

The Painswick Beacon

Sine praeiudicio

Volume 33 Number 3

June 2010

Big History Weekend

Painswick Local History Society will host this year's Gloucestershire Rural Community Council's annual history afternoon on Sunday, 13th June. This is an important event in the county calendar to which all other history and related societies are invited. The planned programme



for the afternoon comprises a comprehensive exhibition, introductory talks, guided walks and a tea.

Undaunted by the road closures and consequent inconvenience, the History Society is determined to make

the occasion a great success. To this end, much work has gone into producing a fine display for the exhibition including a contribution from the Croft School. On Saturday, 12th June the exhibition, our biggest yet, will be open to the public in the Town Hall throughout the day. It will cover a wide range of subjects on Painswick's history, with information, photographs, artefacts and publications.

There will even be refreshments available. Do come along for this one-day event.

Carol Maxwell

June

- an exceptional month

Few can remember as severe an interference with the flow of village life as complete closure of the A46 at its most sensitive point. Dire warnings were uttered, prophecies made, and many 'cunning plans' devised to minimise transport inconvenience.

The Beacon has tried to carry the very latest monthly information about the essential works to renew the gas main through the heart of the village, and we hope our latest efforts on page 4 will be both helpful and the last.

Given the approach of impending disarray it is astonishing that there is more copy and diversity of events reflected in these pages than ever before in a Beacon. In addition to the dozen or so articles which are carried every month, such as reports upon the Parish Council, there are nearly 60 other contributions, snippets of news, or directly commissioned articles.

Drawing all this copy together one realises that, among the many characteristics of this village of ours, the very best qualities emerge even stronger when there is adversity, as happened with the floods of 2007 and the havoc they brought to the A46 at Salmon Springs.

Our pages are brim full of events and activities which happen to coincide with the latest adversity - so a fine time to go-with-the-flow and stroll along to more than usual.

Ed.

H4H Help for Heroes

On Thursday last week Douglas Hamilton-Cox walked through the village. Of itself not a strange event, but probe a little and a remarkable tale unfolds.

Douglas, an ex-Sapper who enlisted as a boy soldier when he was 15, served his apprenticeship in the Royal Engineers followed by nine years of active service including Malaya and Thailand. He acquired advanced skills in the use of heavy machinery, the heaviest in fact, and continued with such after leaving HM Forces.

As with many at this time he was moved to play his part in the widening support for those serving now and whose injuries and associated needs deserve the closest attention, and decided to walk in order to attract sponsorship between his home in Bridford on the eastern edge of Dartmoor to Selly Oak in Birmingham, the Royal Centre for Defence Medicine, where injured servicemen and women - not least those with limb loss or impairment - receive one part of their medical attention upon being



flown home to the UK.

His route had taken him through Nailsworth and Stroud and as we went to press last weekend he was being officially welcomed into Gloucester (where he first enlisted) and then Cheltenham where, as he told the Beacon, "the Rotary Club have pulled out the stops to support him". Andy and Arthur Lock provided R&R for three nights at their 'Meadowcote' home as a contribution to his efforts while Douglas, supported by his wife Sue, was in central Gloucestershire, and Rachel Taylor fulfilled a personal desire to hand him a cheque when meeting him there. Some 250 miles covered and over £7,000 already raised, Douglas exuded modesty about his personal efforts but intense pride in his service connections and the role they are performing today in Afghanistan. And so do we.

On other pages this month - shuttle bus timetable, **new signs**, countdown to allotments, **proceeds from diners**, the fish in park, **friendly dogs**, the fetes approach, **new butterfly hunting**, Sunday jazzers, **Rococo '... like it'**, the Beacon cleansed, **she's around the mountain**, appealing bureau, **Mary's home remembered**, piano supremo, **parish meeting report**, 2eurowheels42, **under 17s final achievement**, birds at dawn.

The meeting was attended by 6 members of the public.

PLANNING

Planning meeting time and duration

Chairman David Hudson suggested that the Parish Council meeting which usually starts at 7.30pm be brought forward to 7.15pm as the planning meeting rarely required more than ten to fifteen minutes and only started at 7.30pm when a lengthier planning meeting was needed. After a short discussion councillors decided to leave matters as they were. It would be confusing for the public if the Parish Council did not have a fixed start time.

Planning applications – work on trees

Members were circulated with summary sheets of current planning applications. David Hudson mentioned two in particular – both concerning trees. The first was an oak tree in Castle Hale which overhangs Kemp's Lane and the second concerned 5 trees at The Churn where several councillors agreed to attend a site meeting.

Planning procedures

With councillors now distributed unevenly around the village, David Hudson proposed that planning applications should be sent to the nearest member to the proposed work who should carry out a site inspection, talk to neighbours and gather as much information as possible to report back to the Parish Council.

FREDERICK GYDE TRUST MEETING

As the Planning meeting finished early, Terry Parker proposed that the Frederick Gyde Trust trustees consider a request from Libby Graesser to use the Trust owned strip of land running parallel to the A46 from the war memorial to the bus shelter for Morris Dancers on the opening day of the Painswick Arts Festival on the 31st July. The trustees agreed to the request as long as the flat area of grass only was used, below but not around the war memorial.

THE PAINSWICK REC TRUST

The Painswick Rec Trustees then agreed that there was sufficient time before the start of the main Parish Council meeting to consider a further request from Libby Graesser to use the Rec for car parking for the opening day of the Arts Festival. She estimates between 1000 and 2000 people will come to the opening day. The parking area must be clearly marked and the Festival organizers will provide marshals to ensure cars park in the correct place. Also the cricket pitch will be roped off. However the use of the Rec for parking will depend on the weather. Ann

Burgess Watson suggested charging for car parking. There was a majority vote approving the use of the Rec for parking on this occasion.

PARISH COUNCIL

Election of officers

Terry Parker was re-elected as Chairman and Martin Slinger as Vice Chairman of Painswick Parish Council. A full list of councillors, committee representatives and representatives on other bodies can be seen at the Town Hall.

Ian James

Ian James of Sheepscombe was welcomed by the meeting as a co-opted member.

Allotments

Caroline White told the meeting that public consultation on allotment sites closed at 4.00pm on 14th May and the working group is now assessing the responses and comments received on the 176 feedback forms submitted. An independent land agent will be appointed who will assess each site's suitability. The cost of the agent will be contained within the £2000 budget provided for the Allotment Working Group. On completion of these tasks a full report with recommendations will be written. An open meeting will be held on Wednesday 30th June to present both the process used by the working group and the findings. A further ten days will then be made available for comments on the recommendations. The report and subsequent comments will be passed to the Parish Council for review and consideration with the final decision being taken at the Parish Council meeting in July.

Ela Pathak-Sen stressed firstly that where the same person had submitted their site preferences in various ways (feedback form, letter, email etc), that person's vote would only be counted once and secondly that all communications and comments, whether submitted to the working group, other councillors or to the clerk would be considered.

Terry Parker told the meeting that he had received letters on the question of allotment sites which raised procedural matters. He read out a letter received from Leonard Chittenden which included the statements that "the Council is hell-bent on siting the allotments on Gyde Field"

and that "the Council's motive is to extract retribution for being foiled in their previous attempt". The meeting viewed this letter as combative, non-inclusive and unfair. Members expressed their confidence in the impartiality of the working party and were adamant that no decision would be railroaded through the Parish Council.

Tourist Information and the old Lloyds Bank building

Terry Parker read out a letter from Anne Smith. She was pleased to report that 16 volunteers plus four reserves had come forward, sufficient to provide a Tourist Information Service from 10.00am to 1.00pm and from 2.00pm to 5.00pm Monday to Friday and from 10.00am to 1.00pm on Saturday. Stroud District Council will provide some funding and it was hoped to receive some from Gloucestershire County Council. In her letter Anne Smith indicated several ways money could be raised from a café to selling works of art and renting out spaces for events.

Terry Parker then confirmed that the survey report on the bank building had just been received and there were some concerns about damp in the building. A site meeting was called for Friday 21st May. He said that if all outstanding issues could be sorted out, the Tourist Information Office should be able to open on the 1st July.

Gas Main - road works

Martin Slinger confirmed that the A46 would be closed to all traffic from Tuesday 1st June for four weeks. The Stagecoach 46 bus service would be diverted at Pitchcombe and Brockworth via Gloucester. A minibus service would be provided from Stamages Lane car park to Pullens Road using the back streets of the village. There will also be a school bus service running from Broadham field. For a full report on bus services, see separate article.

Rob Lewis emphasized the lack of co-ordination for the road works and that there was no obligation on the part of the contractors, Morrisons, to contribute to the cost of the replacement bus service, though in fact they have offered £500 per week. (The estimated cost is £2500 per week.) He also said that the County Council was not monitoring the works, that the temporary traffic lights from



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Stamages Lane to the Lych Gate were not synchronized with the one-way section fixed lights, the Parish Council had not been kept informed of problems and no one accepted responsibility when things went wrong. He called for a formal meeting with the County Council to ensure that matters were better organized in the future.

Churchyard grass cutting and yew tree pruning

Terry Parker had received a letter from a Church Warden of St. Mary's asking for more financial help with grass cutting and pruning of the yew trees in the churchyard. As already mentioned the strip of land between the A46 and the churchyard belongs to the Frederick Gyde Trust and the Parish Council as trustees arranges for grass cutting and tree pruning independently from the churchyard. Painswick Parish Council already provides some financial assistance to St Marys and the Church Warden suggests reducing costs by co-ordinating grass cutting and tree pruning or by an increase in the donation. The letter was passed to the finance committee. However any increase in financial assistance would only apply from the next financial year.

Painswick Summer Arts Festival

Libby Graesser, a busy lady this month, is asking for financial assistance with the banner to be hung over the A46 advertising the festival. Apparently special brackets will be required, a hydraulic platform ('cherry picker') is needed to fit the brackets and insurance cover for the contractor. The clerk summarised the financial help already agreed - £450 for posters and leaflets, £250 for the banner and £300 contingency. The meeting agreed that the brackets were not covered by the contingency figure and that the Parish Council could not afford to give any further financial help. Rob Lewis suggested contacting a local contractor who might do the work at a better price.

Election results

The results of the elections held on 6th May, as they directly affect Painswick

Parliamentary

ANDREWARTHA, Dennis Allan Liberal Democrats 8,955
 CARMICHAEL, Neil The Conservative Party Candidate 23,679
 DREW, David Elliott The Labour and Co-operative Party Candidate 22,380
 LOMAS, Alan Ernest Independent 116
 PARKER, Steve U K Independence Party (UK I P) 1,301
 WHITESIDE, Martin Green Party 1,542
 Electorate 78,305; Turnout 58,087 (74.19%)

ELECTED: Neil Carmichael

District Council

ADAMS, Peter Ralph Green Party 717
 MOORE, Joan The Labour and Co-operative Party Candidate 481
 RODEN, Frances Conservative Party Candidate 1,716
 Electorate: 3,679; Turnout: 2,962 (80.51%)

ELECTED: Frances Roden

Allotment countdown

Painswick Parish Council Allotment Working Group will be holding an Open Meeting on Wednesday 30th June at 7.00pm in Painswick Town Hall.

The Allotment Working Group will present to the public their proposed recommendations for an allotment site. They will explain the process they undertook to arrive at these recommendations and make available the information on which they based these recommendations.

The meeting will provide an opportunity for the public to ask questions and provide further comments should they wish.

Following the meeting, a further 10 days will be set aside for further public comments regarding allotments to be received.

All comments received until 10th July 2010 will be considered ahead of submitting the final report and recommendations to the Parish Council for consideration at their meeting in July.

Community Lunch News

Thank you to all who have regularly supported the lunches as well as all the various groups and individuals who have acted as hosts.

The monies raised during 2009/2010 amounted to approx **£1,400.00** which is similar to that of 2008/09, despite varying attendances and the unusually cold winter. This has been divided between Christian Aid and the Door Youth Project, as well as a donation to Christ Church towards their heating bills.

The committee will be meeting later in the summer to decide which local charity to support for 2010/2011 and would be happy to receive any nominations for consideration.

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Sheepscombe Artists

EXHIBITION	
Rupert Aker Oil paintings	Andy Cash Photography
Angela Cash Watercolours, oils	Frances Day Textile art, jewellery
Janet van Rensburg Watercolour flower paintings	Clare Wimperis Oil paintings Pen and ink drawings



Saturday and Sunday
 12-13 June 2010 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.
 The Laurels Jack's Green
 Sheepscombe GL6 7RA
 Refreshments in the garden



The gas works . . . the final phase

The contractors - Morrisons - have, as we go to press, all but completed the works in Stage Two - a very prompt start having been achieved.



Stage Two

17th May to 28th May work on Stamages Lane to Edge Road section of Stroud Road using temporary traffic lights.



Stage Three - from 1st June

Closure of New Street between Gloucester Street/Bisley Street and Victoria Square.

The closure period is not known since it will be dependent upon "what is encountered in the ground". The expectation is until 2nd July at the latest.

At the same time traffic light control between Victoria Square and Edge Road while that section is undertaken by a second gang.



Given the proximity to the Town Hall, it is hoped that fairly frequent updates about progress of works can be passed to the Clerk, Roy Balgobin, and posted on the council's notice board.

Final connection at Edge Road either completed during closure period or one week after closure period with traffic lights.

Public transport arrangements are, to the extent that they have been made available to the Beacon, set out below.

Information accuracy

All information relating to highways on this page has been verified by County Highways, the contractors and/or the Parish Council.

Contacts

As these works are being carried out for Wales and West Utilities the first point of contact is 02920.270653 (this will be advertised on signs on site). If any wish to contact Gloucestershire Highways the number is 08000.514514.

Emergency

Residents who find themselves with an emergency situation as a result of the gas main renewal scheme should call Roy Balgobin on 812722 or 01452.621688.

Bus services during the road closure

There will be a limited bus shuttle service from Stroud to Brockworth and vice-versa via the back streets of Painswick. The times are shown on the tables below. The Beacon has added the times of connecting busses (the 46 and 10) from and to Brockworth. Tickets cost £1.50 return for adults, all concessions are accepted, U16 and schoolchildren are free. The Painswick Shuttle (PS in the tables) service will use a 16 seater minibus operated by Stroud Ring and Ride - 01453 759005. The schools service will use a Stagecoach No. 46 double decker bus which will depart from and arrive at Painswick Rugby club (Broadham field). Information on Stagecoach services is available from 01453 762971.

Please note:

- The last Painswick Shuttle departure from Brockworth at 1700 should wait for the 46 service from Cheltenham due at Brockworth at 1701.
- The operators of the Painswick Shuttle ask passengers to be patient as there might be delays due to congestion on the back streets of Painswick.
- The Painswick Shuttle will stop at all bus stops between Stroud and Brockworth and back, if hailed.
- The Painswick Shuttle service operates on weekdays only.

And finally, please note that the timetable allows the shuttle one minute to travel from Pullens Road to Stamages Lane car park via the back streets. If anyone travels on a bus that achieves this time, please let the Beacon know.

Brockworth to Stroud – Monday to Friday only						
Connecting bus arrival times	Check departure times from Gloucester and Cheltenham					
Brockworth - Route 46 from Cheltenham - arrival time	0747	0851	-	1151	1551	1701
Brockworth - Route 10 from Gloucester - arrival time	-	0850	-	1153	1553	1653
	PS	PS	School	PS	PS	PS
Brockworth, Cross Hands	0800	0900	-	1200	1600	1700
Cranham, opp Royal William	0806	0906	-	1206	1606	1706
Painswick, Chelt Rd, opp Pullens Road	0811	0911	-	1211	1611	1711
Painswick, Stamage's Lane, Car Park	0812	0912	-	1212	1612	1712
Painswick Rugby Club (Broadham)	-	-	0812	-	-	-
Pitchcombe, opp Halfway Pitch	0815	0915	0815	1215	1615	1715

Stroud to Brockworth – Monday to Friday only						
	PS	PS	PS	PS	School	PS
Stroud Archway School					1525	
Stroud, Merrywalks, Bay D	-	0830	1130	1530	1547	1630
Pitchcombe, Halfway Pitch	-	0836	1136	1536	1553	1636
Painswick Rugby Club (Broadham)					1556	
Painswick, Stamage's Lane, Car Park	0730	0839	1139	1539		1639
Painswick, Chelt Road, Pullens Road	0731	0840	1140	1540		1640
Cranham, Royal William	0737	0846	1146	1546		1646
Brockworth, opp Cross Hands	0743	0852	1152	1552		1652
Connecting bus departure times						
Brockworth - Route 46 to Cheltenham	0800	0910	1210	1620		1710
Brockworth - Route 10 to Gloucester	0745	0930	1230	1630		1740



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Painswick Country Market

Fridays 10.00am to 11.00am



Just to reassure our regular customers and indeed new ones.

When the road works reach the area of the Town Hall, we intend to emulate the Windmill Theatre and stay open, so it is "Business as usual".

Remember you can order items by the previous Wednesday: just telephone our Market Manager Mrs Pamela Westcott on 814271 or Miss Patricia Davey on 813232.

Anne Leoni (Secretary)

Fishy business in the car park?

During the road closure Jack, our fish man, will continue to sell his fresh fish in Painswick every Friday morning as usual. The Town Hall car park should be accessible but, if for some reason it is not at any time during the road works, Jack will set up his fish stall in Stamages Lane car park.



New village signs

The renewal of the signs at the three main entrances to the village has been an objective of the Conservation Society for some time.

Here the Chairman, Paul Castle, and Secretary, Maurice Maggs, take a look at the new Painswick road signs with Painswick artist Andy Lovell (right) who won the Society's recent design competition award of £500.



Derby 26 - Painswick 15 Rugby Football Union - under 17s final

We were delighted to report last month that our local team had won through to such a prestigious level in the game, and were playing as we published on 2nd May.

To reach such a level has to be viewed as a once-in-a-life-time achievement and deserving of the closest of attention and praise. Many in the community, not least those of us for whom rugby was a sport in our youthful days, will empathise with the pride the players must deservedly have felt, and that of their families and close friends.

Cold weather greeted Painswick in as unfamiliar an environment as it was for Derby - the final being staged in the Northampton Franklins Gardens. From the first two minutes of the game Painswick had to deploy strong defence, but yielded a converted try just four minutes later; a test of nerves which, if not overcome, could have affected the entire game. Nerves held and Derby were caught napping when the score changed to 7-3. Much of the ensuing play moved around Painswick's 22, where Derby effectively set up camp. Repeated attempts by their forwards to penetrate the Painswick defence were frustrated but the first half ended with success and 14-3 was on the board.

Whatever happened in the changing room Painswick certainly impressed as the second half got under way, deeply penetrating their opponents half but a Derby try brought seeming disaster and, with nearly 30 minutes still to run, 19-3 followed by 21-3 was distinctly troublesome. Dogged attacking by Painswick was rewarded by a dramatic try and at 21-10 the game was far from decided; holding nerves was essential for both sides, even though a run from Painswick's 10 yard line led to a further upping of Derby's tally. A driving maul by Painswick set up the last try but the final kick of the day to convert did not succeed. A match acknowledged by most as a great game and played in the true spirit of rugby.

Leslie Brotherton

We acknowledge reference to the report by Tim Hudson of Derby, their manager and coach, but who was on that day acting as their Roving Reporter, to augment our report.

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Ladies to meet Bob - out back

Unfortunately part of this report got lost in space en route to the Beacon last month, so I apologise for some "old news".

Spring has indeed burst forth in all its glory this month, but in March it still felt as if we were in the grip of winter. So it was delightful for members of Yew Trees WI to be reminded of the joys to come when they were treated to a glorious visual display of many of the wild flowers to be found in Gloucestershire. Rosemary Westgate and husband Peter showed beautiful photographs of wild flowers that are extremely rare, as well as those that are more familiar. Many are to be found on the Beacon and the nearby commons as well as in local woodlands. Rosemary is also in charge of the Wildflower Group at Westonbirt Arboretum, so was able to show examples from there.

It was a delight in April to welcome Kitty Smithies, who talked about her experiences during the war at Bletchley Park, where she was part of the amazing organisation that broke the enigma code. Thousands of people worked at Bletchley Park, and so confidential was the work that even husbands and wives were unaware that the other worked there. Kitty spoke about her work transcribing codes from the Japanese, and the effect the code breaking had on the Allied manoeuvres. We were also lucky to have another member of the Bletchley Park team in the audience, who shared some of her experiences.

Members took a social walk across the Beacon on April 22, and enjoyed lunch together afterwards as a reward for all the energy spent!

At Yew Trees next meeting on 22nd June, 7.30pm at the Town Hall, Bob Price will be giving a presentation on the Australian Outback. This lovely experience promises to be so exciting that we are holding an "Open Meeting" when both members and non members are encouraged to bring husbands, partners or just good friends! Everyone will be made most welcome, so look forward to seeing you all there!

Janine Clarke 810919

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Painswick Parish Council – Annual Report 2009-10

It's been a busy year. In July the community was delighted to learn that the Post Office's was to continue. A warm welcome was given to the new Postmistress Karen Judd. Then came the shock immediately before Christmas that the Library was to close. During the year the Parish Council has seen a number of changes. We were sorry to lose Liz Fisher who retired after 25 years as Assistant Clerk but pleased to welcome Irena Litton in her place. Mike Kerton left the council to go to America and Dhushy Mahendran was forced to resign because of a new business appointment. We were very pleased to welcome Rob Lewis as Mike's replacement.

Finance

The Council was pleased to announce that there would be no increase in the parish precept for this financial year and also that the year had ended with the council staying within its planned budget. However Martin Slinger who chairs the finance committee warns that several new ventures may put a strain on our finances. One of those ventures is the new Tourist Information Centre. The statement of accounts for the year ending 31st March 2010 is available for inspection in the Parish Council Office.

Allotments

The Council has gone out to consultation on a number of sites. The consultation period has been extended to 14th May. The working party is expected to make a recommendation to the June Parish Council meeting.

Library

The County Council is carrying out a consultation exercise with residents to assess the need for a permanent library presence in Painswick. The consultation period ends on 4th June with the results being published in early September. The Parish Council is in negotiation to lease the former Lloyds Bank building as a home for the Tourist Information Centre and to provide some of the services previously available in the library. Currently there are two difficulties with the proposal. The first is the need to ensure that there are sufficient volunteers to man the TIC and the second is not knowing until the results of the consultation are published what assistance the Library Service may be able to provide. The expectation had been that the library facility could continue as part of the Gateway facility but with the question mark over Gateway's future that has not proved possible.

Highway Matters

The exceptional winter took its toll on the County's roads. Ann Burges Watson reports that we have been promised Gloucester Street and Churchill Way will be resurfaced during the October half term and that we will shortly be getting the 20mph zone in the centre of Painswick. 2 car spaces for the disabled have been created in the village centre. The attractive new village entrance signs are now in place. They were designed by a resident who won a competition organised by the Painswick & District Conservation Society. Difficulties with noisy and speeding motorcycles continue. We are working with the police to resolve the problem.

Gas pipe laying. There has been concern not least within the business community about lack of information regarding changes to the timing of the gas pipe laying work. One of the problems has been unscheduled delays in the work being carried out by Severn Trent Water in the Slad Road. The County Council is not allowed to have two major highways closed at the same time, thus the A46 work must wait until the Slad Road work is completed. Representations have been made to have the gas pipe laying put back to the Autumn but it would seem that is not possible.

Land and buildings

Martin Slinger reports that keeping the four villages within the parish in good order is no mean feat and the severe weather added to the workload of George Hodder, the Parish Handyman. The new heating in the Town hall has made a big difference to users' comfort. Unfortunately the cemetery fees had to rise a little because of the costs of running the cemetery and the chapel. One considerable problem is the cost of maintaining the St Mary's Street toilets at £4,500 per annum but they are literally a great convenience and much used.

Planning

David Hudson reports that there were 115 planning applications for the year 2009 with a further 35 up to the end of April. This is 25 less than the same period last year with the number continuing to fall each year. The majority of applications continued to be for extensions though there were two applications for new dwellings. The District Council has recently published its first Core Strategy Consultation Paper setting out its vision for the growth and development of the area up to 2026. A further 2000 new homes are needed. Seven options were suggested and the Parish Council selected Option G which focussed on a wide range of approximately 40 sites of between

10 and 15 dwellings. A further draft document will be published in September. The Government has recently published a paper suggesting that new powers could be given to parish and town councils by which they could provide affordable housing in their communities without the need for planning consent from district councils. A Housing Needs Survey has recently been completed.

The Plantation

Ann Daniels reports that work continues to progress in the Plantation under the guidance of Mr Terry Fenton, the Project Manager. The regenerated beeches continue to grow better than the planted trees; the squirrel damage has not been so bad this year. During the winter the Plantation Committee instructed work to be done to the walls where unfortunately they were damaged by cars. The corner of Gloucester Road and Golf Course Road is a great improvement.

Footpaths

We continue to appreciate the work done by the volunteer footpaths inspectors in reporting obstructions and other problems. One particular difficulty we are looking to resolve is the practice by some walkers with dogs unable to get over stiles who pull back sheep wire. The solution we are proposing is to replace the affected stiles with those where a board within the stile can be raised to allow the dog to go through and then afterwards the board drops back into place to make the stile secure.

Ward Reports

Edge

Martin Slinger writes that the village is surviving well although he would like to see more use made of the village hall particularly as the road leading down to the hall has been resurfaced: a fantastic job he says done by the County Council. Speeding traffic is a big concern on all our roads. The villagers would like to see a further speed restriction on the A4173. He says the two commons are looking well. They are grazed by local cattle at the appropriate time. Monies are being raised to put new windows, doors, and air conditioning into the village hall and maybe a toilet for the disabled. The village fete is in July. Martin reports that Edge has a very close knit family of villagers who work and play together to keep the village as vibrant as ever.

Slad

Jackie Woof writes that precept money was spent on daffodil bulbs provided and planted around the village by the Slad Society. She expresses her appreciation of the work done by Douglas Voyce in providing plants around the war memorial and to Valerie Sharpe for tending them. Jackie wishes to thank George Hodder for his work around the village.

Caroline White reports that the following items were raised at the Slad Ward AGM.

Replacement of the Staddle Stones at the War Memorial. It is understood that this is in hand.

Grit bin. A new grit bin has been requested on the road to the rear of the Woolpack. Land ownership could be an issue for the placing of the bin. Swifts Hill. Given the level of littering and frequency of visitors to Swifts Hill it has been suggested that the placing of a bin, if it would be emptied by the District Council, would be most helpful. Parking along Slad Road. It was requested again that the white lines be repainted to emphasise the "keep clear" areas. Hazard Sign request. It has been suggested that a hazard sign be placed to warn drivers that oncoming traffic may be in the middle of the road near the sharp corner past the Woolpack towards Stroud. This is particularly hazardous when visitors are driving through as they are not aware of the parking issue and the likelihood of oncoming vehicles being in their lane.

Sheepscombe

Andy Cash writes to thank Dhushy Mahendran for his focus and unshrinking efforts representing the ward during his 5 years as a councillor. He reports that the winter weather took its toll on Sheepscombe roads as with other parts of the parish. He says that while a few potholes have been filled the roads are still in a very poor state.

Appreciation

And finally, the members of the Council wish to thank Roy Balgobin our Clerk, Assistant Clerk Liz Fisher, her replacement Irena Litton and George Hodder our Parish Handyman for the sterling support they have given to councillors and members of the public throughout the year. A special word of thanks to Carol Novoth our Neighbourhood Warden, to Colin Drewett our Police and Community Safety Officer and to Lou Kemp, our Village Agent, each of whom do much to help the lives of the local community. Especial thanks to the local firefighters whose presence in the village gives such reassurance to the residents.

Terry Parker Chairman

As in other recent years, the Beacon is pleased to carry copy of the report presented to the **Annual Parish Meeting** by the Parish Council - this year on 5th May.

We regret that space has not permitted detailing reports also presented verbally by District Councillors Barbara Tait and Frances Roden, and County Councillor Joan Nash, nor the written report of the (then) MP David Drew.

During the open forum session of the meeting a number of matters were aired by the relatively few members of the public present. These included

- untidiness of the entrance to the village adjacent to the Broadham Fields section of Stroud Road
- the need to update the Parish Council's web site frequently
- the practicalities of introducing community composting facilities
- prospects for actually reinstating the Tourist Information Centre within the village, and GCC support
- prospects for future library services, the mobile being regarded as wholly inadequate
- whether the Parish Council would be supportive of GCC handing over the previous library building
- appreciation of the services rendered to the community by councillors and Council staff
- and appreciation of the Beacon as a village communication forum.

Beacon Clear-up - Can you help?



As I write this piece, the Painswick Beacon (the hill) looks absolutely stunning. The trees are bursting into fresh life, with those amazing range of shades of green that characterises spring. And the early flowers dot the open spaces and woodland. Before coming to Painswick, I thought cowslips were just a childhood memory....

Lots of us enjoy the Beacon in different ways, but a few spoil the enjoyment by failing to take their rubbish back home with them. Despite the efforts of a number of people who pick up litter while walking or golfing, the rubbish tends to get blown into the quarries where it accumulates.

So once a year, under the aegis of the Parish Council, I am happy to organise a clear-up. Will you come and help?

There are usually about a dozen or so people willing to lend a hand. An hour of your time can really make a big difference. And I forecast it will be a gloriously sunny afternoon....

This year the Beacon Clear-up will be from 2.00pm to 3.30pm on Sunday 20th June. We meet in the car park on the road across the Beacon near Catbrain Quarry. Litter-pickers, gloves, bags etc are provided by the Parish Council. For more details please get in touch.

Peter Rowe 813228



Masses of pleasure



We are so lucky living in Painswick – not only does one have all that Painswick has to offer through the various organisations, clubs and societies but we also have much Art in easy reach locally. And on Saturday, 22nd May I had the good fortune to be present at Stroud Choral Society's concert at the Subscription Rooms, to hear performances of Mozart's Coronation and C Minor Masses as well as Haydn's Te Deum. I had a double reason to attend – I adore the Mozart Masses and anyway my wife was singing so I had to attend! But what a treat.

The Masses contain some of Mozart's most sublime, spiritually uplifting and melodious of any music. Just think of the Coronation's Agnus Dei and the C Minor's Kyrie. Only rarely these days does music still give the tingle factor but here I had it!

The singing was superb – the Society's new conductor seems to have obtained greater musicality in sound – difficult to describe: more rhythmic, fluid perhaps. They were joined by wonderful soloists (what a soprano!) accompanied by a superb professional chamber orchestra. So thank you to the dozen singers from Painswick who helped the Choral Society deliver such a wonderful concert.

Peter Jenkins



Anne Smith, who has one of the key coordinating roles in trying to get the Tourist Information Centre relocated to what was previously the LloydsTSB premises in Bisley Street says, "Thank you to all who so kindly volunteered their help in the new Tourist/Community Project, which hopes to open at the beginning of July".

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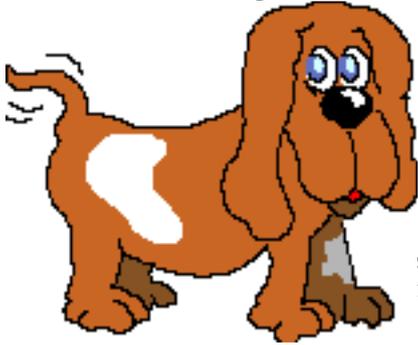
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Painswick Companion Dog Show and Charity Fun Day



Once again we're hoping for a really good turnout for this year's Dog Show and Charity Fun Day. All doggie entries can be booked from 10.30am, and judging for the Show Classes start at 11am. Novelty Classes will be judged from 1pm. If you own a dog, the show is a must, and there are classes suitable for all shapes and sizes - show dogs, puppies to veterans, most breeds, etc and of course the best dog or bitch from the Painswick postal area!!

All profits from the show are this year being donated to Dogs for the Disabled, a charity that creates life-changing partnerships by training assistance dogs to help children and adults with disabilities lead a fuller, more independent life.

There will also be a number of Charity Stalls selling everything from bric-a-brac, preserves, handcrafts, cards etc, and there will be tombola events and a raffle. Ice cream and other refreshments are also on hand.

Please book the date in your diary. We look forward to seeing you there -

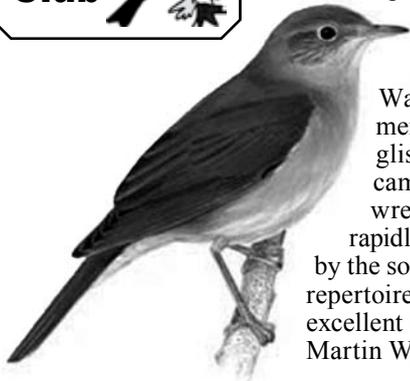
Saturday 10th July on Painswick Recreation Ground from 10.30am.

For further details please contact Fiona Chapman on 812462 for Dog Show Enquiries or myself on 812600 if you would like a run a stall or table top sale.

Chris Campbell

From boots to dawn chorus

Interim club activity has been high starting with the car boot sale in April at the Archway School raising about £150.00, thanks to contributors, to enable the club to offer speakers more appropriate fees. An enjoyable Frampton on Severn trip ensued, led by Gordon Avery, former County Bird Recorder. Highlights were, on the water a great crested grebe with young afloat and in the air, hobbies no doubt on dragon fly alert! A male nightingale (pictured), lacking competition, teased us with fragmentary song.



At 4.30am on 9th May a doughty dozen met Rob Palmer, National Trust Community Warden on the Ebworth Estate to witness a memorable dawn chorus. Descending through the glistening silver roof of the wood to the lake, first came the mellow power of blackbird song, distant wren muttering before the orchestra struck up in rapidly gathering light. The virtuoso performance was by the song thrush with vast, seemingly ever expanding repertoire of song. And so to Chairman Bill's abode for excellent breakfast relief! Then on 24th May at 9.45am, Martin Wright will lead us to hear songsters again, after meeting on the Coates - Tarlton Road (S0967003) at the canal.

Great days - with more to come on the Gower weekend. There is still time to make a booking, please phone 813094.

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Report of first hearing from Richard Aspinall close by Painswick Beacon about 7.32am on 16th May, followed by Harold Wood on 17th May at 10.59am (ish).

Chloe's back in town

Chloe Smith's Painswick clients will be delighted to know that Chloe will be back in Painswick on Thursdays starting on 17th June at the Three Gables Centre, Cheltenham Road.

Chloe started her business, Revive, in Painswick in 2007, but has for the past year or so worked from her home in Cranham. A beauty therapist with an impressive background in both training and experience, Chloe had acquired a solid client base in Painswick most of whom have remained loyal – and understandably so. She provides a very personal service tailored to the individual needs of her clients whose ages span the teens to the nineties. Her range of treatments is beneficial in many ways from relieving tension to making the most of one's appearance.

Working from Three Gables will have many advantages not least of which is the fact that the combination of dental services, holistic treatments and Chloe's range of beauty treatments all under one roof will be so easily accessible. The premises are ideal.

Chloe is really excited about her return. "I am looking forward to coming back to Painswick as I have had amazing support from the lovely ladies of Painswick," she says. She hopes that her new base at Three Gables will be much more convenient for everyone and she will initially receive clients on Thursdays between 9.30am and 7.00pm.

Enthusiastic and serious about what she does, Chloe is keen to point out that both men and women of all ages can benefit from her range of treatments. She is always happy to welcome new clients and her existing clients certainly vouch for her professionalism and friendliness. Why not try it for yourself? She can be contacted on 07895880641.

Carol Maxwell

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Editor back in saddle



As a former Painswickian I wonder if I might snatch a few column inches to draw attention to a bike ride that I will be undertaking, starting on 14th June. It's in aid of the Bristol-based charity MS-Research which does excellent work seeking treatments and possible cures for Multiple Sclerosis.

I'm calling it a 'Five Nations' bike ride because my aim, starting at Canterbury, is to cycle through parts of England, France, Belgium, the Netherlands and Germany, about 600 miles in all. It's a solo venture, with no supporting

organisation or back-up of any kind.

It would be great if a few readers would consider sponsoring me. To do so you could phone (01460.234041) or email me (balancedhand@supanet.com). But the simplest method, if you have internet access, is to look up the website 'Just Giving' where you will find a page devoted to my trip. You will find this by searching the site using my name or by going straight to the page with the address www.justgiving.com/5-nations-bike-ride. The website also gives a few more details.

Thanks in anticipation, and greetings to old friends!

Alan Bamber

Youth is a wonderful thing. What a crime to waste it upon children.

Beacon subscribers		
<i>as at 21st May</i>	2010 - 2011	<i>This date last year</i>
New or renewed after lapsing	89	67
Renewed from last year	435	453
Total including postal	524	520

1000 Mile Bike Ride Barcelona – Edge

Perhaps you remember back in the year 2000 when we cycled 1000-miles from San Sebastian to Edge Village Green? Well, even though we are now ten years older we are going to do it again, this time we plan to cycle from Barcelona to Edge. We will be leaving Barcelona on Sunday 20th June and will arrive home at 5.00pm on Saturday 3rd July just in time for Edge Fete. Our route will take us from Barcelona to Girona, Perpignan, Narbonne, Carcassonne, Toulouse, Agen, Bergerac, Angouleme, Poitiers, Angers, Alencon, Caen, Winchester and finally Edge. From the original team only Valerie and myself (Edge), Paul Griffiths (Stockend) and Mark Reynolds (Whiteshill) are taking part again but we are very pleased to be joined this time by, amongst others, John Cahill and Malcolm Price from Edge (don't get excited Malcolm isn't cycling, he's part of the backup team) and Sean Hackett from Pitchcombe.



Riding a bike for 1000-miles is not easy; we will be sitting on the saddle for fourteen consecutive days and you should see just how gently we lower ourselves onto it first thing in the morning after a few days cycling. The average distance is 70-miles each day but due to us having to negotiate our way through the Pyrenees some of the early days will be shorter, which means some of the other days will be considerably more. The longest planned day is from Bergerac to Angouleme, a distance of 100-miles and just by chance this is also the day that our daughter Melissa will be joining us, so I'm sure she'll be pleased!



The aim of the ride is to raise funds for the Williams Syndrome Foundation, as I'm sure most of you already know our son Sam (pictured) has Williams Syndrome and I am Chairman of the Foundation. If you would like to support this worthy cause and sponsor us, which I know you will, you can do so on line at: www.justgiving.com/BarcelonaEdgeBikeRide

Or if you prefer, just send your donation to The Little

Ruin, please make cheques payable to "Williams Syndrome".

Many thanks in advance for your support.

Mike Adlam

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Keep your Bureau open

Without your help, we will soon need to make cuts to Stroud and District Citizens Advice Bureau's services. Our grants from Stroud District Council and other local councils – including Painswick – have been a great help to us, but many of them have frozen over recent years. At the same time the demand for our services keeps going up and up.

We are looking for 400 people across the Stroud District to donate £5 a month to secure this truly worthwhile service.

Will you be one of our sponsors please?

We are a lifeline, giving desperate people the information and practical help to deal with their problems, when they don't know where else to turn. The advice is free, confidential and available to all. Will we still be around when you need us, or will the door be closed?

Some of the queries we have dealt with recently;

- "I'm about to be evicted, can you help me keep my home?"
- "I've had a stroke, but now I've returned to work, my manager is trying to get rid of me - What can I do? My family

SMOG at Yew Tree 81

When St Mary's Home closed down in 2000 it was truly the end of an era and a sad occasion for both residents and staff.

St Mary's Home for Elderly People with Learning Disabilities, originally named St Mary's Home for Working Girls, had moved into the premises at the top of Stames Lane in 1906 though had been in existence since 1890. For many years the residents, usually women, were affectionately referred to locally as 'the girls' and they were very much part of Painswick life. They were always people in need of physical, social and clinical support.

By the time of the closure they were a group of fourteen, some of whom had lived together at St Mary's for up to forty-five years, a happy, active and well-cared for community. Much of this success can be attributed to the staff who cared for the residents over the years. They too were a close and very caring team and when the residents were transferred to a former nursing home in Hucclecote they went too, guaranteeing a continuation of the excellent care. Last year the



depends on my income"

- "My ex-partner won't let me have contact with my children, how can I get to see them?"

- "Can I bring my 85 year old neighbour in to see you? She doesn't seem to have enough money to manage on and has stopped using her fire."

- "I've been made redundant and now can't keep up with my debt repayments. How do I pay my creditors?"

Did you know?

Stroud and District Citizens Advice Bureau is a registered charity and it relies on local fundraising to survive. There are fewer than 5 full-time paid staff to keep the entire service running. More than 40 volunteers give their time entirely free of charge each week. Some 4,000 people from across the district came to us for help last year.

How to help

What will help us most is on-going payments made by standing order. It doesn't have to be £5 per month. We then know we can maintain our service year by year.

Please contact Peter or Jane Rowe (813228) or Ann Horner (812128) or Stewart Price (814241) or Jane Burt (810935) or David Little (813734).

house in Hucclecote closed and the remaining seven residents were moved into three separate bungalows run by a private trust. In theory they are having to take on more responsibility but, because they are aging, they are of course supported. Three of the original staff from Painswick are still involved in the caring, others have retired and some still visit voluntarily. They were all very much part of the St Mary's family.



This lovely and cohesive team of ladies, many of whom worked together for many years, was keen both to maintain contact with each other and to perpetuate the memory of St Mary's Home. To this end they decided to sponsor yew tree 81 in memory of the Home and to form S.M.O.G. (St Mary's Old Girls) with a view to meeting up on a regular basis. On 19th May they had a special get-together at their tree and remembered 'the good old days' in Painswick. Pictured are eight of the care team: Sue Woodcock (former head of the home), Daphne Gardiner, Jeanette Huxstep, Lesley Bircher, Averill Watkins, Anne Dunning, Mandy Green and Margaret Court.

Carol Maxwell

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Although, as has been said, the A46 roadworks are causing considerable disruption to our lives, there is still a great choice of events around the village, and within walking distance for many residents. If nowhere else, just take a look at the Beacon diary!

As part of the Stroud Valley's Open Studios and Site Festival 2010, the Painswick Centre's working Artists' studios will be open every weekend in June, 11.00am to 6.00pm (see page 12). Also in conjunction with Festival, the Guild Gallery is celebrating its 10th year with a special exhibition (opening hours Tues - Sat 10.00am to 5.00pm). Please pick up a copy of the Festival Programme and the Open Studios Directory, available from the Centre's front entrance hall.



The popular Jazz on a Sunday event, with lunch and bar available, is in aid of Sue Ryder Care and is taking place 12 noon to 3.00pm on Sunday 27th June (for ticket availability, see back page).

We are also pleased to welcome Catherine Gerrish who has started two mixed-ability exercise classes for all ages on Wednesday mornings in the Main Hall:

Aerobics (9.30-10.30am) – helps to strengthen the cardiovascular system (low-impact exercises also available).

Pilates (10.30-11.30am) – designed to enhance posture, strength, balance and stability.

Please bring a mat for floorwork. £5 per class – free taster class available, by phoning Catherine on 07747.466807 (mat on loan).

Jane Rowe

Week 2010 – Thank You!



Every year Christian Aid week brings the largest mobilisation of house-to-house collectors in the country, and we certainly played our part! Across our communities of Cranham, Edge, Harescombe, Painswick, Pitchcombe and Sheepscombe, over 90 individuals delivered



and collected envelopes during the Christian Aid week collection, with some 750 households donating. Around 30 people staffed the CA shop in Christ Church hall, cooking and serving lunches and morning coffee and manning stalls selling goods and produce that were donated by over 50 kind souls.



Overall, the generosity of the people of our villages generated an amazing £9,944 (rising to £11,383 with gift aid reclaimed), and this will go to projects across the globe aimed at eradicating poverty regardless of faith or nationality.

A big, big THANK YOU! to all from the Painswick Valley Christian Aid Committee.

Dylan Davies

Letters

The inclusion of letters, maximum 150 words, in these columns does not imply that the Beacon committee endorses the views expressed, or otherwise.

Parish Meetings

Edward Young expresses the view:
Much as though the Annual Parish Meeting was well flagged on the front of the May issue of the Beacon, I am sad to record that less than a dozen members of the public turned up for the opportunity to hear and have their say among a full turnout of our local elected officials; Parish; District and County.

Painswick mutters a lot. Everyone has a view about change, either before it happens or more typically, reacting when it is too late. All the more will be the community's loss if its people can't be bothered to stand up for what they want in the main forum when given the opportunity. You have elected your representatives. Do you know what they are doing? What do you want them to do? At least give them the respect they deserve by attending the one open meeting of the year.

Recycling

The SDC's calendar for collection of materials for recycling has been delivered to all households. If without this information, or indeed a box to use, contact is on 01453.754424.

Actual collection days may have changed for quite a few, so do check your calendar, and in some instances it is possible that the first collection in June will be later than expected. Changing days of collection enables collectors to use larger vehicles, thereby minimising journeys back to the depot, extending the 'reach' of each round, and saving fuel.

JOHN DANDY

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Trek Round Mt Blanc to raise funds for The St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital

I have always liked a challenge. My first visit to the French Alps was in the 1950s when I spent the summer holidays as an au pair in a French family. I was taken on several high altitude walks above the snow line, staying in huts. I remember seeing Mt Blanc in the



distance and from then on I have wanted to get closer to the Mt Blanc massif. My love of trekking blossomed during the 3 years I lived in Nepal where I walked regularly on the Kathmandu Valley rim and beyond and spent 4 weeks in the Everest area, trekked around Annapurna and much more.

To continue the challenge into my seventies, as an inspiration to my family and grandchildren and keep up my image as a "groovy Granny", I wish to walk round Mont Blanc enjoying the scenery and different cultures in the three countries on its flanks. The trek is about 110 miles in length and involves an ascent and descent of about 10,000m in total. I plan to do it in 11 days.

Having decided to do this trek, I thought it should be for a charity and what better charity than The St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital since, without sight, much of the beauty of this walk would be lost. This charity which helps those in need regardless of faith has strong support in Painswick where they recently held a successful Bring & Buy Sale. During my time in Nepal I saw at first hand how simple eye operations can make a huge difference to people's lives.

Please sponsor me either on the website: <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/AnnBurgesWatson-1> or in The Pharmacy or Post Office.

Ann Burges Watson

St. Swithun's Saxon Church Midsummer tea party

The Churches Conservation Trust are holding a national fund raising weekend in June this year. Churches throughout England are taking part in a Big Midsummer Tea Party to help in fund raising and publicity. In Brookthorpe at St Swithun's, we are planning a Coffee Morning and Afternoon Tea at the Church and invite you all to come and see this beautiful Saxon Church.



The Church will be open from 10.00am to 12.30pm and again from 1.30pm to 4.30pm on Saturday 19th June.

The Churches Conservation Trust is planning to spend over £30,000 on the roof and foundations of St Swithun's.

The Norman Saddleback Tower of this Church is visible from the main road

behind Brookthorpe Court. It is mainly 13th century; the north aisle was added in 1892. The inscription on the porch is a chronogram, with a hidden date recording the execution of Charles I in 1649. Inside, the stairs to the rood-loft remain. The pulpit is 17th century as is the chalice-shaped font. On the splay of a window on the north side of the chancel is a memorial to the architect Detmar Blow, carved by Eric Gill.

For more information, please contact

Gloria or Bruce Wiggall on 812195

Open Studios

Seven highly individual and creative Artists are opening their studios and invite you to visit during June.

All studios are open the weekends of the 12/13th and the 19th/20th June from 11.00am-6.00pm.

The Artists will be showing new work and their studios may be open at other times during the month; please ring the Artists to confirm this.

Ken Helps 814721 is showing primarily figurative paintings 'Stonecrofts' in Hambutts Mead, next to the school.

Andy Lovell 813149 has paintings and prints of predominantly rural scenes at 'Ashleigh' in Gloucester Street.

Jane Garbett's studio 812176 is 200m down Vicarage Street and is showing new paintings.

"Is a Painswick School of Artists developing?"
Four Artists have studios at the Painswick Centre, which has been running successfully for over a year, and will be open at weekends in June. For other times check the website www.artinpainswick.com

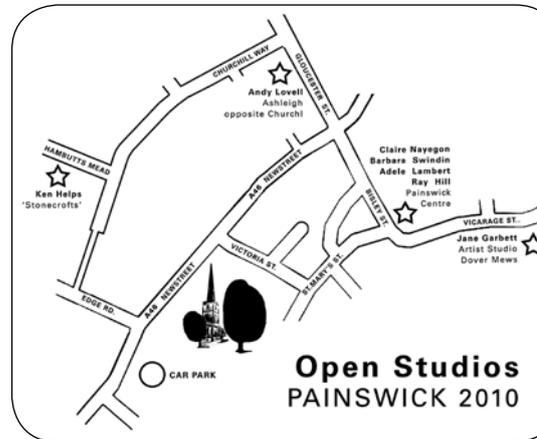
Claire Naygon 07900.606234 an Artist

Stained Glass has had a successful year with a variety of commissions.

Barbara Swindin 01452.616687 has mixed media paintings inspired by land and sea.

Adele Lambert 812544 has paintings in different media inspired by memories and places, including Painswick.

Ray Hill 07743.784092 has acrylic and mixed media landscapes inspired by nature and colour.



Focus on

Hugh McGregor Ross

Hugh McGregor Ross has lived in Painswick with his wife, Catherine, since 1970. He is one of the pioneers of computing. He played a major role in developing ASCII and ISO codes, providing the foundation for today's Unicode universal character set. It is these codes, adopted world-wide, which enable the characters on a keyboard to be used with a computer in virtually any language, displayed on a computer screen or printer, or sent over the world's telecommunications network.

Hugh Ross was born in 1917 in Nairobi within a staunch Quaker family, when his father was Director of Public Works for the colony. He attributes his approach to all his work to the Quaker tradition of free thinking and self-analysis, unconstrained by a priestly hierarchy or received doctrine. The family returned to England when Hugh was five and later, like his father, he became an engineer, graduating from Emmanuel College, Cambridge, just before the onset of WWII. He worked at Kodak Laboratories, where he was able to combine his twin interests in helping with the development of colour photography. Later, he worked on background projection, used to project moving scenery in the mid-1950s, at the instigation of Vivian Bowden, the celebrated physicist, who joined a new research laboratory set up by Ferranti to develop a new career move, at a time when no-one had any idea whether this era was worth the much. Hugh was involved in the development of the early PEG computer, of which can be seen in the Science Museum. Hugh actually sold his computer to Hawker Aircraft. However, with computing in its infancy, his fellow engineers, understanding their requirements and developing very limited calculating and storage capabilities to suit. It was



Confusions



That we have an amateur dramatic company in Painswick is well known; knowledge not confined to the village itself. The Painswick Players have earned a reputation for thoroughness and enthusiasm which many engaged in professional theatre would envy, and it was clearly their intention to build upon that foundation as they set about staging Alan Ayckbourn's subtle five brilliantly constructed playlets 'Confusions'. Since its world premiere in 1974 'Confusions' has reminded audiences of the seeming contradictions in the lives of many regarding morals of the times in which we live, manners, marriage, relationships and much more. The basis of the Ayckbourn technique is to maximise the use of words, inflections and body language to the fullest extent and one might be forgiven for wondering whether amateurs should dare to tread such a path. That PP were poised to rise to such a challenge was reflected in the assurances and initial motivation given to the selection of this piece by the late Jack Burgess. That there must have been some hesitation about whether to bring

it before the public must have occurred, but it could only have been momentary as his inspirational approach to all matters 'challenging' had gripped the players and the end product totally justified and was indeed a fitting tribute to his greatly missed leadership.

Contemplating an evening watching amateur drama anywhere, these days forgoing the comforts of home and unending television, or some other social event, requires a weighted conscious decision. Far off are those days when the local am dram group entertained in 3D to contrast with fireside radio, or even earlier times when there was just the fireside and a book! Those of us who made the journey were not merely rewarded by a first class performance by each and every one of the fifteen or so in the cast, manifestly reinforced by the assiduousness of those masterminding matters or fulfilling their essential roles behind the scenes or FOH, but we were truly witnessing the very best that can be shared though this art medium and, dare one say, also

witnessing the PP entering a new and even higher level of performance.

Without question, the most stimulating and delightful evening I have enjoyed in many years, and a worthy tribute to Jack B to boot.

And all to whom I spoke after the performance, and since then, share that opinion.

Leslie Brotherton



need for common character standards and set about collaborating with contacts in the US and UK in the same field, later leaving Ferranti to join Standard Telegraph and Cables. Now in his early thirties, Hugh was running his own research laboratory, developing automated telex exchanges, before becoming an independent consultant advising both the public and private sectors on information technology. It was during this stage in his career when he was involved in the early work of linking computers over the telephone system, which led to today's global data-communications network on which the Internet depends.

Hugh's work on character coding presented many fascinating challenges, particularly in finding ways to accommodate some of the world's more unusual languages. Arabic is a cursive script written from right to left with few vowels, reliant on complex rules on the positioning of diacritical glyphs. Tibetan posed another challenge because, unlike other Indic scripts, text may have to stack vertically, as well as running horizontally. Hugh also recalls how, during various conferences in Communist countries, when representing the British Standards Institution, he was treated with suspicion by local security and had to have discreet, unobserved discussions with friendly academics to get what he needed for his work.

In his 50s, Hugh Ross returned to his life-long interest in Christian thinking on spirituality. He published a book on the life of George Fox, the founder of the Society of Friends (the Quakers), based on a detailed study he had undertaken with others of Fox's original writings. He also began to research the Gospel of Thomas, which had been discovered in 1945 buried in the sands of Egypt. The gospel attributed to Thomas the disciple, 'Doubting Thomas' known as Didymos, had been rejected as heretical by the early church fathers. However, others maintain that the text represents the spiritual teachings of Jesus in their purest form, pre-dating much in the New Testament and untouched by orthodox revisionism. Hugh translated the original Coptic-Greek manuscript into English and published a well-received series of books, known as The Thomas Collection, providing his interpretation of the gospel's meaning and significance. His work may be best grasped by going to the website at www.gospelofthomas.info.

Michael Buckland-Smith

The Beacon hopes to include occasional items along these lines, under the 'Focus on ...' heading, not least when we hear about some quite incredible careers or experiences of residents. Ed.

Parish Housing Needs Survey

Much has been expressed over more years than some would wish to remember about the social changes which have impacted upon Painswick village itself, and the settlements around us. Most have been generated elsewhere and have been utterly beyond local influence, even though they have modified lifestyles for better or for worse. Ever larger stores around major centres of population have brought the diminution of trading for daily needs within villages, the withdrawal of high street banking services caused many to revise their domestic arrangements, the increased reliance upon private cars brings further congestion and requirements for parking; the list is almost endless.

One of the consequences of such changes has been how those contemplating moving into the area regard it for their future. Given the prevailing quality of the environment and the infrastructure, it is much sought after. In turn this leads to boosting property values. Such is undoubtedly regarded as a 'good thing' by owners and investors, but it has negative consequences which impact quite seriously upon future generations of local people – those who have lived here most if not all of their lives. Young people in particular cannot afford, by whatever route, to live in the area in which they have grown up; a distressing circumstance for those preferring to stay close to and support parents and lifetime friends.

Various ideas have been explored over the years to counteract such shortcomings but all have foundered for two principal reasons (1) validation of the extent of need, and (2) the seemingly intractable task of finding land upon which to create dwellings for the needy. There is a (3), capital investment, but that is irrelevant without the justification.

A significant stage has now been reached, one which could - just could - be a turning point. The Parish Council was quick off the mark when the post of Rural Housing Enabler was created under the auspices of Gloucestershire Rural Community Council. The person appointed, Martin Hutchings, operates as an independent advisor although it is funded by the four District Councils and four Gloucestershire-based housing associations. He was asked to report upon the extent of need in this area (1), and, if such warranted, advise upon steps which might then be taken, (2) and then (3).

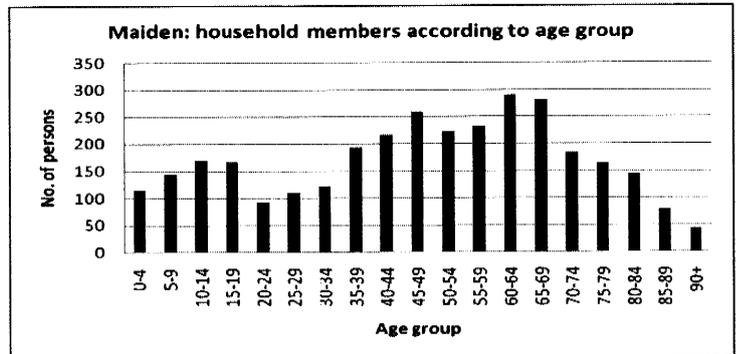
His report was presented to the Parish Council at its meeting in April, and the Beacon recognises the significance of his and the Councils desires that it be publicised. The full 20-page report cannot be carried here, but copies are freely available from Mr Hutchings at GRCC Community House, 15 College Green, Gloucester GL1 2LZ, is Email martinh@grcc.org.uk, 01452.528491, or through the Clerk at our Town Hall. We urge anyone with the slightest interest in the subject - not least those who share the belief that social contentment is at least as important as environmental attractions - to obtain a copy, it is eminently readable and reveals important facts.

Some facts, gleaned from the whole-area questionnaire of which 1556 were distributed and a surprisingly high 32% responded, in February this year, caught our eye. Only eight respondents were then using their second home. Some 44% have lived hereabouts for 20 or more years while no fewer than one fifth have lived here for 4 or fewer years. 82% live in a house, 7% in bungalows and 4% in sheltered/retirement property. In the order of one quarter of those surveyed live alone, and one half as couples yet 77% of homes have three bedrooms.

13% of respondents had adaptations to their home to increase physical accessibility. Most significantly, 27 respondents said a member of their family had moved away in the past 5 years due to difficulty in finding an affordable home.

No less than 83% were in favour of a small development of affordable homes.

The age distribution interpolated by GCC (Maiden) for 2007 was as shown here.



Average residential property prices in the period April 2008-March 2010 were analysed. The figures shown and the properties changing hands in that period do not necessarily represent values across the whole of the civil parish; prices could be higher or lower.

The lowest prices paid in that period were for £160k for a flat, £161k for a terraced property, and £187k for a semi-detached. The average price of properties in Gloucestershire at January 2010 was £169,983.

House Type	Price	Number of Sales
Detached	£513,977	44
Semi-detached	£322,250	16
Terraced	£195,250	12
Flats	£292,208	24
All	£386,740	96

The survey has filtered out those in need whose circumstances are such that they could afford market prices. This has led to identifying '31 households in affordable housing need with a local connection to Painswick'.

- This breaks down into**
- 6 single people requiring rented housing**
 - 1 couple requiring rented housing**
 - 6 families requiring rented housing (2x2 bedroom, 4x3 bedroom)**
 - 9 single people requiring such as shared ownership (intermediate) housing**
 - 3 couples intermediate housing**
 - 6 families intermediate housing (4x2 bedroom, 2x3 bedroom).**

With the assistance of the Parish Council Martin Hutchings is looking at potential sites identified by the Council, and the implications for such a development. That, in turn, raises the question of capital investment - but that would itself never have arisen if these two key preliminary stages had not taken place.

Feedback upon the report would, of course, be welcomed. Even more stimulating, would be further suggestions about location. Such is the priority for meeting these needs that locations

like greenfield sites outside the village envelope but within or adjoining existing development can be considered.

Do please think about it - many are now confirmed as being in need, and even if some individuals do go away others will undoubtedly take their place.

Leslie Brotherton

Painswick fete is coming!



What could be more reassuringly British than the traditional Village Fete? Painswick is lucky to have its very own Fete coming up on **Saturday 19th June**, 1.00pm - 4.00pm, set in the delightful grounds of Painswick House. If it's sunny, it is a sheer pleasure to wander around, ice cream in hand, enjoying the rural idyll and the smell of trodden grass and hot canvas. If the British weather is not so kind, all the more reason to grab a brolly, put on wellies and take part in the Dunkirk spirit of the thing! The Fete will go on and we will be there, hoping to raise funds for Cotswold Care Hospice and the Fabric of St Mary's (not a random piece of material, you understand, but the building itself).

The Fete will have something for everyone: that is a promise. Close your eyes and just think of the ideal Summer Fete and that food or activity will probably be there on that June afternoon: the tea tent with lovely ladies in flowery frocks passing you a delicious piece of homemade cake; the plant stall packed with plants at prices that make you reach for your wallet; the White Elephant stall, laden with a handpicked selection from assorted Painswick attics for a bijou bargain. And that's just for starters.

If you like to eat, drink (think Pimms), browse, entertain the children, grandchildren or dogs, or simply amaze your companion with your prowess at splatting rats or knocking down skittles and coconuts, then put the date in your diary. There will be fun races for children aged eleven and under; ludicrous races for your dog involving sausages; a monster bouncy castle; a bottle tombola for drinkers who like to gamble; a raffle with great prizes; a lucky dip for little ones; our very own fire engine with real live firefighters on board and if that's all too exciting, you could buy a good book from the book stall and retire quietly to the tea tent to watch the afternoon slide by in a very British way.

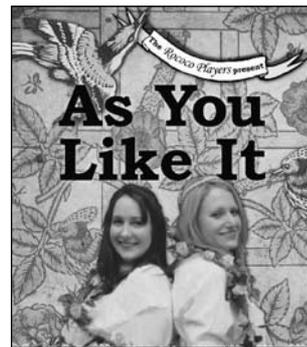
We look forward to seeing you there!

Gillian Hancock



The Rococo Players

Among their many performances this year the Players will be at our own Rococo Garden from 6th to 10th July, performing at 7.30pm each evening with a matinee on the Saturday at 2.00pm. Tickets for covered or uncovered own seating obtainable from the Coffee Shop at the garden or through 07518.574711 or www.rococoplayers.co.uk



Local History Teaser

This is the Painswick Band and a fine bunch they are too. Can you name any of them and have you any idea when this photograph was taken? Do you know what happened to the instruments? Answer in next month's Beacon.

Last month's question about the number of buildings used as banks remains a mystery. There have been at least three. Any advances on that?

... and the Local History Society outing

Blessed, unusually it has to be said, with fine weather, this year's annual May outing was a guided tour of Uley. Setting off from the one remaining public house out of eleven, we were somewhat surprised at the size of the village which, on passing through, gives an impression of a one-street community. Behind the main road stand some very interesting 18th and 19th century buildings, many with their own intriguing history. In addition to the parish church there are two very impressive chapels constructed for the nonconformists of Uley but no longer in use as such. As in Painswick, the wool industry was particularly significant – Uley blue cloth – and, though long gone, its influence is still in evidence in many of the fine houses of the period and large mill buildings. Nowadays Uley has a successful small brewery, itself housed in old brewing premises sympathetically adapted for the purpose. There is so much more to Uley than initially meets the eye.

The next meeting of the Society will be the AGM on Tuesday, 15th June when Trevor Radway will give a presentation on letterboxes. 7.30pm, Croft School. Everyone is welcome.

Carol Maxwell

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The Talich

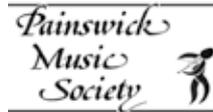
The Talich quartet, famous for its interpretations of Czech music, came to St Mary's church on 24th April for the third concert of Painswick Music Society's season. After a volcano-interrupted journey from Europe they just made it for an entertaining programme of central European music.

We opened with a Haydn string quartet 'The Lark'. A sprightly tune played by the first violin over a rumbling accompaniment, a quiet second movement, a bright minuet dance tune and then a furious final movement and a sudden stop. Warmed up, we settled down happily for some serious Czech music.

We began with Smetana's string quartet 'From My Life' Its opening allegro on the viola was one of those 'where have I heard that before?' tunes followed by another allegro with a polka-like dance theme, a vigorous slow movement alternating peace and passion and yet more dance melodies in the final movement. The work was written when the composer was going deaf but we would never have known. Great stuff.

The final work was Dvořák's opus 96 the 'American' written while he was staying in Iowa with the Czech community there, a piece also influenced by the African-American music which had engaged Dvořák during his stay. A nicely picked out opening theme for the viola was given a classical treatment with interacting themes and interesting harmonies. Then some quite vigorous tunes in the slow movement, a dance-like scherzo with intermittent ghostly airs and a romping finale which was for me the climax of the afternoon with its dynamic bouncing tunes.

We didn't really want to let them go so they played us two extracts from his string arrangement the 'Cypresses song cycle'. Nice lollipops, nice day.



John Parfitt

Jayson Gillham

..... who gave the fourth and last concert in this year's Season on 8th May, graduated from the Queensland Conservatorium and subsequently studied at the Royal Academy of Music in London and has won numerous prizes.

He started his all-Chopin programmes with a waltz in A Flat Opus 34 No.1. Trois Valses Brillantes is the name of the piece, and brilliant is the first word that comes to mind to describe his playing, which was flowing and confident. He then played three Mazurkas. Jayson coped comfortably with the changes of rhythm and pace.

He went on to play what he described as two less well-known pieces, Impromptu No 3 in G-flat, with characteristic control, and the Introduction and Rondo in E-flat, Opus 16. This was the last Rondo Chopin wrote. Jayson moved easily from intensive and difficult passages to more reflective ones.

Jayson continued with the Polonaise in A-flat, Opus 61. A passage with complex harmonies and frequent key changes was followed by a dreamy and melancholic Lento, which perhaps reflected Chopin's nationalistic pride in being Polish. He concluded with Ballade No 4 in F-minor, which he described as one of the most complex structures in all of Chopin's work. This was technically very demanding but Jayson handled it with ease and fluency.

The Music Society have produced another excellent performer, whom we hope to see again as he climbs the ladder of international fame.

Richard Burges Watson

Members Night –

- this time definitely End of Season! But the music contributed by our members was fresh and a combination of many tastes: The Swan by Saint-Saens, part of Sym#2 Beethoven, Ingemisco (Requiem) Donizetti, Liebestod (Tristan und Isolde) Wagner, Tallis Variations Vaughan-Williams, a piece by Faure, a song by Enya and exciting excerpts from Sinfonetta by Janacek.

- The AGM was mercifully short: members liked the season's presentations and the concert outings, and re-elected the Committee in toto:- Howard Allen, Beryl Bailey, Ann Burges Watson, Duccio Leoni, Alex Nichols and Stewart Price.

- See you at our first meeting next season on Thursday, 23rd September.



Ralph Kenber

BEACO-DOKU

Derived from Sudoku, Beaco-doku replaces the numbers with letters.

G	N	S	W	I	O
O	I	W	S	N	G
N	S	O	G	W	I
W	G	I	N	O	S
I	W	G	O	S	N
S	O	N	I	G	W

Last month we used the letters from **F-L-O-W-E-R** and hope you completed the Doku.

F	L	R	W	O	E
E	O	W	R	L	F
L	R	E	F	W	O
W	F	O	L	E	R
O	W	F	E	R	L
R	E	L	O	F	W

This is the main time of year for **S-O-W-I-N-G**, so can you Beaco-Doku that? Remember, that each column, each row and each block of six squares contains each of those six letters; but without repetition.

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The butterfly trail

Never short of a bright idea for fund-raising, the Croft PTA have come up with a new approach to having a flutter. They have devised this cross between a treasure hunt and ways to involve the public as well as the talents they and their children have.

On Sunday 11th July - between 2.00 and 5.00pm - some twenty 'butterflies' will have half-hidden themselves around the village, but their approximate locations will be on a map which costs £2.50 and can be obtained from the school at two o'clock. Each butterfly will have a letter attached to it. Unscrambled, the letters will reveal a particular sentence or title of a book.

There is a modest prize for all who complete the trail, and those who go on to crack the coded message will be entered into a draw for a family ticket to Berkeley Castle.

Altogether an initiative worth supporting on a summer's afternoon. A leisurely way of opening eyes to the village where we live, while supporting our school.

Will you be flitting around?



The Croft School Summer Fete

... Sunday 27th June
... 2.00pm - 4.30 pm

"Fun for all ages" is the assurance given by Joanne Weatherall in letting the Beacon know of just what is in store. She even listed the modest range of offerings for the 27th, although we have to regret that space shuttle trips are not among them (yet).

At least half a dozen of these should interest anyone looking forward to a pleasing afternoon out - so do support them at the end of the month.

*Bouncy castle
Pimms Tent
Bar
Thai Bar B Q
Plants
Face Painting
Tatoos
Icecream
Coconut shy
Bottle tombola
Raffle
Silent Auction
Fire Engine*

*Teas/Cakes
Home produce
Soft Toy Tombola
Crazy Sand
Skittles
Jam Jar Tombola
Pony Rides
Toys/Books/Bric-a-Brac
Splat the Rat
Lucky Dip
Assault Course
+ Retail tents*

A First Class Performance

Many in Painswick will have enjoyed Robert Burgess's perfect piano accompaniments in a variety of situations. It will come as no surprise then to learn that Robert won the much-coveted first place in the open piano section at the Cheltenham Festival in May.

Robert has often been placed at the Festival but this is his first win and it is highly deserved. His playing of Chopin's Nocturne in D flat major, a technically and artistically challenging piece, was described by the adjudicator as "a wonderfully poetic and moving performance." He was outstanding in his class.

Having played since childhood Robert recently spent two years studying music at Trinity College where he gained a distinction. Locally he has been a palm court musician at Painswick Hotel (now Cotswolds88), an accompanist with the Painswick Players, involved in a musical play at the Pittville Pump Rooms and a background pianist on various miscellaneous occasions. He frequently accompanies singers at competitive festivals in Cheltenham. Recently he gave professional performances with cellist, Robina Sabourin, at the AGM of the Music Society and with a singer at a concert in Bristol. He is also accompanist of the Dursley Male Voice Choir.



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PAINSWICK SPORT *assembled by Terry Parker*

Cricket

Cricket returned to the Recreation Ground on Saturday 15th May after an absence of more than twenty years when Painswick's fourth eleven played Slimbridge second eleven in a league match. The club's success has resulted in the creation of new teams and with it the need for an additional playing area to Broadham, hence the return to the 'Rec'. Pictured are the fourth eleven players.

On Saturday 22nd May, Painswick's second eleven had a nerve testing match against Lydney. Requiring 224 runs to win they had lost nine wickets when Gary Golding joined Tom Mahendran at the crease. The Painswick batsmen reached the required total with Gary still to score and Tom undefeated on 35. Two of Painswick's young players, Jacob Lee (49) and Ben Neville (47) had got the home side's reply off to a good start followed by solid knocks from Andrew Wise (21) and Adam Wager (35). Painswick's first eleven were unable to match the second eleven's achievement when in the corresponding away game they lost by 5 wickets. On the same day there were wins for Painswick's third and fourth elevens.

May results (All Saturday matches are league matches unless otherwise stated: * indicates not out).

Sat 1st. Painswick 2nd XI 122 Bredon 2nd XI 125-2.

Sun 9th. Village Knock-Out. Painswick 1st XI 147 Oldlands 1st XI 94.

Wed 12th. Under 17 Knock-Out Cup (20 overs). Painswick 123-4 (B Neville 46) Chipping Sodbury 125-5.

Gloucester Evening Cricket League (20 overs). Painswick 172-8 Gloucester Harlequins 135-5.

Sat 15th. Cinderford St John 1st XI 258-5 Painswick 1st XI 128.

Cinderford 2nd XI 165 Painswick 2nd XI 169-8 (A Wager 51).

Frocester 5th XI 132 Painswick 3rd XI 131. Painswick 4th XI 110 Slimbridge 2nd XI 111-3.

Wed 19th. Evening League. Quedgeley 1st XI 87-5 Painswick 1st XI 90-3 (J Lee 51).

Sat 22nd. Painswick 1st XI 232-6 (J Cook 48 D Cave 63*) Lydney 1st XI 233-5.

Lydney 2nd XI 222-7 Painswick 2nd XI 223-9 (J Lee 49 B Neville 47).

Eastington 1st XI 94 (R Coates 7-42) Painswick 3rd XI 95-0 (C Lovridge 41* A Herbert 50*).

Woodchester 2nd XI 152 (J Morgan 4-45) Painswick 4th XI 153-7 (J Morgan 41).

Sun 23rd. Village Knock-Out. Kingsholm 1st XI 224-7 Painswick 1st XI 225-5 (J Cook 84 A Duncliffe 52).

June fixtures

Sat 5th. Redmarley 1st XI v Painswick 1st XI. Painswick 2nd XI v Redmarley 2nd XI.

Wed 9th. Evening League. Woodpeckers v Painswick.

Fri 11th. Cam Ladies 1st XI v Painswick Ladies 1st XI.

Sat 12th. Painswick 1st XI v Stone 1st XI. Stone 2nd XI v Painswick 2nd XI.

Painswick 3rd XI v Whitminster 1st XI.

Sun 13th. Upton St Leonards v Painswick.

Wed 16th. Evening League. Painswick 1st XI v Gloucester Harlequins 1st XI.



Fri 18th. Gloucester City Winget Under 17 v Painswick Under 17.

Sat 19th. Tewkesbury 1st XI v Painswick 1st XI. Painswick 2nd XI v Tewkesbury 2nd XI.

Stroud 3rd XI v Painswick 3rd XI. Painswick 4th XI v Stroud 4th XI.

Thu 24th. Evening League. Quedgeley 1st XI v Painswick 1st XI.

Sat 26th. Painswick 1st XI v Woodmancote 1st XI. Woodmancote 2nd XI v Painswick 2nd XI.

Painswick 3rd XI v Cam 3rd XI. Cam 4th XI v Painswick 4th XI.

Tennis

On the warm spring evening of Saturday 15th May over 50 members of Painswick Tennis Club enjoyed a 'bluebell' walk on Haresfield Beacon. This was followed by a delicious supper at Edge village hall.

The next event will be the official opening of the new courts at Broadham on the evening of Thursday 8th July by tennis ace Jeremy Bates. Current and past members are welcome to attend and will be able to purchase tickets closer to the time. Details have yet to be finalised, but can be found on our web site www.painswick-tennisclub.co.uk We look forward to a unique and memorable evening and hope that many will join us.



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Junior Football

Under 12s are Champions

Painswick's Under 12s football team have only been in the league for two seasons but this is the second year that they have won the championship. The Chairman Howard Davis writes that the club is always keen to recruit new players. He would welcome a call from anyone with an interest. His number is 07836.515701. The club has a web site: www.painswick.co.uk

11th May. Painswick FC 3 Kings Stanley 0

After the disappointment of being the runners up in the cup final, the dragons faced Kings Stanley again and this time the league title was at stake. Coach Dave Bullingham fired his team up and made tactical changes that transformed the team performance from only days earlier. Paul Jones scored the opening goal and gained a second after half-time. Cal Lazarus was Painswick's other scorer. **Star Player:** Richard Price.

13th May. Painswick FC 6 Golden Valley Rangers 1

Painswick grabbed the league title with both hands in a powerful and dominant display needing only to beat GVR for the championship. Painswick's scorers were, Lloyd Gardiner (2), Dominic Penis (2) and Josh Newton (2). **Star Players:** Lloyd Gardiner and Richard Price.

15th May. Cheltenham Saracens 1 Painswick FC 7

Dave Bullingham took a back seat for this game having secured the title. His assistants Andy and Mike stepped in and the message was to go out and enjoy your football. This they did with seven goals from Josh Newton (2), Tom Coultas (2), Cal Lazarus, Paul Jones and Blake Peacey. **Star Player:** Tom Coultas.

Well done to all the coaching staff on a successful season.

Budding gardeners?

The evidence is there for all to see, the attention Croft pupils gave to the front of the Town Hall last week.

Clearly they enjoyed preparing these urns, prominent as they are in Victoria Square, and the Parish Council will be sharing in thanks from us all.



Social activity at the Golf Club

The Beacon has been overwhelmed with information about the diverse range of social activities being promoted at the Golf Club, and just does not have space to carry them all. Notices there, and among the 'regulars', will give more detail, but here a taste of what is on offer:

- 9th June - Louise Taylor Bowen will be at a pamper & beauty evening. She will be giving a talk & doing a make over. Tickets from Wendy Workman, Events Manager at the club, on 814022
- until 2nd August - Book a meal in the restaurant for 4 or more people and receive a free glass of Pimm's.
- 18th June - Live Band 'The Beatlz'; local builder Bart Brinkman and his band at 7.00pm.
- 26th June - Food & Cookery Stalls 11.00am-7.00pm Free admission and stalls selling food, cookery ware and drinks.

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June report

Having had the great pleasure of being a guest on the "Painswick Show" broadcast by our local radio Stroud FM 107.9, I thought I'd follow up some of the topics discussed, in this month's article. We touched on the scary topic of Rogue Traders; whether they contact you by visiting you in person to sell you a product or a service, or by calling you on the phone or contacting you by email to illicit personal information such as your credit card security number. Please don't give any personal information to any body unless you are absolutely sure you know that the person you are talking to is from a reputable company. If the person is claiming to be from a specific company or bank, tell them you will call that company directly yourself. If you feel that you are being pressurized in any way, (sometime this can be done by the threat of having a power supply or telephone cut off), and this can be a warning sign that the caller is not legitimate. Please do not hand over any money or give your financial details out. Ask for a neighbour, family member or friend to be present if you have arranged for a salesperson to call on you. If that isn't possible and I am free, I'll happily attend the meeting. There have also been recent reports of people being flagged down in their cars by criminals pretending to be the Police. The police have assured us that if they wish to stop someone, they always use their blue lights and if they are in an unmarked car they have a "stop" sign in their rear window. It's a sad state of affairs that we have to be so careful these days, but it's no longer safe to leave your door open to all whether that be literally or metaphorically (I'm getting deep in my older age!).

As your Village Agent I see many people who rarely leave their homes and that can be for all sorts of reasons. I'm always keen to learn about services that can be brought to the home to help those who find it difficult to get out. "Best Foot Forward" is a basic foot care service offered by Gloucestershire Podiatry Service, covering foot screening, toenail cutting and filing, bathing of feet, and cream application to feet, provided by Home Support Workers rather than Podiatrists. Because some medical conditions can affect the feet it will not be appropriate for everyone and medical conditions sometimes require the attention of a Registered Podiatrist. You will need to ask your GP for a referral.

Perhaps when you do go out, it's embarrassing and stressful because you have speech or hearing problems which make it difficult to communicate. There was a recent article in The Echo detailing the numerous problems a young woman with MS had experienced because restaurant and bar owners had thought that she was drunk. Her dilemma has been helped by the charity Speakeasy who have produced a business size card which reads "I have Multiple Sclerosis which causes my speech to be slurred. I am not drunk and I

am not brain damaged. Please be patient with me". Its free and can be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to "Speakeasier", PO Box 410, Cheltenham GL52 9GH

Similar cards can be obtained from a variety of charities including one for those who need to use a toilet urgently.

And finally; I was asked by a reader to include this plea from her. If you are a key holder for a neighbour, ask for a contact list of who you need to contact in case of emergency. Why not have a look around where you live and see who you can offer to help out in this way if you're not already doing so. It can bring great peace of mind to someone to know that they've one less thing to worry about.

Lou Kemp

Thanks

The residents and Staff of Richmond Painswick would like to thank the Friday Club for providing such a wonderful afternoon of entertainment when they joined us in our Auditorium on Friday 30th April.

Jonathan Guinness was a splendid speaker and had us all captivated by his anecdotes on the Mitford Family Well done the Friday Club and we look forward to welcoming you again later in the year.

*Melissa Gough-Rundle
Activities Coordinator*

PROPERTY REPORT for April from Hamptons International

Well, we have now got the General Election behind us but, with a coalition government in place, I suspect many people will feel they know little more than beforehand about what we can expect over the coming months and years - not only from the perspective of the property market but also the economy as a whole.

In the past, the announcement of an election has often slowed down the activity levels in the property market but in 2010 there appears to have been the opposite reaction. April was a very busy month for us and, so far, May is proving to follow that trend. One positive step to have come out of the new government to date is the abolition of the widely-unpopular Home Information Packs. In addition to saving the expense of putting a HIP in place, it will also significantly reduce the time it takes to be able to get new properties onto the open market. An Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) will still be needed but this will not hold up marketing. There are still many unknowns at this point in time, including the rumoured changes to Capital Gains Tax on second properties, but I expect we will learn more about

this, and other proposals, over the coming weeks and months.

Against this backdrop, I feel that, for the first time in many years, we are now in a stable market with interest rates remaining low and a good supply of properties coming onto the market which is being balanced by demand from purchasers.

Since last writing, we have taken on many new instructions - too many to list individually. Of particular note are: Whyte-wall End, a handsome double fronted house; The Coach House in Hale Lane, a four bedroom house with delightful level garden; Highfield, Longridge, a family house now in need of modernisation; and Jay's Hill, a modern bungalow with wonderful views; all of which are now under offer.

Other properties currently under offer include: Sunnyside in Stockend; Roseleigh on Cheltenham Road, Long Acre in Naas Lane, 9 Staites Orchard and Flat 1 Hyett Orchard. Properties that have now sold include Longridge Meend, Norway House, Recreation Cottage, Rose Cottage, Partridge House and Germans.

Guy Tabony



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JUNE

Mon	7	Short Mat Bowls - Mondays (contact 813627) Yoga (Mondays) contact Kim 812623	Town Hall Sheepscombe Vill. Hall	10.30am 6.30 to 8.00pm & 8.15 to 9.45pm
Tue	8	Dog Training Club (Tuesdays)	Christ Church Hall	9.30 to 12.00noon
Wed	9	Yoga (Wednesdays) contact Kim 812623 Probus: Life in the Abyss - Roger Jones Bingo: Wednesdays – Tel. Ann, 813911/Liz, 813139	Sheepscombe Vill. Hall Shires Room, Falcon Painswick Centre	9.30 to 11.00am 10.00am 7.30 to 10.00pm
Thu	10	Yoga - All Abilities (Thursdays) Cotswold Room 812623 T'ai Chi: Thursdays - Contact 812344 Jolly Stompers Line Dancing: Beginners - Thursdays Experienced beginners - Thursdays	Painswick Centre Town Hall Town Hall Town Hall	9.30 to 11.00am 9.30am 12.00 to 1.00pm 12.30 to 1.30pm
Fri	11	Country Market - Coffee available - Fridays Friday Club: History through War Medals - Christopher Hill	Town Hall Town Hall	10.00am 2.30pm
Sat	12	Seven Local Artists opening their Studios, Artists Homes & The Centre (also Sun 13th) Big History Exhibition (<i>page 1</i>)	Town Hall	daily 11.30 to 5.00pm
Sun	13	Bird Club: Two day Residential Field Trip: Wildlife on the Gower Peninsula. Details tel: 813823/813094		
Mon	14	Five nations cycle ride: Bamber (<i>page 9</i>)	Canterbury	
Tue	15	Local History Society: AGM	Croft School	7.30pm
Wed	16	Parish Council Meeting	Town Hall	7.30pm
Fri	18	Friends of the Rococo Gardens outing to the Pigeon House, Southam The Beatz 'live band (<i>page 19</i>)	coach leaves Rococo Gardens Golf Club	10.00am 7.00pm
Sat	19	Copy dateline for July Beacon Painswick Fete (<i>page 15</i>) St Swithuns (Saxon) Church open (<i>page 12</i>) Seven Local Artists opening their Studios, Artists Homes & The Centre (also Sun 20th)	Painswick House Grounds Brookthorpe	1.00 to 4.00pm 10.00-4.30pm daily
Sun	20	Painswick Beacon Clear-up (<i>page 7</i>) Trans-Europe cycle ride: Adlam (<i>page 9</i>)	Catbrain Quarry Car Park Barcelona	2.00 to 3.30pm
Tue	22	Yew Trees W I: The Australian Outback - Bob Price	Town Hall	7.30pm
Wed	23	Probus: From One Language to Another - Tore Fauske	Shires Room, Falcon	10.00am
Fri	25	Friday Club: Life in Stroud 100 Years Ago - Howard Beard	Town Hall	2.30pm
Sat	26	Food and Cookery Stalls (<i>page 9</i>)	Golf Club	11.00am - 7.00pm
Sun	27	Croft School Summer Fete (<i>page 17</i>) Jazz on Sunday 'Jeanne Marlow' (<i>page 24</i>)	Croft School Painswick Centre	2.00 to 4.30pm 12.00 - 3.00pm
Wed	30	Horticultural Society Outing to Cottage Herbery Garden near Tenbury Wells Allotments - open meeting (<i>page 3</i>)	Stamages Car Park Town Hall	1.00pm 7.00pm

JULY

Fri	2	Friday Club: Tracing Mother - Gilly Padbury	Town Hall	2.30pm
Sat	3	July Issue of The Painswick Beacon published		
Tue	6	to 10th As You Like It (<i>page 15</i>)	Rococo Garden	7.30pm
Wed	7	Probus: The Severn Bore - Chris Witts Parish Council Planning Meeting	Shires Room, Falcon Town Hall	10.00am 7.00pm
Fri	9	Conservatives Summer Wine Party	Sheephouse	7.00 to 9.00pm
Sat	10	Painswick Companion Dog Show & Charity Day (<i>page 8</i>) Thameshead Singers Summer concert Victorian Costume Ball. For info Tel: 01453 883150	Recreation Ground St Mary's Church Painswick Centre	From 10.30am 7.30pm 8.00 to 11.30pm
Sun	11	Croft School PTA Butterfly Trail (<i>page 17</i>)	from Croft School	2.00 to 5.00pm
Tue	13	Theatre Club Outing to Malvern	Stamages Car Park	6.30pm
Thu	15	Horticultural Society Outing to the Laskett Garden - Herefordshire	Stamages Car Park	1.00pm
Fri	16	Friday Club: President's Meeting	Town Hall	2.30pm
Wed	21	Probus: Ladies' Summer Luncheon Parish Council Meeting	Edge Village Hall	7.30pm
Tue	27	Yew Trees W I: Beyond the BBC - Roger Jones	Town Hall	7.30pm

AUGUST

Tue	10	Friday Club Outing on River Severn from Worcester to Upton-on-Severn		
Thu	19	Horticultural Society Outing to Powis Castle	Stamages Car Park	8.30am
Wed	25	Theatre Club Outing to Malvern	Stamages Car Park	1.00pm

SEPTEMBER

Wed	8	Probus: Gloucester Docks, Past & Present - Hugh Conway-Jones	Shires Room, Falcon	10.00am
Fri	10	Friday Club: The History of X-Rays - Prof Angela Newing	Town Hall	2.30pm
Sat	11	Horticultural Society Annual show	Painswick Centre	2.30 to 5.30pm
Wed	22	Probus: Hidden Gems of Gloucester - Philip Moss	Shires Room, Falcon	10.00am
Fri	24	Friday Club: Stone Masonry - Art or Architecture - Mark Hancock	Town Hall	2.30pm
Tue	28	Yew Trees W I: Bees and Beekeeping - Roger Eldridge	Town Hall	7.30pm

OCTOBER

Wed	6	Probus: Members Talk	Shires Room, Falcon	10.00am
Fri	8	Friday Club: The History of Writing - Pam Harmer	Richmond, Painswick	2.30pm
Tue	12	Bird Club: Britain's Breeding Seabirds: Graham Wren APRS	Town Hall	7.30pm
Wed	13	Ashwell House Day Centre Coffee Morning	Ashwell House	10.30am
Wed	20	Probus: Hidden Meanings - Peter Petrie	Shires Room, Falcon	10.00am
Fri	22	Friday Club: Autumn trip to Slimbridge		
Tue	26	Yew Trees W I: Demonstration of Enamelling - Jeff Ford	Town Hall	7.30pm

NOVEMBER

Wed	3	Probus: Fylingdales - We are Watching: Mike Speed	Shires Room, Falcon	10.00am
Fri	5	Friday Club A.G.M. - Followed by a talk on Stained Glass - Clare Nayegon at 2.30pm	Town Hall	1.45pm
Sat	6	Painswick Singers perform 'Iolanthe' by Gilbert & Sullivan	Painswick Centre	7.30pm
Tue	9	Bird club: Mysteries of migration - Charles Martin	Richmond, Village	7.30pm
Wed	17	Probus: Who'd be a Rugby Referee - Mike Wallace	Shires Room, Falcon	10.00am
Fri	19	Friday Club: Food for Christmas - Gillian Hancock	Town Hall	2.30pm
Tue	23	Yew Trees W I: Hearing Dogs for Deaf People - Tracey Stevens. Followed by AGM	Town Hall	7.30pm

DECEMBER

Wed	1	Probus: Carry on up the Khyber - Railways in Pakistan: Michael Burdge	Shires Room, Falcon	10.00am
Fri	3	Friday Club Christmas Lunch	Sheepscombe V. Hall	
Wed	8	Probus: Christmas Dinner	The Hill, Stroud	
Tue	14	Yew Trees W I: Christmas Gathering	Town Hall	7.30pm
Sat	18	Painswick Singers Christmas Concert	Christ Church	7.30pm
Mon	20	Carol singing around Painswick: Contact Iris McCormick 812879		6.00pm

Messages to the Beacon

We are very grateful to correspondents for almost all incoming news and items reaching us by Email - a truly great saving in time, compared with days of yore!

Some, however, are coming to members of the editing committee by name*, rather than the Beacon Email address of

beacon@painswick.net

We are in the process of re-organising editing arrangements so, **for news or copy to go directly into our pages**, please use our Email address. If you do that it reaches whichever of the two or three who may be Co-ordinating editor for the next month, and avoids the risk that it gets stuck on the computer of another of them if they happen to be away - even on holiday.

Our thanks, in anticipation, and we still try to acknowledge within 48 hours or so. Do please get back in touch if you haven't heard.

* Copy for Sport, Personal Column and Village Diary can, helpfully, go directly to those concerned - please.

Messages not to the Beacon

Reader feedback is always welcome, and one we had recently we are keen to pass on.

Many are those who

hide their light under a bushel

There are some clubs and societies who are truly 'switched on', and we regularly receive and publish their reports. However, there are those who move into the village and would like to know about the activities of others, under-represented in these pages, before deciding which to attend, and probably join.

How about some news from such as: the Billiards Club, Paradise Community, Dog Training Classes, Rugby Club, PaDFAS, Bridge Club, Bellringers, Puffins, Monday Walking Group, Ashwell House, Cotteswold Naturalists, Cub Scouts and Guides, Young Farmers, Youth Club, and so on?

NEW APPLICATIONS

MILL POOL HOUSE, Tickleston Lane. Erection of replacement stable block.
HILL HOUSE, Far End, Sheepscombe. Remedial works to Yew Tree rear of lawn.
DOVER COTTAGE, Vicarage Street. Repoint exterior of dwelling.
CASTLE HALE, Stamages Lane. Works to Tree.
YEW TREE HOUSE, Vicarage Street. Works to Tree.
THE CHURN, Hale Lane. Works to Tree.
CLEVERLEYS, Vicarage Street. Demolish existing garage & build new 2 storey extension & enlarge conservatory.

REVISED PLANS

CEDAR HOUSE, Stamages Lane. Demolition of existing single garage and construction of double garage.

CONSENT

COURT COTTAGE, Hale Lane. Replacement shed.
ROBINS NEST, The Retreat, The Camp. Retention of existing hut to form a replacement dwelling.
7 CANTON ACRE, Painswick. Erection of an attached dwelling.
WAYLAND, Cotswold Mead. Erection of porch.
OLIVERS, Cheltenham Road. Construction of greenhouse.
CROFT PRIMARY SCHOOL, Churchill Way. Alterations to create new Main Entrance & reception area with internal alterations to offices & over-roofing of Children's Centre, Admin offices and main entrance.

Chernobyl Children's Project

Two undergraduates are walking from Land's End to John O'Groats to raise funds for the Chernobyl Children's Project. The charity provides humanitarian aid to children who are still suffering the effects of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster, including thyroid cancer and leukaemia.

They will be passing through Painswick on 12th July and hope to find free bed and board that night. Would any local hotel or B&B interested in helping please contact Michael Buckland-Smith on 813202 or email mjbs@aramis.demon.co.uk. Details about the walk can be found at www.walk1000.co.uk.

DASH

Delivering Aid to Stroud Homeless

Thanks to all the people who have been saving their loose change, we have been able to donate another £50 to Marah's contingency fund. This brings the total contributed in this way over the past 9 months to £155, so please keep saving your small change (1ps, 2ps and 5ps) and give them to either Alison Robinson (812286) or Frances Watson (812071) who are authorised to collect on behalf of Marah (the Stroud based charity through whom we work). We are also happy to come to collect any contributions since a bag full of coppers is quite a weight to carry around!

Now the weather is at last warmer, Marah no longer needs cuppa soups but are asking for squeezey bottles of salad cream instead. Some of Marah's clients are in Bed and Breakfast accommodation with very limited cooking facilities so easily heated tinned meals (e.g. minced beef and onions) are also very welcome. Finally, the cooks who prepare the meals served three times a week at the drop-in centre have an ongoing need for empty ice cream or margarine cartons (2 litre size preferred).

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Dogs. I provide a 'holiday cottage' for dogs. All creature comforts, a 'home from home'. Sandra Illingworth, 10 Hyett Close. 812678

Wanted to rent - unfurnished 1-2 bedroom Cottage. Reliable, trustworthy female relocating due to work. Comes with 2 cats/1 dog/1 horse. Preferably equestrian facilities nearby. House share considered. nzhuntaway@hotmail.co.uk 07980.004812

MINI-ADS - Free to subscribers.

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Text maximum of 30 words + payment by cheque in advance, to 'The Painswick Beacon', to Dermot Cassidy, 1 Painswick Heights, Yokehouse Lane, GL6 7QS

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Alison Robinson

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The Personal Column

Rachel Taylor and Jenny Gaugain

Weddings

Congratulations to ANDREW GAMBLE and CHARLOTTE BARRAND who are to be married at St Mary's, Painswick, on 5th June at 3.00pm,

also to KIM HAWKINS and JANE WORKMAN who are to be married at St John's, Sheepscombe, at 2.00pm on 5th June,

also to ROBERT MAYO and JANE DAVIES who are marrying at Harescombe Church on 12th June at 1.30pm,

also STEVEN GALLOP and SUSAN LEVELL who are to be married at St John's, Pitchcombe, at 3.00pm on 12th June,

and TROY COLES and JANNI HENRIKSEN who are to be married at St John's, Pitchcombe at 12 noon on 19th June,

and RICHARD QUARRY and ANNA WELBOURN whose marriage takes place at St Mary's, Painswick, at 12 noon on 26th June.

Welcome

We would like to welcome PAUL ARMITAGE and ANNE POLET who have moved into 11 Stroud Road.

Condolences

Our sincere sympathies to the family and friends of ARTHUR PERRINS who has died recently

Congratulations

Extended to LEE SCOTT of Cotswolds88 upon winning Chef of the Year in the Cotswold Life Food and Drink Awards for 2010.

Personal messages

Sandra Illingworth would like to thank the three young Good Samaritans who "scraped me off the pavement where I tripped up last month, dusted me down, and saw that I got home safely with my dear friends Lyn and Derek Standen".

Rachel Taylor and her family thank all those who donated so generously to 'Help The Heroes' in memory of Len, and £1774.90 + 100 dollars was sent to the charity.

Jean Clarkson of Queens Mead, would like to thank friends and neighbours for their cards and offers of help during her recent illness.

Did you know?

* That the Sue Ryder Hospice at Leckhampton is the only residential hospice in Gloucestershire?

* That Sue Ryder relies entirely on voluntary contributions?

* That you can support this very worthwhile charity by coming to "JAZZ ON A SUNDAY" at the Painswick Centre, on Sunday 27th June, between 12 noon and 3.00pm.

As previously, jazz singer Jeanne Marlow will be joined by her backing group playing easy listening songs and music from the Cole Porter/Irving Berlin era.

Tickets cost just £6, £7 at the door. We will also be serving a unique Ploughman's Lunch supported by a full Bar Service.

Tickets are available from The Chairman, or telephone 814070.



Ralph Drew

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