

The Painswick Beacon

Volume 44 Number 4

July 2021

Community Fair Saturday 3rd July

10am- 5pm at the Painswick Centre



@colindymondmagic



@the.box.coffee

Love Painswick is organising a community fair taking place on Saturday 3rd July between 10am – 5pm at the Painswick Centre. It is a collaborative effort to showcase and support our local businesses, to help sow the seeds of economic regeneration, and to provide a day of fun for people to enjoy after many long months of lockdown . There will be a great variety of stalls including vintage wares from Liberty London Girl, flowers and posies from the Unwalled Garden, handmade furniture from 12Tree, ethical swimwear from Blood Red Clothing, coffee and cake from The Box, wine from When in Rome, and pizza from Marvellous Medicine. The art studios at The Painswick Centre will be open, the local alpaca herd will be in attendance, and there will be magic performed by Colin Dymond.



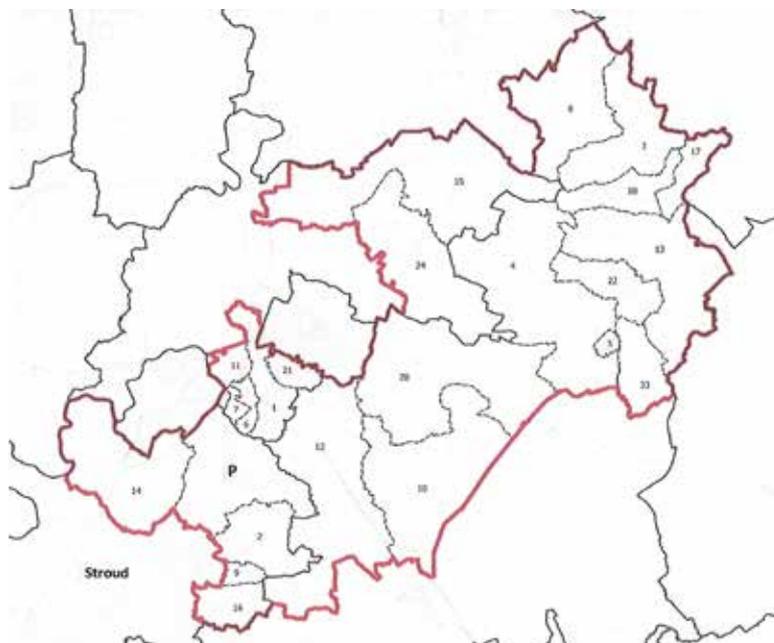
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Celebrity Support for Handmade in Painswick at the Fair

Handmade in Painswick, a pop up shop in the Painswick Centre, will be open during the Fair with Mary Portas, retail consultant and TV presenter, coming to Painswick at 11am on 3rd July in support of a new local venture .



Constituency change

Initial proposals from the Boundary Commission for England might move Painswick to Cotswolds from Stroud?

The Boundary Commission for England in the 2023 review shows the South West region increasing its number of constituencies from 55 to 58 based on population movements. In its initial proposals Painswick will move from Stroud to Cotswolds as outlined in the map below.

For those interested in further details and for other areas see...

<https://boundarycommissionforengland.independent.gov.uk/2023-review/south-west/>

The red border is the Cotswold constituency with Painswick shown with P.

Parish Council Meetings

The June Parish Council and planning meetings were cancelled. With the extension of the Covid restrictions until 19th July meetings in the Town Hall are not possible and the Government permission to use Zoom meetings has expired and not been renewed. The next Parish Council and planning meetings will be held on Wednesday July 21st.

Temporary closure of Wades Lane

Gloucestershire County Council plan to temporarily close part of Wades Lane from its junction with the A46 to its junction with Wick Street, the reason for the closure is to carry out telecom pole testing. The road is expected to be closed between the hours of 09:30 and 15:30 on the 9th July 2021. For further information please contact Gloucestershire Highways on 08000 514514 or visit www.gloucestershire.gov.uk.

Temporary closure of Main Road Cranham

Closed from 19th July to 3rd September for structural works to the road bridge over the Painswick Stream

Tourist Information Centre

It has been agreed that it would not be appropriate to reopen the Tourist Information Centre until the beginning of August. This is because the size of the TIC room makes it impractical to comply with Covid-19 regulations. The expectation is that the regulations will be clarified by the Prime Minister on or before July 19th.

Break in at St Mary's

On Tuesday evening, the 22nd June, two people attempted to break into St Mary's Church, but luckily were disturbed and were seen running away



Police Report



Crime statistics for Painswick taken from the Gloucestershire Constabulary web site

April 2021	
Pullens Road	ASB
Gloucester St	ASB
Berry Close	ASB
New St	ASB
Friday St	ASB
St Mary's St	ASB*2
Woodborough Close	ASB
March 2021	
Cheltenham Rd	Violence
Butt Green	ASB
Pullens Road	ASB
Hambutts Drive	Violence*2
	ASB
New St	ASB*2
	Violence
February 2021	
Canton Acre	Violence*2
New St	Violence*2
Gloucester Rd	ASB
Hyatt close	Violence
Cheltenham Rd	Violence
Bisley St	ASB
White Horse Lane	ASB

Notes

ASB = Anti-Social Behaviour

Location given means near to that area

Violence, includes sexual assault

Police are appealing for witnesses ...

to an incident of criminal damage in White Horse Lane, Painswick. Between 2100hrs on the 2nd June and 1730hrs on the 3rd June the victims car, a blue Vauxhall Corsa, had all four tyres punctured. If you have any further information about this incident, please complete the following online form quoting incident 312 3/6/21 : <https://www.gloucestershire.police.uk/tua/tell-us-about/cor/tell-us-about-existing-case-report/> Or call us on 101.

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Painswick Surgery Patient Group (PPG) News

eConsult

As a patient group we are finding that reactions to the controversial online triage system have significantly reduced but we are all frustrated by the glacial pace of development of the software by the providing company. The Surgery continues to value the system highly as it has made their workflow much more efficient as their use of it has been further refined. So much time has had to be spent by Doctors and all other staff at the vaccination clinic at Rowcroft the online triage system has been essential: "60 patients a day is possible with eConsult, 60 face-to-face appointments is not".

Phone 111

Sadly the controversial 111 phone service has not proved of value from the Practice's perspective despite considerable increases in investment and many changes over its short life. The PPG would like to hear from patients who have used this service with views positive or negative.

Chronic disease treatment backlog

The emphasis now is on chronic diseases and catching up with treatments that have been delayed. New locum Doctors have been employed but as anyone with experience of a workforce mix of part-time and fully committed people will know, the full-timers have to do a lot of gap filling. If you have concerns, especially if you have been loyally putting off troubling Doctors over them during the pandemic – act now!

Vaccinations

As the pandemic again takes a turn for the worse the number of vaccinations carried out by our Primary Care Network (PCN) of five surgeries has been astonishing and continues as fast as the supply of vaccines allows. This seems to be an early indication of the value of collaboration in PCNs as the centre was created in just seven days. Hopefully, once the rate of vaccinating slows our own Surgery will be the venue for future jobs.

The PCN and extra help

With the formation of PCN's money has been made available just for a limited term for extra pharmacists, physiotherapists, social prescribers and paramedics. Unfortunately there was no workforce planning ahead of this change so few suitable staff are available and the bigger, richer Practices seem to be snapping up those there are. A maximum of five year contracts does not help. Our 'Stroud Cotswold Primary Network' does now have an extra pharmacist and a physio. How we will find this new arrangement as patients remains to be seen but it is quite possible that a Doctor will refer you to one of these secondary practitioners at your consultation. We will return to this issue in future bulletins.

Medical Records

At the time of writing in late June the government has just announced a postponement of the plans to compel Practices to remit all details of their patients' records to a central database. An outcry of concern led to the postponement to 1st September for this to happen and the National Association of Patient Groups has taken a strong position against current plans. Objections centre on the effectiveness of the promised anonymisation of records and sharing with private data-handling companies following such as the Cambridge Analytica scandal.

Website updating

The Practice is only too aware of how poor their website has become during the demanding pandemic but this is now due for radical change, assisted by patients on the PPG. This will include better, clearer complaints procedures.

Gloucester and Cheltenham Hospital changes

The PPG heard a report on major changes to the services provided at each of our local acute hospitals as the pandemic load on them decreases. This includes the partial re-opening of Cheltenham A&E. More information can be found on this website: www.reachnow.org.uk.

David Perry, Co-Chair, Painswick Patient Group



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Yew trees

Happy to be able to meet in person again, members of Yew Trees WI have taken advantage of the ease in lockdown restrictions to join walks led by Jane Rowe. Despite a very hot afternoon, the most recent one was thoroughly enjoyed by all. Two of the highlights being the sound of a lark singing on Juniper Hill and the wonderful views of the village enjoyed from Ticklestone Lane.

The President was delighted to welcome new members to the May zoom meeting. An old friend of Yew Trees, Dr Gillian White, was the welcome speaker; her subject: Elizabethan Textiles. Once again she did not disappoint and gave a well-illustrated and fascinating insight into fabric design and manufacture. Her talk concentrated on wall hangings, carpets, furnishings and secrets. Yes, secrets! Educated Elizabethans loved secret messages and codes. Queen Elizabeth I included coded messages in her sumptuous clothing and when imprisoned Mary Queen of Scots used embroidery as a medium for secret messages. The evening ended with a word quiz enjoyed by all - though some found it easier than others!

In July, weather permitting, Yew Tree ladies are looking forward to a coffee morning and bring and buy stall in the lovely garden of one of their fellow members. On Tuesday 27th the monthly zoom meeting will include a talk entitled An Introduction to Heraldry given by John Bromley. Ladies, do seriously consider joining us. Do it now and you too can enjoy our summer meal at the Waypoint in August!

Celia Lougher 812624



The Croft

We have had a busy few weeks here at The Croft with life feeling even more 'normal' for the children with most classes going on a school trip. For many of our younger children this has been a very exciting time as due to the lockdowns these were the first trips some had been on with school. It is amazing how exciting a coach journey is in these strange times!

Mole Class visited Nature in Art and had an amazing day – they made artwork in the style of Andy Goldsworthy and even came back with sculptures they had made using recycled materials

Hedgehog Class went to Oxstalls Sports Centre to participate in a multi-skills sports session. The children took part in many different activities which tested their balance, speed, teamwork, throwing and catching and accuracy skills. The children seemed to particularly enjoy the relay and the rocket throwing activities.

Fox, Owl and Seal class all visited Chedworth Roman Villa. They were able to find out many answers to questions which have been raised in class as part of their current enquiry. Emme from Owls organised some of her class to join her in a litter pick activity at Painswick Rec. This is a clear demonstration of how she is putting our aim of creating resilient, compassionate, responsible citizens.

Rebecca Gore

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What's On at The Painswick Centre

It's wonderful to be back open again and have people using the Centre once more. We're delighted that several fitness classes have started back again, and we also have some exciting new arts classes and workshops coming up. As ever there is more information on our website www.painswickcentre.com, where you can sign up for emails so we can let you know the latest events. You'll also find information on how to play the Lucky Severn Lottery for just £1 per ticket, 60% of which will go straight to us and other local charitable causes. Please join the other wonderful supporters who play each week to help the Centre and be in with a chance of winning the £25k jackpot!

Here's just a taster of what we have going on in July and beyond (visit our website for more details and how to book):

- Love Painswick will take place on Saturday 3rd July 10-5: a celebration of Painswick and all the lovely stuff we have going on here, including the fabulous Handmade in Painswick. Art, food, drink, magic, vintage wares and more.
- The Handmade in Painswick pop-up shop is open every day 10-5 until the end of August, showcasing beautiful items made by local artisans and makers. Mary Portas will be making a special visit on Saturday 3rd July for the press launch.
- We have a range of fitness classes every week: Pilates with Heidi on Mondays, Zumba with Martina on Tuesdays, and Yoga with Kim on Thursdays & Fridays.
- There are a number of workshops available from upholstery, drawing and two brand new jewellery making classes.
- For little ones we have a pre-school football academy on Friday afternoons, as well as dance classes for primary grade on Mondays after school.

Susie Andrews



Wick-Flix update

Gosh, it's been a long time since we've been able to get out and about to meet friends and family in any kind of social way and I'm sure we've all been missing the local events around Painswick.

Wick-Flix was a highlight in the monthly calendar for a lot of people and we have missed some great films over the past year since we were unable to show "Official Secrets", the whistle blower film about GCHQ.

Wick-Flix had a good business model which enabled us to offer the complimentary drink and snacks as well as update some of the equipment and contribute to the costs of the Painswick Centre. However, as we wait to emerge from the Covid secure times, we need to look at how Wick-Flix can return and continue to be financially viable. We will have to change what we do – not least to ensure people are comfortable in the Beacon Hall and we adhere to whatever social distancing and hygiene standards may still be required

At our last film showing in March 2020, David Chapman announced that he would stand down as our leading light and guiding star (though after more than a year of enforced boredom, we hope David may change his mind and return to our organising committee!). If you have attended Wick-Flix, you may know that putting on a film takes many hours of volunteer time not just for show night but in preparation too. We still have the names and contact details of our regular 'on the night' volunteers and will be back in touch as soon as we have anything in the way of a plan for the future.

If you or someone you know is passionate about community cinema and would like to help get Wick-Flix up and running again over the next few months, we would love to hear from you! Please get in touch using our Wick-Flix email address: wick-flix@painswickcentre.com

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Thoughts from St Mary's



Have you considered my servant Job? This question arose recently in my daily Bible reading. Job lived in Old Testament times when the prevailing thought was that personal suffering was sent from God as punishment for one's misdeeds. Job challenged this idea. He was an upright and pious person yet he suffered from a string of personal disasters. He could not accept that these were sent by God.

This is the age old question isn't it? Why does a God of love allow this or that to happen? Natural disasters, horrific accidents, deadly diseases, all of which claim many lives. Now we have Covid 19 an international pandemic which is causing many thousands of deaths worldwide. It is the poorest and most helpless people who suffer most. The short answer is that we do not know why and we cannot explain it. But what we do know is that God came to this world in the person of Jesus. Much of Jesus's ministry was spent healing the sick. He empathised with

human suffering and cured many people of their diseases. He suffered himself eventually being tortured to death at the hands of evil men. What we understand from His ministry is that He understands human pain and is alongside each one of us in our suffering. Even the Covid story is not all pain. It has initiated many acts of human kindness, it has brought many communities closer together, it has brought out the best in the National Health Service and it has promoted the fast development of effective vaccines which bring new hope to the world.

No we do not understand why. Perhaps one day beyond the grave we will understand. Meanwhile we are assured that God loves each one of us and is alongside us in times of pain. In one of his hymns John Greenleaf Whittier writes:

"Here in the maddening maze of things
When tossed by storm and flood
To one fixed ground my spirit clings
I know that God is good"

David Newell

Painswick Potanicals

Madison's new business

Madison Davies has lived in Painswick all her life. Educated at the Croft School, Stroud High and Stroud College art department she is now 21 and has just embarked on her first business venture. Modest (at present) in scale but imbued with a plethora of enthusiasm, the business is named Potanicals and is situated in a small courtyard at the back of the fabric shop in New Street. Essentially it is about pots and house plants.



"I've always had a love of pots and plants," explains Madison, and a noticeable dearth of such items for sale in Painswick led to her decision to set up her shop. But where? Dad Tim is the proprietor of Painswick Fabrics, a well established business with a good footfall, and Madison recognised it would be a good place to start. Hidden away at the very back was the small courtyard, long since neglected, overgrown and in a poor state. With Tim's permission she set to on her mission to make the space clean and presentable and the result is a neat and pleasant display area.

The intention is to offer plant pots of all sizes and shapes together with a range of house plants. With a reliable source of pots providing a permanent supply she is able to offer them at very reasonable prices. The business is currently very much in its infancy but she envisages it growing gradually, presenting an attractive and appealing display of items for sale.

Madison has some lovely ideas for possible future developments. She wants very much to offer "unique pieces which reflect my love for nature" and this is combined with a definite artist's eye. Her passion for both nature and art is evident. Furthermore, she considers herself fortunate to call Painswick home and, feeling such a special affinity for the village, she explains that she would like to reach out first and foremost to the local community.

This is a truly positive and very delightful young lady, deserving of Painswick's support. Potanicals is open 9.30-5.00 Wednesday to Saturday. Email potanicalspainswick@gmail.com and instagram [potanicalspainswick](https://www.instagram.com/potanicalspainswick). It would certainly be good to see her new business grow and flourish.

Carol Maxwell

Anne-Marie Randall
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Fund Our Fort Update

We have had a great response from the school children to 'Fund Our Fort', and at time of writing they have completed 177 miles of exercise. A huge thank you to local residents who have sponsored the children on this journey so far, we really appreciate your help. We are still a long way off our target of £4,000 to replace the play fort in the playground, which is currently unsafe and cordoned off. We'd be so grateful for any donations from the Painswick community. These can be made at <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/fort> or by scanning the QR code. Alternatively, cash donations can be placed in an envelope marked 'Fund Our Fort' and put in the postbox outside The Croft School office.



The children have already virtually visited Berkeley Castle and Windsor Castle, learning some really interesting facts, and we are now on our way to Lincoln Castle – one of the best preserved castles in the country.



Did you know that Lincoln Castle was built by William the Conqueror? He demolished 166 houses to build the castle on its site (although we don't think anyone was living in them!). It's in a very important and strategic position, where old roman roads connect the North to the South and the North East to the South West, as well as having direct access into the North Sea from the River Trent. In 1217 Prince Louis of France captured the city of Lincoln and stormed the castle. The Royalists fought him off and held the castle until he was defeated. If they hadn't, it's possible that all of England would have come under French rule!

Our virtual journey will take us to 10 castles and forts all around the UK, as pupils from The Croft School clock up miles through walking, running, cycling, swimming and a whole host of other sporting activities. Every kind donation keeps them motivated to travel further and learn more, so if you're a local resident or business and can donate just a few pounds, it would mean so much to them. Pictured is the current old fort.

Thank you for supporting us on this journey.

Alison Smith Co-Chair, Friends of the Croft School.

Historic crimes in July

A veritable cross-section of crimes were committed in Painswick in the month of July in the past and some harsh sentences given out. Hard labour in the houses of correction was well and truly hard labour.

Exactly 200 years ago, July 1821, William Verrinder, for an assault on J. Richings of Painswick by biting off a large portion of one ear, was fined 1 shilling and kept to hard labour in the House of Correction at Northleach.

In July 1831 William Cooke was sentenced to six weeks hard labour in Horsley House of Correction for leaving his wife and family chargeable to Painswick Parish. In that same month Edwin Nicholls was found guilty of stealing a quantity of apples from a Painswick orchard belonging to Thomas Holbrow and sentenced to hard labour for one calendar month also in Horsley House of Correction.

In July 1881 this report appeared in the Gloucester Journal. 'Painswick. Sacrilege. The Parish Church was burglariously entered during Tuesday night. An aperture had been made in one of the windows on the north side through which the thief made his entrance. The glass and lead had been carefully removed and placed by the side of the wall, and the hole was large enough for a man to squeeze through. Fortunately the communion plate is not kept at the church and nothing is missing. The altar cloth had been disturbed and so had the lectern and its covering. The remains of burnt matches were found in different parts of the church. The thief or thieves regained the churchyard by drawing the bolts of the north door. The man who scrambled through the window had evidently nailed boots on. The affair is in the hands of the police.'

In July 1911 Ernest White, Frank Mitchel and Edward Aldridge, young pin mill workers, were summonsed for having trespassed in search of rabbits on land belonging to Augustus Wathen. Aldridge was further charged with assaulting Reginald Wathen on the same date. The case was dismissed on payment of costs.

Carol Maxwell

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Cotteswold Naturalists' Visits 2021

Places of interest are going to considerable lengths to re-open their doors, whilst at the same time, keeping their staff, volunteers and visitors as safe as possible by limiting numbers indoors and maximizing gardens and other outdoor space for refreshments.

The Club's programme of visits focuses on local venues accessible by car, including:

- Elgar's Birthplace at 'The Firs' near Worcester;
- Dr Jenner's House, Museum and Garden, 'the birthplace of vaccination', and the adjacent Church which holds memorials to Jenner, with optional refreshments in the Walled Gardens of Berkeley Castle;
- Hardwicke Court and Gardens, the family home of Thomas Lloyd Baker, the Club's first Secretary, to mark the 175th anniversary of the Club's foundation;

Guided walks are also planned around Sharpness Old Docks, and around Coates, near Cirencester, where the walk follows the Thames & Severn Canal, passing the Sapperton Tunnel entrance and a Round House (pictured) to the Thameshead, where seasonal springs rise - at least in wet weather - marking the traditional source of the River Thames.

For more information about our plans and for last-minute places on the Club's visit on 22nd July to Compton Verney, an award-winning art gallery and park, please contact me.

Our Lecture meetings resume in the Painswick Centre on Wednesday 15th September, and thereafter, will take place on the first Wednesday of the month, through to May 2022. Our meetings in Minchinhampton will in future be held on the third Thursday of the month beginning in October.

Jane E Rowe - 813228



Painswick Music Society 2021 Season - Update



Notwithstanding the delay in the road out of lockdown, we still have every hope and expectation that our much delayed 75th anniversary season will be able to go ahead in the autumn as outlined in the May edition of the Beacon. Our committee has postponed our meeting scheduled for June to mid July, by which time we hope it will be clear that social distancing restrictions can be relaxed. Assuming that this is the case as we hope, brochures and booking forms will be sent out by email as soon as possible thereafter. Please contact our ticket and membership secretary, Edward Bowron: painswickmusicsoc@gmail.com if you would like to be added to our mailing list. Full details and booking information will also be available on our website www.painswickmusicsoc.co.uk. Memberships and ticket prices will remain as for 2020, namely £50 for memberships, £20 for individual tickets and £5 for students and children.

The revised dates for our season remain as follows:

Thursday September 16th 7pm (tbc)	Steven Isserlis (cello) Mishka Rushdie Momen (piano)
October 9th 3pm	Orchestra of the Swan
November 6th 3pm	Nash Ensemble
November 13th 2pm	Roderick Williams (baritone)

This is a wonderful festival of music to look forward to, so do please enter the dates in your diary and let your family and friends know if you have not done so already.

I hope very much that our Autumn Season will be able to go ahead as outlined, and what a joy it will be to meet again to enjoy live music.

Christopher Swain - Chairman

St Michaels
BISTRO

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LILIAN FAITHFULL CARE



Local History Society

Our latest meeting, held by zoom, comprised two elements with our AGM followed by a presentation on the Community Archives by our secretary, Alastair Jollans. After dealing with some constitutional matters and appointing next year's committee, including three new members, the AGM was brought to a close.

We were then taken on a fascinating journey through the community archives which aim to be a working resource for the community and also a historical archive for both local history and family history researchers. The backbone of the archives is the working documents of the Parish Council itself, now for the first time open to all residents. Also available are two electronic archives, one of historic photographs already containing over 1000 old photos of Painswick. The other is a fully searchable digital archive of back issues of the Painswick Beacon at present the index is only available in the Parish Council offices but there are proposals to make it available soon in the Community Library. The Birt & Sons cycle shop (photo) is known to have been in Gloucester Street, and was probably opposite the junction with Butt Green. It is likely to have been one of the buildings which were eventually demolished to allow the building of the doctor's surgery.

Donations of private historical documents are already boosting the value and range of the index. Anyone with similar documents is invited to contribute any relevant material in either physical or electronic form. The documents can be scanned and the original returned to the owners.

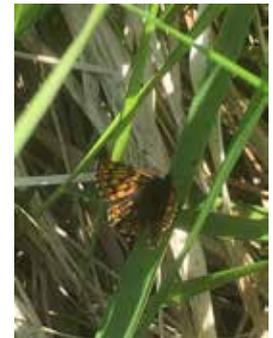
Harold Clark



Still no butterflies!

At the time of writing there are still very few butterflies to be seen on the Beacon, despite the recent hot spell, and the same problem has been observed on other local nature reserves. This doesn't bode well for butterfly

numbers this year and I suspect other insects, which aren't so visible, will be experiencing the same issues caused by the cold, dry then wet spring. On a more positive note we have recorded a pair of jousting male Duke of Burgundy butterflies and managed to photograph a male DofB, see attached picture. To the best of my knowledge we have never seen three in one year, so let's hope it's a bumper year for Dukes.



The recent rain and warmth had produced lush growth of vegetation and ironically all the butterfly food plants are plentiful. Fly and Bee Orchids have been hard to find, but Common Spotted, Fragrant and Pyramidal orchids are good. The Bird's Nest orchid patches have done well this year and in Buckholt Woods they can be found in exceptional numbers. These orchids have no chlorophyll and are parasitic, deriving all their energy and nutrients from their host tree's roots. There is another family of parasitic plants called Broomrapes. At the end of June I found a patch of a dozen flowering stalks near the 10th green, possible a first for recording them on the Beacon. The walk on 20th June was only attended by four new faces, but all enjoyed the experience, asked plenty of questions and were willing to sign up to help when work parties start again in the autumn.

NoFence system for the cows

We have at last taken delivery of the new NoFence system and we are using Holcombe Farm as a training paddock. Getting used to it is a steep learning curve for both the cows and the cattle checkers, although I suspect the cows are learning quicker than us! Cud Hill Common is going to be grazed in July (the first time for quite a few years) and will be the first real test of the system. This will earn the group some much needed funds. If all goes to plan the cows will be back on the Beacon in August without electric fences. We plan to put notices on all the main paths leading in to the "virtual" paddock to warn walkers that they may encounter cows. Our cattle are extremely relaxed and unfazed by people or well behaved dogs. However, if you have any doubts about your dog's reaction to cattle, please keep it on a lead and avoid close contact with the cows

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2.30 - 4.30 on Mondays, and Wednesday

Although COVID-19 space limits mean we can only welcome two borrowers at a time, the library is now fully open and from last month, following Public Health England updated guidance we no longer need to quarantine returned books.

Fiction

Cleeves, Ann The Darkest Evening
Coben, Harlan Win
Druart, Ruth While Paris Slept
Hawke, Ethan A Bright Ray of Darkness
Ishiguro, Kazuo Klara and the Sun
Macbride, Stuart The Coffinmaker's Garden
Petrie, Jan Turk Running Behind Time – by local author
Quinn, Kate The Rose Code
Stonex, Emma The Lamplighters
Wait, Rebecca Our Fathers
Williams, Pip The Dictionary of Lost Words

Junior

Bethell, Zillah The Shark Caller – set in Papua New Guinea
Booth, & Litchfield A Shelter for Sadness – The importance of making space and time for our own grief
Donaldson, & Scheffler, The Smeds and the Smoos
Farrant, Natasha Voyage of the Sparrowhawk- winner of the Costa Children's Book Award 2020
Foreman, Michael Noa and the Little Elephant
Kay, Adam Kay's Anatomy – A complete guide to the human body
Miller, Ben The Day I Fell into a Fairytale
Pankhurst, Kate Fantastically Great Women Scientists and their Stories

Non-Fiction

Allende, Isabel The Soul of a Woman – Rebel Girls, Impatient Love and Long Life
Calvert, Jonathan & Arbthnott Failures of State: The Inside Story of Britain's Battle with Coronavirus
Clarke, Rachel Breathtaking - Inside the NHS in a time of pandemic
Coles, Richard The Madness of Grief: a memoir of love & loss
Gates, Bill How to Avoid a Climate Disaster- the Solutions we have and the breakthroughs we need
Jaku, Eddie The Happiest Man on Earth – The Beautiful Life of an Auschwitz Survivor
Marshall, Tim The Power of Geography – Ten Maps that reveal the future of our world

Summer Reading Challenge

If you have children aged 4 to 11, do visit the library from July 10th onwards to register for Summer Reading Challenge 2021. This year's theme is "Wild World Heroes" and is a celebration of nature and action for the environment. Using incentives and fun activities, the Summer Reading Challenge aims to encourage reading for pleasure, and to prevent the "dip" in reading skills—especially after a difficult school year.

Jennifer Watts

With great sadness we learned that Jennifer Watts died last month. Jennifer was actively involved in many Painswick and Cranham organisations and one of our first community library volunteers, responding to an appeal in 2012 and attending our opening ceremony by the Duke of Gloucester in June 2013. She will be greatly missed by everyone who knew her at the library.

Pat Pinnegar

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Jottings

At the moment nearly every field of old grassland is covered in buttercups. They are poisonous when fresh and acid to taste, causing blisters in the mouth when eaten. Animals usually avoid them unless there is not much else to eat and they are starving. The plant is not really safe to humans and may cause blisters to arms and legs.

One of the possible causes for this growth of buttercups is that fields may have been overgrazed the previous autumn and winter. Cattle and sheep will graze the grass right up to the buttercup plants, in effect taking away competition for sun, moisture and nutrition; so the buttercup plants grow faster and bigger. The animals poach the ground, pressing seeds into the soil and pooling small amounts of water, so helping the buttercup seeds to germinate.

The creeping buttercup is the worst species to farmers (and to gardeners) because if you try to get rid of it in the garden or in a ploughed field by digging or hoeing, small pieces of the runners remain in the ground chopped up and start growing, more and faster. You finish up with many more plants. Buttercups are very difficult to get rid of even with herbicides. Fortunately, once dry when made into hay or silage, the plants are safe for animals to eat.

The magpies are watching the blackbirds and raiding their nests dragging out the chicks. The first thing you notice is the alarm call of the parents trying to protect their young. Magpies mostly eat insects but will grab anything, such as road kill, fruit, bird table food and your rubbish. Research shows that taking chicks is only a minor part of their diet but it is difficult not to blame the magpies for the loss of our small songbirds. As from, 25th April 2019, birds that are classed as "pests", including magpies, can no longer be freely killed in England due to the revocation of three General Licenses.

More maize is being grown here now. It is an expensive crop to grow and devastating if, when it is nearly ready to harvest, deer get to it and nibble the cobs; or badgers trample the plants over when scavenging.

Maize is grown throughout the world, more than any other grain – wheat or rice (by weight). It has become a staple food in many places. Most people come across it as "corn on the cob" or sweet corn. We eat these sugar-rich varieties but most of what you see growing locally is field corn for animal feed. Some is used to make cornflour, corn oil and fermentation and distillation into alcoholic drink like bourbon whiskey. It is also being used for making ethanol and other biofuels.

Martin Slinger

A summer to remember

June saw the Garden benefit from the heavy rains of May and burgeoned into its midsummer glory. Thanks to a boost in temperatures our shop did a roaring trade in local ice creams and we have continued to expand and add to our ranges of locally-sourced goodies. If you are looking for a gift or card and prefer to avoid town, then do pop in and browse on an open day. We continue to be delighted with the support we have had from our visitors who continue to enjoy escaping to this oasis of calm and beauty. Don't forget that our Friends memberships are available all year round and give you the freedom to visit as often as you like during normal opening hours.



Coming up at the end of this month is a brand new event for 2021, Midsummer Lights. I am really excited about this, which feels to me to be such an appropriate, beautiful and magical idea. It will take place every evening between 23rd and 29th July at 8pm. Imagine as evening turns into night, the garden and woodland transform into a mystical dream-like world where playful characters entertain as you promenade in this enchanted setting. This looks like one of the highlights of the summer for me. As ever you can find more details at rococogarden.org.uk

I have been quite ill recently but am on the mend now, thankfully. It got me thinking about the therapeutic role of gardens in the recovery process, whether my own or somewhere like Rococo which has a unique sense of place and a spiritual edge to it. Being able to sit in the shade, move to the sun, hear birds or see dappled sunlight is refreshing and invigorating. So if you are feeling a bit down or need your batteries recharged, come and experience the restorative qualities of Rococo. There are lots of seats to take in the views, or you can perhaps enjoy the feel of grass under your bare feet or enjoy the scents of the Exedra Garden. You will definitely feel better for it.

Enjoy high summer.

Tim Toghill, trustee & volunteer

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Car Park nearly always full

Now that charges have been withdrawn and with Painswick a popular meeting point for ramblers, mutterings are again heard complaining about finding a spare space in Stamages Car Park and often finding it full.

Been there before. See reports taken from previous Beacons

Proposed Car Park Charges (Beacon November 1998)

Stroud District Council proposes to introduce parking charges at Stamages Car Park. This followed discussions with the Parish Council and local businesses concerned at long stay parkers, many by ramblers who do not use local facilities, utilising too many spaces in the Stamages Car Park making it difficult to find free spaces during the day for use of local businesses. The Parish Council approved a motion to go along with the proposals for some form of charges provided there was a generous season ticket rate for local residents.



Council rethinks Car Park charges (Beacon January 1999)

In the December 1998 Parish Council Meeting the Council reversed their earlier decision and decided to write to the Stroud District Council objecting to the proposal for charges. This rethink was influenced by many letters received from local residents, many concerned that this would lead to more parking in local streets.

However in April 1999 the SDC decided to proceed with the proposed charges with season tickets available at £20/month.

Picture above shows a typical weekday morning in the car park and on the left the car park at 6.45 in the morning, fairly full with overnight parking

A recipe for traffic chaos in the village?

Stroud District's Draft Local Plan continues to include provision for building 20 houses on Washwell Fields (surprisingly as the only site in the village earmarked for development), despite the concerns of residents about access and increased traffic passing through the centre of the village. The proposed access is on to Lower Washwell Lane which has no pavement, for much of its length is single track with passing places, and has several sharp bends leading to the dangerous junction onto the A46. Other concerns raised have been about the development's potential heritage impact, the landscape impact and the ecological impact.

There is an expectation that within the SDC area 786 new homes will be built annually, a "tier" system being used to concentrate building in larger and better-resourced communities. Although Painswick is in tier 3 (and relatively protected from significant building), SDC are now proposing that it should be tier 2 – and are proceeding as though this has already been agreed. The Painswick Beacon has repeatedly highlighted the village's declining number of shops, which suggests the idea of moving Painswick to a higher tier lacks logic!

If you share our concerns, the relevant documents and an on-line response form are available at <http://www.stroud.gov.uk/localplan-review> and the consultation period runs until 21st July.

Martyn Hewett, Jerry Dunnnett and David Chapman

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Painswick Area Climate Action Network - CAN

What is a Climate Action Network?

Climate Action Networks (CAN) can take many forms. The aim of a CAN is to help individuals, families and communities have fun setting goals and taking action to address climate change and build community resilience where they live.

People from Painswick, Pitchcombe, Upton St Leonards, Sheepscombe and Whiteway turned up to the initial planning meeting last month. We've also had enthusiastic support from Painswick Parish Councillor Dr James Cross, Chair of the Rural Environment Committee and our new County Councillor, Sue Williams.

Our first meeting was ably hosted and facilitated by Alan Mossman and Fred Barker (from Transition Stroud) with their experience of CANs in villages and communities across the Stroud area. Alan asked us to list the things that we thought were important in our community. These were grouped under the headings below. We also talked about the great work that is already going on quietly in the background with links to one or more of these headings.

Building community resilience 	Community Growing and wellbeing 
Transport 	Environment 
Local food & produce 	Education 
Recycling 	what's missing? ??

By the end of the meeting there was clear support for continuing to explore the creation of a Painswick Area CAN.

Next meeting Wednesday 14th July 7pm

Weather and Covid permitting, the next meeting will be on Weds 14th July at 7pm on the Rec in Painswick. It will be great to meet face-to-face but, if we cannot, we will meet online. Either way we'd love to hear your views and find out what you want to work on and are already working on.

Alan will facilitate the next meeting. For the agenda, the long form notes of the first meeting and any last-minute changes please email alanmossman@mac.com with PA-CAN in the subject line. Do let him know what you are most interested to work on. If you would like to be involved but cannot join us on the 14th please let Alan know that too.

Do come and help us decide what form the Painswick Area CAN will take.

Iris McCormick 812879

Maximum word limits (300)

Now that we are receiving more items for the Beacon and hopefully soon back to normal it is important that contributions have a maximum of about **300 words** unless you have approval for more by the editor.. This enables the Beacon to include as many contributions as possible in each issue

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Painswick Sports

assembled by John Barrus



Falcon Bowls

Two girls make National Finals

Katie and Julie Harper have both been playing bowls at Falcon Bowls Club in Painswick for three seasons, since they were 12 and 15. The interest for the sport came from two generations of family playing- their father and their grandfather.

The Bowls National Finals that they're partaking in is upcoming in August and both of the girls are excited to play but also slightly nervous to see what the outcome will be. Many people play for years and never make it to these championships, so for these 2 young girls to have made it is an incredible feat! To get to the finals both of them qualified through their local area, and in their final they predict that they will be playing a team from Cumbria. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, there have been no opportunities to play against other clubs this season but in order to prepare Katie and Julie have been playing in club organised games as well as attending county coaching sessions.



Both of the Harper girls plan to keep playing bowls throughout their lives even if they can't predict what's going to happen in the future. Their advice for any people looking to start playing is to contact your nearest club and try it for yourself, it's a great way to play a sport with a team if you're not into contact sports such as rugby. It can be played as a competitive sport or just fun, the introduction of coloured kit and multi coloured bowls has also encouraged more younger people to start playing.

We wish the best of luck to Julie and Katie and can't wait to hear about the result of this amazing opportunity in August.

Daisy Stark



Painswick Tennis - Road to Wimbledon

On Saturday 5th June we hosted a Road to Wimbledon competition, as part of a national initiative staged by the All England Lawn Tennis Club to promote both junior and grass court tennis in the UK and across the globe.

A separate competition took place for boys and girls, and was open to all junior members who met the following criteria:

- 14 & under (born 1 January 2007 - 31 December 2010)
- Rated 10.2 - 7.1 or have no rating as of 1 March 2021

It was a really enjoyable event with some fantastic tennis on show. Congratulations to the winners (Felix Jack and Olivia Deshais) who are now invited to enter the county finals on the 10-11th July, the winners of which will be invited to play the national finals at the All England Lawn Tennis Club.

We wish Felix and Olivia the very best of luck!

Pictured from left to right: Lottie, Olivia (winner), Maanas, Francis, Ruskie & Felix (winner)

Nick Watkins



Juniors representing Gloucestershire

The club has so far had 5 juniors representing Gloucestershire in various inter county tournaments. Lottie Compton, Sophie Compton, Ruskie Stuart-Menteth, Niall Walker and Alice Champion

Summer Coaching

Coaches will be available for individual lessons during the summer holidays.

Charlie Ferrett



Painswick Cricket Club

Results and some highlights for June 2021

WEPL Glos Div Painswick 1st

Lost to Gloucester City by 127 runs. Beat Apperley by 49 runs thanks to Rogan Wolhuter scoring 74 runs and skipper Jack Hobbis bowling a tight spell of 9 overs for 21 runs whilst taking 2 wickets. Beat Cirencester by 33 runs, Ross Martin scored 30 and Tom Hayward ripped out the top order with 4 for 27 runs. Painswick Firsts are currently 6th in what is a very evenly matched Division.

County League Div 7 Painswick 2nd

Won against Bourton on the Water by 9 wkts, skipper Nick Marment took 5 wkts and Dom Barnard scored 59 runs. Another win against Parkend by 54 runs. Marment top scored with 38 runs and took 4 wkts. Beat Oaksley by 6 wickets. Henry Bonham scoring 47 no and Dave Nottingham taking 4 wkts.

Stroud Div 2 Painswick 3rds

The team beat Frampton on Severn 3rds by 50 runs. Great knocks by James French 77 and skipper Noel French 59 helped Painswick to 254. Then Jamie Morgan bowled an excellent tight spell and Jason Richings took 3 wickets restricting Frampton to 204 runs.

Mid Gloucester League Div 1.

Lost to Ullenwood Bharat by 8 wkts Reece Morris and Jacob Moore scored fifties. Beat Kingsholm by 3 runs with E.Bawa scored 83 and Wolhuter scored 59 runs. Beat Corse and Staunton CC by 9 runs, Wolhuter scored 62 runs.

Cup competition - Frocester Fayre Cup

1st Round: Painswick beat Quedgeley and Hardwick by 27 runs.

In the quarter final Painswick beat Uley by 50 runs. Nathan Fagg scored 77 runs and Jack Hobbis took 5 wkts in 4 overs. The semi final is scheduled against Stroud at Broadham on 29 June at 6pm.

Youth

Painswick U15s beat Stroud but recorded losses to Hawkesbury and Frampton.

The U13s lost to Cam by 77 runs. The U11s beat Frampton by 53 runs

Training continues at Broadham fields on Friday evenings, please contact Mr. Dominic Barnard, Junior Coordinator, domrolle@yahoo.co.uk for more information.

The club's Cricket Week

will run this year from Friday 16th July to Friday 23rd July 2021.

Youth Presentation on Friday 16th evening at 1700 and the official opening of the new NetBay facility.

Sunday 18th - 6 a side competition running all day.

Tuesday 20th Gloucestershire over 50s versus Warwickshire over 50s starting 12.30 approx.

Wednesday 21st Corse and Staunton 6.30pm

Thursday 22nd Touring Side 1pm

Friday 23rd Chairman's Team 1pm

Steve Pegram

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More Painswick Sports

assembled by John Barrus



Painswick Golf Club

The club is delighted to welcome Adam Baldwin, our new greenkeeper. Martin Angel, who he replaces, has been with the club for many years. The club wishes Martin all the best for the future.

Since my last report, the Seniors Championship and Tankard was completed. This is a medal competition over two rounds with the best two scores added together. The Championship is for the best gross score and the Tankard for the best net score (ie after allowance for handicap). The winners were, respectively, Brendan Nunan and Peter Rowe. The Seniors Captains Day took place on 10 June and was combined with the Seniors Organ Niblick competition. This is a competition in which one is limited to 3 clubs and a putter. The winner was Robin Hare with an excellent score of 42 stableford points.



The Captains away day this year was held at Monmouth Golf Club. 18 members took part playing in teams of three. Winning team (picture) was Nigel Barnett, Finlay Mclean, with Mahboob Hussain and the individual winner was Mahboob Hussain. Visitors are welcome to both the course and clubhouse. Don't forget to wear masks inside the clubhouse. If looking to play golf or make use of the catering facilities, please check availability on 01452 812180.

Peter Rowe

Cotswold Way Challenge at Painswick

Saturday 26th June at Broadham

This Challenge consisted of three races. 100km, which started at Cirencester taking a roundabout way through Painswick to Wotton and back to Cirencester. The second race of 24kms started at Cirencester and finished at Painswick and the third started at Painswick finishing at Wotton. Walkers were included in the shorter challenges. Runners were coming and going through the Broadham Field rest stop all day.



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July

Thurs 1	Dog training. For information and timing 01452 812462	Church Rooms	10.00 - 12.00pm
Sat 3	Press launch and celebration of Handmade in Painswick with special guest, Mary Portas.	Painswick Centre	10.30 - 12.00pm
Sun 4	Holy Communion	St Mary's Church	9.30am
Wed 7	Strength and Balance Class	Church Rooms	10.00 - 11.00am
Thurs 8	Dog training. For information and timing 01452 812462	Church Rooms	10.00 - 12.00pm
Sun 11	Holy Communion	St Mary's Church	9.30am
Thurs 16	Dog training. For information and timing 01452 812462	Church Rooms	10.00 - 12.00pm
Sun 18	Holy Communion	St Mary's Church	9.30am
Mon 19	Yew Trees WI coffee morning.£ 4.00 entrance. All welcome	Combe House, The Park	10.30am
Thurs 23	Dog training. For information and timing 01452 812462	Church Rooms	10.00 - 12.00pm
Sun 25	Beacon Praise	St Mary's Church	11.00am
Mon 26	Painswick library bookclub (depending on Covid regulations)	Library	2.00 -3.00pm
Tues 27	Yew Trees WI. An introduction to heraldry - John Bromley	Talk on Zoom	7.00 for 7.30pm
Thurs 30	Dog training. For information and timing 01452 812462	Church Rooms	10.00 - 12.00pm

Your Diary entries please.

As lockdown eases and life gets back to 'normal' please let me know your dates for the Village Diary. cvasp.26@gmail.com. Regular dates are welcomed as well as specific dates.

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PLANNING MATTERS

Information received from the Parish Council

NEW APPLICATIONS

S.21/1317/HHOLD Pincot Cottage, Pincot Lane

Erection of a two-storey rear and side extension, porch and associated works.

S.21/1117/HHOLD Lullingworth, Stroud Road

Loggia incorporating glazed conservatory.

S.21/1159/LBC 1 George Court Victoria Street

Installation of gas flue and roof vent tile.

S.21/1311/HHOLD Cob House, Slad

Resubmission of S.20/0344/HHOLD and S.18/1620/HHOLD to include extensions to rear and porch, reconstruction of chimney stacks, additional dormer to rear and redesign and relocation of garden room.

S.21/1261/TCA Pathways, Tibbiwell Lane

T1 False Acacia - prune from 10.6m to 9.6. T2 Cherry reduce from 7.62m to 6.62m.

S.21/0588/HHOLD Court House, Hale Lane

Construction of double oak garage.

S.21/1392/HHOLD Rosemullion, Lower Washwell Lane

Construction of two storey side extension and upper floor front extension.

S.21/1405/HHOLD Dormy House, Kings Mill Lane

Proposed loft conversion with new dormer windows & alterations including replacement window units & new porch roof.

S.21/1412/HHOLD Swiss Cottages & Darkest Peru, Kings Mill Lane

Erection of single storey rear extension.

S.21/1421/HHOLD & S.21/1422/LBC Halfpenny Cottage, Tibbiwell Lane

Installation of dormer. Amendment to S.21/0212/HHOLD and S.21/0213/LBC.

S.21/1407/HHOLD Woodridge, The Highlands

Proposed rear, side and front extensions & detached garage. Revised application to S.21/0980/HHOLD.

S.21/1456/FUL Sheepscombe Cricket Club, Far End, Sheepscombe

Creation of levelled areas for practice for younger members and access for less abled visitors.

S.21/1431/FUL Westmorland House, Kingsmead

Demolition of existing house and garage and erection of dwelling.

S.21/1413/HHOLD Upper Greenhouse, Greenhouse Lane

Conversion to annexe and installation of link to main dwelling.

S.21/1337/HHOLD Hawthorns, Longridge, Sheepscombe

Demolition of part of dwelling and replacement two storey extension and porch. Improve vehicular access.

S.21/1504/HHOLD The Homestead, Cheltenham Road, Replacement of garage (Resubmission of S.21/0825/HHOLD).

S.21/1415/HHOLD 2 Clattergrove, Painswick

Construction of rear dormer extension.

S.21/1282/HHOLD Castle Hale, Stamages Lane

Erection of canopy on North-East Elevation.

S.21/1486/TCA Wordings Mount

Field Maple (T1) - Pollard to 4m. Pine (T2) - Crown raise to 8m. | 2

S.21/1517/TPO Lyncombe Farm, Cheltenham Road

T1, T2, G1, T4, T5 and T6. - Ash die back, Fell.

CONSENT

S.21/0574/LBC Ludloes, Gloucester Street

External changes to door and windows, reinstatement of boundary wall and gate, replacement flat roof to front hall and Internal alterations.

S.21/0876/HHOLD Ludloes, Gloucester Street

Erection of stone garden wall and pedestrian gate, amendment to flat roof over porch.

S.21/0861/FUL Olivias, Friday Street
Change of use from ground floor cafe/bistro (Class E) to residential (Class C3).

REFUSED

S.21/0825/HHOLD The Homestead, Cheltenham Road
Replacement of garage

WITHDRAWN

S.21/0498/FUL The Pool House, Bunnage Fields Farm, The Camp
Change of use of 'The Pool House' from ancillary accommodation to 'The Cottage' to form an Independent dwelling.

S.21/1036/HHOLD Hammonds Cottage, Wick Street

Conversion of existing garage into an ancillary annexe, including replacement of roof (following approval S.20/0935/HHOLD). Hammonds Cottage Wick Street

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Personal Column

Frankie Marsh

Following the government's announcement on Monday 14th June, we have reluctantly decided that the service scheduled for July 13th will have to be postponed until Tuesday 14th September at St Mary's Church at 12 Noon. We hope that those of you who had hoped to join us will put this new date in your diaries and apologies if the new date clashes with any previous arrangements. We very much look forward to seeing many of you on the 14th.

Ian and the family

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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Those Painswick names

For many decades a small number of surnames were overwhelmingly to be found throughout Painswick. Perhaps the following report from Stroud News, November 1903, may account for the continued endurance of some of the members of one such family. 'The funeral took place at Painswick Cemetery on Monday afternoon of Mr William Henry Ireland of Butt Green, Painswick. The deceased was 96 years of age and was believed to be the oldest parishioner ever buried in Painswick Cemetery. He has left behind him no fewer than 125 sons, daughters, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, the majority of whom reside in the Painswick district. The old gentleman has carried on business as a haulier which was started some years ago by his grandfather with a donkey. The funeral service was conducted by the Rev. W.H. Seddon and there were present many members of the deceased's family and other parishioners. It is interesting to note that deceased attributed his being ill to an accident which befell him some 30 years ago, and believed that but for that he would have lived many years longer. He is the fourth member of his family who has lived to be over 90 years of age. He was buried with his wife in the family vault.'

Carol Maxwell

Property report

The rush to complete before the end of the main Stamp Duty holiday has seen lots of property sales going through recently. Properties under £250,000 (although relatively scarce in Painswick) still have some benefit through to 30th September. Properties exchanging and/or completing in the last month include School House in Stroud Road, Mulberry House in Churchill Way, Troopers Rest and Cranmore Cottage in Vicarage Street, Lantern Cottage and 6 Brookhouse Mill in Tibbiwell, Painswick Mill Cottage on Ticklestone Lane, Dry Knapps House on Edge Lane and Hawthorns on Longridge. Further afield, Mill House in Pitchcombe, Recreation Cottage in Slad, Monk's Ditch and The Old Stores in Cranham and 2 Cliffwell Cottages in Edge have also gone.

Although the main Stamp Duty advantage has now gone, the local market still seems to be buoyed by the effect of buyers wanting to move to a more rural environment. Agents report high levels of buyers and a shortage of local property. New onto the market this month though are two significant period properties. Lovedays House on St Mary's Street (Hamptons, £1.35 million) is an elegant property that has been comprehensively restored, overlooking the churchyard and a former vicarage. Tophams in Friday Street (Murrays, £495,000) is a double fronted 4 bed townhouse in the heart of the village. Hamptons briefly had the Old Mill House in Edge Road on the market at £950,000, but it quickly went under offer. The same agent will shortly be offering 8 Brookhouse Mill (ask for details).

Murrays are now offering St. Mary's House on Stroud Road (£850,000), an impressive 4/5 bed Georgian Townhouse, and Hamptons have Stonecroft, a detached 3 bedroom house in Hambutts Mead, close to the Croft School.

Other properties going under offer recently include the Old Inn in George Court, 2 Rock Cottages in Vicarage Street and Norton Cottage in Pitchcombe (all through Murrays) and Marling House on Gyde Road through Hamptons.

NEXT ISSUE

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Spring Bird Report by John Fleming

What a slow Spring it was with unhelpful cold winds, rain and fog for a lot of the time. Bird migration only really got going from mid April with the first good movement north of swallows and martins, followed by a ring ouzel and a wheatear in the hillfort. There was then a quiet period until early May when the hirundine passage took off with over 7,000 birds seen and also the first groups of swifts. This passage continued through May with another strong showing on the 18th when thousands of swifts, swallows and martins came through during the day together with the first hobby and some yellow wagtails, lesser redpolls and siskins.

sparrowhawk



song thrush



The Beacon area hosts a number of different breeding birds and the farmland to the west around Holcombe lane holds important numbers of skylark, linnet and yellowhammer. These three species are among those which have been highlighted in recent years as being in serious decline nationally, so it is good to see them doing well here. Song thrushes are not as common as they once were but individual birds can often be heard singing in different areas from the Ramblers car park to the end of the golf course at the entrance to Popes wood NNR. The mistle thrush is bigger than the song thrush and pairs can be sometimes seen near the

cemetery and the area between Catbrain and the hillfort. Warblers are represented by blackcap, chiffchaff, whitethroat and willow warbler and tend to build their nests in scrubby places, such as bramble and hawthorn or blackthorn.

The beechwoods and other wooded places provide sites for woodpeckers, nuthatch, tree creeper, buzzard, tawny owl and kestrel, while the conifers and ivy, are ideal places for gold crest, chaffinch and occasionally wren to hide their nests.

We are indeed fortunate to have such a perfect location as the Painswick Beacon area to enjoy a wide variety of wildlife.



yellow hammer



linnet.

Sparrow Hawk picture sent in by Ian Galyer the rest taken by Sarah Carlile, all seen in the Painswick area.



mistle thrush

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