

# The Painswick Beacon

*Sine praeiudicio*

Volume 34 Number 12

March 2012

## Ready! Steady!

# CLIP gets County Council Grant

CLIP has received its grant from the County Council and can now start setting up the Community Library! We are grateful for the help given by the County Council staff in guiding us through what has been a new venture for all involved. We are set to be the first Community Library in Gloucestershire. Victoria Square in Painswick was named to commemorate Queen Victoria's Jubilee so it is particularly appropriate that we will be opening in Victoria Square in Queen Elizabeth's Jubilee Year.

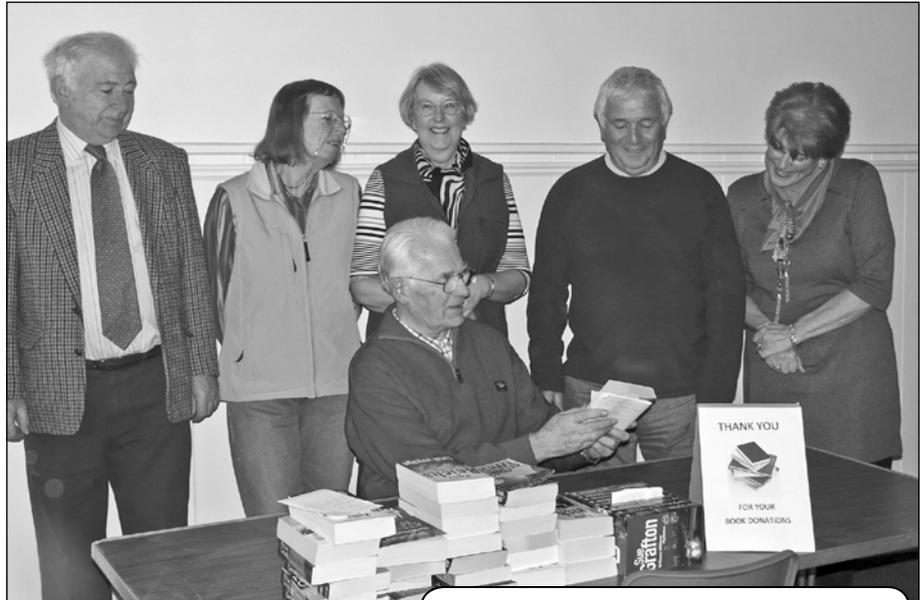


CLIP has also received considerable help from the Parish Council. We are delighted and grateful for the improvements to the Town Hall and look forward to moving into the refurbished upper hall now that the work has been completed.

The next stage is the installation of library shelving, the installation of the IT equipment and training of volunteers. We will also be sorting and processing the books. Thank you to all those people who responded to our appeal.

Once this work is completed we hope to open in mid-May. Your April Beacon will give more details about dates and opening times.

The Library Information Hub will provide a wide range of information both to the community and to visitors to Painswick. The four public access computers will provide the electronic portal to public services including those provided by the County



*Peter and team members receiving some of the first donated books on 22nd February.*

and District Councils and the NHS. Signposting to useful sources of information on the internet will be provided. The Beacon Annual Directory is an invaluable resource which will be the basis for a reference folder on local services and activities.

*Peter Corley*

*Chairman of Community Library in Painswick*

## Town Hall upgraded

It was a distinctly cheerful Chairman, Terry Parker, in full regalia, who performed this symbolic ceremony on Friday 3rd February as the Country Market reopened.

In the space of little over a month contractors RTB of Upton St Leonards had met all the Council's expectations and completed full strengthening of the floor to the upper hall and its consequences for the ceiling below, together with works to include disabled access throughout the lower floor and toilets reorientated to accept the disabled. New lighting, floor treatment and other touches have undoubtedly drawn the premises into the 21st century and his pride in that achievement was clear for all to see.

Mr Parker, in a brief speech, praised the quality, speed and collaboration of the contractors and the considerable efforts of his fellow councillors and the Clerk in preparation for this milestone upgrading. The cost had been in the order of £50k and met in full by the County Council from apportionment of their Big Community Offer programme and its sale of their Stroud Road premises.

Remarks from early users range between "What a difference!" and "Not before time", with all reaching the Beacon full of praise.

**On other pages this month:** Easter for children, **countdown to Village Quiz**, culling badgers, **saint has web site**, new wildflower meadow, **ballet achievements**, short mat changes, **electric cycles arrive**, international artists, **society may close down**, carers caring, **praise down under**, request for your subscription, **election looming**, cycle barter, **poetry corner**.





Whether it was the splendidly redecorated Town Hall, with its gleaming parquet floor, the return of the Chairman's gavel or the missing clock that inspired the Council to conclude its business in 2 hours will remain a mystery. The Town Hall is now resplendent following its makeover. By closing your eyes you can almost imagine what the building was like after it first opened.

The main thrust of public questions prior to the meeting concentrated on the District Council's Core Strategy and the comment made at the last meeting that the Parish Council had supported the option for up to 100 dwellings to be constructed in various settlements within Stroud District of which Painswick was one – see the Beacon's February Parish Council report. It was explained that two years ago the Parish Council had responded to a consultation document from the District Council and had agreed to support two strategies, namely one involving the residential development of small sites of up to 50 dwellings distributed across the District's parishes and the other, residential development across a wide range of towns and villages where between 50-100 dwellings would be accommodated. The District Council had now released their Core Strategy and had opted to accommodate new residential dwellings in 'clusters' i.e. large locations which will not affect Painswick.

## PARISH COUNCIL

### Fireworks

After opening the meeting and dealing with routine matters the Chairman referred to urgent letters the Council had received concerning a firework display held at The Court House on the evening of the 4th February. The complaints centred on the excessive noise, the subsequent disturbance to local people, and the effects on pets and farm animals. No advance warning of the display had been given. It was resolved to write formally to the Court House pointing out the problems caused and to enclose a leaflet on the use of fireworks.

### Allotments

A holding response had been received from the Recreation Ground Trustees to the request from the Council to site the allotments on the Recreation ground. The Trustees wished to defer the decision until all possible risks had been identified and the costs calculated. The Chairman read out a letter the Council had received from a resident who had been a member of the original allotments working party. The

letter expressed concern that the siting of the allotments on the Recreation ground had been suggested back in January 2010 and two years later the Council had still not reached an agreement with the Trustees.

### Community Library and Tourist Information Centre

A paper had been received from CLIP, and circulated to all Councillors, setting out proposals for the administration of the Community Library and the creation of an information hub.

As in future all planning matters would be dealt with electronically there was no need to keep planning files. Currently the files were stored in the outer Parish Office. The Councillors were asked to agree that the Tourist Information Centre be allowed temporary use of the outer office, commencing at Easter, with the situation being reviewed when the Community Library was fully open. There was unanimous support from the Councillors. This will ensure that information will be freely available on the Olympic Torch and Jubilee celebrations for both the local community and visitors.

### County Councillors Report

Joan Nash reported that the County Council had agreed to waive the cost of applying for road closure for anyone wanting to have a community celebration for the occasion of the Queen's Jubilee or the Olympic Games. The County still needs 12 weeks notice for road closures and applications need to be in place by the 30th April. It may not be possible to close main roads such as the A46.

The road salt levels have been increased this winter, staffing levels reviewed so that in bad weather teams may be working day and night.

The Residual Waste Project at Javelin Park is proceeding as the request for a 'call in' was rejected by a cross party committee in late January.

Elections for the Police and Crime Commissioner will be held in November this year.

The new library consultation began on the 31st January and runs until the 11th March. Paper surveys can be found in libraries or it can be completed on line.

### District Councillors report

Although no formal report was given by Barbara Tait she did confirm that both of the recent planning applications from Court House had been refused under delegated authority.

### Public toilets

Two estimates were being sought by the Land and Buildings Committee to up-

grade the public toilets in St Mary's Street.

### Car park - Slad

The proposed land for the car park in Steanbridge Lane, Slad is owned by the Blow family. The land is in poor condition as it has been used locally as a car park and is very muddy. Further exploration of the possible use as a formal car park is being made.

### The Olympic Torch Relay and Queen's Jubilee

The exact timing of the Olympic Torch being carried through the village is not yet known but it is expected to be late in the afternoon of 23rd May.

500 hand held Union Jack flags, 20 5' x 3' Union Jack flags and 300 metres of Union Jack bunting have been received. These will be used for both celebrations. The working party are collating ideas, a pig roast on the evening of the Olympic Torch celebrations and lighting a beacon for the Jubilee celebrations. Concern has been raised about the possible damage to grass on the Beacon.

### Quality Parish Council

Roy Balgobin, the Clerk, advised the Council that to retain Quality Parish Council Status that at least 80% of Councillors must be elected. The local elections are due to be held in May. It was important that local people stood for election. Application forms and booklets on the role of being a Councillor were available from the Parish Office or the District Offices.

### Affordable Housing

Terry Parker read out a letter that had been received from Gloucestershire Rural Community Council which confirmed that despite the need for affordable housing they had closed their file. No suitable sites were available. One site had been identified but there was not suitable access.

### Ward Reports

Councillor Rob Lewis said that there was a rumour circulating in the village that a developer wanted to build a residential home in the field behind Castle Hale. Several members of the public were present and they had formed an action group to gather information. No approach had been made to the Council by a developer to hold a pre-application meeting. Terry Parker explained that the Council could act using powers under the Localism Act. The Council planned to give guidance on land development. This would also influence the Parish Plan. It was suggested that the field be turned into a village green. The Council supported this suggestion.

# Beacon VILLAGE QUIZ of the Year - 10th March



The teams have declared themselves ready for combat. Some have soberly discussed tactics, even though they have no knowledge of what 'rounds' of questions there will be.

Others are as relaxed as in previous years and sup ale as their training regime.

Mascots, which we are judging most carefully this year, are either being dusted off or manufactured. Needles and glue brought together with ingenuity? We hope so.

The Trophy - still on view in the window of 'The Chairman' - awaits one of these teams.



Local History Society  
 Monthly book group  
 Slad Village  
 Jolly Stompers  
 The Old Italians  
 Tina and friends  
 Beacon Conservation Group  
 Bird Club  
 Music Appreciation Group  
 Pilots and wives  
 Friday Club  
 Short Mat Bowling Club  
 Pitchcombe Village  
 Cotswold Mead friends  
 Conservation Society  
 Conservatives (Painswick Branch)  
 Upper Washwell  
 Horticultural Society  
 Ancient Soc. of Painswick Youths  
 Ancient Soc. of Painswick Youths  
 Ancient Soc. of Painswick Youths  
 The Carers Group  
 CLIP Community Library in Painswick  
 Cheltenham General Ophthalmology Dept.

The Diggers  
 Bookworms  
 Rosie 4  
 The Coasters  
 Gli ignorante  
 Tired and Tested  
 The Slashers  
 The High Fliers  
 Apprecianatos  
 Wessex 4  
 The Sages  
 Jack High  
 Pitchcombe Borderers  
 3 Glasses and a bottle of plonk  
 Listing Buildings  
 The True Blues  
 The Mamas and Papa  
 The Fully Clothed Gardeners  
 The Ding Dongs  
 The Ringmasters  
 Esméaldas  
 The Cup Cakes  
 Book Tokens  
 The eyes have it

## Fireworks explosion

Rarely have so many expressed themselves so vehemently throughout the village, and way beyond into the countryside, as was the case on Sunday 5th February; the morning after the night before. The exceptionally loud explosions about 11.00pm initially gave rise to alarm that some catastrophe had occurred. Was it the gas main in New Street, horrific accident on the A46, or equivalent disaster? A fair layer of snow on the ground only added to concerns.

Hundreds peered out into the night, only to realise that the disturbance was entirely due to an unheralded firework display emanating from Court House. The reverberations continued for nearly 15 minutes and drew no appreciation from those already abed, those with frightened children or distressed pets, and those such as

farmers around the village with live-stock frightened by this intrusion to the tranquil winter evening.

We carry the views of the Parish Council on page 2, while some letters received are on page 5; none being from the instigators of the pyrotechnics.

## Poetry corner

The Beacon would welcome short poems which may appeal to others in Painswick. While we cannot guarantee publication, it has to be said that the shorter the poem, the more likely it is to find its way into our pages.

**Have you been to Painswick old  
 Sheltering neath a Cotswold fold?  
 Yews that number ninety-nine  
 Cluster round its church so fine,  
 Lovely houses, old and quaint,  
 Make an artist long to paint.  
 Stone-hung roofs of mellow tint,  
 Mullion windows all a-glint.**

*A.Dorothy Holmes*

If you can't see the bright  
 side of life, polish the dull  
 side.



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We print 1500 copies each month and approximately

600 people subscribe and, if you are one of those, we really are most grateful for your continuing support.

You will find in this March issue an envelope with a "Day-Glo" slip which can be used to subscribe. (Larger and brighter than in the past. Harder to lose!) Please return as soon as you can to ease our administration. Each copy costs over 60p to print and in 2011-12 our subscribers donated between £7-£20.

If you want to save posting your subscription, please drop the envelope with the slip (filled out) in the Beacon's exclusive post box by the telephone kiosk in New Street or over the counter at the Post Office.

Thanking you in anticipation of your support

## Good Friday - Procession of witness



On Good Friday, 6th April, we will be processing at 10.30am from the Roman Catholic Church in Friday Street to the road-side cross by the Lychgate, for a short service before processing up New Street, down Bisley Street, and back to St.Mary's Church Rooms, where there will be hot Cross Buns and hot tea/coffee!

We do hope you will join us.  
*Rita Bishop*

## St Mary's [www.stmaryspainswick.org.uk](http://www.stmaryspainswick.org.uk)

Our ancient local parish church of St Mary's Painswick has recently launched its own web site to allow citizens around the world as well as those living hereabouts to see and even hear what is going on day by day and week by week within this benefice.

The Beacon understands that in the first three days of the launch over 6200 pages were viewed by visitors to the site.

Bob Shea was deputed to investigate and then set this site up. We asked him about its objectives, and he said, "The web site aims to be a hub of Christian activity as it is linked to other Anglican sites in our region and the UK. The best benefit of all is how the site has allowed exploring minds to sample the message and activities of our local Christian church without leaving their own homes. Cyber evangelism is the unexpected and welcome bonus. Potentially the parish can reduce paper consumption as newsletters and notices are read on paperless computer screens. At the local level cyber communication offers the potential of more effective communication and greater transparency in the management of church affairs".

It is well worth a look.

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# Quite a pub crawl!

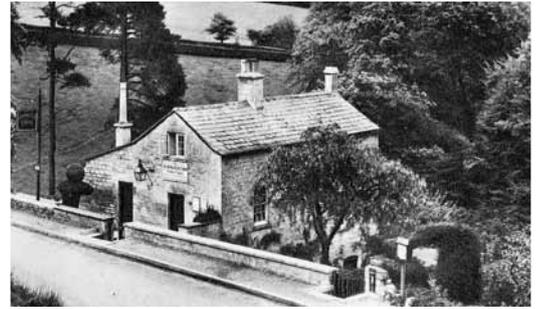
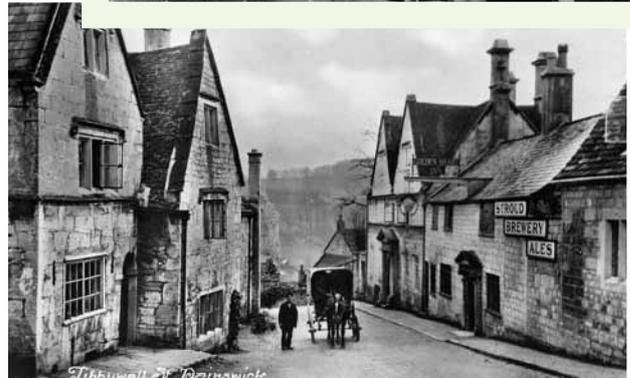
At the February meeting David Archard and Helen Briggs treated members to a most enjoyable historic pub crawl round the parish. As they pointed out, pubs and inns have long since passed their heyday hereabouts – 17 in 1781, 34 in 1838, 6 in 1984 and now ... Of course little is known about some of them and indeed some existed for very short periods. The survival of The Falcon is exceptional and is perhaps attributable to several factors such as the ownership of the wealthy Jerningham family, its bowling green (reputedly the oldest in existence), its association with cockfighting both legal and illegal and its position as a prominent starting/finishing point for early public transport.



Many public houses were sited along the A46, which was opened in 1820, and enjoyed much patronage in the 19th and 20th centuries. The Eagle, The Star (where table quots were invented), the Adam and Eve, the Bunch of Grapes (possibly named The Man's Delight in the 1850s) to name but a few. Within the centre The Lamb or Fleece in Bisley Street, The Red Lion facing up Bisley Street, the Royal Oak (the only one extant), the Bell Inn and The

George in Friday Street, the New Inn (now the hairdressers), The Golden Heart or Hart and the huge 4-storey malthouse in Tibbiwell, The White Horse in Vicarage Street and the Institute (Painswick Centre) were just some. A little further afield there was The Bull in Wick Street, The Wool Pack and The Star in Slad and The Crown, Butcher's Arms and Plough Inn in Sheepscombe. What with the Cross Hands in Stepping Stone Lane, newly built in 1909 on the site of a charming looking former establishment which was the scene of many a Friday night brawl, there was certainly plenty of choice for our forefathers looking for a tippie!

David and Helen gave a very entertaining and informative presentation to a delighted audience. The next meeting will take place at the Croft School on Tuesday, 20th March at 7.30pm when Dr Nicholas Herbert will give a presentation on Georgian Gloucester. Everyone welcome.  
*Carol Maxwell*



## Painswick on TV

Those who dine rather late in the day are at risk of missing the product of much local filming in recent times, when Painswick is - we are reliably informed - (see 'Powered Pedals on page 17') will feature on **BBC1 'Countryfile' this Sunday evening 4th March.**

A useful time for coffee and mints?

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# Local Elections 2012

In our December issue we drew attention to there being elections this year, on **Thursday 3rd May** and that the whole of our Parish Council will have vacated their seats; that is 7 from Painswick village, 2 each from Sheepscombe and Slad, and 1 for Edge.

We were at pains to point out in that article the exceptional status achieved by the council, and its increasing ability/opportunity to undertake devolved functions as it wishes directly for local services. That, however, depends upon the proportion of its members **directly elected** being high enough (80%). If sufficient do not put their names forward those that do, say three in the case of Painswick village, will have powers of co-option but the resultant council will lose its devolved authority; and we are all losers in that circumstance, for four years.

Minimum age 18, living within three miles of the boundary of the civil parish, or place of work within the civil parish are the essential formal qualifications. We are reminded that rendering service representing one's fellow citizens is, as many would testify, intensely rewarding at a personal level; to have offered one's services through the ballot box is of itself an affirmation of belief in democracy and the democratic pro-

cess. We venture to suggest that a measure of local interest and concern for the advancement of local affairs being governed at a local level is in direct proportion to the number who put their names forward.

And that is not to forget a seat on the District Council, too, vacant on the same date. Will you?



The formal notice of elections will be published by the District Council on 27th of this month, March. Any willing to stand must register their nominations by midday on Wednesday 4th April, and - if they wish - forward to SDC any statements to accompany their candidature by the 10th April.

Want to know more? The Good Councillor's Guide, Essential Guidance for Local Councillors, is available free of charge from the PC office.

The Beacon is, as readers will doubtless be aware, utterly non-political in copy reaching our pages. When the sequence of dates permit we offer to carry short statements of candidates, and indeed the list of those registering their nominations. This time round neither will be possible since we will have gone to press by the closing date; we publish on 7th April. Further, the May edition comes out two days after the election itself, so we cannot even carry the outcome until our June edition. We regret this, but such cannot be overcome.

Our apologies in advance, but hope for a real and serious 'competition'. The full outcome will, of course, be published on the Parish Council's notice boards on the Friday.

"People often say that, in a democracy, decisions are made by a majority of the people. Of course, that is not true. Decisions are made by a majority of those who make themselves heard and who vote -- a very different thing."

Walter H Judd

## Sunday in Contador . .

. . is somehow uniquely peaceful. From mid morning, religious music from a loud-speaker in the church tower drifts across the village through the clear mountain air. Not loud enough to be intrusive, but it has a gentleness that makes one thoughtful and reflective. Spring mornings are best, when it is warm enough to breakfast outside and let the music carry you away. Later, the village ladies in traditional black and the gentlemen in unaccustomed suits and too tight collars make their way to mass before the family lunch.

On this particular Sunday, after a most agreeable paella and enough rioja to make me delightfully comatose, I retired to the TV room for the time honoured British Sunday afternoon custom of falling asleep in front of "the box". No sooner had I descended into that delicious period between sleep and wakefulness, than there came a frantic ringing of our doorbell. Startled, I yanked open the front door to confront whoever had spoiled my reverie. It was a highly agitated neighbour, who said, "Señor, the roof of your house is on fire !" .....

More next time.

Christopher Piper-Short

We are pleased to include these short 'reports' from sunny Spain when space permits; this in the knowledge that Christopher and Geraldine have many friends hereabouts.

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## Wild flowers at Hambutts

Readers of The Beacon may be interested to know that the Hambutts Field Trust, who look after this small field on Edge Road, are planning to plant a wildflower meadow in the field this spring. The field is 1.73 acres; we would plant the central area, approximately  $\frac{3}{4}$  acre, leaving the perimeter cut as before for walkers. The wildflower meadow would also be cut back after flowering. In this way we hope that Hambutts Field will continue to be of benefit to walkers, dogwalkers, and rambles on the Cotswold Way, with the added benefit of the wild flowers to bees and butterflies, as well as, we hope, to people.

We plan to call this the Diamond Jubilee Wildflower Meadow.

Any readers who are interested or concerned, or would like to help, are welcome to contact the Chairman of the Trustees, Virginia Falconer, on 814009, or [virginia@richardfalconer.net](mailto:virginia@richardfalconer.net).

*Virginia Falconer*



## The Beacon archive

In this month, we reported

### 10 years ago

The Painswick Show Society confirmed that the 2002 Show would be held on 10th August, this after cancellation last year. The publication of Part Two of the Parish Plan was announced, together with adoption of both parts by the Parish Council. Dr Rhys Evans had joined the Painswick practice consequent upon the departure of Dr Roddy Jaques. A definitive map indicating 'no go' areas for the Cotswold Vale Farmers Hunt is being devised. A new notice board was erected in Stamages Lane car park for use by local clubs.

### 20 years ago

The 21st anniversary of the surgery had been celebrated on 14th February. Midlands Electricity plc representatives attended a public meeting where they explained the incidence of power failures and the action now being taken to rectify matters. Rev Jessie Clare was named as the incoming new minister of Christ Church from April.

### 30 years ago

The Wildlife and Countryside Act had come into force the previous November, and aspects impinged upon this locality; while badgers continued to be gassed, certain bulls under 10 months of age could be free in a field traversed by a footpath. Burdock & Son celebrated 150 years since Nathaniel Burdock founded it in 1832, based then in what became the Lamp House. BT announced that many uneconomic rural telephone kiosks would be removed.

## "She" comes to Cheltenham

Former Painswick resident Clive Nolan in association with NOS Productions brought his musical "She" to the Playhouse in Cheltenham last weekend for its European premiere. The production is based on H Rider Haggard's famous novel which is centred on Ayesha, the white queen of a tribe in the Lost City of Kor, "She who must be obeyed". The musical is essentially a Rock Opera. Those familiar with

Clive's previous musicals will not have been surprised at how the score faithfully reflected the dark, brooding atmosphere of the tale which was heightened by the intimacy of the small theatre. Clive writes in the beautifully produced "She" programme how he grew up in Painswick having been a pupil at Wycliffe, Stonehouse and Kings School, Gloucester. Clive's parents, Margaret and Ronald Nolan are well known in the Stroud district as music teachers. Margaret continues to live in Painswick, Ronald having died some years ago.



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## Cupcakes for carers

We held our second very pleasant meeting for carers, round the teatable, on 7th February when we consumed delicious scones baked by Andrea Linsell. She is a star, who also showed some very useful pieces of equipment which could help with all sorts of physical problems from opening jars to picking things up from the floor without getting out of your chair, from getting into and out of the bath or car, to working in the kitchen. I was amazed at how many possible solutions there are to some of the difficulties some of us face. Thankyou so much Andrea for the trouble you took to assemble so many helpful items.

I am delighted with all the support this new carers' group is getting from The Beacon and also the Painswick Centre who are very kindly allowing us the use of the Green Room for a reduced rate for the time being, as they like to see the Centre being used for a possible social need.

Also various people have offered to help, and we welcome anybody who would like to come along and listen and chat over tea and cake at any convenient time during the afternoon, and most particularly of course, we welcome carers. The next three meetings will be held in the Green Room, at the Painswick Centre from 1.30 to 4.30pm on Tuesday 6th March, 17th April and 15th May. On 6th March Chloe from Revive at Three Gables, will be offering complimentary hand massage to carers up to 3.00pm.

Patricia Burrows 813326.



## Letters

The inclusion of letters, maximum 150 words, in these columns does not imply that the Beacon committee endorses the views expressed, or otherwise. Please supply the Beacon with your full name and address although such details will not appear in the Beacon unless you so request.

### Cup Cakes for Carers

Elizabeth Burge writes:

I have just returned from the second meeting of the Cup Cakes for Carers group. We were a mixture of carers, ex-carers and people with the desire and abilities to help it develop.

It is estimated that carers save the NHS many millions of pounds each year by devotedly looking after family members, friends and neighbours at home, providing individual care, from basic everyday needs to constant twenty-four hour responsibility.

Carers are often reluctant to identify themselves as such, but it is well recognized that people who are in this situation get vital help, support and information from others similarly placed.

The more people who come and share their knowledge and experience the greater the benefit for the whole, so if you are a carer - confident and happy with your role, or (more likely), a bit tired and uncertain do come to the next meeting on 6th March.

## TIO help needed

Painswick Information Office has relocated to the outer office of the Town Hall.

Volunteers needed for 3 hours a week or be on a list of reserves in the event of holidays etc. Looking forward to welcoming you to our happy team 812427.



Anne Smith

## Pauline Lamont A tribute

Born in South Wales, Pauline gained a first class double honours degree in French and German at Cardiff University. She spent most of her working life in teaching, finally retiring from her position as head of department at Stroud High School.

Pauline lived in Painswick for over 45 years and was an enthusiastic member of many societies. President of the W.I. and the Horticultural Society, member of the Music Appreciation Society, meals on wheels, P.A.D.F.A.S. twice chair of Cotswold Care, she was very generous to many organisations and charities, and helped many people discreetly and generously. She lived the last two years in Richmond Care Centre where she died peacefully on 12th January. Pauline was loyal, enthusiastic and generous, a wonderful friend and a lovely lady who contributed much to society.

### Firework fury

Grant Barnett writes, from Churchill Way:

On Saturday 4th February, at 2300hrs Painswick and the surrounding area was akin to a war-zone. Without thought or jot of sensitivity for any adult, child, or animal living in the area, the Court House partied, and gave the village 'hell' for a while.

The fireworks were unlawful, breaking the curfew between 2300-0700hrs and exceeding 120 decibels, conflicting with the Fireworks Act 2003.

The thick haze pollution produced over Painswick dangerously engulfed all roads. Driving became more treacherous with snow, black ice, mist and firework smoke as hazards. These conditions could have easily have caused another M5 firework fatality situation, but still the party continued.

I wonder if the residents of Court House, in the cold light of day, will formally apologise for irritating and inconveniencing their village and causing my dog to shake with fear?



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*Shirley Clarke writes from Hollyhock Lane:*

While most people enjoy a firework display, those which started at 11.00pm on Saturday, 4th February, showed a selfish disregard for the entire village. The bangs could be heard miles away and many houses in the village shook with the force of the explosions.

Young children and domestic pets were terrified and took hours to settle afterwards. Farm animals and horses must also have been affected. I hope no one else in the future shows such disregard for the residents.

*Robert Cox, from Hyett Orchard, whose dog was terrified and inconsolable, says:* Concerning the events of the evening of Saturday 4th February and the crass and thoughtless behaviour of the owners of The Court House in Painswick. Could I through The Beacon refer them to [www.direct.gov.uk/fireworks](http://www.direct.gov.uk/fireworks) They will then be able to read and become aware of where they were acting outside the law. The first volley commenced at 18.25. and the seemingly unceasing finale at 23.00. These were no ordinary fireworks they were "industrial strength" at least, the noise was unbearable.

I am no party pooper but this event showed a complete contempt for the residents, pets and livestock within the village and for a fair distance beyond. I hope, but doubt they now feel suitably humbled after becoming the focus for an unprecedented amount of condemnation and for the level of upset they created within the Parish.

*and, from a farmer, Philip Berry writes from Holcombe Lane:*

As a livestock farmer I very much appreciate the efforts made by 'The Painswick Beacon' to encourage common sense and consideration with regard to the use of fireworks.

Regrettably such advice fell upon deaf ears at 11.00pm on a Saturday evening in February when, without warning, some of the loudest explosions I have ever heard shattered the peace. With a covering of snow on the ground the illuminating effect of the fireworks was also greater than usual.

A considerable source of worry with the commencement of the lambing season just a few days away.

#### **Allotments**

*John Sidwell writes from Cheltenham Road*

Having been the Community Representative on the original Allotment working group, I'm delighted that the Parish Council are reconsidering our firm recommendation of 2010, to use a small part of the Recreation Field for the village community allotments. I believe it's a WIN- WIN situation all-round.

#### **Wins for the Trustees**

1. - Better use of their under utilised asset
2. - Meeting one of their founder's requests
3. - Providing maintenance income

#### **Wins for the allotmentees**

1. - Cheap allotments
2. - Right in the centre of the village

#### **Wins for the Council**

1. - No financial risk
2. - Meeting their legal requirement

#### **Wins for the Community**

1. - Provides daily activity for both allotmentees and onlookers.
2. - Creates family usage for all ages
3. - Showing the younger generation the importance of self sufficiency & home grown food

*Michael Shute has written from Marling Cottage*

I am lucky to be able to walk on the Recreation Field but saddened by the fact that this valuable village facility is often totally deserted. There are a few dog walkers, a very nice children's playground and some football matches at weekends.

I understand that some of the Parish Council would like to see a small area of the Field set aside for a few allotment plots. I understand this would hardly affect any other users of the Field.

Allotments should be at the heart of the community. Families could use the play equipment on the Recreation Field and tend to allotments at the same time. The allotment holders would be a public example to others to grow their own vegetables.

This is a great way for the Council to provide a much needed facility at a reasonable cost and we should all support this proposal.

*Paul Castle, Chairman of Painswick Valleys Conservation Society, writes:*

Having been to extraordinary lengths to secure a site for allotments, the Parish Council now propose an alternative to the Mop Tree site, by suggesting putting them on the Recreation Ground. The concern is that part of the Recreation Ground would be fenced off for the exclusive use of a small number of residents. The Recreation Ground is the only public open space within the village. As well as space for informal play activities, it also provides a venue for various ad hoc events such as the 'Wearable Art' competition and the Dog Show, bringing people into the village, adding to local colour and vibrancy and helping to support local traders. It also provides essential overflow parking for village events. It is feared that the proposed limitation of space would deter such activities. Therefore we hope that residents will be properly consulted before any such decision is made.

#### **Badgers and TB**

*Paul Griffiths has written from Stockend:* Writing as a life-long conservationist I feel that rather than protecting the badger we should be encouraging the proposed cull. Badgers have no predator, their numbers have increased by 500% over the last 30 years or so, and proportionately our ground-nesting birds have decreased, even though with modern field margins conditions for them have never been better. Young hedgehogs make tasty snacks for badgers and their numbers are way down, and in my beloved adjacent beech woods dozens of wild bees nests have been destroyed by them leading to a serious decline in their numbers.

In conclusion I can only feel that a cull would help restore some semblance of balance to our wildlife populations allied to reducing the number of TB ridden badgers, and helping our long suffering farmers.

#### **Dogs - clearing up**

*Anthea Bond, Anne Castle, Jill Cound make a plea:*

We are writing this to appeal to the people in Painswick who do not clear up after their dog(s). Many do so religiously but many don't. Particularly unpleasant are the edges against the fence in the Recreation Ground, the edges and middle of the Hambutts field, and anywhere in the Churchyard. Some think these are areas where it is okay to do nothing. It's not. There are plenty of bins in these places so there is no excuse.

So please, please for the sake of others, including children, can we all clear up after our dogs or in future we could be stopped from walking them in certain areas. That would be a great shame for us all and our dogs. We have chosen to have dogs in our lives and so have a responsibility to them and other members of our community.



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## Last Tango in Painswick

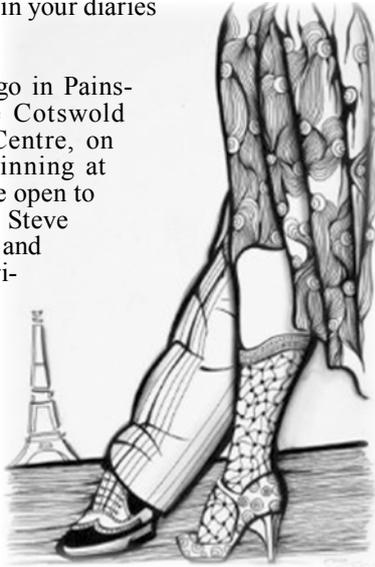


Following George Krasker's ambitious and enjoyable double bill in January, the Painswick Players are now preparing their Summer Arts Festival production Last

Tango in Painswick, a hilarious staging of two David Tristram plays at the Painswick Centre on 19th, 20th and 21st July – make a note in your diaries now!

**Auditions** for Last Tango in Painswick will be held in the Cotswold Room at the Painswick Centre, on Thursday 8th March, beginning at 7.30pm. These auditions are open to everyone – please contact Steve Friar for further information and audition scripts (814004 or friarwriter@btinternet.com). The plays will be directed by Alistair Anderson and Dave Kilmister and produced by Steve Friar.

We will be recruiting a back-stage crew as well as actors so why not join us?



## Workshops

Building on last year's highly successful series of theatre workshops, we have invited Red Dog, a professional theatre company, to run this year's workshops in the Cotswold Room at the Painswick Centre on Saturdays 14th and 28th April and 5th May from 10.00am to 1.00pm. These workshops are great fun, no acting experience is necessary and non-members will be especially welcome to join us. The fee for the series of three workshops (including coffee and biscuits) is £40 for members and £45 for non-members. Please register your interest with Jean Burgess (812167 or jeanb@painswick.net).

## Play Readings

Our regular series of play readings continues on Tuesday 27th March in the Green Room at the Painswick Centre beginning at 7.30pm. These are always informal and very enjoyable occasions to which everyone is welcome (see the Village Diary).

*Steve Friar*

## Double bill

Those of us who were able to brave the snowy weather at the end of January were very fortunate to enjoy the latest performances by the Painswick Players.

'**Alternative Accommodation**' was a fascinating and light hearted look at the dynamics of adult children 'deciding' what was 'best' for their recently widowed mother – and the mother's reactions together with her ability to shock them all by her decisions and actions. Her children were well portrayed by Dave Carlite (financial consultant), Norma Dickenson (aspiring 'business woman on the year) and Cathy Munday (vicar's wife). They interacted wonderfully. Sue Leighton-Boyce, who portrayed their widowed mother was excellent – obviously playing to the conversations she had heard her children having – and then moving out of her pretended confused state and flooring them all with having already sold her large house to a property developer, bought an apartment in Florida and also a racehorse! She disabused them about their father to whom she had been loyal in his life time but who 'brought nothing, gave nothing and left nothing – and not even saying thank you at the end!

The cast raised many a laugh in portraying an increasingly common issue for families where parents live active lives into their eighth and ninth decades. It was an excellent performance.

'**The Bear**', the second play of the evening, was very different and with different challenges for the two main characters, Elena (May Percival) a landowning widow, determined to grieve for her philandering husband and Grigori (Neil Webber) a middle aged landowner who was owed money by Elena's dead husband and was not leaving until he had been paid!

The couple were strong characters. There was powerful, combant dialogue and for Neil Webber some very long speeches which held us in admiration in the way he had learnt them! The couple went from antagonism to loving embrace by the end. Their dialogue was constantly interrupted by Luka, Emma's aged servant who was marvellously portrayed by Peter Minall, who was a source of much humour throughout. It was not so much his words but his body language that kept up laughing!

Congratulations to those on stage, to those backstage and to the Director George Krasker. They all deserve our support giving so much time and talent to bring gems such as these plays to enrich our community. Thank you one and all!

*Michael and Clare Irving*

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## Emma Johnson and her clarinet tell Bed Time Stories

The Painswick Music Society's first concert in this 67th Season sees a return of the ever popular clarinetist, Emma Johnson, and Barbara Thorley's favourite, for her third visit on 31st March at 3.00pm in St. Mary's Church. Tickets 01452.812419.

Since she won the BBC Young Musician of the Year Competition in 1984 and was a medal winner in the Eurovision Young Musician, Emma's career has advanced as soloist with many of the world's leading orchestras, now with a repertoire of over 40 different concertos. A new development has seen her being invited not only to direct from the clarinet, but also to conduct orchestras such as the London Mozart Players and the Royal Philharmonic.



are Debussy, Schumann, Copland and the programme ends with the Milhaud's roguish Scaramouch.

*Maurice Maggs*

## Forgotten composers

Alex Nichols gave us a presentation on three nearly forgotten opera composers. The first was Giovanni Pacini born 1796. He wrote least 74 operas, many in the style of Rossini. Alex played for us a lovely duet, the opening of an opera "Caesar in Egypt". He continued with "Alexander in India" and on to his most famous creation, "Sappho".

Alex then produced his second composer Saverio Mercadente, born 1795, whose operas were immensely popular. His favourite soprano was as beautiful to the eye as her voice was to the ear. He also wrote many songs, of which the show-piece was "Il Pastore Svizzero".

Alex's third composer was Meyerbeer, who was born in Berlin in 1791. He helped Wagner in his early years but Wagner later attacked him in an anti-Jewish pamphlet. Much of his inspiration was derived from French history, eg "The Huguenots". He introduced ballets into some of his operas. Alex played for us a scene from "L'Africaine", "O Paradiso", sung by Placido Domingo.

This was an interesting introduction to half-forgotten composers.

*Richard Burges Watson*

## "Leonard Bernstein" . . .

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. . . was the title of Leslie Brotherton's presentation on 3rd February. How exhilarating to hear, and enjoy, something completely different! The very professionally produced programme notes led the numerous audience that braved the icy winter evening to expect something special and they were not disappointed. We listened to a selection of music of great originality, a wide range of instrumentalisation and tempi, now loud, now soft and lovely singing. No wonder Bernstein was once described as "one of the most prodigiously talented and successful musicians in American history" – conductor and prolific composer of symphonies, ballet music, operas and other choral and orchestral works.

In the first half of the concert we gained insight into the spread of his work listening to a choral work about the Psalms, two dance episodes, film music and culminating with excerpts from his operetta "Candide"

Emma's TV appearances have ranged from prime time chat shows to gala concerts with Cleo Laine and Yehudi Menuhin. Radio appearances include Artist of the Week on both BBC Radio 3 and Classic FM. She enjoys writing about music and has presented various feature programmes, including most recently a Radio 4 broadcast about the Painswick composer, Gerald Finzi. The theme tune played by Emma for the Victorian Kitchen Garden series on BBC television became a popular hit.

Her programme for Painswick is an interesting and varied one. Its highlights are the intriguing 'Bedtimes Stories for clarinet and narrator' by the modern American minimalist composer, Tom Johnson, and Weber's 'Grand Duo Concertant in Eb'. The former will have 'Emma the clarinet' and 'Emma the narrator, indulging her passion for the contemporary arts, and the Weber Concertant gives John Lenehan at the piano a virtuoso part alongside that of the clarinet in a splendid display of fireworks from both. Other composers

Then, unequalled by his other compositions, the tremendously successful "West Side Story" from which we were regaled in the second half with fifteen excerpts, some beautifully sung by Kiri de Kanawa and Jose Carreras. An evening to remember.



## A Russian Concert

Twenty of us went to the Colston Hall in Bristol on 15th February looking forward to an exciting concert of all-Russian music presented by the Russian State Philharmonic Orchestra. We were not disappointed.

The concert: the symphonic "Masquerade Suite 1944" by Khachaturian - drawn from incidental music he wrote to accompany performances of the play "Masquerade" – very varied pieces with the waltz a focal point. Then Shostakovich' First Violin Concerto: a brooding and mysterious start followed by a grotesque scherzo, a superb Passacaglia and finally the wild burlesque a stunning conclusion. All played beautifully, as was her encore, by the brilliant young violinist Natalia Lomeiko.

Tchaikovsky's Fourth Symphony was the second half – a "motto" symphony saturated with neurosis as well as the chance experience of good fortune. Composed during a turbulent and traumatic period of his life, the theme of "Fate" appears throughout the work but is finally vanquished in an exhilarating ending. Tremendous prolonged applause was rewarded with two highly appreciated "lollipops" ending a wonderful evening.

*Ralph Kenber*



## Cycle recycle

The Croft School is excited to be launching its first ever second hand bike sale called a 'cycle recycle' and is appealing for people to take part.

The event takes place on Saturday 24th March between 11.00am - 2.30pm and is run by the 'Friends of The Croft School', at the school. There will be a variety of second-hand adult and child's bikes, scooters, trikes and balance bikes for sale during the event.

"We are delighted that our Local Policing Team from Stroud are supporting this event and are providing a 'free' bike marking service" said event organiser Lindsay Nottingham. "Also there will be free bike maintenance and free safety and storage advice too."

This is a great way of spring clearing the garage, getting rid of any bikes that are no longer used, or trading your child's bike to the next size up! Nowadays bikes can be so expensive, this is a fantastic way of 'recycling'.

Entrance is free and there will be hot food (jacket potatoes) and refreshments on the day. The Friends will also be selling tickets for a chocolate hamper prize draw on the day! Proceeds made from this event are being put towards new playground equipment, picnic benches and the creation of the new orchard in the school grounds.

If you have a bike (or similar) you wish to sell or even better are happy to donate, then please contact Lindsay Nottingham at thecroftsale@yahoo.co.uk to register.



*On left PCSO Colin Drewett on right PC Craig Murray pictured with children from left to right: Imogen Nottingham, Harry Twigg, Daniel Dougherty, James Nottingham, Shaun Dougherty, Ted Bradshaw, Gracie Twigg & Martha Nottingham.*

## Notes extracted from Head Teacher Ceris Towler's letters to parents:

### Country Dancing

Country dancing club will run on Mondays, 5th, 12th and 19th March, between 3.15 and 4.15pm. Any children from Yr3 up are invited to come along. You will be practicing for the Country dancing festival held at Stratford Park Leisure Centre on Wednesday 21st March.

### Cross Country

Well done to all the children who took part in the Stroud District Cross Country event last term. In each of the races there were approximately 45 children from local large schools. All The Croft representatives ran well with 3 children gaining medals. The next race is on 12th March. Thank you to Mr Bastow for coaching them each Monday.



## Croft orchard

Not a location, but the planting of a 7-tree orchard at Croft School on 22nd February one for each year group, each planted by that class. This was undertaken with considerable seriousness by the children and a poem read:

**Here's to thee, good apple tree,  
Stand fast at root,  
Bear well at top,  
Every little twig  
Bear an apple big.  
Every little bough  
Bear apples now,  
Hats full! Caps full!  
Three score sacks full!  
Hurrah, boys! Hurrah!**

### Photography Competition

Well done to Lettie Robinson for her photo entitled 'The Great Eggscape' which has been highly commended in the Gloucestershire Young Photographer of the Year competition. Also accepted for the exhibition of photos are Pip Griffiths' 'The Two White Horses' and Alex Warnaby's 'My Toy Story Train'. This is a great achievement as there were 252 entries from primary schools around the county.

### Fairtrade Coffee Morning

Don't forget to keep Friday 9th March free for the Fairtrade Coffee morning between 9.30 and 11.30. I am looking forward to seeing and tasting all the Great British Bake Off entries! Once judging has taken place the entries will be on sale for others to buy and taste too. Please do feel free to provide any cakes or biscuits for the coffee morning even if your child does not wish to be entered for the competition.

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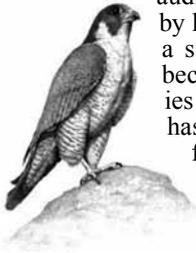
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# Urban Dwelling

## Peregrines



Edward Drewitt's fascinating illustrated talk in the Town Hall on 16th February, was well received by an attentive audience.



This Falcon, characterised by long pointed wings, short tail and a steep, rapid swoop on prey has become much more common in cities and towns in the UK. Painswick has its very own Peregrine, resident for some time on the Tower of St. Mary's Church: there have been recent reports of regular daily Peregrine visits to the windowsills of Hill Paul apartments in Stroud town centre.

Bird sightings in the locality reported at the meeting include several Mandarin ducks on Painswick Mill pool, Little Egrets along the Painswick Stream and a Sparrow Hawk, Siskins, Redwings and Fieldfares in gardens.

At our next meeting on Thursday 8th, March at 7.30pm in the Town Hall, club member Mike Robinson will give a talk on "The Wildlife of West Wales". The AGM, traditionally a brief affair, will follow. Everyone is welcome. Visitors £3.

Bill Boydell 813094

# March – a special time at the Rococo Garden

The month of March is definitely one of the best times to visit the Rococo Garden. No, not for the snowdrops, which of course are spectacular, but for the fruit blossom displayed on the huge collection of both espalier and standard trees.

The Rococo Garden has one of the best collections of heritage varieties of apples in the country, the oldest dating back to the 13th century and the youngest introduced into cultivation in the 1780s. As Paul Hervey-Brookes, the Garden advisor, points out, these old varieties have wonderfully perfumed blossom, a lovely colour range to the fruit and the tree shapes are beautiful.



"They are," he says, "so much better than modern varieties and they last longer too."

All the fruit trees at the Rococo are heritage. For example, Flower of Kent is early 15th century and is the variety under which, reputedly, Isaac Newton sat to work out his famous theory. Orleans Reinette, a French variety introduced c1750, was apparently the favourite fruit of Marie Antoinette. All are interesting and all have real flavour and texture. Some of the apples are no longer commercially available so the

challenge at the Rococo is learning how to manage and propagate them. This is important because the old, or primitive, varieties contain in their genetic make-up elements essential to the development of future varieties.

Most of the planting, including the fruit trees, at the Rococo is in keeping with the English Rococo period. This coincided with the era of 'the grand tour' and the bringing back of exotic new plants. The Rococo Garden reflects that exciting period. Paul emphasises the need to resist the temptation to introduce new and more modern plants and ideas which would mean that layout and conditions would have to change. This, of course, would mean the garden would lose its authenticity. As a result of this attention to detail it is one of the only gardens in the country which has truly retained its integrity, but it has taken many years to achieve this. It is a very special garden and definitely worth a visit in March.

Carol Maxwell

## BEACO-DOKU

Last month's test was certainly topical, with **F-R-O-Z-E-N** being upon us: and what was your lowest temperature?.

|   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| F | R | N | Z | O | E |
| E | O | Z | N | R | F |
| R | N | E | F | Z | O |
| Z | F | O | R | E | N |
| O | Z | F | E | N | R |
| N | E | R | O | F | Z |

We think there can be little doubt but that March will have some **F-R-O-S-T-Y** spells. Can you link the word in the six internal sets, and the twelve vertical or horizontal lines?

|   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|   | R |   |   | O |   |
| T |   |   |   |   | F |
|   |   |   |   | S |   |
|   |   | O |   |   |   |
|   |   |   | T | Y |   |
| Y | T |   |   |   | S |

## Phew!

Running 144 miles in 6 days, in temperatures which at times reach 120°C, through the Moroccan desert - no wonder the The Marathon des Sables is known as the Toughest Footrace on Earth. The ladies of Yew Trees WI listened in awe and near disbelief as Celia Hargreaves recounted her experience of completing this race in 1996 - the first British woman to do so - coming in 33rd of 200 entrants, an amazing achievement.

Competitors have to comply with the most stringent of rules, completing daily specified sections and carrying everything they need for the duration of the race in rucksacks on their backs; all their food, medical equipment, compasses etc. The most basic of tents are provided, as is water, rationed to nine litres per day for drinking and washing and distributed at check points, where random inspections of kit are also carried out. Stage four was 50 miles across barren wilderness for which a 32 hour time limit was allowed. Celia completed this stage in 13 which allowed her time to rest but as she was anxious about her fitness she spent some of it running round the camp!

Her audience listened with horror as Celia described the injury she sustained when on the fifth day she fell down a rocky cliff and her backpack got wedged. Despite suffering severe shock and hallucinating badly she managed somehow to finish that stage but did not seek medical aid in case they forced her to quit. Quitting is not a word that one associates with Celia Hargreaves! The physical and mental stamina required to complete the race is immense yet the joy when having done so, and finding a mud house complete with hot water where six days of Moroccan sand could be washed away, is easy to imagine.

On a somewhat less energetic note, the next WI meeting is on Tuesday, 27th March, when Natalie Hunt will give a talk on 'Creative Ways with Spice', at 7.30 in the Church Rooms. As this is an 'Open' meeting spouses, family and friends will all be welcome.

Celia Lougher

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## Local ballerinas

Congratulations to our local children below were recorded here last month (page 9) upon their recently passing their Royal Academy of Dance Ballet Grade 1 Examinations with flying colours. Their teacher Kate Mead is very proud of their success, and this picture shows the children were too!

For any parents of budding ballerinas there are a few places available at The Kate Mead School of Ballet held in the Church Rooms in Painswick.

*Top Row:*

Isabella Nunez, Miriam Szczurek, Ilana Turner, Poppy Hutchinson, Darcy Lynall.

*Bottom Row:*

Isla Lynall, Lily Randall, Libby Turner.

Kate Mead, their teacher can be contacted on 813118.

For the original image, thanks to Anne-Marie Randall Photography, pictured here.



## Easter egg hunt at Rococo Gardens

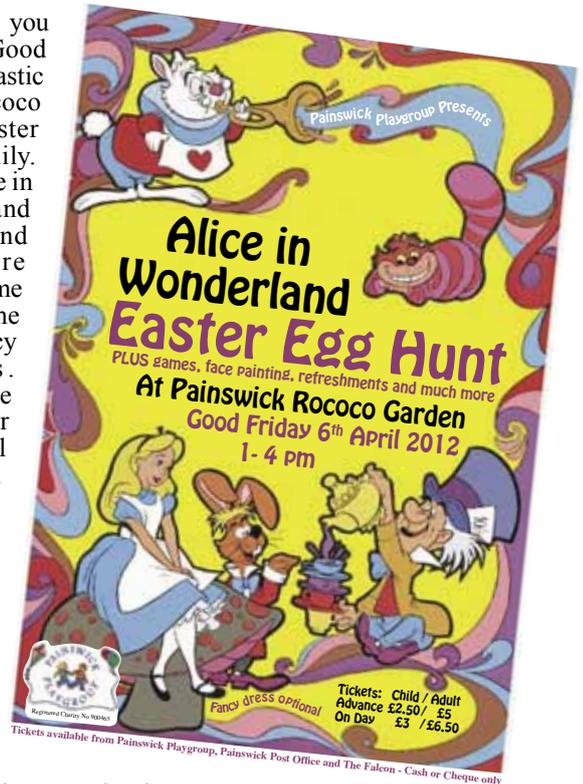
Painswick Playgroup invites you to a day of Easter fun on Good Friday, 6th April. Enjoy a fantastic day out in the beautiful Rococo Gardens with a host of Easter activities for the whole family. The theme for the day is Alice in



Wonderland and children – and adults! – are welcome to come in fancy dress.

There will be Easter Egg hunts for both pre-school and older children with an Easter treat at the end. As well as Easter egg trails, there will be fun activities to enjoy such as face painting, knock the hat off the Mad Hatter, a chocolate tombola and many more.

The event will start at 1.00pm and finish at 4.00pm, with last entrance at 3.30pm. Tickets bought in advance will be at the discounted price of £2.50 for children and £5 for adults and tickets can be purchased



from Painswick Post Office, the Falcon Hotel, and Painswick Playgroup. Tickets bought on the day will be £3 for children and £6.50 for adults. Free parking will be available on the day.

Painswick Playgroup is a registered charity and all proceeds from the day will go towards replacing the roof of the playgroup. The playgroup has received generous support from the community and is sure the day will be a great success and a chance for everyone to have a great family day out at the Rococo Gardens!

*Kathryn Alevizo*

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# The Last Days of Ocean Sail



On 7th March, Dennis Cartwright returns to give a talk to members of the Cotteswold Naturalists' Field Club about 'The Last Days of Ocean Sail'. The photograph accompanying this article, of the steel three-masted Dalgonar, is courtesy of Trevor Radway.



The Field Club's Annual General Meeting takes place on 4th April. Afterwards, Bob Axworthy, well-known locally for his work with the Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust, will give an illustrated talk about his visit to Australia to see some of that continent's unique wildlife, including one of the members of the marsupial family, the kangaroo, photographed by Bob.

These meetings begin at 2.30pm in the Painswick Centre's Beacon Hall, with light refreshments to follow. Visitors and guests will be most welcome.

Jane Rowe 813228



The picture shows the Dalgonar, a steel three-masted sailing ship, leaving Liverpool, fully-rigged. The Dalgonar was completed in 1892 by Southampton Navigation Works in Southampton, for Gracie, Beazley & Co. of Liverpool.

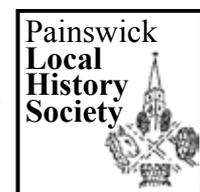
On 9th October 1913 she was on passage from Callao (Peru) towards Taital (Chile) and her shingle cargo shifted during a hurricane. The crew managed to cut her masts, but she remained on her beam ends and was finally abandoned. The crew (except the captain and 3 hands who were lost) was saved by the French 4-masted barque Loire. The hull of the Dalgonar continued to drift and finally struck fast on a coral reef off Mopihaa Island, (in the Society Islands), a distance of some 5000 miles from where she was abandoned!

## Local History Teaser

These boys definitely look the part, don't they? Are you able to date the picture and, continuing the theme from last month's photograph, are you able to identify the uniform and thereby say what the group was?

Last month's picture brought two very different responses, one from John Beard, who has kindly provided the present picture, and who thought the uniforms may have been those of the Boys' Brigade, and the other from David Archard who believes it was the Painswick Band. No date though.

If you can provide the answers we should like to hear from you and if you have a picture you think would present a challenge then please do get in touch.



Carol Maxwell



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# Good news - and bad news



For those new to the village and for the optimists who think spring is just around the corner and that the gardening season will soon be in full swing, here is an insight into what the Society has to offer.

Eight illustrated talks take place between the months of October and May, covering many aspects of horticulture given by highly qualified and interesting speakers.

During the summer months six outings take members to gardens great and small over a considerable spread of geographical locations. The 2012 outings programme will soon be published and distributed to members.

Spring and Autumn Suppers, a lunch and pre-Christmas social evening provide additional entertainment. A seed order is placed with DTBrown annually, providing top quality seeds at greatly reduced prices. The Society organises the Painswick in Bloom competition when floral displays in containers outside private and commercial premises in the village centre are judged and trophies presented to the winners.

Last, but certainly not least, the Society holds its Annual Show in September. This year's will be the sixtieth consecutive Annual Show - a considerable achievement. The Society was formed in 1953, having evolved from the former Food Production Society, and held its first official show. In 1965 the Society became RHS affiliated and the show has been run under RHS rules from then.

At this point in time we inform members of the changes made to the Show schedule that require lengthy preparation, and here is the new Handicraft Section:

- A design for a stained glass window
- A knitted doll
- A bird nesting box
- A kitchen reminder board
- A decorated lantern
- A butterfly made from coloured paper
- A wall/paper design 18" x 18"
- A painting of a Gloucestershire scene
- A photograph of clouds
- A photograph close up of a flower
- A photograph of a corner of Painswick
- A photograph of an activity with an amusing caption (not previously shown)

**All Society events are well attended and appreciated. Although present membership stands at 112 the work of running the Society is being done by too few people. Unless suitable people come forward to fill the committee vacancies prior to the AGM in May then the sixtieth show will be the last event of the Society, and no new programme will be offered for October.**

We appreciate that many people are involved in numerous organisations in Painswick, but it would be a great pity if this unique Society had to close. We look forward to a satisfactory response to this article.

*Brenda Dunn (President) 812698  
Philip Berry (Chairman) 813227*

## DASH - Delivering Aid to Stroud Homeless

Over the Christmas and New Year period we were able to keep Marah (the Stroud Charity we work through) well supplied with tinned food and warm clothing, thanks to your generosity. Marah is now appealing for tinned vegetables (carrots, peas, sweetcorn etc), baked beans and/or tinned spaghetti. Contributions can be placed in the boxes at Murrays Estate Agency, at the back of Painswick Church or by the fonts in Sheepscombe and Cranham Churches.

The small change collection (5ps, 2ps & 1ps) continues - in the last few months, we have been able to pass £140 on to Marah, who use the money for small emergencies as well as to help with the cost of providing hot meals three times a week. So please keep saving. Alison Robinson (812286) or Frances Watson (812071) are happy to come and collect bags of change, big or small, and Marah will be very grateful.

*Alison Robinson*

## Looking to the year ahead

The Annual General Meeting of the Painswick Centre will be held at 8.00pm on Tuesday 12th April in the Centre's Cotswold Room. Painswick residents and all affiliated users of the Painswick Centre are warmly invited to attend the AGM to hear about the work of the Trustees over the past year and their future plans for the Centre. Further details about the AGM may be obtained from the Secretary, Sue London, telephone 813791.

Salsa Dancing Classes continue into March and take place on Fridays 2nd and 9th March. Don't worry about not having attended earlier classes - Thomas Melendez will cover the basics for newcomers.

The recently received Grant of £1,500 from Painswick Parish Council's bid for the Big Community Offer is gratefully acknowledged and will be devoted to the refurbishment of the Green Room. The Trustees are particularly keen that this room can be used for smaller exhibitions and workshops when not in use for meetings, now that a number of other venues around the village are no longer available to artists and craft-makers to display and sell their work.

*Jane Rowe, on behalf of the Trustees*



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# Powered Pedals at the Rococo

You never really forget how to ride a bike, (no matter how long ago since the last time), do you? Well bike technology has definitely moved on and now it is possible to enjoy all the benefits of cycling without the hard bits – i.e. getting up the hills. Electric assisted bikes provide the power exactly when you need it and powered pedals help make light work of our surrounding inclines. Painswick Pedals is a new venture at the Rococo Garden and should appeal to anyone, both local and visiting, who values our beautiful Cotswold location.



Electric bikes are already popular with visitors in the Lake District and the Peak District and Paul Moir, (seen here with one of the new bikes), at the Rococo Garden realised they were an ideal means of enjoying this area too. In many respects sightseeing on a bicycle can be so much more satisfying than by other modes of transport. Not only that, it is environmentally-friendly and has an added fitness benefit too.

At present only the Cotswold Water Park hires out bikes, so why not from here? It is an ideal way to encourage visitors to stay within the local area longer as bikes can be hired for a whole day, a half day or just an hour. The Rococo bikes, purchased locally in Gloucester, are ideal in their design for this area. Circular walks are already suggested on the Rococo website and there are plans to provide similar ideas for bike rides. The OS bike map will be used to show some wonderful potential routes, largely avoiding main roads.

As 15 m.p.h. is the maximum speed limit legally allowed, the distance covered will be reasonably local, but then there is some stunning countryside to see no matter which direction you take from Painswick. Helmets and hi-vis jackets are available free if required and under-14s are not allowed. If you can ride a bike you can definitely ride one of these. They are great fun and such a relaxing and healthy way to enjoy our lovely area whether you are a visitor or a local resident. Do try one out, and do watch Countryfile on BBC1 on 4th March when Painswick Pedals will be featured.



*Carol Maxwell*

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## Gloucester Choral Society

The Beacon cannot hope to include all of the many 'attractions' on offer within hailing distance of Painswick, but occasionally we are pleased to remind readers of particular opportunities which we know appeal to quite a few.

Peter Holmes, who lives in Cranham, has asked if we can mention Gloucester Choral Society. As he says, "Gloucester Choral Society promotes concerts of professional quality in Gloucester cathedral, which, excepting music festivals, are only available in the larger urban conurbations like Bristol or Birmingham. Our conductor, Adrian Partington, is not only the Cathedral's Director of Music, but is also conductor of BBC National Chorus of Wales, Bristol & Gloucester Choral Societies and trains choirs for Promenade concerts in London most summers.

Our next concert on 24th March, will be an outstanding evening, with Berlioz Te Deum and Fauré Requiem performed by Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra with over 300 singers of the combined choirs of Bristol and Gloucester Choral Societies, Gloucester and Bristol Cathedral Choristers and Gloucester and Bristol Youth choirs.

We also stage "Sing Saturdays" which is a morning of singing at the beginning of each term, where anyone with an interest in singing is encouraged to come and sing through a work in a fun and informal setting – last Saturday was Brahms Requiem. This may be of interest to members of village choirs."

Contact Peter if you wish on [peter@gcs.me](mailto:peter@gcs.me) or to purchase tickets at <http://www.gloucesterchoral.com/box-office/>

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## Level playing floor

The lull in proceedings while the Town Hall was upgraded was as frustrating for Painswick Short Mat Bowling Club as it was for others valuing use of those premises. That said, a transformation has taken place with the floor itself now as level as it has been in more years than we can remember - certainly more than 25. To the Parish Council, our thanks.

The short mat has been out all day on Mondays since the 1980s. Across those years numerous players have risen to the challenge of overcoming the uneven knotty floor, some graduating from never-played-before to representing the county and beyond, while others have been just as happy to stay 'local' and enjoy relaxed and friendly competition among themselves.

The level floor now 'delivers' some real, albeit bewildering, accuracy; a whole new challenge. A couple of weeks ago we held a general meeting of the club to discuss whether we could maximise our circumstances and introduce some new members. One outcome has been that we have divided the playing day into five 'sessions' from 9.00am, all booking a few weeks ahead so that we can know whether we will muster 2, 4 or six players for these times. Two, those for 10.30 in the morning and 3.30 in the afternoon are already booked, and three or four potential new members are (hopefully) looking to create other bookings shortly.

We have spare bowls, we have the opportunity; have you curiosity or some interest? We would be only too pleased to quietly show anyone just what this fascinating pastime holds in store and, in offering this invitation, point out that glowing good health is not a prerequisite, nor is age much of a barrier. We can demonstrate how the game can be equally challenging to the initially hesitant, the 6-stone weakling, or many with physical impairment. Contact Grace (standing in our picture) on 812960, Jacqui on 627301, or Leslie on 813101 and one of us will stimulate you further if you can bring heel-less shoes.

*Grace Hanchet and Jacqui Jones*



## Painswick Golf Club

The course has been open for most of the time since the report last month, though the snow took a little longer to clear from the top of the Beacon than in Painswick and lower lying areas. When the ground has been frozen, the balls have bounded down the fairways making even average players jump for joy at the distances achieved, but as the ground warmed and softened, the balls landed with a dull thud and stopped very quickly to much disappointment! The real challenge has been keeping warm in the very cold weather.

All sections of the club have been active. The Seniors and Ladies sections held a very enjoyable mixed Texas scramble over 14 holes (because of the cold weather) which was won by Roy Henderson, Martin Taylor and Pauline Williams with a score of 42.5. The format of this style of competition must be popular, as the Seniors section held another Texas Scramble (over the full 18 holes) which was won by Duncan Toase, Roy Henderson and Peter Rowe with a score of 57.8. The Seniors Stableford medal held on 16 February was won by Peter Rowe with 43 points.

The club welcomes new members or visiting golfers wishing to play on our unique and historic course. Please contact Marc Cottrell on 01452 812615 for further details.

## Tennis

### Alicia Barnett Achieves Professional Tennis World Ranking.

To break into the International Tennis Federation Adult World Rankings, a player must first win through the qualifying rounds to play in the Main Tournaments. In order to achieve a world ranking they must then win three first round matches in three separate professional tournaments.

Alicia won her first round match at the \$25,000 Wrexham tournament in January, then went on to reach the quarterfinals of the \$10,000 Sunderland tournament.

With one more win needed, Alicia travelled to Sweden over half term to play in a \$10,000 tournament. In her first qualifying match she was drawn against the number one qualifying seed from Finland. This turned out to be a very tough match, lasting three hours. Finding herself 3-5 down in the third set, Alicia had to play very solid tennis and took the next four games to win 7-5.

Her second qualifying match was against a local girl whom she defeated 6-3, 6-0. The next match was even more important. Needing to win to achieve her ranking, the pressure was on. Her opponent was another Swedish girl who is highly ranked, but she found Alicia's first serve very hard to handle, and with Alicia making few unforced errors she took the first set 6-1. A tougher second set went with serve and ended in a tiebreak.

After saving two set points, Alicia finally won the tiebreak (and the match) 11-9. So, job done.

Alicia now has a professional tennis world ranking and time to improve her position on the listings before leaving home to follow a four-year tennis scholarship at Northwestern University in Chicago this autumn.

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# Coming to a place near you.....

## The Olympic Torch on 23rd May

Come help build the Olympic legacy in Painswick and create an event to remember! Here are some ways you can make this happen.

- We are beginning the celebrations in the village at 4.00pm so come and line the route along which the torch will pass. This will be the A46 as it passes through the village.
- If you belong to a local sports club try and get your other club members to come long, wear your club colours, uniforms and bring your banners if you have one.
- An invitation has been extended to the school children of the Croft, Sheepscombe and Cranham. Do make sure that your children can attend
- If you live on the Olympic Flame route agree to fly the Union Jack from your window. We can supply you with these.
- If you have a musical band or belong to a street entertainment group then please contact us, we want to make sure that there is lots of entertainment
- If you want to volunteer to be a Marshall please contact us.
- We are planning to have a few food and drink stalls, if you want to run one of these do let us know
- Make your front gardens and window boxes pretty; we want those travelling with the Olympic torch to think about coming back to Painswick to visit!!
- Those who live along the route throw a garden party, invite friends and relatives who don't live in Painswick, give them the chance to participate in this extraordinary event.
- If you have any good ideas do contact the Painswick Olympic- Jubilee Team. We are Vicky Aspinall, David Bishop, Karen Goddard, Andy Harding, John Longuet-Higgins, Terry Parker, Martin Slinger and Ela Pathak-Sen. Alternatively email the Roy Balgobin clerkpainswickpc@hotmail.com
- As we have more information on the programme of events we will keep you informed, keep an eye out for posters around the village and make sure you read your copy of the Beacon.



### *The Painswick Olympic-Jubilee team*

## Painswick Football

### **Under 9's doing brilliantly:**

Painswick Under 9s are doing brilliantly in their first year of playing competitive football. They are competing in the Mid-Gloucestershire Mini League Central Division and are currently top of this league, they also reached the quarterfinals of the Gary Lee shield which is a cup tournament that involves all divisions of the Mid-Gloucestershire Mini League. The boys are coached by Neil Davidson and Gary Fagg and train once a week at Stratford Park Leisure Centre in the winter and then at the Rec in Painswick in the summer. We usually enter the team into some summer tournaments, which are around June/July time, last year they won the Bussage Tournament. The boys are from a mixture of schools; all get on really well and have a great time playing football. They are currently sponsored by Painswick Fabrics.



### **General report**

The growth of the football club has been nothing less than inspiring and we have a very loyal and dedicated support from independent coaches and from parent coach and club officials. A quick run down of the teams: Our U13's is our oldest age group playing 11-a-side football in Stroud League Division 2. They have taken the league by storm and are top of the table and set to become League champions with a healthy gap over their rivals. They are also still in the cup competition. All our other teams are playing 7-a-side football starting with our U12's. This team is flying in the league are currently top and playing some very classy football. They are playing in the semi-finals of the cup at the end of February so

look out for the result. Our U11's are giving a good account for themselves and whilst our expectations at the beginning of the season was for a mid table finish they have got in to a good rhythm and are unbeaten in 2012, currently sitting 6th in the table. Our U10's are currently 5th in the table, however, they have a lot of games in hand and have only lost one game all season. When they catch up those games we are fully expecting them to lie second in the table and serious contenders for the title. We have two U9 teams, the first as above sitting top of the table and going great guns. The second U9 team play in a Cotswold League and whilst this is a friendly league our team have won many of their games and playing some really good football recording an 8:0 and 7:1 victory in their last couple of games. Finally our U6/7's are training every week on Saturday mornings and yet to play any matches, but we do hope to have some friendlies for them soon.

So Painswick Football Club has a growing reputation for quality football, delivered by a dedicated team and run in a friendly and safe environment. Our teams are achieving great success in their leagues and enjoying the social side of being part of a team. We are always in need of new players so if anyone would like to come along and have a go then please contact Howard Davis, Chairman of Painswick Football Club, by email on [hd@painswickfc.co.uk](mailto:hd@painswickfc.co.uk) or check out the website for more information [www.painswickfc.co.uk](http://www.painswickfc.co.uk)

Last month I mentioned statistics concerning dementia, and so I thought it might be helpful to look at memory problems in general. Let me re-assure you that memory problems are common; regular readers will know how often I use these articles to “confess” about my latest experience!



We all notice that our memory becomes less reliable as we get older. Tiredness, stress, overwork, anxiety, depression, some physical illness or the side effects of certain medications can all be factors. Maybe, sometimes, you just can't put a name to a face or you can't remember where you left your keys. Most of the time such lapses are a nuisance, rather than a sign of something more serious. But if you are worried that your memory – or that of someone you know is getting noticeably worse, or if memory loss is beginning to affect your every day life, it is worth sharing your worries and seeking advice as it could be an early sign of dementia so have a chat with your GP.

Whether a diagnosis comes as a shock or confirms your suspicions there are extremely good support services that are available through the Alzheimer's Society and that are local to you. Many people who have dementia of any type are supported at home by relatives, friends or neighbours. Supporting people with dementia can be a worrying and exhausting experience. Stroud Alzheimer's is there to help by offering, as flexible as possible, a home based support service. The Alzheimer's Society's Dementia Adviser Service provides tailor-made information, advice, guidance and signposting to anyone over the age of eighteen with a diagnosis of memory loss/dementia registered with a Gloucestershire GP and their carers or people who support them.

The Dementia Adviser (DA) will provide a named contact to the person with memory loss/dementia, and their carers/supporters, throughout their journey with dementia.

DA's are knowledgeable about all aspects of living with dementia and can direct people to a range of local services. They will work with the person and their carer's/supporters to identify their individual needs, provide them with the right information

at the right time and signposted or referred to appropriate services to ensure they have the help, care and support they need.

The 2gether NHS Trust provides mental health, substance abuse and learning disability services across Gloucestershire and Herefordshire. With-

in this service is the Community Mental Health Teams (CMHT) for older people which offer specialist assessment and treatment in the community for people with a mental illness such as depression or anxiety, and a service to older people with dementia.

Referrals are taken from other services within the 2gether Trust, GPs and other health and social care professionals. People with dementia needing ongoing support will be referred to the CMHT following assessment by Managing Memory 2gether. Typically people are seen at home or in an outpatients clinic (probably Weavers Croft for our area)

In addition, the local branch of the Alzheimer's Society offers monthly activities.

1) Monthly Alzheimer's Cafe's held in Nailsworth (last Wednesday of the month from 2-4pm at the Christchurch Rooms, next to the Church in Newmarket Road) and Minchinhampton (2nd Thursday of the month from 7-9pm at Horsfall House). Both venues have speakers, refreshments, music and support.

2) Singing for the Brain at Stonehouse Community Centre – twice monthly: This is a get together to meet, talk and sing with a qualified tutor leading the group. No musical experience is necessary! For dates, please ring below.

3) Monthly Carer's Group held at Stonehouse Community Centre. This is to give carers an opportunity to gain support and time for themselves, whilst the person they care for takes part in organised social activities. Again for dates, please ring below.

Well, if all this that hasn't confused you, nothing will! Please call me and I will be happy to arrange to come and see you to talk about whatever issues are giving you concern. The number to ring for advice and information is Stroud Alzheimer's on 01453.791830. *Lou Kemp 07776.245767*

## PROPERTY REPORT for February from Murrays

Murrays had a very busy end to the year last year and this seems to have continued into the first couple of months of 2012. The viewing figures and sales have been very good for us throughout January however all agents have seen a shortage in property coming to the market over the past few weeks. This means that there are more people looking for property in the area at the moment than there is property on the market and demand for property is considerably stronger than supply.

Now is a very good time to put your property on the market and beat the rush. A lot of people want to wait to market their property until the Spring because the weather is better, the flowers are beginning to come out and the photos look better. This means that in Spring there is a rush of property all coming to the market at the same time resulting in much more competition for possibly the same amount of buyers. If your property goes on the market now you could be competing with

only a few properties of a similar type/price range leaving the buyers with only a few options, where as leaving it until the Spring when the supply of property could increase dramatically will possibly result in your property taking far longer to sell. If you are considering selling your house this year then please do not hesitate to give us a call for a free market valuation on 01452.814655. Remember it is key when choosing your estate agent to look for years of experience, knowledge of the local area and an extremely friendly and efficient service along with the global marketing that we can provide.

The rental market has been booming around the area since we have embarked on the lettings side and we have already taken on and let 14 properties just within Painswick alone! So again if you would like to have your property let with the same efficient and friendly service that Murrays provide then please contact us on the number above.

We have taken on a few new properties over the past few weeks including 8 White Horse Lane, a 3 bed end of terrace needing some work with fantastic views towards Sheepscombe, Ashcroft, an impressive 4 bed family house on the outskirts of the village with lovely views, Woodside a newly built 4 bed detached house on Sellars Road in Hardwicke and The Old Cottage in Duntisbourne Abbots, a classic detached 2 bed Cotswold Stone “Chocolate box” type cottage with a separate annexe and large garden.

Having had a busy start to the year we currently have under offer: 2 Hill View Cottages on Gloucester Street, 8 Churchill Way in Painswick, Stables Cottage on Hale Lane, 32.5 acres of land on the outskirts of Painswick and 7 Callowell Cottages in Callowell and properties that have now sold are Bramble Cottage in Cranham.

*James C Murray - Partner*

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## MARCH

|     |    |   |                       |                   |
|-----|----|---|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Sat | 3  | Painswick Beacon Conservation Group scrub clearing working party: location check 813734                   | Painswick Beacon      | 10.00am           |
| Mon | 5  | Community Lunch: hosts - Painswick Bird Club  | Ashwell House Centre  | 12 noon to 1.15pm |
| Tue | 6  | Cupcakes for Carers   | P. Centre, Green Room | 1.30 to 4.30pm    |
| Wed | 7  | Cotteswold Naturalists' Field Club Lecture: The Last Days of Ocean Sail. Enq. 813228                      | Painswick Centre      | 2.30pm            |
| Thu | 8  | Parish Council Planning and F & GP Meeting  | Town Hall             | 7.00pm            |
|     |    | Friends of Rococo: Snowdrop Talk by P Hervey-Brookes  | Rococo Garden         | 3.15pm            |
|     |    | Painswick Bird Club: "The Wildlife of West Wales" - Mike Robinson   | Town Hall             | 7.30pm            |
|     |    | Painswick Players Auditions for Last Tango in Painswick - details tel: 814004                             | P. Centre, Green Room | 7.30pm            |
| Fri | 9  | Country Market - coffee available - Fridays   | Town Hall             | 10.00am           |
|     |    | Friday Club: Qualifications of a Head Teacher - Norman Snowden  | Town Hall             | 2.30pm            |
| Sat | 10 | Village Quiz <i>doors open 7.00pm</i>   | Painswick Centre      | 7.30pm            |
| Mon | 12 | Community Lunch: hosts - Probus Ladies  | Ashwell House Centre  | 12 noon to 1.15pm |
| Wed | 14 | Probus - joint meeting with the ladies: talk - The Art of Belly Dancing - Anne Blagden; followed by lunch | Church Rooms          | 12.00noon         |
|     |    | Horticultural Society: Eating for Good Health - Julia Scott   | Town Hall             | 7.30pm            |
| Thu | 15 | Music Appreciation Group: Famous Singers of our Era   | Town Hall             | 7.30pm            |
| Sat | 17 | Painswick Beacon Conservation Group scrub clearing working party: location check 813734                   | Painswick Beacon      | 10.00am           |
| Mon | 19 | Community Lunch: hosts - Park Residents   | Ashwell House Centre  | 12 noon to 1.15pm |
| Tue | 20 | Local History Society: The Development of Georgian Gloucester - Dr Nicholas Herbert                       | Croft School          | 7.30pm            |
| Wed | 21 | Friday Club: Early Spring Outing to Tyntesfield NT  |                       |                   |
|     |    | Planning & Parish Council Meeting   | Town Hall             | 7.00pm            |
| Sat | 24 | <b>Copy Date for April Beacon</b>   |                       |                   |
|     |    | Theatre Club Outing to The Water Mill, Newbury  | Stamages Car Park     | 10.30am           |
| Tue | 27 | Yew Trees WI: Herbs & Spices - Natalie Hunt   | Church Rooms          | 7.30pm            |
|     |    | Painswick Players Playreading (Green Room)  | Painswick Centre      | 7.30pm            |
| Wed | 28 | Probus: Present Position in the Middle East - Richard Long  | Painswick Centre      | 10.00am           |
| Thu | 29 | Music Appreciation Group: Committee Choice  | Town Hall             | 7.30pm            |
| Fri | 30 | Music Appreciation Group Concert Outing to Symphony Hall, Birmingham                                      | Stamages Car Park     | 10.30am           |
| Sat | 31 | Painswick Beacon Conservation Group scrub clearing working party: location check 813734                   | Painswick Beacon      | 10.00am           |
|     |    | Painswick Music Society Concert: Emma Johnson, Clarinet & John Lenehan, Piano.                            | St Mary's Church      | 3.00pm            |

## APRIL

|     |    |   |                       |                |
|-----|----|---|-----------------------|----------------|
| Tue | 3  | Painswick Bird Club / Painswick Beacon Conservation Group: Birds of Cleeve Hill - Arthur Ball | Town Hall             | 7.30pm         |
| Wed | 4  | Cotteswold Naturalists' Field Club AGM & Lecture: The Wildlife of Australia. Enq. 813228      | Painswick Centre      | 2.30pm         |
| Fri | 6  | Procession of Witness   | from Catholic Church  | 10.30am        |
|     |    | Painswick Singers Good Friday Concert   | St Mary's Church      | 7.30pm         |
|     |    | Easter Egg Hunt   | Rococo Garden         | 1.00 to 3.30pm |
| Sat | 7  | <b>April Issue of The Painswick Beacon published</b>  |                       |                |
| Wed | 11 | Probus: Road Travel in Georgian Gloucestershire - Nicholas Herbert                            | Painswick Centre      | 10.00am        |
|     |    | Horticultural Society: Wildlife & Plants of the Royal Forest of Dean - Pete Ralph             | Town Hall             | 7.30pm         |
| Thu | 12 | Music Appreciation Group: Personal Choice   | Town Hall             | 7.30pm         |
| Fri | 13 | Friday Club: My Friends the Refugees - Angela Lerwill   | Town Hall             | 2.30pm         |
| Sat | 14 | Painswick Beacon Conservation Group scrub clearing working party: location check 813734       | Painswick Beacon      | 10.00am        |
|     |    | Painswick Music Society Concert: Ian Fountain (Piano)   | St Mary's Church      | 3.00pm         |
| Tue | 17 | Cupcakes for Carers   | P. Centre, Green Room | 1.30 to 4.30pm |
|     |    | Local History Society: Research Evening   | Croft School          | 7.30pm         |



|     |    |  |   |                               |
|-----|----|--|---|-------------------------------|
| Wed | 18 | Cotteswold Naturalists' Field Club Guided coach trip: Bledington & Blockley Churches, N. Cotswolds. Enq. 01242 230755              | Stamages Car Park                       | T.B.A.                        |
| Tue | 24 | Yew Trees WI: A World of Lingerie - Jilly Baker<br>Painswick Players Playreading (Green Room)                                      | Church Rooms<br>Painswick Centre        | 7.30pm<br>7.30pm              |
| Wed | 25 | Probus: Club AGM<br>Cotteswold Naturalists' Field Club special lunch - Queen's Jubilee. Speaker Sir Henry Elwes - Enq 01242 890374 | Painswick Centre<br>Minch'ton Golf Club | 10.00am<br>12 noon for 1.00pm |
| Thu | 26 | Theatre Club Outing to Malvern<br>Music Appreciation Group: Number Five  | Stamages Car Park<br>Town Hall          | 6.00pm<br>7.30pm              |
| Fri | 27 | Friday Club: Wearable Art - Libby Graesser   | Town Hall                               | 2.30pm                        |
| Sat | 28 | Painswick Music Society Concert: Nash String Quartet   | St Mary's Church                        | 3.00pm                        |

### MAY

|     |    |  |                                |                            |
|-----|----|--|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Wed | 2  | Painswick Conservation Society AGM & Talk  | Church Rooms                   | 7.30pm                     |
| Thu | 3  | Local Elections  |                                |                            |
| Wed | 9  | Probus: The Improbable Story of the Gutenberg Bible<br>Horticultural Society: AGM, followed by talk: The Pyrenees in June - Sue Smith/Sue Dodd   | Painswick Centre<br>Town Hall  | 10.00am<br>7.30pm / 8.00pm |
| Thu | 10 | Music Appreciation Group: Members' Night & AGM   | Town Hall                      | 7.30pm                     |
| Fri | 11 | Friday Club: Late Spring Outing - Malvern RHS Spring Show  |                                |                            |
| Sat | 12 | Cotteswold Naturalists' Field Club Geology Walk: Beachley Point, Tidenham & Wye Gorge. Enq. 813228<br>Painswick Music Society Concert: Rose Trio | T.B.A.<br>St Mary's Church     | 10.00am<br>3.00pm          |
| Tue | 15 | Cupcakes for Carers<br>Local History Society - Annual Outing   | P. Centre, Green Room          | 1.30 to 4.30pm             |
| Tue | 22 | Yew Trees WI: Book Binding Demonstration - Anne Weare  | Church Rooms                   | 7.30pm                     |
| Wed | 23 | Probus: Fools & Corsets - Lorraine Parsloe<br>Olympic Torch passes through Painswick village   | Painswick Centre<br>New Street | 10.00am<br>4.00pm +        |
| Thu | 24 | Friday Club: Computers - Age UK  | Town Hall                      | 2.30pm                     |
| Tue | 29 | Painswick Players Playreading  | P. Centre, Green Room          | 7.30pm                     |

### JUNE

|     |    |   |                                       |                  |
|-----|----|---|---------------------------------------|------------------|
| Wed | 6  | Probus: Gertrude Bell, Forgotten Heroine of the British Empire - Jan Long               | Painswick Centre                      | 10.00am          |
| Fri | 8  | Friday Club: Diamond Jubilee Tea Party - President's Meeting                            | Town Hall                             | 2.30pm           |
| Fri | 19 | Local History Society AGM & talk: Previous MPs for the Stroud Constituency - David Drew | Croft School                          | 7.30pm           |
| Wed | 20 | Probus: Hidden Wonders of Korea - Matthew Jackson                                       | Painswick Centre                      | 10.00am          |
| Fri | 22 | Friday Club: Floral Art on a Budget - Jayne Morriss<br>Sheepscombe Ball                 | Town Hall                             | 2.30pm           |
| Tue | 26 | Yew Trees WI: Environmental Health - Keith Tett<br>Painswick Players Playreading        | Church Rooms<br>P. Centre, Green Room | 7.30pm<br>7.30pm |

### JULY

|     |    |   |                  |         |
|-----|----|---|------------------|---------|
| Wed | 4  | Probus: Right People, Right Time, Right Place - American Museum in Bath | Painswick Centre | 10.00am |
| Sun | 15 | Wearable Art Painswick  | Village          |         |
| Wed | 18 | Probus: Ladies Summer Lunch   |                  |         |

### AUGUST

|     |    |   |               |                |
|-----|----|---|---------------|----------------|
| Sat | 11 | Friends of Rococo: Picnic in the Garden | Rococo Garden | 6.15 to 9.30pm |
|-----|----|---|---------------|----------------|

Entries for the Village Diary should be sent direct to  
**Eddie Buttrey**  
at  
**em-m.  
buttrey@  
virgin.net**

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# PLANNING MATTERS

A summary of information from the Parish Council

## NEW APPLICATIONS

**3 YEW TREE COTTAGES**, Sheepscombe. Sitting of a new bunded fuel tank.  
**MAYFIELD**, Vicarage Street. Replacement of the existing studio roof with a mansard arrangement, small extension to form a pantry, and modifications to the existing cladding materials.

**FIELD ADJACENT TO TOCKNELLS HOUSE** Installation of a free standing photovoltaic array.

**THE STABLE EDGE FARM**. Edge. Installation of a new stone-framed casement window to the north face façade in the stable block.

**BUTT HOUSE**, Butt Green. Revisions to approved application S.11/1235/LBC – log store, flue to living room; rooflights and solar panels to rear elevation; opening between existing entrance hall and reception enlarged with double doors and part demolition, reconstruction and part repairs to front boundary wall.

**BUTT HOUSE**, Butt Green. Revisions to approved application S.11/1234/HHOLD – Revised external works to entrance and garden, introduction of bin store, log store, flue to living room; rooflights and solar panels to rear elevation; opening between existing entrance hall and reception enlarged with double doors and part demolition, reconstruction and part repairs to front boundary wall.

**LULLINGWORTH**, Stroud Road. Revised application following S.10/1819/FUL. Conversion of former disused tel-

ephone exchange to dwelling including site works and extensions.

**HIDEAWAY**, Stamages Lane. Erection of rear balcony and conversion of first floor rear window to sliding doors.

**MILLCROFT**, Stepping Stone Lane. Proposed extension to form double garage.

**CATBRAIN QUARRY**, Meister Masonry Ltd. Erection of storage building.

**CAROUSEL**, Slad Road, Slad. Extension to north side of existing dwelling, raise ridge height of existing roof and re-configuration of vehicular hardstanding.

**RAMBLER COTTAGE**, Sheepscombe Norway Spruce. Complete removal. Tree is too large for its position.

## CONSENT

**HOYLAND HOUSE**, Gyde Road. Change of use of part of lower ground floor from medical/health services to estate agency.  
**OAKLEIGH**, Vicarage Street. Single Storey Extension.

**VALLUM HOUSE**, Castle Close. Replacement of existing carport. Extending the length by 140cm with an additional support pillar. Change existing plastic flat roof to pitched tile.

**COURT HOUSE**, Hale Lane. Lime trees x2 fell – advanced decay in both trees. Norway Spruce x1 fell – poor example of the species.

## REFUSAL

**COURT HOUSE**, Hale Lane. Alterations to landscaping

**COURT HOUSE**, Hale Lane. Alterations to landscaping to include formation of terracing with Balustrades, erection of walling and erection of shelter adjoining swimming pool.

## Continued from back page:

### Congratulations

The 'Painswick' connection can sometimes be a little distant; the other side of the world could be regarded as somewhat far, but that does not preclude others who know him from his annual visits, for 21 years now, sharing the pride Naomi Dunn has in her brother's recently receiving the second highest of the three awards which can be given to a resident in Australia. Prior to 1975 honours were British, but HM The Queen decided then that such were best awarded directly within Australia, a system also applicable to Canada.

Naomi's brother, Dr DAVID PUGSLEY, is now an AO, Officer of the Order of Australia; this awarded by the Governor General Quentin Bryce in Canberra on 26th January - Australia Day. This was given because of his role with Research Australia, a national not-for-profit alliance of organisations and companies that are committed to making health research a higher national priority. The citation reads: 'Dr David John PUGSLEY, for distinguished service to renal medicine, particularly the prevention and treatment of kidney disease in global indigenous populations, to international medical associations, and as a mentor. Member: University of Adelaide.'

David's distinguished career began with training at Bristol University and work in Bristol, Southmead and Oxford Radcliffe, before going to Australia. It has included Deputy Director, Renal Unit, QE Hospital, Adelaide; promoting indigenous renal health and services to the population of the Northern Territory; founder/Inaugural Chair, Committee for Kidney Health in Disadvantaged Populations, Global Outreach Programs, International Society of Nephrology. Participant, Cross Regional Education and Exchange in Dialysis Program; working for the advancement of nephrology in the developing world. Dr Pugsley is currently Senior Lecturer at the University of Adelaide.

### MINI-ADS are free to subscribers.

For non-subscribers and all in the Vacancies or Business category there is a flat charge of £5.00.

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Text maximum of 30 words + payment by cheque in advance, to 'The Painswick Beacon', to

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# VACANCIES

## Richmond Painswick seeks:-

### Occasional Waiters/Waitresses – evenings & weekends

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For information, contact Lois Grant on 813902

# MINI-ADS

**Clothes Sale:** Spring is in the Air. Add some sunshine to your summer wardrobe. Sale starts on Tuesday, 3rd April, at the Patchwork Mouse. Enquiries 813122

**Necklace found** in Kemps Lane on 14th February. Enquire at 813841.

**2 bedroomed cottage for sale.** Retirement complex, centre of Painswick. Dining/Living room, Neff-appliance modern kitchen, cloakroom, en-suite bathroom, utility room, small garden with large shed, with power. Private parking. Warden. Asking £229,950 812427.

**Bath, Basins and Taps.** Standard size cast iron bath, good condition (£100 ono); two matching inset bathroom basins with rope top; pair of 'Victorian' gold-plated bathroom basin taps (offers). 813338

**Almost complete roll of roofing felt** £40. Also part roll of wire netting, offers 814360

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**Strong, steel 2 x drawer filing cabinet** as above. - £30.00. 813229

**Computer desk** with sliding printer and keyboard shelves in light oak - £50. Tel: 813229

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# BUSINESS

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# The Personal Column

Jenny Gaugain

## Engagements

Roger and Prudence Townsend are delighted to announce the engagement of their daughter CHARLOTTE to ADAM WILSON of Edinburgh, the wedding will take place in Slad in August.

and GORDON OWEN is delighted to announce his engagement to JANET

McEWEN, they will be married on 26th October.

## Condolences

Our sincere sympathies to the family and friends of JOHN WATTS of Randalls Field, HAYNE RYAN and MARGARET WHITTAKER (WALKER ) who have died recently.

## Diamond wedding

PERCY and MARGARET FRANKLIN certainly celebrated their diamond wedding in style on 11th February. Their four children organised an amazing day for them starting with a congratulatory card from the Queen (*pictured inset*), who of course shared her diamond jubilee week with them(!), which arrived by special delivery. Then a 13-seater limousine took them and some of their lucky neighbours for a drive, with champagne, through Painswick, eventually arriving at Abbeydale Community Centre for a party with family and friends.

Percy and Margaret both grew up in Stockend and Percy maintains that their long relationship started when he invited her out for a ride on his motorbike. They were married in Gloucester Register Office.

Their celebration was a great success. "I can't fault the organisation," says Percy, "it was all lovely, absolutely fabulous." For him and Margaret the gathering of so many family members and friends made it truly special.



## Personal messages

**John and Olive (LONGUET-HIGGINS)** thank readers for their congratulations, good wishes, love and support on the occasion of their marriage. Our thanks to Sheepscombe for their warm welcome and beautifully decorated church, their village hall's excellent facilities and Olivas for their delicious food. We had not planned a white wedding but at 3.00pm on Saturday 4th February, we certainly had one.

### ANNE and BRIAN SHAWCROSS

would like to thank everyone for their cards, flowers, food, support and prayers during Anne's recent operation, your love and concern have made all the difference- thank you.

**BERYL IRELAND** says "Thank you to everyone who came to JOE'S funeral and for all the cards and flowers received, also thanks to the surgery for all the care they have given".

## NEXT ISSUE

Publication date

**SATURDAY**

**7th April**

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**25th March**

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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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*You could help Jenny Gaugain, if you would relay information about those you know and for whom a mention in the Personal Column would be appreciated.*

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