

# The Painswick Beacon

*Sine praeiudicio*

Volume 31 Number 11

February 2009

## Gateway "On a knife edge"

After more than two years of research and negotiations, the Painswick Gateway trustees say that a final decision on the project is still 'on a knife edge'. The project aims to secure the future of the Library premises in Stroud Road, a library service run by the community for at least four years, create a new pedestrian access-way for the centre of Painswick to and from Stamages Lane car park, and re-connect the library premises with the present Church Rooms to create an integrated community centre.



On Friday 23rd January, 83 members of the community who have pledged support to the project met to review the situation and a positive response was reflected in the confirmation of the nearly 200 pledges already made which, along with new pledges received at the meeting, results in a total of £73,000. To this (in most cases) a 28% Gift Aid tax break can be added, leading potentially to over £90,000 being available to the Gateway project.

The meeting heard that the County Council has agreed to reduce the price of the freehold of the library premises to £90,000 and that the Library Service have nearly concluded an agreement under which they will pay £15,000

a year for four years to enable the village, through the Gateway project, to operate a library service with (hopefully) longer opening hours than at present.

Gateway Project chairman, Edward Young said that by combining the money pledged with two £20,000 grants confirmed from Stroud District Council and another local trust, there are now sufficient funds to meet the purchase price, associated legal costs, and effect the most essential repairs and maintenance of the premises. "But," he said, "and it is a huge but, this is insufficient to ensure the short term essential development upon which to base a community association with some realistic prospect of long term success."

The Trustees met again on Monday 26th January and, after a lengthy discussion over the viability of the project, issued the following statement to the Beacon:

*"We have not come to a conclusion as to whether to risk that sole step and the small sum then in hand to proceed. The meeting was adjourned so that stock can be calmly and objectively taken of further information and/or funding becoming available in the few days between meetings. We realise our decision is a crucial one; once taken there is no turning back. We cannot just place a single sum upon the difference to be bridged and regard that as conclusive; money is not the sole criterion when making judgements in such a matter as this. The flow of public comment, the expressions of support in ways other than funding, will be influencing the final decision."*

After two years' work, and despite a degree of opposition or reservation from some Painswickians and organisations, the Gateway trustees say they are still keen for the project to proceed. As the Beacon went to press, it became apparent that a final go/no decision might well be made on Wednesday 4th February. If this were to be the case, we plan to include a 'STOP PRESS' insert in this edition setting out that decision.

In the meantime, we are reproducing the full text of a 'holding' press release from the Trustees on page. 4.

JRB

## Future of the Pharmacy

Mike Powis of Painswick Pharmacy met David Drew on 6th January, along with Mrs Pam Holley (Chair) and Mr Les Yeates (Chief Officer) of the Local Pharmaceutical Committee for Gloucestershire, to discuss the implications of last year's White Paper on the future of the role of pharmacies in the community. The radical changes proposed in the Paper will have a dramatic impact on pharmacies, especially those which are independent such as ours in Painswick. The intention is that they will be seen as healthy living centres and the changes will involve additional services, both medical and advisory, and a clearer definition of their role in the community.

Whilst the vision is clear, the details are complex with difficult issues to tackle if implementation is to be successful. A full report of the issues and implications appears on page 6.

## Snow...



Painswick Beacon was transformed into an Alpine scene with the New Year snow-fall: fun for kids of all ages! More pictures on pages 10 and 11.

## ...and snowdrops



Thousands of dancing white snowdrops are putting on a dazzling spectacular display right on Painswick's doorstep, at the Rococo Garden, open every day from 11.00-5.00. This year the conditions have been good for the snowdrops and, provided the weather remains cold and reasonably dry, they should be flowering to the end of February.

Rococo's Paul Moir explains that there are about 30 varieties, scattered arbitrarily throughout the garden and covering about two acres. "They do seem to get everywhere," says Paul. Of particular interest to us locally is *Galanthus Atkinsii*, a splendid tall variety named after James Atkins, a botanist who lived in Rose Cottage, Butt Green in the 1860s.



On other pages this month - more **snow**, partial **blackout** and **Gaslight** for Painswick, coffe and thanks for **Heroes**, a **rubbish** evening for the WI, **search** abandoned: all **words** found, **pampering and ping pong** at the Centre, **promises and pond** life at The Croft, First XI for the **Quiz**, much **buzzing** in the garden, and... end of **The Coach** as we know it?



## Planning

### Ramp into St. Mary's Churchyard

David Bishop, a Church Warden of St. Mary's, told the meeting how disappointed the Parochial Council was that planning permission had been refused for the ramp. In his opinion it was the lack of clarity in procedures which led to Painswick Parish Council objecting to its own proposal. However he was now keen to move forward and urged further discussion. He also thanked Richard Falconer for preparing the plans for the scheme free of charge.

David Hudson then summarised events starting with the proposal for a ramp first put forward in September 2008. This was followed by a site visit after which it was decided to go ahead with the scheme. Full and Listed Building Planning applications were then submitted by the Clerk to SDC. In October 2008 PPC first saw both planning applications and Painswick Ward members only were asked to vote. They approved the Full application but, Mr Hudson said, rejected the Listed Building application by 4 votes to 2, with two abstentions. This caused some embarrassment to the Council, the Chairman reported. The Council could have then withdrawn the application or proceed. It was decided to proceed as it was reported that Chris Bladon, Listed Building Planning Officer at SDC, had given his support and PPC felt the scheme would be approved. However at the Development Control meeting of the SDC in January 2009, District Councillors rejected their own officer's recommendation and the Listed Building Planning application was rejected. The scheme will be considered at the Parish Council February meeting or an extraordinary meeting may be held before then.

Mike Kerton said the Council had to learn from these events and the Council should approve applications before submitting to SDC. David Hudson said it was all a storm in a teacup.

### Three Gables - Signage

David Hudson reported that he had had an amicable discussion with Dr. Robinson about the signage, especially the advertising sign, and that Dr. Robinson had stated that he was entitled to put up the sign and it had proved an effective way of attracting clients. He also stated that he was unwilling to remove it and might put up further advertising signs. David Hudson will consult SDC.

### Cotswold Heights - Railings and Lighting

The owner was asked to submit a retrospective planning application.

### Court House, Hale Lane - Lighting

David Hudson had been unable to contact the owner.

### Catbrain Quarry - Lighting

David Hudson reported that the owners had agreed to turn down upward pointing lights during daylight.

## Parish Council

PCSO Colin Drewett reported on police activity in Painswick. He said that speeding is being monitored through the village at different locations and on different days and times. The Police are particularly looking for trends and will increase monitoring activity next month. The Police are also concerned with anti-social behaviour in the churchyard and elsewhere and whilst they have instances of such activity they need names and are seeking the public's help.

Edward Young of the Painswick Gateway project told Councillors that a private meeting is being held on the 23rd January for persons who had given pledges of financial aid for the project. After the meeting the Trustees will decide whether the project should proceed. The Council was invited to send an observer to the meeting. After much discussion the Council agreed not to send a representative. It was noted that two Councillors are also trustees of the Gateway project and the meeting agreed that it would be more appropriate for the Gateway officers to report to the Council after the meeting of the 23rd January.

### Signage

Jason Bullingham reported that the various signs and boards around the village near or outside commercial premises are untidy. He suggested that signage should be provided at Victoria Square and at the top of Bisley Street and that only A boards should be placed outside business premises as long as they did not cause an obstruction. All other boards should be removed. Painswick Matters would take charge and would also look at the question of insurance. He will also find out whether a general brown sign or signs could be installed pointing to 'Shops' and be fitted at appropriate locations. Ann Daniels said that wall mounted signs might be a better solution as they would not cause an obstruction though planning permission might be needed. At the next meeting, members will also consider erecting a Painswick Trail board also carrying advertising from businesses. Terry Parker made the general point that the Council was keen to encourage visitors to Painswick.

### Coaches - Stamages Lane Car Park

Jason Bullingham reported that there is now unlimited waiting for two coaches free of charge in the car park, the relevant charge rates for coaches on the parking instructions sign having been taped over with SDCs approval. He will contact coach companies to point this out to them in order to encourage coaches to stop in Painswick. Unfortunately this would probably not have any effect until 2010.

### Cotswold Way National Trail Interpretation Centre

Terry Parker reported that the result of

the application for funding to South West Tourism will not be known until the 27th January. The intention is to establish the Centre within the Gateway project. However if that project does not go ahead, the Interpretation Centre would be established elsewhere in Painswick.

### Parish Council Logo

It was reported by Terry Parker that both the Local History Society and the College of Arms had been contacted and both confirmed that Painswick has never been granted a coat of arms. If the Parish Council wishes to apply for a coat of arms, it can do so at the reduced rate of £5200. The meeting agreed that this was too expensive for the moment and might be looked at again later. In the meantime the Parish Council invites interested individuals to submit designs for a logo to use on Council stationery etc.

### Allotments

Martin Slinger reported that the Council expected the completion of legal technicalities by the Gyde trustees solicitor in February. Allotments would come in four plot sizes, Family, half Family and quarter Family. The Family plot would be 5 metres square. He confirmed that a mains water supply was available but arrangements would have to be made regarding parking and testing the suitability of the soil. No structures or buildings would be allowed but a store might be possible and a skip would be provided twice a year for the removal of compost waste. The Clerk confirmed that without any advertising 12 people had already applied for plots. Allotments must be self financing though a reserve may be established to cover shortfalls. All surplus income must be spent on the allotments. Finally the Clerk will enquire about change of use of the field from agricultural to horticultural.

### Lamp House - Front Garden

Terry Parker has spoken to the owner and works will be completed by the end of January.

### Bledisloe cup

Terry Parker reported that the Bledisloe Cup competition will not carry on. The Campaign for the Protection of Rural England has initiated a new competition where anybody can nominate a community initiative and the cup may be used for that. Unfortunately Painswick will not be allowed to keep the cup as the last winners though it is uncertain what will happen to the Bledisloe notice board. The Calor Gas competition is still running and will take place in March.

### Fairtrade Fortnight

The Fairtrade Fortnight is from the 23rd February to 8th March and the meeting approved the erection of a banner on the front of the Town Hall and fitting signs at the entrances to the village, preferably to existing poles.

### New Member co-opted

The meeting agreed unanimously to co-opt a new member Ela Pathak-Sen.

### Town Hall heating

There was a lengthy discussion about the repair or replacement of the faulty heaters in the Town Hall. The meeting agreed to seek specialist advice from engineers. In the meantime mobile radiant heaters have been installed which will ensure that the Town Hall is warm.

### Other items

- Whitehorse Lane steps. Ann Daniels reported that a hedge obstructs light to part of the steps at night.
- Edge Road Slow Down sign. The sign obstructs the view of vehicles turning onto Edge Road.
- Car park. Mike Kerton reported a build up of leaves next to the kerb in the car park. Also several members reported a large puddle outside the Church Rooms in the upper car park.

All the above will be investigated,

## Logo for Painswick?

This month's Parish Council News makes reference to the Parish Council seeking ideas for a logo which would appear on its headed notepaper. Parishioners are invited to submit suggestions for the logo to Roy Balgobin, Clerk to the Parish Council, at the Town Hall.

## Women's World Day of Prayer

Please come and join the residents of Ashwell House on Friday 6th March, 10.00 for 10.30am as we follow the annual service prepared this year by women of Papua New Guinea. The theme is 'In Christ there are many members yet one body' on which Rev. Michael Irving will speak. Canon Irving has recently retired from the old Bisley Deanery and lives in Painswick.

Jennifer Watts

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## Partial Blackout for Painswick

Lesley Smith, the Technical Support Officer of Gloucestershire Highways Street Lighting Team has informed us that Painswick Parish street lights will be converted in March to switch off between midnight and 5.30am, under the Part Night Lighting Scheme. She said that the intention was to "roll out" the scheme from Monday 19th January with the normal routine maintenance work. After conversion, each light will take three nights to adjust to part night operation.

The scheme, which is in support of the County Council's carbon reduction initiative, will see 42 of the 176 street lights in Painswick converted to part night operation. A map detailing those lights affected is available in the Parish Council Office.



## Wanted by the Police!

Would you like to join a Gloucestershire Constabulary panel as a Key Individual? Colin Drewett, our Police Community Support Officer has asked the Beacon to carry the following appeal. We would be interested in readers' reactions to this initiative.

Gloucestershire Constabulary is committed to improving the influence local people have on our response to local problems.

We're looking for people to join our Key Individual Network (KIN). We want to know your thoughts and opinions on a range of issues that affect your neighbourhood.

Following Street consultations with local residents which take place up to four times per year, your local neighbourhood policing team ask residents their concerns. We then present the findings to our local panel at a meeting held shortly after our local research. The local panel then decide on up to three priorities, which they want their local team to address. This can be anything, but as an example residents have concerns regarding speeding or anti social behavior.

Being a panel member requires attendance [when available] to one of our meetings to express your views and help make a difference to your community. You also get regular updates on progress made. As a panel member you can review 'good or bad' how your local policing team have met your requirements. You have the opportunity to contribute towards the delivery of policing services in your neighbourhood.

In Summary - Benefits of the KIN:

- Improves the quality of life for you and your neighbourhood
  - Provides a medium for the resolution of issues that arise within your neighbourhood.
  - Provides an opportunity for the community to influence how their area is policed
- Your personal details will not be used for any other purpose, or passed on to anyone else.

We are always looking for people to join our panel either now or held on file until a place falls vacant. We welcome panel members from all sections of the community & would especially be pleased to welcome people in the 18-30 age range where we currently have a shortfall.

The next panel meeting for the villages of Painswick, Cranham, Edge, Sheepscombe and Slad will be on 11th February (further details will follow if you wish to represent your community).

We value the contributions of our KIN members, so if you have any information on local issues that you feel would be useful, and you would wish to represent your community now and for the future please contact us:

Colin Drewett BEM, PCSO 9107, Stroud Police - SCT  
08450.901234 Ext 5674

or email:- colin.drewett@gloucestershire.police.uk

## Farewell to Europe

Stroud Conservative Association is bidding farewell to Neil Parish, the retiring MEP, who will be guest speaker at its AGM on Friday 13th February at The Falcon Inn, Painswick. The AGM starts at 6.30pm, followed by supper at 7.00 for 7.30pm, for which there is a charge of £16.00.

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# Painswick Gateway

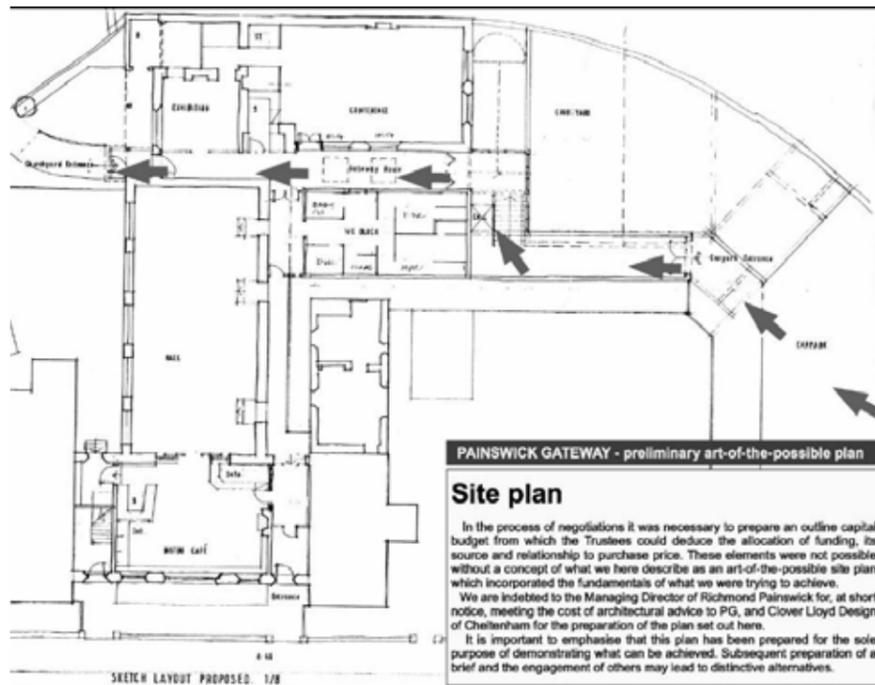
## On a knife edge

The following is the full text of a Press Release issued by the Gateway Project Trustees on 26th January following the meeting of project supporters on Friday 23rd January:

After more than two years of research and negotiations the trustees of Painswick Gateway are close to a final decision.

The position was presented to 83 members of the community who have pledged support to the project, at a meeting on Friday 23rd January. This was well received, as reflected in the confirmation of pledges, with the overall amount from those present being increased by just over £3000

The County Council has acknowledged the current market conditions and agreed to reduce the price for purchase of the freehold of their library premises in Stroud Road still further to £90,000, subject to certain conditions. Their library service have nearly



concluded an agreement with us under which they will give PG a grant of £15,000 a year for four years in the first instance to enable the village, through these trustees, to operate a library (in due course for longer hours than at present) but with the full resources of the county service backing us up.

Combining the overall £73,000 or so of money pledged by nearly 200 residents, if most are Gift Aided (so adding 28% to their value to PG), plus £20,000 grants confirmed from each of the Stroud District Council and another local trust, there are sufficient funds to meet the purchase price, associated legal costs, and effect the most essential repairs and maintenance of the premises. But, and it is a huge BUT, this resource would be insufficient to ensure the short term essential development upon which to base a community association with some realistic prospect of long term success.

Identifying encouraging signs that there may other sources of funds yet to be committed, the trustees adjourned their deliberations until Wednesday 4th February to give every opportunity to explore any possibilities to enable this project to become reality. They are acutely conscious of the duty they owe the village to try to secure and run a community library, to create a new safe access-way to Painswick for residents and visitors, and play their part in regenerating the village – possibly including taking advantage of the expressions of interest from potential business partners for premises close to the “Gateway”. These opportunities, coupled with re-connecting the library premises to the present Church Rooms (on a long lease), are considerable indeed, as are applications for various grants if the freehold is taken up.

After 2 years’ work since the original testing of community support in asking for financial pledges, the trustees are keen to ensure that Gateway, which has such great potential, is established on a strong footing with broad community support before they commit to the first irrevocable step.

Feedback will be welcome from any quarter upon any aspect of this project through our web site [www.painswickgateway.org.uk](http://www.painswickgateway.org.uk) where the original Prospectus, publicly approved last January, can also be viewed and contact details are shown. Observations or further pledges of support will be appreciated. The future of this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity will be decided on 4th February

Edward Young, Chairman; Leslie Brotherton, Manager

## Library News

### Online resources

Did you know that you can access “Which Online” at the library? Just ask at the desk for the password. You can also use your library card at home to access a range of subscription resources such as:

- Dictionary of National Biography
- Grove Music
- Grove Art Online
- Newspapers Online
- Oxford English Dictionary
- Oxford Reference Online
- Times Digital Archive 1785-1985
- World Book Online

You will need a library card beginning with ‘77’ – ask a member of staff.

### Children’s News

“Baby Bounce” is on Tuesdays at 2.30 pm and finishes in time to collect older children from school.

The next Storytime will be on Tuesday 24th February at 3.45 pm which will be “Harry and the Dinosaurs go to School”. Again there will be something to make and take home.

### Large Print

The Large Print books have been sorted out and a new selection obtained from other libraries including biography and a selection of non-fiction titles.

### And more...

If you have difficulty getting to the library due to age or health, we may be able to arrange for books to be delivered to you. Are you interested in coming in to the library for a monthly library club? If there are enough people interested we may be able to organise this with transport provided. Please let the library know. (Tel: 812569)

We look forward to serving more of you in Painswick Library as the weather improves.

### Opening Hours

Monday Closed All Day  
10.00am – 1.00pm  
Tuesday 2.00pm – 7.00pm  
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The Annual Spring Coffee Morning will be held on Saturday the 28th March 2009 in the Town Hall from 9.45am to 12noon. Our main charity this year is “Help for Heroes”. This the charity founded to help and support our wounded soldiers, sailors and airmen returning home.

More details in the March Beacon. All goods and help welcome.

Helen Baker 813091

Anne Leoni 812521

[aaleoni@painswick.org](mailto:aaleoni@painswick.org)



## BEACO-DOKU

Derived from Sudoku, **Beaco-doku** replaces the numbers with letters. Last month's answer used the leftovers from the Xmas TURKEY- as you can see, bottom right.

This month we revel in the seasonal chill and set you a 'wintery' challenge. See if you can fill the blank squares in the grid above so that each column, each row and each block of six squares contains each of the six letters, W-I-N-T-E-R, without repetition.



E			I		
			T		
W	T				E
			W	I	T
N	W		R		
	I				

E	Y	K	U	R	T
U	R	T	K	E	Y
T	K	U	R	Y	E
Y	E	R	T	U	K
R	T	E	Y	K	U
K	U	Y	E	T	R

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## More heroes

A family in Cotswold Mead wants to congratulate and thank publicly our local fire fighters.

On Saturday 17th January, as they settled down for an evening in front of the fire at home in Cotswold Mead, Mike and Sharla Dandy heard a bang from their wood burning stove and then found their chimney had caught alight. Fortunately, they had a fire extinguisher and were able to put out the wood burner but the chimney fire had firmly taken hold. They dialled 999.

Sharla picks up the story: “Within five minutes the Painswick fire service had turned up. This is in itself was amazing seeing as they had to stop whatever they were doing at home and come to our rescue.”

As she and her two children - Austin (2) and Emily (4), not to mention Timmy the dog, huddled in the car watching the big flashing lights, the firemen set to work. “They even put plastic sheeting down to minimise the mess I had to clear up,” she commented, “When I went in to see how they were doing I recognised most of them as dads from school, members of the PTA



and local businessmen. And I realised how many people there are in the village working tirelessly to keep us safe and happy.” She thinks our volunteer fire fighters are superb particularly as they stayed for a good couple of hours to make sure the fire was out.

Best of all, however, maybe with an eye to a future recruit, they let two year old Austin get on board the fire engine and look around.

So let’s leave the final word to Austin: “Fank you for saving our house!”

Not a dry eye in the house!  
Our picture shows Mike Dandy with Austin, Emily and Timmy the dog in front of the burnt out fire place.



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# Future of the Pharmacy

On 6th January David Drew met with Mike Powis of Painswick Pharmacy, Pam Holley and Les Yeates respectively Chairperson and Chief Officer of the Local Pharmaceutical Committee for Gloucestershire, in order to discuss the future of pharmacies and their role in the community.

We have in Painswick one of the few independent pharmacies, most being part of large business groups, and its future in the heart of our community is of vital interest. In April 2008 a White Paper, entitled Building on Strengths – Delivering the Future, was issued. It proposes changes to the services provided by pharmacies by adding new services and making them mandatory. They would be paid for by the Primary Care Trusts and this is an important factor as pharmacies currently have to meet all business overheads from their income.

The main thrust of the White Paper is that the role of pharmacies should be enhanced. In effect, they will become healthy living centres and there will be a much clearer definition of their role in the community health system. In essence pharmacists will play a greater role and in the process will, by taking on some of the procedures undertaken at present by GPs, free up GPs to concentrate more on specialist issues.

However, the Paper is complex and one of the more thorny issues is the question of GPs providing dispensing services themselves. In some areas this is causing a conflict of interests between pharmacists and doctors. We are fortunate in Painswick inasmuch as at present our surgery and the pharmacy work well together and that appears to be the situation for the foreseeable future as the White Paper makes no allowances for GPs to apply forthwith to dispense.

David Drew supported the principles of the White Paper, in particular that pharmacies in the heart of communities are well-placed to provide a range of services many of which are currently provided by doctors' surgeries. He hoped that the professions would recognise the opportunities of working together for the benefit of patients and the potential for improving patient care.

Mike Powis expressed concern about funding and especially how pharmacists would be assisted in meeting the increased costs of the staffing needed. The vision is that pharmacists will be providing greater patient care through medicines management. More than one person will be involved in the dispensing and checking of prescriptions and monitoring the interactions with other medicines the patient may be taking. At Painswick Pharmacy two people are currently being trained in dispensing.

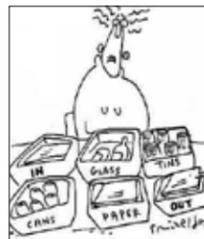
Pharmacists are legally required to undergo continuous professional development. They are the most highly skilled in medicine knowledge and should not be regarded simply as dispensers. They have their own clearly defined specialist skills and training and are highly professional. Our own Mike Powis, acknowledged by many as conscientious, caring and very well qualified, is without doubt already a key person at the heart of our community health system. He already provides a range of excellent services, though these are not NHS funded at present, and is enthusiastic about developing these and additional ones further. There is the potential for a truly beneficial pharmacy provision in Painswick.

The White Paper sets out a vision for the future of pharmacy, but while the issues of funding and who will be dispensing medicines are still in question, the future is far from clear.

Carol Maxwell

## An Evening of Painswick Rubbish

Do you wonder what happens to all those plastic containers and bottles you put out by your gate to be collected for recycling? Here is your chance to find out!



Michael Kelly from Stroud District Council will explain just what does happen to them when he comes to Painswick to talk to Yew Trees WI on Tuesday 24th February. He will also highlight key principles of the Council's waste strategy and will no doubt give us some handy hints on what and how to recycle most efficiently.

Recycling tends to be a very emotive subject and I am sure our members will have lots of questions for Michael Kelly, so ladies come along to the Town Hall at 7.30 pm on the 24th and listen to the answers – a warm welcome awaits you.

Celia Lougher

## Angelic workshop

Local business consultancy, Pilot Cottage, is running a 'Business Angel Workshop' for budding entrepreneurs in the Cotswold Room at the Painswick Centre on 24th February at 2.30pm.



Workshop leader, Michael Howes, says it is designed to interest any local entrepreneurs wishing to spend an afternoon finding out which of their business ideas are likely to attract funding, how private investment finance works and what they'll need by way of a business plan.

There is a nominal fee of £25 plus VAT per Company (up to two delegates). For advance booking and further details visit the website [www.pilotcottage.co.uk](http://www.pilotcottage.co.uk).



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## Get pampered at the Centre

Work is underway for two exciting events in May: on Friday 1st May, we shall be holding a Shopping and Pamper Fair at The Painswick Centre from 3.00pm to 8.00pm. You will be able to enjoy a selection of beauty treatments and other therapies, browse at stalls selling a wide range of beauty products, fashion accessories, jewellery and much more, and relax and gossip over tea, coffee and tempting cakes or, maybe, a glass of wine. We are currently inviting providers of treatments, products and accessories to book a stall for this event. Please contact Wendy Workman on 814022 for further information.

Then our hugely successful Crafts and Antiques Fair returns for a third year, on Bank Holiday Monday, 25th May (10:00am to 4:00pm). If you would like to book a stall at this year's Fair, please contact Ralph Drew on 814070 or Jane Rowe on 813228.

Proposed Artists Studios: We have had a very positive response from local Artists to our plans to convert the old Institute Bar and adjacent rooms into Artists' Studios. The feedback received has encouraged the Centre's Trustees to press on with the work involved. More detailed information is being sent out to all those artists for whom we hold details. If there are other artists who would like to be involved, please contact our Chairman, Jackie Herbert on 813229. It is our intention to have most of the studios ready for occupation in April.

If you are interested in playing Table Tennis, please look for the short news article on our ideas for a new club on the Beacon's Sports pages.

Finally, another date for your diary: the next AGM of the Painswick Centre will be held on Wednesday 1st April, when we hope to include a tour of the studio space.

Jane Rowe



## Painswick Players

### Gaslight: We have ignition!

We were delighted to welcome new people to our auditions for 'Gaslight', our next production in April, and were pleased to offer parts to two of them, Cathy Munday and David James. A further part has gone to another relative newcomer, Sue Leighton-Boyce, who joined our play reading group, determined never to appear on stage! Jack and Jean Burgess

complete the line up in what director, George Krasker, describes as a very strong and enthusiastic cast.

This is all very encouraging. What we need now is you, our audience to put the dates in your diaries and come along to the performances (24th, 25th and 26th of April).

The play is a well known one; a late Victorian thriller with mysterious noises and dimming lights and .... But for those of you who do not know the play, let's not spoil the tension. However, some of the underlying tension is apparent in the accompanying pictures, taken at the first rehearsal. Of course, much of said tension could just be the result of trying to remember the lines and avoiding falling over the furniture!

And talking of furniture, we are going to need your help too in finding suitable props and furniture. Now we do not expect anyone to offer their heirloom Victorian furniture or china, but if you have anything that we could adapt by way of cushions and throws or china that would pass for older rather than modern, please contact me on 814548.

We also may need clothing for the characters. If you have anything you think might be of use, once again do please contact me.

Finally, the play readings are suspended till May (I cannot be in two places at once, adaptable as I try to be!) We will announce the date in the April Beacon and we hope more of you will join in.

Charles Dorman



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# Croft School News

## Pond life captured in slate

Local artist Imogen Harvey Lewis (info@imogenharvey-lewis.com) worked with year 5 pupils to create sculptures made of engraved slates featuring designs of wildlife found in and around the school pond. These were then nailed onto posts and placed by the pond.

Imogen is pictured here with Daniel Needham, Charlotte Gamble, William Jackson and Lara Boon standing by some of the sculptures



## Promises... promises

The PTA committee at 'The Croft' are busy planning this year's big fund raising event, an 'Auction of Promises' on Friday 27th March at 7.30pm.

Our goal this year is to raise enough money to buy the school much needed new computers. It is very important that every child has access to the latest technology to aid their learning. We would welcome greatly, any offers from businesses or individuals which may be an item, a skill / service or an experience to place under the hammer!

There will also be a raffle on the night. Please put the date in your diary, it would be lovely to see you there supporting the school. For more information please contact Holly Lynall on 813675 or Karen Ticehurst on 813575.

David Lynall

## Local History Teaser

Now here's a gathering of rather redoubtable looking ladies, but do you know who they were as a group? Where do you think this meeting was being held and have you any idea when it might have taken place? For us it would be an added bonus if you are able to identify any of the ladies individually. Answers, as far as we are able, in next month's Beacon.

Last month's photograph was something of a mystery and it is gratifying, therefore, that we received an interesting response from Mr Graham Gyde in Aylesbury who recognised his father, Frank Colin Gyde (known as Colin), the young man sitting on the far right of the front row. He was born in 1918, spent all his life in Painswick apart from service abroad during the War and lived in Tangier Cottage, Vicarage Street. This seems to fit well with our own deductions, drawn after scrutinising a magnified viewing of the picture. We feel certain that the wording on the caps is HM KING GEORGE V and surmise, cautiously, that the photograph may have been taken on the occasion of the celebration of his 25 years on the throne, ie 6 May 1935. Many thanks to Graham Gyde for his information.

If you have a picture which you think would pose a challenge to readers, we would be very pleased to hear from you.



## ... and boozing with the Local History Society

There was a really splendid turnout for the History Society's January meeting. Now whether that was due to the need for a New Year's outing or lively interest in the subject remains a moot point. Mr Geoff Sandles gave a presentation on pubs and breweries in the Stroud valleys, starting with the opening of Stroud Brewery in 1760. This was accompanied by a wealth of fascinating photographic illustrations of Stroud Brewery premises across the county. The malting process and the fact that the brewery also bottled spring water and other beers such as Guinness was also explained.

During the 19th century other companies started in the brewing business including Godsells at Salmon Springs in 1850. They eventually sold out to Stroud Brewery in 1928 but whilst in business had a major effect on Painswick, buying and owning considerable amounts of land and property. Apparently, their sign at the Adam and Eve public house in Paradise read 'Adam and Eve Inn at Paradise - God sells Ales'. Other local companies included Carpenter & Co., Cainscross, Alan Neame, Bowbridge, Cordwell & Son, Cainscross and the Nailsworth Brewery Company.

The many Painswick public houses - and there were many - were owned by a wide range of small breweries. In 1958 Stroud Brewery and Cheltenham Brewery amalgamated, eventually coming to a close a few years later itself. Regeneration occurred in 2006 with a new Stroud Brewery starting up again. Its ales are available in Painswick's local pub. Today's independent breweries are tiny compared with those of former times but with the dramatic decline in the number of public houses since World War 2 this is not surprising.

It is noteworthy that there were many valuable contributions of extra information from the audience, some of whom had fond memories of working in the industry.

The next meeting of the Society will take place at the Croft School on Tuesday, 17 February when David Archard and Helen Briggs will give another of their inspiring and entertaining presentations on themes from Painswick's history. The meeting starts at 7.30pm and everyone is welcome.

Carol Maxwell

DATES FOR THE TERM Spring 2009			
<b>Term 3</b>			
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 6 host Community Lunch at Christchurch 12.00 - 1.15pm	Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> March	Carducci Quartet concert, sponsored by Painswick Music Society - 2.00 pm all welcome
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> February	Light and Sound Workshop Classes 1 and 2	Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> March	Girls football 6 a sides at Stratford Park 6pm
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> February	Staff training day	Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> March	Governing Body Meeting 7pm Class 2 assembly 2.30pm - all welcome
16 <sup>th</sup> - 20 <sup>th</sup> February	School closed	Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> March	Country Dance Festival at Stratford Park 6.30 - 8pm
		Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> March	Last swimming session
		Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	Miss Bennett's last day teaching Class 3
<b>Term 4</b>			
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> February	KNex Challenge Year 5	Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April	Class 4 assembly 2.30pm - all welcome
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> February	Fair Trade Coffee Morning	Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April	Class 5 assembly 2.30pm - all welcome
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> March	World Book Day	Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April	End of term - school closes at 2pm
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> March	Mock Trial at Stroud Magistrates Court Yr 6	6 <sup>th</sup> - 17 <sup>th</sup> April	School closed
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> March	Class 3 assembly 2.30pm - all welcome	Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> April	Term 5 begins
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> March	Boys football 6 a sides at Stratford Park 6pm		
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> March	Open Evening appointments 5.00 - 7.30pm		
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> March	Open Evening appointments 3.30 - 6.00pm		

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### At a loss for words

Brother Leslie informs us that, after no fewer than 75 WordSearches, there are no more words to be found and, so, the Beacon WordSearch challenge has come to an end. It is over, finished, done, completed, gone for good, kaput, finito, no more. In short an ex-WordSearch.



The answers to last month's chilly invitation to find nineteen words associated with winter were:

BLIZZARD CHILL COLD DAMP FOG FREEZING FROST GALES ICE ICICLES MIST SKATE SKI SKID SLEET SNOW SNOWMAN SUB ZERO TOBOGAN

Of course, if there are closet WordSearchers out there bitterly disappointed by this decision, we're sure Leslie can be persuaded to reconsider.

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# Let it snow...

We may have missed a White Christmas but the New Year snow meant an extra day on the Christmas holidays for young Painswickians and the opportunity for lots of children (young and old!) to have wintery fun in the picture postcard setting of Painswick Beacon.

From our observation, it has to be said that it seemed to be the 'Dads' who were hogging most of the fun, whilst Mums and kids looked on indulgently!



# Let it snow!

*Kate Foster, Painswick's snowboarding champion, provides this update on her busy competitive programme as she snowboards round the world...*



Following my win at the British Championships I have been selected again to join the British World Cup Team. I started my campaign to qualify for the 2010 Vancouver Winter Games with training camps in Switzerland and Breckenridge, Colorado.

This season I have brought on board 2 new sponsors, Curves Fitness for Women and St. Michaels Restaurant and B&B in Painswick. Noah's Ark have continued their support for this season with equipment and Animal Worldwide Freeride have signed me up for my fifth season. As always I am still looking for more sponsors though as the season is costly!

Other events leading up to the start of the season were completing some Open University courses, making guest

appearances on the Animal Bike Tour in Gloucester and doing both question/answer sessions and a signing session back in the Animal shop on Kings Walk.

In October I was invited by Land Rover/Snowsport GB to the Daily Mail Ski and Snowboard Show at Olympia, participating in the fashion show, some question/answer sessions and other media events.

Snowsport GB also commissioned a short

video 'A Day in the Life of Kate Foster'. <http://video.mpora.com/watch/i10mc0Cd/>

As you read this, I should be competing in Japan and then on to the World Championships in Korea. I'll keep you posted as the season continues!



# Let it snow...

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## Tennis

### County Junior Tennis awards

On Sunday 18th January, Gloucestershire Lawn Tennis Association held their annual junior presentation evening at Oxtalls Indoor Tennis Centre. After another successful season Painswick Junior teams picked up awards in three categories.

Painswick Girls are County Champions at both Under 16 and Under 18 age groups and Painswick Boys are the Under 14 Champions. Individually Alicia Barnett received the award for County Number One ranked girl at Under 18.

Teams: Under 16 Girls:- Alicia Barnett, Chelsea Warrington, Megan Butterworth, Sophie Hall, Lara Evans.

Under 18 Girls:- Lucy Moir, Sarah Thomas, Alicia Barnett, Chelsea Warrington, Claire Brooke, Megan Butterworth.

Under 14 Boys:- Rob Sidwell, Ollie Smithson, Alex Duncliffe, William Moir.

Pictured right are some of the Painswick players who were able to attend the presentation.



Chelsea Warrington, Alicia Barnett, Sophie Hall, Lara Evans, Megan Butterworth, Sarah Thomas

## Rugby

### Recent results

[(L) indicates league match: (M) Citizen Merit Table].

Sat 24th Jan. (L) Longlevens1st XV 37 Painswick 1st XV 0.

Brockworth 2nd XV 11 Painswick United 33.

Sat 31st Jan. (L) Painswick 1st XV 10 Chipping Sodbury 1st XV 15.

(M) Old Centralians 2nd XV 52 Painswick United 0.

### Fixtures

#### February

Sat 7th. (M) Painswick United v Gloucester Civil Service 2nd XV.

Sat 14th. (L) Ashley Down OB 1st XV v Painswick 1st XV.

(M) Painswick United v Cheltenham Sabres.

Sat 21st. Painswick 1st XV v Tewkesbury 1st XV.

(M) Stroud Nomads v Painswick United.

Sat 28th. Painswick United v Tewkesbury 2nd XV.

#### March

Sat 7th. (L) Ross on Wye v Painswick 1st XV.

(M) Painswick United v Old Patesians

Sat 14th. Painswick 1st XV v Old Bristolians 1st XV.

Cirencester 2nd XV v Painswick United.



### Do you play table tennis?

The Painswick Centre wants to start a Table Tennis Club. We have acquired a table and if sufficient demand exists we will purchase another. As well as buying a set of bats and balls, we are also seeking donations of any equipment surplus to requirements amongst local residents. All we need now are some players! There are opportunities for people to get together to play table tennis on various weekday mornings, afternoons and evenings depending upon your availability. If interested and would like to find out more, please contact Wendy Workman on 814022.

Jane Rowe



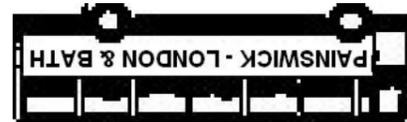
### Calling All Sports!

The Beacon welcomes contributions from sports clubs. Items should be forwarded via email to [beacon@painswick.net](mailto:beacon@painswick.net). We will publish photographs if space allows.

## Richmond Painswick Wellness Spa

Richmond Painswick Wellness Spa is offering a special treat for Valentine's Day. On 14th February, you are invited to go and use the facilities of the Spa (which include gymnasium, pool, steam, sauna, and Jacuzzi) and receive a relaxing back, neck, and shoulder massage, followed by high tea including tea/coffee sandwiches or cakes, all for £35.00

Also on offer is a 'Buy One Spa Day get another Half price' deal. You will receive tea/coffee on arrival to the spa where again you will have full use of the facilities. You will then be able to choose to either treat yourself to a back, neck and shoulder, massage, an express facial or a file and polish which can be carried out on either the fingers or toes. You will then be taken to the Laurie Lee restaurant where you will receive a three course lunch to finish your day. For more information, contact the Wellness Spa on 810211.



### End of an Era...

After 21 years Pauline Berry and I have regretfully decided that we must pull down the shutters on "Painswick L and B Outings". Pauline and I took over the coach scheme from Rachel Taylor in 1987 and since then have happily provided what became almost

a "door to door service" for many people from Painswick and the surrounding district.

Our decision to shut down is not necessarily due to the credit crunch, but a noticeable lack of demand in March and December last year caused us to cancel the coaches to London. This was a great disappointment for a regular December traveller from Longlevens who always came with us to do all his Christmas shopping in Harrods!

However, it was not all doom and gloom in 2008 as we had two successful trips to Bath after Pauline tracked down two companies that had very comfortable 16-seater coaches. Maybe someone else in Painswick would be willing to organise trips to Bath in the future.

Thank you to all who have supported us during the last 21 years. We are well aware of how much the service has been appreciated and we have enjoyed travelling with you.

Joan Truman

### Beacon subscribers

21st December	2008-09	Last year
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Renewed from last year	521	489
<b>Total including postal</b>	<b>585</b>	<b>610</b>

### Beacon subscriptions

Next month there will be an envelope containing a slip to return with your subscription for the year. There is no fixed amount but, as a guide, the Beacon costs us about 50p per copy to produce each month.

Incidentally, we are delighted quite a few of you regularly access the Beacon through its on-line edition and we are quite prepared to accept subscriptions from you, if you so desire!



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### The Beacon Village Directory

As well as the printed version enclosed with last month's Beacon, you can also access the full Directory on line at our web site [www.painswickbeacon.org.uk](http://www.painswickbeacon.org.uk). It now boasts 'a fully interactive index', ie click on a heading and you'll be whisked in a nanosecond to the relevant entry.



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## Springtime Melodies...

It is time to think of the joys of Spring again and with Spring comes Music. The Music Society's 64th Season's programme is full of musical delights. On Saturday 21st March we start with the Schubert Ensemble - one of the world's leading exponents of chamber music for piano and strings - playing Quartet Op. 47 that Schumann, the great romantic, wrote thinking of his beloved Clara performing the piano part. This will be followed by a piece the Ensemble commissioned from Cheltenham composer Piers Hellawell, called The Building of Curves. Piers has intrigued audiences with his use of unconventional techniques. Their programme ends with the not often heard Fauré Quartet No. 1.

The second concert on 4 April has the remarkable and charming 20 year old violinist Chloë Hanslip (pictured right) partnered by Ashley Wass, one of this country's most sought-after accompanists. Those who heard Chloë play the Schumann violin concerto at Cheltenham recently will have experienced what The Times said about her: 'Hanslip's passion and technical bravura are palpable and exciting. Fiery glissandi, tremulous multi-stopping: the fireworks never stop.' She is an extraordinarily busy person as well as being a fantastic violinist. Her programme includes Beethoven's joyously playful 'Kreutzer' Sonata, the fiendishly difficult Prokofiev Sonata No.1 and Szymanowski's 3 Paganini Caprices.

The Da Vinci Trio - violin, cello, piano - is in great demand across the UK, well known for their relaxed, witty and informative introductions and their expressive playing. In addition to the established repertoire, the trio attract many new commissions including, incidentally, the work of Piers Hellawell. Their programme on 18th April comprises Mozart's Piano Trio in C, Ravel's Piano Trio in B flat with its wealth of brilliant effects, and Schubert's Piano Trio that is also in B flat.

The Barbirolli Quartet bring the season to a close on 2nd May with string quartets by Mozart, No. 22 in B flat, Beethoven, No. 11 in F min, and Ravel in F. The Barbirolli is known for its diverse, prolific repertoire and dynamic approach to performance. The Times describes them as "forthright, full-blooded musicians, afraid of nothing" and The Strad comments on their "superbly realised performance and precision of ensemble at formidable rates of energy".

Barbara Thorley and Alan Price are again bringing to Painswick a scintillating assembly of highly talented musicians who grace the international concert circuit. They will be performing wonderful music; do not miss any of it.

Tickets cost £13 for each concert - or £34 for all four concerts - a huge saving of £18. Tickets are available from Clare Haynes (tel 812514) or from "The Chairman", New Street, Painswick.



## Handel and the Italians at St Mary's

St Mary's Church is very fortunate to be hosting a concert by Trio Molino Den Haag on Saturday 21st February at 3.00pm. This international trio comprising Claire Fahy (violin), Barbara Post (viola) and Ralf Blasi (harpsichord) will be performing a programme of Baroque music by Handel and his contemporaries.

Tickets, priced £8.00, are available from The Chairman, New Street, Painswick or Chris Swain after the 9.30am service at St. Mary's Church or call 01453 822998.

Chris Swain

## Earful of Contrasts for PMAG

"After all, I may not be a first rate composer, but I am a first class second rate composer" said Richard Strauss when conducting the Philharmonia Orchestra in London in 1947. He was a prodigiously talented composer and conductor, the most famous living one in the first years of the twentieth century, and after hearing a selection of his music, well presented by Howard Allen on 8th January, we rated him first class all round!

Rightly concentrating on his symphonic poems, we had "Don Juan", great orchestral showpiece; "Till Eulenspiegel" - brilliant and hilarious; "Don Quixote", tone poem for cello and orchestra, probably his masterpiece, and the introduction to "Also sprach Zarathustra" - quite spectacular. After the interval came excerpts from the autobiographical "Ein Heldenleben" and from the enthralling mountain climb the "Alpensinfonie". Elisabeth Schwarzkopf singing "Beim Schlafengehen" - one of his famous "Four Last Songs" - was a fitting encore.

"First Richard Strauss, then Berlioz: quite a contrast for followers of traditional classical music" said one of our members. And the contrast didn't end there - while we had heard many Strauss recordings, Ian Cooper - it was a pleasure to have him back again - concentrated on longer extracts from only a few of Berlioz' greatest works on 22nd January. On hearing this superlative music it is hard to believe that until the 1950s this composer was considered second rate here until Colin Davis pioneered "The Trojans" and it became better understood than in France because of its unconventionality.

Berlioz wrote works of great delicacy and of overwhelming simple power. We heard some of each: the Love Duet from The Trojans at the end, and before that the scherzo from the dramatic symphony, "Romeo and Juliet", the last movement of his most famous work "the Symphonie Fantastique", the first movement of "Te Deum" and an excerpt from the concert opera "Damnation of Faust".

A tremendous earfull!

Ralph Kenber

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## Meals on Wheels



Can you spare one and a half hours, once a month to deliver Meals on Wheels to older people in our local community?

The WRVS needs drivers to deliver on Monday to Friday lunchtimes. Speaking on behalf of the Painswick Meals on Wheels team, Jackie Gray said, "This is a very rewarding way to put something back into our local community and make new friends."

Contact Jackie to find out more on 814766.

**WRVS make it count**

## Spring Art Sale

There will be a Spring Exhibition and Sale of original local landscape,

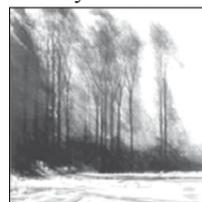
Cornish seascape and fine botanical paintings and prints at Painswick Town Hall on Friday 27th February (from 2.00 - 8.00pm),

Saturday 28th and Sunday 1st March (from 10.30am - 4.30pm).

Also on display will be calligraphy and ceramics by local artists, Valerie Dugan and Ian Shearman.

Come along, there will be some great bargains to be had!

Valerie Dugan



## Fairtrade Fortnight

Fairtrade fortnight runs this year from February 23rd to March 8th. Watch out for Painswick's own Fairtrade banner at the Town Hall and do go to the Croft's annual Fairtrade Coffee morning, which is always a fun occasion and showcases the children's enthusiasm for and commitment to Fairtrade.

To mark the start of the Fortnight and to demonstrate the growing variety of fairly traded fruits etc available, the local Fairtrade Committee will be providing a "Fairtrade Fruit Salad" at the Community Lunch on Monday February 23rd. Christian Aid are the hosts that day and there will be no extra charge for the dessert. Raffle tickets for a "Fairtrade Cake" will also be on sale.

Local traders are being asked to highlight the Fairtrade goods they sell so as to make it easier for people to see just how much is available in our Fairtrade Town. And with your support, they will feel it worth stocking even more!

Alison Robinson on behalf of the Painswick Fairtrade Committee



## Beacon Conservation

### Change of dates



By popular request the Beacon Conservation Group is revising the Working Party dates from Sundays to Saturdays. We hope this will

make it easier for more people to get involved.

The new dates are: Saturdays: 14th and 28 February, 14th and 28th March. Times 10.00 am - 1.00, pm meeting at the car park opposite the Golf Club entrance.

David Allott

## ArchiTecs



Last month's challenge drew a response from Anne Castle of St Mary's Cottage alongside the churchyard.

"I was amused to see our Snail featured in this month's ArchiTecs. One morning, a few days after we had placed the stone snail on the wall of our patio, I saw a real snail making steady progress across the wall towards it. It was endearing to watch the real snail greet the stone with its feelers - maybe saying "Hi Dad"."

Anne was quick enough(?) to capture the confrontation on camera!

This month, what and where is the building shown on the right?



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## Village Quiz – The First XI

The first eleven teams are already registered for the 2009 Beacon Village Quiz, including, I'm pleased to say, several newcomers. Remember anyone can take part. You do not have to be members of a club or organization. Groups of family, friends or neighbours are very welcome. All you need is four people who want to have fun.

The Quiz will take place on Saturday 14th March in the Painswick Centre starting at 7.15 sharp. Please apply with:

- your name, address and telephone number (as Team Leader),
- the name of the group, club, organization etc you are leading and
- the Team Title (very important – be creative).

Send this to me at the address below together with a cheque for £16.00 made out to The Painswick Beacon. It is first come, first served and the places are limited. You can contact me by e-mail or phone to reserve a place but full payment and details must reach me by the 28th February to guarantee your place. The ticket includes a light supper (so I need to know any special dietary requirements) and there is a bar for alcoholic and non-alcoholic refreshments.

Finally remember there is special prize for the best mascot so get working on them. My contact details are:

- by post: Charles Dorman, Tilling, Kingsmill Lane, Painswick GL6 6RT
- by e-mail: chasdorm@googlemail.com
- for telephone enquiries: 814548

Applications can also be posted in the Beacon Box on New Street outside Murrays addressed to me or simply The Quiz.

*Charles Dorman*



*Last year's winners, 'The Searchers'*



## Painswick Playgroup

Due to popular demand, Painswick Playgroup will begin a years trial of afternoon opening from September. As well as the existing three hour morning sessions, there will also be a half hour lunchclub followed by a three hour afternoon session every afternoon except Wednesdays. Our 'preschoolers' day will also be moved from Wednesdays to Tuesdays. For more information or to request a registration form please phone 813316 or visit our website [www.painswickplaygroup.co.uk](http://www.painswickplaygroup.co.uk). Deadline for applications is 31st March 2009.

*Lisa Warnaby, Treasurer*

## PROPERTY REPORT for February from Hamptons

### What hope lies in store for buyers and sellers in 2009?

Firstly, we may have turned a corner as we have experienced a very busy start to the year with a marked increase in enquiries which is backed up by the right move website statistics (2008 1st – 10th Jan 199,762 emails sent to customers, Same period 2009 429,560) and even a property selling for over asking price!

We have identified some of the key reasons to remain optimistic this year.. The bank base rate is only 1.5% compared with 5.5% last January. As a result, the cost of borrowing is gradually reducing and affordability for many is enhanced. Added to this interest on savings is so low that people are now thinking about investing their money back into property. Prices have already dropped by 20-25% since the peak in 2007. Lower prices also enhance affordability. The Pound has lost around 35% of its value against the Euro and 30% against the Dollar in the past 12 months. This makes the UK property market far more attractive to overseas buyers. Vendors are far more acceptant of the need for price realism in order to achieve a sale. This was not the case at the beginning of last year and we had an uphill battle to close the expectation gap between buyers and sellers. Banks are under extreme pressure to increase liquidity and it is widely expected, with Government pressure that mortgage finance will increase during the course of the year. Pent-up demand; research indicates that plenty of people have a desire to move but had delayed their plans until this year due to falling house prices. However, Stock of available property is down 25% since May last year. A reduction in supply will take some downward pressure off prices which also suggests the bottom of the market is not far away.

Increased buyer and seller confidence will not happen overnight. However, we believe that the sharp correction in house prices that took place throughout 2008 will positively impact the 2009 housing market, as people begin to realize that the worst of the house price falls have already happened; boosting optimism and market confidence and encouraging growing numbers of prospective buyers to start their search for a new home. Therefore if you held off from selling last year, now is the time to think about it as a large number of our potential buyers are sitting in rented accommodation waiting for the right property to come onto the market. So if you would like a free valuation contact us on 01452 812354.

New Instructions: Clovers in Kingsmead(under offer)- a stunning position. Old Forge Cottage- a lovely 3 bedroom cottage with a garage, Woodsend- a charming 2 bedroom cottage in Butt green with parking.

Sold: The Cloth Hall on new street, The Garth on Cheltenham road, and Cleverleys in Vicarage Street.

*Miranda Heynes, Manager*

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## The Painswick Beacon detailed as far as space permits

# THE VILLAGE DIARY

### FEBRUARY

Fri	6	Friday Club: BBC and Local News with Chris Brierley	Town Hall	2.30pm
Mon	9	Community Lunch - Hosts - Croft School Yoga (Mondays) contact Kim 812623	Christ Church Hall Sheepscombe Vill. Hall	12 noon to 1.15pm 6.30 to 8.00pm & 8.15 to 9.45pm
Tue	10	Dog Training Club (Tuesdays) Chi Kung (Qigong) classes - Tuesdays - £6 p.p. per class	Christ Church Hall Town Hall	9.30 to 12.00noon 7.00pm
Wed	11	Tai Chi classes - Tuesdays - £6 p.p. per class Yoga (Wednesdays) contact Kim 812623 Horticultural Society: The Herbaceous Border - Mr J A Perkins	Town Hall Sheepscombe Vill. Hall Town Hall	8.00pm 9.30 to 11.00am 2.30pm
Thu	12	Bingo: Wednesdays – Tel. Ann, 813911/Liz, 813139 Yoga - All Abilities (Thursdays) Cotswold Room 812623 T'ai Chi: Thursdays - Contact 01452 813072 Jolly Stompers Line Dancing: Beginners - Thursdays Experienced beginners - Thursdays Tea Dance - Thursdays Music Appreciation Group - Outing to Welsh National Opera; The Elixir of Love - Donizetti	Painswick Centre Painswick Centre Town Hall Town Hall Town Hall Painswick Centre Millennium Centre, Cardiff Bay	7.30 to 10.00pm 9.30 to 11.00am 9.30am 12.00 to 1.00pm 12.30 to 1.30pm 2.30 to 4.30pm 7.15pm
Fri	13	Country Market - Coffee available - Fridays Stroud Conservative Association AGM and Supper with Neil Parish MEP	Town Hall Falcon Inn	10.00am 6.30pm
Sat	14	Theatre Club Outing to Malvern Valentine Tapas Candle-lit Romantic Evening Painswick Beacon Conservation Group scrub clearance working party, (location check 812709)	The Falcon Olivas Delicatessen Painswick Beacon	1.00pm 6.30 to 10.30pm 10.00am to 1.00pm
Mon	16	Community Lunch - Hosts - Falcon Bowling Club	Christ Church Hall	12 noon to 1.15pm
Tue	17	Local History Society: A Briggs / Archard Production	Croft School	7.30pm
Wed	18	Probus: Woodchester Mansion - Brian Wollaston Women's Fellowship: The Lillian Elizabeth Foundation - Frances Jones	Shires Room, Falcon Christ Church Hall	10.00am 7.30pm
Thu	19	Music Appreciation Group: The French Connection	Cotswold Room, Painswick Centre	7.30pm
Fri	20	Friday Club - Guests of Richmond	Richmond Painswick	2.30pm
Sat	21	<b>Copy dateline for March Beacon</b> Concert by Trio Molino Den Haag. Handel and the Italians. Tickets from The Chairman Tel: 01453 822990	St Mary's Church	3.00pm
Mon	23	Community Lunch - Hosts - Christian Aid	Christ Church Hall	12 noon to 1.15pm
Tue	24	Business Angel Workshop' for budding entrepreneurs  Painswick Library Story time Yew Trees W.I.: Recycling - Michael Kelly	Cotswold Room, Painswick Centre Painswick Library Town Hall	2.30pm 3.45pm 7.30pm
Fri	27	Spring Exhibition and Art Sale (also 28th)	Town Hall	2.00 to 8.00pm daily
Sat	28	Painswick Beacon Conservation Group scrub clearance working party, (location check 812709)	Painswick Beacon	10.00am to 1.00pm

### MARCH

Sun	1	Spring Exhibition and Art Sale	Town Hall	10.30am to 4.30pm
Mon	2	Community Lunch - Hosts - Richmond	Christ Church Hall	12 noon to 1.15pm
Tue	3	Bird Club: The Beauty of Spain - birds, mammals & wild flowers of the Spanish Mountains - Mike Robinson	Town Hall	7.30pm
Wed	4	Probus: Wine Tasting - Paul Sparks	Church Rooms	10.00am
Thu	5	Music Appreciation Group: Choral Music	Cotswold Room, Painswick Centre	7.30pm
Fri	6	Women's World Day of Prayer Friday Club: The Stroud Playback Theatre	Ashwell House Town Hall	10.30am 2.30pm
Sat	7	<b>March Issue of The Painswick Beacon published</b>		
Mon	9	Community Lunch - Hosts - Yew Trees WI	Christ Church Hall	12 noon to 1.15pm
Wed	11	Horticultural Society: The Kitchen Herb Garden - Kim Hurst of The Cottage Garden Herbery, Tenbury Wells	Town Hall	7.30pm
Sat	14	Painswick Beacon Conservation Group scrub clearance working party, (location check 812709) Beacon Village Quiz	Painswick Beacon	10.00am to 1.00pm 6.45 for 7.15pm
Mon	16	Community Lunch - Hosts - Conservation Society	Painswick Centre Christ Church Hall	6.45 for 7.15pm 12 noon to 1.15pm



Tue	17	Friday Club Outing to the Birmingham Silver Vaults (Assay Office) Local History Society: Stroudwater Navigation - Bruce Hall	Croft School	7.30pm
Wed	18	Probus: A Fun Look at Wills - Cameron Petrie Women's Fellowship: Service - Rev Heather Whyte	Shires Room, Falcon Christ Church	10.00am 7.30pm
Thu	19	Theatre Club Outing to Bristol	The Falcon	12.30pm
Fri	20	Music Appreciation Group Concert Outing	Birmingham	7.30pm
Sat	21	Painswick Music Soc. Concert - Schubert Ensemble	St Mary's Church	3.00pm
Mon	23	Community Lunch - Hosts - The Park Residents	Christ Church Hall	12 noon to 1.15pm
Tue	24	Yew Trees W.I.: Willow Basket Making	Town Hall	7.30pm
Wed	25	Bookings morning for Horticultural Society Outings	Church Rooms	10.00am to 12.00noon
Fri	27	Croft School PTA: Auction of Promises	Croft School	7.30pm
Sat	28	Helen & Anne's Coffee Morning; main charity - Help for Heroes	Town Hall	9.45am to 12 noon
		Painswick Beacon Conservation Group scrub clearance working party, (location check 812709)	Painswick Beacon	10.00am to 1.00pm
<b>APRIL</b>				
Wed	1	Painswick Centre AGM	Cotswold Room, Painswick Centre	8.00pm
Thu	2	Music Appreciation Group: Wilhelm Furtwangler	Cotswold Room, Painswick Centre	7.30pm
Fri	3	Friday Club: The Livery Companies of London - Brian Shawcross	Town Hall	2.30pm
Sat	4	Painswick Music Soc. Concert - Chloe Hanslip (violin) & Ashley Wass (piano)	St Mary's Church	3.00pm
Wed	8	Probus: Painswick Through the Ages - David Archard Horticultural Society: Pound Farm Shop & Plant Centre - own transport necessary	Shires Room, Falcon Whaddon	10.00am 7.30pm
Thu	9	Bird club: Birdsong Identification - Chris Sperring MBE	Town Hall	7.30pm
Fri	10	Painswick Singers: Weber Mass E flat	St Mary's Church	tba
Wed	15	Women's Fellowship: Holidays in Greenland - Pamela Sparrow	Christ Church Hall	7.30pm
Thu	16	Music Appreciation Group: Singers "Live"	Cotswold Room, Painswick Centre	7.30pm
Sat	18	Women's Fellowship Coffee Morning Painswick Music Soc. Concert - Da Vinci Trio	Town Hall St Mary's Church	10.00am to 12noon 3.00pm
Tue	21	Local History Society: Research Evening	Croft School	7.30pm
Wed	22	Probus: AGM	Shires Room, Falcon	10.00am
Fri	24	Friday Club: "Reflexology for Health" - Caroline Staunton Painswick Players present <i>Gaslight</i> by Patrick Hamilton	Town Hall Painswick Centre	2.30pm 7.30pm
Sat	25	<i>Gaslight</i> - second night	Painswick Centre	7.30pm
Sun	26	<i>Gaslight</i> - last night	Painswick Centre	7.30pm
Tue	28	Yew Trees W.I.: South African Steam Ship Safari	Town Hall	7.30pm
Wed	29	Painswick & District Conservation Society AGM. Speaker Bruce Hall - The Cotswold Canal Trust	Church Rooms	7.30pm
Thu	30	Music Appreciation Group: Just Brass	Cotswold Room, Painswick Centre	7.30pm
<b>MAY</b>				
Fri	1	Shopping and Pamper Fair Theatre Club Outing to The Cotswold Playhouse, Stroud	Painswick Centre The Falcon	3.00 to 8.00pm 6.45pm
Sat	2	Painswick Music Soc. Concert - The Barbirolli Quartet	St Mary's Church	3.00pm
Wed	6	Probus: The Archers at Agincourt - Ian Shapter	Shires Room, Falcon	10.00am
Thu	7	Music Appreciation Group: Members Night & AGM	Cotswold Room, Painswick Centre	7.30pm
Fri	8	Friday Club outing to Coventry Cathedral		
Wed	13	Horticultural Society AGM followed by Tea/Coffee & Quiz	Town Hall	7.30pm
Tue	19	Local History Society - Outing		
Wed	20	Probus: Climbing Mount Everest - Bronco Lane Women's Fellowship: Fun of Gardening - Chris Evans	Shires Room, Falcon Christ Church Hall	10.00am 7.30pm
Fri	22	Friday Club: "Inca trail" - Janet Jenkins	Town Hall	2.30pm
Sat	23	Friday Club Car Boot Sale. (Cars £5)	Recreation Field	10.00am
Mon	25	Crafts and Antiques Fair	Painswick Centre	10.00am to 4.00pm
Tue	26	Yew Trees W.I.: The River Severn from Source to Sea	Town Hall	7.30pm
<b>JUNE</b>				
Wed	3	Probus Summer Outing		
Fri	5	Friday Club: The Rococo Gardens with Paul Moir	Town Hall	2.30pm

## PLANNING MATTERS

A summary of information from the Parish Council

### NEW APPLICATIONS

THE GARTH, CHELTENHAM ROAD. Erection of a 2 storey extension.  
THE NEW HOUSE, FRIDAY STREET. Erection of 1st floor extension and renewal of front & rear windows.  
BACK EDGE HALL, BACK EDGE LANE, EDGE. Replacement of existing entrance gate and stone wall with new gates/stone piers. Rebuild stone walls.  
MANTLE, KNAPP LANE. Erection of 2 storey rear extension.  
BEECH COTTAGE, KINGS MILL LANE. Erection of a conservatory  
BETH SHAN, KINGS MEAD. Erection of extension.  
THE RETREAT, JACKS GREEN, SHEEPSCOMBE. Retention of dwelling.  
CHARTWELL, BACK EDGE LANE, EDGE. Erection of a garden shed.  
LOVEDAYS COTTAGE, ST MARY'S STREET. Internal secondary glazed windows.  
HAZELBURY HOUSE, NEW STREET. Internal and external alterations.  
BEACONSTONE, BEACON CLOSE. Proposed extension and alterations.  
OLIVERS, CHELTENHAM ROAD. Installation of secondary glazing across front and side windows of main house.

### CONSENT

PAINSWICK HOUSE, GLOUCESTER ROAD. Demolition of existing walled garden and stables. Erection of new stables, ancillary buildings and walled enclosure.  
COCKSHOOT COTTAGE, COCKSHOOT QUARRY, SHEEPSCOMBE. Two storey extension.  
AVONLEIGH, HOLLYHOCK LANE. Erection of garden shed.  
ST MARY'S CHURCHYARD, STROUD ROAD. Removal of steps and replace with a ramp. (Full Planning Application)  
ST MARY'S HOUSE, STAMAGES LANE. Re-instate two chimney stacks.  
BUTT HOUSE, BUTT GREEN. Replacement windows & French doors.  
PAINSWICK GOLF CLUB, GOLF COURSE ROAD. Replacement of 2 no. antennas, installation of 2 radio equipment cabinets.  
WELL COTTAGE, LONGRIDGE, SHEEPSCOMBE. 2 storey extension to side and rear.  
BRAESIDE, SLAD. Erection of 2 storey side extension & single storey rear extension.  
THE OLD EBWORTH CENTRE, THE CAMP. Install first floor metal rail guard.

### REFUSAL

BEECHVIEW, FAR END, SHEEPSCOMBE. Erection of a replacement dwelling..

### PLANS WITHDRAWN

PYLL HOUSE, SHEEPSCOMBE. Erection of a field shelter.  
BEACON HEIGHTS, CHELTENHAM ROAD. Erection of replacement dwelling.  
DAMSELLS MILL COTTAGE, THE PARK. Formation of new access.

## New Year Buzz...

The horticultural society began the New Year with a fascinating talk about bee keeping. Mr Welch shared his 45-year knowledge of bees with us and answered questions about a variety of aspects of this ancient art. We learnt that:

- black bees are very good for treating rheumatism
- that a hive will have 13 thousand bees in the winter months which rises to 80 thousand in the summer

If anyone in the village would like to know more, there is an active Gloucestershire Bee Keepers Association, which meets in Stroud.

If your herbaceous borders could do with a 'spring clean', Mr Perkins is coming to inspire us at our next meeting at 2.30 on 11th February in the Town Hall and we would love to share the afternoon with you.

Elizabeth Gardam



## MINI-ADS

**Bath lift** - Aquatec Deluxe. Electrically charged battery, remote controlled, good working order. Bargain at £70.00 Call 812220

**Three-bedroomed** terraced cottage available to let in Painswick. Please telephone 01453 811969 for details.

**Andalucia Spain:** Villa in foothills above Nerja. 3 bedrooms, sleeps 4, TV, own pool. Wildlife, walks, views, mountains and Mediterranean. Available July/August £485pw. 814070 or 0034-67-019686 or padiwebb@yahoo.com

**Weekend newspapers.** Have your newspapers delivered on a Saturday or Sunday morning. I can take on a few more. Most areas of Painswick covered. Ring 814263 or e-mail dan@jollans.com

**MINI-ADS** - Free to subscribers. Maximum of 30 words.

For non-subscribers there is a flat charge of £5.00, paid by cheque to 'The Painswick Beacon', in advance. Text and cheque (only) to Dermot Cassidy, 1 Painswick Heights, Yokehouse Lane, GL6 7QS. Commercial/business mini-ads accepted; space constraints apply and others have priority.

## Beacon articles

We remind readers that it is both helpful and important that contributors ensure their articles are acknowledged by us because accidents happen.

Sometimes, we discover, after publication and much to the frustration of the author, that messages had been sent to the wrong address or we received several simultaneously and overlooked one of them. Please allow about 48 hours and, if no acknowledgement has been sent to you, do please get in touch without further delay.

Remember you can keep distant friends and relatives in touch with Painswick via the Beaconline web edition [painswickbeacon.org.uk](http://painswickbeacon.org.uk)

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# The Personal Column

## Weddings

Best wishes to DANIEL MINETT-SMITH and NICOLA DERBY who will be getting married on St Valentine's Day, 14th February;

and to HELEN DEAN, who used to live at Armany, Golf Course Road and was married on 22nd December to NIGEL HAWKER at The Bear of Rodborough;

## Baby

Congratulations to Catherine Williams (née Elgar) and her husband, Tim, on the birth of Joshua, a brother for Eloise, and the first grandson for Edward and Sandy Elgar, and the first great grandson for David Teasdale;

## Welcome

We would like to welcome Mr and Mrs CRIDLAND, who have moved into Clev-erlys in Vicarage Street;

and Mr and Mrs MILNER who are moving into Cloth Hall, New Street;

and Mr and Mrs HANMAN who have moved into La Combelle, The Park;

and Mr and Mrs NICK JONES, the new owners of The Garth, Cheltenham Road

## Moving within Painswick

DAVE and JAN HASLAM have moved from Greenaway House, Lower Wash-well Lane to Kantanta, next door, their third Painswick residence;

LIZ LEE is moving from The Cloth Hall, New Street to the Coach House, Yew Tree House in Vicarage Street.

## Get well soon

Best wishes for a speedy recovery to CRISTAL MATTHIAS, MARY HARRIS and DAVID MANNERING, who have all been in hospital recently.

## Condolences

Our sincere sympathies to the family and friends of NINA HARRIS, MARIE COLLINS, FLORA SEMARK, JOYCE WEIR, PAUL WHITTAKER and DENI-SON "HARRY" HAWKESWORTH DFC RN

## Personal Messages

### From the Family of the late Hilda Musty.

Janet and Julie and their Families would like to express their heartfelt thanks to all who attended Hilda's Funeral and Thanksgiving Service and for the many messages of sympathy they have received.

The love and support of so many has been of great comfort at this time.

### Flora Margaret Semark

Flora Semark, wife of the late Fred Semark (who was Painswickian of the Year in 1991) passed away peacefully on 9th January. Flora and Fred lived very happily in Painswick for over 20 years until they moved to Berkhamsted in 2003 to be close to their two daughters, Janet and Margaret.

## Mea culpa..

In last month's Personal Column, we wrongly attributed the VC awarded to Captain the Rev E N Mellish to his son Paul Mellish, whose death in New Hampshire we reported. Our sincere apologies.

**We occasionally receive a photograph for inclusion in the Personal Column, and this is always appreciated. However, we cannot guarantee to use every one if space does not permit.**



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