

The Painswick Beacon

Volume 41 Number 11

February 2019

New battle over plans for New Drive field Outline application submitted for eight new houses

In what looks rather like a re-run of a battle last fought over thirty years ago, an outline planning application for eight new houses has been submitted for the field below New Drive, between Stamages Lane and Knapp Lane. In 1987 an appeal against refusal of planning permission for eight houses was rejected by an inspector, on grounds of both access and the effect on the character of the village. Since then the owners of the site have continued to test the principle of development and have made a number of approaches to adjoining property owners.

Although they have been unable to acquire any new land, an outline application for a single house was submitted last year, to test the principle of using a widened version of the existing access, which comes out onto Stamages Lane just below Howbeg. Controversially that application showed the site boundary passing through the existing garage of Howbeg. Despite considerable opposition from local residents and the Parish Council, the application was approved by Stroud District Council. The decision was taken by Council officers, without being referred to the Development Control Committee.



That approval opened the way for the larger proposal that has now come in. The application is supported by a series of detailed analyses of the effect on traffic, visual impact, heritage and ecology to make the case for development. But local residents are organising as the 'Friends of New Drive Field' to oppose the development and point to the importance of the site in terms of the views of the village as well as its amenity for local people. They have commissioned a report from a Landscape Architect and are engaging planning consultants. Peter Roberts is co-ordinating the group and organising fund-raising currently targeted at raising over £7,000 to cover expected costs. He asks for any offers of practical or financial help to be sent to him at petedr56@btinternet.com



Carol Sheeran with the site behind her

The field is crossed by a well-used path that would have to be retained in any development although the character would be fundamentally changed. Access too remains controversial and Carol Sheeran, who lives at Howbeg, is adamant that she will not sell land to the developers or allow them to encroach onto her land to improve visibility. None of the plans submitted show her garage at all, although it was built nearly 40 years ago by the current applicants who then owned Howbeg.

The application comes as proposals for a new Stroud Local Plan are being drawn up. See our report on the Parish Council's Planning Committee on page 2. In response to a call for possible future development sites, agents for the owners of this field put it forward for consideration. In their latest review of sites, planners in Stroud have rejected the site (codenamed PAI012) as unsuitable for development.

The reasons given are that "The site is not suitable for development because of the likely impacts on heritage assets where the area provides a rare space within the settlement fabric providing a contrast to the generally dense built form. Housing could block the open views, which would be significantly detrimental to the character of the approach to the core of the settlement and conservation area. There are therefore potential impacts preventing further sustainable development in this location". It has to be noted though that the planners drawing up the new Local Plan are not the same as those who determine current planning applications and the two teams operate under different constraints. The new application will have to be determined by reference to the existing Local Plan rather than the new draft.

The Village Quiz

Don't forget to arrange teams of four for the Beacon Village Quiz on Sat. 9th March. See page 5 for more details.

Free car parking

Stroud District Council have now confirmed that charges on the Stamages Lane Car Park will be removed with effect from 1st April.

Advertisers!

Please see page 3 for details of how to apply for box adverts over the next year.

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS from the Planning Committee meeting on January 16th 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

The Meeting was opened by the Committee Chairman, Cllr Rob Lewis. He stressed that it was a Planning Meeting primarily to discuss and agree the Council's response to Stroud District Council's Local Plan Review (Emerging Strategy). Due to the combination of the anticipated length of this Meeting and the illness of the local County Councillor, the usual Meeting of the full Council would not take place.

With several members of the Public present, the Chairman also stressed that any questions must refer only to planning matters. Mr Paul Cotswold stated that any further development on Stamages Lane may cause issues with the existing clay pipe sewage system. Over the years clay pipes tended to compress. Also with children playing in the area consideration should be given to improving the street lighting in Stamages Lane.

Another member of the public asked whether the existing footpath across the field to the east of Stamages Lane would be retained if the planning application recently submitted was agreed. Chairman Rob Lewis said that the Council could not comment as the Application had not yet been discussed by the Parish Council. (see article on page 1).

Mr David Allott stated that he had read the draft of the Council's response to the District Council's Review and wished the Council to consider modifying their reply in line with the following comments:

1. To challenge the assertion that Painswick "has a strong local retail role for today's needs". It patently has not.
2. To query the outlining of potential alternative sites on the Painswick map in the document.
3. To classify sites PAI007, PAI008 and PAI012 as unsuitable for development (see explanation of sites below).
4. To stress Painswick's need for more "workers" low-cost houses; but not more

millionaire's houses.

The Chairman confirmed that the points raised would be considered by the Council.

Apologies for Absence

Deputy Clerk Irena Litton advised the Committee that apologies had been received from Cllrs James Cross, Ed Crownshaw, Dawn Dart, Ian James and Roey Parker.

The minutes of the meeting held on 12th December were approved. There were no Matters Arising not on the Agenda.

To Consider and Approve the Response to the Stroud District Council's Local Plan Review (Emerging Strategy)

After a lengthy discussion considering the draft response the Committee unanimously approved, subject to a few minor alterations, the response produced by the Working Party. The agreed text is attached to the minutes of the meeting and now available on the Parish Council website.

According to this paper, the Parish Council accepts that some development would be beneficial to the local community, but wants to see development focused on smaller properties to allow for starter homes and downsizing.

In terms of specific sites, the Council is opposed to any development at PAI002 (to the south of Gyde House) or at PAI005 (in the valley bottom north of Lovedays Mill). However it has no objection in principle to the right kind of development at sites PAI004 (20 dwellings at Lower Washwell), PAI001 (to the east of Gyde Road) or at one of PAI007 or PAI008 (the large garden of Stamages or the field above Richmond). The broad location of these sites can be seen in the map on page 94 of the Stroud District Council Local Plan Review Emerging Strategy Paper available on their website (or on the front page of the November 2017 Painswick Beacon). More detail is in papers on the Strategic

Assessment of Land Availability (SALA).

The site at Lower Washwell is the only one of these currently allocated for development in the District Council's Emerging Strategy. The other sites have all been considered and then dropped from the plan (although still outlined in blue on the map), with PAI001 and PAI008 specifically rejected by planners in 2017 as unsuitable. PAI012 (the field below New Drive) has more recently been rejected - see front page. One further potential site to the west of the A4173 at Edge, opposite Cud Lane, (PAI011) has not yet been assessed.

On other matters in the plan, the Parish Council supports the proposed change for Painswick to a Tier Two settlement within the district rather than Tier Three. It also proposes changes to the Town Centre boundary to avoid further loss of retail premises that are outside the current boundary.

Matters Requiring a Decision

There were three Applications to consider:

S.18/2594/FUL LANESIDE, Queens Mead. Replacement dwelling and new garage. After some discussion the Committee agreed to neither object or support but would submit the following comments:

"The Committee have concerns, bearing in mind the size of the proposed house, has enough space been allocated for parking and turning space?"

S.18/2669/LBC FLAT 18, Gyde House, Gyde Road. To add a mullioned window to the west wall of the 1960's drawing room extension. UNANIMOUS AGREEMENT TO SUPPORT

S.18/2716/TCA ST JOHNS CHURCHYARD, Sheepscombe. Lawson Cypress in the Churchyard extension. Fell to near ground level. UNANIMOUS AGREEMENT TO SUPPORT.

The Meeting Closed at 8.25pm.

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Anger over New Year fireworks 'Mortars' launched in built-up area

Local residents have reacted angrily to both the noise and the danger from some very powerful fireworks launched in Painswick at New Year. Several 'mortars' were launched, apparently from New Drive, at least one ending up in a private garden in Orchard Mead, landing next to Alan and Pat Pinnegar's kitchen window, attached to a metre-long piece of timber. "This is very hard plastic and could have seriously injured and possibly killed someone", said Alan. "Firing something like this within a built up area is completely irresponsible".

More generally, letting off fireworks on New Year's Eve seems to be spreading, far beyond the initial idea of welcoming the New Year in. The practice seems to have come from the continent, where it's traditional for everyone to come out into gardens at midnight, greet their neighbours and let off usually just a single firework. Anyone who has spent New Year in Germany or Holland will know that the combined effect can be quite spectacular, but it's over in five minutes. This year in Painswick it started early on New Year's Eve and went on sporadically for several hours, leaving animals, and some of their owners, frightened and unsure of what might come next. The Parish Council discussed the issue of fireworks at its December meeting and agreed to draw up a Firework Code of Conduct.



Keep warm, keep well

Cold weather can affect your health. When the temperature drops to below 8C, some people are at increased risk of illness, falls and hypothermia. Cold weather can also affect people's mental wellbeing. Protect your health in the cold.

- Find out if you can get the flu jab for free on the NHS
- Wear several layers of clothes, rather than one chunky layer
- Use a hot water bottle or electric blanket to keep warm in bed, but not both at the same time
- Have at least one hot meal a day, and make sure you have hot drinks regularly
- Stay active, get up and stretch your legs every hour or so
- Wrap a scarf loosely around your mouth when outdoors, add a hat and wear shoes with a good grip, too.
- If you have a heart or respiratory problem, stay indoors during very cold weather.

Further support in your area

The Community Wellbeing Service – Stroud and Berkeley Vale is a free, confidential service for anyone over 16 years. The aim of the service is to connect you to local organisations and groups that can help you to improve your general wellbeing and meet your wider social needs. We can help with: mental health and wellbeing, long term health conditions, general health and fitness, social isolation, housing and environment, debt and finance.

You don't need to be referred to us. Please call us 0345 863 8323 (press option 2) or via www.independencetrust.co.uk

Rebecca Benson

Advertising in the Beacon Closing Date 12 February

Each year at this time the Beacon allocates the space for box adverts (that appear at the bottom of many pages of the Beacon) for the twelve months from April. The process starts with advertisers wishing to take a box advert letting me know their requirements.

Current advertisers were sent an email in mid-January. If you are a current advertiser and have not received an email, please contact me urgently. Current advertisers may advise me of their requirements by email. New advertisers must complete and sign a Booking Form which is available from me or from our website www.painswickbeacon.org.uk (then click on "how to advertise" and follow the links). Costs are set out on the Booking Form and are broadly the same as last year.

The allocation process gives priority to requests from Painswick businesses, those requesting the 5cm tall box adverts, and looks to avoid having too many adverts providing the same service. To be considered, requests must be completed and with me (or in the Beacon letterbox) by 12 February. After that bookings will only be accepted if any space remains. For the last few years, the demand for space exceeded supply and some requests had to be turned down.

The Painswick Beacon is funded by advertising and by subscriptions. Advertising typically contributes about two thirds of the production costs. The Beacon limits advertising to a maximum of 20% of available page space.

Peter Rowe 01452 813228 advertising.beacon@painswick.net



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Probus Women The evidence below our feet

On 14th January John Bromley enthusiastically gave his talk on, as he described it, 'The Joys of Metal Detecting'. For John, this is about discovering material which, in itself, is historical evidence and confirmation that other lives lived in our countryside many centuries ago. He loves history and says he gets a real buzz when his metal detector alerts him to some kind of a find. Even a Roman nail (which, he says are found in their hundreds of thousands as, Romans apparently, just nailed anything!).

Yes, he would love to find an historical and precious hoard like that found in Staffordshire (who wouldn't?). This lay hidden for 1400 years and was unearthed in 2009, but this is certainly not a common occurrence. Luck plays a part but common sense and historical knowledge help also. John has found many interesting and ancient items in and around Gloucestershire and explained some of his finds on display. There can be days and days though with no finds at all: target fields full of crops, ground too muddy, ground too hard, freezing snow, freezing frost, freezing rain, just freezing! And then, at least twenty bits of rubbish are found to one interesting item. But John's enthusiasm is permanently topped up.

"And did those feet in ancient time ...". And what evidence of their existence lies below England's mountains (or pastures) green, for us and future generations to walk upon? A metal detector is surely one answer to finding out!

Next Meeting on 11th February with Mike Bottomley talking about 'Rudyard Kipling - His incredible story'. Please join us at the Painswick Church Rooms 10.00am for 10.30. All Guests welcome £3.

delia Mason



Painswick Probus Battles in Gloucestershire

On 9th Jan 2019 Dr Tim Brain visited the Club again and squeezed into one hour his account of the many battles fought in Gloucestershire since the first properly organised one at Crickley Hill in 6 B.C.

Battles took place when tribes or lords saw opportunities to acquire arable land both to support the increasing population and to enable routes through the region to be controlled. Gloucestershire lies on the north-south route between Exeter and Lincoln and the east-west route towards Wales, making it a strategic "crossroads".

Over the centuries armies have met at many places but not always to fight; sometimes their leaders would agree to a treaty whose purpose could be to change the royal succession plan without bloodshed. Dr Brain explained that the Wars of the Roses were about the failure of politics and the ineffectiveness of the inexperienced, ill-advised and indecisive monarch - Henry VI. Associated battles included those at Nibley Green in 1470 and Tewkesbury in 1471.

Battles at Stow-on-the-Wold (1646) and the Siege of Gloucester during the British Civil War were also mentioned.

Henry Hall

The Playgroup Easter Egg Hunt is back! Children's books theme for 2019

This year the village Easter Egg Hunt will take place on Easter Saturday, the 20th April between 12-4pm, and the theme will be Children's Books (for young and old). The Hunt has become a firmly established and ever more popular event in the local calendar, attracting visitors from all over Gloucestershire. It is organised by parents to raise vital funds for Painswick Playgroup, and last year raised over £5,000.

These community events need many hands to make them happen, and if you can help we would love to hear from you. We particularly need people who can help to set up in the morning, man stands for an hour during the event, or help us to clear down afterwards (many people who helped out last year were still able to enjoy the event with their families). It's a great day out with a fantastic atmosphere, come rain or shine - please join us in making this year's event another excellent showcase for the village. Donations of leftover Christmas bottles for our tombola are also welcome! These can be passed to Playgroup staff. If you can help, please contact Marisa on 07773 368702 or email easteregghuntpainswick@gmail.com





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Paddy Ashdown

The death of Lord Ashdown on 22nd December 2018 brought to mind his visit to the Painswick Fire Station in 1993. The Beacon reported that the Painswick station (which closed in 2016) had been highly commended for its standards.

Our photo shows Lord Ashdown being introduced to Station Officer Brendan Gibbs and Firefighters Richard Holder and Owen Gerrish, amongst others.



The Beacon Village Quiz

Saturday 9th March

Don't forget to get your teams in for the Beacon Village Quiz in the Painswick Centre 7.00 for 7.30.



Teams of four could come from clubs or societies, a local street or just a group of friends. To reserve a table, email John Barrus at barrusjp@yahoo.co.uk or just drop a note in the Beacon Post Box on New Street. The cost per team including light refreshments is £24.

Painswick Midsummer Ball

Friday 21st June - Save the Date

The Painswick Ball Committee are working hard to finalise the details of this year's ball, so put the date in your diaries - Friday 21st June.

Tickets will not be available before they go on sale in March - date to be confirmed. To keep up to date with news and find out when and how to get tickets follow us on Facebook www.facebook.com/painswicksummerball/ Twitter @BallPainswick or Instagram @painswickball

If you are interested in sponsorship opportunities please get in touch via Facebook, we would love to hear from you

Emma Bradshaw

Yew Trees WI

A varied programme

The 2019 programme of talks organised by Yew Trees WI is looking varied and interesting, covering topics as diverse as The Work of Street Pastors, Mazes, the History of SS Great Britain, and looking towards Christmas, a Cake Icing Demonstration. At our February meeting Rose Hewlett will introduce us to the changing rural life of Victorian Britain. The advent of steam power made farm machinery easier to use and resulted in a shorter working day. Village Life in Mid-Victorian Times is the title of Rose's talk. Ladies, we hope to welcome you to the Church Rooms at 7.30 pm on Tuesday 26th.



Celia Lougher 812624

Aches and Pains



Our opening Meeting on the 11th January was aptly named "Aches and Pains", as it was obvious that several members were still recovering from their Christmas and New Year Celebrations! Unfortunately due to family illness our Speaker was unable to attend but our Vice Chairman, Ann Williams, herself a retired Physiotherapist and Jackie Herbert, also a retired Physiotherapist, stepped into the breach and delivered an amusing and informative talk complete with a miniature skeleton.

They explained that the majority of pain was due to poor posture - we need to stand in an upright position - and lack of taking simple exercise such as flexing and stretching our joints, fingers and toes. Whilst lying full length on the floor Jackie demonstrated the correct way to get out of bed by rolling onto your side. She then showed us how to support a person who has difficulty walking. A very enjoyable afternoon - it was fascinating watching members leave walking upright and flexing their arms as they walked!

February is another busy month for the Club. On the 8th we are all looking forward to an exciting afternoon with Dick Sheppard talking to us about his life as a Motor Cycle, Car and Equestrian Stuntman on Live Shows and the Film Industry. It will be interesting to see how many members step forward if he asks for volunteers to help him demonstrate one of his stunts! Then on the 11th we are hosting the Community Lunch at Ashwell - please support us on that day. Finally on the 28th (a change from the published date), we have our first outing of the year, a visit to the Gloucester Mosque followed by Gloucester Quays for lunch.

Mike Kerton

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News from Painswick Surgery

Urgent on-the-day appointments

Apart from the routine appointments booked with them, the GPs at the Painswick surgery are currently having between 20 and 40 requests each day from patients for an urgent appointment. With this number of requests, it is necessary for the GPs to "triage" the patients. This means determining the urgency and the order in which they should be seen based on their clinical need.

If you think you have an urgent need to consult a GP on the day, please call the surgery between 08:30 and 10:00. The receptionists will ask for details which will be passed on to the duty doctor; they will also check your contact details. The duty doctor will then call you back between 09:00 and 12:00. Please ensure that you do not miss the telephone call, as the GP will move on to the next patient if they are unable to make contact with you. The GP will determine the best course of action, which may be to ask you to come to the surgery later in the morning.

If you need to consult a GP but it is not urgent, then please call the surgery to make a routine appointment. At the time of writing, the waiting time for a routine appointment is just over two weeks, although it is sometimes possible to find one sooner. It is important the telephone triage system is not misused as a way of avoiding the wait for a routine appointment.

Michael Mack-Smith, Practice Manager

Patient Participation Group (PPG)

Register of Carers

A carer is someone who provides support to family or friends who could not manage without this help. This could be caring for a relative, partner or friend who is ill, frail, disabled or has mental health problems. A couple of months ago, the surgery organised a meeting with local carers, and they were very pleased by the turnout, probably helped by the tea and cakes on offer! The next meeting has just been scheduled for Tuesday 5th March, at 12 midday. The Surgery's Carers' Co-ordinator, Samantha Lloyd, will be contacting all those on the Register of Carers to invite them to this meeting, which will be held in the conference room on the first floor at the surgery. Unfortunately, there is no disabled access to this room.

Facetime consultations

There is a lot of talk in the media about the value of IT to medicine. We mentioned the trial of FaceTime consultations last month and we've since been asked to clarify this a little. FaceTime is an Apple-only product which works on Mac desktop and laptop computers, on iPads, iPods and iPhones. It allows two or more people to see and hear each other. A few consultations are being held each week to test the appropriateness of this system for doctor-patient consultations. Instructions on how to use it are available to email newsletter subscribers.

National Patient Survey

It is the time of year now when some of us will be receiving invitations in the post to participate in this annual survey. Please watch out for it, don't drop it straight into the recycling, but fill it in and send it off.

Additional copies of the Beacon

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To get more news and sooner, email YES to painswickppg@gmail.com

John Morley, Chair



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Various Stradivariuses

We opened 2019 with an interesting talk by Ann Williams on the World-Famous maker of violins, Antonio Stradivarius, who was born c1644 and established his famous musical instrument making business in Cremona, Italy.



We learnt that in addition to his violins, Stradivarius also made Cellos, Guitars, Violas and Harps. During his life time he made over 1100 different instruments of which at least 960 were violins. Some 650 still survive today. Every violin was named and they are the prized possessions of many of today's world renowned violinists - Yehudi Menuhin owned Lady Blunt, Joshua Bell owns Gibson and Andre Rieu owns Captain Saville.

It took about 2 weeks to make an instrument. Spruce was used for the top of the violin, Willow for the internal block and lining and Maple for the back, ribs and neck. As density plays a role in sound production, varnishing is very important as it can deaden sound. The Cremona varnish was golden yellow - made up of gum arabic, honey and egg white.

Ann then introduced us to a Cello made in 1712 by Stradivarius and named The Davidov. We were mesmerised listening to Jacqueline du Pre play the Elgar Cello Concerto on the famous "Davidov". During the afternoon we relaxed and listened to world famous violinists playing well known compositions on their "Strads". The few Stradivarius instruments that come up for sale command record prices - the record so far is £9.5m for a violin. How long before that record is broken?

In February we return to our regular time of 7.30pm in the Town Hall. On the 7th, Guest Speaker, John Winfield will be talking to us about "The Discovery of Music during my Life" and on the 21st, Club Member Peter Jenkins will be entertaining us with "Mozart's Chamber Music with special reference to String Quintets." I look forward to you joining us in February.

Mike Kerton

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Bristol Botanic Gardens and Woodchester Mansion



The next Cotteswold Naturalists' talk is linked to a follow-up visit. On Wednesday 6th February at 2.30 pm, we welcome Dr Nick Wray, Curator and Director of the Bristol Botanic Gardens who will talk about the herculean task of transferring the gardens to a new site and how they have been developed since. We shall see the results on the Club's May visit to Bristol!

On Tuesday 19th February, we will hold a meeting in Minchinhampton, at the Hub, also starting at 2.30 pm. Liz Davenport, Archivist with the Woodchester Mansion Trust, will talk about the history of the houses built on that site and their owners. Visitors are very welcome at our meetings, £4 non-members, £1 members.



Our 2019 programme of varied monthly excursions, running from April to October, has been announced. In April, we shall travel on the Gloucestershire Warwickshire Steam Railway to Broadway where we have a choice of visits to the Gordon Russell Design Museum and the Broadway Museum & Art Gallery. In June, we shall take a boat along the Kennet & Avon Canal, stopping to look at the fantastic feats of Georgian engineering that carry the canal through the steep-sided valley and over the adjacent river. Stops will be made to see the restored Claverton Pumping Station, the Dundas Aqueduct, the Somerset Coal Canal and the Limpley Stoke Viaduct, all built in a glorious setting. Please contact me for a copy of our latest newsletter with further details.

Jane Rowe 813228

Record Numbers for the New Year.

January is my least favorite time of the year on the Beacon as it never looks at its best. However, we are now past the winter solstice and the days are gradually getting longer. The snowdrops are coming out and with the very mild weather we are having, it feels like spring is not far away.



In recent years usage of the Beacon by walkers, dog walkers and mountain bikers has increased hugely and is leading to a proliferation of new paths and trails. This is a problem being experienced on other local commons and woodlands as well. Whilst walkers are free to walk wherever they like on the Beacon it must be remembered it is a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and as such is legally protected from willful damage. PBCG would respectfully ask walkers and bikers to keep to well established paths in order to prevent wild life from being damaged by compaction and trampling. Dog fouling is still a problem in some areas (although I feel it is not as bad as it used to be) and irresponsible dog owners must understand it is not acceptable to leave excrement on paths or the golf course, nor is it acceptable to bag it and then throw into the bushes, hang on a tree or just leave it neatly on the ground. Littering and fly tipping, I feel, is on the increase. It seems beyond comprehension that some folk have such little regard for their environment. Huge thanks must go to those public-spirited people who clear up after them.

On a more positive note the last two work parties have broken records for the numbers of volunteers attending, 18 and 19. Three new active members have joined the group and the new Facebook page is gaining momentum. Victoria Quarry has seen much of our recent activity and the removal of fifty or so tall pines and some ash will enable the margin of the grass to recover.

Paul Baxter 07971 633 242

Xmas Quiz answers supplied by Penny Boydell

1. Sandhurst, 2. Miserden, 3. Brockworth (or Badgeworth), 4. Matson, 5. Cam,
6. Bisley, 7. Slimbridge, 8. Jack's Green,
9. Sharpness, 10. Amberley, 11. Whiteway (or Coates), 12. Cooper's Hill, 13. Cashes Green, 14. Robinswood, 15. Charlton Kings, 16. Daneway, 17. Cambridge,
18. Bull's Cross, 19. Stratford Park, 20. Whittington, 21. Cainscross, 22. Birdlip,
23. Sapperton, 24. Hempsted, 25. Forest Green, 26. Saul, 27. Hardwicke,
28. Coberly, 29. Edge, 30. Stonehouse.

Congratulations to the winner, Cluny Mearns, who had 29 correct answers, and will receive a £10 prize.

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News from St Mary's

The season of Epiphany ends with Candlemas on 2nd February. This feast will be celebrated at the 9.30am communion service on Sunday 3rd February led by Canon Michael Irving. Candlemas is associated with the presentation of Jesus in the temple at Jerusalem.



Following Epiphany there are five weeks before the beginning of Lent when the liturgical colour is green. This period of time varies depending on the date of Easter which is late in April this year. Mentioning Lent, which starts during the first week of March, the usual ecumenical house groups will be arranged. These groups are formed to share together in devotional study to deepen our faith and understanding of each other. Look out for details about these groups which will be posted in the churches later this month and think about joining a group yourself.

The Richmond village communion will be on the first Wednesday of the month, 6th February at 11am. There is an open invitation to anyone to attend, not just Richmond residents.

We are not much further forward in finding a new Vicar for the benefice. The working party who are responsible for the appointment are drafting a new benefice profile which it is hoped will widen the appeal to possible applicants. Once the profile has been agreed the post will be re-advertised. Watch this space!

David Newell

News from the Bell Tower

The Bellringers of St Mary's had a busy time over the festive season, all the more so because we are a select few at the moment, so it was encouraging to see the letter in January's Beacon, which expressed the pleasure hearing the bells can give. It was very welcome as only the month before we received an anonymous typed letter which intimated we were lacking in our duties, particularly over Remembrance Sunday, which we did ring for, half muffled.

We are always in need of volunteers to learn to ring and join our band. If anybody is interested in trying out this 'ancient' art, (our formal name is The Ancient Society of Painswick Youths), then please contact me or come along to the tower. Wait for a pause in ringing and pop your head around the door. We will be glad to see you.

Deb Foreman (Tower Captain) 812306

Painswick Brownies to close Unless...

Unless a new leader can be found very soon, the Painswick Brownies are going to have to close at half-term. The group meets on Monday evenings. Full training and ongoing support will be provided for anyone who can help. It's a lot of fun and very rewarding.

Anyone who is interested should contact Jess Brereton on 07802 507417.
Kirstie Clarke

Messy Church



Thursday 14th February, 15.30 to 17.00 in the St Mary's Church Rooms, Painswick.

Messy Church is a family event, so all children should be accompanied by an adult. Any queries please Email: beaconmessychurch@outlook.com

Next Messy Church : Thursday 14th March at The Church Rooms.

Sue Shaw



Thank you to everyone who came and supported us at our annual Gala night! We had a brilliant turnout and our fantastic raffle raised approximately £350 on the night for Home-Start Stroud District and the Painswick Recreation Ground Trust. A very special thankyou goes to our lead sponsor on the night, Murrays Estate Agents, as well as to our other sponsors who kindly donated prizes: Richmond Villages Painswick, JW Goddard, Woodchester Valley Vineyard, Implant & Ceramic Dental Studios and Painswick Rococo Garden.

Friday 1st February – Swimming with Men (12A)

An uplifting feelgood film, based on a real-life event, about a man suffering a mid-life crisis, who finds new meaning in his life as part of an all-male, middle-aged, amateur synchronised swimming team. Directed by Oliver Parker and starring Rob Brydon, Jane Horrocks, Rupert Graves, Charlotte Riley and Jim Carter.

Friday 1st March – First Man (12A)

A fantastic family film that tells the amazing story behind the first manned mission to the moon, focusing on Neil Armstrong and the decade leading to the historic Apollo 11 flight in 1969. Oscar-winning director Damien Chazelle re-teams with Ryan Gosling who gives a fabulous performance as the thoughtful and intelligent space pioneer.

Doors open at 7.00pm. Screening starts at 7.45pm. Entry £7.00 (one price for all) including one free drink. Payment on the door. Best to come early to avoid disappointment as we have a finite seating capacity. Up-to-date information on future screenings can be found at www.painswickcentre.com/wickflix or on Facebook at @WickFlix. Come along and support your community cinema!

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A memorable season in prospect

Voces8, Stephen Hough, Carducci Quartet and Julian Bliss



Painswick Music Society's 2019 season promises to be another memorable one with four Saturday afternoon concerts by internationally recognised artists. The first on March 30th is a very welcome return by Voces8, who totally wowed us on their first visit to St Mary's in 2016. This year's programme, entitled Choral Dances, includes music from the renaissance to the present day, featuring composers such as Byrd, Britten, and Rachmaninov as well as trademark jazz and pop arrangements from Nat King Cole, Van Morrison and Duke Ellington. They promise to have us dancing in the aisles and I have no doubt that it will be an afternoon to remember. Stephen Hough, who is playing for us on 13th April, is not only one of the world's greatest pianists, he is also a composer, writer, novelist and painter, and as well as works by Bach, Busoni, Chopin and Liszt, his programme includes his own 4th Sonata.



Voces8 who will perform on March 30th

For our 3rd concert on 4th May we welcome back our old friends the Carducci Quartet who never fail to delight us with their choice of programme, committed performances and charismatic stage presence. They are playing works by Beethoven and Bartok as well as one of the most popular of all quartets, Borodin's Second in D major which includes the famous Nocturne. Our final concert is to be given by the brilliant young clarinettist Julian Bliss with the pianist Robert Bottriell, in a programme featuring Weber's great showpiece, the Grand Duo Concertant, as well as Schumann's lovely Fantasy Pieces, Brahms' First Sonata and Debussy's Premiere Rhapsodie. It's a lovely programme and a fitting conclusion to what I am sure will be another wonderful season.

Membership, giving access to all four concerts, costs £48, and individual concert tickets, priced £20 for March 30th and April 13th, and £18 for May 4th and 11th and £5 for children/students for all concerts, can be purchased from The Painswick Pharmacy (01452 812263), online at www.painswickmusicsoc.co.uk, from Edward Bowron on 01452 740322 (pmsglen@gmail.com) or, subject to availability, at the door. Seats are unreserved except those for committee members and the concerts start at 3pm in St Mary's Church with afternoon tea available afterwards in the Church Rooms. I do hope that we shall see you there.

The Future – More volunteers please!

As I wrote in the November Beacon, these are challenging times for our society and although we have recently welcomed Peter Holmes and Edward Bowron as treasurer and membership/ticket secretary respectively to the committee, and are grateful to the handful of people who contacted us following my article, we are still in need of more volunteers to take on both committee and non committee roles. Ann Williams who has overseen hosting the artists on concert days among many other things is retiring at the end of this season, as is Janine Clarke who organizes our post concert teas. Ideally at least one of these roles should be taken over by a Painswickian as once Ann and Jan have retired, as it stands, there will be only one committee member who lives in Painswick. David Homer, our secretary, and I have now produced details of all the committee and non-committee roles involved in the successful running of our society, and we would be very happy to forward these to you if you think you might be able to help to secure our future (cgswwain@btinternet.com or david.homer99@gmail.com). My sincere hope is that we may be able to find sufficient volunteers to ensure that we can continue planning for our 75th birthday next year and beyond with confidence.

Chris Swain - Chairman

Phil Beer at the Painswick Centre Wednesday February 20th, 7.30 pm

Charming, disarming and exceptionally talented, multi-instrumentalist Phil Beer is something of a national treasure on the folk, roots and acoustic scene. One-half of award-winning powerhouse Show of Hands, Beer is equally in demand for his solo shows. In early 2019 Phil sets out to share some of his most-loved songs at carefully selected venues across the UK.

Tickets for the concert at the Painswick Centre are £14. For ticket reservation telephone: 07596 823881 or email: cantonacrepromotions@gmail.com This is the latest in a series of events organised by Canton Acre Promotions, which will also feature Miranda Sykes, Edgelarks and Steve Knightley over the next few months.

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Refugees - can you help?

A Painswick tradition for 100 years

In 1914 more than a quarter of a million terrified Belgian refugees were welcomed into England. Their towns and villages were being destroyed and thousands of Belgian people had been massacred by the invading German army. Seventy or so settled in Painswick and were welcomed by local people. A hundred years on and people are still seeking safety and refuge having escaped indescribable horrors in their own countries. Gloucestershire has welcomed some of these people.

GARAS (Gloucestershire Action for Refugees and Asylum Seekers) is a local organisation which offers support on several levels to people in desperate need of help. Many have fled persecution, torture, imprisonment, famine and hardship and most have experienced the loss of some or all members of their families. They have all undertaken the most perilous and terrifying journeys in the hope of finding a place of safety. They are ordinary people who were leading ordinary lives, just like us. They have seen and experienced actions and events the like of which we cannot imagine and hopefully will never have to endure ourselves.



Delyth Allen teaches an English class for refugees

In the light of such appalling and terrifying experiences it is not surprising that many of these people, who on arrival have nothing but the clothes they stand in, are in a state of trauma and utter despair. GARAS offers help on a daily basis with information, advocacy, advice, safe places, housing, health, education, activities, food and clothing. It also offers English classes and a Friendship Cafe in Gloucester. Two Painswick residents are currently involved in the Teaching of English programme and two other residents have started to organise friendship sessions when refugees who are very much alone come to Painswick for tea and warm company. Such seemingly small gestures can make enormous differences to an otherwise desperate and lonely existence.

Particularly sad is the fact that about 40 children are here alone having lost their families. GARAS has arranged for them to be in foster care or supported living but there is still much to be done to help them find some level of 'normality'. The adults too need to feel included and useful. Is there anyone, for instance, who would be prepared to offer employment? Many of them are highly qualified in a wide range of skills. These people are not here to 'take', they may in fact be able to contribute to our society – contrary to the message put out by some elements of the British media!

A big thankyou from GARAS

Many thanks to the people of Painswick for their generous donations of toiletries for GARAS clients on the Painswick Goodwill Evening

Each year St Mary's Church in Painswick chooses three charities to support. For 2019 the three are GARAS, The Door youth project in Stroud and the TEAR fund. St Mary's gives 10% of its income and donations to these charities and in addition to being a place of worship is generally very active in supporting charitable projects. There are many ways in which we can help. Fund-raising is an ongoing need and all offers in that respect are welcome. Toiletries, food, bedding and clothing are always needed as is furniture. Unfortunately however, GARAS does not have storage facilities. At the end of March GARAS will move offices and there will be a need for vehicles big enough to transfer filing cabinets, cupboards etc. Can anyone help?



You can become a member of GARAS, or a trustee which means involvement in any of the many aspects of its work. And there are often vacancies for volunteers. To celebrate its 20 years of existence there are many events coming up soon, mostly highlighting the reality of what it means to be a refugee. To find out more about GARAS, how you can help and about forthcoming events there is a website www.garas.org.uk or contact at info@garas.org.uk or tel.01452 550528.

GARAS is very impressive and the need continues to be very great. The people it helps are the same as us except they have endured horrors that we, hopefully, will never have to experience. Can you help?

Carol Maxwell

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Painswick and Snowdrops

Our January meeting was treated to a fascinating talk by Jane Kilpatrick which focused on Painswick and its position at the heart of the snowdrop story.



James Atkins was the man who first brought Painswick to the fore. He was a professional nurseryman who originally traded from Northampton but by 1851 he had moved to Rose Cottage (now known as Cedar Cottage) in Butt Green Painswick. Despite his work now being confined to a smaller garden and very small greenhouse he still enjoyed visits from many leading snowdrop obsessives. A snowdrop "Atkinsii" can be found in many gardens including the Rococo.

The next significant step was 1947 when Brigadier Leonard Mathias and his wife Winifrede (Quentin's parents) purchased Hyde Lodge, Chalford, the former home of plantsman Walter Butt. They were joined by Herbert Ransom.

In their time spent at Hyde Lodge Winifrede Mathias and particularly Ransom became recognised as experts on garden snowdrops. They won many prizes at national RHS shows and established a successful business selling bulbs direct to individual gardeners. Their legacy lies in many gardens across the country, with plants linked by name to family members.

In 1966, with Leonard Mathias in a frail state of health, he and Winifrede decided to move to somewhere with a smaller garden where they could still employ Ransom. In 1968 they moved to Painswick, accompanied by Herbert Ransom and his family. They continued their snowdrop work but on a lower scale.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 19th February when Dr Ray Wilson will speak on the Industrial Heritage of the Cotswolds. Guests welcome.

Harold Clark

Spring is springing

The snowdrops are looking absolutely fantastic as I write this in mid-January. The gardeners all tell me that the annual blooming of these marvels of nature are well ahead of their usual time. So for those of you reading this in early February, I shouldn't dally – make haste and visit the Garden before the show is over! Each year we welcome thousands of visitors during this special season but somehow they all find space to enjoy the peace and tranquillity of the gorgeous spot in our care.



Our charity thrives because of the terrific relationship between our staff and our team of volunteers. We have over 70 people volunteering with us these days, bringing a vast array of skills and great enthusiasm to all areas of the operation. You may well know one or two of our extended family, as many of them live locally! However, we are on the lookout for more charming, friendly people, particularly on the Welcome Desk where visitors are greeted. We are also keen to hear from those with other professional skills who may enjoy working behind the scenes to help us look after this precious place. Have a look at our website at www.rococogarden.org.uk for more information about volunteering opportunities.

And looking forward to later in the year... we're putting the final touches to plans for "Art Unbound" which we will host next summer, between May and September. This is a specially-commissioned and expertly-curated exhibition of outdoor sculpture that will intrigue, entice and delight our visitors. Our renowned curator, Anna Greenacre, has tracked down 18 eminent sculptors who will bring us playful and evocative pieces of intriguing sculpture that will appeal to the imagination. Many of them will have been created specifically with their place in the garden in mind. Suitable for all ages, we are aiming both to embrace the spirit of the rococo period and complement the beauty of the garden. Visit the dedicated page on our website www.rococogarden.org.uk/artunbound for further details.

Tim Toghill, trustee and volunteer

ArtBurst art competition entry details.



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artburstpainswick1@gmail.com

Entries to the 'Character of the Cotswolds' art competition, with prizes of £500, £250 and £100, sponsored by Town & Country Financial Planning, can now be downloaded from the ArtBurst web site www.artburstpainswick.co.uk

Artists can submit up to three pieces in any format and need to register their interest by 1st May 2019.

Jonathan Choat

Right: Jackie Herbert of Artburst with Emma Wilson-Copp of Town and Country Financial Planning



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New manager for the Painswick Centre

Lindsay Wyles (picture right) has been appointed as the new Manager for the Painswick Centre. Lindsay was recently a senior Social Worker in Gloucestershire and prior to that a Project Leader in the Medical Industry. After leaving University, Lindsay spent 8 months in Zambia helping in schools and a hospital. She sings in local choirs, paints, attends Yoga classes, enjoys gardening and walking her dog. As if that was not enough, Lindsay has enrolled in an Accounting Course at Gloucester College. We are delighted that she is a member of our team at The Painswick Centre.

We're also looking forward to the launch of our new website, currently undergoing testing and expected to be live around the end of February / beginning of March.

Roy Wallis



Parish Council meets with Croft School



The Parish Council's annual meeting with members of The Croft School took place on January 16th. 14 schoolchildren came to the Town Hall with teacher Wendy Mitchell where they met with Council Chairman Martin Slinger, Vice Chairman Ann Daniels, Deputy Parish Council Clerk Irena Litton and Police and Community Safety Officer Debbie Collicott. The children brought with them an agenda containing eighteen issues for discussion which had been prepared by school members. Subjects raised included pedestrian crossing points, dog fouling, speeding traffic, minor road potholes and people riding their bicycles on narrow pavements.

The Councillors were very sympathetic to the request for a crossing on the A46 alongside the Lychgate but explained that hours of consideration had been given to solving the problem with no success. The narrowness of the road made traffic movement difficult. The withdrawal of the Traffic Crossing officer by the County Council for financial reasons some years previously had been an unwelcome decision for parents. Cllr Slinger said that the possibility of a crossing point on the A46 by Pullens Road was still under discussion. The positioning of an uncontrolled crossing opposite the chemists had been considered but not pursued because elderly and disabled residents had difficulty in gauging when to cross with speeding traffic. On the subject of speeding traffic, PCSO Collicott referred to the Council's Speed Watch team which helped the police target enforcement.

Concerning potholes, Cllr Slinger said the Council would report them to the County Highways whenever they were reported to the Clerk or Council Members. The Council agreed to look at the junction of Beech Lane and Vicarage Street. There was a need to replace the sign and to repair the fence. Concerning dog fouling, the meeting was told that the dog warden does visit the village and speaks to offending dog owners where they can be identified.

Various issues relating to the Recreation Ground were raised. The trustees would be asked about allowing cycling on the "rec" which was currently not allowed. The children were asked for a show of hands on the subject. Half supported and half were against. There was a request for a bike rack. The children asked whether a shelter could be positioned on the "rec": this to give protection in inclement weather. The children would like toilet facilities. This would be referred to the trustees at their meeting in February as would a request for the signs requiring dogs to be on leads to have larger lettering. Consideration was being given to installing a fence around the play equipment area to prevent dogs from entering. Static shocks were being experienced on the slide. The Council had fitted an earth but would look again at the problem.

Concluding the meeting, Cllr Slinger thanked the children for their attendance and interest in local matters. He said the Council very much valued these annual meetings and that the various matters raised would be considered and action taken where appropriate. In turn Wendy Mitchell thanked the Parish Council for giving the school the opportunity to raise matters of concern.

Terry Parker

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Painswick Business in Cotswold Life

In this month's edition of Cotswold Life magazine, Painswick husband and wife team, Martin Falshaw and Emma Wilson-Copp, are part of the ongoing feature, Families in Business. Martin and Emma are the owners of Town & Country Financial Planning Ltd, the premises of which have been delightfully renovated and revived and bring a bright fresh look to New Street.

Martin explains that he and Emma were approached by the magazine and presented with three questions – the established format for the feature – each of which had to be answered in no more than 50 words. With an introduction (also 50 words maximum), the questions were: who or what inspires you, what is the best advice you've ever been given and what does the future have in store for you? The limitation of 50 words for each section meant that it was not easy to explain as fully as desirable but the result nevertheless is interesting. And the hope of course is that more people will see Painswick as a vibrant community.

There is also a four-page feature on Painswick itself this month. Written by Tracy Spiers, a journalist who has lived in Stroud all her life, it is a warm look at Painswick both past and present.

Carol Maxwell



Letters

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

Richard Falconer writes from Kemps Lane

Those Painswickians who might have been considering a visit to the seaside to pick up plastic waste to prevent it ending up in the bellies of whales might like to consider an exercise I undertook over Christmas with my daughter Venetia and her boyfriend.

We equipped ourselves with reusable shopping bags and took a forty five minute walk down Stamages Lane to Wick Street, then along to Bulls Cross, returning down Greenhouse Lane to Tibbiwell. Without exerting ourselves unduly we filled the bags with 4 kilos of drinks cans, coffee cups and plastic waste. I'm afraid we couldn't carry the old fridge parts or the various car components. Obviously we have sorted the various items for recycling but much will have to go to landfill.

Do try this at home - I pick up quite a lot just outside our house in Kemps Lane.

Painswick Gardening Club Digging for Victory



We were delighted to welcome Fiona Warin back with her talk titled 'Digging for Victory' at our lovely new venue - the Falcon Bowls Club. The talk was unique, hilarious and informative; everything we could wish for and a wonderful talk to begin the new year.

In 1939 we were being urged to form committees and to grow our own food by having an allotment plot even digging up our lawns! Rations were restricted and we needed ways of boosting our supplies. Regular meetings and posters gave tips and encouragement as to what to grow and when. No piece of land went unnoticed, even Windsor Great Park being used as a wheat field. Children were also involved with competitions as incentives and Anderson shelters used to grow veg on the roof! Animals, including rabbits and chickens, were also thought vital for sustenance. Often the rabbit pie was called a chicken pie ...

"Dig for Plenty" became the new slogan and amazingly British restaurants were not rationed! This huge effort brought communities together and proved vital for all.

We now look forward to our February speaker, Julie Ritchie, giving us her expert advice on preparing our gardens for spring. I'm off to read my seed catalogues now!

Ione Woodger Smith, Committee Member

Billiards

You may be surprised to know that Painswick has had a competitive Billiard team in the local Stroud League for about 70 years. Sadly that may not be the case for much longer as we have run out of players.



If you play Billiards, (not Snooker) and can play on winter Wednesday nights please get in touch with me on 813440. The team plays at Matchplay Salmon Springs.

Trevor Radway

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Sports reports

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Painswick Rugby

The first team continue to have a good season with 9 wins out of 11. Their latest win on the 19th January was a convincing 19 to 8 victory over Norton. Painswick now lie 4th in the Gloucester Div 2 North.



Future fixtures..

9th February Painswick v Tetbury
16th February Tewkesbury v Painswick
2nd March Painswick v Cainscross

Painswick Cricket Club Looking for volunteers

We are looking for committed and enthusiastic individuals to become activators and run the England and Wales Cricket Board's All Stars Cricket Programme at our club this summer. The programme, which starts in May, offers children aged 5-8 eight weeks of coaching in a safe and inclusive environment. As an activator, you will ensure the sessions are fun, safe and provide children with the opportunity to make new friends.



What if I don't have any cricket or coaching experience? The Gloucestershire Cricket Board run courses to upskill activators before the programme starts and provide continued support during the programme. Activators will receive the 8 week session plan straight to their phone, so delivering sessions couldn't be easier.

If you're interested or would like further information, please contact Dom Barnard at domrolle@yahoo.co.uk or call 07952 738954 or steviep483@gmail.com. We look forward to hearing from you and welcoming you to Painswick CC very soon.

Annual Christmas Football Match Painswick 3, Sheepscombe 3.

The annual football match took place at Stroud Leisure Centre with the usual competitive edge from both teams. Sheepscombe dominated the midfield to begin with, but Painswick took the lead with a low shot into the corner by Brent Morgan. Sheepscombe responded strongly when Rory McCabe scored an equaliser just before the half-time whistle.



In the second half the teams looked very even but Painswick's Paul Johnson scored to put the team into the lead once again. Sheepscombe did not dwell and scored two quick goals to put them into the lead for the first time.

Painswick's veteran keeper, Andrew Morgan, made several quality saves and Tom Pigott was a dominant centre back, and managed to defend off any more goals from Sheepscombe, long enough for their player, James Barnett to come up with an equaliser and almost took them into the lead but Sheepscombe's goalie deflected the shot for a corner.

The game was full of action. Following the draw, Sheepscombe retain the cup.

Nigel Barnett

Painswick Golf Club

Although the winter months can be chilly and wet, it is usually only snow or low cloud that prevents play at Painswick. Over the last month, there have been plenty of opportunities to play, though one has had to wrap up warmly.



In the Seniors section, the monthly Stableford took place on 10th January. Congratulations to the winners – George Paton and John Barrus. A social Bowmaker (teams of 4 with three to score on the par 3 holes and 2 to score on the others) took place on 22nd January. The winning team comprised Sarah Taylor, Peter Sibley, John Barrus and Mike Sanderson. Congratulations to all the winners.

Visitors are welcome at Painswick Golf Club. Golfers are invited to take the challenge of our unique course which traverses an iron-age hill fort. And non-golfers are welcome for meals and refreshments at the clubhouse with its great views across the Painswick valley. For bookings please call: 01452 812180.

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Bowls at the Falcon

At Falcon we are always looking for ways that the club can work with the local community. This has been reflected in several ways recently. We have a growing band of local residents who are now members, 23 last season, and are looking to build on this. We are sponsored by two local businesses and are looking for more opportunities in this area. We are working with the Painswick Gardening Club to develop our grounds so they can hopefully be included in The National Garden Scheme and we are also looking to expand social activities to use our facilities throughout the year rather than just in summer. It's all part of putting Falcon at the heart of the community in Painswick and encouraging as many people as possible to discover the many benefits of playing bowls.



For the 2019 season which starts in April we are once again offering our "Taster Season". This was very popular last season and attracted 14 new members. It's designed to let people see if bowls is for them without committing to paying full membership. The "Taster Season" costs just £30 and is open to anyone who's new to the game or who used to play and would like to start again.

Falcon also offers free taster sessions on Monday evenings and Friday afternoons throughout the summer. At these we offer free coaching sessions so visitors can find out what the game's all about.

We are also looking at forming a youth section at the club in 2019. We have several young people interested and are looking at ways of making Falcon more appealing to younger people. One of the ways is offering target bowls which is a modern twist on the game and another is by giving youngsters the opportunity to play with people of their own age. Junior membership is just £10 and once again includes all the benefits of full membership

Bowls is for everyone and is probably the most inclusive sport there is, so why not get active, have fun and try bowls this summer? Contact: davidglass20@gmail.com or on 814186 for more information

Jon Ellis

Jottings - Bugs and diseases

There are now so many bugs and diseases floating around it just seems these days that we are being invaded by them.

Newcastle disease is a contagious viral bird disease affecting domestic and wild birds. It can cause mild conjunctivitis and influenza-like symptoms in humans. It first came to light in smallholdings and commercial flocks in Asia and has been found in thirteen cases in Europe this last year, now as close as Belgium. Defra has raised the risk level, so it is now a notifiable disease of poultry.

Recently, over twenty wild boar in Belgium have been found with African swine fever, a very infectious disease. Starting in China, Mongolia has reported a first outbreak. This disease has spread across from Eastern European countries It affects all pigs but not humans. It's illegal to feed catering or domestic food waste to pigs or wild boar. This is because there's a risk of spreading disease. In some parts of this country what looks like myxomatosis is killing our wild hares. This is a fatal viral disease caused by blood-sucking insects.

The Brown Marmorated Stink Bug: Plant health experts are trying to make sure it does not make a home here. It started in Eastern Asia and was accidentally introduced in to USA. It has got as far as Switzerland and a case was intercepted by the authorities here in the UK. This bug forages on fruit, vegetables and some fancy plants, including crops like raspberries and tomatoes. So the bugs are not plant specific, they suck the plant sap out leaving harvested fruits and vegetables unsuitable for sale, rotting inside.

Experts say that the bacteria, Xyella Fastidoces, can infect up to a hundred plant species. It is transmitted exclusively by sap feeding insects. The bacteria invades the xylem vessels that the plant uses to transport water, causing wilting.

We have been hearing a lot about Ash dieback (chalara) which usually proves fatal or weakens the tree enough for honey fungus to attack. Honey fungus is a parasitic fungus which causes "white rot" root disease and kills its host. With Acute Oak Decline, oak trees bleed or ooze a dark fluid from splits in the bark.

That is just a few of the things that are attacking us. I think we have the English Channel slowing things coming over, but now we are travelling more and moving plants and animals all over the world. So diseases, viruses, bacteria and fungi are spreading. Some being carried and spread by insects, birds and us, on our clothes and belongings.

But in contrast, scientists are finding that many trees, like alder and juniper, as well as the orchids, have fungi in symbiotic relationship with them – they help each other. These ectomycorrhizal fungi occur in lots of plants, if not all, and are good ones. And there are plenty more useful bacteria and fungi many produce antibiotics like penicillin.

Martin Slinger



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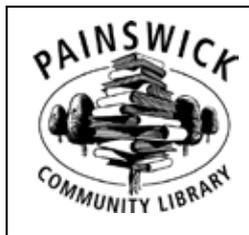
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Community Library News



We are in the process of adding the following books to our Community Library stock:

Adult Fiction

Atkinson, Kate – Big Sky (Jackson Brodie)
Baldacci, David – The Fallen (Amos Decker series)
Child, Lee – Past Tense (Jack Reacher 23)
Collins, Bridget – The Binding
Diamond, Lucy – Something to tell You
Evan, Lissa - Old Baggage
Fforde, Katie – A Country Escape
Finn, AJ – The Woman in the Window
Griffiths, Elly – The Stone Circle
Grisham, John – The Reckoning
McCall Smith, Alexander - The Colours of all the Cattle
Martin, Faith – The Winter Mystery
May, Peter – The Man with No Face
Noble, Elizabeth – Love, Iris
Parsons, Tony – Girl on Fire (DC Max Wolfe)
Vickers, Sally – The Librarian
Walker, Martin – The Templars' Last Secret – Bruno book 10

Adult Non Fiction

Field, Ophelia – The Favourite: The Life of Sarah Churchill
Fitzpatrick, Prof. Noel – Listening to the Animals: Becoming the Supervet
Fry, Stephen – Mythos: the Greek myths retold
Fry, Stephen – Heroes: Mortals and Monsters
Guy, John – Mary Queen of Scots

Junior Fiction

Donaldson, Julia – The Everywhere Bear
Hadfield, Chris – The Darkest Dark
Lemon, Peta – Timmy on the Toilet
Robinson, Michelle – Goodnight Spaceman

Junior Non Fiction

Bone, Emily – The Solar System
Cavallo, F & Favilli, E – Good Night Stories for Rebel Girls 2
George, Lucy – Busy People: Astronaut
Jackson, Tom – Space Atlas
National Geographic – Everything: Space

Happy Reading

Pat Pinnegar

Community Alerts

Gloucestershire Police are now offering a new free email messaging service called Your Community Alerts. The aim is to send relevant information and you can choose the type of alert you want to receive to avoid receiving too many messages.

You can sign up at: www.yourcommunityalerts.co.uk to receive news and appeals, local crime information and crime prevention advice.

The Herbert Protocol

Are you looking after someone with dementia and have concerns about what will happen if they go missing? Symptoms of dementia can include confusion and disorientation which make it difficult for the individual to know where they are going and why, and for search teams to locate them.

You can help by signing up to the Herbert Protocol on their behalf, filling in significant details on a simple form which is handed to police when the person is reported missing. Search online for the Herbert Protocol Gloucestershire.

PROPERTY REPORT Written by Beacon Staff

New properties on the market this month include Little Mundays, a 300 year-old detached cottage in Vicarage Street (Murrays, £500,000). Moulton Haus are offering Russell House on Victoria Street, a renovated cottage with 2 bedrooms at £315,000. Further afield, Hamptons have 2 Woodbine Cottages in Slad, a 3 bedroom detached house overlooking the valley and with planning permission to extend (£525,000), as well as Church Orchard in Sheepscombe, a substantial family house in around 0.6 of an acre.

Dover House in Vicarage Street, a handsome Grade II* listed house from 1720, full of character features is available through Hamptons (£750,000). Little Acre, up near the Royal William, is a substantial chalet bungalow with beautiful gardens and views (Murrays, £700,000). Moulton Haus have Thumpers Cottage in Sheepscombe, with three bedrooms at a guide price of £600,000.

James Pyle have sold Lime Tree House, one of two new build homes in Sheepscombe, to local buyers and Hamptons have sold Stone Croft in Sheepscombe, The Buddings in Slad and Parkwall at Prinknash Corner. For Murrays, 6 The Croft, and Edgewood at Longridge have gone under offer, while Whitehall Bank in Stamages Lane and The Chur in Bisley Street are now sold.

Congratulations to the local manager of Hamptons, Guy Tabony, who has just notched up 20 years with the firm. Local resident Nicola Robinson joins as their new Saturday team member, while Julia Power steps up to a full post. Murrays would like to thank all who came to support the Murrays Wick Flix Gala night, raising money for the Recreation Ground and for Home Start Stroud. They're also pleased to sponsor again Painswick Artspace this year, working with Anthony Lewis Churchill.

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 Vill. 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	Community lunches - 10 Mondays from January 7th	Ashwell House	12.00 - 1.15pm
	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
	Art class (watercolours) - contact Jane 812176		Afternoons
	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
Fridays	Pilates class. Contact Nicola 07870 953159 or nmarshes@hotmail.com	Painswick Centre	6.00 - 7.00pm and 7.00 - 8.00pm
	Country market. Coffee available. Contact Chris Campbell 01452 812600	Town Hall	9.30 - 11.00am
	Baby and toddler group - term time only	Youth Pavillion (Rec)	10.00 - 11.30am
Saturdays	Adult ballet class	Church Rooms	9.30am
	Artspace Painswick	Town Hall	2.00 - 3.30 pm
Sundays	Meeting for Worship	Quaker Meeting House	10.30am
	Mass	Catholic Church	8.30am

February

Fri	1	Wickflix: Swimming with Men	Painswick Centre	7.00 for 7.45pm
Sat	2	Beacon published		
	2	Painswick Beacon Conservation Group: scrub clearing	TBC	9.00 - 12.30pm
Sun	3	Parish Communion	St Mary's Church	9.30am



Mon	4	Community Lunch: Falcon Bowling Club	Ashwell Centre	12.00 - 1.15pm
Wed	6	Painswick Probus Club: Turn left at the Pacific - John McCartney	Painswick Centre	10.00am
	6	Holy Communion	Richmond Village	11.00am
	6	Cotteswold Naturalists Field Club: The University of Bristol's new Botanic Garden - Nick Wray. Enq 01453 873262	Painswick Centre	2.30pm
Thur	7	Painswick Music Appreciation Group: John Winkfield - the discovery of music during my life	Town Hall	7.00 for 7.30pm
Fri	8	Friday Club: Stuntman - Dick Sheppard	Town Hall	2.30pm
Sun	10	Holy Communion	St Mary's Church	9.30am
Mon	11	Community Lunch: Friday Club	Ashwell Centre	12.00 - 1.15pm
	11	Probus Ladies: Mike Bottomley - Rudyard Kipling, his incredible story	Church rooms	10 for 10.30am
Wed	13	Gardening Club: Winter into Spring; preparing your garden - Julie Ritchie, Hoo House Nursery	Falcon Bowls Club	7.30pm
Sat	16	Theatre Club outing: A Song at Twilight. Bath. Details 01452 812575		
	16	Painswick Beacon Conservation Group: scrub clearing	TBC	9.00 - 12.30pm
	16	Care Home Open Afternoon	Richmond Village	2 - 4.00pm
Sun	17	Parish Communion	St Mary's Church	9.30am
Mon	18	Copy date for Beacon		
Mon	18	Community Lunch: Yew trees WI	Ashwell Centre	12.00 - 1.15pm
Tues	19	Cotteswold Naturalists Field Club: Woodchester Mansion - Liz Davenport. Enq 01453 873262		2.30pm
	19	Local History Society: Industrial Heritage of the Cotswolds - Dr Ray Wilson	Croft School	7.30pm
Wed	20	Evening prayer	St Mary's Church	5.00pm
	20	Painswick Probus Club: Atkyns of Gloucestershire - Alan Pilbeam	Painswick Centre	10.00am
	20	Concert: Phil Beer. Tickets £14.00. Contact 07596 823881 or cantonacrepromotions@gmail.com	Painswick Centre	7.30pm
Thur	21	Painswick Music Appreciation Group: Peter Jenkins - Mozart's chamber music with reference to the string quartets	Town Hall	7.00 for 7.30pm
Fri	22	PSALMS Prayer group	St Mary's Church	9.00am
Sun	24	Painswick Praise	St Mary's Church	9.30am
Mon	25	Community Lunch: Park Residents	Ashwell Centre	12.00 - 1.15pm
Tues	26	Yew Trees WI: Village life in mid-Victorian Times - Rose Hewlett	Church Rooms	7.30pm
Thur	28	Friday Club: Visit to Mosque		

March

Fri	1	Wick-flix: First Man	Painswick Centre	7.00 for 7.45pm
Sat	2	Beacon published		
	2	Painswick Beacon Conservation Group: Scrub clearing	TBC	9.00 - 12.30pm
Mon	4	Community Lunch: Painswick Beacon Conservation Group	Ashwell Centre	12.00 - 1.15pm

Entries for the Village Diary should be sent direct to **Vicky Aspinall** at: rgrasp@tiscali.co.uk

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PLANNING MATTERS

Information received from the Parish Council

NEW APPLICATIONS

S.18/2594/FUL LANESIDE, Queens Mead

Replacement dwelling and new garage.
S.18/2669/LBC FLAT 18, Gyde House, Gyde Road

The proposal is to add a mullioned window to the west wall of the 1990's drawing room extension.

S.18/2716/TCA ST JOHNS CHURCH, Sheepscombe

Lawson Cypress in the churchyard extension - Fell to near ground level.

S.18/2771/LBC and S.18/2773/LBC COURT HOUSE, Hale Lane

Retrospective application for the formation of a doorway in an internal wall and erection of a small section of external wall to form a bathroom.

Also restoration of K. Charles bedroom.
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 sills and rain water goods, and re-rendering.

S.19/0064/TPO 6 COURT ORCHARD

1) 3 largest lime trees - Reduce crown spread towards your house to leave it no longer than 3.5m out from the main stem and shape a little into the sides and top to improve the look of the tree. Crown raise all round to approximately 7m. Remove epicormic growths on the trunks up to the first branches. 2) Small lime tree at the left hand end - Reduce crown spread towards your house to leave it no longer than 4.0m. Shape a little into the sides

and top to improve the look of the tree. Crown raise all round to approximately 7.0m. Remove epicormic growths on the trunk up to the first branch.

S.19/0065/TPO TARN HOUSE, Court Orchard

1) Lime tree to the left of side boundary - Completely remove the lowest 2 limbs / branches over the corner of the garden.

2) 2 smaller Limes adjacent to property: Reduce their crown spread towards house to leave it no longer than 2.0m. Shape a little into the sides and top to improve the look of the tree. Crown raise all round to approximately 7.0m. Remove epicormic growths on the trunks up to 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 leaves.

S.19/0050/OUT LAND ADJOINING HOWBEG, Stamages Lane.

Outline for erection of 8 dwellings.

S.19/0060/FUL LAND AT GREENBANK, Sheepscombe.

Erection of single storey dwelling.

S.19/0070/TCA SALUTATION, Far End, Sheepscombe

Tree 1: Goat Willow - fell (excessive shading in garden) Tree 2: White Willow - fell (dangerously leaning tree).

CONSENT

S.18/2415/HHOLD THE OLD VICARAGE, Damsells Mill Lane, Sheepscombe.

Installation of a pre-fabricated timber summerhouse.

WITHDRAWN

S.18/2473/HHOLD HORSESHOE COTTAGE, Tibbiwell Lane

Two storey rear extension and refurbishment of conservatory.

The Personal Column

Condolences

To the family and friends of RALPH KENBER who died peacefully on January 10th. He was a much loved husband, father, grandfather and uncle. His funeral service was held at Westerleigh Crematorium on January 18th.

Congratulations

Change of Chairmanship at Gyde House! The new Chairwoman is Mrs CLARE CHAD-DANIELS who has lived locally for over 25 years, and at Gyde House for the last four and a half years. Many thanks to STEPHEN FRIAR who has stepped down after nine years of active service in his role as Chairman on the management committee.

MINI-ADS

For sale: **Chicco Travel Cot** (in carry bag with wheels) £25.00 Contact 01452 813150 or email harleydy@btinternet.com

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Drop-leaf table for sale. Light pine. Little used. Seats 4. £55 o.n.o. Will deliver. 01452 812918

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NEXT ISSUE

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MONDAY, February 18th**

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Snowdrops bloom at the Rococo Garden alongside a tree sculpture. Photo: Clair Barnes



The scene in Painswick churchyard on the morning of 23rd January



A panoramamic shot shows the current view from New Drive that may soon be lost (see page 1)

The Beacon Team

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