

The Painswick Beacon

Sine praeiudicio

Volume 31 Number 10

January 2009

The Beacon has, for nearly 31 years, been privileged to report upon just about any Painswick village matter.

Today we not only express our very best wishes to all for this coming year but remind ourselves that the future lies in the hands of those shown here, many more like them, and those who lead and inspire them.

Fun

Pupils of the Croft School enjoying their Christmas disco, and how!

Play

The children of Painswick Playgroup were very busy in December performing their annual Christmas Nativity play. As Lisa Warnaby, Playgroup Treasurer, told us "They all did superbly well in their various roles, and all audience members were treated to a very polished performance! A big 'well done' to Beaty Bell and the staff for putting in so much hard work in producing

such a wonderful play".

A Christmas party was held on the last day of term, attended by Father Christmas of course!

Support for the group is strong, as evidenced when a raffle of donated prizes raised a total of £113.70.



Serving others

Toby Green and George Hancock as French waiters sporting moustaches.

Olivia Mighten, Holly Perris and Catherine Taylor, three of the year 6 children who have volunteered to be trained to be play leaders. They organise games and activities for younger children at play times.



January was established as the first month of the year by the Romans. It is said that there were previously ten (metric, of course) months, the two in winter being disregarded.

It was named after the god Janus, the god of the doorway, derived from the Roman *ianua*. Janus had two faces, as does a door, enabling him to look forwards into the new year and backwards into the old one.

On other pages this month - our **Painswickian** revealed, local **job vacancies**, sampling the **fair juice**, disgraceful **behaviour at the surgery**, new **lamp anchor**, behind the **pharmacy screen**, full **steam ahead 00**, **honours from Olympian**, stray **light rays**, the **ladies like lotto**, **Vaughan Williams appreciated**, the **bittern resident** in the County, the **PFC progressing**, **mistletoe facts** revealed, **empty seat** on the Council, and **sun v euro**.



PLANNING COMMITTEE

Three Gables - signage

Chairman David Hudson, who had undertaken to speak directly with the owner regarding the 'Whiter teeth' advertising, had delayed doing so since he felt there were other signs in the village of comparable distinction and the Council may wish to firstly consider its policy in such matters. Terry Parker suggested this particular sign was uniquely for a product and as such was inappropriate. Mr Hudson undertook to follow up in the New Year.

Court House - lighting

Complaints had been received about night-time light spillage from this property through to the A46 at the Lych Gate corner. The Chairman undertook to re-visit the owners very soon.

Catbrain Quarry - light pollution

Ann Daniels drew attention to the reasonableness of there being lighting to facilitate working and security in this quarry but objected to the spillage of light due to improperly angled fitments. Mr Hudson undertook to investigate and action the matter.

Jubilate - Blakewell Mead

Attention was drawn to the several grounds given by the District Council for refusal of the planning applications for both a new property in the grounds of Jubilate and the proposed reduction in height of a cedar tree in the garden.

Overhead cables

Terry Parker suggested, and it was agreed, that the Parish Council should write to the electricity supplier Eon to ask for the criteria they applied when considering the need for the company to submit planning applications. The reason for the request came from a seeming lack of consistency with works relating to overhead cabling

PARISH COUNCIL

Business signage

The Council was addressed in the preliminary public session by the proprietors of the St Michaels restaurant in Victoria Street who wished to share concerns about street signage which they and others felt necessary to erect from time to time to attract trade, the more so during the current recessionary year. The Clerk, Roy Balgobin, reported that the District Council's policy in such matters was to permit one 'A' board immediately outside the premises advertised provided such was not causing obstruction of the pavement. Proprietors were also permitted to erect a single A4 sheet notice up to one month prior to an event and no more than four days after.

Chairman Terry Parker indicated that this subject had been included in the formal agenda of the meeting as some disquiet had recently been expressed by the seeming indiscriminate proliferation of such signs. Ann Daniels suggested that fixing signs to such as downpipes makes the village look tatty, and was far from keen at what is happening at this time.

Jason Bullingham undertook to obtain the views of 'Painswick Matters', the newly formed traders' forum, and endeavour to bring positive and constructive suggestions back to the January meeting.

Interpretation Centre - Cotswold Way
The Chairman reported that dialogue between Painswick Gateway and the Cotswold Conservation Board was proceeding and that a formal bid for funding through South West Tourism to access EU funds was likely very soon.

Parish Plan

It was reported that a conference is being convened by the GRCC in March, directed at the evolution of Village Design Statements. Since such VDS are likely to be more acceptable to District Councils for formal adoption and use within the planning process it was decided not to press further the work on updating the Parish Plan pending the outcome of that conference.

Council logo

No formal response had yet been received from the Rugby Club regarding the possibility of the Council adopting the logo devised for them (page 2 last Beacon refers).

Allotments

The Council had received a letter from the Chairman of the Gyde Trustees regarding the possibility of allotments being located on their land. The Chairman had enquired what amount of land the Parish Council wished to lease and whether the Council would meet the cost of services of a surveyor to assist in the preparation of a management plan for that field. The Council decided to set up a working party to consider the matter.

GAPTC

The Gloucestershire Association of Parish and Town Councils was reported as having a vacancy on its County Committee and Jason Bullingham volunteered to be considered for the post.

Freedom of Information Act 2000

In compliance with advice of the Information Commissioner the Council agreed to adopt the Publication Scheme effective from 1st January. The Scheme sets out the kinds of information that a public authority should make routinely available. The information should be easy for the authority and any individual to find and use and, to this end, the Commissioner has developed a model publication scheme that any public authority can use. Routinely published information should be available as part of an authority's normal business, so the information should be easy to access through a website or be easily and quickly sent out by a member of an authority's staff.

The Council decided that where the public sought printed information this would be charged to them at 10p per sheet.

Christmas tree- 2009

Ann Burges Watson asked that Painswick Matters be invited to consider sponsoring the village Christmas tree next year.

Edge - lay by

Martin Slinger reported representations being made to have the road markings 'Bus Stop' removed from the lay by opposite the Edgemoor Inn as these works were inapplicable, there being no stop at this point and motorists were discouraged from visiting the hostelry.

Lamp House - continuing works

Several members of the Council expressed their patience being stretched while works to this prominent property seemed to continue indefinitely and without regard to the visual impact of debris and materials lying about had in the very heart of a conservation area. Previous assurances of near completion seemed to have misrepresented the situation and it was decided to request the District Council look into the matter and seek to bring about a speedy conclusion of works and restoration of the frontage. However, before doing so it was agreed that the Chairman would contact the owner.

Planning applications - public access

The Clerk, Roy Balgobin, reported completion of changes and additions to the Council's computer system, thereby enabling easier public access to the Internet in order to examine the progress of planning issues on line at the Council's office on Wednesday and Friday mornings. A particularly sophisticated site has been enhanced by the District Council in the past year or two which can be accessed by anyone on the Internet via the SDC 'Home' page, or planning matters directly on www.stroud.gov.uk/docs/planning/planning_application_search.asp Readers are encouraged to examine this site, which not only carries full details of applications, but all consultations which arise in consequence, communications received from the public, and the full decision statement when an application is determined.

Guernsey interest

Chairman Terry Parker reported receipt of a letter from Mr Lenfesty, a Guernsey "Douzenier", addressed to 'The Mayor of Painswick'. Mr Lenfesty had recently visited Painswick and was interested to have details of the Parish Council's responsibilities as he was a member of a Parochial Legislation Working Party recently set up to consider possible changes to Guernsey's local government administration.

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Painswickian of the Year

"Oh no, not me! Others are so much more deserving." Such was Iris McCormick's response when she discovered she had been voted our Painswickian of the Year for 2008. However, many of you agree that Iris is a worthy winner of the title and a review of her activities in and on behalf of the village make it very clear why she was nominated.

Iris runs a very busy and successful B&B, has two young children and keeps sheep, a pony and two pigs. This would probably be regarded by most as enough to keep her fully occupied on a continuous basis. But, Iris does not stop there. During the course of a conversation with her it quickly becomes evident that she is very enthusiastic about helping to develop community spirit in Painswick and she demonstrates a passion for the need to work towards improving the lot of others on a wider scale too.

Iris was the leading light behind Painswick's bid to become an official fair trade village. It began modestly when she was organising fair trade coffee mornings at the Croft School and from that she, along with two others, developed the idea of extending the scheme to the whole village. This was no mean feat and involved a great deal of hard work and time. All the shops which can sell fair trade goods now do so as do the pub and the restaurant. She is still actively involved in the necessary ongoing promotion of the scheme, the most recent being a highly successful pre-Christmas fair trade wine-tasting event in the Church rooms.

A cause close to her heart is the charity for Lideta, a slum community in Ethiopia which has suffered terrible deprivation and disaster. Iris has worked tirelessly organising fund-raising events for this charity and at the same time has seen it as an opportunity to develop a more cohesive community spirit in



Painswick. "My philosophy is based on a sound community acting to help another but needy community," she says. She has certainly done that, bringing people here together within the community. It is Iris who has been the guiding force behind the Harvest lunches (so successful that in future this event will be an ecumenical occasion organised by Churches Together Around Painswick), the annual Christmas door-to-door carol singing for charity, various barn dances and the teddy bear parachuting.

Her B&B business was one of the first three in Gloucestershire to be inspected for the Green Tourism Business Scheme. She feels strongly about this, doing as much as possible to meet with the approval of the reduced carbon footprint audit. Iris feels that her business has improved because of this emphasis on eco-friendly practice. Her guests generally like it and she is keen to help them discover ways of walking rather than using the car. She is constantly looking for new ways to develop the idea.

Iris grew up in Yorkshire, worked in travel then ran her own holiday business in France for some years. Returning to England she studied then taught English

and then with husband, Greg, moved to Painswick in 1997, setting up her B&B in Gloucester Street. She is always keen to refer her guests to everything that Painswick offers. Greg, without whom she feels she could not be active in so many projects, is currently researching and developing hydrogen production, his core interest being green and renewables. Her two children, Angus, 9 and Hattie, 6 attend the Croft School where, characteristically, Iris is very active in the PTA.

Iris McCormick combines enormous energy and enthusiasm with a very generous and caring approach to people and communities. The result is that many others benefit from her tireless endeavours, not least many people in Painswick. She certainly deserves this recognition.

Carol Maxwell

The Quiz - 2009

As announced last month, the Beacon Quiz will take place on Saturday 14th March in the Painswick Centre starting at 7.15 sharp.

Remember it is first come, first served so send in your application as soon as possible with the Team Title, the organization, club, group, road, family etc the team represents and the name, address and telephone number of the contact person. Your application can also be e-mailed to me. Details are below.

Just to remind you and for newcomers, teams are of 4 people and the fee is £4 per person (£16 per team) and includes a light supper. The bar will be open during the evening for alcoholic and non-alcoholic refreshments. Prizes are awarded to the top three teams, the team with the lowest score and the team with the best mascot.

The deadline for applications and payments is the 28th February. But you don't have to wait until you have a team together before sending in your application and payment - I am told a certain team was reputedly only finally assembled at 6.00pm on the day of the quiz! So get those applications rolling in!

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


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Victoria Lamp

The County Council has advised the Parish Council that there are only three such lamps in Gloucestershire.

Parish Council Clerk, Roy Balgobin, told the Beacon that he had been surprised to learn that the lamp was owned by the County Council because of the lamp's obvious age and ornate design. However, we can anticipate even more photographers including it in their albums from now on, re-seated on its new plinth at a cost in the order of £7,000.



PARISH OF PAINSWICK (PAINSWICK WARD) CASUAL VACANCY

Notice is hereby given that due to the resignation of Councillor Robert Cox a vacancy exists in the office of Parish Councillor for the parish of Painswick (Painswick Ward).

Applications are invited to fill this casual vacancy on the Parish Council (Painswick Ward), applicants must be over the age of 18 years. Applicants are requested to apply in writing, including a Curriculum Vitae (CV) to the Parish Clerk, The Town Hall, Painswick, Stroud, Glos, GL6 6QA by noon on Friday 16th January 2009. If you require further information please contact the Parish Clerk on 812722 or 01452.621688.

Dated this the 15th day of December 2008

Roy Balgobin Clerk

Hitting the Jackpot

There are new faces at the top of Yew Trees WI! At the Annual Meeting in November Jan Clarke was welcomed as the new President and Natalie Nixon and Meriel Middleton as new committee members. Tributes were paid to the outgoing President and Secretary: Maggie Drake and Celia Lougher. Once the formalities were over members were entertained to a relaxing 19th century evening with a Magic Lantern Show by

David Bayley. The December meeting entitled 'Puds and Puzzles' proved far from relaxing as members were forced to rack their brains with quizzes both general and local, while they nobly munched their way through a variety of mouth watering homemade desserts!

At our January meeting Jim McNamara is going to talk about The National Lottery. Before Jim moved to Painswick he worked for Camelot so this is a wonderful chance to find out how the lottery works and how you will be looked after when you win the jackpot! Female visitors will be warmly welcomed, so come along to the Town Hall at 7.30 p.m. on Tuesday 27th (£2.70). In fact why not make it your New Year resolution to join Yew Trees WI? We have a really varied programme for 2009 including talks on 'Hatching a novel', Wildflowers of Cyprus' and a demonstration of Willow basket making. Membership of Yew Trees also entitles you to take advantage of the numerous events organised by the Gloucestershire Federation of WIs. We hope to see you on the 27th.

Celia Lougher



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Fairtrade Wine Tasting Event

On Saturday, 6th December, the Fairtrade Committee invited members of the community and visitors to a wine tasting in the Church Rooms. The purpose of the event was to give people the opportunity to sample wines which had been produced not only with regard to the quality of the product but also with regard to fair working conditions for those involved in the production.

We received vouchers from the Co-operative Stores, with which we purchased six types of fairly traded wines from Argentina and South Africa. To these we added the fairly traded wines currently available at Londis, making a choice of ten in all. Each person received a sheet to record their preferences. Alison Robinson took orders for Co-op wines and delivered them before Christmas.

Some fifty people came to try the wines and the atmosphere was very convivial.

One taster insisted that he had sampled at least a dozen different bottles; an interesting achievement! I would like to say we discovered a great wine, hitherto unrecognised, but unfortunately this was not the case. What we did find was a number of very drinkable wines, retailing at about £5, both red and white. The most popular were a white Sauvignon Blanc and a red Cinsault-Shiraz available from the Co-op and a Los Robles red available from Londis.

It was a most enjoyable morning, and one we would be happy to repeat in the future as the range of fairly traded wines increases. In the meantime, look out for the Fairtrade logo on wines in all the major supermarkets!

Frances Watson



Vaughan Williams

Until I had the privilege to listen to a talk about Vaughan Williams, presented most professionally on 27th November by Philip Lancaster - Lay Clerk at Lichfield Cathedral and attached to Gloucester Archives - I had no idea of his wide range of types of composition: orchestral, choral and vocal music especially, but also the more virtuosic areas for voice and instruments of opera, concertos and chamber music. (Any more than that he was born just 20 miles from here and dropped at baptism but luckily caught by his mum!)

With great love of country and English music traditions and with humanity and keen observation, he wrote music of unique character. Of this, we were regaled to no fewer than 20 recordings. I enjoyed all, perhaps especially "March past of the Witnesses", the majestic choral "Sea Symphony", the most original and very English "Fantasia on a theme of Thomas Tallis", the bleak Fourth Symphony, the Great War inspired Pastoral Symphony, "Job, a Masque for Dancing", "Beat, beat, Drums" from the profoundly moving "Dona Nobis Pacem" and "A Pilgrim's Progress".

Ralph Kenber



Christmas Social with music

The programme said that a buffet supper would be served after we had "enjoyed" a musical quiz set by Ralph Kember. I squirmed as he read out some unseasonably devilish questions, and more when the answers revealed the inadequacies of some of my guesses.

However, some inspired cognoscenti rose to the occasion.

Happily, I did enjoy the very tasty buffet. It was a jolly and festive start to the Christmas Season, and our warm thanks are due to the organisers, and to Ralph for his mental challenges.

Richard Burges Watson

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Hobby of a lifetime

Colin Treglown

There can be few to equal the depth or commitment of New Street resident Colin Treglown in his passionate interest in both railway history and model railways.

Can you recall when you started this hobby?

I remember having a Gauge 0 clockwork set when I was about four. I started collecting the Railway Magazine in 1936, and have kept every copy since then - that is quite a few!

Did you have a rest then?

No. It was sold and I moved on to Gauge 00 and electric layouts. And I have enjoyed this hobby intensely, with the forbearance of my wife Marguerite, ever since.

Where did you first lay out your tracks, and with what guiding principles?

We were living in Northwood in those days and I decided to include two key features, the Gate Inn and the adjacent cricket green. Including a London Country 347 green bus, which ran past, was a must, and I brought this feature with us when we came to Painswick and rebuilt the tracks here. Another aspect has been a commitment to accuracy; this has required visits to rail locations around the country, photographing detail and reading and collecting books and journals - of which some might say I now have too many!

So you steadily increased your rail stock?

The short answer to that question is affirmative, but there was a setback in the early '80s; we had a burglary and in addition to just about everything in the house that could be removed the thieves made off with every scrap of my accumulated rail layout - it was devastating. However, with over £3,000 of insurance money for these items alone I have rebuilt the collection and probably now have some 30 locomotives and an equivalent number of carriages.

And the type of layout?

My inclination is to constantly change things around, but the core has usually been to have four distinct systems, each independently controlled and all points motorised, but with an interchange to extend each when I want. I am fortunate to have my own 'space' for my hobby, and a lot of patience from Marguerite. A chap needs both of these.

How far does your hobby extend beyond home?

I believe very strongly in supporting railway preservation and restoration groups.

In fact I feel so strongly that I have not only undertaken research for several, but constructed complete replacement signage to pick out original styles and features. An example is the replacement sign photograph here which I made for Ashburton signal box. That was one of the largest I ever made, only half of it being under cover in my workshop at any one time! I enjoyed regular voluntary work on the Gloucestershire-Warwickshire railway at Toddington, as well as the South Devon railway based at Buckfastleigh, mostly between 1970 until five years or so ago.

Therapeutic?

Certainly, and a wonderfully creative hobby which can be picked up at any time with modest beginnings and good friendships found over many years.

Thank you, and a certain 'male' envy.
LWB

If you have a hobby which you would be willing to share with others through these pages we will be delighted to hear from you.

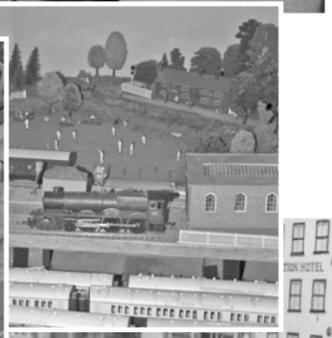
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A theft at the surgery.....

Many patients will have spotted that we regularly assist with charity collections, the Poppy Appeal, Children in Need to name but two.

Recently, we have started two new collections at the surgery. One is based on donations given by patients who buy second hand books and this money goes to the Painswick Surgery Special Equipment Fund and the other is donations collected from the purchase of birthday/anniversary cards for the Cobalt Unit at Linton House. Leading up to the festive season, we have had a supply of Christmas cards on display for purchase at a very reasonable price.

Over the past few months, patients have generously donated well over £100 to the Cobalt Unit and the Equipment Fund

Reflections

Painswick may be a village (or small town) but it is one that is buzzing with activity.

From intellectual pursuits to physical fitness, from appreciating to creating art and music, from cooking to serving, to knitting for charitable purposes, from old to young there is something to do.

All these groups offer a way of extending oneself whilst enjoying the company of like-minded people in the village

The main problem for many of the residents is finding time to do everything they would like to do. Once upon a time, the younger women of a community were able to join daytime activities while their children were at school. Those days are long gone as more women go out to paid employment and children have so many out-of-school activities that mother and father spend a lot of time as a taxi service. Retired people used to have lots of spare time but now not only may they be back on the school run for the grandchildren, they are busy doing all the travelling and visiting they did not have time for while working. Life is indeed different from the old picture of granny rocking in a corner knitting or granddad pottering in the garden! Life is much more active for all the generations.

We are lucky indeed to have such full lives.

The down side to all this may be that those very groups that sustain the community life of our village may be short of people both to run them and to make a viable membership. Maybe, looking again in such as the Painswick directory, we could all find something we could fit into our lives within the village. Word of mouth and advertisements in these pages are another source of information about what is going on. Maybe a New Year's resolution could be to join in something, or something new.

May 2009 be a happy and active year for us all.

Ann Dorman

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If you think there is good in everybody, you haven't met everybody.

but we were horrified to find on Friday 19th December, that the Cobalt Unit charity box had been taken from the surgery waiting room. Employees working the previous day confirmed that the box was there on the Thursday evening after close of business, so we can only assume it must have been taken on the Friday morning.

I have been working at the surgery now for over eight years and this is the first incident I have had to report in all that time - an event that has greatly saddened us all. It is a testament to our patients that we have such a kind and generous population especially at this time of year and when the country's economy is less than satisfactory. Unfortunately, this has left rather a 'bad taste'.

Nicola Hayward Practice Manager

Slimbridge revisited

Happily there was a remission in Arctic conditions on 8th December for a visit of the intrepid band to Slimbridge Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust, knowledgeably led by Peter Yemen (Trust Volunteer). He referred to the legacy of Sir Peter Scott, both artistic and scientific.

The Hawaiian geese practically fly out of his amazing painting hanging in the centre foyer - the Annenberg memento (donated by the American Ambassador's sister) Few Bewick's swans had yet arrived from the tundra but we were reminded that Scott was first to note the complete individuality of their yellow, basal bill patterns. He first saw Slimbridge's potential from the air and soon started the scientific mapping of bird flight patterns. So to today and the role of Darvic ringing and computer tracing of migration routes. There is a certain excitement in witnessing the busy activity and diversity, even of protected birds, on view. Six flamingo varieties, temperature cossetted, inhabited a shed, their feeding pool somewhat smelly because of nutrients essential for their famous carotenoid - based hues.



The ancient estate hut where a keeper once shelved dead ducks for the Berkeley family table, now provides for live birds captured in the net decoys, for ringing and mensuration before their release. The complex task of breeding Eurasian Cranes was discussed in some detail, the precarious nature of single-egg hatching and

the need to keep violent single 'adolescents' apart! Keepers appear in grey, shapeless attire wielding a beak - like appendage to persuade the chicks to gobble their offerings!

The party enjoyed the 4.00pm feeding foray but the high note of the day came in a hide when the beautiful, but famously elusive bittern was seen. What a great end to the day!

The first meeting of this year is on Tuesday, 3rd February at 7.30pm in the Town Hall when Graham Mapies, chairman of The Friends of the Slimbridge Trust will give an illustrated talk.

Wendy and Martin Addy

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Quick and Easy Testing at the Pharmacy

A quick and very straightforward health screening service is now available for all at Painswick Pharmacy. This is part of an NHS initiative which will see further developments in the near future. Only accredited pharmacists are permitted to offer this service and in Painswick Mike Powis has already begun to put the scheme into practice.

Apart from the accreditation, the other criteria are the provision of a suitable consultation area and privacy. The Pharmacy has a small room, appropriately equipped, within the shop, and the procedure can take as little as 10 minutes or alternatively as long as required. It consists of four tests and they are painless – I can vouch for that having been through the procedure myself.

The first part concerns the practical side of taking medication and is really aimed at ensuring you are using any treatment as effectively as possible. Known as MUR (medicines use review), it can be reviewed annually. Ideally it is aimed at people who have been on the medication record for at least three months, but additionally, intervention MUR is for those who are starting on medication and its purpose is to provide a complete understanding of effective use.

The three tests involved in the scheme are being promoted by the NHS as a means of monitoring personal health and, as they are not funded at present, the pharmacy testing is essentially a community service. The modest charge therefore covers the cost of the purchase of the equipment and Mike's time.

A blood pressure test is followed by a measurement of cholesterol and blood glucose levels. The latter two involve a simple and painless finger prick and the minuscule blood samples taken provide instant results. If your glucose level is on the high side Mike suggests you return for a repeat test after fasting. It is all very simple, easy, confidential and immediate.

Mike is one of a handful of pharmacists offering this service which does have government and NHS authority. He has undergone extra training and assessment to achieve the necessary accreditation and has organised an excellent little consulting room within the shop. Painswick has long been proud of its pharmacy which is now offering yet another beneficial and easy to use community service.



Carol Maxwell

Improve your brain and the countryside?

Volunteers working on scrub clearance with the Painswick Beacon Conservation Group know that they feel better and virtuous after a Sunday morning working party. Researchers from the University of Michigan found a 20% improvement in short term memory in volunteers sent on a nature route walk rather than an urban walk. Admittedly they only went for a 50 minute walk, no use of saw or secateurs. But we maintain, of course, that our volunteers get smarter and smarter. If you have doubts (shame on you) or wish to experience the benefits, do come and join us! You can also work off some of the Christmas/New year overeating and partly fulfil that resolution to get fitter.

We provide tools, guidance and encouragement. We will welcome you and your healthy friends. Our serious objective is to remove or control the seedlings, scrub, brambles and grass overgrowth that will otherwise smother the flowers etc. that give the Beacon its special character.

We work every other Sunday morning, from 10.00am to 1.00pm, meeting at the car park opposite the Golf Club entrance. The next group of dates is Sunday: 4th and 18th January, 1st and 15th February, and 1st, 15th and 29th March.

David Allott Chairman 812624

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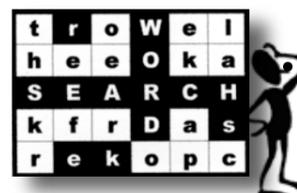
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For this month, how about nineteen words associated with winter?

Last month we tucked away 25 words closely associated with Christmas:

- ADVENT BELLS
- BETHLEHEM
- CANDLES
- CAROLS
- FEASTING
- FRANKINCENSE
- GARLANDS
- GIFTS
- GOLD
- HOLLY
- JESUS
- JOSEPH
- LIGHTS
- MARY
- MISTLETOE
- MYRRH
- NATIVITY
- NOEL
- PRESENTS
- SANTA CLAUS
- STOCKINGS
- TWELVE DAYS
- WISE MEN
- YULETIDE

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

PTA news

Thank you to everyone who supported our Christmas Fayre in December. It was lovely to see so many Croft children, former pupils and local residents coming out on a cold afternoon to support the school.

All the usual Christmas activities went on in various classrooms and in the hall enormous quantities of chocolate and bottles were won on the various tombolas. The highlight for many of the children was a pony and trap ride through a candle lit playground to see Father Christmas in his grotto. A hard working team of the Hancock, Green and Twigg families set up a fantastic café with hot meals for the children.

The huge generosity of parents, visitors and PTA helpers led to a record profit of £1578 all of which is going towards our new campaign to buy new computers for all the classrooms. Our next big event is an auction of promises in March where we hope to raise most of the outstanding money for new computers. If you have a service, gift or holiday home you might be able to pledge for this event, the PTA would be delighted to hear from you.

Julia Churchley 814215



from the School

Janet Hoyle has written to parents:

Firstly huge thanks to the organisers of the PTA Fayre. I write in advance of it, but I am completely confident that it will be a great event, as a lot of hard work has gone into the organisation. Thanks too if you sent in items for the fayre, helped set up during the day, ran a stall or just turned up and parted with your well earned cash! Winners of the place mat competition were as follows:

- Reception: Layla Jordan
- Year 1: Miriam Szczurek
- Year 2: Amy James
- Year 3: Harry Twigg
- Year 4: Max Murray
- Year 5: Charlotte Mole
- Year 6: Catherine Taylor

New Mid Day Supervisor

I am delighted to be able to tell you that we have a new member of our meal time supervisory team. Mrs Sarah Slinger began work this week and we are very pleased to have her working with us. We are still in need of extra help, either on a contractual basis or to provide occasional relief cover. Please contact me if you would like more information.

Child care

As Painswick currently has no registered childminders, Gloucestershire's Childcare Sufficiency Audit has recognised Painswick is in the first priority group for developing childcare. You may like to consider becoming a child-minder yourself, or you may be able to hand the information to someone else who may be interested.

I have been asked by some parents if I know anyone who may want to do a nanny share. If you have a child carer that could be shared with another family, please let me know and I will pass on your details.

After School Clubs

This term the following after-school clubs will be taking place in terms 3 & 4:

- Netball Monday Mrs Towler
- Football Tuesday James Jeffrey
- Board/card games (infants) Monday Mrs Hoyle
- Country Dancing Tuesday Mrs Skinner
- Drama Wednesday Mrs Jollans
- Art (juniors) Friday Mrs Nicholls

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Champions all



The year finished on a high for the tennis club at the Gloucestershire Sports Awards, held at Cheltenham Racecourse on 27th November. These annual awards cover all sports in the Gloucestershire area and Painswick LTC was nominated in two categories.

Head Coach, Lorraine Ristic, made the final three in the Performance Coach of the Year section, while the club itself won the title of Junior Club of the Year 2008, beating Mitcheldean Juniors FC and Stroud Swimming Club. The trophy was awarded by Olympic swimmer Sharron Davies.

Jillie Speed

Club President John Courts, Club Secretary Ruth Smith, Junior Representative Nigel Barnett, Sharron Davies and Head Coach Lorraine Ristic. In front is Sharron's daughter Grace.

Cricket

John Hogg has stepped down from the position of Painswick Cricket Club Chairman. He is succeeded by Steve Pegram.

John has been associated with the club for more than fifty years and tributes have been paid to the major contribution he has made to Painswick cricket. His work with the young generation has been particularly successful and it is the strong youth section that has contributed to the club being able to field a third eleven for the first time in its history.

Wayne Lee takes over the responsibility for youth cricket. Other appointments at the Annual General Meeting were, Wayne Neville who becomes first eleven captain and Simon Cook captain of the second eleven. Mac Barnard remains third eleven captain with Dom Barnard continuing to have responsibility for the Sunday eleven. Ed Bressington is to be the midweek captain. New players are welcome at all levels. Anyone with an interest should contact Ian Hogg on 01452.540021 or Mac Barnard on 01452.417442.

Rugby

The New Year brought with it icy conditions and a number of matches had to be postponed. The games planned for Saturday 4th January had to be called off and so Painswick first fifteen's re-arranged league fixture with Cheltenham Civil Service will have to be replayed. The United's Stroud Junior Combination Cup match against Dursley was another casualty.

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

January

- Sat 10th. (L) Bishopston 1st XV v Painswick 1st XV. (M) Painswick United v Spartans 2nd XV.
- Sat 17th. Painswick United v Longlevens 2nd XV.
- Sat 24th. (L) Longlevens 1st XV v Painswick 1st XV. (M) Painswick United v Brockworth 2nd XV.
- Sat 31st. (L) Painswick 1st XV v Chipping Sodbury 1st XV. (M) Old Centralians 2nd XV v Painswick United

February

- Sat 7th Painswick United v Gloucester Civil Service

Boxing Day Walk

The Parish Council's annual Boxing Day Walk attracted 22 walkers on a beautifully sunny morning. Unusually there were no dogs to accompany the walkers.

The circular route was via Sheepphouse, Pincot Lane, Wades Lane, Hammond's Farm and Folly Lane with the option of returning to Stamages Lane car park via Juniper Common, Frith Wood or Bulls Cross.

PFC



Last September a new sports club burst into action in the village, **Painswick Football Club**. At present there is one team of Under 12s who are having a very successful season.

The club has been very fortunate to secure the services of successful coach and ex- player, Dave Bullingham. Up to 18 boys meet up for training sessions on Thursday evenings with Dave assisted by Referee Gary Fagg and Club Chair-

man, Howard Davis. Home matches are played at the Croft School on Saturdays at 10.30am. The club is most grateful to the school for use of the playing field.

The boys have shown great commitment and are amongst the leaders of the U12's Mid-Glos mini soccer league. You can see more details of the club and the boys progress on the club website :- www.painswickfc.co.uk.

Following such a good start & support from the players & their families, the club officials would like to take the club a significant step forward for which local help is needed.

The first step, of course, is to increase the number of squads. Within the 18 training players there is a formative group which could enter the U12's Mid-Glos mini soccer league 7-a-side next season and there must be more Painswick lads in other age groups U9's-U11's who would enjoy a regular league game. The club constitution provides a framework within which each of the teams can operate and the FA is very supportive offering advice and training. In order to expand the number of teams we need Coaches, referees and assistants who will take on the organisation and training of individual squads. If you are interested in taking on such a role in any age group please



ers would enjoy the spectacle of regular football matches at the weekends. The pitch and goal posts however, do need some work and we would also need additional equipment & kit for new squads. To this end we set ourselves a fund raising target of £5000. There are various sources of funds for sport which we can and will access, but all of these look to see some 'self help' from the benefiting club and community. We would like to invite people to make a minimum donation of £100 thus becoming a founding and lifelong member of Painswick FC (or contact us if you have another sugges-

tion). Cheques should be made payable to Painswick FC and given to Painswick FC c/o Price Davis, The Old Baptist Chapel, New Street, Painswick, GL6 6XH. If we can raise £1500 from within the Painswick community then we can reasonably expect to raise the remainder from other sources.

For more information about our plans and fixtures take a look at our website (www.painswickfc.co.uk). To see the boys in action come along to the Croft when we have a home game. Tea and coffee available!

Simon Churchley 814215

Beacon subscribers

21st December	2008-09	Last year
New or renewed after lapsing	64	121
Renewed from last year	520	489
Total including postal	584	610

We are delighted to hear that quite a few regularly access the Beacon through its on-line edition.

We hope you do not feel too remote to subscribe, though.

The older you get, the tougher it is to lose weight, because by then your body and your fat have become really good friends.

He who hesitates is probably right.

One of the many things no one tells you about aging is that it is such a nice change from being young.

A penny saved is a government oversight.

When you are dissatisfied and would like to go back to youth, think of Algebra.

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.

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Local History Teaser

Quite a gathering of Painswickians in seemingly warmer times than we are presently experiencing! With their rosettes and interesting headwear, a Union Jack and what appear to be a couple of staffs, this was surely a gathering to celebrate a special occasion. Can you help? We do not have any information about this photograph and would be very pleased if you are able to say what the occasion was and/or identify any of the people. Do get in touch if you can throw any light on this one.

Last month's teaser showed a lovely picture of a Painswick Christmas card though unfortunately the question was omitted. It was, in fact, a card seasonally sent to customers by G.P.Fryer, a general store in New Street. Inside are printed the words 'As we near the close of another year, we are glad to take the opportunity to say "Thank you" for your valued custom, and offer Greetings and Best Wishes for Christmas and the New Year. G.P.Fryer Painswick'.



...and the Local History Society

At the November meeting Ian Mackintosh gave one of his highly informative and stimulating talks entitled Prosperity and Decline Around Stroudend Tything Mills. It focused on the wool cloth industry on the boundaries of the Slad and Painswick brooks. The production of very fine cloth was well established here in the 17th century and milling families such as the Webbs were already very wealthy as inventories of their possessions demonstrate.

Ian explained the skills involved and how the early part of the process determines both fine- and medium-quality cloths. Scribbling, carding, spinning and weaving were all hard, dirty, slow and laborious jobs and often poorly paid. Much of the cloth produced here went via London to the East through the East India Company or the Hudson Bay Company and some prosperous family dynasties were formed in Painswick. The five local mills in particular were occupied by a small number of families for more than two centuries and Ian showed how the clothiers apparently worked together to sustain their success. They invested much of their money in the building or acquiring of large houses and other mills over a large local area.

The audience concluded that the legacy of this is what we see in Painswick today, though housing for the many wool industry poor has long since been disguised through building conversion. The next meeting will take place on Tuesday, 20th January at the Croft School, starting at 7.30pm, when Geoff Sandles will give a presentation on Pubs and Breweries of the Stroud Valleys. Everyone is welcome.

Carol Maxwell

BEACO-DOKU

Derived from Sudoku, *Beacon-doku* replaces the numbers with letters. Last month's answer used the 'BEACON' - as you can see.

In case there is anyone wanting to try again, this month try 'TURKEY'.

Your challenge is to fill the blank squares in the grid so that each column, each row and each block of six squares contains each of the six letters, without repetition...



	Y				
					Y
T			R		
			E		R

N	E	A	C	B	O
B	O	C	N	E	A
O	N	B	E	A	C
C	A	E	O	N	B
A	C	N	B	O	E
E	B	O	A	C	N

If you can smile when things go wrong, you have someone in mind to blame.

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The Sierras

I have just returned from the Town Hall in the next village (about 8 miles) after paying our Council Tax bill.

There have been some grumbles because it has increased to 168 Euros including the water rate.... PER YEAR.

For that we have the rubbish collected twice each week (three times in summer because of the heat), every three weeks the whole village is swept and cleaned by a team of redoubtable ladies who also tend and prune the rose bushes in the village square and attend to any weeds growing between the paving stones. During the Spring they paint the cemetery walls as well. The Council has also recently replaced our street lights.

Unlike Painswick PC, our council is elected politically, like Stroud DC but very much smaller, yet has wide powers.

Because we live on the edge of a National Park the Planning Department is very powerful and refuses most applications for new buildings unlike the questionable goings on down on The Costas. In fact not many bother, knowing there will be a refusal.

2009 - optimism

The Stroud News and Journal, for its Christmas edition, invited several civic leaders including the mayors and chairmen of five town and parish councils to share their views in its columns. As not all Beacon readers may have seen the Journal's Christmas edition we are publishing Painswick Parish Council Chairman Terry Parker's message here.

2008 started with many parishioners still reeling from the effects of the A46 closure at Salmon Springs. However in February the road was reopened and life began to return to normality. For Painswick's businesses it has been a slow recovery process but there is good reason to be optimistic with various initiatives taking place, one of which being the creation of a Painswick local businesses' group called "Painswick Matters".

Community life is thriving and this has been reflected in various awards, not the least of which was Painswick winning the Bledisloe Cup Large Villages section. There was also recognition in several categories of the Calor Village of the Year competition. The Parish Council gained Quality status at the beginning of the year - one of the first in the county to gain

Their methods do not include consultation for major Municipal works. The first we knew about the new street lights was a man on a ladder up the side of our house drilling holes for a lamp bracket! I suppose at least things get done without months of inquiries. I must say however, that the lights are rather splendid.

All our taxes, apart from income tax, are paid to Local Government, including car road tax. This tax varies depending on where you live. It is most expensive in the Cities. Here, we pay about half the UK scale. All monies are ring fenced to pay for local road repairs, signage and so on. Provincial Government look after the motorways. There is also a tax to pay when buying or selling a car, based on its make, model and year of first registration. Usually the buyer and seller go halves, although it is the buyer who is actually liable. We sold our old MOD Land Rover (you may have seen it around Painswick some years ago) only to discover that after we had registered it as a Spanish vehicle they classed it from that date and charged us as if it was almost brand new, which caused some hurried re-negotiations with the buyer!

We pay a small tax annually on the land area on which our house stands (times 2 to include upstairs!). There is a tax to stop anyone parking across your drive or garage. The Town Hall will issue an official sign to put up, renewed annually.

Local builders do not use skips, rubble is piled up in the street. If it stretches too far into the road there is a tax to pay - by the householder not the builder!. So rubble is usually cleaned up and removed every day of the project.

A rather posh calendar is given to each household every year with views of the local area, showing phases of the moon (for the farmers), saints days, fiesta days and most important the dates when all these taxes are due!

I did tell you some things are a bit medieval - phases of the moon? Grapevines must not be pruned back until after the second full moon of the year. Peppers are roasted in the street during the sickle phase in October ready for the November Mantanzas..... but that's another story.

Christopher and Geraldine Piper-Short

the accreditation. In March Stroud's Member of Parliament David Drew presented the Fairtrade Foundation certificate to Painswick. The Croft School received considerable praise for the part played by the pupils in gaining the award with the youngsters showing a commendable understanding of the difficulties faced by the world's underprivileged.

Painswick is only one of the four villages that make up the parish, the others being Edge, Sheepscombe and Slad. The villagers in these communities have been very active with Sheepscombe's new village hall in particular receiving considerable praise. Edge village hall is about to undergo renovation work including improved facilities.

Looking towards 2009, there is justifiable optimism for the future of our villages but there is no room for complacency. For example, the need to provide reasonably priced accommodation for our young people is a continuing concern.

Best wishes to your readers for a very Happy Christmas and an untroubled New Year.

Terry Parker Chairman Painswick Parish Council

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Letters

The inclusion of a letter does not imply that the Beacon endorses the views expressed.

Ann Dorman writes, per December's item;

'A bit of fun to share':

MaximuS the bear, would like it known that he is Mascot for the MULTIPLE Sclerosis Resource Centre, not 'Muscular' as his grandma wrote!

He asks for understanding for her 'senior' Guardian- reading moment.

Contributors are reminded of the closing date for copy, as printed on the back page each month; this being a tight cut-off date for our editing the next issue.

We have noticed, of late, that we sometimes receive two fairly weighty items for an event two months hence. Unfortunately this can mean that we become short of space for the one closest to the date of the event itself, which means we may seek to precis the second one to the disadvantage of the organisers. We much prefer a short 'advance notice' and the most important pre-event item later.

Under New Management! Gaslight – in April

Under the new Director George Kraker, the Players are now preparing "Gaslight", a late 19th Century Thriller by Patrick Hamilton, to be put on from the 24th to 26th April. George has many years of experience in the production of amateur theatricals and already has a tight schedule of rehearsals and production requirements drawn up.

Please note that auditions have been put back one week and will now be held in the Painswick Centre on Tuesday the 20th January at 7.30pm.

There are five speaking roles: Mrs Bella Manningham aged 30 to 45, her husband, Mr Jack Manningham aged 45-55, the housekeeper, Elizabeth aged 35 to 60, the maid, Nancy aged about 20 and the detective, Rough aged 45-60. Whatever your age, it is amazing what stage makeup and lighting can do to make you look years older – or younger!

Everyone is welcome to audition for these roles. The auditions will be held as readings so please phone George on 01452.864755 for the text as most people read more fluently having seen the text previously. You do NOT have to learn it by heart!

If you don't want to audition, we need people to help with costumes (which will be mainly hired), hair and make-up, props, stage management, painting scenery and front of house. Please contact Charles Dorman on 814548.

Backstage work is just as important as what goes on onstage, indeed is essential for a successful production, so do come along and join in.

And finally, the next play reading will take place on Tuesday 13th January at 7.30pm in the Green Room. The play is "Present Laughter" by Noel Coward.

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Painswick Library News

PRICE CUT- all DVDs can now be hired for just £1 overnight. As Painswick library is closed on Mondays this means that you can take out a DVD on Saturday morning and return in on Tuesday – all for just £1!

By popular request, Baby Bounce and Rhyme sessions will take place each week on Tuesdays at 2.30 pm. Do come along and share some new songs and rhymes with your babies and toddlers.



The next Storytime will be on Tuesday 20th January at 3.45pm when there will be stickers for children who attend as well as something to make and take home.

We have enlarged the collection of teen books – and don't forget – all juniors are entitled to free reservations, so we can always order your books FREE!

For adults we have an extra selection of non-fiction on loan from Stroud Library. This is on a trolley in the centre of the library.

Just a reminder: if you have a library card you can book for up to two hours free each day on the three people's network computers in the library. This will give you free access to a number of resources including Ancestry. The library service pays the subscription so you don't have to!

Your library staff looks forward to serving you in the New Year.

Opening Hours

Monday	Closed All Day
Tuesday	10.00am – 1.00pm and 2.00pm – 7.00pm
Wednesday	Closed All Day
Thursday	10.00am – 1.00pm
Friday	2.00pm – 5.00pm
Saturday	10.00am - Noon

Kath, Lesley and Sheila



They came a wassailing

As has become traditional, on Monday, 22nd December, there were Christmas carols around the War Memorial.

The singers then wassailed their way around Painswick, calling at the Royal Oak, the Falcon, and elsewhere, before finishing with mince pies and (much needed!) mulled wine here at Gyde House.



Weber's Mass in

Angela New - ing tells us that Painswick Singers have set themselves the challenge of performing this Mass on Good Friday, 10th April, in St Mary's Church - written in 1818, the second of three such compositions.

Calling all carers

Carers can enjoy a day of pampering at Cotswold Care Hospice in Minchinhampton on Tuesday 24th February.

The day is free of charge and open to anyone who is a carer in Gloucestershire. They do not have to have a connection with the hospice to attend. Among the treatments on offer will be manicures, massage, facial, reiki, arts therapy and reflexology. Lunch and refreshments will also be served.

To enjoy the event, which runs from 10.30am to 3.30pm, at Cotswold Care in Burleigh Lane, Minchinhampton, please phone 01453.886868 to book a place.

The Beacon on Boxing Day

The Beacon has something of interest every day of the year.

This morning before sunrise – my dogs don't understand about days off – the lonely cry of a *buzzard* haunted the still air. Two *ravens*, harassed by *crows*, broke the spell; and under cover in some bushes, a tiny *wren* sung its startlingly loud winter notes. *Mole* activity has increased since the frost let up and *badgers* – great opportunists – have followed the tunnels to glean unsuspecting worms and insects that have fallen into the empty spaces. In the woods there are good examples of the bracket fungus 'Turks Tails' on old rotting stumps. On an old bonfire site mosses and tiny *wild strawberry* plants have appeared. On an old grass pile I found the remains of a *rabbit*, some *fox's* evening meal.

Life goes on; one thing feeds upon another by the laws of necessity. By the side of a track were growing *Carlina Thistles* an everlasting flower that opens and closes according to the weather. Looking at it I was reminded of the 'rays of the sun' and discovered in a book later that its European cousin the *Giant Chardon Soleil* (sun) was nailed to the door for good luck. So much of our folklore has been forgotten or lost.

If you see this little plant let it remind you, symbolically, of the return of the sun and lengthening daylight.

Clare Overhill

ArchiTecs

Last month we were testing the particularly observant, and knowledgeable. Just where are these initials displayed, and exactly what words do they represent? They are to be seen atop the Bledisloe sign outside the



Town Hall, and refer, precisely, to the Campaign to Protect Rural England - whose logo is also shown here.

The even more observant may be able to tell us exactly where they can readily see this stone carving.



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Cardynham House BISTRO

With apologies we will be closed from 5th - 26th January. Please ring and leave a message to book after 26th January and particularly for Valentine Day.

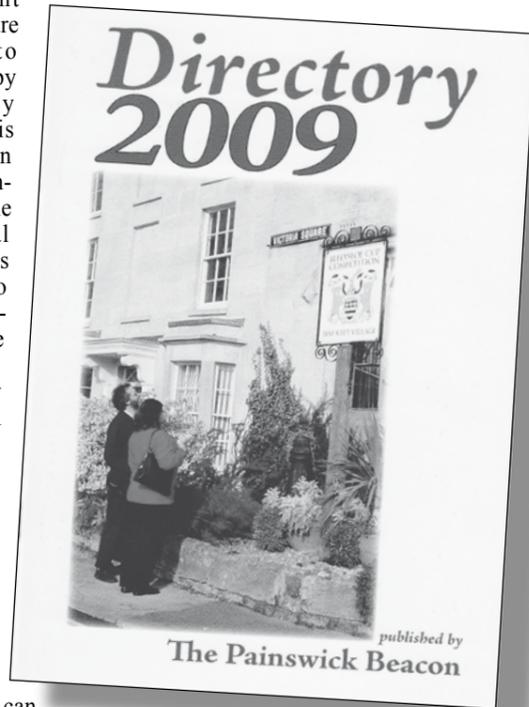
Ring Marin or Catalina on
01452 810030

The Directory

By way of reminder, the full Directory can be accessed on line at our web site www.painswickbeacon.org.uk

We print more than are required to enclose copy with every Beacon, this so that we can make a quantity available to our local estate agents to pass on to those moving into the area.

If you know of a situation in which an additional copy would be useful, such as the lounge area of a b&b, do please get in touch and we will see what we can do.



The easiest way to find something lost around the house is to buy a replacement.

Mistletoe ... Wine and mince Pies!

The Society celebrated the end of the year with a fascinating talk about mistletoe - fact, myth and legend.

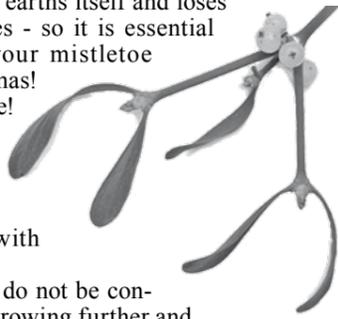
Dr. Jones explained that there are 1392 species of mistletoe throughout the world but we only have the hardy variety that can withstand an average temperature of no lower than 16 degrees in July.

The intriguing sight of mistletoe being gathered on hessian sacking rests on the belief that if the mistletoe touches the ground it earths itself and loses its magical properties - so it is essential that you hang up your mistletoe for a magical Christmas! Men, however, beware! Every time you kiss under the mistletoe you must remove a berry! Advice - check for bunches with plentiful berries.

If gunfire is heard do not be concerned. Mistletoe is growing further and higher from the ground and has been known to be harvested by precision bombardment.

Our next meeting covers bees, pollination and beekeeping at **2.30pm on 14th January** in the Town Hall. Please come and join us. No specialist knowledge required, just the wish to 'bee jolly'. (N.B. Jolly Bee is a variety of geranium.)

Elizabeth Gardam 813337



The Painswick Beacon detailed as far as space permits

THE VILLAGE DIARY

JANUARY

Sat	10	Conservatives New Year Party: £7 to include glass of wine & finger snacks. Tel: 814452 / 813841 / 813259 / 812156	Church Rooms	6.00 to 9.00pm
Sun	11	Plough Sunday Service	St Mary's Church	4.00pm
Mon	12	Yoga (Mondays) contact Kim 812623	Sheepscombe Vill. Hall	6.30 to 8.00pm & 8.15 to 9.45pm
Tue	13	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
		Tai Chi classes - Tuesdays - £6 p.p. per class Painswick Players play-reading "Present Laughter" - Noel Coward	Town Hall Green Room, Painswick Centre	8.00pm 7.30pm
Wed	14	Yoga (Wednesdays) contact Kim 812623 Bingo: Wednesdays - Tel. Ann, 813911/Liz, 813139 Horticultural Society: Bees, Pollination and Beekeeping - B Welch NDB	Sheepscombe Vill. Hall Painswick Centre Mr Town Hall	9.30 to 11.00am 7.30 to 10.00pm 2.30pm
Thu	15	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	Painswick Centre Town Hall Town Hall Town Hall Painswick Centre	9.30 to 11.00am 9.30am 12.00 to 1.00pm 12.30 to 1.30pm 2.30 to 4.30pm
Fri	16	Country Market - Coffee available - Fridays	Town Hall	10.00am
Sun	18	Painswick Beacon Conservation Group scrub clearance working party, (location check 812709)	Painswick Beacon	10.00am to 1.00pm
Mon	19	Week of Prayer for Christian Unity - 19th - 25th Community Lunch - Hosts CTAP	Christ Church Hall	12 noon to 1.15pm
Tue	20	Local History Society: Pubs & Breweries of the Stroud Valleys - Geoff Sandles Painswick Players Auditions for "Gaslight"	Croft School Painswick Centre, main hall	7.30pm 7.30pm
Wed	21	Probus: Neither Rhyme or Reason - Ron Nott Women's Fellowship: "A Policeman's Lot" - Harold Clarke Parish Council	Shires Room, Falcon Christ Church Hall Town Hall	10.00am 7.30pm 7.30pm
Thu	22	CTAP Christian Unity Week Talk & Afternoon Tea Music Appreciation Group - Concert	Church Rooms Cotswold Room, Painswick Centre	2.30pm 7.30pm
Sat	24	Copy dateline for February Beacon		
Sun	25	CTAP Unity Agape - an evening celebrating our shared Christianity	Christ Church Hall	6.30pm
Mon	26	Community Lunch - Hosts - Tennis Club	Christ Church Hall	12 noon to 1.15pm

FEBRUARY

Sun	1	Painswick Beacon Conservation Group scrub clearance working party, (location check 812709)	Painswick Beacon	10.00am to 1.00pm
Mon	2	Community Lunch - Hosts - The Horticultural Society	Christ Church Hall	12 noon to 1.15pm
Tue	3	Bird Club: World Wild Fowl and their conservation - Graham Maples	Town Hall	7.30pm
Wed	4	Probus: British Energy -Future Energy Policy - David Norfolk	Shires Room, Falcon	10.00am
Thu	5	Cotswold Care Support Group Music Appreciation Group - Glazunov	Ashwell House Cotswold Room, Painswick Centre	2.30pm 7.30pm
Sat	7	February Issue of The Painswick Beacon published		
Mon	9	Community Lunch - Hosts - Croft School	Christ Church Hall	12 noon to 1.15pm
Wed	11	Horticultural Society: The Herbaceous Border - Mr J A Perkins	Town Hall	2.30pm
Thu	12	Music Appreciation Group - Outing to Welsh National Opera; The Elixir of Love - Donizetti	Millennium Centre, Cardiff Bay	7.15pm
Sat	14	Theatre Club Outing to Malvern Valentine Tapas Candle-lit Romantic Evening	The Falcon Olivas Delicatessen	1.00pm 6.30 to 10.30pm

PROPERTY REPORT for January from Murrays

Welcome to 2009! We extend our best wishes for a happy and successful New Year and hope you all enjoyed the seasonal festivities.

What is going to happen this year? You may well ask!

Clearly the market has slowed down considerably during the last six months, probably more than anyone could have imagined at this time last year. There have been considerable drops in the property market; at the time of writing up to 12% in London and the South East, up to 9% country wide and even less in Gloucestershire. However, it is very important that people are upbeat about the property market and the credit crunch because without optimism we cannot hope to get through it, as we have always done in previous difficult times.

We have had a buoyant December, therefore there is still some confidence out there, and surprisingly the properties that Murrays have sold at the lower end of the market means that the drop governed by the Bank of England and VAT is obviously making some sort of effect, therefore helping the market to move forwards in a more positive direction. With the bottom

of the market moving again we are predicting that by 2010 we will hopefully start to see a levelling out in prices and perhaps even a rise in Cotswold house prices. Buying property at the moment is mid to long term but is a safer way of investing your money, as prices will always increase whether it is now or in the future.

Even through this "credit crunch crisis" we have taken on some lovely new properties, Jubilate - an ecologically friendly property in Blakewell Mead, Hambutts Barn - deceptively spacious in Edge Lane, and 1 Diamond Villas - a traditional Victorian cottage in Haresfield.

Properties Under Offer are 5 Juniper Cottages in Wick Street, 2 Gyde House and Nightingale Cottage in Ruscombe.

Sold Properties are 7 Hyett Orchard, The Croft in Pitchcombe and 33 Ashwell.

The Murrays team will continue their positive negotiating skills for 2009 and once again wish you a prosperous and healthy New Year.

James C Murray Partner, Painswick Office

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Sun	15	Painswick Beacon Conservation Group scrub clearance working party, (location check 812709)	Painswick Beacon	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
Mon	23	Community Lunch - Hosts - Christian Aid	Christ Church Hall	12 noon to 1.15pm
MARCH				
Sun	1	Painswick Beacon Conservation Group scrub clearance working party, (location check 812709)	Painswick Beacon	10.00am to 1.00pm
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	Ashwell House	10.30am
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	Beacon Village Quiz	Painswick Centre	6.45 for 7.15pm
Sun	15	Painswick Beacon Conservation Group scrub clearance working party, (location check 812709)	Painswick Beacon	10.00am to 1.00pm
Mon	16	Community Lunch - Hosts - Conservation Society	Christ Church Hall	12 noon to 1.15pm
Tue	17	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
Sun	29	Painswick Beacon Conservation Group scrub clearance working party, (location check 812709)	Painswick Beacon	10.00am to 1.00pm
APRIL				
Thu	2	Music Appreciation Group: Wilhelm Furtwangler	Cotswold Room, Painswick Centre	7.30pm
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
Fri	10	Painswick Singers - Weber Mass E b	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	Painswick Players production "Gaslight" - a late 19th century thriller by Patrick Hamilton - also 25th & 26th	Painswick Centre	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
MAY				
Sat	2	Painswick Music Soc. Concert - The Barbirolli Quartet	St Mary's Church	3.00pm

PLANNING MATTERS

A summary of information from the Parish Council

NEW APPLICATIONS

THE OLD EBWORTH CENTRE, THE CAMP Install first floor metal rail guard.

3 WORDINGS MOUNT, SHEEPS-COMBE Extension to dwelling and cladding with natural stone.

ENDWAYS, SHEEPS-COMBE Erection of double garage. Demolition of existing garage.

HILLMANS COTTAGE, PARADISE Erection of extensions and alterations.

DOWN FARM, SLAD Addition of roof to existing horse walker.

PYLL HOUSE, SHEEPS-COMBE Erection of a field shelter.

SHEEPS-COMBE VILLAGE HALL Single storey extension.

THE BRIARS, LONGRIDGE, SHEEPS-COMBE Erection of 2 storey extension.

GLENDALE COTTAGE, VICARAGE STREET Internal and external alterations.

ORCHARD HOUSE, COTSWOLD MEAD Conversion of part of house loft into bedroom and bathroom. Provision of external stairs & doors to existing room above garage.

BEECH HOUSE, THE PARK Replacement dwelling with attached garage.

PYLL BARN, SHEEPS-COMBE Single storey extension to the rear of the property.

CONSENT

2 WOODBINE COTTAGE, SLAD Erection of replacement dwelling.

SPRING COTTAGE, STEPPING STONE LANE Erection of single storey extension.

MARY'S ACRE, STAMAGES LANE Erection of a porch.

SPRING COTTAGE, TICKLESTONE LANE Demolish existing one and two storey rear extensions and dormer and replace with new one and two storey rear extensions and associated alterations.

GLENDALE, VICARAGE STREET Removal of block pier. Erection of extensions.

BEECHFARM, BEECHLANE, SHEEPS-COMBE WARD Erection of extension to provide annexe accommodation.

REFUSAL

HILLMANS COTTAGE, PARADISE (Full Planning Permission) Erection of extensions and alterations. Installation of solar panels.

JUBILATE, BLAKEWELL MEAD Remedial works to cedar tree.

JUBILATE, BLAKEWELL MEAD Erection of a dwelling.

AGRICULTURAL NOTIFICATION

SKINNERS MILL, STEPPING STONE LANE Erection of storage barn.

PLAN WITHDRAWN

HILLMANS COTTAGE, PARADISE (Listed Building Consent) Erection of extensions and alterations. Installation of solar panels.

Remember you can keep distant friends and relatives in touch with Painswick via the Beaconline web edition painswickbeacon.org.uk

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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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MINI-ADS

Plain Paper Fax, includes answering machine, photocopying and fax forwarding ability. Full working order, original box, instructions and spare carbon ribbon. Charitable donation please. 814749

Waxed pine bunkbeds with 4 ft bottom bed and 3 ft top. With or without mattresses. In good condition. Currently assembled but will require re-assembly. £40 Tel 812633

Pre Ski classes continue 5th January until mid March at Painswick Rugby Club on Monday evenings from 6.30pm. Skiers or fitness freaks welcome!!! Five Valleys Physiotherapy Clinic 01453.755948

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

Dog walking/dog sitting in your own home. University student available January. 812462

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.

JOB-OPS

Richmond Painswick seeks:- Bank Weekend & Evening Receptionists

We are looking for people with outgoing and empathetic personalities who are enthusiastic, confident and well organised. Previous experience desirable.

Weekend Housekeeper

If you have proven experience in house-keeping and can maintain exceptional standards whilst respecting the privacy of residents, we would like to hear from you.

For further information contact Stephanie Ellis on 813902 or visit www.richmond-villages.com

JOB-OPS is a Beacon service to advertise job opportunities with Painswick based employers. The charge is £5.00 per 30 words, paid by cheque to 'The Painswick Beacon', in advance. Text and cheque (only) to Dermot Cassidy, 1 Painswick Heights, Yokehouse Lane, GL6 7QS.

The Personal Column

Babies

Congratulations to PATRICK and ERIN HARRIS, son and daughter-in-law of Ros Harris, on the birth of their son Mackenzie Angier on 13th October (pictured), a great grandchild for Diana Feilden. They live in Townsville, Queensland, where Pat is a consultant in tropical medicine. The family name 'Angier' goes back through Ros's father, Major Pat Angier of the Gloucestershire Regiment and all are descended from Huguenot refugees!



Engagement

Congratulations to ANNA DAWS and BRADLEY SEEMAYER whose engagement was announced recently.

Diamond wedding

Congratulations to FRANCES and WILF WARREN of 11 St Mary's Mead who celebrate their Diamond Wedding on 24th January. Their family and friends send their love and heartfelt congratulations for an event to be celebrated in style.

Hilda Musty

..... who died on Christmas Eve, was our Painswickian of the Year in January 2005, and we paraphrase words we used then.

Hilda Musty was a lovely lady - and so said many of you, a person with a self-effacing but gracious manner.

Hilda came to live in Painswick in 1937. She married Reg, a real Bow-wow, in 1943 in Painswick Church and was proud of the fact that their reception was held at Painswick House - Miss Margaret Hyett being Reg's godmother. Theirs was a very happy marriage though sadly Reg died in 1982. "I couldn't have had a better one," Hilda said of him.

To talk with Hilda for just a few minutes and one knew why she was nominated as a Painswickian.

She made you feel cherished; a caring, positive lady to whom people obviously mattered - she was the first to help anyone in difficulties. Among expressions used were "...she is totally reliable and always working for and thinking of others", "...she really does care about her friends and neighbours", "...willing to do anything for anyone at any time".

Hilda was always there, supporting and helping in the background. Her kind deeds were noted by many, though she never sought recognition. According to so many of you, this is what made her special. Her life in Painswick had been busy, happy and eventful. She worked in the school meals service for 23 years, at Painswick School and the Croft. This she enjoyed very much adding that the children keep you young. She was also active in Painswick social life as a member of Wives Fellowship, the Local History Society, the Puffins, the Bird Club (which she joined when she gave up playing badminton) and the Horticultural Society. St Mary's Church was always an important part of her life here. "I just love the village," she said "people really matter and I've so many good friends. Hilda is survived by two daughters, five grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren of whom she was immensely proud.

Hilda was a true 'Village Treasure' in every way. "She epitomises what we in Painswick feel about being a good neighbour" wrote one person. With her passing we have lost just such a neighbour.



Emerald wedding

LEN and RACHEL TAYLOR were married 55 years ago on 9th January 1954, and attract the sincere congratulations of Beacon colleagues, their family, and numerous friends.

Get well soon

Our best wishes for a speedy recovery to DAVID MANNERING, PAM WESTCOTT and MIKE BUTTREY.

Welcome

We are pleased to welcome both Mrs CLARK and Major WEST, each of whom moved in recently, to Richmond Painswick, and Mrs HAUTING to 7 Hyett Orchard, and NICK HALLARD and Ms BUTCHER to The Croft at Pitchcombe, and Mrs M WILLIAMS to 33 Ashwell

Deaths

Our sincere sympathies to the family and friends of HILDA MUSTY and DIANE MURRAY who have died recently. Also of PAUL MELLISH VC in New Hampshire, second son of Captain the Rev E N Mellish and son-in-law of Colonel and Mrs Bagot.

NEXT ISSUE

Publication date
SATURDAY
7th FEBRUARY

Dateline for all copy
including Mini-Ads - Display advertising - Diary - Club news - etc using E-mail or the Beacon post box
SATURDAY
24th JANUARY

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