

The Painswick Beacon

Volume 44 Number 2

May 2021

Local elections

The local elections take place on 6th May and we are pleased to have small items on many of the candidates from whom you have to choose for the County, District and Parish Council elections.

These and the names of other candidates for whom we have not received any copy and the candidates for the Police and Crime Commissioner can be found on pages 12-13.



Easter egg decorating competition

During the past fourteen months, many events have been cancelled in order to keep everyone safe during the pandemic. Everyone has adapted to new rules and regulations, and Painswick Playgroup is no different.

For two years, Painswick Playgroup unfortunately hasn't been able to hold their annual Easter Egg Hunt that has become a staple around the village. In an effort to keep spirits raised and raise some funds for the Playgroup, headline sponsor Hamptons agreed to fund a smaller egg decorating competition that was open to everyone regardless of age. Over 80 wooden eggs were sold with some fabulous entries coming back, and a wonderful team at Hamptons chose the winners. The whole event was safe and Covid friendly as entries were emailed in, instead of the eggs being returned to the Playgroup.

In the spirit of raising money, Sharron Andrew offered to shave her head and raised almost £1400! Many of the people in the village have put their children through playgroup and, so in a generous turn of events, the money just kept going up and up. On Monday 19th April, her head was shaved with the children at Playgroup and Sharron was kind enough to let them paint her head for fun.

Daisy Stark



[Daisy, a pupil at Stroud High School, is our new correspondent for youth matters]

Tools needed for the Croft School garden

The Croft School in Painswick is extremely lucky to have a small garden set in its school grounds. Management of the garden is spearheaded by one set of parents, Richard and Sarah Draper, and along with a number of other



volunteer parents they put in a phenomenal effort to provide a valuable resource for the children. There is a dedicated fenced garden area with beds, a bug house and seating. A greenhouse has recently been added thanks to the generosity of one local business, and a new wildflower area is currently being developed to encourage insects and bees.

In tandem with the school's gardening club, the children learn how to grow and cultivate a variety of different vegetables. All vegetables grown are sold at the school and the small amount of money raised gets reinvested back into the gardening area.

But the garden relies heavily on the generosity of parents and donations to keep it thriving. So, if you are having a spring clean and have any larger gardening tools going spare, we would love to put them to good use (forks, spades, rakes, hoes, etc). We are in need of weed matting and bark/wood chippings for low

maintenance areas, and some kind of storage box for the gardening tools. We would also be very grateful for vegetable seedlings of any kind – for the ground or the greenhouse – to give the children a head start.

Prior to Covid, it was a joy to see the children learning so much about gardening. We are really looking forward to getting them started again and appreciate any support from the local community. Please email fotcpainswick@gmail.com if you can help donate any equipment. Thank you so much in advance.

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



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

Members Attending via ZOOM

Cllrs Rob Lewis (Chairman), Andy Cash, James Cross, Ann Daniels, Rosie Nash, Martin Slinger

As no members of the public had joined the Meeting the Chairman opened the Meeting and moved swiftly on to the Agenda.

Apologies for Absence

Cllrs Ian James and Roey Parker

Matters requiring a decision.

There were 9 items requiring a decision:

S.21/0861/FUL Olivas, Friday Street. Change of use from cafe/bistro (A3) to Residential(C3). After a detailed discussion the Council agreed that in accordance with the terms of the local plan, to object to the application. The loss of a commercial property was thought to be detrimental to the Village.

S.21/0685/HHOLD Highgrove House, Lower Washwell Lane. Erection of four bay garage block, superseding S.17/1743/HHOLD. The proposed block was larger than the previous agreed application, including a first floor Office. The Council agreed to support subject to the condition that the unit was used in conjunction with the main house.

The following Applications were supported unanimously

S.21/0574/LBC and S.21/0876/HHOLD Ludloes, Gloucester Street. External changes to door and windows, reinstatement of a stone garden wall and pedestrian gate, replacement flat roof to front hall and internal alterations.

S.21/0662/HHOLD Lantern, Kingsmead. Erection of oak framed garage, garden store and open log store.

S.21/0753/HHOLD Hedges, Gloucester

Street. Replacement Windows.

S.21/0798/HHOLD Castle Lodge, Cheltenham Road. Erection of detached garage.

S.21/0811/HHOLD Springfield, Catswood Lane. Construction of new rear single storey extension.

S.21/0498/FUL The Pool House, Bunnage Fields Farm, The Camp. Separate the "The Pool House" from "The Cottage" at Bunnage Fields Farm into two separate dwellings.

Cllr Ann Daniels queried why three tree planning applications had not been included on the Agenda. The Clerk for the Meeting, Irena Litton, confirmed that the applications had been circulated to all Committee Members for comment. Any comments made had been passed to the District Council prior to their planning meeting.

There was a discussion on the local plan and re drawing of the town centre boundaries. The majority of the Commercial premises in the area had living accommodation on the first floor which could make it difficult to sell the premises. This could affect the future of the Village. The Chairman thought this was a matter for discussion by the new Council. The Committee agreed. Concern was also expressed about the increase in "Airbnb" property in the area which could impact on local "B&B" and Hotel business.

PARISH COUNCIL

Prior to opening the meeting Chairman Martin Slinger welcomed the local MP, Siobhan Baillie, who had joined the Meeting via Zoom. After introducing herself she updated the Council on matters affecting the Council particularly remote meeting legislation, business recovery and Article 4 Planning Legislation. She stressed the importance of Town and Parish Councils in a Community and mentioned the possibility of a Register of "Airbnb" businesses. The Chairman thanked the MP for attending the Meeting. Chairman Martin Slinger then opened the Meeting and welcomed all who had connected to the Meeting. Cllr Abigail

Smith joined the Meeting.

Apologies for absence

Cllrs Ian James and Roey Parker

Reports

District Councillor Nigel Cooper reported that despite the challenging conditions the Revenue and Benefit Section of the District Council, who were responsible for distributing various Government Grants, had distributed £38.1m in grants to support local businesses. Also £99k in isolation payments to individuals and almost £70k to Community Groups.

The Environment Committee had met and recommended the draft revised local plan be adopted by the District Council at its Meeting on the 29th April. If the plan is approved it will then be "out" for public consultation for a period of 6 weeks. After that it will be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate. A Planning Inspector will examine the plan and this will likely involve several public hearings. If the report is favourable the Council will need to incorporate any recommendations before adopting the "new" Local Plan by the end of 2022.

The Government expects all Local Authorities to have a Local Plan and update it every 5 years. The current Plan was adopted in November 2015 so it is not up to date. This increases the risk of "Planning by Appeal."

The revised plan will run until 2040 and using the Government's figures for population growth and housing numbers the District Council needs to plan for 630 new dwellings per year, a total of 12,600 in the plan period. There are almost 5,000 outstanding permissions and the revised plan sets out various strategic sites for housing which can accommodate over 8,000 dwellings. The plan sets out all the rules and policies regarding all developments. Although similar to the existing plan they have been modified in the light of experience and importantly reflect the Council's Carbon Neutral 2030 strategy.

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In conclusion Cllr Cooper announced that after representing the Ward since 2012 he will not be standing for re-election in May. This would be the last Painswick Parish Council he would be attending. He had thoroughly enjoyed being a Councillor and being involved in the local Community and it had been a privilege to serve this Ward. He wished everybody the very best for the future.

On behalf of the Council Cllr Rob Lewis thanked him for his service and wished him a Happy Retirement.

Council Chairman Cllr Martin Slinger thanked all Council Staff who despite the Pandemic, had worked hard to ensure that the Council services were maintained. He reported that the ash trees on the Recreation Ground had now been felled. They had been in a dangerous condition. Clerk Roy Balgobin will be circulating pictures of the damage the disease had caused. The bird nests in the trees were empty. The trees will be replaced by the Council. Fly tipping is still causing problems in the area. Also there is a strip of land opposite Edge Church which has trees that need urgent attention. Every effort is being made to trace the owners of the land. Two Edge residents have volunteered to be Footpath Wardens.

Parish Council Clerk Roy Balgobin reported that the Office is now open, on an appointments only basis for essential business, on Wednesday and Fridays only - 10.0am to noon. Only one member of the public is allowed into the Office.

Councillors. Cllr Abigail Smith reported that following last month's presentation on "electric vehicle charging points"

discussions had been held with the District Council and there were regular weekly meetings with other interested parties.

Cllr Andy Cash stated that a resident had requested Ward Funds to help replace a kerb edge along Steanbridge Lane in Slad. The County Council had put in place a concrete path but the drainage was inadequate. He had advised the resident to contact the new County Councillor after the elections to resolve the matter. Also there was an urgent need to replace an old community bench. See report in "Accounts."

To Receive an update on the Parish Council Elections

The Clerk confirmed that an Election would be held in the Painswick Ward, 8 candidates for the 7 seats. The Edge - 1 seat, Slad - 2 seats and Sheepscombe - 2 seats. Wards were uncontested but the Council would need to consider co-opting a suitable candidate for Slad as only one candidate was standing.

The Council expressed their thanks to Cllr Ian James, Sheepscombe Ward, who was not seeking re-election, for his hard work and support whilst serving on the Council. Chairman Cllr Martin Slinger will send a letter of thanks to Cllr James.

Accounts

- The Council approved the "Accounts for Payment" list circulated prior to the Meeting.
- The Council agreed to the quote from a local contractor, Ken Ticehurst, to redecorate the Town Hall Lower Meeting Room. The room has not been redecorated

in the last 10 years and the cost of £1962.54 will be covered by Business Relief Grant the Council has received.

- The Council agreed to purchase a Community Defibrillator and housing box for the adopted telephone Kiosk in Edge. The cost of £1375 will be covered by budgeted funds.

- The Council agreed to purchase a community bench for Slad, see comments under "Reports." There was a "carry over" of £500 from the 2019/20 Ward Funds. The cost of the bench is £1000 and will be deducted from the Ward Funds for 2019/20 and 2020/21. Local residents are preparing the site for the new bench.

- The Council agreed to purchase a new Town Hall Notice Board. The old Board will be transferred to the Cemetery. The funding will be covered by the Business Support Grant.

- The Council agreed a grant of £500 for "Handmade in Painswick" subject to the proviso that the grant is used for advertising.

Prior to closing the Meeting the Chairman extended his sincere thanks to all Councillors and Staff as this was the final Meeting of the Council and its Members.

Date of next Meeting

- Annual Meeting 28th April via ZOOM
- Wednesday 19th May 2021 at 7.30pm, location to be advised

The Meeting closed at 8.33pm

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Electric Vehicle Homecharge Scheme grant

Painswick residents who have their own off-road parking can claim for a grant of up to 75% of the cost of a chargepoint and its installation (with a grant cap per installation of £350 including VAT) through the Electric Vehicle Homecharge Scheme (EVHS).

To qualify for the grant, you must own, lease or have ordered a qualifying vehicle and have dedicated off-street parking at your property. You can apply for two chargepoints at the same property if you have two qualifying vehicles. The grant works like this: you choose an EVHS installer to install your chargepoint, the installer applies on your behalf and then bills you for the price of the installation less the grant amount you have applied for.

You won't be able to buy a new petrol or diesel car after 2029 – so get ahead of the

curve while support is available! Details are in "Electric Vehicle Homecharge Scheme: customer guidance" at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/customer-guidance-electric-vehicle-homecharge-scheme>

Other useful links are "Electric Vehicle Homecharge Scheme: eligible vehicles" at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/electric-vehicle-homecharge-scheme-eligible-vehicles> and "Electric Vehicle Homecharge Scheme: authorised installers" at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/electric-vehicle-homecharge-scheme-authorised-installers> If you want to have any further advice or information, feel free to drop a line to evpainswick@gmail.com – we shall do our best to help!

Stephen Aiano

Census story

Long, long ago I was Census Officer in 1981 and 1991 Census - when I found out that duplication was widespread and almost impossible to detect. It was difficult enough spotting duplication by people born in this country, and impossible if they had been born abroad.

When enumerators could not get satisfactory results from their enquiries it was my job to deal with all the "drop-outs" This difficulty was compounded largely by one factor: they all had something to hide.

I won't bore you with details suffice to say Stroud had the best coverage in the country and I was congratulated by the OPCS.

Lilian Mavis Mandel

Ps. In the last census I led, my counterpart in Northern Ireland was assassinated by the IRA and the police took extra care of me!

Local history is up and running

The Local History Society is coming back to life. A year without real meetings has, as for so many clubs and societies, been sad and difficult but hopefully that may change within the foreseeable future.



A fresh programme has been drawn up for talks to commence with the new season starting in September. Malcolm Watkins plans to open the programme with his presentation on the Birdlip Grave Group. Discovered by workmen in 1879, the skeletons and artefacts are some of the finest and most remarkable Iron Age bones and pieces of Celtic art ever found in Britain. In October Dr Simon Draper will explain the antiquity, evolution and meaning of place and landscape names, which in turn account for where we are today. Members may recall his fascinating talk, based on years of erudite research, on the meaning of surnames.

Meanwhile, it has been decided to hold an AGM by Zoom on Tuesday, 8th June at 7.30pm. After the formalities of the meeting, Alastair Jollans will give a fully illustrated presentation on the now extensive set of archives Painswick is fortunate to hold. The documentary archive in the Town Hall is considerable in both quantity and range. There is also now a very large photographic collection which has been digitised and therefore easily available. Both archives provide a potentially invaluable source of information, both verbal and pictorial, for research into a wide range of local historic subjects. A further benefit is that they are accessible right here in Painswick.

Everyone is welcome to join the meeting to find out more.

Carol Maxwell



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Painswick Music Society 2021 season



In the last few days I have had not only my second job but also my first haircut for several months, and there is definitely a greater sense of optimism in the air generally. The vaccine roll out continues apace and it seems likely that the next stages on the road out of lockdown will go ahead as planned. The crucial date for us is June 21st, the earliest on which the lifting of all restrictions may be announced, and if this includes a relaxation of social distancing rules, we have every hope and expectation that our much delayed 75th anniversary season will be able to go ahead in the autumn.

After a year when musicians have had virtually all their concerts cancelled, it is understandable that they are trying to reschedule as many of these as possible, and I have recently negotiated new dates for both Steven Isserlis and Roderick Williams to enable them to fulfil other postponed engagements in the UK and abroad. Steven was unable to offer any Saturday before June 2022 but I am delighted that he is now opening our season on Thursday 16th September, the first evening concert to be held during my time, perhaps ever in our 75 year history - an unprecedented solution in unprecedented times. His accompanist will now be the brilliant young British pianist, Mishka Rushdie Momen with whom he recently gave a recital at the Wigmore Hall available on YouTube, and their programme will comprise sonatas by Brahms, Chopin and Saint-Saens.

Roderick Williams and Iain Burnside are now coming on Saturday November 13th but as far as I am aware their programme remains as previously published. The dates and programmes for the Orchestra of the Swan and the Nash Ensemble have not changed, so our revised 75th anniversary season is now as given below, with just one start time to be confirmed.

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) Iain Burnside (piano)

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. Our committee will be meeting shortly after June 21st, and assuming that the lifting of restrictions goes ahead as we hope, brochures and booking forms will be sent out by email in late June or early July. 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.

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

Clarifications

Extraordinary Planning Meeting

In the item on the extraordinary planning committee meeting in regard to the Street Licence Application for the Walkers' car park in the April edition it was stated that the Conservation Society had withdrawn their objections this should have read 'The Painswick Beacon Conservation Group'.

The Painswick Pooch

The Painswick Pooch was included in photographs of empty commercial Properties in the April edition.

It has been drawn to our attention that The Pooch is only closed due to Covid regulations and will be opening again when regulations allow.

Village Diary

Society meetings, classes, sports and other events are all slowly starting up again..

To keep everyone informed please remember to send details of up-coming events to Vicky Aspinall at: diary.beacon@painswick.net

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News from St Mary's

Sunday services have resumed in all our benefice churches adhering to Covid rules. This means wearing face masks, maintaining social distancing and no congregational singing. However, it is now permitted to sing outside so at St Mary's we have adopted the practice of singing the last hymn of the service outside in the churchyard. Booking to attend a church service still needs to be done through Margaret Radway – phone 813440. It is hoped that Covid rules for church services will be further relaxed after 17th May.



The Easter season effectively ends on Ascension Day which is on 13th May. There will be a communion service on that day at St Mary's at 6.30 pm. It will be led by Revd. Andrew and the preacher will be the Rector Revd. Janet. Whitsun or Pentecost as it is now more commonly called, follows Ascension Day on 23rd May. Whit Monday always used to be a Bank holiday but the holiday has now been moved to Spring Bank Holiday which this year is on Monday 31st May.

For a number of years our famous yew trees in the churchyard have been individually sponsored by parishioners. The Sponsorship Scheme was initiated by the late Nigel Burt. The Appeal is made every three years to help with the cost of trimming and maintaining the yews. This year's Appeal is set at £50 per year so £150 for the three year period. The Scheme is open for anyone to participate and new sponsors are welcome. If you would like to sponsor a tree for the first time for the next three years please contact Margaret Radway in the first instance.

David Newell

Richmond open gardens

Richmond Painswick Retirement Village in conjunction with the National Garden Scheme are opening their gardens on 13th/27th May and 3rd/17th June

Situated on the southern slopes of Painswick this 4 acre retirement village boasts formal lawns and borders planted for year round interest.

A varied mix of herbaceous and perennial planting, with many areas of interest including a wildflower meadow and fruit trees that combine to attract an abundance of wildlife.. The gardens are a blaze of colour throughout. Minimal Car parking on site, free car park in Stamages Lane or the local Rugby ground. Toilet facilities, marquee serving tea/coffee plus light bites as well as a fully licensed restaurant. Make a day of it and enjoy afternoon tea on the rooftop garden. (Please note on the 13th May there will still be Covid restrictions and there will be no access to the restaurant or indoors). All this nestled in the beautiful Cotswold countryside. Gentle slopes around the village. Dogs welcome but kept on a lead. Any purchases on the days will need to be CASH.

Admission £5.00 (booked on-line) running 10.00-4.00pm
To book your tickets, please access the National Garden Scheme website and select 'Richmond Painswick' and book your ticket. Please then print off a copy to show on the gate.

Visitors will be able to pay on the door, but we would appreciate as many people as possible to book on-line, so the money goes direct to the NGS for their charity.

For any further information please contact Kay James, Head of Activities, Richmond Village on kay.james@richmond-villages.com or 01452-813902 Extension 222.

Library News

Opening Hours

Thanks to our wonderful volunteers the library is now open for browsing on Monday afternoons from 3 till 5pm and Wednesday and Saturday mornings from 10 till 12 noon. These opening hours are being reviewed at this month's trustees' meeting.



Happy Reading

Pat Pinnegar

Library Bookclub



The next library book club read is American Dirt by Jeanine Cummins. Our meeting is on Monday 17th May at 2pm. Once again it will be via zoom but we do hope to meet in person, as soon as covid restrictions allow. For further details email [Pat Andrew painswick.library.bookclub@gmail.com](mailto:PatAndrew.painswick.library.bookclub@gmail.com)



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The pandemic has caused us all to challenge the way we do things. During summer 2020 the WI committee met on lawns and patios but by the Autumn it was too cold to do so and we had to turn to Zoom. From January 2021 branch meetings were scheduled on Zoom. Would you believe that 35 people were able to click on a link, launch a meeting, join video and be let onto the gallery by our host? They muted and unmuted when necessary and it was a real pleasure to be reunited virtually with our friends.

Ged Cassell talked about “Ancient Egypt” in March. His power point presentation with excellent pictures tracked the development of the Egyptian civilization over a very long period of time. Did you know that the missing obelisk at Carnak now sits in the middle of The Place de la Concorde in Paris? After the talk we were able to question Ged personally and comment from the gallery.

Telephones and e-mails have enabled us to keep in touch with WI members and particularly those living alone. We have arranged walks and a guided walk in Stratford Park in the near future followed by two social events if the Road Map goes to plan. From September a full programme should happen. Yew Trees WI is thriving despite covid constraints. Come and join us Women of Painswick for you will be warmly welcomed!

Janet Jenkins

Jottings - ridge and furrow

When you are walking or driving in the countryside, you can often still see evidence of ridge and furrow farming. The closer the ridges are the older they are. These dips and bumps were originally formed because when the land was ploughed, the soil was always turned over to the right. In Anglo Saxon times, the strips were narrow because it was hard to turn the plough round to go back down. Every time the field was ploughed, soil was pushed to the middle and the ridge became higher, leaving a dip, or “furrow”.

By the Middle Ages, large fields were owned by the Lord of the Manor and each family had a strip. This would be a “furrow-long” which became a furlong: 660 feet (about 200metres). The older ridges were narrow, 4.6 metres, and as time went on ridges became wider apart up to 66 feet (20 metres), this 66 feet being called a “chain”. The dip was the boundary between each family's strip. Each of these ridges was called a “land”, the early ones being about a quarter of an acre, the later ones an acre. An acre is defined as the area of one chain by one furlong (66 feet by 660 feet).

It became noticeable that the raised ridges helped drain the soil in wet weather and the furrows kept moist in dry weather. So ridges were built up, called “filling” or “gathering”, before ploughing. Wheat could be grown on the ridges and peas and beans in the wetter dips. In wet conditions, animals could be fed on the drier ridges and they were able to lie down on drier ground.

In some cases, the land became used for keeping animals only and has not been ploughed since, so the ridge and furrow pattern is still visible. With larger farm machinery, it is difficult to cut the grass for hay or silage because the blades catch in the soil. Some ridge and furrow fields are listed and cannot be ploughed out for historic reasons. No ridge and furrow field system is used in farming now. It would take a lot of hard work!

Martin Slinger

Seeking a Painswick lady

The search is on for a lady known to have lived in Painswick a few years ago, and who perhaps still does live here. Tim Gilpin, who died in 2008, was a captain in the Scots Guards. He and his wife, Susan, lived in East Compton, near Shepton Mallett, and had two daughters one of whom is known to have moved to Painswick. She was definitely here at least 15 years ago.

Tim, it is believed, may have given talks to local schools about his experiences in the Scots Guards and he almost certainly possessed some fascinating memorabilia from the Second



World War. There is now naturally much interest in such memorabilia within the regiment and among the sons and daughters of some of Tim's ex military colleagues. They would like very much to include more family members in this growing interest. They are therefore hoping to find Tim's daughter but unfortunately have no details of her name or exact whereabouts.

The photograph was taken in October 2003 and features from left to right Captain Tim Gilpin, Colour Sgt. Muir Findlay, Warrant Officer Archie (Judy) Garland.

Might you know, or even be, this lady? If you can help please contact me carolmaxwell@talktalk.net or tel. 813387.

Carol Maxwell

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This is now a good time to see if you can save money by switching. In the last 5 months, Citizens Advice Stroud and Cotswolds Districts have helped 175 households with energy issues. This includes saving money by switching, helping clients switch to green energy suppliers, helping clients understand their energy bills and usage and finding grants and financial support for clients. Our website www.citizensadvice.org.uk has lots of information to help you with your energy supply.

However, we understand that not everyone uses the internet and that some people have issues that need specialist advice. If you would like help with your energy bills, please get in touch. Your gas, electricity and water bills do not have to be worrying issues. Our service is confidential, impartial and independent.

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Peter and Jane Rowe

Stroud Valleys trail running

Two friends and Painswick residents are set to establish a new local trail running club with a twist; it's just for Dads. Stroud Valleys Trail Running (SVTR) founders Tim Wynn-Jones and Dan Port met last summer between lockdowns when taking their kids to play cricket, and by chance bumped into each other the next day while separately out running. They agreed they should join up, and they've been running together weekly since. "Both of us are keen runners, but with each having 3 kids under the age of 7 we could often find ourselves struggling to make time for it, particularly without having someone to run with to get you out of the door and spur you on" says Tim.

With Covid restrictions allowing for meeting another person for outdoor exercise, Tim and Dan were soon finding their running was not only giving them the opportunity to keep fit but also to benefit from sharing experiences of fatherhood and relieving some of the pressures of parenting in lockdown. They're now determined to keep that going and encourage other Dads to join them. "Even before Covid we both felt like we knew a lot of young Dads who, like us, probably didn't find it as easy as they used to to socialise outside of home and work," says Dan. "Heading out for a run, particularly through the awesome scenery we're lucky enough to be surrounded by, created a space for us to talk about things we wouldn't necessarily have done at the school gates or the pub".



A love of the great outdoors was another driving principle in Tim and Dan's decision to set up SVTR. "To be able to freely access the hills and woods around Stroud from our doorsteps is an unreal privilege," says Tim. "We've discovered a lot of places and routes that we never would have known about".

The plan is for SVTR to meet twice weekly, once on Wednesday evening and once on Sunday, starting and finishing outside the Painswick Youth and Community Pavilion. Distances will typically be between 4 and 8 miles on mixed terrain at an intermediate pace. The first meet up will be on Sunday 9th May at 5pm – all Dads welcome! If you're unable to make that time or you would just like to enquire you can contact Tim and Dan at hello@stroudvalleystrailrunning.co.uk

Tim Wynn-Jones

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Historic crimes in May

May, it would seem, was a month inexplicably rife with crime in Painswick in the past. The following are just a few from a very long list indeed.

Exactly 200 years ago, May 1821, Isaac Escort was charged with stealing a pair of shoes and a hat. His description: age 34, 5ft.4¼ in., hair light brown, eyes light grey, complexion fresh, scar on bridge of his nose formerly broken, long face, wide mouth, marks of punishment on his back, mole on left shoulder, scar right shin, does not read. He was, fortunately for him, found not guilty.

In May 1861 two cases became very complicated over specific details. John Wynn and William Aldridge, a militiaman, were charged with breaking and entering the house of George Fisher and stealing a halfpenny and seven old copper coins. The house appears to have been slightly ransacked but nothing of value taken. The details of the case are long but finally they were discharged. In the same month Charles Fisher was charged with stealing 'certain cultivated plants used for the food of man, viz 8 bushels of watercress' the property of the Rev. Biddell. Much of the case focussed on whether cress was in fact a weed. Ultimately, Fisher's boots exactly matched those found around the growing site and he was fined 20s.6d.

In May 1871 Thomas Partridge was fined for allowing his horse to stray on the highway. In the same month Samuel Trow was found guilty of breaking into his uncle Thomas Trow's house and stealing a purse containing £1.9s. Description: 21, 5ft.6¼in., hair brown, eyes hazel, visage long, complexion fresh, birth mark back of neck, long scar right leg, baptised, single. Guilty, four months hard labour.

In May 1881 Charles and Richard Fisher were charged with being drunk, disorderly and abusive coming out of the New Inn; fined or 14 days imprisonment. Richard Swain, guilty of being drunk and disorderly; fined or seven days. John Bradshaw and Frank Swain, guilty of cruelly ill-treating a horse; fined or one month imprisonment. The details given of the horse's injuries are gruesome. And finally, Edmund Fern, aged 11, was found guilty of breaking a hedge in order to pick some cowslips in a field. Costs to be paid.

Drink again in 1891 when Joseph Foxwell was given 14 days hard labour or pay 28/- as punishment for being drunk in charge of a horse wagon.

May 1901 saw many cases including the following. Frank Brown was guilty of owning a house unfit for human habitation in Vicarage Street. Henry Cook was charged with assaulting his wife and being drunk in St Mary's Street; fined 5/-. A distress warrant was issued against Mr F.H.Croome, retired solicitor, calling upon him to cut certain trees on his property which were overhanging the road (currently pertinent perhaps?). Martin Tranter was fined 5/- for drunkenness. William Smith and Thomas Hanks were charged with assaulting Sarah Holder who had previously assaulted Smith's wife. A tricky local squabble (in Butt Green) in which Holder was stated to make 'as much row as half a dozen peacocks' startling everybody for a quarter of a mile round.

Carol Maxwell

Butterfly appeal

Longfield Hospice's appeal offers families a unique way to celebrate the life of someone special – a wonderful tribute to their memory and a chance to be a part of a memorial being planted in a stunning new art installation at Gloucester Cathedral and Stroud's Museum in the Park.

One thousand metal butterflies will form a poignant sculpture to go on display in the cloisters garden at the Cathedral between 26th June to 11th July 2021 and the Museum in the Park from 14th July to 24th July 2021. Each butterfly dedicated in memory of a loved one. Once the installation has ended, the butterflies will be yours to keep as a lasting tribute.



The money raised from the Butterfly Appeal will go towards Longfield Hospice's work in the community.

This will include supporting families in need from Longfield's Hospice at Home service to Bereavement Counselling and Day Therapy.

To secure your butterfly and be a part of this very special memorial, please make a minimum donation of £25 now in memory of anyone special to you and be part of the Cathedral and Museum display. Your loved one does not need to have been cared for by Longfield. For more information please go to www.longfield.org.uk/butterfly-appeal/, email events@longfield.org.uk or call the team on 01453 886868.

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Art Couture Painswick leaves creative legacy

Not long since an antique dealer from Painswick flew away to the land of the New Zeas. There he found a tribe of folk (Wearable Artists) who wore strange and colourful apparel and strutted about then quivered like peacocks. On his return to the town of his origin he spoke discreetly of his adventures to one inquisitive lady but barely believing him she decided to take a look for herself and flew off in the same direction. True enough when she arrived at the appointed place a carousel of costumes were going round and round but the people had all gone away leaving their creations draped over mute rotating dummies.

Knowing the virtues of posing and preening she confided her ideas to other out-going folk on her return and to everyone's delight they agreed; 'we too can get the people to put on costumes and outdo each other in glorious glad rags and invite others to compete in the street, and disport in the churchyard and wipe the sleep from the town's eyes and merry up and make funky the order for just one day. They well-nigh got carried away with the idea.

And so it was, an eclectic team, cajoled, engaged and persuaded friends and strangers alike to give money and time and effort to their fabulous notion of 'Wearable Art'. Such was the infectious enthusiasm that objections and barriers evaporated in the face of their intent. Their canvas took on the authority of the unpredictable; a challenge to 'make and wear' was issued forth.

Thus began the event, transforming the town; for that one day, into a vibrant pulsating overdressed occasion of multiple layers of gorgeous creations, smiling punters, snappy traders, queues of falafel eaters, painted nakedness, photographers, picnickers sandwiched between tombs, caparisoned yew trees, troubadours, vintage fly pasts, operatic renditions, to say nothing of the vicar serving tea and cup-cakes in the church. People were coming from far and near and just next door.

As each year passed the crowds grew, the competition's themes became more ambitious, the judges more prestigious. From coquettish magazine editors to the offspring of angular sculptors even outrageous comedians and voluminous knitters. Hatters to the rich and infamous, whip makers of repute and bra makers of proportion, all and more gave of their experience; judged the unjudgable and sang the praises of the most humble attempts. Willingly they took to their stage-side sofas, to assess the virtues of creations made.



From organza to polished plastic, from hardware waste to carded wool, from stiffened paper to crimped silks, from vegetation to petrochemicals, all pressed and pushed and wound and bound into forms of flight, of night, of mystery, of history even of things that might....

Colour, shape and proportions became more ambitious and unpredictable; the people were stitching with stitches and pinking with shears; binding in bundles and embroidering flowers. Weaving and sewing and holing for buttons all through the dismal dark months of the year; just to be ready and heady and giddy for their one long day in the sun. Lives had new meanings, people had begun to reveal their true selves, self-consciousness was becoming old hat and connective tissues were changing their ways. Community was becoming unity.

For ten years, hundreds of volunteers re-organised their time to re-sign the town, shepherd the crowds, station the street traders, usher the cars, polish the windows and fettle the streets for punters and competitors alike. Every available public space was requisitioned for the purposes of Wearable Art, only had this happened before in wartime. The town was changed from year round routine to a one-day hell of a show, both sublime and absurd.



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One event led to the next, charitable status was achieved, formal support was sought and found. Assistance was given to emerging young artists, children were encouraged to enter, schools began costume making. Famous vacuum cleaner designers supported brainstorming sessions in multi lingual local Academy schools, catwalks started appearing at village fetes, even the elderly and infirm were taking off clothes to have their bodies painted. Propriety had given way to exuberance, and still the vicar served his tea and cakes!

Each year the charity trustees; after the crowds had gone, put their hands in their pockets and found little left. Months of preparation, still resulted in further begging and borrowing for the following year. Tickets needed to be sold. Trustees resigned, new ones emerged but still the finances scraped along. Even the presentation of the Queens Award for Voluntary Service did little to change the fortunes of the event. A radical step from churchyard to cathedral was plotted and ACP took a new creative path into the city of Gloucester. A change of fortunes was necessary, and the make or break show in front of a now seated more diverse audience was undertaken in the grandeur of the Romanesque nave. First the costumes had to compete with the fantastic fan vaulting of the cloisters then they disappeared into the vastness of the nave where neither light nor sound could help, but once again the painted people and the costumed strutters were enveloped by audience gasps, titters and applause.

It was never the less a swansong, the final fluttering of an idea of its time both ephemeral and apt, a brazen notion and a bold experiment that will in time be spoken of as "that was ACP". Art Can Prevail.

The ACP Trustees would like to leave a Creative Legacy by inviting 16-25 year olds to apply for one of the two £1000 bursaries being awarded. Applicants will be asked to provide a specific plan of how the bursary would further assist their artistic development. Past recipients of previous bursaries have amongst other things used the monies to purchase an industrial Knitting machine, follow Mila Harris-Mussi on instagram to discover where the knitting machine has taken her and see some of her wonderful creations. Another to help fund a course in sustainable fashion. To register your interest please E mail judie.hill@painswickcentre.com and you will be forwarded an application form. The cut off date for entry is June 15th

Signing off, the trustees of ACP would like to thank everyone from the enchanted onlookers and the talented performers to the titillating entrants but also the team of diverse, enthusiastic and energetic volunteers, who embraced the eccentric idea, rolled up their sleeves, and joined in the communal fun that was Art Couture Painswick.

*Jack Everett, trustee
Pictures courtesy of Anne Marie Randall.*

Chedworth Roman Villa, and Gardening for Wildlife

Last month over 70 members and guests logged in to Zoom for a talk about work on the Stroudwater Canal, a record virtual attendance for the Cotteswold Naturalists' Field Club.

On Wednesday 5th May at 2.30 pm, we will be welcoming Dr Nick Humphris, retired engineer and university lecturer to talk about 'Archaeology on the Chedworth Roman Villa site'.

Recent excavations at Chedworth Roman Villa continue to produce new finds, including a mosaic dated to mid-to-late 5th century AD and, therefore, later than the Roman departure from Britain. Does this mean that Britain's decline into the Dark Ages may have been slower than previously thought? The latest discoveries also include marble from Greece and glass fragments from a fish bottle from Crimea, suggesting that Chedworth was a high-status villa of some longevity. Our speaker has participated in many Chedworth digs and will illustrate the talk with his eye-catching photographs.

Our next talk falls before the June Beacon newsletter is published: on Wednesday 2nd June, at 2.30 pm, Victoria Logue will talk about 'Gardening for wildlife'. She owns Whitehall Farmhouse Plants, a tiny nursery high up in the Cotswolds, specialising in hardy herbaceous plants.



Our plans for some summer visits and walks will be published shortly. Contact me for more information on tel. 01452 813228 or email janeerowe2015@gmail.com

After a two-month break in the lecture programme, we hope to hold meetings in person, with lectures resuming on Wednesday 8th September in the Painswick Centre.

Jane E Rowe

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Election candidates County Council

Helen Fenton - Labour

I moved to the beautiful Stroud Valleys almost 14 years ago – having grown-up in the South East and lived most of my early-adult life in the North. I feel blessed to have made my home here.



I work as a psychotherapist, supporting children and young people. Before Covid I was working in schools alongside parents, teachers, and social workers, as well as independently. So I have insight into the challenges faced by many self-employed people during the pandemic, as well as the challenges that our young people are struggling with.

I'm a keen cyclist, have been actively involved in local cycling clubs, Stroud Active Travel, and during 2020 I've been on the team behind the Stroud Spindarellas – supporting local women through cycling and friendship.

Alan Mossman - Green Party

Alan has lived in Stroud District for more than 30 years, working as a management consultant and university teacher. In his spare time, he loves exploring the local countryside by foot and by bike and enjoys painting.



Thanks to having worked in local government early in his career, Alan understands how the democratic system works, which means he knows how to make things happen locally.

If elected he will work to create safer cycle routes in Slad and Painswick Valleys, push to extend the natural flood management scheme initiated by local Greens, demand that responsibility for contact-tracing is given to community health experts, and work to support local businesses and services.

Susan Williams - Conservative



Sue was born and raised in Cranham. She attended Cranham school, Brockworth school and Stroud Technical college. In 1983 Sue commenced Mental Health Nurse training at Coney Hill /Horton Rd hospitals. An NHS career lasting 33 years specialising in dementia. Sue was awarded the title Queen's Nurse in 2012 by the Queen's Nursing Institute in recognition of her services to the community.

Sue moved to Bisley in 1988 when she married Martin where they continue to farm with their son Tim. Sue volunteers at Cranham school with "Psalms and OTB". She is also an active member of climate action network.

District Council

Jason Bullingham - Conservative

Born and bred in Painswick, I have made it my mission in later adulthood to serve the area I was raised in. I have been a Parish Councillor for 9 years in Painswick, and held roles of Vice Chair of the Planning Committee, and was a member of the Traffic Committee.



I was your County Councillor for Gloucestershire for 4 years.

My aim as a District Councillor is to be an Ambassador for the people of the Ward, and ensure your voice is heard, and listened to on issues of importance to you.

Isa Clee - Green Party

Isa is an education project co-ordinator, has been involved in youth theatre and has run a successful graphic design firm. She also helps run a locally based sustainable furniture business.

Isa grew up in Stroud and is involved in campaigning on local green issues, encouraging positive action on climate change and helping to embed environmental and sustainability practice into the education system.



If elected she will help to maintain Painswick's natural beauty by supporting community environmental projects, especially around rewilding and increasing the area's tree coverage. She will also press for improvements to the local bus timetable, better speed enforcement and safer cycling.

Julie Job - Conservative

Julie was born in Stroud and brought up in Painswick. She attended Painswick Primary School, followed by Archway and Stroud College. When Julie married David in 1986 they moved to Cranham and ran The Black Horse for 25 years. Julie has two sons and she enjoys watching them both play cricket for Stroud. Julie was first elected as a District Councillor in 2016 and has served on both the Housing Committee and the Licensing Committee



Gavin McClafferty - Green Party

Gavin is a freelance artist and craftsman who studied at the University of Gloucestershire. Gavin believes that the local community is as important as the environment, so uses local suppliers for his eco-friendly furniture business.

If elected he will press for further progress on energy-saving (and money-saving) improvements to council houses and continued greening up of the council's vehicle fleet. He will also support community-led environmental initiatives, through the Stroud District Climate Action Network.



Gavin fully supports the District Council's collaborative approach as part of the Green/Labour/Lib Dem rainbow alliance, and the Green Party's 'no-party whip' approach, which allows councillors to use their own initiative in supporting their residents.



Keith Pearson - Conservative

Originally from Barnet in north London, Keith moved to Upton St Leonards in 1985, with his wife Ann and two daughters, living here longer than anywhere else in his lifetime, this is home. He has been working in the community since taking early retirement in 1998, as Chair of the Village Hall Trust, Parish Council and since 2007 as District Councillor for Upton, which in 2016 was joined with Painswick. His aims are to ensure that the rural ethos of this exceptional community is maintained, through supporting only sustainable sensible development if it is necessary at all.



Ela Pathak-Sen - Labour

I have lived in Painswick for over 20 years and want to continue serving my community. I was a Parish Councillor and School governor and have worked in the NHS most of my adult life. I want to build on the achievements of our Labour led District Council, creating in politics as in life, a little more listening to each other and not point scoring.

My pledges to you are:

To work to improve the wellbeing of our community, especially those lonely or vulnerable through old age or mental health

To create a more inclusive community through listening and acting on local concerns

To use my NHS experience to support and enhance social care and health initiatives.



Parish Council - Painswick Ward

Edward Boulton

Having moved to Painswick in early 2020, it has been fantastic to experience the welcoming community spirit of the village. I would like to help preserve and contribute to that spirit as a member of the Parish Council. Growing up in a similar village setting, I have a passion for the great outdoors and I have enjoyed exploring the local area with my partner Sam and our Springer Spaniel. We even walked the entire Cotswold Way last summer to raise money for charity. In my professional life I work as a business and marketing manager for the luxury hotel industry.



Ian Charles Massey

I am a retired NHS employee who has lived in the Painswick Parish for a little over five years. I am passionate about the building of a local, sustainable and environmentally friendly community, which allows for sensitive development of Painswick and its surrounding countryside. I am an active supporter and committee member of the Painswick Beacon Conservation Group having joined the weekend after I moved here. I would welcome the opportunity to play an active part in the encouragement and management of this as a member of the Parish Council.

Rosie Nash

I have served as a Parish Councillor for four years and lived in the heart of our fantastic community for eight. Whether in my role as chairperson of the Land and Buildings Committee, or during my time volunteering at the Rowcroft, I am reminded of what makes Painswick unique. When we pull together, we can care for those less able or challenged by current restrictions, prevent harmful developments such as the erection of phone masts, and also ensure that development and planning are carefully monitored. If elected, I look forward to continuing to help our community thrive.



Police & Crime Commissioner

We have not printed details of the candidates for the office of Police and Crime Commissioner but list the candidates below:

Christopher Coleman - Liberal Democrat

Chris Nelson - Conservative

Simon O'Rourke - Labour

Adrian Stratton - Independent

Martin Surl - Independent

Abigail Smith

I have lived in Painswick for 15 years and joined the Parish Council in 2013. With a professional background in highways I took on the Chair of the Traffic Committee; we've had some successes but there's always more to do. I have a keen focus on environmental issues and social outcomes and have sat on all the committees to understand the breadth of issues the community faces. Recently, I have tailored my engagement around where I think I can make the greatest difference. I am passionate about making sure all members of the community are heard and considered in all decision making and initiatives.

Other candidates for the Painswick Ward:

James Cross

Ann Daniels

Veronika Dutfield

Rob Lewis

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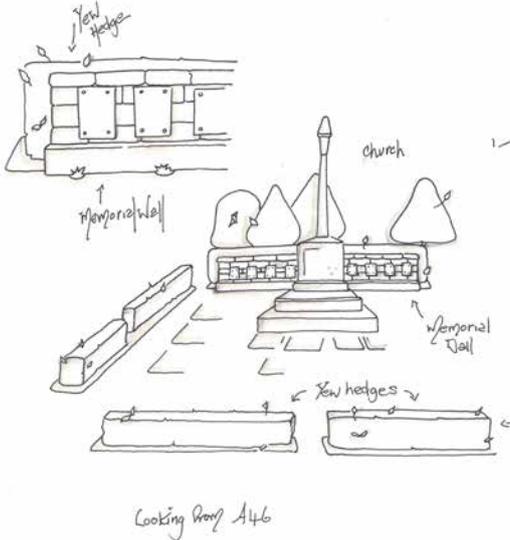
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War memorial plans progressing

The proposal to take positive action with regard to the war memorial site is making definite progress albeit rather steadily. The most complex issue is the surrounding yew hedge, now exceptionally wide and very high. It was never thus envisaged when originally established. Unfortunately, there are several official stages through which to proceed before a decision can be made as to the best course of action and these involve external agencies. This in turn is naturally a slow process.

In the meantime, ideas about the best course of action seem to be heading in a unified direction. Regarding the hedges, there is the possibility of replacing them with new yew hedging which can thereafter be kept to the size originally intended. Two reputable tree maintenance companies have both recently recommended this option pointing out that serious pruning would result in the hedges looking brown and bare during recovery time, up to 15 years. As little can be done about the names carved on the memorial because of the soft nature of the stone, the proposal is to erect a very low stone wall to the side upon which metal plates are attached bearing all the names. These possibilities are shown in the drawing.



Currently all but hidden from view, our memorial is in fact a very proud edifice commemorating those Painswick men who gave their lives in both world wars. The surviving servicemen from WW1 ensured the names of those who did not return would be remembered for ever with due respect by insisting on the construction of the memorial, unveiled in 1921. That symbol of respect and pride needs to endure via a visible display, not hidden away.

It is hoped that the official process of gaining permission to take action with regard to the hedge will be completed shortly. As the memorial site is a very important public space the parish council regard this course of action as a matter for public consultation and a questionnaire seeking your views will, it is hoped, be included in the June Beacon. This all depends on the pace at which the official process advances - and that lies with official agencies outside of Painswick.

Carol Maxwell

Foodbank



FOOD COLLECTION

Savoury snacks (crisps, crackers etc)	Tinned potatoes
Children's toothbrushes	Shaving kits
Toilet roll	Deodorant

Other items (within use by date) also always welcome

Wednesday 12th May 2021 10am-12pm
St Mary's church Painswick (by the Stocks)
and Stamages Lane Car Park
Thank you so much for your support!!

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The bright and sunny weather on 13th April made this month's Foodbank collection more enjoyable for all concerned and there were even some alpacas being lead through the village to add to the morning! Thank you to all who, once again, brought donations to the car park and the stocks. It's always lovely to speak to those who are bringing supplies, or who just happen to be passing and ask about the initiative. We collected 279kg of food which we delivered to the Foodbank warehouse in Brimscombe in the afternoon. The volunteers at the warehouse are a big help in getting the food from our cars into crates and then into the warehouse under Covid regulations.

Our next collection will be on Wednesday 12th May from 10am – 12 noon as usual at St Mary's (by the stocks) and in the Stamages Lane Car Park. Donations of savoury snacks, tinned potatoes, children's toothbrushes, shaving kits, toilet roll and deodorant would be ideal but, as always, any non-perishable donations are gratefully received. We are also still collecting old computers, laptops and ipads for Archway School.

Your continued support is very much appreciated!

Thank you from the Foodbank Team. 07950 651228

There is now also a permanent box in the Pharmacy where donations for the foodbank can be left



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Painswick Sports

assembled by John Barrus

Painswick Football Club

Are Painswick Football Club destined to be victims of their own success?

Our story highlights the real need of the, "Stroud Playing Pitch Strategy", launched by Stroud District Council

The current management took over a squad of 16 players that had finished only 9th place in the 2017/2018 season. Since then, Painswick Football Club has gone from strength to strength, winning back-to-back promotions, the second of these as division champions for the 2019/2020 season, during which time the squad has grown to over 50 senior players.

As such, for the start of the 2019/2020 season, a new reserve team was formed. So apparent was the popularity to play in and for Painswick, the decision to re-introduce youth football in 2021 was also made. Sadly, due to the current Covid-19 pandemic, this has been delayed.

So far, great success in many ways. However, this success now leaves Painswick 1ST team just 2 promotions away from no longer being able to play at the Recreation Ground. This is because the Pavilion does not meet the minimum requirements as a changing facility, for the higher levels.

With this in mind, an appeal was made to Painswick Rugby Club in the hope that we could enter into a ground share. This was met with objection, (by some, not necessarily all of the committee). The objection was made, based on concerns that the pitches would be over-played.



We offered a resolve to the issue, asking if our 1st Team could play at Broadham Fields, with the Reserve team remaining at the "Rec". With both teams using the Sports Club as a base. Giving the Sports Club, 50 new paying senior members, 50 new members spending money over the bar, not to mention any supporters and the visiting teams.

Sadly, the Rugby Club Committee withheld their decision and our request was still rejected.

This leaves Painswick Football Club with the same dilemma. 2 promotions away from no longer being able to play at the "Rec". Therefore, 2 promotions away from Painswick Village losing football, Senior and Youth. As we would have to relocate outside of the Painswick postcode, it would mean a change of identity. With the backing of both a major plant contractor and pitch specialist, (if required,) Painswick Football Club is now actively seeking a new home. Hopefully within the Painswick postcode.

If you can help our cause, or require any further information, please contact;
Carl Williams, Head Coach/ 1st Team Manager by email;
williams.1892@outlook.com or telephone 07913369605

Painswick Cricket Club

As warmer days and summer approaches thoughts turn to Painswick Cricket Club playing enjoyable cricket at Broadham fields. The club continues to provide cricket for men and women of all ages and abilities. Here are some updates and information that may be of interest.

New Net Bay - considering these current times and current difficulties we have made great progress and are nearly there financially. We are hoping to start construction work in the Spring or early summer of 2021. The cricket club would like to thank all those who have backed us so far whether it be financially or in terms of organising and taking part in events, the support has been fantastic. Stand outs are of course the clothes sale and especially those brave souls who took part in the walk to Lords. What an effort that was!

Grounds

Our hard working Chairman and top groundsman Ian Hogg has been preparing the square and outfield with his usual diligence for the 2021 season. We have also seen several good folks clearing and removing the old net bay.

Youth (boys and girls)

Training will be on Friday evenings at Broadham Fields but please check the age groups below.

The Under 13s and under 15s started on 30th April at 6.30 till 7.30pm.

The All Stars (5 - 7 year olds) and Dynamos (8 - 11 year olds) starts on 7th May.

Please note that we are also looking to develop an under 11 girls team and host under 9 festivals this season.



Teams

The first team are looking forward to another season in the competitive West of England Premier League; they will be ably led by Jack Hobbs. Nick Marment will lead our seconds who were promoted from the Stroud League to the Gloucestershire County League Division 7. We then have Noel French leading our third team in Stroud League Two. The thirds also made great strides last season especially in developing the younger players. Reece Morris will skipper our Sunday side and George Macduff will lead the mid week outfit. Obviously the early games will be under Covid restrictions and as a Club we will always play to the ECB/GCB guidelines. Good luck to you all.

Training

Senior Club training started under the guidance of our ECB LEVEL 3 Coach Ross Martin on 15th April between 6-8pm. All abilities are welcome to come along.

If you are interested to know more information about playing or supporting the cricket club then please contact Dom Barnard dom-rolle@yahoo.co.uk or Ian Hogg straight.spinner@hotmail.com.

The club would like to wish everyone a fantastic 2021 and hope to see you at Broadham watching and supporting our teams.

Steve Pegram

Reopening The Painswick Centre



After more than a year of closure, we are excited that The Painswick Centre will be reopening from 17th May. While we may not be able to run a full programme of events and classes yet, there should be more and more happening as the weeks progress. The Handmade in Painswick pop-up shop will of course be at the Centre June – August, and we also have meeting room and desk space available if continued working from home has left you in need of a change of scene. As always, the best place to find up-to-date details for What's On is our website and social media.

A huge Thank You to all who have signed up to play the Lucky Severn Lottery to support The Painswick Centre. We are very close to our target of 100 tickets, so if you want to financially support us while being in with a chance of winning the jackpot of £25k, visit www.luckysevernlottery.co.uk/support/the-painswick-centre

We will also shortly be advertising paid roles for bar staff and a bookkeeper, so keep an eye out for those online if you might be interested.

Susie Andrews

Property report

Property in Painswick is still selling like hot cakes and if national figures are anything to go by, prices are rising rapidly as well, with the ONS reporting house price growth of 8.6% over the last year. Stamp duty reductions end in June, but with Government guarantees for 95% mortgages now coming in, more fuel is being added to the fire. Local estate agents report willing buyers across all price brackets and would love more property to sell. Pity the poor first-time buyer though.

There have been more sales at the top end of the market, including the Verlands in Vicarage Street, sold through Hamptons and Beacon Heights near the Royal William (a 3 bedroom house offered for £1.95m!). Hammonds Farm, reported last month as for sale around £3m, has now gone under offer, as has Norton Cottage in Wragg Castle Lane, offered at £1.3m through Murrays. If you're looking in that sector of the market, Jenkins Farmhouse (£2.75m), Weavers Mill (£1.5m) and the Lamp House in Victoria Street (£1.2m) are still available through Murrays at the time of writing, but pretty much everything else is sold. Some properties are selling off market though, or are being effectively sold through social media before full marketing, so it's always worth talking to local agents.

4 St Mary's Mead came on the market this month at £850,000 through Murrays, but went quickly under offer. The same happened to 2 Cliffwell Cottages just outside Edge (Hamptons, £585,000) and to Millfields at The Vatch, just outside Slad (Hamptons, £650,000). There are still two other four bedroomed detached properties available in the Slad area though. Pen-Y-Bryn in Steanbridge Lane (Murrays, £825,000) has a good sized garden and planning permission to extend, while Recreation Cottage (Murrays, £825,000) has a detached workshop / studio / garage with lovely views. In Painswick itself, Mirfield in Stroud Road (Hamptons, £495,000) is a two bedroom detached bungalow, hidden away and with views out over the fields.

Other properties going under offer this month include Mulberry House in Churchill Way, the New House and the Weaver's House in Friday Street, the School House in Stroud Road, Painswick Mill Cottage in Ticklestone Lane, 4 Hambutts Cottages in Edge Road and Troopers Rest in Vicarage Street. Properties that have exchanged and completed include Little Gables at the Highlands, The Cottage in Vicarage Street (and The Verlands), Commodious Chapel at Edge, Cockshoot House at Cockshoot and both Monastery Bells and Woodby at the Knoll in Cranham.

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Carbon sequestration



I am often asked whether we should be cutting down trees on the Beacon when the current trend is encouraging planting more. I defend our work on the basis that the grassland is the endangered habitat and nationally extremely rare. Woodland is a valuable habitat, but to think more of it will solve the climate crisis is misguided. In Bill Gates' recent book, "How to Avoid a Climate Disaster", it is estimated that to offset America's carbon footprint approximately 25% of the world's land mass would need to be forested.

Recent reading has taught me that traditional pasture is actually a better carbon sink than woodland, but not as good as sphagnum bogs. This is hard to comprehend as a tree is highly visible and basic biology teaches us how CO₂ and water are photosynthesised into starch and then cellulose. Unfortunately as a woodland matures, trees die and decompose, releasing all the captured carbon back into the atmosphere. If the trees are felled and turned into timber and that used for long term usage, then yes, the carbon is locked up for longer. However, the replanted wood takes many years to reach optimal carbon absorption.

A much better solution lies literally under our feet. Mycorrhizal fungi. They have been known to be intimately associated with tree development for some time but now they are known to be linked to all plants. They are microscopic tubules (hyphae) which link to the hair roots of plants and enable them to absorb water and nutrients from the soil and even transmit chemical signals between plants. In 1996 a sticky glycoprotein called glomalin was discovered. This forms an extremely tough coating on the mycorrhizal hyphae which is resistant to microbial degradation. As the plant roots grow the fungal hyphae follow the hair roots into the soil spaces and the glomalin sloughs off the older hyphae into the soil. Here it accumulates and holds soil particles together into a fine 'tilth' so prized by gardeners. Its durability, and ability to form microbe proof aggregates with organic matter, mean much carbon can be stored. It is estimated that 82% of carbon in the biosphere is in soil.

Unfortunately most of our countryside is so intensively farmed, soil quality is dreadful and wildlife has collapsed to 60-90% of 1970 numbers (and they weren't great compared to pre war ones.) In 2014, Farmers' Weekly announced there were only a hundred harvests left in our soils.

Experiments have shown that glomalin concentrations in natural grassland go up as levels of CO₂ increase and the success of the Knepp Estate wilding project in West Sussex, give hope that a low tech, low cost solution to sequestration is available, if the will is there to take it. Here, a large unprofitable farm was turned back to nature; fields sown with meadow seeds, wetland areas recreated and woodland allowed to develop naturally. Longhorn cattle, Dartmoor ponies, deer and Tamworth pigs are allowed to graze unhindered. Wildlife, in twenty years, has recovered at an incredible rate. Now the estate sells high quality, 100% pasture reared beef and supports an eco tourist business.

One of the key factors in the Knepp Estate success is the reintroduction of grazing. Having regular grazing on the Beacon has been vital and the results are clear to see. We can't wait to get our Dexters working again later in the summer.

Paul Baxter

Christian Aid Week 10th-16th May 2021



Owing to the pandemic the Painswick Valley Christian Aid committee will not carry out the usual house-to-house collection this year. Instead, we are holding a virtual collection via e-envelopes: <https://envelope.christianaid.org.uk/envelope/painswick-valley> to support CA's work helping local communities in Kenya and other vulnerable nations combat the effects of climate change.

In place of our usual events we hope to serve lunches and afternoon cream teas and run a garden shop in St. Mary's churchyard on some days during the week of 17th May, weather and Covid regulations permitting.

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As lockdown eases and life returns to 'normal' please let me know your dates for the Village Diary. diary.beacon@painswick.net

May			
Wed	5	Cotteswold Naturalists: Archaeology on the Chedworth Roman Villa site. Dr Nick Humphris Enq 813228	Talk by Zoom
Sun	9	Holy Communion	St Mary's Church 9.30am
Thurs	13	Ascension Day. Benefice Communion	St Mary's Church 6.30pm
Mon	17	Christian Aid lunches, cream teas and garden shop. These will run until Saturday 22nd	St Mary's Churchyard depending on weather and Covid regulations
Sun	23	Pentecost. Beacon Praise	St Mary's Church 11.00am
Mon	24	Yew Trees WI. Elizabethan Textile Furnishings. Gillian White	Talk by Zoom 7.30pm
Sun	30	Holy Communion	St Mary's Church 9.30am
June			
Sat	5	Sew Vintage - Footstool Workshop - book online at https://www.sew-	Church Rooms 10.00-4.00pm
Tue	8	Local History Society AGM and talk on Archives	Zoom Meeting 7.30pm

Shop re-opens and we look forward to summer

This Easter was, for the second year running, celebrated in a state of lockdown. This year we were blessed with sunshine and were delighted to welcome a safe and well-managed number of visitors over the holiday period. Lots of happy young people completed our Easter Egg trail and won a chocolate prize by solving "who stole all the eggs". Our daffodil displays looked stunning and have become an established part of the annual calendar here, eagerly anticipated by visitors as another vibrant step out of winter and into spring.



In line with government guidance, the Shop has recently re-opened with particular emphasis on unique gifts and home-produced comestibles. Our own ale (as featured here last month) is proving very popular and joins honey, jams and chutneys. You'll also find the choicest gifts and cards, all in the Coach House at the entrance to the Garden which you can visit freely without booking ahead.

Throughout May the Garden, Cafe and Shop will be open Wednesday to Sunday and all Bank Holiday Mondays. Advance online bookings remain essential to help manage the flow of visitors, ensuring everyone has a safe and comfortable visit.

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Looking forward to the summer, the Handlebards are returning to us once again on Friday 16th July to present Macbeth in the open air. Booking is open via handlebards.co.uk and I know it will prove to be very popular. Last year we were one of the few places to provide theatre locally and it looks as if we will be one of the first places to do so again! There are further dates in the planning – more news on these in future months.

The Rococo Garden now has over 1000 Friends who enjoy unlimited access to the Garden when it is open. Experience of the pandemic has demonstrated that local open spaces provide food for the mind and spirit. The Garden is a "special place" to so many people, and you can enjoy the freedom of it throughout the seasons by joining. Details are available from rococogarden.org.uk.

Tim Toghill, volunteer & trustee

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PLANNING MATTERS

Information received from the Parish Council

NEW APPLICATIONS

S.21/0876/HHOLD Ludloes, Gloucester Street.
Erection of stone garden wall and pedestrian gate.
S.21/0662/HHOLD Lantern, Kingsmead
Erection of oak framed garage, garden store and open log store.
S.21/0685/HHOLD | Erection of a four bay garage block. Superseding S.17/1743/HHOLD | Highgrove House Lower Washwell Lane
S.21/0753/HHOLD Hedges, Gloucester Street
Replacement windows.
S.21/0798/HHOLD Castle Lodge, Cheltenham Road
Erection of detached garage.
S.21/0811/HHOLD Springfield, Catswood Lane
Construction of new rear single storey extension.
S.21/0498/FUL The Pool House, Bunnage Fields Farm, The Camp
Separate 'The Pool House' from 'The Cottage' at Bunnage Fields farm into two separate (dwellings).
S.21/0861/FUL Olivas, Friday Street
Change of use from cafe/bistro (A3) to residential (C3).
S.21/0827/TPO Lullingworth, Stroud Road T1 - Group of predominately beech trees at varying heights up to 35ft - reduce back to approximately 5-6ft in height.
S.21/0897/HHOLD Knapp House Far End Sheepscombe
Two storey, front and side extensions and internal alterations.
S.21/0980/HHOLD Woodridge, The Highlands
Rear, side and front extensions & detached garage.

CONSENT

S.20/2265/FUL/ S.20/2247/LBC Barn at Abbey Farm, Slad Lane
Conversion of gabled barn with lofted stable to 3 bedroom family home with associated renovation works, single storey lean-to porch extension, works to amenity areas & extra parking space.
S.21/0166/HHOLD/ S.21/0167/LBC North West Stable, Brownhill, Court Wick Street
Residential conversion to provide ancillary accommodation, renovation of stables and reinstatement of store building.
S.21/0335/HHOLD Greenleas Longridge, Sheepscombe
Extension to create new atrium & extended balcony with associated internal alterations. This is an amendment to previous approval S.20/0295/HHOLD.
S.21/0380/HHOLD Brookhouse Mill Cottage, Tibbiwell Lane
Construction of dormer windows and new porch.
S.21/0316/HHOLD Tipsymead, Slad
Proposed two storey side extension, front porch, rear glazed doors and small balcony to upper ground floor and minor door / window alterations.
S.21/0374/HHOLD 4 Court Orchard
Construction of front, rear and side extensions.
S.21/0435/HHOLD Highfield House, Gloucester Street
Conversion of garage building to home office & studio for working from home.
S.21/0516/TCA Ludloes, Gloucester Street
Felling and replacement of 5 trees - holly tree (T1) eucalyptus tree (T2) and 3 beech trees (T3, T4 & T5).
S.21/0542/TCA Byfield House, Bisley Street
10 Leylandii Cypress trees – Fell.

MINI-ADS

Help needed in Painswick to sort out and instruct on current electronic equipment. TV, I player, Amazon/ Netflix streaming, Disc player, tape recorder etc etc. Remuneration by agreement. 812286

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Painswick returning to life

Gradually Painswick life is returning to something approaching normality. Various classes have or are about to restart and societies are starting to plan for their new seasons starting after the summer to be held on location rather than by zoom!

Painswick Singers Choir

We restart on Monday, 21st June. We meet every Monday evening from 7.30pm to 9.30pm at Richmond Village in Painswick. The members are a friendly group of people who would welcome more participants - sopranos, altos, tenors and basses, even those of you who are not quite sure what voice you have! The Choir sings a variety of music from Carols at Christmas, Easter music in the spring and music eg, from shows, in the summer.

If you are interested in joining us - or even coming along to give us a try - please ring Jean Jones on 01452-813545 for any information. I shall be delighted to hear from you.

Jean Jones

Sew Vintage.

We've had so many people already getting in touch with us about classes we think everyone is keen to get back into the swing of things and so we have two footstool workshops taking place on 5th June and 3rd July in the Church Rooms

For details of these and other upcoming courses visit our website www.sew-vintage.co.uk

Ballet is back.

Ballet classes are back on Friday mornings, 9.30-10.30, in the church rooms. A mixed ability class, it is truly enjoyable combining controlled exercise with the added bonus of artistry, musicality and shared challenges. It is also fun, companionable and exhilarating. The teacher, Claire, is highly qualified and experienced so that safety and wellbeing are paramount. Ballet is for everyone regardless of age or gender. Whether you are a complete beginner or have some experience this class will be a source of joy and improved core strength, flexibility, coordination and balance.

With Covid restrictions numbers will of necessity be limited. To find out more contact Claire email BalletClaire@outlook.com.

Carol Maxwell

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Personal Column Congratulations

To **PAULINE FOREMAN**, who lived in the Painswick area for many years and now lives in Hampshire and recently celebrated her 100th birthday.



To **TERRY and GLYNIS COLEMAN** who celebrated their Diamond Wedding Anniversary on April 22nd. They have lived in Kings Mill Lane for 46 years and have a daughter and two sons and four grandchildren.

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.

Additional copies of the Beacon

are available from the Best One or online, where the Beacon can be seen in full colour at www.painswickbeacon.org.uk



NEXT ISSUE

Publication date

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**Deadline for all copy
Sunday, May 23rd**

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