this year the 'Ancient Society of Painswick Youths' - the bell ringers from St Mary's - re-entered the competition for the best kept tower, run by the Gloucester and Bristol Association of Church Bell Ringers. They had previously won the Great Peter Trophy in 2006, but this year were awarded the Mary Bliss trophy (a model tower with ringing chamber) for the best overall tower in all sections.



Tower Secretary, David Ryland, described the feat thus: "In canine terms, it's a little like winning the Supreme Champion prize at Crufts, rather than the best in breed, which we won last year!"

The award was presented on behalf of the tower to Prof. Angela Newing at the AGM of the Association held recently in Mitcheldean.

David says that the 'Youths' were extremely pleased to win the trophy, not just because of the condition of the tower, but because the judges were impressed with their training programme for young people, their ability to ring on a regular basis for weddings and services, and for their involvement in community events.



What's afoot at the hotel?

Painswick Hotel's progression into the 21st century is well under way. Despite a very strong urge to describe the changes, I shall resist the temptation at this point and simply say that this very beautiful building in the heart of the village is being stunningly transformed. A clever and successful combination of fun, funky, classical and original features and themes will appeal to all ages and tastes - a truly eclectic blend.

The restaurant will open for business in mid-July and the hotel itself will be open in August. This is an exciting development for Painswick, and one which could prove a real fillip for local business. Watch this space for further news.

... and also

The former butcher's shop in Friday Street will also be changing shortly into something exotically new and tasty: Olivas, a delicatessen. More next month.

Carol Maxwell

Police Report

Crime figures for April were (*March figures in brackets*):

Criminal damage	3	(1)
Theft from Motor Vehicle	2	(1)
Theft of Motor Vehicle	1	(-)
Assault	3	(1)
Theft	1	(2)
Burglary	2	(1)
Burglary non-dwelling	2	(1)
Other	0	(3)
TOTAL	14	(10)

Now the summer nights are with us, PC Reuben Wyatt warns: "This is the time **you** could become a victim of crime. With more time being spent in the gardens, please make sure you secure your doors, sheds and garden equipment."

See also page 13



On other pages this month: Opening the Way; Cleaning up the Beacon (*not us!! ed*), some crafty lots at the Centre, Alice at Rococo, the mystery of the pot thickens, a Web at the Croft, changes at the Club; local artists expose themselves, the WI goes BIG and little and pink and blue etc, undirected Players, Reigh climbs Big Ben, 23 purrs and...who will edit the Beacon?

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 and committee meetings are available at the Council office and elsewhere.

PLANNING COMMITTEE

Mini Wind Turbines

Mindful of some difficulties experienced by one applicant for planning permission to install a mini 'domestic' wind turbine, the Council had made enquiry of the District Council as to its policy in such matters. The Clerk reported that all such turbines were supported, subject to noise levels being acceptable. Permission is required and early enquiry of the planning department is advisable, not least within a conservation area.

Light pollution

The Chairman, David Hudson, reminded the committee that the matter of street lighting had been raised and concerns expressed by the public during the process of creating the Parish Plan (page 25 - circa January 2002). By way of reminder, that text reads: Painswick is fairly well provided with street lighting. Representations are occasionally made for additional lighting in specific locations and these are regularly assessed by the Parish and County Council, including the aspects of safety and criminality. It is recognised that in a rural community it is necessary to strike a balance between too many lights and not enough. However, there is a lobby which represents that light pollution is increasing. The night sky is regarded as a much appreciated aspect of the environment, notably in Slad valley and away from the villages, and is made possible by a minimal amount of street lighting and an overall low level of light pollution. Many homes have introduced their own security lighting which, in some instances, illuminates the adjacent roadways and can be a hazard for motorists. Greater care is required in the location of such lights. Their angle of illumination, where this might spill on to carriageways, can blind road users. The location of the trigger mechanism is itself of importance if it is not to be activated by passing vehicles. Wildlife is also preserved where there are the lowest levels of artificial light.

The committee also noted experiments elsewhere to reduce the extent of lighting of public places for part of each night to conserve energy. It was agreed to look forward to the outcome of a GCC study on the subject prior to a possible late night survey of street lighting in the village next autumn. Complaint about maintenance of a property Terry Parker reported receipt of a letter from the Conservation Society expressing concern about the decoration and maintenance of a village property (its name was withheld), and requesting that representations be made by the Council. The Parish Council believed this to be a matter for the District Council and had asked for advice regarding that council's policy in such matters.

PARISH COUNCIL Annual Meeting – Committees

The Council appointed, for the last year prior to elections,
Chairman: Terry Parker
Vice Chairman: Martin Slinger
Committee chairmen –
Finance and General Purposes: Martin Slinger (until October)
Footpath: Ann Daniels
Plantation: Ann Daniels
Planning: David Hudson
Traffic: Ann Burges Watson
Cemetery, Town Hall & Parish Maintenance: Martin Slinger
On behalf of the Council thanks were expressed for the long service rendered by David Hudson as its Vice Chairman.

Fairtrade

The Council received a presentation by Alison Robinson and Iris McCormick upon the notion of Painswick formally becoming a 'Fairtrade Village', one in which there is known to be widespread sale and use of Fairtrade products. It was pointed out that in the order of 2000 such products are now on the market, the best known probably being tea, coffee and (hooray!) chocolate.

The objective of Fairtrade is to try and help raise producers out of poverty by their selling their produce through the Fairtrade system. Their mark (shown above) is an independent consumer label which appears on products as a guarantee that disadvantaged producers in the developing world are getting a better deal. For a product to display the Fairtrade Mark it must meet international Fairtrade standards. These standards are set by the international certification body Fairtrade Labelling Organisations International (FLO). Producer organisations that supply Fairtrade products are



inspected and certified by FLO. They receive a minimum price that covers the cost of sustainable production and an extra premium that is invested in social or economic development projects.

There is already a considerable local commitment with traders such as the pharmacy, the Rococo and St. Michael's restaurants, Londis, and active support by the churches.

The Parish Council recognised that signing up to be a Fairtrade Village would be an act of solidarity with this world-wide scheme and it was unanimously agreed to do so. Once registered the Fairtrade logo may be used in Council publicity and, when it offers refreshments, Fairtrade products will be used.

Post Office

Chairman Terry Parker reported that he had that day been informed that a firm offer to purchase the post office as a business had been made. However, Post Office Limited, who determine operational matters of sub-post offices, had drawn attention to their recently introduced and inflexible rule that upon change of ownership a regulation requiring no lunch-time closure and full day opening Monday to Friday, with half day on Saturdays applied; the prospective purchaser was not willing to proceed on such grounds.

The Council expressed what could best be described as outrage at such an imposition and unanimously resolved to write immediately to support Annie Littler and the purchaser in making representations for the regulation not to be applied.

Painswick Gateway

The Council appointed Ann Burges Watson as its trustee, agreeing that there was not a requirement as requested by David Hudson that she give monthly reports upon the activities of the trustees.

The Council received a request from the 'shadow' trustees for a grant of £1000 to assist them, currently without any funds, to meet essential but partial fees for such as property valuations to help with negotiations with GCC, legal expenses, etc. The Council discussed this request at some length and decided that it could not make an exception from its previous practice with other organisations, and agreed to offer £1000 by way of loan for repayment within two years.

Parish Plan

The Council received a report from the Working Party formed to consider a mechanism to update the Plan created in 2002 (report page 2 last month).

The Working Party had recommended that there appeared not to be a requirement to revise the Plan at this time, although some re-wording of the text of Part One to be published as an addendum may be useful, together with updating of Part Two – the implementation of the 108 recommendations the Plan contained. This was agreed.

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Annual Parish Meeting

The full Annual Report of the Parish Council was published here (page 14) last month and, if the attendance of no fewer than fourteen members of the public last week was anything to go by, satisfied the electorate's interest in actions taken on their behalf at this first tier of local government. A cynic might deduce that the Liverpool away fixture against AC Milan was an influence upon that relatively slight turn out, or the balmy weather we had experienced all that day was a distraction.

A most exhaustive resume of 'main issues' across the past year was made by Chairman Terry Parker. He paid tribute to the work his colleagues and Council staff had rendered, and was applauded in this by those present; particular mention was made of the service rendered by David Hudson as Vice Chairman, who had stood down from this post for this final year before local elections in 2008. The co-option of Gill Richards to replace Johnny Johnston was recorded, together with regret that a further vacancy had recently occurred with the resignation of Jeanne Berry from the Slad ward; encouragingly at least two had already signalled willingness to serve in her place. The Council is, it was reported, close to being eligible to seek the status of Quality Parish Council, a circumstance in which it was understood that it would qualify for additional resources.

Terry Parker included references to the closure of LloydsTSB bank and Allen Hale's butchers, the closure of the youth club but the success of the Christian youth group led by Tim Friend; the imposition of needless regulations which were jeopardising the sale of the Post Office as a going concern, the quest for a 20mph speed limit envelope for the whole village, and so on. He reminded the audience that the Council had given its support for the Painswick Gateway project, and made a loan of £1000 to assist its start-up costs. He was at pains to report the considerable amount of time planning matters consumed among councillors, and took that opportunity to quote part of a letter just received from Keith Cockell, Managing Director of Richmond Painswick. This signalled that the 100th employee had been appointed and that a revised planning application was being prepared for Phase 3 of this development, taking into account the views of residents including fewer units, some one-bedroomed to achieve affordability, location away from properties in Queensmead, and so on.

The accounts (un-audited at that date) for the preceding year were presented by Martin Slinger and questions answered upon the use to which the Margaret Hampshire bequest had been put, and the resourcing and application of Section 106 monies from the St. Mary's and Richmond developments.

Comprehensive reports were given by both District Council-

lors, Barbara Tait and Frances Roden, both now being SDC Cabinet members. Similarly, County Councillor Joan Nash shared her range of duties as being Cabinet member for schools with GCC and the difficulties it faced with its approximately £650m budget - £300m being ring-fenced for education. A letter from MP David Drew included reference to his doing what he could to make representations to help for a 'seamless' transfer of ownership of our Post Office.

During the Open Form part of the meeting, which followed these thorough reports, several matters occupied discussion in particular:

- Somerset Moore indicating that he was in negotiations to reopen the ex-butcher's shop in Friday Street, but not as a butchers,
- The extent to which residents were ignoring the weeds growing between pavements outside their homes and the walls of those properties, this being an unattractive feature of the village and unhelpful in judging for such as the Bledisloe Cup or the Calor Award, and it being hoped that home owners would attend to their 'patch',
- Some increase in the amount of litter on footways close to the Croft School,
- The deterioration of the road surface in the Cheltenham Road between the village and the Highlands,
- The importance of the desirability of recruiting volunteers to resume the organisation and voluntary 'manning' of the Tourist Office,
- The seeming needlessness of some road signs, especially those asserting 'New Road Surface',
- The state of footways and adjacent maintenance in and close to White Horse Lane, and
- Expressions of concern regarding the Gateway project and seeming funding support by the Parish Council.

On this last point David Archard was adamant that he did not wish 'one penny of his Community Charge spent on the library project'. Another was sceptical about the financial prospect for the Gateway idea. The Chairman reminded those present that while the Parish Council was enthusiastic in its support for the venture and there being a totally independent trust to try and take the concept forward, the Council had no intention of relocating itself to those premises. Joan Nash welcomed the village rising to the decision of the County Council to divest itself of the premises while retaining a library service until at least 2009, but reminded the meeting that this is the least used library in the County.



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Passing crook opens Cotswold Way National Trail

The launch of the Cotswold Way National Trail was marked by a group of Cotswold Voluntary Wardens undertaking a relay walk along the 102 mile route, starting on Wednesday 16th May at Bath Abbey. Carried out over nine stages, the wardens passed the baton - actually a shepherds crook - to one another, finishing in Stanway House in Chipping Campden for the opening ceremony on Thursday 24th May.

Chairman of the Avon Valley District of the Cotswold Voluntary Warden Service Nigel Locke explained that the Shepherd's Crook with a sheep's head carved into it signified a connection between the present tourism industry and the old woollen industry.

By lunchtime on Sunday 20th May, the crook had reached Painswick, where we caught up with our own warden, Harold Wood, pictured below left. Not that he was alone. Other walkers passing through included Malcolm Watt and Dean Kavurga (*below right*), who were half way through their week long hike from Chipping Campden to Bath, and seven young ladies from the High School for Girls in Gloucester (*right*), who were walking the Wistley Hill to Stonehouse stretch as part of their Duke of Edinburgh's Bronze Award. This, they said, had included an overnight camp in Cranham at the Boy Scouts Camp, which they described as, "Wicked!" We decided not to probe further.



One comment made by all the walkers was that whilst the Cotswold Way was generally well sign posted, there was a distinct lack of signage in Painswick itself. We put this point to Harold who sighed and said that he had been strongly recommending that the council erect proper Cotswold Way signs in the village for years, so far without result.

"Perhaps now it's a National Trail, something will happen: as they say, it is better to travel hopefully..."



Painswick Beacon Clear-up



Do you enjoy walking on Painswick Beacon? Or running or jogging? Or riding? Or walking your dog? Or playing golf? Or visiting the iron-age hill fort? Or looking for orchids? **And does the litter left on the Beacon make you cross....**

Then give us an hour or so of your time and help us clear up the worst of the litter and rubbish thrown away there. The Parish Council is sponsoring this event and will provide gloves, plastic bags, litter pickers, and other equipment and will arrange for the collected rubbish to be taken away.

Last year about twenty volunteers of all ages came and helped. Let us make a bigger impact this year - new volunteers are most welcome - give me a call if you would like more details. Otherwise, meet at the car park on Painswick Beacon close to Catbrain Quarry at 2.00pm on Sunday 24 June. We will be there for a couple of hours.

Peter Rowe

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Painswick Gateway

The 'shadow' trustees of this project are, as this report goes to press, complete in number. Appointments had been made by Christ Church and the Parish Council, Heather Whyte and Ann Burges Watson respectively, and the fifth appointment just made by St.Mary's of David Harley. These three, plus Edward Young (Chairman) and Mike Kerton from the original working party, bring the total to five. Hopefully all five will have met before this brief report is published. Public elections for the posts currently held by Edward Young and Mike Kerton will be arranged in due course.

Negotiations with the County Council have started, and valuations are being obtained to assist the trustees in their discussions. Many other lines of investigation are in hand, to ensure clarity in the matters which need to be placed before all parties and the public.

As no feedback or criticism of the outline of the 'aims' clause of the draft constitution have been made since it was published last month, it will now become the firm basis for our work. A particularly helpful relationship has been established with key officers of the District Council.

We would welcome any observations or suggestions regarding the future of these premises or of the project. Please forward these to us before existing ideas begin to dominate our thinking and plans. We would particularly like to hear from local clubs or societies about possible involvement. I will be only too pleased to meet committees or clubs for discussion.

*Leslie Brotherton,
Manager on 813101*



Painswick Centre News

The Crafts and Antiques Fair on 7th May was a great success, with virtually all of the Sellers saying they will come back again next year. So, if you want to reserve a table for the May Bank Holiday next year please telephone 814070!

The picture shows how the hall looked after the sellers had set up their stalls. The stage provided an ideal display area



for the larger pieces of antique furniture, which sold very well. We had a wonderful range of merchandise from Indian jewellery to canal-boat art and from leather-bound books to Valerie's

wonderful botanical prints, plus some very desirable antiques. However, stars of the show were undoubtedly the home-made cakes for which we have to thank Joan, Celia, Sue and Pauline. Not only was this the only "café" open in Painswick on the May Day Bank Holiday but a number of the Sellers actually had cake wrapped to take home with them, it was so good. Tea and cakes raised almost £200 so it is something of a mystery why Painswick seems unable to support a really nice café.

During the course of the day we received two enquiries from people interested in using the Hall. There is no doubt that the Centre is becoming more and more popular as people see just what can be achieved in the Hall. Competitive hire rates and a large car park are added attractions.

Tickets for the 'Edwardian Evening to Remember' on 14th July are now on sale at the Shetland Shop and from 814070. Paul Gray has requested that those people queuing overnight for tickets should not pitch their tents immediately in front of his shop. We were also concerned to hear that forged tickets have appeared on e-bay. It is quite easy however, to recognise the genuine ones

as they do not show the date of the event on the front of the ticket. Can you guess why? Don't wait, it may be too late! Remember the PC slogan, 'use it or lose it'.

Ralph Drew.

Portway Group on show

Under the auspices of the Stroud Valleys Visual Arts Festival, the Portway Group of local artists will be exhibiting paintings, prints and drawings at Painswick Town Hall, 10.00 am to 6.00 pm daily, from Friday 8th to Sunday 10th June.

Adele Lambert



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Kungsbacka Piano Trio

The Kungsbacka Piano Trio (Maim Broman, violin: Jesper Svedberg, 'cello: Simon Crawford-Phillips, piano) gave the third concert of the Painswick Music Society's 2007 season on 28th April in St Mary's Church and entertained a large audience with an interestingly varied programme.

First, Haydn's E flat trio. As often in Haydn's time this was written for a serious pianist with supporting strings and is a showpiece for the pianist who played it with great verve, the strings came along respectfully to give us a cheerful start before the weightier stuff, starting with Schubert's short Notturmo in E flat where the strings showed us some great dynamics including some explosive crescendos.

It got even better with the C minor Shostakovitch trio written when he was only 17 for his first great love, Tanya Glivenko. Hearing it for the first time, for me this was an eye opener. It not the full magnificent treatment: showy piano, alternating violin and cello passages, now lyrical, now stormy, always exciting, the image of modern Russian composers as dispensers of musical gloom happily shattered. Surprising that Tanya left him for another chap! To finish we had the 1894 trio in D minor by another Russian, Anton Arensky. Allegedly a requiem in memory of a friend but you could have fooled me. The opening allegro was happy with some beautiful violin passages, the scherzo was riotous, the elegy was indeed a trifle solemn and the short finale with its rousing start and finish brought us to a happy conclusion. We didn't want them to go so they obliged with a little Beethoven and sent us home happy.

John Parfitt



Razumovsky Ensemble

The Razumovsky Ensemble came to St Mary's Painswick on 12th May for the final concert of the Painswick Music society's 2007 season. The group, directed by the Ukrainian 'cellist Oleg Kogan, varies its make-up for each of its concerts by bringing together soloists, leading orchestral players and teachers (sometimes all three in one artist!) to give chamber music recitals. Five came and gave us a great experience.

We knew we were in for a treat with the short opening piece, the first movement of Schubert's unfinished string trio played with spine-chilling beauty and intensity. The packed church was captivated within a couple of minutes. Forget taking notes, I just sat back, soaked up the quality and waited for the rest.

The rest was a pair of string quintets by Mozart. These were truly luxury drives through a rich musical landscape. The first was in C major and was much more than just nice tunes although we got plenty of those all right. In both quintets the lower parts get a good outing, not just holding up the melodies but stimulating them and urging them on. In particular the dialogues between the first violin and the first viola were beautifully done and the brilliantly tuneful finale was well led by Daniel Rowland's first violin with a fast and furious ensemble drive at the end.

In the second quintet, the G minor, we had ghostly central movements before the whole thing turned nice and cheerful again in the final movement which brought tumultuous applause from the audience. The Painswick spring concerts are always worth hearing but this tour de force by the Razumovsky ranks among the best I've attended in over 20 years. If you ever get the chance, go and hear them. And take a non-musical friend: he (or she) might be converted!

John Parfitt

Do you subscribe to the new improved Beacon?

Quite a lot of readers noticed the improved quality of last month's Beacon – that's the quality of the print and graphics, not necessarily the content! The improvement stems from our decision to make use of the upgraded technology available from Dirty Little Fingers – and that's the name of our printers, not a comment on the hygiene standards of the editorial team. This improvement comes at a price and it will lead to a 20% increase in our print bill over the next year, meaning that each Beacon costs about 70p to produce. So, we now rely even more on our subscribing readers.

The current figures for subscriptions to the Beacon are set out below, with the corresponding position for last year by way of comparison. We hope you'll give this more than a glance, maybe jogging your memory to check whether you are currently subscribing.

We also take this opportunity to remind readers that subs can be handed in over the Painswick Post Office counter, where Annie Littler kindly keeps them safe for our collection. If you are keen to post your subscription please remember to put a stamp on the envelope. Several times each year our Subscription Secretary Shirley Clark has to make a trip to the sorting office at Salmon Springs and part with £1.24 for each un-stamped envelope for the postage and handling charge; all somewhat frustrating, to say the least.

Beacon subscribers

2nd May 2007	2007-08	2006-07
New or renewed after lapsing	100	125
Renewed from last year	452	484
Total including postal	552	609
Painswick village dwellings	1057	1057
Subscribing households	399	531
Percentage subscribing	37.8%	50%

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Austerity Lunches: ... the stockpot mystery deepens!

Thank you to everyone for their support of the 2006/07 season of Austerity Lunches. Christian Aid and Painswick Pre – School Playgroup have shared the £1,650.00 raised. Thank you also to Christ Church who over many years has offered their excellent facilities free of charge, however, we have now decided to give them a contribution to help cover ever increasing energy costs.

As well as raising funds for those in need, the lunches that are open to all, also provide the people of Painswick the opportunity to meet up with one another and enjoy a simple lunch of homemade soup, bread and cheese. For anyone moving into our community it is an excellent way of getting to know new people.

The season runs for 20 weeks from October to March and takes place on Mondays from 12 noon to 1.15pm in Christ Church Hall. Each week a different community group or individual and his/her friends host the lunch. This year we have had three new groups joining our rota of volunteer hosts and we thank them for their contribution.

Following the lunch on Feb 26th, hosted by the Conservation society, a stockpot was left behind and remains unclaimed.

As a result of the questionnaire circulated in the autumn of last year, the lunches will be called "Community Lunches" when they recommence in October.

Gill Gyde

Are you a good Samaritan?

If so, please read on!

SAMARITANS

The Samaritans were founded in 1953 by Chad Varah, brother of our own well known and highly respected Painswickian, Bill Varah. Its aim is to listen to people experiencing feelings of distress or despair, at the end of their wits, and to give them emotional support and advice – all done by highly trained volunteers. There are 202 branches in England and the one in Gloucester is our local one. It costs about £26,000 annually to run practically all of which has to come from donations!

These come mainly in different ways: occasional donations or regular, if possible gift aided covenants from well wishers, and from profits from special events, organised either by the branch itself or some charity minded company or institution.

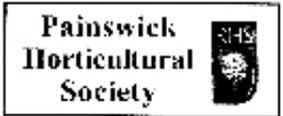
Which brings me to two special events to be held soon by the Gloucester Samaritans:

- Saturday, 21st July, 7.30 pm, The Forest of Dean Male Voice Choir, performing in St. Peter's Church, London Road, Gloucester, tickets £5, including cheese and wine; and

- Sunday, 22nd July, 2 – 5 pm at Hatherley Manor, Hatherley, Cheltenham, Family Day, craft stores, band, dancing displays, barbecue, childrens games, book-stall, tombola, home made cake stall, raffle. Entry free.

So, how about coming to one or both of these events and help the Samaritans? If you prefer, you would of course be most welcome to give a donation in lieu – or in addition! Ralph Kenber will be happy to deal with your donations - cheques made out to "Gloucester Samaritans", please - Westmorland House, Kingsmead, Painswick, GL6 6US, Telephone 813259.

Naked bliss... amongst the bloms!



At our AGM held on 9th May the Chairman looked back on an excellent year. Members and visitors enjoyed a programme of social events, many successful outings and a wide variety of speakers. Our "Evening with David Howard" - Head Gardener at Highgrove - was extremely popular. We all enjoyed hearing a little of the history of the gardens and seeing his many beautiful slides.

Another very popular speaker was Barbara Pollard of "Naked Gardeners" fame. Our Chairman recalled seeing a



look of bliss on many male faces - including his own! The low point of the year was the number of entries at our Annual Show mainly due, we feel, to very poor growing

conditions last year. We hope the 2007 show will be more successful.

The AGM was followed by Philip Berry's tour of Painswick in Bloom - a photo gallery of entries in last year's competition. It is amazing the difference baskets and tubs make to the appearance of a house and all contribute to making our village more attractive. So get planting - all container planting in the centre of Painswick is judged in early July.

The Annual Show will be on the 8th September in the Painswick Centre

The next Monthly Meeting will be on October 10th at 7.30pm in the Town Hall, until then enjoy the summer and happy gardening!

Betty Harris

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Croft School News

From the Head...

We are already near the end of Term 5, which hardly seems possible. It has been a busy few weeks, with exciting topics as the focus

of work in each class. Year 2 children have been involved in Key Stage 1 assessments for the past few weeks, finishing with an inventive writing task relating to their dinosaurs topic. The Key Stage 2 tests for Year 6 last week were much more formal, timed tests. Mrs Towler and Mrs Ratcliffe were very impressed by the way in which the children tackled the tests. Whatever the results, they have certainly done their best, which is all we can ask.

Janet Hoyle

School vegetable garden

The new vegetable garden has now been planted, with a bed for every class. All children have been involved in the planting and are now responsible for watering, weeding etc

School art on show

The school is contributing to SITE07 (local artists open studios) with an art exhibition at the Painswick Town Hall. Every child in the school will have a piece of artwork on display See below for the event and for the art workshops that each class will have before the event.

T Shirt Day

Thank you for your support of T shirt day. £133 was raised, half for charity and half for the School Council to use. They are consulting their year groups to see what they would like them to buy.

PTA Safari Supper

Many thanks to Suzie Jones for her organisation of Saturday's Safari Supper and to the seven hosts who were so generous in their hospitality.

School Website

You are now able to access our new school website. Click on: www.croft.gloucs.sch.uk. The site is still under development, so check from time to time for new material. If you have previously received newsletters by email, we will now email you to let you know when there is a new newsletter on the site. Email Mrs Rudd if you would like to be added to this list.

We are following the safety advice of BECTA, the national body giving advice on the use of technology in education. This advises that close up pho-

tographs of children should not be used on websites, and that pictures of children should not have names or identifying information attached to them. If you have not given permission for a photo of your child to be used, your child's image will not appear. Following advice from Gloucestershire County Council, children's surnames will not appear on the site, so the newsletters you will find on the site will just contain first names.

School Council

Congratulations to the elected school councillors for the summer. They are:

- Year 6 Samantha Taylor and Kieran Grant (reserves: Leah Davis and Hamish Mackellar)
- Year 5 George Dickinson and Catriona Cookson (reserves: Sebastian Hewett, Fern Partridge and Louise Davies Boulton – there was a tie!)
- Year 4 Catherine Taylor and William Jollans (reserves: Liam Franklin and Olivia Mighten)
- Year 3 Gregor Workman and India Johnson (reserves: Molly Nicholls and Nathaniel Hatherley)
- Infant reps Nina Perry and Sasha Retnik (reserves: Bethany Worsley and Max Murray)

House Captains

Congratulations too to the House captains this term, who are:

- BEACON Douglas Fair
- JUNIPER George Pigott
- RUDGE Kate Davies

Musical Assembly DVD

Remember that we have available for sale DVD copies of the musical assembly at the end of last term. Please send money in an envelope to the school office.



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Local History Teaser

This happy local rustic trio was snapped on camera exactly thirty years ago to the month. It was a double occasion of both local and national significance – can you say what either or both were? Do you recognise the people and can you say where and why the picture was taken?

Answer in next month's Beacon.

Our photograph last month showed a group of bowlers from the Institute in the 1960s. They were: Jack Hinds, farmer (3rd left back row), Arthur Parkes, postman (1st left front row), and Sgt. John Jones (1st right front row). The others standing left to right were E. Lewis, T. Organ, G. Dodd, R. Mayo, A. Dixon, R. Beach, V. Oskurn, W.A. Smith, G. Bretherton, H. Ryland. The others in the front row left to right were K. Bentley, A.J. Mills (Capt.), S. Aston.



... and the Local History Society

The scheduled May outing to Hilles was cancelled due to the sad news of Isabella Blow's death.

The meeting on Tuesday, 19 June will be the AGM at which Mrs Ann Daniels will give a presentation on the subject of The Plantation. The Croft School at 7.30pm. Everyone is welcome.

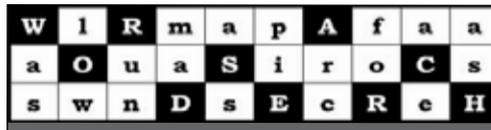
Carol Maxwell

ArchiTecs



Bit of a conundrum this month as we are only giving you a fragment. Worth thinking about where it comes from though.

Last month we invited you to tell us where the finger sign, on the front page, is - exactly. The observant will know that it is in Edge Road, pointing across the fields towards the southern half of the Cotswold Way.



W-R-S-A-C-

For this month we invite you to find no fewer than 29 car marques popular in the UK. One, Peugeot, is missing for no better reason than that we couldn't fit it in.

The answers to last month's Word-search - the nineteen sports played indoors - are:

BADMINTON, BASKETBALL, BOWLS, BOXING, CURLING, CYCLING, DARTS, FENCING, HANDBALL, JUDO, JUJITSU, KARATE, KENDO, NETBALL, SNOOKER, SQUASH, TABLE TENNIS, TRAMPOLINE, VOLLEYBALL



Probus visits Westminster



On 8th May members of the Painswick Probus Club visited the Palace of Westminster. An early start was necessary to ensure we arrived at the appointed time. We had to forego our planned stop en route as our driver said that under new legislation if he stops it must be for half an hour. Oh dear what next!

The guided tour of Westminster was slightly disrupted as John Prescott (who else) was entertaining in the House of Lords and we were diverted from the Sovereign's entrance

to St Stephen's entrance. In so doing we were allocated to the wrong guide who halfway through finally got the message that we were from Painswick Probus. This was not before one of our members got severely reprimanded for sitting on one of their lordships chairs in the Chamber. As a former senior diplomat he was not amused. The rest of the party were.

In view of the fact that we lost our coffee stop, refreshments were taken early, and we arrived a little late for our meeting with David Drew in one of the Committee Rooms. However, we were greeted with great courtesy and we had a most interesting session with David who stressed that he regarded all constituents with equal respect.

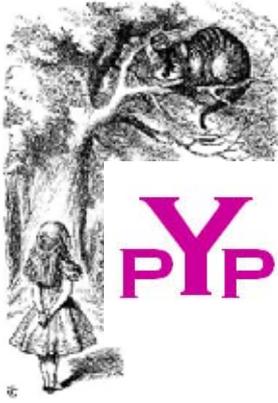
The die hard Conservatives amongst our group nodded their approval. David kindly offered to come and talk at a future Probus meeting in Painswick. We hope to arrange a suitable date.

After lunch our group split and pursued a variety of options. Debates were listened to in the House of Commons and the House of Lords, many members went to the Churchill War Museum whilst a few lucky ones climbed or attempted to climb the 393 steps to the top of Big Ben. The group was led by Reigh Sutton (84 years young whose recent claim to fame was abseiling down the Painswick church tower – see picture). She bounded up the steps probably hoping to abseil down Big Ben. Listening to Big Ben chime just two feet away was a memorable if deafening experience. Interestingly the firm which services Big Ben's bell also services the bells in St Mary's Church Painswick.



We are very grateful to David Drew and his assistant Laurie for being so helpful in organising this visit.

Painswick Probus meets every other Wednesday at 10.30am in the Shire Rooms at the Falcon Hotel. If you would like to attend a meeting or find out more about the Club please contact Nigel Burt Hon President (810935) or Geoffrey Archer Hon Secretary (813557). You can be assured of a warm welcome.



YiPPies in Wonderland

'Alice was beginning to get very tired of sitting by her sister on the bank, and of having nothing to do .. the hot day made her feel very sleepy when suddenly a White Rabbit, with pink eyes, ran close by her. There was nothing so remarkable in that, but when the Rabbit actually took a watch out of its waistcoat pocket and looked at it, Alice ran across the field after it ...'

So begins Lewis Carroll's delightful and enduring tale of Alice In Wonderland. What better choice of play for our young YiPPies – the Young Painswick Players - than Elizabeth Jackson's adaptation. And it would be impossible to find a more perfect setting than The Rococo Gardens.

Lesley Wolowiec, who is directing this production, says that the decision to stage an outdoor production is always a risky business. "A bit like working with children", she commented wryly, "but occasionally a set of circumstances presents itself as an opportunity too good to miss!"

Elizabeth Jackson has written an accessible version of the story, with all the essential characters, while the simple musical arrangements by June Woods enliven the play and keep things moving along. With colourful costumes and a few surprises for the audience, it promises to be a delightful evening's entertainment.

Alice and friends will be arriving in the garden at 6.00pm on the nights of June 21st and 22nd to tell their story. Why not come and join them? Bring a blanket and a picnic... and possibly an umbrella!

Tickets will be £5.00 Adults, £4.00 Children (so a family can go out for less than £20.00!) and are available at the Rococo Gardens. They will also be on-sale at The Chairman, Shetland Shop and The Post Office.



Artspace 'site 07' Festival

Stroud Valleys Artspace has organised an arts festival over two weekends in June - 9th/10th and 16th/17th. During this time over eighty artists open their doors to the public and exhibit work in their studio or home. A free guide is produced with an example of every artist's work which will be available in the local shops and information centre. Look for the site 07 logo and spend an enjoyable time visiting the diverse range of studios and workshops.



This year, seven local artists from Painswick and Sheepscombe will be part of the event. An eclectic mix of paintings, textiles, photography and willow work will be on show close to home and we all very much hope you will come.

In addition on the second weekend - 16th/17th June, the Croft School children are holding their open studio in the Town Hall, in which every child is exhibiting an example of their best art work.

Look for the bright yellow site07 signs to help find locations. The numbers on the map above correspond to the locations of the studios. We all look forward to meeting you.

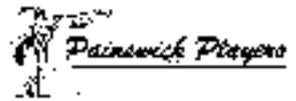
We all look forward to meeting you.

Jane Garbett

URGENT!

Directors needed.

Painswick Players are in desperate need of people able and willing to direct productions. Without directors there are no productions and without productions Painswick Players ceases to be an active Dramatic Society. Support and guidance for this role will be given. There is a real possibility that Painswick Players will have to 'rest' if we cannot find directors. Please contact Ann Dorman on 814548 or email ann.yates@homecall.co.uk if you can help.



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Red Cross Open Gardens

The British Red Cross, (Gloucestershire Branch), will be holding its annual Painswick Open Gardens on Sunday the 17th June 2007 from 2.00 pm to 6.00 pm.

Five beautiful gardens will be open in Cotswold Mead, Kingsmill Lane and Stepping Stone Lane, some old favourites and one new surprise! These hillside gardens, most with spectacular views, are grouped around the Painswick stream and show a wide variety of styles and planting ideas for you to steal or covet.

Teas will be served at Sheepphouse, Ice Creams at Wayland, and some plants will be available for sale at Sheepphouse Cottage.

The best starting point is the Rugby and Sports Club Car Park on the A46 just south of the village, then cross the road into Cotswold Mead and follow the maps which will be available. The walk is about 2 miles in total.

If you wish an easier route there will be paddock parking available at Sheepphouse Cottage and Sheepphouse to break your journey. Most gardens will have areas accessible to wheelchair users

and disabled parking will be made available close to each garden - simply ask the parking attendants.

This year we are hoping to have a plant stall to raise a little extra for this worthwhile cause. If you have some plants you would like to donate to the stall please contact Jackie on 813229 who will be pleased to assist.

Remember that all the proceeds from the Red Cross Open Gardens go to Red Cross services and activities local to this area.

Hoping for a fine day and to see you there.

Jackie Herbert and Lindsay Gardiner

Victorian Costume Ball

Our annual event will be held this year on Saturday 21st July at the Painswick Centre and will be another evening to remember following on from the Edwardian evening which is being held a week earlier, and continuing the 100 years celebrations.

This will be our sixth Victorian Ball bringing to a close our present season of Tea Dances which will resume once again on Thursday 13th September, so if you are new to the area or perhaps would like to get out your dancing shoes once again you are assured of a warm welcome each Thursday afternoon for a session of ballroom, latin and sequence dancing.

For our Victorian Ball we will be having a workshop on Thursday 19th from 7.00-9.00pm at the Centre for anyone who would like to come along and learn a few of the dances ready for the Saturday evening. All the dances are traditional dances from the late 19th and early 20th century and are usually reasonable easy to follow, even for dancers with limited experience. Of course, as usual the will be spectator tickets available too so that if you enjoy an evening of music you could sit on the balcony, have a drink from the bar and the refreshments available in the interval and then consider joining in the next time. If the thought of dressing up puts you off be assured that the Victorians very often wore dark colours, mainly black so a white blouse and black skirt for the ladies and dinner jackets for the gentlemen would be quite acceptable. Tickets at £7.00 for dancing and £3.50 for spectators, inclusive of refreshments, will be available from the Shetland shop or by phoning us on 01453 833150 and we will be happy to give you any further information.

Geoff & Joy, Dancing For Pleasure

Birds on the High Cotswolds

A symphony of birdsong greeted us at Warden's Wood on May 2nd with sightings of Willow Warbler, Whitethroat and Linnet. Striding forth on the West Down gallops to Cleeve Hill, we closely observed Wheatear, Skylark, Curlew and Buzzard hovering in the wind! Our thanks go to our knowledgeable and enthusiastic leader, Keith White for such a successful High Cotswold bird watching day.

Our next two field trips will be:

- Tuesday, 12th. June at Swillbrook Lakes Nature Reserve, meeting at Neigh Bridge car park at 10.30 am, and

- Monday, 2nd. July for a late evening Nightjar walk in the Forest of Dean.

Telephone 813094 or 813823 for details of these or future meetings. Visitors are always very welcome.



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PAINSWICK SPORT *assembled by Terry Parker*

New Era for Golf Club.

On Tuesday 14th May the New Stewards: Venky and Martin Hatton and their team arrived and set to in true professional style, with a whole week of important events before them.

Martin is a highly qualified and experienced chef who has already made his mark at Painswick Golf Club. He insists on only fresh produce in his cooking. The couple have arrived from North Wales and are ready to accommodate Painswick members, social members and guests and would be delighted to see any lapsed members etc who are interested in using the facilities.

Wednesday 15th May was The Seniors Open. Over 120 competitors arrived, played in a highly organised competition and were efficiently supplied with superb food. The overall winner of the competition was David Heyes, a Painswick player with 43 points. There was a good spread of other prize winners in different sections, from members and non-members. Congratulations to Peter Sibley who masterminded the whole day along with his team of Seniors and refreshment helpers.

Thursday 17th May saw the Home Match between Painswick Seniors and Minchinhampton New Seniors. The home team won: 4 ½ to 1 ½. Members and visitors were heard to say that the steak pie was the best they have ever tasted.

Friday 18th May Painswick Badminton Club held their Annual John Reynolds Golf Tournament at Painswick Golf Club. The John Reynolds Cup was won by David Harley, 2nd prize to David Walker. Another excellent 3 course meal was enjoyed by the participants. Saturday 19th May started with The Mixed Foursomes Timmis Competition. This was won by Kate Dennison and Neal Haddock. 2nd place was taken by Lady Captain Angela Woodward and Martin Taylor. In the afternoon Painswick A Team, who are now in the 1st Division of the N.G.F.L. lost at home to Lilley Brook A Team 1:5. The B. Team who played at Lilley Brook also lost 2:4

Venky and Martin are now supplying a full catering service. Sunday Lunches will always be served and lunches will be available throughout the week from £5. Evening meals will be available on Thursday, Friday and Saturday. An excellent menu is available at the rest of times. This can be viewed along with other information about the Golf Club including stunning pictures on www.painswick-golf.com. There will be changes to this menu monthly.

On Wednesday Evenings a 9-hole social competition where people can just turn up between 4.00 and 6.00 p.m. and can be followed, if desired with a curry or other meal.

On 6th July a full Beatles Band will be performing at the regular tribute night.

Painswick RFC Juniors Team of the Year tour to Southport

The Painswick RFC Under 12s were well supported for their first ever tour. Not only did they have a training session with Jack Adams of Gloucester Rugby before they headed to Southport but whilst they were there another professional rugby player, Jordan James of Widnes came to offer his support to his brother Joel and the rest of Painswick U12s.

Richmond Homes were the team's main sponsor, providing tour tops and with donations from Kings Owen Property Maintenance and Crest Nicholson the team looked as if they meant business. The standard of rugby was very high, with county champions from Cheshire, Sussex and Kent amongst the competing teams.

Having won the Dursley festival and the Leamington Spa festival, the Under 12s were quietly confident. The tour was a great success both on and off the field with the team coming third overall. Of the six pool matches they played they lost only one – and that was to a team from Surrey which has not been beaten for four years who only scored one try against the Painswick team and that was in the final play of the game.

The boys drew with the Kent champions one try apiece and also held the eventual tournament winners to a nil: nil draw. In coming third equal (with Reading Abbey who had a heavyweight supporter in Frank Bruno) this village team can be very proud of itself – and look forward to future tours and successes. The players and their parents would like to thank the team coaches, Chris Stone and Chaz Fox for all the hard work, dedication and fun they have given this team throughout the season.



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Tennis winners

Pictured below are Painswick Lawn Tennis Club members Chelsea Warrington and Alicia Barnett who were the sole Gloucestershire finalists at the Cheltenham Junior Open Tournament. The Painswick pair won the Under 14 Doubles event beating their Oxfordshire opponents 1-6 6-4 6-1.



Painswick Unrunners

15 things you (probably) don't know about Purrs:

- There are 23 female Purrs (Painswick Unrunners).
- When we started in January only 2 of us had done any previous running.
- We are all young at heart. (With excellent joints!)
- We train 3 times a week around the local area.
- We have run with The Edge Runners to Painswick Beacon and back!
- Our youngest member is age 15.
- Our oldest member is age ...well I'm not telling you that!
- We have given birth to 55 children! (Our fan club!)
- We have run in the snow, hail, wind, rain and sunshine.
 - We have run 125 miles in training so far!
 - We eat Belgian chocolate and drink champagne (as often as possible!)
 - We have just completed The Tewkesbury 5 mile Fun Run!
 - Our goal is The Stroud Half Marathon in October.
 - We are fundraising for The Croft School and The Williams Syndrome Foundation.
 - **We'll be asking you to sponsor us soon!**

Rosemary Sanderson



Painswick Parish Council Footpath Walk

The Parish Council is organising a circular 2-hour footpath walk on Saturday 9th June starting from Stamages Lane car park at 6pm. The route will follow the Painswick Stream in the Cranham direction. Dogs are permitted but must be on a lead at all times. Everyone is very welcome to join the walk.

Cricket

Painswick won their Village Championship second round match against Stone and were scheduled to play the Bristol club Hambrook last Sunday. Rain however caused the match to be postponed until this weekend. A full account of Painswick's results will appear in the July Beacon.

Painswick Police Bulletin

There is an increase in the number of bogus callers within Gloucestershire and they turn up unannounced with the intention of tricking their way into people's homes to steal their money or valuables. They are often referred to as 'distraction burglars'. The offenders may be smartly dressed and claim to be from the council, gas, water or electric companies or even in casual clothes offering to carry out garden or home maintenance. They can place extreme pressure on vulnerable people to obtain monies from them. Gloucestershire Police is currently issuing packs to older and vulnerable members of the community in order to raise awareness. If you need any advice on this subject then please contact Rick Pellatt at Stroud Police on 01452 335623.

Did you know that you can contact your safer community team via the website? If not here's how. Go to www.gloucestershire.police.uk and click on Neighbourhood Policing to view the list

of safer community teams. Then under the heading of Cotswolds and Stroud select Stroud Safer Community Team. If you scroll to the bottom of this page then you can submit a form directly to us to tell us about your views and what you would like to see from your local police. The Safer Community Team are still seeking volunteers to join a panel of local people to meet with myself to discuss local issues of concern. These meetings would be held approximately every quarter with the intention of giving the policing of Painswick more structure and direction, which will, in turn, enable the Police to target issues that are really affecting the community. If you are interested in joining then please contact me by email at Linda.dey@gloucestershire.police.uk or by phone on 01452 335674 or contact Roy Balgobin

by email at clerkpainswickpc@hotmail.com or by phone at the Parish Council Office on 812722.



Linda Dey, PCSO 9163, Painswick Parish

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WI's Big Ones

Big ones, little ones, pink ones, blue ones, ones with feathers, ones with bows - there were hats of every conceivable size, colour and adornment at the Hat Extravaganza in The Painswick Centre on Wednesday 25th April, when Yew



Trees played host to three other local WI's, who together make up the Painswick Group. Lynne Bitterlin from The Hat Shop in Prestbury gave a short talk on her love of hats and today's fashion in headwear, which she illustrated with the able assistance of three young friends who modelled the latest styles while her audience enjoyed a glass of wine and canapés. Then came the highlight of the evening for most of the ladies when they were able to try on the dozens of hats that Lynne had brought along with her. Much merriment ensued as under large brims and high crowns some WI members took on the personae of regal grand duchesses while others made a less favourable impression! Comparisons may be made to small children being let loose in a sweet shop!

'The history of home sewing' was the title of Maggie Colwell's talk at our monthly meeting on the previous evening. Maggie, illustrated her talk with her amazing collection of sewing aids. Nostalgia ruled as we were reminded of the contents of workboxes belonging to our mothers and grandmothers. Maggie explained that wars are the harbingers of change and that the introduction of the mass production of clothes between the two wars heralded the decline of home sewing and all the accessories that went with it. We learnt that the hand making of pins involved 13 separate stages. We marvelled at the variety of pins in Maggie's collection including one black mourning pin as well as many fasteners and other gadgets. Maggie urged us not to throw out our obsolete sewing aids but to treasure them as a reminder of a lost age. After all how many teenagers do you know who make their own clothes or any one who darns their socks?

In June Andy Harris is coming to talk about the work of the Charity RAPID-UK. The Charity exists to provide experienced disaster response personnel (all volunteers) anywhere in the world. As dog-coordinator, Andy is hoping to be accompanied by one of the highly trained search dogs which are taught to find live casualties trapped under the debris of collapsed structures following earthquakes, mudslides and explosions. Andy has had first hand-experience as a volunteer in India and Kenya, so his illustrated talk should be both eye opening and informative. All ladies most welcome to join us at The Town Hall, 7.30 pm on Tuesday 26th (Visitors: £2).

Celia Lougher

In memory of ...

Laurie Lee

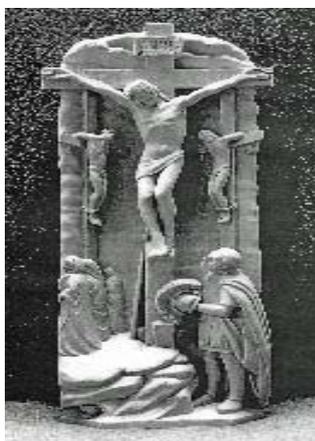
A fountain dedicated to the life and memory of Laurie Lee - who died 10 years ago this month - has been unveiled at Richmond Painswick retirement village by his widow, Cathy Lee.

The local Slad author, became famous for his poetry and autobiographical novels including 'Cider with Rosie', 'A Moment of War' and 'A Rose for Winter'. The fountain forms part of the landscaped gardens which have been designed to be a social gathering point for residents.

Susie Oakley, manager at Richmond Painswick commented: "We wanted to dedicate the fountain to Laurie Lee in recognition of the local community's fondness for him. He was a great literary figure and we felt it important to acknowledge his talent."

In reply, Laurie Lee's widow, Cathy (pictured sitting by the fountain) said: "I thought it was a lovely gesture when they told me the fountain was to be dedicated to Laurie. It's a touching way to remember him."

Designed by Zebedee Helm, the fountain backdrop includes carved quotations from Laurie Lee's first book of poetry, *The Sun, My Monument*, published in 1944.



Bob and Richard Feilden

A magnificent memorial sculpture has been dedicated in Gloucester Cathedral in thanksgiving for the lives of Bob Feilden and his son, Richard. Bob Feilden was a leading member of the pioneering group of engineers that developed the jet engine with Sir Frank Whittle in the 1940s. His son, Richard, a distinguished architect, who was tragically killed in an accident at the age of 56, spent most of his childhood at Castle Godwyn.

The dedication took place on Sunday 13th May, after Evensong, with the choir, clergy and congregation processing to the Memorial Chapel, where the dean dedicated a Crucifixion Scene in stone by the sculptor, Rory Young of Cirencester. Rory has a national reputation for major works, including York Minster, but is best known locally for the Celtic style cross at the memorial area in Painswick Churchyard.

Diana Feilden, who attended the service with her family, says that she is deeply moved by the work and is grateful to everyone involved, especially Rory for his skill and creativity.

Ros Harris

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Letters

The inclusion of letters in these columns does not imply that the Beacon committee endorses the views expressed.

Damsells in distress

From Peter Cook,
Damsells Lodge:

It is with some irritation under planning matters in the Painswick Beacon I read that Damsells Lodge has applied for outline planning for an ancillary dwelling.

This statement is untrue and misleading and I hope will be rectified.

Editor's note: The entry in The Beacon was provided by Painswick Parish Council. The council has confirmed that the information they gave to The Beacon was exactly as appeared on the planning application received from Stroud District Council. The District Council in turn has advised that the description of the site of the proposed coach house was as submitted by the applicant viz: Site for new dwelling adjacent Damsells Lodge.

They point out that the site is adjacent to Damsells Lodge but that does not necessarily mean the land lies within the curtilage of Mr Cooke's property.

It may be that in future we should also give the name of the applicant but there is a limit to the detail we can provide in what is essentially a summary of planning applications.

Supporting the Beacon

From Jane Robinson, Berry Close:

In reply to Angela Hudson's letter in the May issue of our excellent community magazine I would like to make this comment:

I was rather disappointed to read that, at the end of April 2007, only 35% of householders had supported The Beacon by paying subscriptions. Only 371 out of 1057 households! It seems all the more amazing that 157 pledges for the Gateway Project were considered to show enough enthusiasm for this to go ahead.

It is, of course at your discretion as to whether you choose to publish this letter or not!

(How could we resist? – Editor)

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The Old Baptist Chapel, New Street

More from the Cotswold Way

From Mrs Wendy Old, Stroud:

It was with great interest that I read your article on the Cotswold Way in this month's edition of the Painswick Beacon.

My niece (Sam Old) and I (Wendy Old - nee Lamort, of Painswick) are both walking the entire 103 miles of the Cotswold Way in five days over Whitsun, finishing on Friday 31st May (hopefully). By the time you read this we should already have passed through Painswick, stopping of for a tea-break at my parents - Ron and Joyce Lamort - in Gyde Road.

We are walking in aid of Motor Neurone Disease and we aim to raise in excess of £2,000. We have already raised more than £1700, which is fantastic. Donations can be made online at www.justgiving.com/wendysam or I can be contacted on 01453 763261.

From Harold Wood,
Cotswold Way Warden:

Fame at last! On the front page. No it wasn't the Times. OK, so it was the Painswick Beacon, but you have to start somewhere. (Cotswold Way National Trail, last month's front page) My main concern is: will the hat still fit?

Whilst I have the floor, I must say that during recent patrolling I have seen an increase in dog litter, especially at Gloucester Road and the Sheep House loop. Also there is a new breed of doggy walker who do clear up, then throw the bag into or over the hedge. I wish I could catch one - the culprit, not the bag!

(And again this month, Harold: see page 4. You'll be getting a reputation! – Editor)

Elgar's enigmatic Brook House variations

From Edward Elgar,
Brook House, Greenhouse Lane

For the last four hundred years our home has been known as Brook House.

We are concerned that the house that was Greenfields in Kings Mill Lane has, despite our protests to both the owner, Stroud District Council and Painswick Parish Council, been renamed Brook House also. Misdirected mail leads us to believe that a further two Brook Houses exist in Tibbiwell Lane. So we now have four Brook Houses in the village, not to mention Brookhouse Mill Cottage, Brook Farm, Brook and Brookhouse Cottage. Pity the poor postman!

Stroud District Council inform us that anyone can use whatever name they choose for their house. There is nothing that we can do to prevent our fellow Painswickians from using the name Brook House.

In my darker moments, I fear that the composer may be taking revenge on me for using his name!

We understand that the District Council/ Post Office rules about house names stipulate that whilst there is no limit to the number of similar names in any town or village, they draw the line at more than one house with the same name in any one street – Editor.

Brief encounters...

Another in our occasional series of encounters between Painswickians and the Great and the Good, the Famous and the Infamous, the Bad and the simply Interesting. This month, Jack Burgess recalls meeting (Sir) Bob Geldof..

There was a time 30 years ago when I was a fun loving ne'er-do-well: in short I ran a record shop. One quiet evening back in 1977, I was about to close the shop, when half-a-dozen dishevelled teenagers lumbered moodily in. I knew what they wanted as soon as I saw them, the same as every other dishevelled teenager that day: 'Looking After Number One', a single by a just breaking punk rock band called The Boomtown Rats.

The leader and easily the scruffiest member of the group, with a none-the-less disarming twinkle in his eye, didn't let me down, 'Have you got Looking After Number One by The Boomtown Rats?'

I sighed wearily as I replied for the umpteenth time that day that sadly I had sold out but expected a delivery by the end of the week.

'Oh, well: you're in luck,' quoth the scruffy one, handing me a small box of singles, 'We are the Boomtown Rats. Here are a few freebies to keep you going.'

'Thank you very much, Mr...er...'

'Geldof. Bob Geldof. Don't mention it. We're just passing through on our way to do a gig nearby. Just for a hundred and fifty quid! Looking after number one? Huh! We might as well be doing a ****ing charity gig! Still, we're on Top of the Pops on Thursday so we should be able to charge a bit more in future.'

And with that, they were gone and the rest, as they say, is history.

JRB



Retreat or try again?

Is the Churches Together movement, begun 99 years ago, still relevant? Bookings for our retreat day were most disappointing. What to do? We retrenched and nine of us spent a delightful morning praying and reflecting together on the meaning of church and the role of churches together around Painswick. (Also, I confess, indulging ourselves in the delicious baking of Heather and Rita.)

Reasons for non-attendance were many and varied so we decided to try again. Christ Church's minister, the Reverend Heather Whyte, has kindly agreed to give another day to lead us through the programme she had prepared. Many of you will have heard Heather speak at various Unity services or shared under her leadership in a Lent programme. We are indeed blest in having Heather as such a talented, reliable and active member of CTAP's committee and hope that rather more of you might be moved to show your support and make a firm booking in your diaries for Thursday 30th August. We invite you to come to Rodborough, to take time out from your usual activities to spend a morning of worship, prayer and spiritual exercises; to reflect anew on what it means to be a Christian in this 21st century. After lunch there will be an opportunity to share our reflections and to discuss together the future of CTAP.

Do we truly believe that by working together we can more fruitfully express the command of Jesus Christ to love one another and to recognise all as our brothers and sisters, not only regardless of denomination, but whatever their colour or creed? Is CTAP a worthwhile medium through which to sustain and

encourage this? How faithfully are our endeavours reflecting these ideals? Do you really want us to continue as we are?

I am most grateful to Rita Bishop as secretary, and Lindsay Gardiner as Treasurer for their excellent support and take this occasion to say how gratifying it is that all our clergy seem committed to our ideals. We, your committee, see ourselves as responsible to ALL the members of the different church communities; our role being both to represent and to serve.

We so hope you will support us and make every effort to join us on the 30th of August. Meanwhile please do not hesitate to express your views to your representatives, or directly to me.

Jane Jennings-Taylor (Chair)

2007 Pilgrimage to Lourdes



HCPT Pilgrimage Trust would like to thank all those who attended and supported the coffee morning on the 17th March 2007, the money that you raised and kindly donated to the Trust was gratefully received and allowed one more child to embark on this year's pilgrimage to Lourdes.

The children all had a wonderful time and just to prove that Roger Standen and Gemma Tocknell, the organisers, didn't spend the money on going to Corfu, Roger and Gemma want to say a big thank you to all for the generosity shown: to quote one of the children,

"It was the best week I've ever had!"

PROPERTY REPORT for June from Hamptons

The spring months are traditionally busy and we are seeing the strong London market filtering through. With sales of- fers up by 44% on the previous year, the high demand for properties and supply shortage is continuing to have an ef- fect on prices, with multiple bidding on realistically priced stock. If you are thinking of selling this is the real key over the coming months bearing in mind if too high a price is quoted initially interest may be lost at the outset.

Last week, the Lords voted against HIPS, which means the HIPS pack has been delayed and now comes into force on the 1st August instead of the 1st June. There have been changes made such as mandatory HIPs will only apply to properties of 4 bedrooms or more however it is proposed that this will be extended to smaller properties as soon as possible. Also until the end of 2007, those sellers that need a HIP are able to market their property on day one - provided they have instructed a HIP to be carried out. Hamptons were the first company in the UK to publicise that we will be offering all current and new clients a Free HIPS pack at our cost so if you would like any further information please do not hesitate to contact us or pick up your free guide from our office. Watch this space though as HIPS may still be abolished or delayed even further! For those of you who are unaware of what is in the pack, it has been drastically reduced and the survey is no longer mandatory.

The required documents are: An Index, The sale Statement, Evidence of Title (for all those with properties unreg- istered you need to get this done before selling), replies to local authority searches, water and drainage search re- port and the energy efficiency assessment. For leasehold properties management accounts/lease also need to be included.

New Instructions include: Coombe House and Dial Tryst on Vicarage Street: both lovely period properties in the village, Gyde Lodge and Ridgewood in Queens Mead which are both under offer, Long Mynd: a bungalow with stunning views in the popular Highlands, 4 Stroud Road: a period 3 bed village house, Highgrove Barn, Painswick and Springbank, Slad: versatile family houses in stunning rural positions, The Barn, Upton St Leonards which is now under offer, Old Barn House, Cranham: a spacious family house on the edge of the common and Lower Ley Farm, Minsterworth: a truly special Farmhouse and Barn with over 3 acres which is going to auction on July 12th.

Sold properties (i.e. exchanged) are: Willowbridge in Kingsmill Lane, Old Forge Cottage and Woodsend Cottage in Butt green, Fairings in Castle Close, The Barn at Washwell, Hazel Mill in Slad, Longstones in Pitchcombe, The Langet in Kemps Lane, and Montfort in Upton St Leonards.

If you would like a free Market Appraisal do not hesitate to contact me on 812354.

Miranda Harding, Branch Manager

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JUNE

Sat	2	Daphnis Duo Summer Soiree – music for Flute & Harp	St John's Church	7.30pm
Tue	5	Dog Training Club (Tuesdays) Yoga: Beginners welcome – Tuesdays - contact Emma 01453 840395	Christ Church Hall Town Hall	9.30 to 12.00noon 10.00 to 1.15am
Wed	6	Bingo: Wednesdays – Tel. Ann, 813911/Liz, 813139	Painswick Centre	7.30 to 10.00pm
Thu	7	Jolly Stompers Line Dancing: Beginners Experienced beginners – Thursdays Tea Dances – Thursdays Cotswold Care Support Group meeting Pilates Class – Thursdays	Town Hall Town Hall Painswick Centre Ashwell House Christ Church Hall	12.00 to 1.00pm 12.30 to 1.30pm 2.30 to 4.30pm 2.30pm Evenings
Fri	8	Country Market with coffee available Portway Group Exhibition of Paintings, Prints & Drawings Also 9th & 10th	Town Hall Town Hall	10.00am 10.00am to 6.00pm
Sat	9	Cranham Country Show Parish Council Footpath Walk	Cranham School dep. Stamages car park	2.00pm 6.00pm
Tue	12	Bird Club field trip to Swillbrook Lakes & Nature Reserve	Neigh Bridge car park	10.30am
Wed	13	Probus: Churchill – the last great orator – Mr M Freedman	Shire Rooms, Falcon	10.00am
Fri	15	Friday Club: Kennet and Avon canal trip	tba	
Tue	19	Local History Society: AGM	Croft School	7.30pm
Sat	23	Copy dateline for July Beacon		
Sun	24	Beacon clear-up	Catbrain Car Park	2.00pm
Tue	26	Yew Trees WI: The work of Rapid UK	Town Hall	7.30pm
Wed	27	Probus: Wit & Whimsy – Mr M Rafferty	Shire Rooms, Falcon	10.00am
Fri	29	Friday Club: President's Garden Party Theatre Club outing to Cheltenham Broadham Ball	tba The Falcon Broadham Fields	 6.45pm 7.30pm

JULY

Sun	1	Painswick Fete – summer event	Olivers	tba
Tue	3	to 7th Much Ado About Nothing	Rococo Garden	
Thu	5	Cotswold Care Support Group meeting	Ashwell House	2.30pm
Sat	7	July Issue of The Painswick Beacon published		
Wed	11	Probus: The Magnificent “Seven” – Mr T Picken	Shire Rooms, Falcon	10.00am
Fri	13	Friday Club: Whiteway Colony – Joy Thacker	Town Hall	2.30pm
Sat	14	Painswick Companion Dog Show and Charity Fun Day An Edwardian Evening to Remember	Recreation Field Painswick Centre	From 11.00am 7.15 to 11.30pm
Sat	21	Victorian Costume Ball. For info. Tel: 01453 883150	Painswick Centre	8.00 to 11.30pm
Tue	24	Yew Trees WI: Dundry Nurseries – Chris Evans	Town Hall	7.30pm
Wed	25	Probus: Ladies Lunch (to be confirmed)		
Thu	26	The Cappella Singers in concert	St. Mary's Church	7.30pm
Fri	27	Friday Club: Working Life on the Severn – Chris Witts	Town Hall	2.30pm
Sat	28	Theatre Club outing to Bath	The Falcon	10.30am
Sun	29	CTAP Cricket Match	Broadham Fields	2.00pm

AUGUST

Thu	30	CTAP Away-Day. £5 incl. lunch. Details to follow	Rodborough Tabernacle	10.00am to 4.00pm
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SEPTEMBER

Wed	5	Probus: The Silent Service - Mr J Yates	Shire Rooms, Falcon	10.00am
Fri	7	Friday Club: Canine Partners	Town Hall	2.30pm
Sat	8	Horticultural Society Annual Show	Painswick Centre	2.30pm to 5.30pm
Wed	12	Probus trip to SS Great Britain	tba	
Wed	19	Tying the knot – Life in a Register Office – Mr R Nott	Shire Rooms, Falcon	10.00am
Fri	21	Friday Club: Where paths met – Pat Daly	Town Hall	2.30pm
Tue	25	Yew Trees WI: Victorian Stroud – Howard Beard	Town Hall	7.30pm

OCTOBER

Wed	3	Probus: Changes in China – Mr M Gemmil	Shire Rooms, Falcon	10.00am
Fri	5	Friday Club: outing 'Autumn Colours – apple shopping	tba	



Tue	9	Bird Club: Illustrated talk: Natural history & conservation of British owls – Chris Sperring MBE – TV presenter	Town Hall	7.30pm
Wed	17	Probus: Roman Woodchester – Rev John Cull	Shire Rooms, Falcon	10.00am
Fri	19	Friday Club: World Authority on Handcuffs – Alex Nicholls	Town Hall	2.30pm
Tue	23	Yew Trees WI: Bess of Hardwicke – Gillian White	Town Hall	7.30pm
Sat	27	Concert by Amorata	Painswick Centre	7.30pm
Wed	31	Probus: Robbie Burns & Tam O'Shanter – Mr I Willox	Shire Rooms, Falcon	10.00am

NOVEMBER

Fri	2	Friday Club: AGM+ Experiences of a Town Crier	Town Hall	1.45pm
Sat	3	Christian Aid Coffee Morning	Town Hall	10.00am to 12noon
Sat	10	Sue Ryder Care Coffee Morning	Town Hall	9.45am to 12 noon
Tue	13	Bird Club: Gardening for Wildlife – Helen Williams ARPS - Cards and pictures for sale.	Town Hall	7.30pm
Wed	14	Probus: Early Ships – Mr Bill Cowie CTAP AGM	Shire Rooms, Falcon Church Rooms	10.00am 7.30pm
Fri	16	Friday Club: outing Filkins Cloth Mill + Burford Garden Centre	tba	
Sat	24	St Mary's Church Annual Bazaar	Church Rooms	11.00am to 2.00pm
Tue	27	Yew Trees WI: Annual Meeting and talk on Rococo Garden – Paul Moir	Town Hall	7.30pm
Wed	28	Probus: Christmas Lunch		
Fri	30	Friday Club: 100 years of life in Painswick; David Archard	Town Hall	2.30pm

DECEMBER

Fri	7	Friday Club: Handbell Ringing – Steve Coleman	Town Hall	2.30pm
Tue	11	Yew Trees WI: Spicecraft – Katherine Kear	Town Hall	7.30pm
Wed	12	Probus: Malvern Chase & Battle of Tewkesbury - Mr Bill Gregory	Shire Rooms, Falcon	10.00am
Fri	14	Friday Club: Christmas Lunch		

2008

FEBRUARY

Tue	19	Bird Club: Wildlife encounters in Antarctica and the Southern Ocean – Dr Richard Sale	Town Hall	2.15pm
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MARCH

Tue	11	Bird Club: Birds of Australia – Ged Cassell: followed by AGM	Town Hall	7.30pm
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Please help us help you by letting us have copy of complete programmes of meetings, or single events, as soon as they are known. In this way our forward listing of them all can be of maximum assistance to organisers anxious to avoid clashes of dates. Thank you.

Return of the Countryside Sports Day!

In 2005 (can it really be that long ago?) about 150 of us spent a fun packed afternoon at Olivers on The Countryside Sports Day. It was a huge success with all sorts of things to do and see - clay pigeon shooting, beat the tennis machine, boules, tug of war, children's races, pony rides, pony trap rides, beat the goalie, tots treasure hunt, trampolining, skittles, birds of prey, a fire engine, coconut shy, tractor and trailer rides... And all set in the beautiful grounds at Olivers.

Anyway, kicking off at 1.00pm on Sunday 1st July, we're doing it all again. With just one small difference: it'll be even bigger and better, with more even things for you to have a go at; so put it in your diary, remember, we're two and a half miles north of Painswick on the A46, bring a picnic and we'll see you then!

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NEW APPLICATIONS

HALEBOURNE, KNAPP LANE. Erection of shed. (Revalidation)
DORMER COTTAGE, BUTT GREEN. Variation of condition 5 on planning permission 04/2432/FUL to allow 1st floor west elevation window to be clear glazed and openable.
THE COVERT, SLAD. Erection of a single storey extension.
WYCHWOOD, THE HIGHLANDS. Erection of a single storey timber framed orangery.
ROCOCO GARDEN, PAINSWICK HOUSE, GLOUCESTER ROAD. Erection of single storey garden machinery store.
BRAESIDE, CHELTENHAM ROAD. Proposed loft conversion.
HAZEL MILL, SLAD ROAD, SLAD WARD. Proposed new parking area and access.
HILLVIEW, VICARAGE STREET. Reconstruction of stone retaining wall.
GREENBANK, THE GREEN, EDGE. Increase depth of porch to create new bedroom & window. Change doorway to window. Resubmission of 06/1922/FUL.
ST MARY'S CHURCHYARD, NEW STREET. Repairs to monument 244 (f).
JENKINS FARM, JENKINS LANE, EDGE. Erection of an extension.
COURT HOUSE, HALE LANE. Erection of new walls, removal of old wooden garage and lean to car port.
CLOVERS, KINGS MEAD. Erection of an extension and internal alterations.

REVISED PLANS

Land at rear of GREENAWAY HOUSE, LOWER WASHWELL LANE. Reserved matters application for erection of a 1.5 storey detached house and single storey detached garage. Main changes: Revised site plan.

CONSENT

TOCKNELLS COURT, CHELTENHAM ROAD. Replacement of barn doors and weather boarding.
MULBERRY COTTAGE, PARADISE. Proposed new conservatory.
CHURCH ORCHARD, FAR END, SHEEPSCOMBE. Replacement of existing conservatory and erection of pergola.
HOLCOMBE BARN, HOLCOMBE. Erection of detached domestic outbuilding.
HOLCOMBE BARN, HOLCOMBE. Removal of conservatory. Erection of single storey extension to form orangery.
DAMSELLS FARM, SHEEPSCOMBE LANE. Change of use of existing outbuilding to domestic accommodation.
LITTLE PLACE, HOLLYHOCK LANE. Reduce the height and spread by approx. 1 m beyond previous (TPO 317 (a))
CAROUSEL, SLAD. Single storey extension.

REFUSAL

THE PATCHWORK MOUSE, NEW STREET. Change of use from retail to residential. (Renewal of permission 02/172)

PLAN WITHDRAWN

Land at TANGIER COTTAGE, VICARAGE STREET. Erection of bungalow.

**Been there...
seen that...**

Last month we tentatively kicked off an occasional series of pictures taken by readers on holiday, which were - how can we put it - amusingly odd in some way.

We may have made a mistake!

The gentleman on the right was caught, quite motionless, in Las Ramblas, Barcelona.

Demands for the Editor's resignation for publishing this picture will be considered sympathetically...



MINI-ADS

Andalucia Spain - Villa in foothills above Nerja. 3 bedrooms, sleeps 4, TV, own pool. Wildlife, walks, views, Mountains and Mediterranean. Available July/August £550 per week. 814070 or 0034.647.019686 or e-mail padiwebb@yahoo.com

Tenerife, Los-Gigantes - Apartment, quiet residential area. Fully equipped, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, sleeps four, heated pool, magnificent sea views, sunny terrace all year, satellite TV. £350pw. 813882

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 **Dermot Cassidy**, 1 Painswick Heights, Yokehouse Lane, GL6 7QS. If paying by cheque, please make it payable to The Painswick Beacon.

**The
Beacon
needs you!**

The job of Beacon lead editor can be quite a challenge, involving the equivalent of about 7 - 10 days of hectic, dedicated but satisfying, full time work each month. For most of the first 25 years of its existence, the Beacon was edited virtually single-handedly with the unforgettable Alan Bamber responsible for production/editorship from 1980 until 2001. Over the past five years, the load has been split between two editorial co-ordinators - Leslie Brotherton and Jack Burgess - who take it in turns to give the other a month off.



This month, in an attempt to ease the burden further, we have experimented by splitting the role into its component tasks: Charles Dorman has undertaken the DTP task of overseeing layout, leaving Jack Burgess to take the blame this month for drawing together the actual editorial content.

Looking to the future - and especially with the possibility of any of us moving on to other responsibilities - we urgently need a couple of others in place to share the tasks of keeping the Beacon's flame burning brightly. And we need them now!

So, if you are reasonably computer-literate and/or have journalistic or other writing experience, give Jack or Leslie a call. You won't be thrown in at the deep end... promise!

The Personal Column

Baby

Congratulations to LEONORA and ROBIN MANNERING on the birth of their son, Finlay David, on 6th May, a first grandchild for Peter and Vanessa Mannering and a first great-grandchild for David Mannering, and for the late Isobel Mannering, and Blanche and Charles Roche.

Weddings

Congratulations to PETER GRANT and JACQUELINE HOLLAND-SCOTT who were married at Maltby, Rotherham on 7th May;
also to PATRICK HARRIS and ERIN DUNKIN who were married at Goff's Harbour, NSW, Australia on 7th April;
and to STEPHEN JAMES and CATHERINE CLARKE who are marrying at St James the Great, Cranham on 2nd June;
and to JENS MORGAN and REBECCA REDCLIFFE who are to be married at St Johns, Pitchcombe on 23rd June.

Golden Wedding

Congratulations to JANE and FRANCIS OTWAY who were married fifty years ago on 15th June.

Significant Birthdays

Our best wishes to LAURA THOMPSON who will be 97 years young on 28th May
and belated congratulations to JEAN PARRY-WILLIAMS who was 90 on 17th April.

Get well soon

Best wishes for a speedy recovery to JOHN GODDARD, JOAN TRUMAN, JANE OTWAY and SUE ROBINSON, who have all been in hospital recently.

Condolences

Sincere sympathies to the family and friends of JOSEPHINE EVANS, ISABELLA BLOW, KEN WIXEY and ANTHONY PARTRIDGE all of whom have died recently.

Comings and goings

We would like to welcome PETER MYERS who is moving into Elm Tree House at Pitchcombe;
also to BILL PIGGOTT and SARAH WILLIAMS who are moving into Dean Rise from Aarons in New Street;
and ROS HARRIS who has moved into Dormer Cottage, Butt Green;
and LIONEL and CICELY HUXFORD who have moved to Moreton Hill, Standish from Tibbiwell Lane.

Congratulations

Our congratulations to GREG DOREY, who has been appointed British Ambassador to Hungary. Greg, his wife, Alison and children, Kit, Johanna and Gabriel, take up the posting in Budapest in November;
also congratulations to FIONA WELBOURN who has been appointed Personal Assistant to the Bishop of Gloucester;
and best wishes to FRANCIS STEUCK, recently assisting in the Post Office, who is going out to Entebbe, Uganda at the end of June to help to build a school there.

Rachel Taylor welcomes information for the Personal Column. Space limitations permit only a small amount of text and your assistance in this regard is helpful.

NEXT ISSUE

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