

The Painswick Beacon

Volume 33 Number 8

Sine praeiudicio

November 2010

Jason's big day

Just two weeks ago actor Jason Durr formally opened the latest Cotswold Care Hospice charity shop in Bisley Street.



Welcoming Jason, the Head of Fundraising for the hospice Peter Rowbottom reminded the many villagers who had come along for this auspicious event that in the order of £2.3 million is required annually to fund the hospice, of which only 10% comes from statutory and other agencies. The hospice helps more than 500 people with life-limiting illnesses annually, no small undertaking. Closing this truly enormous gap depends in large measure upon shops such as that in Painswick and others in Minchinhampton and Tetbury. Peter expressed the appreciation of all concerned for the support



already forthcoming here in Painswick, contributors, friends and voluntary workers whose role is crucial and of such importance. When asked whether the shops he helps promote are distinctive from others in the 'charity' arena Peter was clearly delighted to say that the quality of clothing and other goods brought to them for sale was distinctively high and that this enhanced their appeal to the buying public.

Jason Durr, who lives locally and was accompanied by his wife and children, echoed these remarks and did the 'honours' of declaring the shop officially open. Jason's career is one known to many; originating from work with the Royal Shakespeare Company he had more recently starred in 'Above Suspicion', and played PC Mike Bradley in the series 'Heartbeat'. That word proved to be accurate, given the number of ladies present who jumped at the chance of a photograph with him!

It is of interest to note that a bin bag full of clothes can be worth £50 to Cotswold Care. Need we say more?

Painswick Brownies at Cheltenham racecourse for the finale of the centenary of the foundation of Guiding by Lord Baden Powell. All the members of the Guiding family in the United Kingdom renewed their promises together at 20:10, 20/10, 2010.

BEST MATE ENCLOSURE



On other pages this month - Janet Hoyle moving on, road closure and road clean, energy monitor loan, day centre quarter century, 1000 crocus planted, birds off mainland - and new Falcon duo welcomed, book by local 'bloke' - and one to mail-order, the RK fitness regime, puppies safe, Mandela encounter, women up the 'cut', PO braced, and remembering the fallen.

Three members of the public and County Councillor, Joan Nash, attended the Council's October meeting in the Town Hall.

PLANNING

Applications

While four planning applications were supported, the Planning Committee agreed to object to a proposal for an extension at Butts Cottage, Edge Road, to preserve the light for the nearby Hambutts Cottages and because parking provision was inadequate. In addition, the Committee objected to a proposal to convert the disused Old Telephone Exchange on the Stroud Road to a dwelling, because this would fall outside the designated Village envelope, contravening the Local Plan.

District Councillors attendance

Some concern was expressed regarding recent absences at Parish Council meetings of either or both of Painswick's District Councillors, Frances Roden and Barbara Tait. This contrasted with County Councillor Joan Nash, who almost always attended. As it appeared to be easier for the District Councillors to share attendance, the Council resolved to write to both expressing the hope that this could be so. The Council also agreed to approach Councillor Tait, asking her to share her rationale with this Council whenever such is practicable when deciding, in the District Council, to vote contrary to the views expressed by the Parish Council eg. in supporting the controversial application for a motorway service area near Brookthorpe.

PARISH COUNCIL

Allotments

The Chairman, Terry Parker, announced that fifteen residents so far had expressed an interest in taking allotments at the Mop Tree site, subject to agreement on terms and conditions. However, sorting out parking arrangements continued to pose difficulties, including the late discovery that the Manorship's agreement was needed to secure access to the field from the road. The Council was in negotiations and hoped to agree the matter satisfactorily. However, the Council had yet to resolve concerns by Golf Club members about the risk to users parking by the site from flying golf balls. Councillors were hoping to address the problem by finding alternative parking locations. The Chairman assured those present, including the Beacon, that the project had by no means stalled, that there were always issues arising with complex proposals and that the Council would continue to press ahead energetically towards meeting the objective. The fact that there were no comments from members of the public present was taken as encouraging.

Local Broadband

[See separate report on page 16]

Memorial Bench - Simon Wheatley

The Council welcomed a proposal in principle to site a memorial bench in memory of the late Simon Wheatley, who had given much of his time to the old youth club, somewhere close to the club building. The bench would be paid for from funds left over from the club's accounts.

Library Facilities

The Chairman briefed the Council on recent exchanges with the County Council about the future of library services in Painswick. There appeared to have been some misunderstanding about the scope of the Council's earlier requests for information. Recognising that the County Council was conducting a county-wide review of library services against the backdrop of anticipated forthcoming cuts in central government provision, the Parish Council had simply been seeking for some kind of indicative statement about the future of the old library building, which had had to be closed due to safety concerns. However, the Parish Council had now been provided with the findings of the survey conducted by the County Council, to gauge usage of library services in Painswick and rank other options in determining possible future provision, such as alternative locations or a permanent mobile service. Councillor Parker had also been assured that the Parish Council would be consulted before any decisions were taken on the possible disposal of the old library building.

Christmas Lighting of the Yew Trees

Councillors had already viewed one of the yew trees in the churchyard, which had been equipped temporarily for the meeting with Christmas lights, at the invitation of Chris Mercer, on behalf of Painswick Matters, Painswick's association of businesses and traders. The association had offered to fund Christmas tree lights for the trees along New Street, at a cost of £200 per tree. The lights would be supplied by Phil Irons, a local businessman. The Council was being asked if it could procure the lighting VAT-free on behalf of Painswick Matters, cover insurance costs and accept responsibility for storage for future years. Although Councillors welcomed this generous offer and would encourage Painswick Matters to go ahead, they concluded that they could not purchase the lights for Painswick Matters or accept responsibility for insurance, in view of difficulties insuring against theft and vandalism. However, as a gesture of goodwill, the Council would be prepared to contribute £250 towards the project and find some acceptable solution for long-term storage.

The Tourist Information Centre

The Clerk reminded the Council that the Tourist Information Centre (TIC) now located in the Town Hall would not re-

ceive funding from the District Council from 2011 onwards, in the light of anticipated cut-backs, because support for tourism was not a statutory responsibility. However, so long as the Centre remained in the Town Hall, its running costs were unlikely to be higher than £200 a year, because the Parish Council already provided free accommodation, heating, telephone and internet access. Councillor Rob Lewis offered to explore with colleagues in Painswick Matters whether a contribution could be made towards the Centre's running costs.

County Councillor's Report

Councillor Joan Nash reported that the County was waiting confirmation of the implications of the Government's comprehensive spending review, expecting to find a shortfall in funding of £120 million over the next four years. She warned that, with a freeze on Council Tax, it was inevitable that many residents would find services on which they depended withdrawn or scaled back. The County would announce its own consequential four-year finance plan on 4th November. Councillor Nash then mentioned on-going repairs to potholes throughout the County, caused by last winter's severe weather and the start in November of major works to stabilise continuing slippage at Cooper's Hill. Single-lane traffic would be controlled by temporary traffic lights, which would be manned at peak periods to manage queuing, but some delays were unavoidable. Joan Nash also referred to a letter to be sent to residents of Churchill Way, announcing impending carriage-way resurfacing works. In response to a question from Councillor David Hudson, she explained that every effort would be made to keep access open, subject to contingencies.

Ward Reports

Amongst other matters, Councillor Ann Burges Watson expressed dissatisfaction with the delay in repairing the pavement in Gloucester Street. She also drew attention to a recent Gloucestershire Highways pamphlet, explaining that residents were permitted to clear snow and ice outside their premises, but should not use hot water as this can form black ice. Councillor Ann Daniels drew attention to the blocked culvert along Tibbiwell. The Council approved requests by Councillor Jason Bullingham to arrange for some grit for a new grit bin purchased by residents at Upper Washwell and from Councillor Jacqueline Woof for a grant of £300 towards the Slad Society pantomime. Councillor Hudson expressed concern that no decision seemed to have been taken about retaining the warden for the sheltered housing at Ashwell and it was agreed that the Council would chase the matter with the District Council.

Day Club

Some activities in this village of ours have a high profile. The Painswick Youths are known to be tugging their ropes as the bells peal out, the dedicated horticulturists proudly exhibit their achievements or tend gardens and containers to appeal to our eyes.

Others have a lower profile but, it is suggested, considerably significant for those they serve. Two immediately come to mind; the CAB - of which more elsewhere in this issue - and the **Ashwell House Day Centre**. Last month the latter celebrated twenty five years of regular Wednesday get-togethers and the Beacon was privileged to capture that occasion in spirit and on camera.



Here, were all able to attend on 6th October, together with some of the helpers who make these weekly occasions such a success. As most of us move around our daily routines it is not part of our thinking that we might yearn for the chance to chat with someone; we may have a spouse or partner with whom we share our lives, or we may be pretty active and be out and about most days. For some, and mercifully it is not a huge number, the hours and days can drag somewhat if our contacts are few, or limited to brief visits by neighbours, care services, or maybe none but the postman!

There is so much to share as we grow older, so many memories to draw upon to compare with those of others, many and ever stronger desires to be somewhere in 'the swim of things'. Painswick has a truly proud tradition of vigilance and caring about the

needs of others, and the Wednesdays in the lounge at Ashwell House has to be a prime example of this trait. Champagne and anniversary cake was shared this day, as you can see, while on other occasions lunch is enjoyed, after morning coffee soon after arriving about 10.00am.

'Distractions' abound, including arts and crafts (as seen on the back wall - although even better in its vivid colours), games and poetry reading, plus an occasional outing. On this particular occasion all were drawn into looking at news items dating from that October in 1985, a real memory jogger, and the time when Princess Diana visited the village and the Guild Exhibition.

A delightful atmosphere of friendships and sharing. Incidentally, there is room for a few more if they would like to come along on future

Wednesdays, whether as members or to help out regularly or fairly often. Do get in touch with Anne Kenber on 813259 or Ethel James on 813358 if you are moved to participate. As Pat Walker, on the right in the smaller photograph, reminded us of her being at the very first meeting, or Pam Musty who joined in helping 22 years ago, nothing but pleasure and appreciation has stemmed from these weekly hours together.



LWB

Painswickians of the Year - roll call

- 1985 Colleen Hayne
- 1986 Hazel Hendry
- 1987 Phyl Crooks & Robert Payne
- 1988 Peggy Perrins & Paddy Wildy
- 1989 Kathleen Wear & June Crane
- 1990 Fred Semark
- 1991 Carol Parker
- 1992 Margie Hamilton
- 1993 Freda Cox
- 1994 Dr Jim Hoyland
- 1995 Pam Musty
- 1996 Christl & Quentin Mathias
- 1997 Patrick Daly
- 1998 Jennie Oakley
- 1999 Margaret & Charles Say
- 2000 Barbara & John Hulme
- 2001 Bill & Phil Varah
- 2002 Joyce Tranter
- 2003 Pam Bailey
- 2004 Hilda Musty
- 2005 Jack & Rose Smith
- 2006 Michael Buttrey
- 2007 Martin Slinger
- 2008 Iris McCormick
- 2009 June Gardiner & Sue Coates

Painswickian nominations invited

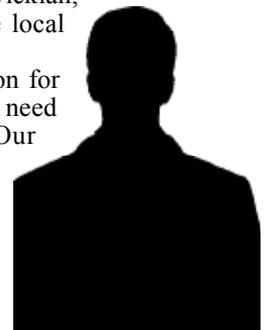
As most readers will be aware, it is our custom to choose a Painswickian, someone whose exceptional qualities and contribution to the local community justifies the accolade of Painswickian of the Year.

So, we invite any resident to make a nomination for consideration by the Beacon committee; but we need such **by Monday 22nd November** please. Our choice of date is so that we have time to catch up with them, take their photograph, and prepare some words about their local deeds ready for publication in our January issue to brighten up the New Year.

Your nominee for 2010 can be young or old, female or male, an individual or a couple. We're after someone who brought credit to the village in the last year or more, or gave exceptional

service to the community. We prefer not to have lengthy letters, or lobbying, but ideally a **postcard and a maximum of 100 words** and marked 'POY' delivered to the Beacon box or by Email to beacon@painswick.net with POY in the subject line.

We look forward to hearing from you, and the self-imposed task of making a choice.



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Conscience bit

In last month's issue the Beacon carried, in its Police Report (*on page 16*), reference to the theft of a charity box containing cash 'raised for the recent floods in Pakistan'.

The Beacon has received an anonymous hand written note stating as follows:

"The collection for the Pakistan Flood Disaster has been returned with a donation and sincere apologies to the Londis Store in Painswick and all concerned with this appeal this has been returned voluntary."

It adds, "Out of something bad come good and man's shortcomings can bring humility. Ill gotten gains is true brings only pain."

We spoke with Ray Singh, and share with him the pleasure regarding the outcome; and the new found courage of the individual concerned.

Seasonal poetry

Even editing types can be inclined towards poetry which associates with the prevailing season, and these two caught his eye.

How silently they tumble down
And come to rest upon the ground
To lay a carpet, rich and rare,
Beneath the trees without a care,
Content to sleep, their work well done,
Colours gleaming in the sun.

At other times, they wildly fly
Until they nearly reach the sky.
Twisting, turning through the air
Till all the trees stand stark and bare.
Exhausted, drop to earth below
To wait, like children, for the snow.
'Leaves' by Elsie N. Brady

November comes
And November goes,
With the last red berries
And the first white snows.

With night coming early,
And dawn coming late,
And ice in the bucket
And frost by the gate.

The fires burn
And the kettles sing,
And earth sinks to rest
Until next spring.

by Elizabeth Coatsworth



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Rococo Garden Entrance volunteers



Do you have two or three hours to spare? Painswick Rococo Garden needs more people to help man (woman) the entrance desk. Modern tills with easy-to-use touch screens and no need for mathematics! The garden is open from 10th January until the end of October daily. Sessions are 11.00am to 2.00pm and 2.00pm to 4.30pm.

You will meet lots of interesting people from the UK and around the world, most of whom are keen to chat, as well as the gardeners and members of staff. You will receive a discount on items bought in the shop. A FREE lunch is provided. You will have access to the various events laid on for the Friends of the Rococo Garden which include coach outings, Christmas parties, Friends' Lunches, etc.

For more details, or to express an interest in doing a session (once a week or once a fortnight, or even less frequently) talk to, or e-mail, Paul on 813204 painsgard@aol.com

Angela Newing (committee member)

Money meter

Watching one's money slip into the palm of one's hand at a cash-point machine is to marvel at the ingenuity of inventive man (or woman).

To watch it disappearing is part of the latest of gadgets, and one over which we can have control, unlike slot-machines.

The Beacon has been informed, by the ever energetic Severn and Wye Energy Agency of a particularly useful device; and you don't even have to add it as a 'must have' on your Christmas present list.

Their Karen Robinson says, "As the nights draw in and the temperature falls away, we start to notice a marked increase in our energy use – winter tends to be the most energy hungry time of year and the most expensive. Have you ever thought about how much it actually costs to run your washing machine at 60 degrees compared to a 30 degree wash or how much electricity you use by leaving that television on standby? Gloucestershire libraries, in collaboration with the local energy company, Seven Wye Energy Agency, are hiring out Energy Monitors that allow you to see how much electricity your household is using and more importantly how much it is wasting. For the cost of just £1 you can hire one for 3 weeks, in the same way you would a book. For more information visit your local library or visit the Gloucestershire Libraries website www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/libraries/energy"

We enquired as to whether a village such as ours, very lowly in the 'library stakes' would still be able to borrow the device, even though such would require accurate timing in order to catch the mobile service as it switches off its engine in Stamages car park on a Monday morning. Karen came straight back to us with 100% good news, "Yes the mobile libraries do have a supply of monitors and because they only visit every 2 weeks, you are able to borrow them for 4 weeks rather than 3. I went out with the Stroud mobile library a couple of weeks ago and know that at the time they had 6 for hire".

We assure you, they are fascinating to watch, so why not try it out and let the Beacon know what you think? No electrical qualifications required.

Police phone numbers



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anonymously **0800 555 111**



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Painswick Toddler Group

Painswick Toddler Group has now restarted after the summer holidays and we would like to welcome any local toddlers (Painswick and surrounding areas) and parents/carers to join us at our small but friendly session of informal play, friendly chat, coffee/juice and sing-song.



We really appreciate your support for this village facility, and are always happy to try and incorporate any changes or ideas you think may enhance the group or help us to facilitate you and your child/children better. Unfortunately we are unable to change the time of the session which we know isn't ideal and often coincides with nap and lunchtimes for your little ones, however please feel free to drop in anytime between 1.30-3.00pm even if it's just for ten minutes!

We now have a few new mums attending with younger babies, so would welcome 'new' parents to join us to and help meet other new mums and dads in the village.

We meet on Wednesdays at 1.30-3pm at the Painswick Playgroup Building in Churchill Way.

Please contact Alex 812888 or Emma 814193 if you would like any further information.

Painswick Players

You don't have to be an actor to enjoy theatre! The Painswick Players invite you to join us at our regular play-readings, held in the Green Room at the Painswick Centre on the last Tuesday of most months, beginning at 7.30 pm. Our next session will be on Tuesday 30th November when



we will be reading Season's Greetings by Alan Ayckbourn. Be assured, we do this for

fun and everyone will receive a very warm welcome (including tea and biscuits). Future readings will be publicised in the 'Village Diary' page of The Painswick Beacon.

Stephen Friar

Rain Doesn't Stop the Planting

A very wet and windy day did not put off the children of Croft Primary School as they braved the elements to help residents of Richmond Painswick retirement village and members of Stroud Rotary raise money for the "Thanks for Life" campaign to eradicate polio in children across the world.

Thirty pupils dug in 1,000 purple crocus bulbs at the entrance to the Richmond complex, whilst the remaining pupils planted a further 250 bulbs at the school.

Many of the children were dressed in purple as children receiving the polio vaccination have purple dye placed on their little fingers to signify they have received the vaccine. The residents also held a competition for the children and asked them to write a poem or story, or draw a picture on the "purple polio" theme. After a difficult judging session, book token prizes were presented



at school assembly by resident, Pat Middleton, to Max Murray (1st Prize), Alice Bradley (2nd Prize) and Ellie Hiatt (3rd Prize). A further 5 Certificates of Commendation were issued.

Between the school children and the residents, £600 was raised which will provide vaccines for 3,000 children – with £172 being raised by the Croft Primary School.

Susie Oakley

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Quite a buzz

A coach full of members and friends enjoyed a cold but cheerful visit to Highgrove in September, a trip that may well be repeated in late Spring next year.

The five prospective members didn't realise that they were in for such a treat when Roger Eldridge gave a delightful presentation on "Bees and Beekeeping" at our September meeting. Roger has been keeping bees locally for many years, but has often been entreated to remove wasp nests and swarms of bees, neither of which is part of his remit!



Members were shown the construction of a beehive and Roger explained the purpose of each part, as well as the different roles of the bees in the hive. Did you know that drones, contrary to popular belief, actually do have a significant role to play at night, when they return to the hive and form a warm shield between the worker bees and the hive.



Roger explained many of the problems facing bees at the moment, a subject close to Yew Trees' heart. All bees are now infected by the destructive Varroa mite, and there are other honey bee diseases affecting hives around the world. Education for new beekeepers is a priority, as well as research into the cause of the declining bee population.

Honey is the reward for maintaining the hives, and members were offered various tastings from Roger's delicious selection. Yew Trees are sponsoring a hive through the British Beekeepers Association as a thank you for such an entertaining evening.

This month our speaker will be Tracy Stevens who will be talking about "Hearing Dogs for Deaf People". If this is a subject that appeals to you, ladies, do come along to the Town Hall on Tuesday 23rd November at 7.30, when you will be assured of a warm welcome.

Janine Clarke

Breeding round the isles

The first meeting of the session, was held at the Town Hall on 12th October, welcoming back Graham Wren ARPS, to talk about the 24 species of Britain's breeding sea birds.

Our coastal tour of the Britannic islands began on St. Kilda's and ended with its spectacular sunset. Its amazing stacks house some 69,000 gannet pairs whilst herring gulls which are steeply in decline - down 50% in a decade. Many sea bird species lay two eggs, nests terrain - protected. Plumage variation by species, sex, season, age was elegantly shown. Behaviours also widely diverge. Perhaps the Farne's female shags are mute in admiration of croaky males fully indulging in incubating eggs, feeding young?! Few could fail to recognise the strange beauty of Harris' puffins (*pictured*), one remarkably portrayed with no less than 53 eels in beak!



Prevailing memories of this talk, are of the questions raised by sharp rise and fall of adjacent bird populations, of vivid illustrations of sea birds and a terrain, majestic and wild, an aesthetic and ecological delight.

The next open meeting will not be at the Town Hall but at Richmond Village on 9th November at 7.30pm when Charles Martin, ornithologist, will give an illustrated talk on the 'Mysteries of Bird Migration'. Everybody will be welcome.

Martin & Wendy Addy



Market receiving orders

Your very own Country Marketeers are taking orders for Christmas:

Christmas Cakes, Puddings, Mince Pies, Chocolate Logs, Chutneys and Marmalade. Savoury Dishes - to save you cooking. **Local Beef** - we receive many compliments about its quality. **Craft items** including jewellery and of course **plants and planted bowls**.



Everything may be ordered in advance, so why not pop in on a Friday morning to discuss and place your order while enjoying a coffee and cake.

Anne Leoni Secretary

Christmas cover picture

It has been our custom, in recent years, to present our December (Christmas) issue with a full colour cover - as well as a rear page with eye-catching pictures from the past year.

We have been delighted to receive and reproduce art work and photographs from children, artists, and others. In so doing we can not only draw attention to their skills, but also those of organisations to which they belong.

Any received by 22nd November will be considered, so do please think about sending something our way. It must be original, be readily identified as depicting Painswick at that time of year, and in the case of the front cover be 18.5cm by 22cm or proportionately under those dimensions. A glance at those used in previous years can reveal what we are looking for on our web site www.painswickbeacon.org.uk



In anticipation - **'Thank you'**.

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Services of Remembrance

On Remembrance Day

Thursday 11th November at 10.50am
there will be a short service
at the War Memorial
during which wreaths will be laid
All local organisations are invited
to participate in this ceremony..

The annual Service of Remembrance

will be held in St Mary's Church
at 10.50am on Sunday 14th November.

Everyone will be most welcome
at these services

Your Citizens Advice Bureau - an update

First, I would like to thank all those of you who have so kindly stepped up to the mark with your help following the article in the June Beacon. Each standing order really helps us secure the future of the bureau, and your donations have been most generous. With your help, we have now reached one quarter of our target of 400 people from across the Stroud area donating £5 per month.

You will be aware that life for us all is going to get harder, with the increased taxes and cuts in public services that are now planned. It will also be harder for the Bureau because the money to fund our service is getting harder to find and there will be more people who need advice on debt, benefits, housing and employment issues to name a few key areas.

In my view, we are the real fourth emergency service. As a trustee of the charity I do not normally see clients, but I did sit in on one interview. The man came in, very stressed and upset, completely overwhelmed by not knowing what to do. One of our volunteer advisors helped him structure his problems and gave him the advice and confidence to tackle the issues one by one. You could see his sense of panic and helplessness starting to recede as the interview progressed. We cannot get rid of problems, but we can and do help people tackle them and help them back from the brink.

Remember we are a local charity and depend on donations to maintain our service in the Stroud area. If you would like to know more about us, help us financially with a donation or standing order, or help us with your time, then please let me know or visit our website www.strouddistrictcab.org.uk.

Peter Rowe (vice Chair, Stroud and District Citizens Advice Bureau) 813228



New at The Falcon

The Falcon is under new management. The changeover occurred quickly early in October but already there is a fresh uplifted atmosphere in this lovely old inn.

Brian and Kaye Hobbis (*on the left in our picture*) are here with a mission – to restore the pub to its former glory. With over thirty years experience in the hotel and catering trade, they work with an agency that places people such as themselves in pubs and hotels which ‘need bringing back to life.’ They certainly have a proven track record of success behind them in recent years, so their enthusiasm for The Falcon is very welcome.

They see its potential as a splendid pub, restaurant and hotel but are also aware of how much work is required to restore it properly. A beautiful building ready for an ‘uplift’, it definitely ‘needs some TLC’ says Kaye. Within days of taking over, she had rolled up her sleeves and cleaned the place from top to bottom, giving it a fresh new look. Already the restaurant is so much more attractive with its spotless table cloths and fresh flowers, and the accommodation upstairs has received similar treatment. The kitchen too has had a makeover with new equipment replacing the old inefficient sets.

Staff morale is a priority and has already received consideration, with all being supportive of the actions that Brian and Kaye are taking. As a team they have renewed enthusiasm to give The Falcon a much needed boost. As Brian points out, it is an important place in Painswick with a long and interesting history and still has so much to offer to both local people and visitors.

Hospitality at The Falcon is excellent, and the food is highly recommended. ‘We have a terrific chef, Michal, and pastry

chef, Jarka,’ says Kaye, ‘and there is a 15% discount for senior citizens on Tuesdays.’

There is also a very good range of beers and wines.

Brian and Kaye are definitely ‘hands-on’ and willing to do whatever needs to be done.



They and the staff have already worked hard to bring about a restoration of this inn which has always been a significant feature of Painswick life. Within a few weeks they have achieved much and it is already up and running with a fresh lively atmosphere. However, as they say, it needs the help and support of the people of Painswick to truly bring it back to its former glory.

Do go in and see what’s on offer – you’ll be pleasantly surprised.

Carol Maxwell

THE PAINSWICK PHARMACY NEW STREET PAINSWICK (01452) 812263

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Andre Previn's career

The quite amazing versatility of the universally admired gifted musical performer Andre Previn came over to us loud and clear on 1st October through Gordon Collins' fascinating historical review that was interspersed with beautifully selected recordings. There was plenty to choose from, starting with serious music conducted by the child prodigy at the age of 8! Previn is equally at ease as a concert pianist – we heard him playing the Toccata by Poulenc, in a Mendelssohn trio (chamber music is his speciality) and accompanying Sylvia McNair singing - as an orchestral conductor, of the LSO at one time, especially fond of English music - we listened to him conducting the finale of the Enigma Variations.

No less is he an orchestrator and arranger, composer, accompanist – and very much so, a jazz musician, both player and composer. The man's creativeness and skill have stamped him as a very rare musician and Gordon Collins did him full justice – no wonder there were so many new faces in the audience!

Ralph Kenber

Benjamin Britten

On 18th October Ian Hiscock gave a well-researched and enthusiastic presentation on Benjamin Britten (1913-1976). Much of it was on Britten's less well known works.

Some of his compositions were disarmingly simple, with Britten aiming to clarify the underlying music. In particular he aimed at vocalisation rather than reliance on words. Ian illustrated this with reference to his choral pieces: Friday Afternoons and his Nocturne. He also wished to make his music accessible to children and brooded on their fantasies: "Will you be Mother Comfort or shall I?" In due course he wrote The Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra. He was born in Suffolk and remained very attached to its seafaring traditions, as shown in his opera Peter Grimes. He was able to conjure up an image in a very few bars, for example in his summing up of the elaborate and poetic libretto of A Midsummer Night's Dream.

The second half of Ian's presentation was illustrated by some of Britten's better known works: Albert Herring told a story of innocence destroyed; Dies Irae in his War Requiem offers another illustration of his ability to create an image in a few bars; and in Gloriana, he kept the scene moving forwards through the agitation of the strings.

Benjamin Britten cooperated closely with Peter Pears and also with the poet Auden.

Richard Burges Watson



John Goes into Print

John Anderson describes himself as 'an ordinary bloke who has had an extraordinary life.' Alongside a very successful business career he has simultaneously had to deal with a combination of difficult personal experiences. The upshot of this complex mix is the production of an interesting book which John, who lives in Painswick, has published himself. He describes it overall as a self-help book and one which he feels may benefit a wide range of readers.



For several years John, a highly qualified engineer, ran a high-powered international IT company. Difficulties in his family life however, eventually led to the decision to care full-time for his son who has epilepsy, especially after a near-fatal car crash. John recognised the need to develop hitherto unexplored inner resources particularly those concerned with caring and nurturing. He feels that a combination of all his life experiences has led to a greater understanding of how people deal with challenges.

The resultant book, which is very readable, explains how we can develop our sense perceptions through exploring memory and experiences in order to understand our true nature and present situation. It employs a scientific, religious, psychological and philosophical approach and explains John's thinking both about his reasons for writing and his suggested self-help strategies. He maintains that self-awareness should lead to improved relationships.

John believes that his book, The Art of Being Human, can be read by anyone at any level, without prior knowledge of science or philosophy, and that all will take something from it on a personal level. It can be used beneficially as a reference book or an inspiring read about how to overcome difficult life circumstances. He hopes that it will help people find greater fulfilment in all aspects of their lives. 'There are elements in it which everyone can recognise,' he says. It is certainly a book which challenges the status quo, but nonetheless useful in everyday life.

Eventually John hopes to set up a centre where his ideas can be put into practice to help people more practically. In the meantime his book is available locally from Painswick Post Office, or email John for further information at john@just-being.co.uk.

Carol Maxwell

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Age is an issue of mind over matter. If you don't mind, it doesn't matter.

DASH

- Delivering Aid to Stroud Homeless

As Christmas approaches, we are once again asked to remember the disadvantaged and homeless in our own locality. Marah (the charity through which DASH works) tries to make sure that each of their clients receives at least one gift at Christmas and has again asked for small toiletry items, as well as reminding us that as winter draws in there is an ongoing need for warm clothing for both men and women. Items can be put in the box at the back of St Mary's Church or in the collecting box at Murrays Estate Agency - and all donations, however small, are gratefully received.

The funds we have been able to give to Marah by collecting our small change (5ps, 2ps and 1ps) have proved invaluable in providing emergency help (a bus fare to a hospital appointment, an item of clean underwear etc) so please keep saving and hand whatever you have collected to Frances Watson (812 286) or Alison Robinson (812 286), who are also very happy to come and pick it up if that is easier. (Even a small bag of 2p pieces is surprisingly heavy!)

Once again, many thanks for your continued help.

Alison Robinson on behalf of DASH



The perfect exercise plan

Ralph Kenber is pleased to share with other 'over 50s' who read the Beacon this exercise regime.

"Begin by standing on a comfortable surface, where you have plenty of room to each side.

With a 5-lb potato bag in each hand, extend your arms straight out from your sides and hold them as long as you can in the horizontal position. Try to reach a full minute, and then relax.

Each day you will find that you can hold this position for just a little longer. After about two weeks, move up to 10-lb potato bags.

Then try 50-lb potato bags and steadily progress, as many find they can do, to 100-lb bags - one in



each hand with arms straight out for more than a full minute. (I am at this level.)

After you feel really confident at that level,

put a potato in each bag and resume the exercise."

Letters

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

Slad Brook: Flood alleviation

District Councillor Barbara Tait writes: Following the summary of our County Councillor's report in the Beacon regarding the Slad Brook flooding alleviation scheme, I can confirm that this £500,000 Environment project will provide two upstream storage areas to hold back water during high flood flows. It will protect over 20 properties from flooding. (The Environment Agency have overall responsibility, as the Slad brook is classed as a main river). Stroud District Council has set aside a contribution of £25,000 to this scheme.

Stroud District Council has permissive

powers in relation to watercourses that are not classified as main rivers - e.g. the Painswick Stream, and we have undertaken flood alleviation schemes in partnership with other agencies to secure flood alleviation measures on these watercourses. A total of £254,000 has been committed to such schemes since the 2007 floods.

A multi-agency approach will continue to tackle any issues arising in this area.

Puppy Dog Pies - apology

Keith Ayres has written, from the Royal Oak Inn:

Dear Painswick,

I am proud to join a community with a long and rich heritage and I decided to honour that heritage by launching the Puppy Dog Pie.

We introduced the Pie, at the time of the Clypping Ceremony, and it's selling well. The Scots have Haggis, the Liverpoolians have Scouse; Painswick has The Puppy Dog Pie.

The Royal Oak is proud of the Puppy Dog Pie; like the original pie we tell all our diners that we use Puppies to make the dish. As you can imagine it leads to much levity and a great deal of enjoyment for all.

It seems my recent "Lost Puppy" Posters were not seen as being in the best taste. I

apologise to anyone who may have been offended. I can assure you all that no pets were harmed in the making of our Puppy Dog Pie.

20mph speed limit

Hugh Legg, who regularly drives through Painswick, has written from Cranham:

I am an Advanced Driver with 40+ years of clean driving record but since the introduction of the 20mph limit in August, I have had far too many near-misses while complying with it. I have been hooted at, had fingers (singly and in pairs) waved at me and a fist gesticulated in my rear-view mirror - I have even had a car trying to overtake up New Street beside the churchyard!

I know you've been trying for this 20mph limit for ages, but I fear you've mis-calculated, it will cause more problems than it solves.

I urge you - Please take it off again before your 'safety' campaign cripples or kills someone!

District Councillor - time constraints

Barbara Tait has written:

I have been informed that at the meeting of the Parish Council in October, some criticism was expressed that neither District Councillor Frances Roden nor I, had managed to attend the most recent meetings of the Parish Council. We do try to get to as many meetings as we can, and in fact I attended Miserden Parish council that same week. As District Councillors there are many calls on our time as both of us are Cabinet members and have many evening meetings as well as those held in the daytime, with the result that many meetings will inevitably clash.

I always make it my business to monitor all Parish council meetings and I do take into account all representations made to me by the Parish council in my actions and deliberations at SDC, even if I cannot always support them.

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Croft School

Janet Hoyle



There can be few in Painswick who will not be saddened to hear that Janet Hoyle is leaving the headship of the Croft School at the end of this term.

We asked Janet if she would like to use our columns to tell us a little more, if she could, about this surprising news, and she said "You probably know that I have been living in Bristol since the summer, as my husband has been working as the Dean of Bristol Cathedral since May. I resigned from The Croft at the end of September, and a week or so ago I was successful in securing a headship in a larger school in South Gloucestershire. This is an exciting new challenge for me."

Mrs Hoyle was intending to write something for The Beacon in December, but feels that the sooner there is clarity regarding the future guidance of The Croft the better.

"I will be very sad to leave the school, and just as sad to leave the remarkable community of Painswick that has been so incredibly welcoming and supportive to me over the past nearly eight years" she said. "I have been grateful to all those in Painswick who have given so much of their time and expertise to the school and I feel fortunate indeed to have worked in such a special community. It has been a privilege to work here and to be able to provide educational opportunities for the fabulous children of Painswick."

"However, it is the right time for me to move on now. The Croft will carry on to an even more successful future, I am sure. Ceris Towler, our Deputy Head, has been appointed by the Governing Body to be acting headteacher until the summer, in order to give time for them to make a permanent appointment from September 2011. I feel sure that the local community will be as supportive of her as it has always been to me."

The Beacon will continue the valued relationship with the school advanced during Janet Hoyle's headship, and wishes her continued success in her professional career - and some relaxation along the way.

News gleaned from letters to parents from Head Teacher Janet Hoyle.

Fun Club on the web

Fun Club now has an information page on the school website <http://www.croft.gloucs.sch.uk/> and click on Fun Club. You can find out more information about the club along with a downloadable registration form and a booking form. Fill out your forms and give them to Mrs Rudd in the school office or to Sharron or Sam during Fun Club hours. Children can be booked in on the day (provided there are spaces) via the school office on 812479, although more notice helps with planning. If you have any questions please ask staff or email them to croftschoolfunclub@hotmail.co.uk. Children must be registered before going to Fun Club, so why not complete the forms now so in an emergency you have a back up?

If you have any suggestions or would like to come into Fun Club to visit or show something you do for a hobby or put on an activity we'd be delighted to hear from you.

Fun Club Committee



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More Awards for St Michaels

St Michaels B&B and restaurant has received yet another award, this time from the highly regarded AA organisation. Four stars have been awarded for the accommodation and this is a wonderful achievement. As Matt Black, the owner with his wife, Magda, points out, it would be five stars if the bathrooms were bigger and that's simply not possible within the building.

The judging criteria are very stringent, based on quality and comfort, and St Michaels offers a very high standard indeed. Matt and Magda are rightly proud of this recognition of their continuing success and hard work to provide the best for their guests.

At the same time they have also been awarded a rosette for the restaurant. Pleased with this achievement, they are now already striving to earn two rosettes but acknowledge that this means much hard work ahead. Matt explains that the emphasis is always on good quality food which is not complex or overly decorated. He stresses that good ingredients prepared and cooked simply speak for themselves. Cooking style done well is the key to successful food.

St Michaels is proud of the fact that most of the ingredients used for the restaurant meals are locally sourced. Beef and lamb are obtained from two local farms and the country market and Stroud farmers' market supply a range of other ingredients. Matt and Magda feel that this is important. They are also keen to say that if anyone has spare green tomatoes suitable for chutney, or any surplus fruit, they would be happy to receive it. Furthermore, if anyone would like to earn money picking fruit such as blackberries, sloes, rowan berries, rose hips and so on, your services would be very welcome.

Matt and Magda have been at St Michaels for four years. They set and achieve very high standards in cooking and presentation and are keen to add that they are 'so lucky with the staff' who have always been loyal, interested and involved. Their website shows many glowing testimonials, proof of their very professional approach to the business.

Carol Maxwell



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A Busy Probus Month

Our first talk was entitled "Gloucester Docks - Past & Present" by Hugh Conway-Jones. The talk was a great insight into the docks and the Sharpness canal, prompting many of us to consider a future visit. A brief history left us with the impression of a port which had been a hive of activity and vital to the Midlands via the Severn and canal systems. We also learned about the many events and ongoing development.

Later in the month over fifty of us descended on the Morgan Motor Works in Malvern. Thanks to publicity in last month's 'Beacon' we filled our coach and a further car was despatched to accommodate the overspill. We were impressed with the way that a small British motor company can thrive in a world of giants, producing high quality hand-built vehicles, mostly for export. It was fascinating to see the use of both high-tech and traditional skills and crafts, from joiners using spoke shaves producing subframes of ash to the use of aerospace techniques to form body panels.

Our third meeting was a talk by Peter Petrie about fakes, forgery and fraud in art, literature and music. We learned the difference between copying and forgery and looked at some well-known and less known cases. Many of us remembered the Hitler Diaries which fooled experts but were only exposed by scientific analysis which found them to be printed on modern paper using modern ink.



Glynn Nixon

Fitness Solutions UK

Still not fit enough? Wanting to concentrate on weight loss? Keen to avoid those unfulfilled New Year resolutions?

A new fitness programme is, the Beacon is assured, up and 'running' at Painswick Centre. The Cheltenham-based fitness company Fitness Solutions UK will be expanding their new "anti-gym" fitness program at various locations throughout the county, and Painswick features in that 'exercise'.



Taster sessions took place last week, but if you are interested in their 6 week course of 12 sessions beginning on the 9th November do get there before 11.00am. The owner, qualified fitness instructor and programme director is Jackie Allen. She told us "We created our programs for people who really like to go for it when it comes to working out. This is NOT for you if you are a cardio queen, don't like to sweat, spend 45 minutes working on your biceps, like to read magazines during training, roll your eyes at people who are actually exerting themselves at the gym, or if you consider walking to be a real workout. However, if you're serious about your fitness, this truly is the plan for you!"

Quite a few claims are made about the efficacy of non-gym experiences she has in store, and the Beacon is not qualified to comment upon them. Contact and further information info@fitnesssolutionsuk.com or call Jackie on 02142.680086.

Even so, don't tell us you did not know when you see slimmed down acquaintances in the future.

Stroud & District Mencap

Christmas Fayre

Do join us at the Mencap Fayre on Saturday 20th November in Painswick Centre between 10.00am and 2.00pm. Father Christmas will be there and a photographer will be in attendance to take photographs if required. There are a variety of stalls including cakes, plants, cards, books, bric-a-brac, fancy goods, Christmas goods, jams, chutneys, marmalade, crafts for sale, and a tombola. A choice of refreshments will be available. We look forward to seeing you there. Queries to Andrea on 812464 or Sue 813110.



Andrea Linsell

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History teaser

Another sporty group, but who are they and can you identify anyone in the picture? Answer in next month's Beacon.

Last month's photograph elicited interesting responses from Jill Simmons and Jack Smith. It showed Painswick Cricket Team during the 1950s. They used to play in the park of Painswick House. Jack names them from back row left as: Steve Parks, unknown, Oliver Reed, John Perrins, Arthur Parks, Harry Smart, Jack Smith, Barry Meadows, Geoff Simmons, and front row kneeling from left: unknown, Colin Meadows, Albert King, unknown, Jim Gyde. However, according to Jill, Harry Smart is in fact Derek Simmons (her late husband) and the man next to Jim Gyde is Colin Meadows. So, who's right? The photograph was taken probably in the mid-1950s.

Carol Maxwell



| Beacon subscribers | | |
|------------------------------|-------------|---------------------|
| as at 21st October | 2010 - 2011 | This date last year |
| New or renewed after lapsing | 100 | 74 |
| Renewed from last year | 453 | 492 |
| Total including postal | 553 | 566 |

Are you among this year's statistics?

Council plea Move cars to help us clean streets

Stroud District Council has issued a plea to local residents to temporarily remove their vehicles from the streets so the council can carry out an extensive deep clean.

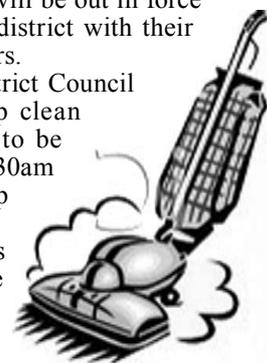
As part of the Deep Clean Scheme, during November, December and January the council's cleaning contractor Veolia will be out in force cleaning streets across the district with their hi-tech mechanical cleaners.



To allow Stroud District Council to carry out the deep clean all residents' cars needed to be removed from the street between 9.30am – 2.00pm on the day of the deep clean.

The success of previous street cleans in Stroud have been due in large part to the outstanding community involvement of local residents who have helped get the message out to local householders by leafleting residents to let them know when the cleanup was happening and request that they find alternative parking during this time.

SDC is urging residents to again take personal pride in their surroundings, spread the word to neighbours and where possible offer off street parking whilst this latest round of street cleaning takes place. Volunteers are also being sought to place cones and 'A' frame signs on streets to prevent parking, please contact 01453 754403 if you are able to assist with the clean.



In addition to the deep clean Gloucestershire Highways will be arranging for the drains to be emptied and the Highway's Area Representatives will be inspecting the roads for potholes requiring immediate attention.

Dates for Painswick:

NEW STREET 10th January
ASHWELL and HYETT CLOSE 11th January

Gemma Webb of SDC

El Contador

You awoke this morning to one of those rare early Autumn days in Painswick, when the sky is crystal clear, no frost, trees are starting to turn and there is the promise of that marvellous golden glow when the sun starts to set. To the Post Office first thing, only to find a small group of early customers looking at a handwritten note pinned to the Post Office door saying "Closed for Bridge". No explanation, no apology just, "Closed for Bridge". What would you imagine? Read on.

Autumn in rural Spain is a very busy time in the agricultural year. The harvested almonds are spread out in the specially constructed drying areas around the village and the grain is being brought in - much to the delight of the house sparrows who are literally having a field day. The vines have been stripped and the oranges will wait another month. This time of year is also crowded with local and national Bank Holidays. Market stalls are full of artificial flowers, some plastic in garish and impossible colours, some of exquisite silk. We are approaching 1st November, when most Spanish folk visit the graves and tombs of departed family members, hence the flowers. In years gone by families would visit the gravesides to picnic and oddly have quite a jolly time. On that day El Contador fills up with relatives from far and wide, who, laden with plastic blooms make for the cemetery on the outskirts of the village.

Spanish National Day falls on 12th October, which this year is on a Tuesday. As regular readers will know Tuesday is one of the two days in the week when we have post delivered. We were expecting an important document from our solicitor, so on Monday Geraldine decided to collect it from the Post Office because of the Tuesday holiday. Our tiny sub branch is located at the Town Hall in the next village. She arrived to find a small group of early customers looking at a handwritten note pinned to the Post Office door saying "Closed for Bridge". No explanation, no apology, just "Closed for Bridge". The old gents in these parts are very fond of cards; games are always going on in the square during the summer, but closing the Post Office for a bridge tournament was taking things a bit far. Geraldine sought out her chum who lives close by who told her it was in fact a "Bridge Day", meaning that Monday was used to bridge the gap between the weekend and the National Day on Tuesday to gain a four day break.....

Christopher Piper-Short



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I once met.....

Nelson Mandela

One does not have to chat for long with just about anyone living in an area to find that they have, sometimes by chance, met some extraordinary people. The telling of such encounters brings pleasure to the listener, and is justifiably nostalgic for the storyteller.

We would welcome more to store in our archive, to reproduce here and enlighten us.

One story, from the last series, has resurfaced; having been mislaid in the interim on a computer.

We are pleased to print this recollection, as told by Jack Stonhill, who lives at Ashwell House.



I have never found a better breakfast table.

From there we always spent several days at a Safari Park. Not the Kruger where I know people that have spent a fortnight there without seeing any real exotic animals.

By going to one of the several parks around the perimeter of the Kruger you find that the animals are prevented from entering South African countryside by the fencing which also means they stay around your area. We have always seen the big eight and commonly ten.

From there we would motor tour all over the country seeing such places as Rourke's Drift, Isandalwana, Ladysmith and many more - too many to enumerate here. In 1993 our touring took us to Kimberley again and staying at the Savoy Hotel, owned by a Mr Cohen, I was agreeably surprised to find Nelson Mandela staying there whilst on an electoral tour.

Mr Cohen's father owned the hotel before him and in conversation I found we shared many views on the South African situation. He introduced me to Mr Mandela that evening in his private lounge. Nelson Mandela has a very straight back and gives the impression of a military man rather than one who has spent so many years in a terrible prison on Robben Island. His grip is strong and there is an aura around him as soon as he enters a room. He is much taller than I had imagined and gives an excellent impression of what a statesman should be. We spent only a few minutes talking together about general things mainly and I had no hesitation in wishing him every success for himself and his country.

One of my favourite holiday venues has, in the past, been South Africa. Habitually my wife and I arrived in Johannesburg collected our pre-ordered hire car and went straight to Sun City for a few days. Actually that is in Bophuthatswana, and is South Africa's answer to Las Vegas. They have some excellent shows and many betting machines and the like, not to mention the very good food. For example, despite being well travelled

Cotswold Care Hospice - the new shop in Bisley Street ready to welcome you



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Christmas Preparations at the Centre

The Painswick Centre is participating in this year's expanded 'Goodwill Evening' by holding a Christmas Fair, 2.00 to 9.00pm, on Friday 10th December. Handmade cards, gifts and a wide range of crafts will be on sale, refreshments will be available with the bar opening at 6.00pm. Other attractions include: the Community Choir singing carols and other seasonal songs, Santa Claus dropping in, and demonstrations of Christmas cake decorating. Do call in! Entrance is free and it's a golden opportunity to purchase Christmas presents and enjoy some refreshments.



Before you leave the Painswick Centre, take a look at the new facilities in the Front Lobby, before visiting exhibitions of work by local artists in the Cotswold Room and by the resident artists in the Artists Studios.

A very few tables for the Fair are still available - for booking details please contact Sue Lendon on 813791.

The Diary page also gives all the details, but readers are reminded of some forthcoming events at the Centre.

Saturday 6th November 7.00 for 7.30pm

Iolanthe by Gilbert & Sullivan

- concert performance by the Painswick Singers

Saturday 20th November, 10.00 to 2.00pm

Mencap Christmas Fayre

Friday 10th December, 2.00 to 9.00pm

Christmas Fair and Goodwill Evening

+Art Exhibitions in the Cotswold Room and Artists Studios

The Painswick Centre is, of course, a fine venue for Christmas parties or social evenings.

Finally, if your club or company is looking for a venue for a private party, the Cotswold Room, with kitchen facilities in the adjacent Green Room, is available for hire.

Or, for a seasonal social event, why not book the Painswick Centre's Skittle Alley and Bar? Contact Mrs Rose Smith, 812369, for details and to discuss your requirements.

Jane Rowe



Enlightenment about 'Life in the Darkness'

Last month, the Field Club kicked off its Winter Lecture programme with over 60 members enthralled by an engaging talk on landscape, climate and language of Iceland. Our next lecture is on Wednesday 1st December at 2.30pm in Painswick Town Hall when Mr J Jones will give an illustrated talk into his research about caves entitled 'Life in the Darkness', which will be followed by light refreshments.

Next Year's Programme

The Field Club was established to promote interest in the natural history, environment and antiquities of Gloucestershire and the Cotswolds, and further afield. We are looking forward to a varied programme of excursions in 2011 including:-

- a visit to Flaxley for wild flowers and ancient orchards;
- a walk to Chase End Hill and British Camp (*pictured*), in the Malverns, for landscape and geology;
- day trips by coach to Chastleton House in Oxfordshire, to Boughton House in Northants., and to Greys Court, also in Oxfordshire;
- a guided visit to St Mary's Church, Fairford, to view the most complete set of medieval stained glass windows in England;
- plus, in September, the much-anticipated week-long visit to Northumberland.

Enquiries about membership are welcomed.

Jane Rowe Membership Secretary 813228



The lives of Women working the canals



The members of Painswick History Society were most appreciative of Pat Harper and Felicity Ray, who came to the rescue after the advertised speaker was unable to fulfil the engagement through illness.

Pat and Felicity are volunteers at the Gloucester Waterways Museum and brought with them lots of examples of craft goods representing typical items made by the women who used to work alongside their husbands on the narrow boats.

Their nomadic and hard-working life had to be combined with the more traditional duties of homemaking and childrearing. The tiny cabins were decorated with homemade rag rugs and lacework. Cooking was done on a small one-pot stove and the washing in a dolly-tub on the roof. The only personal adornment was an individually made bonnet, which had gathers, lace and frills, though even this was functional in keeping the sun off. Otherwise clothing was drab and sacking was used as protection against the weather and when helping to load goods. The boats carried all kinds of goods, much of it being dirty and dusty, such as coal or grain. Throughout the 18th and 19th century and into the 20th, women coped with this hard life, without medical care or the hope of a comfortable retirement. The waterways today are used for

leisure in the main, but the importance of this heritage is preserved at the Waterways Museum.

The Museum, in Llanthony Warehouse, is open daily except Christmas and New Year.

Call 01452.318200 for further information.

Carolyn Luke

Sue Ryder Care Leckhampton Hospice

PATRON H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES



The Hospice, the only one in Gloucestershire offering 'In-patient-care' as well as 'Hospice-at-home-care' and 'day-care' has now been operating for 30 years with continuous support from Painswick. Joyce Tranter was among the original group.

Our annual Christmas Fair will be held in the Town Hall on Saturday 20th November 9.45am to 12noon.

The cake stall will have our usual selection including Cakes (Helen Baker 813091), Roulades, Sausage Plaits and Damson Jam. Raffle, Books, Christmas Cards, terracotta planted pots Bric-a-Brac with a wide selection of NEW ITEMS suitable for Christmas presents.

Tea, coffee, hot chocolate with mince pies or biscuits will be served: seconds with our compliments!

Entrance £1.50, children free.

Do please come and support us and be assured of a warm welcome. Donations and gifts would be much appreciated.

Bric-a-brac to Ann Williams, Milton Cottage, Vicarage Street, 812344.

Thank you and God Bless

Anne Leoni 812521

Group co-coordinator aaleoni@painswick.org

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Acupuncture

From November an acupuncture service will be based at Painswick Surgery, provided by qualified acupuncturist Kate Tenney. Kate runs clinics in both Cheltenham and Stow-on-the-Wold and sees a variety of health problems.

“Some people think acupuncture is just for pain, especially now that the National Institute of Clinical Excellence (NICE) has approved it for back pain. However, because this is a holistic system of medicine it can be used to treat any symptom – whether this is manifesting on a physical, mental or emotional level. It is all about getting the person back into balance on all levels”. Kate uses incredibly fine acupuncture needles and a Japanese needling technique which is very gentle.

Acupuncture is considered safe for all ages and can be used alongside conventional medicine. More information can be accessed at www.twelverivers.co.uk or www.acupuncture.org

Bookings can be made directly with the surgery but for more advice regarding acupuncture, please telephone Kate directly on: 07775.911297

Nicola Hayward Practice Manager

CTAP - “Open the Book”

A group of people from the local Churches has been going into the Croft School on a regular basis for the last seven years to read and act-out Bible Stories at morning assembly. It is not a sophisticated presentation! Nevertheless, the children learn from it and enjoy it – and so do we.



We plan to show an episode from ‘Open the Book’ in St Mary’s Church on 10th November at 11.00am and we will be serving coffee. We welcome as many of you as possible, including parents and families of children of the Croft School, so that you can be more aware of what we are doing in the name of the Churches. We do need to purchase various small items from time to time and we would therefore like to raise a little money from the coffee to help with this.

If anyone has any robes suitable for Biblical characters we would be grateful, likewise head-dresses, etc. Sewing skills would also be helpful from time to time.

Over the years a number of our members have left due to illness or moving from this area so we would welcome new members. The commitment is approximately one hour on Wednesday morning 5 or 6 times each term. We could also do with help in making some simple ‘props’ on an occasional basis and an ‘I.T. consultant’ could also be helpful – e.g. for projecting Angels onto the wall, tongues-of-fire onto heads, etc.!

Please support the coffee morning on Wednesday 10th November at 11 to 1150 a.m. in St Mary’s Church even if you don’t want to be involved in ‘Open the Book’ afterwards.

Paula Errock

Sheepscombe School Christmas Fayre – Sunday 12th December

FOSS and Sheepscombe School bring you the Christmas Fayre at Sheepscombe village hall on Sunday 12th December between 12.00 and 3.00pm. Come and join in one of the highlights of the festive season.

The Fayre will feature handmade presents, books, jewellery, Christmas cards, decorations and raffle with fabulous prizes to be won. Enjoy a light lunch, tea, coffee, cakes, and mince pies or relax and get

into the Christmas spirit with a warming glass of mulled wine. Santa will be setting up his grotto for us and there will also be pony rides between 1.00pm and 2.00pm. Enjoy a free mince pie on presentation of this advert. See you there...!!



Nina Bailey



Busy time ahead at your Post Office

The next few weeks at the Post Office are destined to be busy indeed. It’s that time of year, of course, and from the week commencing 6th December both Karen and Jillie will be behind the counter on Tuesday and Friday afternoons.

A good stock of Christmas charity cards is already on sale and the Christmas stamp collections are available from 3rd November. There is a choice of two designs this year: Madonna and Child or stained glass designs. Among the many items on sale for Christmas are Melissa and Doug wooden toys.

It’s worth noting too that the Post Office has a passport ‘check and send’ service which is free to anyone born before 3rd September 1929.

And finally, it’s time to check on posting dates, a full list of which is available at the Post Office or online at www.royalmail.com/christmasposting.

Carol Maxwell

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Flowers in my Garden

The Horticultural Society began their new season with



a fascinating talk by Stephen Harley-Slo-man. He writes regularly for the Stroud News and Journal as 'The interactive Gardener' as well as specialising in horticultural photography. His talk featured the wide and varied plants in his Haresfield garden. He only began gardening seriously when he moved to The Cotswolds, is self taught and passionate about plants. He worked at Pan Global for a time, a nursery that specialises in unusual plants, and is keen to find bargains whenever he can.

By using his slides he showed us how he uses vibrant coloured bulbs either in pots or growing through ground cover planting of either perennials or additional bulbs such as muscari. His favourite genus is the hellebores, which are so very striking in depths of winter. He recommended visiting specialist nurseries for some spectacular and unusual specimens which we could include in our own planting schemes. His talk continued with slides of his own garden and planting suggestions using shrubs, perennials and ground cover plants which help to suppress weeds.

The dates and subjects of our forthcoming meetings, which are held at the Town Hall, are all in the Diary.

They include

- **Plants for Hot Spots with Rachel Salisbury**
- **Christmas Social with talk – Winter Colour and interest in the Garden with Duncan Coombs**
- **Wild Flowers of the Cotswolds (remedies, myths and legends) with Sue Dodd and Sue Smith**
- **The Kitchen Garden Today with Richard Umpelby**
- **Hidcote: A Garden created by Lawrence Johnston with Duncan Coombs**
- **A talk about the work of the Hedgehog Hospital with Annie Parfitt**

So, the next meeting 'Plants for Hot Spots' with Rachel Salisbury is on 10th November at 7.30 in the Town Hall.

If you are interested please come and join us.

Elizabeth Gardam

Broadband v Painswick

Who cares?

Many are the mutterings of discontent reaching the Beacon's ears regarding the now sub-standard provision of access to Broadband through the local exchange. Don't read on if you are content with your lot, and do not mind paying in the order of £180 every year for the privilege; money you might otherwise have given to charity? Multiply that by the number of users, in Painswick alone, and a tidy sum is being lost when compared with Gloucester, Cheltenham and all townships in the country.

Rob Lewis, secretary of Painswick Matters and Parish Councillor, recently briefed his colleagues upon the enquiries he had made on improving broadband speeds from the Painswick exchange. He reminded them it serves over 2,000 customers in and beyond Painswick. He understands that the exchange has now been equipped with the latest ADSL2+ upgrade, which could increase speeds significantly, with the usual caveats. However, no date has been set for its activation, unlike at the Stroud exchange. Advancing enquiries has been difficult for Rob, as individuals in senior BT positions are hard to identify; MP Neil Carmichael has advised his going to the top politician, Ed Vaizey, the Minister for Culture and Communications.

David Perry of Orchard Mead, and Adrian Powell from Sheepscombe, as well as Bob Lewis, have drawn attention to the current BT competition, *Race to Infinity*, to identify the top five exchanges in the country to receive full fibre-optic super-fast broadband. Everyone is encouraged (by BT) to vote upon whether they want to be one of these few in the country (yes, the whole country) through their web site Race to Infinity website at <http://www.racetoinfinity.bt.com/home>. As we went to press about 57 had voted, but that is not the point - instead of an outright 'score' of responses, BT are seeking the exchange with the highest percentage of responses among its clients.

As has been pointed out to us it might be 'politically' advantageous for BT in the present climate to have a small rural exchange in the mix, one which is possibly not the most expensive to kit out. Moreover, BT has indicated a willingness to engage with local communities to see what could be done to improve broadband locally, once an exchange reaches 75% registered interest. There is also the risk that not voting in sufficient numbers could relegate Painswick further down BT's list of priorities for upgrading. The competition runs to 31st December. It is so easy to do, so please visit www.racetoinfinity.bt.com/home

Does it matter? As the volume of material being shifted around the Internet grows - and it is hardly shrinking - the slower prevailing systems will operate, and you may already have experienced this. Downloading at between 5000 and 6100Kbps is the Beacon's experience, but one can rarely exceed 345Kbps upload - a very real constraint.

We are pleased to pass on this so called competition, and urge readers to vote; it is free. A letter or two to our Member of Parliament might not come amiss - Neil Carmichael MP, House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA.

LWB

Church of Our Lady and St Thérèse

There are doubtless many living in far flung places such as Wigan and Washington, Bristol and Barcelona, even Runcorn and Rome, who may be interested in obtaining the paperback copy of the second edition of the history of Catholicism in Painswick and of this church, as mentioned in our last issue.

Our inquiries led us to being able to point out that it can be mail-ordered. Just copy this link into your search engine by logging on to www.lulu.com and search for *St Thérèse Painswick*.



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Improved facilities at Painswick Church?

The Church of England generally and the Diocese of Gloucester in particular have a policy of encouraging local congregations to make better use of church buildings including making them available for appropriate uses by the wider community in which each church sits.

Painswick Church has a long history of such wider use – particularly, of course, for concerts. We also attract a lot of visitors to the church and the churchyard. Thus the church is already used by a lot of people beyond the local congregation. However we have long been conscious that the facilities in our building could be improved – particularly the provision of toilets, tea and coffee making facilities and a more flexible display and meeting area.

An opportunity to seriously consider such improvements has arisen because we have been advised that our organ is going to require some serious refurbishment within the next few

years. No significant work has been done on the organ since 1962 and one indication of potential problems is that 5 of the organ pipes have had to be removed for workshop repairs in the past year or so.

If, as part of a refurbishment or replacement process, the organ could be moved to the back of the church, as in Victorian times, then there are a whole variety of possibilities that we could consider to improve facilities. Thus there is to be a public meeting in the church at 2.30 pm on Sunday 28th November. All Painswickians are invited to attend and contribute thoughts on possible ways of “re-ordering” the church. The meeting will be chaired by the Archdeacon of Cheltenham. Some plans of possible schemes have been drawn up by the church architect and will be available for scrutiny.

David Bishop

Police telephone numbers

To report crime call
08450 901234
 or call Crimestoppers anonymously
0800 555111



Free fun for Dads and Children

Dads are being offered a helping hand with the launch of a new support group to bring families closer together.

Parliament Sure Start Children’s Centre will be providing free and friendly advice to dads around Stroud, Nailsworth and Painswick.

The new Dads Group takes place on the first Saturday of each month from 10am-12noon and aims to promote play and outdoor activities, encourage new friendships, and signpost parents to other organisations.

Parliament Sure Start Children’s Centre is managed by children’s charity Barnardo’s South West on behalf of Gloucestershire County Council. Located in Bisley Old Road in Stroud, it provides free support and advice to all local parents of under-5s.

Barnardo’s children’s services manager Megan Kenneally-Stone said: “This is the first group we have organised solely for dads. They asked for help with arranging some ‘quality time’ with their children, especially if they’re normally working all week. Dads, stepdads and other male carers will all be welcome, alongside children aged up to eight years old. As well as encouraging dads and children to play together we will also be arranging outdoor activities. We hope it will lead to lots of new friendships and a stronger community spirit”. Megan went on to say “It’s also the perfect opportunity to raise awareness of everything else that we offer”.

No booking is necessary. Free refreshments will be provided.

Call 01453.755373 or email parliamentcc@barnardos.org.uk

BEACO-DOKU

A reader suggested we stay with a seasonal theme of fruit picking last month, so we invited you to fit **B-A-S-K-E-T** into the frame.

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| B | A | T | K | S | E |
| E | S | K | T | A | B |
| A | T | E | B | K | S |
| K | B | S | A | E | T |
| S | K | B | E | T | A |
| T | E | A | S | B | K |

How did you get on?

We stay with fruit and suggest **O-R-A-N-G-E** be fitted, along each row in each direction, and in each of the six boxes.

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | R | | | A | |
| G | | | | | O |
| R | | G | | N | |
| | | | | | E |
| A | | O | G | | R |
| | | | | | |

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Tennis

The Painswick Tennis Club tournament was held in September with a high standard of play in all categories.

The finals were well supported by spectators, who enjoyed well contested matches. The results were, Lissey Barnett winner of Ladies Singles and Ladies Doubles with her sister Sophie, and Mixed Doubles with her father Nigel. Dan Omnes won the Mens Singles and Richard Bailey and Gez Browning won the Mens Doubles.

Pat Andrew



Mens Doubles: Gez Browning and Richard Bailey receiving recognition from John Courts



Ladies Finalists: Liz Cowan and Alicia Barnett



Mens Singles Winner: Dan Omnes

Rugby

Painswick first fifteen have had an excellent October winning all their matches. On 16th October they beat Dursley in a Cup match only to repeat their success in a Gloucester Division 1 game the following week. Both matches were at Dursley. Last Saturday Painswick were at home to Hucclecote when they beat the Gloucester side by 20 points to 11. On the same day Painswick United were away to Dursley second fifteen where they lost by 42 points to 7.



October Results

Gloucester Division 1

- Sat 2nd. Cheltenham Civil Service 1st XV 8 Painswick 1st XV 11.
- Sat 9th. Painswick 1st XV 35 Cotham Park 1st XV 0.
- Sat 16th (Cup). Dursley 1st XV 7 Painswick 1st XV 20.
- Sat 23rd. Dursley 1st XV 5 Painswick 1st XV 19.
- Sat 30th. Painswick 1st XV 20 Hucclecote 1st XV 11..

November fixtures

- Sat 6th. (Cup). Painswick 1st XV v Kingswood 1st XV.
- Gloucester Division 1
- Sat 13th. Kingswood 1st XV v Painswick 1st XV.
- Sat 20th. Painswick 1st XV v Longlevens 1st XV.
- Sat 27th. Cup match day.
- Sat December 4th. Painswick 1st XV v Spartans 1st XV.
- Painswick United November fixtures.
- Sat 13th. Painswick v Old Cryptians 2nd XV.
- Sat 20th. Painswick v Gordon League 2nd XV.
- Sat December 4th. Brockworth 2nd XV v Painswick.



Painswick at home to Hucclecote just last Saturday

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Cricket

Painswick CC held their annual dinner at the Painswick Golf Club on 1st October. Club Chairman Steve Pegram said that he wished to thank the Golf Club for what was a very enjoyable evening. At the dinner the annual awards were made. 1st Team Player of the Year (POY): Johnny Griffiths. 2nd Team POY: Adam Wager.

3rd Team POY: Steve Pegram. 4th Team POY: Oli Hall. Best Young Player: George Ayland. Most Improved Player: Jamie Morgan. John Hogg, June Gardiner, Bryony Overs, Darren and Betty Poulson, Adrian and Marge Bressington received special thanks for their contributions. Steve also thanked all his committee for their considerable support, especially the overworked youth coaches, the fantastic groundsmen and all the friends of Painswick CC.

The Club's Annual General Meeting took place last Friday when the following were elected:

1st eleven captain: Christian Marsh. Vice captain: James Cook. 2nd eleven captain: Simon Cook. 3rd eleven captain: Mike Hewitt. 4th team manager: Wayne Lee. Sunday Village League Organiser: Adrian Bressington. This new league requires five of the team to be under 21 years. Mid-week captain: Ian Hogg. Bryony Overs will continue to organise the ladies team whilst Dom Barnard will be responsible for the youth elevens. Steve Pegram said that all the teams would be striving for promotion in 2011. He wished to thank Stroud Cricket Club for their generosity in giving Painswick a set of cover frames. He expressed his particular appreciation to Alistair (Ali) Bell of the Stroud Club and Painswick's James Cook for making the necessary arrangements.

Price Davis Celebrates with WaterCoolersDirect Award Win

Despite tough competition, the Gloucestershire Media's Small Business of the Year award was proudly won by clients of Price Davis in a category sponsored and presented by Business Link. 'In this tough business climate, it is a real achievement for WaterCoolersDirect to win such an award,' said Howard Davis, partner at Price Davis. 'We have been working with the directors at WaterCoolersDirect for a number of years advising on financial matters and assisting on corporate strategy. To be acknowledged in this way is fantastic!'



From left to right:
 Jenny Crowley - Head of Compliance Services at Price Davis
 Andy Draper - Head of Expert Services at Price Davis
 Fred Cairns-Palmer - Managing Director of WaterCoolers Direct.com Limited
 Howard Davis and Davis Wendy Davis - Directors of Price Davis

Price Davis played a key role in the award entry submission implementing all of the financial data required. Fred Cairns Palmer, managing director at WaterCoolersDirect said, 'Our relationship with Price Davis has been crucial for our success. The reliable support and financial guidance we get from Howard and his team is second to none.'

Winners were announced at a packed ceremony at Cheltenham Racecourse, the biggest event of its kind in the country. Hundreds of representatives from the business community gathered to

discover who took the honours in the eleven categories in the 13th annual awards event.

Fred Cairns Palmer continued, 'The winning of this award is a fitting tribute to the hard work and dedication shown by all of our colleagues during the last six years. From our small beginnings in a loft we have built a successful company that posted a healthy 20% growth

during last year's recession. This accolade will certainly benefit our business and operations in the county and

beyond, as we continue to take the company forward in these challenging times.'

Ian Mean, editor in chief of Gloucestershire Media, said: 'This is the highlight of the county's business year ... we had a record attendance of nearly 700. This is now the largest business awards in the country.'

Price Davis, here in Painswick, work with a diverse range of businesses throughout the UK providing expert consultancy and tax planning services and accountancy and taxation compliance

services to give beneficial company support. With more than 10 years experience, Price Davis is proud of its reputation for its friendly, approachable and professional service and boasts some very talented individuals delivering those services who focus on clients needs.

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November news from your Village Agent



This month I want to talk about dementia. It's a subject that can make many of us feel uncomfortable and scared, so we avoid it and pray it won't happen to us. That avoidance is part of the reason why so many carers often feel completely isolated. It occurred to me recently that the word "dementia" holds the same stigma as "cancer" did some years ago. We can't afford to ignore it.

There are currently 750,000 people with dementia in the UK and the number of people with dementia is predicted to rise by 40% over the next 15 years). Family carers of people with dementia save the UK economy over £6 billion a year.

The term dementia is used to describe a progressive decline in memory, cognitive skills, communication skills and functional skills.

Memory can be split up into 3 bits; immediate recall, short-term memory and long-term memory. We take something in, we store it somewhere and we find it when we need it again. Imagine that we have a filing cabinet we use to store information with the new stuff being put in the top drawers. With dementia the information is still coming in but the cabinets are shut at the top and open on the bottom. That's why people can access older information but can't make sense of what's happening now. I was told something very useful recently about how to try and help someone who is struggling to remember. As anxiety makes it difficult for everyone to recall a fact, then saying to someone with dementia "you really need to remember where we're going today, it's very important" will only increase their level of anxiety. Instead, try "you don't have to remember this, its fine if you forget".

Cognition is how we think and store information. Together with memory its how we make sense of the world, how we come

up with ideas and make decisions.

When the part of the brain is being damaged which takes care of cognition, there can be visual difficulties seeing edges, loss of object and face recognition. Sometimes simple measures like using primary coloured utensils (cups, plates etc) can really help a person try to overcome those perceptual difficulties. Putting pictures on cupboard doors of food, can remind a person that they need to eat; even better, take the doors off so they can see what's there inside.

Various diseases cause dementia, the most common being Alzheimer's (60-70%). It affects 5% of people over 65 and 20% over 80. In the course of Alzheimer's, the chemistry and structure of the brain changes, leading to the death of brain cells. So when a person cannot recall something, or behave in a strange or "unacceptable" way, it is not a deliberate action on their part. Vascular dementia is the next most common form. The symptoms can occur either suddenly after a stroke, or over time after a series of small strokes. If the oxygen supply to the brain fails, the cells may die.

If you're worried, don't put off going to the doctor. There are numerous reasons why memory can be affected such as thyroid problems, medication problems, infections etc. There is help available. The Alzheimer's Society is a fantastic source of information and support, so please use them. We have a specialist Memory Assessment Service in Gloucestershire which provide specialist assessment, diagnosis and treatment for people worried about their memory. For more information about what is available locally to support them, call me and arrange a home visit.

Alzheimer's Society: 01452.525222

Managing Memory 2gether 0800 694 8800

Lou Kemp 07776.245767

PROPERTY REPORT for October from Murrays

The market conditions have been very interesting over the past few months with the summer coming in better than expected and September generally being quieter than expected. Having picked up again over the past few weeks everyone then seemed to be waiting for the dreaded spending report from the Government that took place on Wednesday 20th October. All of us are affected by the cuts and some may well be losing their jobs, particularly within the public sector, but we have noticed an increasing activity and a good number of offers since then nonetheless.

Land Registry figures show house prices increased by 0.3% in August, a slight reduction in the 0.4% rise that was seen in July. This obviously shows that there are still the buyers out there. However the Nationwide have said that the property prices have stagnated and there was a drop of 0.9% in August. We have certainly seen the buyers out there and Murrays have been maintaining a good level of new properties and a good sales level. There are still many people out there looking for property who are keen to buy sooner rather than later so that

they can still be in before Christmas.

We have again taken on many lovely new properties including Compton House a detached 4 bedroom house in the centre of Painswick with garage and parking, Weavers Cottage a pretty 3 bedroom cottage on Vicarage Street, Torwin a 3 bedroom detached house in need of work on Cheltenham road (already under offer) Green Banks a chalet bungalow with stunning views on Blakewell Mead, North View a modern 3 bedroom house on the edge of Painswick Beacon, Yew Tree Cottage a contemporary 1 bedroom apartment, Winding Waters a substantial 5 bed house in the centre of Cranham and 7 Church Close a semi detached 3 bed also in Cranham with lovely views.

Properties that we have under offer include Amesbury on Vicarage Street, Torwin on Cheltenham Road, Owlcote on Stamages Lane, Greenways in Pitchcombe, Beech Close in Cranham and 3 Mulberry Gardens in Gloucester, and properties that have now sold are South View and Bellevue both in Vicarage Street and Woodlea in Slad.

James C Murray



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| | | | | |
|-----|-----------|--|--|--|
| Fri | 5 | Firework Night at Croft School: Adults £3, Children £2. Doors open 6.00pm | Croft School | Fireworks 6.45pm |
| Sat | 6 | Annual flu vaccinations Painswick Beacon Conservation Group scrub clearing working party. Location check 812709 Painswick Conservatives Knitwear Sale Painswick Singers perform 'Iolanthe' by Gilbert & Sullivan | by appointment Painswick Beacon Town Hall Painswick Centre | 9.00am to 4.00pm 10.00am to 1.00pm 10.00am to 3.00pm 7.30pm |
| Mon | 8 | Short Mat Bowls - Mondays (contact 813627) Community Lunch: Hosts - Puffins Yoga (Mondays) contact Kim 812623 | Town Hall Ashwell House Sheepscombe Vill. Hall | 10.30am 12noon to 1.15pm 6.30 to 8.00pm & 8.15 to 9.45pm |
| Tue | 9 | Clothes Sale - (Daily for 4 days) Bingo: Tuesdays - Tel. Ann, 813911/Liz, 813139 Painswick Arts Festival Meeting Bird club: Mysteries of migration - Charles Martin | Patchwork Mouse Ashwell House Green Rm, P'wick Centre Richmond Village | 10.00am to 4.00pm 6.30 to 9.00pm 7.00pm 7.30pm |
| Wed | 10 | Yoga (Wednesdays) contact Kim 812623 CTAP 'Open the Book' episode (see p15) Table Tennis Club - Wednesdays Hort. Society: Plants for Hot Spots - Rachel Salisbury Parish Council Traffic Committee Meeting | Sheepscombe Vill. Hall St Mary's Church Painswick Centre Town Hall Town Hall | 9.30 to 11.00am 11.00am 7.00 to 9.00pm 7.30pm 7.30pm |
| Thu | 11 | Yoga - All Abilities (Thursdays) Cotswold Room 812623 T'ai Chi: Thursdays - Contact 812344 Dog Training Club (Thursdays) Jolly Stompers Line Dancing: Beginners - Thursdays Experienced beginners - Thursdays Christmas Food & Gift Fayre | Painswick Centre Town Hall Church Rooms Town Hall Town Hall Golf Club | 9.30 to 11.00am 9.30am 9.30 to 12.00noon 12.00 to 1.00pm 12.30 to 1.30pm 7.00 to 9.00pm |
| Fri | 12 | Country Market - Coffee available - Fridays Painswick Music Appreciation Group - Felix Mendelssohn | Town Hall Town Hall | 10.00am 7.30 to 9.30pm |
| Mon | 15 | Community Lunch: Hosts - Arthur & Andy Lock Churches Together around Painswick AGM & Talk | Ashwell House Town Hall upper room | 12noon to 1.15pm 7.00pm |
| Tue | 16 | Local History Society: Blackfriars, Gloucester - recent archaeological work - Lisa Donel | Croft School | 7.30pm |
| Wed | 17 | Probus: Who'd be a Rugby Referee - Mike Wallace Parish Council Meeting | Shires Room, Falcon Town Hall | 10.00am 7.30pm |
| Fri | 19 | Friday Club: The Vine Project - Pat Chase | Town Hall | 2.30pm |
| Sat | 20 | Copy dateline for December Beacon Sue Ryder Care Christmas Fair Painswick Beacon Conservation Group scrub clearing working party. Location check 812709 Stroud & District Mencap Christmas Fayre Fairgame Theatre Co.: Cinderella. Contact 814139 | Town Hall Painswick Beacon Painswick Centre Edge Village Hall | 9.45am to 12noon 10.00am to 1.00pm 10.00am to 2.00pm |
| Mon | 22 | Community Lunch: Hosts - Painswick Parish Council Painswickian nominations closing date (see p3) | Ashwell House | 12noon to 1.15pm |
| Tue | 23 | Yew Trees W I: Hearing Dogs for Deaf People - Tracey Stevens. Followed by AGM | Town Hall | 7.30pm |
| Wed | 24 | Music Appreciation Group Concert Outing to Birmingham | Stamages Car Park | 10.30am |
| Thu | 25 | Christmas Shopping Afternoon (see p24) | Richmond Painswick | 2.30 to 5.30pm |
| Sat | 27 | Theatre Club Outing to Oxford Playhouse Stroud Choral Society: Mendelssohn's Elijah | Stamages Car Park Stroud Sub. Rooms | 11.30am 7.30pm |
| Sun | 28 | Public Meeting to consider improved facilities in Church | St Mary's Church | 2.30pm |
| Mon | 29 | Community Lunch: Hosts - Christian Aid Group | Ashwell House | 12noon to 1.15pm |
| Tue | 30 | Painswick Players Playreading: Alan Ayckbourn's 'Season's Greetings' - All welcome | P, Centre, Green Room | 7.30pm |

DECEMBER

| | | | | |
|-----|----------|---|-------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Wed | 1 | Probus: Carry on up the Khyber - Railways in Pakistan: Michael Burdge Cotteswold Naturalists Field Club Lecture: Life in the Darkness - J. Jones (enq. 813228) | Shires Room, Falcon Town Hall | 10.00am 2.30pm |
| Fri | 3 | Friday Club Christmas Lunch Croft School Christmas Fayre | Sheepscombe V. Hall Croft School | 3.30 to 6.00pm |

| | | | | |
|-----|----|---|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Sat | 4 | December Issue of The Painswick Beacon published Painswick Beacon Conservation Group scrub clearing working party. Location check 812709 | Painswick Beacon | 10.00am to 1.00pm |
| Mon | 6 | Community Lunch: | Ashwell House | 12noon to 1.15pm |
| Wed | 8 | Probus: Christmas Dinner Parish Council Meeting | The Hill, Stroud Town Hall | 7.00 for 7.30pm 7.30pm |
| Fri | 10 | Christmas Fair & Goodwill Evening. Enquiries 813791 | Painswick Centre | 2.00 to 9.00pm |
| Tue | 14 | Yew Trees W I: Christmas Gathering | Town Hall | 7.30pm |
| Wed | 15 | Probus: Falkland Islands - Paul Stevenson | Shires Room, Falcon | 10.00am |
| Fri | 17 | Friday Club: The Art of Belly Dancing - Ann Blagdon Painswick Music Appreciation Group - Christmas Social | Town Hall Town Hall | 2.30pm 7.30 to 9.30pm |
| Sat | 18 | Painswick Beacon Conservation Group scrub clearing working party. Location check 812709 Painswick Singers Christmas Concert - Followed by Mince Pies & Mulled Wine in the Church Rooms | Painswick Beacon St Mary's Church | 10.00am to 1.00pm 7.30pm |
| Mon | 20 | Carol singing around Painswick: Contact Iris McCormick 812879 | | 6.00pm |

2011 JANUARY

| | | | | |
|-----|----|--|-------------------------|----------------|
| Wed | 5 | Probus: Freemasonry & its Secrets - Ray Pearson | Shires Room, Falcon | 10.00am |
| Fri | 7 | Painswick Music Appreciation Group: Music For Children | Town Hall | 7.30 to 9.30pm |
| Mon | 10 | Street cleaning (<i>see p 12</i>) | New Street | |
| Tue | 11 | Street cleaning (<i>see p 12</i>) | Ashwell and Hyett Close | |
| Wed | 12 | Horticultural Society: Wildflowers of the Cotswolds (remedies, myths & legends) - Sue Dodd & Sue Smith | Town Hall | 2.30pm |
| Tue | 18 | Local History Society: Orchards in the Gloucestershire Landscape - Dave Kaspar | Croft School | 7.30pm |
| Wed | 19 | Probus: The Story of Tea - Pam Slater | Shires Room, Falcon | 10.00am |
| Fri | 21 | Painswick Music Appreciation Group: Creation to Culmination | Town Hall | 7.30 to 9.30pm |

FEBRUARY

| | | | | |
|-----|----|--|---------------------|----------------|
| Wed | 2 | Probus: The Soviet Union - My Part in Bringing its Downfall: Mike Walker | Shires Room, Falcon | 10.00am |
| Fri | 4 | Painswick Music Appreciation Group: Herbert Howells | Town Hall | 7.30 to 9.30pm |
| Wed | 9 | Horticultural Society | Town Hall | 2.30pm |
| Thu | 10 | Bird Club: The Crane - back from the brink : Phoebe Young | Town Hall | 7.30pm |
| Tue | 15 | Local History Society: Revealing Stroud's Oldest Buildings - Nigel Patterson | Croft School | 7.30pm |
| Wed | 16 | Probus: Westonbirt Arboretum - Jenny Barnett | Shires Room, Falcon | 10.00am |
| Fri | 18 | Painswick Music Appreciation Group: The Violin | Town Hall | 7.30 to 9.30pm |

MARCH

| | | | | |
|-----|----|---|---------------------|-------------------|
| Wed | 2 | Probus: The Battle of the Atlantic - Fred Jones | Shires Room, Falcon | 10.00am |
| Fri | 4 | Painswick Music Appreciation Group: Concert Outing to Wales Millennium Centre, Cardiff | Stamages Car Park | 4.00pm |
| Tue | 8 | Bird Club: The Oak & Furrow Wildlife Rescue Centre - Paul Richardson | Town Hall 7.30pm | |
| Wed | 9 | Horticultural Society: The Kitchen Garden Today - Roger Umpelby | Town Hall 7.30pm | 7.30pm |
| Tue | 15 | Local History Society: The Trials, Tribulations & Joys of Owning an Old House - John Goom | Croft School | 7.30pm |
| Wed | 16 | Probus: Members Talk | Shires Room, Falcon | 10.00am |
| Sat | 19 | Painswick Music Appreciation Group: Concert Outing to Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury | | 5.00pm |
| Wed | 30 | Bookings Morning for Horticultural Society Outings | Church Rooms | 10.00am to 12noon |

Reminder

Entries for the Village Diary should be sent direct to **Eddie Buttrey**, as shown on our back page; em-m.buttrey@virgin.net

Articles sent to the Beacon for publication which also contain details of forthcoming events still require the sender to inform Eddie directly, please.

We cannot guarantee to relay details to Eddie for inclusion in the diary.



PLANNING MATTERS A summary of information from the Parish Council

NEW APPLICATIONS

LAND EAST OF BARLEY COTTAGE, Sheepscombe. Felling of Weeping Willow and Cherry, 50 percent crown reduction of Weeping Willow.

HIGHFIELD HOUSE, Gloucester Street. Reduce crown of Copper Beech tree by 30 percent.

FOURWINDS, Churchill Way. Reduce overhanging Yew tree by 30 percent to increase light levels.

WOODBOROUGH, Knapp Lane. Erection of a dwelling and widening of existing private road.

LAND AT BUTTS COTTAGE, Edge Road. Erection of a detached dwelling.

WELL FARM, Wick Street. Change of use of part of paddock from agricultural to residential use. Erection of green house on the plot.

THE OLD TELEPHONE EXCHANGE, Stroud Road. Conversion of former (disused) telephone exchange to dwelling including site works, and extensions.

MERRY LODGE, Court Orchard. Removal of dead and broken branches and crown thinned by 10%.

HILLWORTH HOUSE, Gloucester Street. Installation of a replacement window.

TOWER COTTAGE, Kemps Lane. Reduce height and spread of Bramley Apple Tree.

PACKERS, New Street. Internal alterations to recently completed cloakroom and bathroom. Alterations to external steps.

CONSENT

THE PAINSWICK CENTRE, Bisley Street. Remove window and replace with disabled access.

MAPLE COTTAGE. Proposed first floor side extension & single storey side porch extension.

1A UPPER WASHWELL. Alteration and extension of existing dwelling.

BARN AT SLAD. Change of use of barn to guest accommodation and holiday let for occupation in conjunction with race horse training business.

FOLLY ACRES, Folly Lane. Retention and completion of outbuilding for agricultural and forestry purposes.

BELL YARD, New Street. Conversion of office/studio to one residential unit.

DRY KNAPPS, Edge Road. Demolition

of existing extension, replace with two storey extension and internal alterations. Revised scheme following permission S.09/0724/HHOLD (Retrospective)

LAND EAST OF BARLEY COTTAGE, Sheepscombe. Felling of Weeping Willow and Cherry, 50 percent crown reduction of Weeping Willow.

HIGHFIELD HOUSE, Gloucester Street. Reduce crown of Copper Beech tree by 30 percent.

FOURWINDS, Churchill Way. Reduce overhanging Yew Tree by 30 percent to increase light levels. Reduce Laurel tree by 50 percent.

7 CANTON ACRE. Discharge conditions 3,5,6,7 and 8 of planning permission S.10/0439/FUL

THE GRANGE, Sheepscombe. Application to renew extant permission S.07/2335/FUL & S.10/2341/LBC for the conversion of coach house to create ancillary staff accommodation.

BROOK HOUSE, Greenhouse Lane. Erection of greenhouse.

MERRY LODGE, Court Orchard. Removal of dead and broken branches and crown thinned by 10%

WITHDRAWAL

BUTCHER'S ARMS, Damsells Mill Lane, Sheepscombe. Provision of static caravan for temporary period of 3 years.

REFUSED

PYLL HOUSE, Sheepscombe. Re-opening of two blocked windows in east gable end.

MINI-ADS

35mm camera RICOH RZ-3000. User friendly Automatic 130mm Multi AF Zoom. built-in creative modes and Zoom Flash. Original box, carry-bag, Instruction booklet. £25.00 or nearest offer. D.Leoni 812521 dleoni@painswick.org

Brand new Calor gas living room fireplace, 2-bar heater with large bottle of gas. No chimney needed. Telephone 813252

VACANCIES

Part-time home help needed. Dates and times to be discussed; located a couple of miles outside Painswick, near Edge. If interested call Patrick Keeling on 810748.

BUSINESS

Autumn/Winter garden services. A professional, friendly and reliable service. Leaves cleared, gardens tidied, hedges trimmed/shaped, gutters cleared/cleaned, moss removal, paths/patios power-washed. Also property maintenance, interior/exterior decorating. Julian Telling 07895.224863 juliantelling@yahoo.co.uk

Clothes sale. Add some glamour to your winter wardrobe. Sale starts Tuesday 9th November - Patchwork Mouse open 10.00am 'till 4.00pm each day. Do pop in and have a browse!

Perfect Clean Cleaning Services. Experienced, reliable lady, who can organise a cleaning schedule to suit your requirements. Based in Edge area. Own transport. Dog lover and sitter. Please phone 07515.505002

Falcon Hotel special for OAPs: 15% off all food, lunch and dinner every Tuesday during November. Ring 814222

Stroud dog walking services. Walks tailored to your dog's needs. Comprehensive insurance. Phone Paul daytime 07813.346878 or evenings 01453.755647

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Garden Party Tent Hire

The Personal Column

Rachel Taylor and Jenny Gaugain

Babies

Congratulations to KIM MOODY and ALISTAIR YOUNG on the birth of their son Jake Young on 6th September, and to NATHAN and CLAUDIA ROZSA-WOOLNOUGH on the birth of their daughter Amelie Joy on 15th September.

Get well soon

Best wishes for a speedy recovery to BETTY COPE who broke her ankle recently, also to ENID WALKLETT who has had some eye treatment.

Engagement

Our congratulations to ADELE CALDECOURT and ANDY HARDING on their recent engagement.

Kings Mill Lane closure

This road will be closed, from its junction with Tibbiwell Lane to its junction with Randalls Field (no's 8,9,11 & 12), from 3rd December to 7th December. This is to allow for works by contractors working on behalf of BT.

If you require any further information regarding this closure please contact Caroline Cogran in the Gloucestershire County Council's office on 08000.514514.

Christmas Shopping Opportunity

Richmond Painswick will be hosting a Christmas Shopping afternoon on Thursday 25th November from 2.30 to 5.30pm. The event is being organised for those residents who cannot attend the Goodwill Evening, or get out to the shops, to have the opportunity to purchase gifts for friends and family but is also open to non-residents.

A number of local craftsmen and businesses will be taking stands and have been asked to provide a raffle prize or donate a percentage of the sales to raise money for Richmond Painswick's charity of the year – Winston's Wish. Painswick businesses are very welcome too! Stalls will include jewellery, greetings card, nightwear and lingerie, candles, and My Secret Kitchen offering tasting nibbles. The restaurant will also be serving a variety of afternoon tea options as well as mulled wine and mince pies, again to help raise funds.

For more information, please contact Jay Dexter at Richmond Painswick on 813902.

Condolences

To the family and friends of BETTY HERBERT, RENÉE HILL, SHIRLEY OWEN, STEPHEN GLANFIELD and TED BURGE who have all died recently.

Personal messages

Gordon Owen and family wish to thank everyone for all the support received from friends and neighbours during Shirley's illness and for travelling to Gloucester Cathedral for her Service of Thanksgiving.

Poppy Appeal



We will remember them

As we wear our poppies with pride in the coming days, readers may appreciate a reminder that a special time and place are set aside when we can join with our Council and church leaders, and others to remember the fallen.

This commences with two minutes of silence around the War Memorial at 11.00am on Thursday next, 11th November. *(Other details on page 7)*

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for current issue and archive, our history and aims, the annual directory, village maps and the current weather forecast

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