

The Painswick Beacon

Volume 42 Number 1

April 2019

Eastertide at Painswick Churches

Holy Week

For details of services for Holy week, please see local notice boards. For more information contact 01452 813407.

Good Friday

9.00am Morning Prayer at St Mary's Church.
Procession of Witness 10.30am. There will be a procession from the Roman Catholic church in Friday Street to the roadside cross by the Lychgate for a short service before progressing up New Street, down Bisley Street and back to the Church Rooms where there will be Hot Cross Buns and tea and coffee. Everyone is welcome to join the procession.

Services of Devotion

9.30am at Sheepscombe. 11am at Cranham. 12noon at Pitchcombe.

Easter Eve April 20th

Morning Prayer at St Mary's Church.

Easter Day April 21st

9.30am Communion at Painswick and Harescombe

10.00am Communion at Pitchcombe

8.30am Mass of the Resurrection at the RC Church of Our Lady & St Ther 10.30am Meeting for Worship at Friends Meeting House, Vicarage Street

11.00am Communion at Cranham and Sheepscombe. Family Worship at Edge.

Churches Together Around Painswick hope that you will join them at some (or all) of these services.

Painswick Easter Egg Hunt... and a chance to win some books!

There are only a couple of weeks to go until the annual Painswick Playgroup Easter Egg Hunt, taking place on Saturday the 20th of April 12-4pm. Our theme this year is children's books and The Suffolk Anthology - Cheltenham's independent bookshop - has kindly agreed to join us on the day. Visit their stall to find out about a special prize draw to win some books!



Our local egg sponsors, the playgroup, and some highly artistic mums are in the process of creating some amazing eggs, including Charlie and the Chocolate Factory and Alice in Wonderland.

Attractions this year will include bouncy castles, food stalls, face painting, tombola, as well as delicious homemade cakes and an appearance by the Easter Bunny. We also have some excellent raffle prizes such as; afternoon tea at The Ivy, tickets to The Everyman Theatre, Cotswold Farm Park, Slimbridge and Cheltenham Races!

Maps for the event will be on sale from The Falcon Pub, the library or the Playgroup, and will be £3 in advance or £4 on the day per child (under 2s are free).

These community events need many hands to make them happen, and we are still looking for volunteers to help on the day from helping us set up, to making tea, or handing out prizes to families who have completed the hunt. For those wanting to enjoy the event, we have shorter half-hour volunteer time-slots available. Please join us in making this year's hunt yet another excellent showcase for the village.

If you can help, please contact Marisa on 07773 368702 or email easteregghuntainswick@gmail.com



Could the above be a solution to traffic calming on the A46?
Submitted by Trevor Radway.

Car parking charges abolished

On Saturday 30th March Stroud District Council abolished car parking charges in Stamages Lane car park permanently. Many will see this as a welcome development but others will have mixed feelings as they will worry that all day parkers could make finding a space difficult for those making a brief visit to the village. The 30th March found the car park filled to capacity. It will be of interest to see what number of cars there are in the car park during the working week.

On other pages...

Provision of youth work p6
Unsolved Murder...p15

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS from the meetings held on March 20th by Mike Kerton

Reports upon meetings of the Parish Council cannot help but be selective, if only because of space constraints. We try to highlight points of widest public interest, based upon what we see and hear.

The full minutes of Council and committee meetings are available for scrutiny at the Council's office and on-line at the Parish Council's web site.

PLANNING COMMITTEE

As there were no members of the public present Committee Chairman Rob Lewis opened the Meeting and quickly moved onto the Agenda.

To confirm the Minutes of the 6th March Meeting

The minutes were approved.

Apologies for Absence

Clerk, Roy Balgobin advised the Meeting that Cllr Roey Parker had sent her apologies.

Matters Arising not on this Agenda

None

To consider a request from the Painswick Valleys Conservation Society; in regards to extending the Conservation Area

Matters requiring a decision

There were 7 Applications requiring a decision:

S.19/0213/HHOLD CEDAR HOUSE, Stamages Lane. Timber car port (revised plans - alteration to the location of the car port and withdrawal of the garage conversion.) Cllrs had carried out a site visit and after a discussion at the Meeting there was UNANIMOUS AGREEMENT TO SUPPORT

S.19/0338/VAR CEDAR HOUSE, Stamages Lane. Variation in condition 3 (domestic use only) from S10/0656/HHOLD to allow annexe use ancillary to dwelling and holiday let. UNANIMOUS AGREEMENT TO SUPPORT.

S.19/0394/HHOLD WOODLEA, SLAD. Demolition of attached coal and bin store. Construction of new extension and conversion of existing garage to provide an annexe. UNANIMOUS AGREEMENT TO SUPPORT.

S.19/0414/LBC THE CHUR, Bisley Street. Internal alterations, improvements and upgrades. Proposed dormer windows and roof lights. Concern was expressed

about the possibility of a "Portacabin" being located on the pavement outside the premises. UNANIMOUS AGREEMENT TO SUPPORT SUBJECT TO A CONDITION THAT A METHOD STATEMENT BE PREPARED COVERING ACCESS TO THE SITE AND DISPOSAL OF BUILDING WASTE.

S.19/0482/HHOLD PAINSWICK MILL, Ticklestone Lane. New external swimming pool and pool building. Council Chairman, Martin Slinger, advised the Committee that the main Painswick Sewer runs through the Mill grounds. UNANIMOUS AGREEMENT TO SUPPORT BUT NEED TO DRAW THE DISTRICT COUNCILS ATTENTION TO THE SEWER LINE.

S.19/0436/TCA HILLFOOT COTTAGE, 22 Gloucester Road. To either fell, trim, remove loose branches, or reduce in size 19 trees. UNANIMOUS AGREEMENT TO SUPPORT.

S.19/0505/TCA CROFT HOUSE, Gloucester Street. Branches of 2x Cupressus Leylandi and 1x Yew Tree to be removed as they overhang property boundary. Application is with the owner's consent. UNANIMOUS AGREEMENT TO SUPPORT.

PARISH COUNCIL

As there were no members of the public present Chairman Cllr Martin Slinger opened the Meeting moving swiftly onto the Agenda.

Apologies for absence

Clerk Roy Balgobin advised the Meeting that Cllr Roey Parker had sent her apologies.

To confirm the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 20th February 2019

The minutes were approved.

Matters of Urgency

The Chairman read out a letter from the Trustees of the Sheepscombe Village Hall in which they asked the Parish Council to nominate a Cllr to become a Trustee of the Hall. Ward Cllr Ian James, currently the Councils nominated representative, agreed to continue as the Council's representative.

County Councillor's report

No report had been received as County Cllr Keith Rippington had still not returned to fulltime duties but is expected to do so by the 1st May 2019.

District Councillor's Report

No District Cllrs were present nor had a report been received.

To receive a report on the Rural Environmental Committee Meeting of the 6th March 2019

There are ongoing discussions with the Cotswold Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Gateway Project over two possible new routes - one for walkers the other for cyclists. Grant funding was being sought for the Plantation.

Tourist Information Centre(TIC). To consider a Grant Application

Cllr Dawn Dart had previously circulated to Members a draft of an Application Form seeking a Grant of £1.5k to support local businesses, Cllrs and Tourist Information volunteers to undertake formal social media training. The aim was to enhance tourism in both the Parish and the District. Clerk, Roy Balgobin, added that a further bid had been made for an additional £500 to cover the cost of producing the free Tourist Map that was handed to all visitors to the TIC. The Council agreed to proceed with the application and thanked Cllr Dart for her efforts in pursuing the Grant.

Responsible Financial Officer's Reports

a. The Council agreed payments in accordance with the report circulated by the Clerk.

b. The Council agreed to fund £500 of the Grant of £1000 made to Sheepscombe School, at the February Meeting, from

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* Other costs and charges apply

Ward funds and the balance of £500 from Grant Funds.

Ward Reports

Cllr Stephen Tye reported that despite reporting the dumping of scrap metal in a field along Slad Road to Stroud DC no action appears to have been taken to remove the scrap metal. The Clerk will investigate. He also reported that the Cats Eyes on the Slad Rd bend near to the Woolpack Inn have been removed and not replaced. The Clerk will check with the County Highways.

Cllr Ian James asked when the drainage works by the Sheepscombe Village Hall are due to commence. Again the Clerk will check with County Highways.

The Meeting closed at 8.20pm

Beacon Subscriptions

Thank you to the two hundred and seventy six households who have renewed their 2019-2020 Beacon subscription purely on the receipt of the envelope in last month's edition, (if anyone requires another envelope, please let me know). As you may have guessed, April is the beginning of the Beacon subscription year and I am asking for any new (an household that receives the Beacon but has not recently subscribed) and the renewal of existing subscriptions. As always, printing costs have increased, but we are still asking for a contribution of £7 or more, (the average subscription last year was approximately £12) per household for all households within the Painswick civil boundary. Costs for Pitchcombe, Edge and postal deliveries vary and they are notified separately.

We are happy to accept payment by a variety of means, including cash, cheque and the continuation of the bank transfer scheme. To keep track of bank transfer subscribers, we require all electronic payments to be given a reference code that will identify the subscriber, if you received a unique reference code last year, please continue to use the same code. If you would like to pay by electronic means this and subsequent years, please e-mail me at wol.braemar@gmail.com with your name and address and ask for a reference code. Apologies to anyone who has tried to contact me on our usual email address (subscriptions.beacon@painswick.net), unfortunately I have not been receiving any of these emails and therefore have not been replying.

Painswick Valleys Conservation Society.

AGM Tuesday 9th April at 7.30pm.in St. Mary's Church Rooms.

Talk on Llanthony Secunda Priory in Gloucester: a medieval survival in the industrial heart of Gloucester.

The Priory was first established in 1136 on land donated to them by Miles of Gloucester, as the canons were forced to flee from their Priory at Llanthony in the Welsh borderlands because of political unrest. Llanthony Secunda became one of the wealthiest religious houses in the city as a result of extensive gifts of land, yielding tithes which paid for the construction of the Priory. Stone from quarries on the Priory's land near Painswick was used in the construction of the church. The Priory hosted many royal visitors and a considerable amount was spent improving the Priory in anticipation of the visit of Henry VII in 1500 and 1501.

After the dissolution c1538 the steward, Arthur Porter, bought the Priory and its farmland. He sold some farmland to existing tenants, such as the Gardners at Coombe House, Edge but retained Llanthony Secunda as his own farm. The church was reduced to a parish church, until further damage during the Civil War led to its demolition. Later the Gloucester-Berkeley canal was cut through the site, followed by railway sidings and various industrial uses until the site became derelict and was taken over by the City Council. It was given over to a Trust, which has raised money for renovation of the remaining buildings, from the Heritage Lottery and others.

The Priory is now open to the public on scheduled open days (first Sunday in the month and special openings).The timber framed medieval range, partly of stone dating back to the 13/14th century is amazing, with a timber framed first floor and original 15th century roof timbers. Alongside is the fine Victorian farmhouse; while the 16th century 'brick range' of former stables has been re-roofed to allow it to be used for a events. The tithe barn still stands as a roofless outdoor space and part of the Tudor walls and gatehouse remain.

The talk is included in the membership of the Society.
Visitors are welcome at £4.00 (includes light refreshments).

Carolyn Luke



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THE BEACON QUIZ 2019

The Beacon held its Annual Quiz in the Painswick Centre on Saturday 9th March. Ten doughty teams, each of 4 contestants turned up and answered 12 rounds of questions on topics as diverse as Flora & Fauna, Ships, Games and Politics including two rounds of recorded celebrity voices and pop hits.

After 6 rounds a picnic type meal was provided and two interval rounds on Famous Faces and Connections were given to the teams to ponder over during the 20-minute pause. Finally, at 9.30 pm the Quiz ended with the "Fools on the Hill" (right) clear winners with a total of 104 (out of a possible 135). They had come close in previous years so this was a case of try, try and try again! They were presented with the trophy (a model of the Beacon trig point) and took the plaudits from the audience. The WickFlix team (below left) took 2nd place and the TGIF team (below right) had the honour of carrying off the wooden spoons.



Results

1. Fools on the Hill
2. WickFlix
3. Off the Shel
4. Bookworms
5. Not the Eggheads
6. Bookends
7. The Slashers
8. The Seekers
9. Flying Pigs
10. TGIF's



Grateful thanks are due to all the contestants for putting themselves through this ordeal and to the Beacon team for organising the questions, the room and the running of the quiz, and particular thanks to Celia Lougher and Vicky Aspinall for providing a very successful picnic supper.

Unfortunately this annual event has become less popular over the years and we really need at least 20 teams to make it viable in the future. I hope that the teams that competed this year can spread the news and we can have many more entries next year. We look forward to seeing you all again in March 2020!

Richard Aspinall

Running away in Painswick

If you have noticed an increase in the number of joggers around the village of late, there may be a reason. 'Painswick Runners' was started earlier this year by Neil Coles as a non fee-paying group for people who already enjoy running at various levels, or for those who would like to give it a try.

It goes without saying that the health benefits from regular running are enormous. Apart from the endorphin-induced 'runner's high', there are well proven beneficial effects to the cardiovascular system, muscle and skeletal system. This results in the added bonus of almost guaranteed excess weight loss and increased energy levels. The effects of combatting anxiety, depression and stress are also well documented.

Running alongside someone else is a great psychological booster, with those who do finding that they make much much better progress. It is also a lot safer when you are going off the beaten track.

Neil started a 'Painswick Runners' page on Facebook as a point of contact between members of the group. The page includes links to useful articles and provides notice of the next meeting. The group has been meeting at 10.00am on Sunday mornings, with a further regular Wednesday evening run planned for the lighter evenings. For those who don't use social media, Neil can be contacted via email at PainswickHG@hotmail.co.uk, or by call or text on 07532 11114.

Anne-Marie Randall
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Painswick Surgery Patient Participation Group

Carers Meeting

As previously reported, the surgery is now running regular meetings for carers to offer support and enable them to share experiences.

The patient group organised two people to provide information to the meeting from 2gether NHS Trust, (Rachel Peak and Emma Keating Clark). This was alongside several speakers from other organisations arranged by Sam Lloyd from the surgery who organised the meeting. Of course, cake, coffee and tea was supplied (!) and over 30 people attended the meeting. There will be another in three months time so watch out for an announcement of the date or register with Sam on ☐01452 812545☐ to get news direct.

Brexit and pharmaceutical supplies

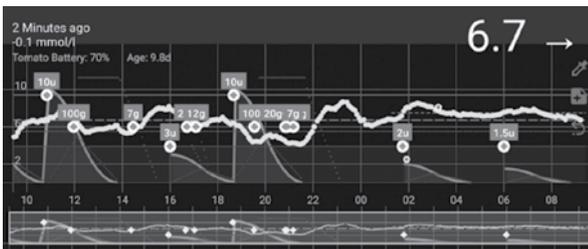
As Chairman I went along to Painswick Pharmacy recently to see how they were coping with ordering medicines with Brexit in mind. It appears that they now order twice a day instead of once a day and often source from different suppliers to ensure continuity. At the time of writing a lot of fingers are crossed for the future!

Diabetes

Another group member, Anthony Fisher, gave a talk on how medical devices help people with type1 diabetes monitor and control the condition to a meeting of the local cluster group of patient participation groups. Anthony was able to show how he could see his blood glucose level by glancing at his watch and then make treatment decisions from this. This same technology has now been approved by the DVLA for making decisions as to whether it is safe to drive.

Anthony has been featured in a Channel 4 documentary, part written a paper for the magazine Diabetes Therapy, featured in the winter edition of the Diabetes UK magazine Balance and, of course, got a mention in the Painswick Beacon all featuring this life changing technology. He is very happy to talk to anyone with, or caring for someone with, diabetes and can be reached on 01452 812130 or via his website bgonmywatch.com.

One of the points that came out of the cluster group meeting was that our CCG was drawing up criteria for children with type1 which would enable them to obtain the Freestyle Libre sensors which would enable their carers to monitor their diabetes without pricking heels or fingers.



Here is a screenshot of 24hours Anthony's blood glucose readings
John Morley Painswick Patient Participation Group Chair

Members of Yew Trees WI were charmed by the sketches Rose Hewlett used to illustrate her fascinating talk on Village Life in Mid-Victorian Times. The village in question was Frampton-on-Severn. The sketches made in the 1860s (some by the daughters of Henry Clifford Clifford, the Lord of Frampton Manor) show almost every dwelling in the village. They coincide neatly with 1861 census when the population of the village was 800. Rose explained that there were then about 200 families living in the village starting with the Lord of the Manor. Below him came the vicar, the doctor, the merchants and the tenant farmers. Then came the resident tradesman and finally the watermen and agricultural workers - who made up the largest social group - whose lives were less secure, especially in winter when work was scarce. Frampton appeared a tight-knit and very caring community with a National School and a free chapel school, a choir, a post office and two public houses. The lay-out of the village was such that most cottages had long gardens enabling people to grow their own food, so there was little serious poverty.



Thanks to Jane Rowe a party of members and their guests enjoyed a trip to Cheltenham's Everyman Theatre to see Glengarry Glen Ross some of them met first at the Cafe Rouge for a pre-theatre dinner.

Yew Trees' next meeting is on Tuesday 23rd April when members will celebrate St George's Day and Spring! 7.30 pm in the Church Rooms, visitors most welcome.

Celia Lougher 812624

Painswick Library Book Club

Come and join us starting Monday 8th April 2.30 – 3.30pm in the library



For this first meeting, it would be good if you could bring a book which you have enjoyed reading and which you would be happy to recommend to the group. We can compile a list of titles to discuss at future meetings from these, and from any other suggestions you may have. Don't worry if you can't think of a suitable book, please come anyway! For further information, please contact Carole on 077 1234 2636 Or email: painswick.library.bookclub@gmail.com

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Painswick Country Market Easter reminder

Regular visitors to the market will know there will not be a market on Good Friday, but no one will be going without their usual local produce.



Just be there a day early on Thursday April 18th.

The market will be open from 9.30 to 11am, and is held in the lower hall of Painswick Town Hall. An excellent range of goodies will be on offer edible produce Includes eggs, seasonal vegetables, cakes, savouries, jams and marmalades. Additionally, you will find a variety of plants, crafts, gifts and cards.

When you've finished your shopping coffee/tea is available and a chance to meet and chat to old friends and make new ones. Why not come and try it? You will be very welcome.

NB It's back to the usual weekly Friday slot from April 26th.

Orders and enquiries to Chris Campbell Tel: 01452 812600

Pat Francis

News from Painswick Surgery

Dr Sana Ghauri

We are very pleased to welcome back Dr Sana Ghauri to the surgery after her maternity leave. Dr Ghauri is a GP Registrar and works on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

MMR Vaccinations

There has recently been a number of measles cases reported across Gloucestershire, therefore we strongly advise parents to ensure their children are fully vaccinated. If you or a member of your family have not been vaccinated, please call the surgery to book an appointment.

Hospital Appointments

There is currently a long waiting time for certain hospital appointments, especially for Cardiology, Gynaecology, Dermatology, ENT and Rheumatology. Unfortunately the Painswick Surgery has no influence on these waiting times, other than in cases of genuine significant change or deterioration. It is only in these cases that we can request that an appointment is expedited. Contacting the surgery if this is not the case would be a futile endeavour.

Dr Rhys Evans, Senior Partner

Do something very special at Rococo



It's coming up to the time of year when we're all thinking about being a bit more "outdoorsy", and with that in mind, we've some special events coming up at the Garden for which booking is now open. "Rococo After Dark" will be a dusk Bat Walk on Friday 3rd May, an opportunity to find out about the bats and moths which make the Garden their home. Tickets are free but are strictly limited. You can also enjoy the peace and tranquillity of the Garden with a six-week course of "Yoga in Nature", hosted by Chloe Mercer and starting on the morning of 6th June. This is a restorative class to nourish and support the body's capacity to be healthy, vital and pure. More info and details of how to book are available from rococogarden.org.uk.

We are looking for a new treasurer to join the trustee board that helps manage our charity, Painswick Rococo Garden Trust. As well as being responsible for overseeing the strategy and operation of the Garden, the trustees are collectively responsible for the financial management of the charity. The treasurer role would suit a person with knowledge of financial business planning and budgeting, with a financial qualification desirable but not essential. For further information, see the volunteering page of our website, rococogarden.org.uk.

You may well be aware that one of the most ambitious projects under way is the creation of a new Visitor Centre which needs to be operational by 2022. We are at an exciting phase now, because all the ideas, sketches and architects' drawings are in place and we have submitted an application for planning permission. We will be having an open morning between 10.30am and 12noon on Thursday 18th April for anyone interested in coming and see our plans, look at the site and meet some of our project team. If you'd like to come along, please drop me a line at tim.toghill@rococogarden.org.uk so we know to expect you. We hope to be able to count on your support for this vital project, which will help us keep the Garden accessible as a community resource for everyone.

*Tim Toghill
Trustee & volunteer*

How important is our provision of youth work to you?

For those of you who may review your charitable giving commitments prior to the end of the tax year, could you consider supporting the PSALMS work in Painswick with a donation? The work is likely to be underfunded this year as a number of longstanding supporters have either moved away or died.

We need to raise £22,485 this year to cover the cost of 50% of a Sports Minister, although in reality we get much more resource than that! The six Anglican churches in the Beacon Benefice are providing £11,000 of this figure and the balance has for the past 14 years, been provided by individuals including Gift Aid, and some small grants including the Parish Council.

Ideally it would be wonderful if some more individuals felt able to contribute through monthly Standing Orders but there are a number who prefer to give annually which is also helpful.

We are getting tremendous value- and it is so encouraging to see a strong youth work as well as all the activities in our local schools. Please think about this so that we can continue to plan for this work into future years. And do feel free to chat to me or Martyn Hewett further about this. Thank you.

Ian Marsh, 812829 or iwmarsh13@gmail.com



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Danny Rolph to lead new ArtBurst Master Classes.

Danny Rolph, the leading British Abstract artist of international renown, is to kick off the ArtBurst Master Class sessions, on the opening Saturday 17th August with the other Master Class sessions run by eight expert artists extending over the two weekends in this year's ArtBurst Festival in Painswick,

"We have arranged a series of Master Classes, run by real experts across a whole range of fine arts subjects during the ten-day festival from 17th to 26th of August 2019", says Jackie Herbert, Chair of the ArtBurst Painswick organising committee.

The eight renowned experts will run the Master Classes in the Town Hall over the entire two weekends of ArtBurst with two courses on weekdays as well.

Each of the whole day, morning and afternoon session Master Classes will cost £50 with the shorter courses at less cost.

Saturday 17th August: Abstract Art - an introduction. 2 sessions. Danny Rolph, Prof of Fine Art at Buckingham University and an internationally famous abstract artist.

Sunday 18th August: "But Is It Art...?". Session 1: 1.00am. Lynn Gibson..Art historian and lecturer.

Sunday 18th August; Session 2: 2.00pm Lino Cut Masterclass and workshop. Beth Jenkins, art teacher, printmaker and known for her relief prints from lino and wood.

Tuesday 20th August: Plein air drawing. 2 sessions in the Town Hall and St.Mary's Churchyard. Greg Thatcher – well-known for his pen and ink drawings of the yews in the churchyard.

Thursday 22nd August: Life Drawing with a model; Evening session. Jackie Garner the famous wildlife artist

Saturday 24th August. Portraits in Oils. 2 sessions. Mike Skidmore, the Ross on Wye portrait, figure and still life artist

Sunday 25th August. A Gilding Masterclass.2 sessions.Josie Brown, expert Gilder and restorer

Monday 26th August Painting with Acrylics. 2 sessions. Painter Hannah Ellis – for beginners and improvers

"We are very excited to add this expert practical dimension to Art Burst Painswick and as places are limited, I recommend early booking", says Jackie Herbert.

Full details and booking forms will be on www.artburstpainswick.co.uk
For information contact; Jonathan Choat: choatjonathan@gmail.com 01452 812805
Jackie Herbert: artburstpainswick1@gmail.com
<https://www.dannyrolph.com/>



A Victorian Naturalist and Victorian Heritage



On Wednesday 1st May at 2.30 pm, Dr Mike Pringle will give a talk in the Painswick Centre on the Victorian naturalist Richard Jefferies, pictured, often regarded as the 'first environmentalist'. Jefferies is best known for his writings about the countryside around his birthplace and home at Coate, Wiltshire. Charge £4 non-members, £1 members.



Our next Excursion on 22nd May is being organised by Joyce Barrus (812 942). In the morning we visit Bristol's glorious Victorian Arnos Vale Garden Cemetery, now a wildlife haven, as well as the final resting place of many prominent Bristol citizens. After lunch, we travel to the University of Bristol's Botanic Gardens which were laid out to demonstrate the evolution of plants and how our understanding of them has been changed as a result of DNA evidence. Non-members will be welcome to book by contacting Joyce. Basic price £25 including entrance to the Botanic Gardens (Arnos Vale being free) and coach, leaving Stamages Lane car park at 8.50 a.m.

There are a few spaces left on the trip on the Gloucestershire Warwickshire Steam Railway on Sunday 14th April. We will have lunch in Broadway and time to visit the local Museums, before the return rail journey to Cheltenham Racecourse. Our coach leaves Stamages Lane car park at 8 a.m. and the cost is £45 for coach, train and Museum entrances. Non-members will be welcome to book by contacting me.

Jane Rowe 813228

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Best day of the week

Spend some time with the Wednesday Ashwell group and it's easy to see why the members, and the volunteer helpers too, all really look forward to Wednesdays. The day is companionable, stimulating, warm, friendly, active and great fun.

It all started 35 years ago with people who might benefit from a day spent in the active company of others being recommended by the surgery. Nowadays it is all done by word of mouth. Aimed generally at our older local residents, those who come along tend to live alone and independently and seldom have opportunities to enjoy the company of others and to engage in different activities. It is so important to interact with friendly companions regularly and so easy to spend days on end without seeing and speaking to anyone. Ashwell Wednesdays are definitely the answer.

The day lasts from 10.00am until 3.00pm and there is never a dull moment. The mornings are usually spent enjoying gentle exercise, word games and quizzes with plenty of opportunity for conversation and exchange of news and thoughts. In the afternoon a whole range of activities are on offer such as music, singing, art and craft work, board games or just strolling and chatting. Much of this involves group work and the atmosphere is definitely relaxed. There are also occasional outings.



Refreshments are served in the morning and afternoon and a superb lunch is provided by Julie Job of The Black Horse, Cranham. All the members speak very highly of the food – “It really is excellent,” says one satisfied lady.

Painswick is very lucky to have Ashwell. The Wednesday group meet in the comfortable communal room which leads out into the lovely enclosed garden. Some of the members have previously attended other day groups but the verdict of one lady who recently joined the Ashwell group is “I’m very pleased I decided to come here because it’s the best of its kind in my experience.” Everyone is keen to add equally positive and encouraging comments ... really look forward to it, good social experience, gets me out of the house, we all get on together, it’s super ... They are indeed a happy and sociable group and all of them are interesting people with much to talk about.

A small band of volunteer helpers is on hand to assist with a wide range of necessary activities. No special skills are required and the experience is both rewarding and satisfying. The Wednesday group is entirely dependent on its volunteer helpers and does need more people, men and women, to come forward. This includes drivers to fetch and take home the members. If you feel you would like to become a volunteer you would be most welcome. You can offer as much or as little as suits you by way of time and frequency. Extra help is needed for example from 12.00-1.00 to serve lunch. You can be assured of a very rewarding and happy experience.

At present there are vacancies too in the members’ group. If you feel you would benefit from a day each week spent in the happy company of others, or if you know of someone who would thus benefit, do get in touch. Volunteer drivers will collect you and take you home again so no problems with transport.

Do contact Sandra Glass tel.01452 814186 if you would like to come along, or you know of someone who would benefit, or you would like to become a volunteer. This is a very precious and outstanding resource in our community and one which we need to cherish and support.

Carol Maxwell

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News from St Mary's

April promises to be a busy month as Lent draws to a close during Holy Week and we prepare to celebrate Easter. I always associate Easter with daffodils but with Easter being late this year most of the daffodils will be over.



The Music Society's Spring programme of concerts in St Mary's got underway in March. The first concert on 30 March featured the singing group Voces8. The next concert is on 13 April at 3pm when Stephen Hough will give a piano recital. Stephen is described as one of the world's best pianists. Tickets for this and subsequent concerts in May are available from the Painswick Pharmacy or via the Society's website – www.painswickmusicsoc.co.uk.

April is the month of Annual Parochial Church Meetings (APCM's). St Mary's APCM will be held in the church rooms on Thursday 11th April at 7.30 pm. This is the meeting when we consider reports on the church's work during the last 12 months and elect PCC officers for the coming year. Any parishioner can attend this meeting and will be welcome.

During Holy Week which begins on Palm Sunday 14th April morning prayer will be celebrated each day from Monday to Friday inclusive led by Canon Michael Irving at 9 am. On Maundy Thursday 18 April there is a eucharistic morning service at Gloucester Cathedral at 11am. This is the time when priests and Readers renew their vows and the holy oils are blessed. The preacher at this service is our Bishop the Right Revd. Rachel Treweek. There is an open invitation for anyone to attend this service.

On Good Friday 19th April there will be a united procession of Christian witness around the village organised by Churches together around Painswick and led this year by the Anglican Church. The procession will leave the Catholic Church at 10.30 am and will be followed by coffee and a hot cross bun in the Church Rooms. Anyone is welcome to join in this procession. Also on Good Friday there is a one hour devotional service in St Mary's at 2 pm led by Canon Michael Irving.

On Easter Sunday 21st April we are honoured with a visit from the Bishop of Tewkesbury the Right Revd. Robert Springett. He will preside at the morning eucharist service which commences at 9.30 am.

We look forward to welcoming as many of you as possible to our Easter services. Meanwhile we wish you a happy and blessed Easter.
David Newell

Painswick Cemetery Chapel

The Beacon has received a report of a new venture. Local resident Mel Cross writes, "Painswick Chapel threw open its doors for the first time on 22nd March with its fresh identity and uplift. The chapel, having sat quietly for many, many years was taken on by local resident Mel Cross for it to be loved back to life. The chapel now offers itself as a space for all people, of all faiths and none, for the ordinary and extraordinary, to have a quiet moment to 'be'.



People are increasingly sensing the need to connect to themselves, their spiritual natures or their 'something more', but often do not have the space to have a quiet moment in their hectic, chaotic world. They are searching for inner peace but in order to begin to do this they need a peaceful place to sit and find it. The chapel provides this welcoming and nurturing space for quiet 'being', reflection, contemplation and prayer. It's for all people to just 'have a minute'. Regardless of any labels we have given ourselves. The chapel provides togetherness without the need for words, it's just a space for like-hearted people to have a minute, or an hour, to listen to their hearts, and find their own answers sitting quietly within themselves. Just come on in, sit, and go. It really is that simple. It is a space created for everyone, yes, for people just like you! Open Fridays and Saturdays 10am to, 4pm.
www.painswickchapel.com"

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Together again

It is one hundred years ago this year that the first children came to live in the Gyde Orphanage. Over the following years, until the 1990s in fact, the Gyde was a significant feature of Painswick life. This impressive building was home to hundreds of boys and girls who came from many different parts of the country and for them it represented a hugely important and influential part of their lives.

Not surprisingly, many of the boys, (for indeed for much of its existence it housed only boys), formed strong and lasting friendships which have endured over the years. Several reunions have taken place in Painswick with some even coming from Australia, and each time the event proved a joyous occasion. On a smaller scale but equally happy and heart-warming, four ex-Gyde boys met at the Golf Club restaurant for lunch on the first Sunday in March. Brian Jubb, Tony Soutar, George Lansbury and Albert 'Nipper' Haines grew up in the Gyde and have kept in touch despite subsequently moving to different parts of the country.

George was an evacuee from Gosport, arriving in Painswick in 1939 and living here until 1947. He recalls vividly so much of life in the Gyde during the war including the fact that the upper windows were permanently blacked out of course. George, now 85, eventually pursued a career in publishing.

Tony, now 82 and a Gyde boy from 1941 until 1953, is keen to point out that his time here in Painswick was overall a good experience. He attended school in Painswick and Stroud, then went to London to work in engineering for a year after which he joined the Navy which he describes as 'the best thing I ever did'.

Nipper lived at the Gyde from 1943 until 1952 at which point he was moved by N.C.H. to a smaller house in London which he shared with others of a similar age and two staff sisters. He studied accountancy at college. Nipper is now 84 and also sees his time at Gyde as a good experience. 'I was so disappointed when I had to leave,' he says, but does nevertheless feel he was lucky to have spent his childhood here.



Brian of course is known by many in Painswick as he has organised all the reunions which have included local residents of the same age. Evacuated from London to south Wales early on in the war when he was barely out of babyhood Brian and his brothers did not have a very good experience with their placement there – far from it. He came to Gyde in 1946 and stayed until 1954. Now aged 80 Brian simply says 'Gyde was wonderful.'

The occasion at the restaurant, Waypoint at the Golf Club, was an absolute joy. The food was excellent and the staff wonderful. In such a delightful atmosphere, listening to the stories and memories, all very poignant, of these four ex Gyde boys was definitely inspiring and very, very moving.

Carol Maxwell

Workshop/Concert at Croft School Painswick

Time flies and once again the annual visit of the Carducci Quartet has provided yet another musical experience for the pupils of the Croft School. This time it was slightly different with Dave Ayre a local double bass player joining the quartet for the morning workshop.

Dave started things off by warming up the pupils with some vigorous musical exercises, including singing, beating in time, standing up and sitting down together. They all joined in and responded magnificently to Dave's leadership and seemed to love what they were doing

The preliminaries over the Quartet started off with a movement from Haydn's Joke quartet encouraging all the pupils to guess when it was all over. Quite a few guesses were a little premature. That over the players all put on fancy hats with a pupil stationed behind them. The idea was to remove the hat whenever the musician got up to pay their part and put it back on when they had finished. The music they played was a movement from a Beethoven Quartet that passes the music from instrument to instrument and it presented a considerable and hilarious challenge to the appointed pupils.

A short but lively tango followed and then came Dave Ayre's opportunity to talk about the double bass and play some excerpts to demonstrate how it sounded. The quartet plus Dave Ayre then played a movement from the Eine Klleine Nachtmusic by Mozart, giving the pupils the experience of hearing music by three great classical composers all in one morning.

Alan Price

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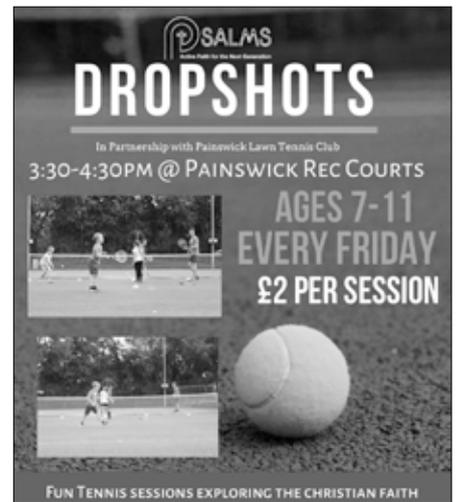
PSALMS are running a multi-sports camp here in the Beacon area in the first 2 days of half term. From the 8-9th April, the Croft school will host a camp where kids can have fun, play multiple sports, meet new kids in the local area and explore the Christian Faith. All KS2 kids in Sheepscombe, Cranham and Croft Schools have received a flyer in book bags with all the details, and so either fill that out and return to school office OR book online at <https://psalms.uk.net/bookings/>

It's going to be brilliant, and will include sports such as Football, Dodgeball, Tennis, Netball, Basketball, Tag Rugby, Ultimate Frisbee and much more – so don't miss out and get signed up!

If you have any further questions, please do contact Nathan.youlton@psalms.uk.net

Furthermore PSALMS had our first new tennis session for KS2 (ages 7-11) at the Painswick Rec Ground Courts. We had 8 kids come along and they really enjoyed that anyone could turn up not matter their ability. It is for all the kids from Cranham, Sheepscombe and Croft schools. It will be on every Friday from the 1st March, and it will be a fun filled tennis session, where will be learning values through sport and having a chance to question and explore faith. Tea and Coffee will be provided for parents. The first session is free, but after that it is £2 a session.

It will run from 3:45-4:45pm by Emily Twigg, a qualified 'She Rallies' Tennis Coach, and so either turn up every Friday, or if you can let Nathan.youlton@psalms.uk.net know if you intend to come



Bordering on Insanity (Creating an all year round Border)



We were delighted to welcome members, visitors to Painswick and local Gardening Club visitors to a wonderful evening with Timothy Walker, former Director of the Oxford Botanical Garden

This talk lived up to its title in spades! Looking exclusively at the herbaceous border designed by his wife whilst covering, in depth, the principles and practicalities of all year round planting. Beautiful photos, and some very amusing ones, backed up all the hard work!

A lively, fun and very informative evening was had by all. Just a few of the gems were.... Paths don't need to be seen. You don't have to believe the books. Smithers principle 'I don't believe anything is tender until I've killed it'.

Create layers in time and space and it's about making pictures.

And finally - The Timothy Walker Top Ten Must Have Plants:

- 1) Dictamnus Albus
- 2) Euphorbias
- 3) Cirsium Rivularo 'atropurpureum'
- 4) Papaver Orientale 'Patty's Plum'
- 5) Amsonia Salicifolia
- 6) Geranium Samobor
- 7) Thalictrum Delavayi
- 8) Astrantias
- 9) Clematis Viticella 'Etoile Violette'
- 10) Alliums

This month on Wednesday April 10th at 7:30pm, with lighter evenings to look forward to, the Gardening Club members are invited to "Bring a Friend for Free" to a hands-on talk about "Forgotten Classics and Fresh Faces" by Paul Green of Greens Leaves Nursery. A warm welcome awaits members and visitors!

Ione Woodger Smith, Committee Member



Come and join us at Wick-Flix for our next screening on Friday 5th April, Juliet, Naked.

Juliet, Naked is a charming, sharp-witted film adapted from a novel by Nick Hornby. It tells the story of Annie who is stuck in a long-term relationship with Duncan - an obsessive fan of obscure rocker Tucker Crowe. When the acoustic demo of Tucker's hit record from 25 years ago surfaces, its release leads to a life-changing encounter with the elusive rocker himself.

Juliet, Naked is a comic account of life's second chances.

Starring Ethan Hawke, Rose Byrne and Chris O'Dowd.

Doors open at 7pm and the performance starts at 7.45pm. Seats are allocated on a first come first served basis, so we recommend you get there early.

Tickets are £7 per person (to include a free wine, beer or soft drink) and are available on the door on the night. Please note: we do not sell tickets in advance.

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Letters



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

Dominic Hamilton from Painswick Rococo Garden writes

Dear Sirs,

I would like to clarify a couple of legal points in relation to the plans for a new entrance building for Painswick Rococo Garden, which were referred to in Mr & Mrs Elvidge's letter last month.

As the charitable Trust has explained to our neighbours and other consultees:

- legal title restrictions prohibit us from continuing to use the current entrance building, which we do not own;
- legal title restrictions effectively prohibit the Trust from building a new entrance building on the land at the existing car park area and plant sales area.

We note the support of Mr & Mrs Elvidge for the Garden, and believe our choice of design and location has taken into consideration the sensitivity of the site and will allow to keep the Garden open for future generations to enjoy.



On 21st February Peter Jenkins presented a most informative talk on Mozart's chamber music with specific reference to his Sting Quintets. The beauty of chamber music lies in its intimate nature. Whilst the development of the string quartet was led by Haydn, the origin of the string quintet with two violins, two violas and the cello is less certain. Both demanded a higher level of ability from the performers. However, Mozart not only composed string quintets but also works for piano and wind instruments. We listened also to excerpts from both his Clarinet and Horn Quintets. Peter's talk was justifiably well received by members. *[Mike Kerton]*

On 7th March Mike Kerton presented a splendid tribute to Leonard Bernstein (born 1918), the multi-talented American composer, conductor and pianist. In part one Mike illustrated his lecture with excerpts from the glorious Chichester Psalms and the more controversial Kaddish symphony. In the second part he selected passages of fine music from Candide, On the Town and the ever popular West Side Story.

We have grown accustomed to Mike's lively, enthusiastic and witty style of presentation. He did not fail on this occasion and provided his audience with a most enjoyable evening of music making.

On 21 March a popular visiting speaker Rod Winfield spoke with erudition of the innovative composer Claude Debussy. Rod illustrated his talk with excerpts from his early works for piano and highlighted the influence of Satie and Wagner amongst other composers on the work of Debussy.

Due the good offices of Dennis Morgan the PMAG now possesses the facility for playing DVDs and the occasion was celebrated with the playing of an excerpt from Debussy's wonderful orchestral score, Nocturnes.

Howard Allen- Chairman PMAG

Friday Club

On the 8th March members were full of admiration for Collette Kilminster who, accompanied by her canine partner Jennie, spoke to members from her wheelchair about the Charity, Canine Partners. The aim of the Charity is to transform the lives of people with disabilities through partnership with specially trained assistance dogs. The Charity works predominantly with Labradors, Golden Retrievers and some Poodle crosses for people with allergies. Training begins when the puppies are 7/8 weeks old. They spend 12 to 14 months with volunteer trainers - known as "puppy parents" - which is followed by 4 months of advanced training at one of the Charities Centres. Training at all stages is fun and reward based. The core skills they learn include opening doors, retrieving the phone, pressing lift buttons and unloading a washing machine. These skills are then matched to a person with a disability who is on the waiting list.

Collette's partner, Jennie, was a Labradoodle, a cross between a Labrador and a medium size Poodle. They have been partnered for several years and as Jennie is due to retire, Collette will shortly be "repartnered." At the start of the talk Jennie helped Collette take off her cardigan by taking each sleeve into her mouth and gently pulling. A truly amazing sight. Collette explained that although she was able to drive her specially adapted car Jennie was always in the car with her wearing her seat belt just in case of emergencies - like dropping her keys! Incidentally the Club are now saving "Used Stamps" to support the Charity. If you would like to participate please contact Sue Kerton on 01452 810878. An absorbing and interesting afternoon.

Then on the 22nd George Yiend, who had spent many years in Zimbabwe as an Art Teacher and Artist, spoke to us about his love of painting animals in their natural habitat. By taking photos of various animals he can use them as models for his paintings. He brought along several examples of his work, paintings of elephants, giraffes and African Buffalos - resplendent with enormous horns - all backed by splendid mountain ranges. Members enjoyed his humour, talk and viewing the paintings.

On the 5th April we have an intriguingly entitled talk by Malcolm Watkins on the "Birdlip Grave Group." A mysterious collection of pre-Roman treasures. Then on the 26th April Pat Chase, who has recently returned from Africa, will be talking to us about the VINE project, Vulnerable Children in Need of Education.

We look forward to seeing YOU at our Meetings.

Mike Kerton

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Probus Women

On 11th March, Cherry Hubbard, accompanied by a fine display of surgical instruments, apothecary bottles and jars, charms and amulets, herbs, berries and other weird and bizarre items, gave us a fascinating insight into how illnesses and diseases were diagnosed and subsequently treated during Tudor times.

As for us today, injury and disease was part of life but for the Tudors it was to a much greater degree. They had no idea of hygiene or how contagious germs worked. No sanitation or waste disposal systems. Waste discarded by tradespeople, especially by butchers, attracting rats and dirt roads used by animals and all they left behind aided and abetted transmission of virulent bacteria. Consequently life expectancy was low. Many children died at birth and few lived to reach the age of 16. Living to the age of 40 was considered to be a good old age.

Medicine was administered by Physicians, Barber/Surgeons and Apothecary specialists (to the rich mainly) and mystical folklore healers were also popular with the poor. Physicians might not even see patients but use the Apothecary to prescribe medications direct. Barber/Surgeons - where the niceties of exotic ingredients were not required - were more 'barbers' in peacetime, cutting hair and extracting teeth but during war situations they became involved with surgical operations - even amputating limbs! On display was a simple saw used and used without anaesthetic! Perhaps, maybe, the odd slug of rum!

The first port of call for poor people was the Church and prayer. Village Wise Women who had knowledge of lotions and potions passed down through generations were also approached and goods were exchanged as payment rather than money. Every Housewife was responsible for the health of her Family, grew herbs in her garden and acquired skills along the way. Monks grew and researched many herbs and the monasteries ran charitable hospitals to help the poor but much knowledge was lost during the dissolution of the Monasteries in Henry VIII's reign.

As today, urine samples were taken to gain enlightenment and Apothecaries used a colour chart marked out akin to the dipstick used today. In some cases the urine was tasted. Yes - tasted! Evidently diabetic's would taste sweet. Good job we've moved on. Who, today, would apply for that job? (other than Bear Grylls!)

Next Meeting on 8th April, 2019 - A Family Story by Lynn Hilditch. Please joint us at the Painswick Church Rooms 10.00am. All Guests welcome £3.



Probus Atkyns of Gloucestershire

Wednesday 20th February saw Alan Pilbeam come to talk about Robert Atkyns, the first county historian of Gloucestershire, and his work the "Ancient and Present State of Gloucestershire".

Published in 1712 shortly after his death the book is an impressive tome containing a unique record of the county as it was at the time.

Atkyn's book contains a parish by parish description with locations being relative to local market towns. However the system of measurement was not as precise as we know today, Painswick apparently being located 2 miles north of Stroud and 2 miles north of Bisley! One of the most interesting features of the book is the engravings by Jan Kip, a Dutch artist who specialised in bird's eye views of grand houses and gardens. Alan showed images of a number of engravings of the fine Gloucestershire houses existing at the time.

James Clifford - Entrepreneur

Rose Hewlett returned to Probus on 6th March 2019 to present another of her interesting talks on local history with particular relevance to the Severn Vale. This time it was about James Clifford (1534-1613) who held estates at Frampton Court and Fretherne and became the owner of coal mines in Brosley on the Severn Gorge (now Ironbridge) in Shropshire.

James expanded the mines by encouraging people into the area with the promise of land for dwellings if you could erect a chimney and a hearth in a day. This brought in immigrant labour much to the concern of the locals.

He was a man of substance but also an extravagant one and the Bosley mines had to be sold off to support the upkeep of the Gloucestershire estate. Nevertheless, his development of the Bosley coal mines was to become a significant factor when the Industrial Revolution took hold in the 1700's.

Henry Hall

delia Mason

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Painswick Golf Club

Do you like getting out into the fresh air? Do you enjoy the company of a friendly group of people? Have you ever thought about playing golf? Well now's the time! Painswick Golf Club has dramatically cut its membership fees – there is no joining fee and the annual membership fee has been reduced to £425 for the year. If you are still not sure, then pay by standing order at £35.50 per month and give us a try. New members qualify for £75 of vouchers that can be spent behind the bar (vouchers available after 6 months if paying by standing order). If you are interested in a golf 'taster' session for beginners, please get in touch with Peter Rowe (01452 813228)..



And if you are a member at another club, then consider joining as your second club – country membership is £325 for the year.

The Painswick Seniors Golf Open takes place on Wednesday 22 May. Any golfer over 55 years with a qualifying handicap is welcome to play. Teams of two are required (the organiser will endeavour to find partners for individuals wishing to play) and the competition is a better ball stableford. The course should be in great condition by then and similar events in the past have proved most enjoyable. If you are interested, please visit the new website www.painswickgolf.com or contact Phil Jennings (07561 108358) for more details and to book a place.

In the Seniors section, the March stableford was won by John Hitchcock with a superb score of 45 points. Winners in the other handicap categories were Rick Carman and Norman Pullin. Congratulations to all. On 1 March, Dean Vernon was unanimously elected and welcomed as this year's Club Captain.

Visitors, whether golfers or members of the public are welcome at Painswick Golf Club. For more details of the course or refreshments at the club house please call: 01452 812180.

Peter Rowe 813228

Painswick Bowling Club

During the winter season club members have enjoyed a social evening each Friday in the form of Short Mat Bowls in the Pavilion. The club has just invested in new insulation in the loft and new heaters. We also played skittles in Stroud and had presentation of prizes evenings.

All this comes to an end soon however when we "Open the Green" on 13th April. From then until late in September we play 2 or 3 friendly matches each week against other local clubs, both home and away. This summer we have 2 open days: Sunday 12th May and Sunday 28th July. These are open to anybody who would like to "come and have a go". We have qualified coaches or practice by being with other members. Alternatively come along to the club on any (Dry) Friday evening from 6pm and join in with our "Roll ups. Our club members will be pleased to see you, show you the clubhouse and guide you in your new Bowling Career. If you have not bowled before the club membership subscription is reduced to £10 for the first year. The club holds a variety of bowls, shoes (no heels) and clothing which can be purchased for a reasonable donation. All club members look forward to seeing you.

*David Linsell (Treasurer) (812464) Dave Glover (Secretary) 01453 452369
Brian Sinden (President) 01453 791441*

Tennis – New season starts

Painswick Lawn Tennis Club is starting a new season on April 1st when they welcome players of all standards to join this thriving, friendly, competitive club. There is plenty of tennis for all standards and all ages, premier level to beginners, juniors to seniors. All are very welcome!

The tennis club have 6 men's and 5 ladies teams in the Gloucestershire Summer League starting mid April till mid August, plus many inter club competitions and well supported club evenings.

Come and join us and enjoy the exercise and the social side of one of the best clubs in the county.

For further information phone Ruth Smith on 01452 813693 or email ruthandtrevor@btinternet.com

Junior Easter Tennis Camps...

... will run between the 8th and 18th April for age groups of 4-8yrs and 9-16yrs. For more information please contact Adam Newton on adnewt@hotmail.com or 07961 154269

Joan Griffiths

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Bowls Falcon's 465th Season!



Falcon Bowls Club kicks off its 465th season, on April 20th 2.30 when we "open our green". Everyone's welcome to join us that day and find out for free what bowls is all about. The bars open and there will also be a good supply of tea and cake on offer. All you need is flat shoes/trainers and enthusiasm we'll provide everything else

If you can't make it that day, we have free taster sessions every Monday evening and Friday afternoon throughout the summer where our qualified coaches offer help and advice

For more info on Painswick Falcon Bowls Club and to find out how you can join for just £30 this season visit our Facebook page or contact:

davidglass20@gmail.com 01452 814186
Painswickfalconbowls.co.uk

Everything in Moderation

Some of you may know that over the last two winters I have been employed for two days a week by Natural England to help the fulltime staff at their Ebworth Estate office. This has been a wonderful opportunity to work alongside fully trained ecologists, learn from them and get to know other areas of the Cotswold Commons and Beechwoods National Nature Reserve.



Natural England manage Bredon Hill, Edge, Cranham, Bulls Cross commons, Buckholt and Rough Parks woods and North Meadow near Cricklade. These, and other sites managed by National Trust, Butterfly Conservation, Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust and the Woodland trust, form a ring of sites centered on the Stroud Valleys which are the core of the NNR. NE have just agreed a lease with the Blow family to manage and include Huddinknoll in the NNR and it is hoped Painswick Beacon will be included in the future.

A research article (published last year) I read whilst at Ebworth gave some interesting results about invertebrates found in limestone grassland. Numbers of all types of insects were 30-50% higher in rank grass (not regularly grazed.) Most of our effort has been to secure grazing and whilst that is certainly beneficial to some butterflies and many plants, the areas which may look neglected still provide an important ecological niche. Managing small areas of habitat is certainly challenging and the practice of creating a mosaic of varied habitats is a good one. To commit to one management plan across a large area could be disastrous for some species, especially if they are just hanging on in that area.

The Duke of Burgundy is a good example. We are creating a grazing system which is beneficial to cowslip regeneration. However, the cowslip isn't really a rare plant, but the D of B is a rare butterfly. There may well be some other unknown factor involved, rather like the ant and the Large Blue butterfly. Nobody knows how the D of B pupae overwinters.

I recently overheard a visitor on the Beacon comment that it was a beautiful "park". It is certainly not a park and never will be. It is about nature and whilst we have freedom to access the site we must do so responsibly.

Paul Baxter

Unsolved Murder at Bulls Cross

An inquest was held at Stroud Hospital in connection with the somewhat mysterious death of a man found dying at Bulls Cross. This, incidentally, was in April 1919, exactly 100 years ago.

Albert Victor Birt, aged 42, was a woodturner from Longridge. Having served in the Royal Flying Corps throughout the war and returning unscathed he decided on the evening of 31 March to go for a drink at the Woolpack Inn in Slad. He was found the next morning lying in the snow at Bulls Cross and suffering from a wound at the back of his head, a punctured lip and a black eye. He was admitted to Stroud Hospital where he died ten days later.

Despite strenuous efforts to ascertain exactly what had happened and who might have been involved the case was never solved and a verdict of 'murder by person or persons unknown' was recorded at the inquest.

Carol Maxwell

Tools, Techniques & Plans

March saw the return of John Putley from the Heritage Hub, formerly Gloucester Archives who came to enlighten us with his knowledge and insight into mediaeval buildings.



From the differing types of construction, cruck frames, box frames, different types of infill to go into said frames, wattle & daub, brick, stone to the tools of the trade and types of scaffolding, treadwheels used to hoist materials to higher levels, the differing types of plans and indeed building regulations - these have been around for a long time! - and so much more.

It was a fascinating talk and for anyone interested in seeing some of these techniques today then head to Guédelon Castle (Château de Guédelon) near Treigny, France. The castle, currently under construction, is the focus of an experimental archaeology project aimed at recreating a 13th-century castle and its environment using period technique, dress, and material. Alternatively head to the website: www.guedelon.fr/en/introduction_75.html

Our next meeting is on April 16th when David Smith (former Gloucestershire County Archivist) will speak on Gloucestershire Victorian villains & victims.

Peter Jackson

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Painswick Educational Trust

Do you need financial help with your studies or training? If you are a young local resident the Trust may be able to help with funding towards books, tools, equipment or travel. Anyone who would like more information or an application form do ring Michael James on 01452 812646 or myself, Joy Edwards on 01452 812588.

Birth announcements

The Beacon is happy to publish any announcements of local births. Please send details to Vicky Aspinall on 812379 or rgasp@tiscali.co.uk



PROPERTY REPORT Written by Beacon Staff

There are a number of properties that have come on to the market since last month's Property Report. Murrays have the Black Horse Cottage and Shop in St Mary's Street, priced at £595,000. This is a spacious and quirky 3-bedroom apartment with large shop premises underneath and parking right in the middle of the village. Moulton Haus have 10 Hyett Orchard a 2 bedroom retirement cottage for the over 55's with allocated parking space for one car soon to come to the market chain free for £200,000. Also 3 White Horse Lane soon to be coming to the market at £270,000. This is a 2-bedroomed terraced house in walking distance of the village which has been modernised throughout and off-road parking for 2 cars. They also have Rest Harrow in Cranham which is a 4-bed detached home with separate single garage, off road parking and a generous garden with south facing views down the Painswick Valley, new to the market at £560,000.

Hamptons report two properties that have come on to the market since the March report. Forty Acres, Wick Street – a 3-bedroom chalet bungalow standing in a one third acre plot with delightful views across the Painswick Valley. Also, 24 Twyver Close, Upton St Leonards – a detached three bedroom house in a sought-after cul-de-sac within a short walk of the village school. Pyles have two new properties. The Old Dairy in Bisley which is a beautiful four/five bedroom family home with an abundance of character and history situated at the heart of the village. It is on the market at £795,000. Wren Cottage in Oakridge is an environmentally conscious four bedroom detached home with a traditional aesthetic and future-proof credentials, on the market at £699,950.

Properties sold. Murrays. 6 The Croft, Painswick. Little Acre, Cheltenham Road, Painswick is under offer. Moulton Haus. Pleased to confirm that a sale for Orchard House in Court Orchard has been agreed. Pyles. Delighted to have agreed a sale of one of the two new build houses being developed by local developers, Brinkman Ltd, in Sheepscombe. Hamptons. The Old Sunday School, Slad. Simmondley, Queens Mead, Painswick. The Ferns, Randalls field, Painswick.

Properties on the market to which particular attention is drawn. Hamptons. Star Cottage, Hollyhock Lane – hidden away but in the heart of the village, this property offers charm with three bedrooms, a spacious living room, private garden, garage and parking all for a surprisingly affordable sum of £400,000. 3 Court Cottages, Butt Green – a gorgeous extended period cottage offering three bedrooms, generous and characterful ground floor living space with a beautiful mature garden and off road parking. £555,000. Pyles. For the environmentally conscious, Wren Cottage in Oakridge Lynch has been built to an exacting eco-standard; this four bedroom detached home is now on the market at a guide price of £699,950. Murrays. Orchard House in Court Orchard in Painswick £850,000. Substantial 5 bed detached family house in a fantastic location within then centre of the village with lots of potential, a large garden and lovely views.

Housing market. Hamptons report that they have a very mixed market with buoyant activity one day and less so the next. However, there continue to be active buyers registering and viewing with us and properties across all price ranges continue to get viewings and offers. They have a number of properties on which they are currently negotiating and need more houses on their books to sell to the active buyers. Murrays report that they are in desperate need of more property to sell! They have a lot of buyers looking for property in Painswick and the surrounding villages.

General news. Hamptons report that their Painswick Office is delighted to be supporting two local events in the coming weeks. They are the Gold Sponsor of the Painswick Playgroup Easter Egg Hunt that will take place throughout the village on Easter Saturday – 20 April. They are also sponsoring the Miserden Woodland Easter Egg Train that will take place on 7th April. Hamptons International are hosting their twice-yearly Country Roadshow on 23 March in four of their prime London offices to take their Painswick properties directly to the doorsteps of the Capital's buyers and tenants. Pyles report that they will be decorating an egg again at the Painswick Easter Egg Hunt and ask that readers keep an eye out for it on their search! Murrays are delighted to announce that they raised £386 for the Painswick Recreation Ground and Homestart Stroud at our Wick Flix/Murrays Gala Night. They write, thank you to all that gave generously to some fantastic local charities.

From first flat to large family home and all the doors in between we are here to help you.

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Regular Village Activities - *If the times of your regular activities have changed please let Vicky Aspinall know*

Mondays	Short Mat Bowls. Contact 812464	Town Hall	10.30am & 2.00pm
	Yoga. Contact Kim 812623	Sheepscombe Village Hall	6.30 - 8.00pm & 8.15pm
	Painswick Community choir. Contact Sophie 01453 298138	Painswick Centre	7.00 - 8.30pm
	Have your Say - contact Rev. Roger Leigh 536325	Church Rooms	7.30 - 9.30pm
	Painswick Singers Choir - contact Jean Jones 813545	Richmond Village	7.30 - 9.30pm
	Pilates - Heidi Hardy. Enquiries 07970262538 heidihardyuk@yahoo.co.uk	Cotswold Room, Painswick Centre	9.00 - 10.15am and 10.15-11.30am
	Ballyhoo Dance and Theatre School - all ages. Contact Heidi Hardy 07970 262538 ballyhoochalford@gmail.com	Church Rooms	4.00 - 6.00pm
Tuesdays	Painswick Art Club	Church Rooms	9.30am
	Gentle Pilates for all. Contact Vicky at abcpilates@internet.com or 07934977171	Painswick Centre	9.30 - 10.30am
	Zumba Gold dance fitness for Seniors £6.50 pp. Contact 07766101790	Painswick Centre	10.00am
	Bingo	Ashwell House	6.30 - 9.00pm
	Rococo Sprites - Nature Connections. For Toddlers - during term time	Rococo Gardens	10.00am
	Nia Holistic Fitness	Town Hall	6.00 - 7.00pm
Wednesdays	Table Tennis	Painswick Centre	7.30 - 9.30pm
	Botanical Illustration classes. All day workshops. Prebook 07810 725772	Prinknash Abbey, Cranham	10.00 - 4.00pm
	Yoga - contact Kim 812623	Sheepscombe Village Hall	9.30 - 11.00am & 1.00 - 3.30pm
	Art class (oils) - contact Jane 812176		Afternoons
Thursdays	Painswick Bootcamp	Recreation Ground	7.00pm-8.00pm
	Yoga - all abilities	Cotswold Room, Painswick Centre	9.30 - 11.00am
	T'ai chi. Contact 812344	Town Hall	9.30am
	Dog training club.	Church Rooms	9.30 - 12.00pm
	Art class (oils) - contact Jane 812176		Mornings
	Jolly Stompers Line Dancing: Beginners. Contact Julie 01453 752480	Town Hall	12.00 - 1.00pm
	Jolly Stompers Line dancing: Experienced beginners. Contact Julie 01453 752480	Town Hall	12.30 - 1.30pm
	Pilates class. Contact Nicola 07870 953159 or nmarshes@hotmail.com	Painswick Centre	6.00 - 7.00pm and 7.00 - 8.00pm
Fridays	Country market. Coffee available. Contact Chris Campbell 01452 812600 This month on Thursday April 18th	Town Hall	9.30 - 11.00am
	Baby and toddler group - term time only	Youth Pavillion (Rec)	10.00 - 11.30am
	Adult ballet class	Church Rooms	9.30am
Saturdays	Artspace Painswick	Town Hall	2.00 - 3.30 pm
Sundays	Meeting for Worship	Quaker Meeting House	10.30am
	Mass	Catholic Church	8.30am
April			
Wed	3 Painswick Probus Club: AGM	Painswick Centre	10.00am
	3 Richmond Holy Communion	Richmond Village	11.00am
	3 Cotteswold Naturalists: AGM + Defence of the drift - Paul Barnett. Enq 01453 873262 (Note early start)	Painswick Centre	2.00pm
Thur	4 Painswick Music Appreciation Group: Dennis Morgan - Moving Pictures Part 2	Town Hall	7pm for 7.30
Fri	5 Friday Club: Birdlip Grave Group - Malcolm Watkins	Town Hall	2.30pm
	5 Wik-Flix: Juliet Naked	Painswick Centre	Doors open 7.00pm



Sat	6	Beacon published		
	6	Painswick Beacon Conservation Group - scrub clearing	TBA	9.00 - 12.30pm
	6	Rococo Garden - 'Wanted: The Egg Thief' children's Easter egg hunt begins. Until April 22nd	Rococo Garden	10.30 - 4.30pm
Sun	7	Parish Communion	St Mary's Church	9.30am
Mon	8	Painswick Probus Women: A Family Story - Lynn Hilditch	Church Rooms	10.00 for 10.30am
Tues	9	Painswick Valleys Conservation Society AGM	Church Rooms	7.00 for 7.30pm
Wed	10	Painswick Gardening Club: Forgotten Classics and Fresh Faces: Paul Green. Plants for sale	Falcon Bowls Club	7.30pm
Sat	13	Painswick Music Society: Stephen Hough (piano). Tickets Painswick Pharmacy 01452 812263 or Edward Bowron 01452 740322	St Mary's Church	3.00pm
Sun	14	Palm Sunday - Holy Communion	St Mary's Church	9.30am
	14	Cotteswold Naturalists: Trip to GWR steam railway at Broadway and museums. Enq 814570	Stamages lane car park	
Mon	15	Morning prayer	St Mary's Church	9.00am
	15	Painswick Probus Women: Cathedral Visit - shared transport		
Tues	16	Morning prayer	St Mary's Church	9.00am
	16	Cotteswold Naturalists: Tin Tabernacles - Philip Wilmott. Enq 01453 873262	Hub Minchinhampton	2.30pm
	16	Local History Society: Gloucestershire Victorian Victims and Villains - David Smith	Croft School	7.30pm
Wed	17	Morning prayer	St Mary's Church	9.00am
	17	Painswick Probus Club: Birds, Tigers and the Taj - Arthus Ball	Painswick Centre	10.00am
	17	Parish Council Meeting	Town Hall	7.30pm
	17	Cotteswold Naturalists: Canal Walk, Thrupp to Chalford. Prebook 01452 813228	Chalford	10.30am
Thur	18	Country Market. Coffee available. Contact Chris Campbell 01452 812600	Town Hall	9.30- 11.00am
	18	Painswick Music Appreciation Group: Gordon Collins - Two for the price of one.	Town Hall	7.00 for 7.30pm
	18	Maundy Thursday - Morning prayer	St Mary's Church	9.00am
Fri	19	Good Friday - morning prayer	St Mary's Church	9.00am
	19	Procession of Witness	From St Mary's Church	10.30am
	19	Good Friday devotion	St Mary's Church	2.00pm
Sat	20	Easter Eve - morning prayer	St Mary's Church	9.00am
Sat	20	Painswick Easter Egg Hunt	St Mary's Churchyard	12.00pm - 4.00pm
	20	Painswick Beacon Conservation Group - scrub clearing	TBA	9.00 - 12.30pm
Sun	21	Easter day - Holy Communion	St Mary's Church	9.30am
Mon	22	Deadline for Beacon Copy		
Tues	23	Yew Trees WI: Spring Event	Church Rooms	7.30pm
Wed	24	New Drawing course begins: 'Drawn to Look' continues until May 22nd. £85.00 inc. materials. Contact Susan Kester 07794942680 or skester@outlook.com	Painswick Centre	9.30 - 12.00pm
Thur	25	Cotteswold Naturalists: Pre-cruise Dinner Enq 01453 834486	Woodchester Valley Village	6.45pm
Fri	26	Friday Club: Update from the Vine family - Pat Chase	Town Hall	2.30pm
	26	PSALMS prayer group	St Mary's Church	9.00am
Sun	28	Painswick Praise	St Mary's Church	9.30am
May				
Weds	1	Painswick Probus Club: British Waterways heritage working boats project - Vince Williams	Painswick Centre	10.00am
	1	Cotteswold Naturalists: Richard Jeffries, the first environmentalist - Dr Mike Pringle. Enq: 01453 873262	Painswick Centre	2.30pm
Thurs	2	Painswick Music Appreciation Group: Members Evening AGM	Town Hall	7.00 for 7.30pm

PLANNING MATTERS

Information received from the Parish Council

NEW APPLICATIONS

S.19/0338/VAR CEDAR HOUSE, Stamages Lane - Variation in condition 3 (domestic use only) from S.10/0656/HHOLD to allow annexe use ancillary to dwelling and holiday-let

S.19/0287/CPE COURT HOUSE, Hale Lane - Certificate of Lawful Development to establish that residential use as a single dwelling house has occurred for a period in excess of four years.

S.19/0335/HHOLD COURT HOUSE, Hale Lane - Construction of car port, garden pavilion, decking, privacy fencing, kitchen store, two garden sheds, glazing of pool pergola, pool cover and new stone wall to pool area.

S.19/0336/LBC COURT HOUSE, Hale Lane - Removal and replacement of internal architectural features (signs, doorcases, door furniture, bannisters etc) Works to outbuilding including store pool pergola and hamlet suite.

S.19/0394/HHOLD WOODLEA, Slad - Demolition of attached coal and binstore. Construction of new extension and conversion of existing garage to provide an annexe.

S.19/0414/LBC THE CHUR, Bisley Street - Internal alterations, improvements and upgrades. Proposed dormer windows and rooflights.

S.19/0482/HHOLD PAINSWICK MILL, Ticklestone Lane - New external swimming pool and pool building.

S.19/0436/TCA HILLFOOT COTTAGE, 22 GLOUCESTER ROAD G1: 6 conifers- Fell. T1: Ash fell T2: Sycamore remove loose branch T3: Ash- remove secondary limb overhanging reservoir T4: Ash- hole at base, fell. T5: Ash fell. T6: Ash remove limb overhanging reservoir. T7: Sycamore - fell. T8: Ash fell. T9: Ash fell. T10: Ash fell. T11: Beech- reduce overhanging, secondary limb back to 2m stump. T12: Ash-Fell. T13: Beech- reduce overhanging secondary limb back to trunk.

S.19/0505/TCA CROFT HOUSE, Gloucester Street. - Branches of 2 x Cupressus Leylandii & 1 x Yew tree to be removed due to them overhanging property boundary. Application is with owners agreement.

S.19/0492/HHOLD WOODSEND, Butt Green - Single storey rear garden room extension.

S.19/0423/HHOLD WHITEHALL BANK, Stamages Lane - Ground floor rear extension, dormer window and four roof lights.

S.19/0586/TCA 2 WORDINGS MOUNT, Sheepscombe - remove all over hanging branches from the neighbour's beech (T1) that over- hang the property boundary.

S.19/0546/TCA THE CHURN, Hale Lane - Cedar in the front garden: Reduce all over by up to 3.0m.

CONSENT

S.18/2711/HHOLD LANTERN, Kingsmead - extensions and alterations: new porch, garden room, and extension to kitchen/dining room. New verandah and conservatory: replacement windows, window cills and rain water goods, and re-rendering.

S.19/0064/TPO 6 COURT ORCHARD
1) 3 largest lime trees - Reduce crown spread to 3.5m Crown raise all round to approx 7m. Remove epicormic growths.
2) Small lime tree at the left hand end Reduce crown spread to 4.0m. Crown raise all round to approx 7m Remove epicormic growths to the first branch.

S.19/0065/TPO TARN HOUSE, Court Orchard - 1) Lime tree to the left of side boundary - Remove the lowest 2 limbs / branches over the corner of the garden. 2) 2 smaller Limes adjacent to property: Reduce their crown spread to 2.0m. Crown raise to 7.0m. Remove epicormic growths up to the first branch.

S.19/0011/LBC KINGS MILL HOUSE, Kings Mill Lane. Replacement of an existing ground floor level wooden doorframe and leaf with a wooden frame with vertically boarded outer leaf & a pair of inner glazed leafs.

S.19/0060/FUL LAND AT GREENBANK, Sheepscombe. Erection of single storey dwelling.

S.19/0166/HHOLD LOWER GREENHOUSE, Greenhouse Lane Demolition of garage, erection of extension, addition of dormer windows, alterations to fenestration, new boundary wall and revised landscaping

REFUSED

S.19/0167/CPE PRICE DOWNWOOD MILL, The Camp - Application for a Lawful Development Certificate for the use of a building as a residential dwelling house. Resubmission of the application

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Personal Column

Condolences

To the family and friends of NAOMI MACLAURIN-JONES who passed away on 14th March aged 101 years. Naomi was wife of the late Colin, mother to Sarah and Alistair, grandmother to Jonathan, Sophie and Becky and great grandmother to Hannah, Lucy, Maddy and Lottie. The funeral will be on 12th April at 11.30am at Gloucester crematorium, all welcome.

To the family and friends of DAVID SIMPSON who died on March 25th aged 78. David was the much loved husband of Hilary and a loving father, grandfather and friend and will be much missed by all who knew him in the village and beyond.

Congratulations

To JESSICA BARNETT AND ERIC ALLARD on the birth of their son, Rupert, on the 22nd of February 2019. A first

grandchild for Nigel Barnett and for Peter and Linda Allard.

To THOMAS AND SONJA UNWIN on the birth of their daughter Florence Amelia on 30th November 2018.

Thank you

The Briggs family would like to acknowledge everybody involved in the recent thanksgiving service for HELEN BRIGGS. She would have been delighted to see so many Painswickians turn out at St Mary's and the Shires Bar on 13th February. Our grateful thanks for the smooth running of the day go to Canon Michael Irving, to Philip Ford funeral directors in particular Pat Pudephatt, to Charlie and his team at the Falcon Hotel and last but not least to Helen's old local history partner David Archard for his masterful direction of events on the day itself. We will write more about Helen and her life in Painswick in a future Beacon.

New convenience

The Parish Council as the Painswick Burial Authority has become aware of the number of visitors coming to the Painswick Cemetery from afar. There is no toilet facility at the cemetery and the Parish Council has therefore installed a portaloos behind the cemetery chapel. Maintenance of the portaloos is on a weekly contractual basis.



Jottings.

Farming produces less than 60% of the total amount of food consumed in the UK. Only 69% of the available farmland is producing food. The agricultural area used is 17.5 million hectares. We grow 25 million tons of wheat, barley, oats and oil seed rape. There are so many figures that it is impossible to write them all down.

Looking at horticultural crops, the productive vegetable and salad area is about 117 thousand hectares. The UK produce 2.354 million tons of peas, carrots, asparagus, brassicas, onions, lettuce, watercress, leeks, tomatoes, soft fruit, apples and pears, cherries, plums.

The top ten products exported out of the UK in 2018 were whisky, chocolate, cheese, salmon, wine, gin, beef, breakfast cereal, beer and pork. There are many more products making up the total export of about £4442 million.

The total import of products into the UK in the first half of 2018 came to £23 billion. Fruit and vegetable imports alone came to £5.4 billion in 2018.

What is going to happen with Brexit? How will this change? Who knows.

Martin Slinger

NEXT ISSUE

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for current issue and archive, the annual directory and village maps.

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You could help Vicky Aspinall, if you would send information about those you know for whom a mention in the Personal Column would be appreciated.

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