

The Painswick Beacon

Vol. 23 No. 9

December 2000



Merry Christmas!

A token of thanks

Every year the Beacon holds a subscribers' Christmas Draw. Our income comes almost entirely from voluntary personal subscriptions and business advertising, and our annual Draw is a small token of our appreciation. This year's winners are:

Subscribers:

Robert and Nora Cook of 12 Hyett Orchard - bottle of whisky
John and Joyce Weir, Double Gates, Edge Road - bottle of wine
Mr P Edwards, 2 Brookhouse Mill - box of chocolates

Advertisers:

Stuart Colley of The Garden Plan - bottle of brandy.

The Beacon thanks all our subscribers and advertisers for their tremendous support. We wish them, and all our readers, a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Illustration

The Beacon is most grateful to Peggy Ward for drawing the above Christmas illustration. Please see also page 7.

Singers' Christmas Concert - and other festive highlights

The Painswick Singers will be holding a Christmas Concert at Christ Church on Saturday 9th December, 7.30pm. (The Singers have taken over the mantle of the Beacon Singers who retired earlier this year) This happy event includes several carols that the audience can join in, and it will be followed by mulled wine and mince pies in the Church Hall next door. There is no charge for the concert or refreshments, but voluntary donations will be welcome; these will in part go towards the Christ Church organ fund. The concert will include a short organ interlude given by Graham Stephenson. All in all, an evening not to be missed!

Also not to be missed is tomorrow's (Sunday 3rd December) annual village Advent Service of carols and readings, which is at St Mary's Church at 6.15pm. The Croft School is taking part.

Lovers of Christmas music and carols will also wish to note that several of the churches are holding annual carol services. Details of these are given in the list of Christmas services inside.

Council Meeting on 15th November

Reported by Alan Bamber

Painswick Heights

A resident had sent the Council a copy of his letter to the District Council criticising the roofing material used on the Painswick Squash Club housing conversion ('Painswick Heights'). He described it as "industrial standard roofing material" and asked SDC planning officers to think again about allowing it.

Councillors tended to agree. Ann Daniels said the light coloured roof stood out like a sore thumb when viewed from across the valley and it looked like an agricultural building or hanger. She wondered if the roofing had been chosen because the walls would not support roofing tiles. The Council decided to make some local enquiries before contacting SDC because it was possible that the roof was not yet finished.

Town Hall

Keith Hardwidge reported that the parish handyman would get to work on decorating the Town Hall after Christmas, starting with the lower hall.

Police presence in Painswick

PC Gary Power had informed the Council that the latest plan was to have a police notice board in the Library and that unless the Parish Council could come forward with funding it was unlikely that there would be a permanent police office in the village. The Council decided to write to Inspector Mac McGarry suggesting that they meet to discuss the problem. Councillors thought it was important to have a location where members of the public could go and meet the police. John Stephenson-Oliver questioned this because if the police could not guarantee to

be there at set times it would be worse than not having an office at all.

Nursing Care development

Councillors again discussed the proposal by Richmond Health Care to set up an advisory group of residents. The Council re-affirmed their decision not to be involved in setting up the group because of their role in the formal planning process, but agreed that there was no reason why individual councillors should not be members of the group if they wished. (See separate item)

Manorial Meetings

Councillors commented on the letter by Amaury Blow (Painswick Manor) printed in last month's Beacon. Some Councillors said they accepted Mr Blow's individual style, but felt it was important to have a jointly agreed agenda for these meetings and to stick to it. Keith Hardwidge said that the Lord of the Manor "appears to want the freedom to conduct a Tory Party conference. This is not on".

Rural Projects Scheme

The Council agreed to Malcolm Watts's proposal to put in an application for funding for a BMX track on part of the recreation ground under SDC's Rural Projects Scheme. Mr Watts acknowledged that he hadn't yet produced a paper for the Council giving full details of the proposal and its costs, and the Council had not yet approved of the idea, but grant applications had to be in by 30th November. Councillors agreed that there was no harm in applying at this stage because they could always withdraw later.

Market Towns Forum

The Council decided not to apply for membership of the Market Towns Forum. Jennifer Crook said she had been to one of the meetings and thought it a waste of time. Malcolm Watts said he found the objectives of the Forum, which included such grand notions as the eradication of poverty, "wishy-washy beyond belief".

Painswick Centre Request for Funding

John Stephenson-Oliver tabled a letter requesting the Council's financial support for the Painswick Centre. He described the improvements that have been made to the Centre and the enthusiastic public response to their millennium appeal for funds. Unfortunately they had been set back by a survey on electrical safety which showed that they urgently needed to spend about £10,000 on safety measures. They could raise this money but would then have nothing spare for the next stage of improvements. The Council agreed to grant the Centre £2000 in the 2001-2 budget. If the Council has some money left in the current financial year (not

known until January 2001), an advance of part of the £2000 will be made in the current year.

Annual Precept

The Council Tax levy for 2001-2 was agreed at £45,520. Budgeted expenditure amounted to £56,590 and expected income £11,070. The 2000-1 precept was £42,450, so next year's figure represents an increase of approximately 7%.

Trustees

A letter from the Charity Commissioners confirmed that when the Council is the Trustee of local bodies such as the Recreation Field Trust and Frederick Gyde Trust, the role is taken by the "body corporate" rather than individual councillors. All duties and responsibilities fall on the Council as a corporate body and therefore councillors do not have to accept or decline to be trustees. A similar letter from the National Association of Local Councils stressed that the Parish Council must ensure that it clearly separates its duties as a local authority from those as a charity trustee. John Stephenson-Oliver said this clarified one issue, but it still left the problem of councillors sometimes having a conflict of interest.

Local Plan

The Council agreed its response to proposed amendments to the Draft Local Plan. The points included drawing attention to apparent discrepancies between the wording of the Plan and the conditions attached to planning consents for the Gyde House and Care Centre developments. In the case of the Care Centre the conditional outline approval is for a nursing home and associated dwellings including ten units of affordable housing whereas the Local Plan specifies a nursing home plus ten units only.

Some councillors were dismayed at what they thought were inadequate measures for protecting the AONB, but they were told they could only object to amendments that had been made to the Plan following its period of public consultation. The criteria for allowing development in the AONB had not been altered.



RESTHAVEN

Resthaven, Pitchcombe, Nr Stroud,
Gloucestershire GL6 6LS.
Telephone: Painswick (01452) 812682

RESIDENTIAL/NURSING HOME
SHORT & LONG TERM &
RESPIRE CARE
SINGLE ROOMS
PRIVATE CHAPEL
BEAUTIFUL SETTING OVERLOOKING
THE PAINSWICK VALLEY

Resthaven Home of Healing Ltd
Regd. Charity No. 235354

**A.J. BULLINGHAM
LANDSCAPE &
GARDEN SPECIALIST**

All aspects of garden work undertaken

- Ponds • Patios
- Brickwork
- Dry Stone Walling
- Turfing • Plating
- Fencing
- Tree Surgery

01452 813155
Mobile 0374 460139
3 Upper Washwell,
Painswick, GL6 6QY

Residential development proposed for St Mary's Home site

Severn NHS Trust, owners of the now-vacated St Mary's Home at the top of Stamages Lane, have recently been in contact with Stroud District Council planning officers with a view to submitting a planning application for a residential development at that site. They have provided a preliminary sketch showing a possible nineteen dwellings. The scheme involves demolition of the existing main building and the provision of six town houses near the top of Stamages Lane, plus further units along or near the Stroud Road. There will be a new access road to the development from Stroud Road.

In a letter to Painswick Parish Council last month, the SDC Senior Planning Officer Jane Breakspear drew attention to the proposal and stated that "the scheme is only a starting point for discussion and may well evolve as further negotiations take place".

Ms Breakspear asked for the Parish Council's opinion on a proposed area of public space within the development. In her view this would not be a suitable location for formal play equipment and she asked the Council to comment on this. The Parish Council discussed this at last month's meeting and decided not to comment at this stage because they did not want to prejudice their position before an actual planning application was received. Councillor Malcolm Watts said that Ms Breakspear had "already jumped three hurdles" by raising such a point of detail on the proposal, whilst he had not yet jumped any hurdles.

One councillor, Jennifer Crook, dissented from the Council's decision because she felt the opportunity should be taken to support the idea of recreational facilities at the site. She asked for her opposition to the Council's decision to be recorded, claiming that objections to proposals are sometimes overlooked when the Council's decisions are communicated to other parties.

The Severn NHS Trust proposal is already attracting a lot of interest, with people asking how a development of this scale stands in relation to the Local Plan. Also some of the residents who oppose the Nursing Care development further down the Stroud Road have claimed that the St Mary's site, once vacated, would be a better location for a new nursing home.

In response to our enquiries the Chief Executive of Severn NHS Trust, Richard James, has faxed the following comments to the Beacon:

"Perhaps it would be helpful if I were to explain the background. As I am sure you are aware we have recently made a major financial investment in providing more suitable accommodation for the residents of St Mary's. (I am assured that both staff and clients are very pleased with their new home in Hucclecote) We are also determined that two other homes for those with learning disabilities will be re-provided during the next twelve months.

In order to fund the foregoing developments, and to fulfil our duty as custodians of public money, we are investigating the most beneficial means of disposing of the St Mary's site. To further this aim we have been discussing possible options with the local planning department as our preference would be to sell the site with an outline planning permission sympathetic to Painswick. We have not, as yet, formally applied for planning permission."

Gyde conversion

Regarding another major development in Painswick, the Beacon has received a press release from Hamptons International which confirms that work is proceeding on the conversion of Gyde House into nineteen ground, first floor and second floor apartments. Prices range from around £150,000 to £350,000 for one and two bedroom units.

Craft demonstrations



Paul Spriggs demonstrating the craft of rush seating at the Painswick Centre on 18th November. Informal talks and demonstrations by members of the Gloucestershire Guild of Craftsmen are continuing through December at the Guild Gallery in the Centre. Paul is a furniture maker (his chairs are being used for the demonstration above) and he has been a member of the Guild for over eighteen years.

Surgery notice

On Tuesday 16th January the Painswick Surgery at Hoyland House will be closed to routine appointments between 1.30pm and 5pm for staff training. The surgery will re-open between 5pm and 6pm as usual. If you need a doctor in an emergency between these times please telephone 01452 812545. These staff training sessions are taking place throughout the locality of Stroud and involve every doctor's surgery. Further training sessions have been scheduled for next year when prior warning will be given.

Nicola Hayward, Practice Manager

Building Repairs Painting & Decorating Carpentry

T MIFFLIN

Enquiries Welcome
Telephone Painswick 813866

Missions to Seafarers

Many thanks to all who supported the Mission to Seafarers concert on 14th October. A total of £865 was raised for this excellent cause.

John Parfitt

Graham Feakins Dip. Ag.

Over 20 years experience in Arboriculture

Tree Care Specialist

- Tree Surgery
- Mature Tree Maintenance
- Thinning, Pruning & Reducing
- Tree Removal & Chipping
- Hedge & Shrub Trimming
- Tree & Shrub Planting
- Emergency Callout

Free Consultation
All Work Guaranteed
Fully Insured

Landscape House
Churchdown, Glos, GL3 1NX

01452 535165

Care Centre services - Richmond looking to set up consultative team

Keith Cockell, Managing Director of Richmond Care, who have consent (with conditions) to create a care centre and associated housing on land north of Cotswold Mead, is anxious - as his detailed planning design work proceeds - to seek to ensure that he incorporates in that design services which complement rather than conflict with those already existing in Painswick.

This accords with conditions in his contract with the vendors, Gloucestershire County Council, and our original and publicly endorsed 1997 'Blueprint'.

To this end he invited the Parish Council to create a small 'consultative team' through which ideas upon functions and services to be included in this enterprise might be identified. While in sympathy with the idea, the Parish Council

has declined, for a number of reasons, to nominate or convene such a team; this while recognising that individual Councillors might themselves participate.

There will doubtless be a number of hoped-for services such a development might provide. Unless they are identified at this stage they may be difficult to include later on. A small swimming pool and cinema have been mentioned, as have mini-bus transport, a computer room and chiropody among others.

To draw ideas together Keith Cockell will welcome offers of names from which he can draw a team of up to eight together. He will appreciate these by 14th December and, after publishing their names in the next Beacon, meet them very early in the New Year.

This will not be a forum to discuss buildings and site layout as such, that will come with local consultation when the

detailed planning application is made later in the spring. However, this exercise will enable all who have an interest in shaping the content of the working of the site to express those ideas directly, or through team members.

We strongly urge anyone interested to contact Keith Cockell direct at his current base, Richmond Village Care Centre, St. Joseph's Park, Nantwich, Cheshire, CW5 6LZ, or leave their name and address on 01270-629080.

Tony Bradley, Leslie Brotherton,
Philip Oakley and Norman Rampton

Letter to the Editor

The Painswick Centre

I should like to take this opportunity to respond to Mr Dick's letter, published in the last issue of the Beacon, in which he made a number of misleading statements.

First, the Centre is not an Exhibition Centre; the Gloucestershire Guild occupies only 4% of the floor space. Second, the Café Bar is not open at all, let alone day hours only. Third, the Hall has, in modern times, been available for badminton and other events. Finally, the amount of space used to generate income is now, sadly, less than when the Club existed. If Mr Dicks is able to tell me how the buildings can be run and maintained without an income I should like to hear from him.

I am, however, sympathetic to the loss of a club facility, particularly for those long standing members for whom the Club was a social centre. The falling out between the Trustees and the Club was, to say the least, unfortunate. However, the old Bar and Snug are still unused and the current Trustees would welcome any constructive proposals regarding their future use.

John Stephenson-Oliver,
Chairman of Management Committee

Update on The Painswick Centre Millennium Appeal

The Millennium Appeal is still going strongly with new donations still coming in almost every day. No less than twenty-nine individuals, clubs or businesses have donated at least £100 and will have a plaque mounted on our 'Supporting Wall'. We are delighted that the Parish Council have also shown us their full support by donating £2000 towards our refurbishment scheme. More than forty other local families have made generous donations bringing our grand total so far to a staggering £5,612. Over half of our target of £10,000.

The Painswick Centre Management Committee would like to express our heartfelt thanks to all of you who have been so generous, not only with your do-

nations but with the expressions of goodwill and support that so many of you have sent us. You will understand that it would not be a good use of your money to write and thank you all personally. However we will keep you up to date with the Appeal every month in the Beacon.

Forthcoming Events at The Painswick Centre

On THURSDAY 7th DECEMBER at 10am there will be a Bring and Buy Sale of Christmas gifts and produce. It will include a demonstration of 'Quick and Easy Christmas Cookery' by Robert Rees - as seen on TV! Coffee and tea will be served, plus a raffle. Free entry to all those who bring items for sale, for example jams, pickles, chutneys, cakes, mince pies, sauces, mincemeat, puddings. Also Christmas gifts, cards, gift labels, decorations, wrappings, etc.

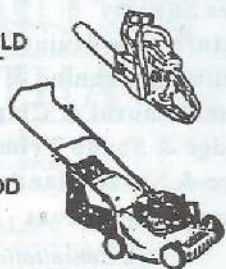
Also coming, on FRIDAY 26th JANUARY 2001, the Gloucester Police Male Voice Choir will be giving us all an exciting evening of choral entertainment. Details of this will be in the January Beacon.

The Beacon welcomes letters from readers on subjects of local interest. Short letters are more likely to be included. Long letters will be summarised or edited, as will those containing comments that the Beacon considers unsuitable for publication.

LAWNMOWERS

SERVICE • REPAIR • SALES

- HONDA
- MOUNTFIELD
- QUALCAST
- STIHL
- HAYTER
- ATCO
- FLYMO
- WESTWOOD
- KUBOTA
- COUNTAX



FREE LOCAL
COLLECTION & DELIVERY

CHELTENHAM MOWER SERVICES
MOBILE: 0831 282533
TEL: 01452 714098
www.users.globalnet.co.uk/~cmowers

A. J. FERN

CARPENTER-JOINER

and
General Building Services

Telephone: Stroud 750105

Richard R Gittins Building Contractor

Stone Masonry Work : Extensions :
Roofing & Maintenance Work

Tel: 01452-814475
Reg. NHBC and DSWA
Beechdene, Jacks Green,
Sheepscombe

Another accolade for The Falcon

The Falcon Inn has done it again! Not content with recent award successes, Johnny and Hilary Johnston have scooped the national award for Accommodation Pub of the Year at the Whitbread Pub Partnerships annual Excellence Awards. The awards were presented on 14th November at the Meridien Beach Plaza Hotel in Monte Carlo, hosted by television celebrity Tom O'Connor.

Complimenting Johnny and Hilary on their achievement, the judge said "The high standard of accommodation offered was the result of impressive teamwork where simplicity allied to fixture and fittings in tune with the age of the building produced an overall feeling of comfort. The attention to detail, in particular in the bathrooms, ensured all facilities were of a high standard."



Charity bazaar



Will she, won't she?... Jane Jennings-Taylor ponders a purchase from Albert Gyde (right) at the Charity Bazaar in Christ Church Hall on 18th November. Brian Davies looks on. Seven local organisations had stalls at the event.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Applications

- Down House, Bulls Cross. Erection of conservatory to south elevation. Timber cladding to external face/walls of dwellings and insertion of two velux roof lights.
- Yokehouse Lane. Change of use from agricultural to equine.
- The Stables, Greenhouse Court, Yokehouse Lane. Erection of extension to provide dependant's annexe.
- Meadowhill, Lower Washwell Lane. Loft conversion involving installation of dormer windows.
- Melrose Cottage, Cheltenham, Road. Single storey extensions to cottage.
- Church Orchard, Sheepscombe. Replacement of existing flat roofed double garage with new pitched roof garage with small workshop.
- The Lamp House, Victoria Street. Erection of doorway canopy and pilasters.
- The Stables, Painswick House. Replace existing timber windows with new stone surround windows.
- 4 Spring Cottages, The Vatch. Erection of single storey extension.
- 5 Spring Cottages, The Vatch. Erection of garage with hobbies room above.

Revised/Additional Plans

- Gyde House. Conversion and refurbishment of existing buildings to form 18 one and two bedroom apartments together with asso-

ciated parking and landscaping works. Additional plan relates to highway matters.

Consent

- Grays, Far End, Sheepscombe. Erection of garden store.
- Rockmill House, Stroud Road. Erection of garden wall.
- 6 Court Orchard. Erection of conservatory.
- Hyett Orchard, Hyett Close. Light crown reduction and pruning of lime tree.
- Upper Doreys Mill, Edge. Erection of extension and conservatory.
- Laneside, Queensmead. Erection of garage and greenhouse.
- Damsells Lodge, The Park. Erection of log store and greenhouse.
- 2 The Croft. Erection of conservatory to rear of house.
- Spoonbed Farm, Gloucester Road. Demolition of building (originally dairy) within curtilage of a listed building.
- Little Acre, Kemps Lane. Additional of a timber framed loggia to existing patio area.

Refusal

- Boundary wall between Rockfield House and Rockmill House, Rockmill, Stroud Road. Retrospective application for reconstruction of retaining wall.
- Hyett Orchard, Hyett Close. Reduce crown of lime tree and carry out pruning work.

POLICE REPORT

Incidents: 14.10.00 - 15.11.00

House burglaries: Painswick 1, Edge 1. Business premises: Painswick 2. Sheds: Painswick 3. Vehicles: Painswick 3, Edge 1, Cranham 1, Sheepscombe 1. Other: Sheepscombe 1 (damage), Cranham 1 (theft).

Items stolen:

From vehicles: Radio/cassette (2), tennis racket, wallet, car, petrol.

From other places: TV, video, paint spraying equipment, fence posts.

Security Improvement Recommendations:

Five of the burglaries recorded were either attempts when no entry was gained or when access was gained but nothing taken. This shows the value of good security and not leaving valuables in view.

Christmas is approaching fast and with it the possibility that the thief will be on the look out for easy pickings. Please ensure that your properties are secure. We

advise you not to leave presents in view, including food and drink, in your homes and especially in your cars when left unattended anywhere.

We remind you that you may contact PC Gary Power on non urgent matters by ringing the old station number 01452 335674. Leave a message on his answering machine and he will get back to you when next available. We wish you a crime-free and happy Christmas and New Year.

PC Gary Power & Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator.

MURRAY'S
INDEPENDENT ESTATE AGENTS

RESIDENTIAL SALES
PROPERTY AUCTIONS
VALUATIONS &
SURVEYS

Offices also at

STROUD
MINCHINHAMPTON
MAYFAIR

Victoria Street
PAINSWICK
01452 814655

PAINSWICK MEMORIALS

HEADSTONES
VASES & PLAQUES
PET MEMORIALS



ADDITIONAL
INSCRIPTIONS

FULL RESTORATION &
CLEANING SERVICE

PHONE FOR A FREE COLOUR BROCHURE
TEL / FAX : 01452 - 812032
MOBILE : 0797 - 9282643
FREE HOME VISITS AVAILABLE

THE PATCHWORK MOUSE

GIFTS ... GIFTS ... GIFTS ... GIFTS
... GIFTS ... GIFTS ... GIFTS ... GIFTS
GIFTS ... GIFTS ... GIFTS ... GIFTS

Special late night shopping
Thursday 7 December 6 - 9pm



WISHING EVERYONE
A VERY HAPPY
CHRISTMAS

DAWN MALLINSON
813122



CROFT SCHOOL NEWS

The Croft School Christmas Fair will be held on 8th December from 6pm. All are invited to come along, young and old. There will be a raffle, stalls, games and festive refreshments. Father Christmas has once again given up valuable time to visit on the evening.

Despite the children also having their Christmas play to look forward to and end of term activities, at present they are still hard at work. Class 1 have been looking at the story of Little Red Riding Hood, Class 2 have been writing their own poems concentrating on description using similes and metaphors, while Class 5 were set real life problems involving length.

Tom Cat

Tom Cat's tail is like a furry worm
His teeth are like razor sharp knives
His whiskers are like sharp bendy needles
His claws are like long rose thorns.

His fur is like a ragged old towel
His ears are like dirty ripped flannels
His eyes are like battered old soldiers
His eyes are like stars in the sky.

His legs are like worn battered sticks
His collar is like thin ragged string
His mouth is like a dark, dark cave
And he drinks and drinks like a drain pipe.
Benjamin Garbett, Class 2

Electricity Company Disappoints Children!

Children of the Croft School were disappointed! Because the electricity which was going to be turned off is now going to be left on on Friday. One pupil called Eleanor Hyland was going to have an artday with her best friend but her plans are ruined as she has to go to school. We asked some parents for their reaction and one said she was going to take a day off

and her boss said yes and now it is a wasted day and she might have to take another day off sometime else. Teachers are saying the complete opposite and now are pleased the children have to learn even more. Some children are going on holiday so there won't be that many children at school. One girl called Alice said that she would chop the letter up so her Mum wouldn't see it. I don't know what's going to happen on Friday...it just might start again!

Francesca Pickin, Class 3

(Explanation: The electricity board informed the school that there would be no power on 24th November, so Mr Tucker decided to close the school. Then there was another letter to say the ground was too wet for the work to be done, so the children were expected to come to school as usual. Much consternation from pupils!)

Giving generously



Pupils of the Croft School holding Christmas gifts for children overseas. The pupils were invited to fill shoe boxes with presents to be sent to disadvantaged children in the former Soviet states of Eastern Europe, and they made a wonderful response. A generous donation from Nycomed of Amersham covered the postage. Pictured above, from the left, are Jenna and Roy Stacey; and Sophie, James and Alicia Barnett. (Each member of the Stacey and Barnett families contributed a separate shoe box!) Shoe boxes galore are stacked up behind them, with more out of sight.

PAINSWICK POST OFFICE

A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS TO ALL OUR CUSTOMERS FROM EVERYBODY AT THE POST OFFICE



PRESENTS, PRESENTS, PRESENTS... HUGE CHOICE OF TOYS, INCLUDING TRADITIONAL WOODEN TOYS AND DOLLS HOUSES, STATIONERY GIFT SETS, NOTELETS, CANDLES & CANDLE STICKS, PICTURE FRAMES, ORIGINAL WATERCOLOUR PAINTINGS, BOOKS, APRONS, TEA COSIES, PENS, TRAVEL CLOCKS, DECORATIONS ... AND MUCH MUCH MORE

THE BEST RANGE OF CHRISTMAS CARDS & GIFT WRAP FOR MILES AT VERY COMPETITIVE PRICES

PAINSWICK POST OFFICE tel. 812303

MICHAEL NYE Fine Woodworking

Beautiful furniture, kitchens, cupboards, doors, windows, boats, musical instruments ...

==YOUR IDEAS BECOME REALITY==

Tel. Edge 01452 814372

CHANGING SCENES

A Painswick Boyhood
in the 1940s

At the Post Office, Londis Store and Stroud Bookshop

or from the author
JOHN MERCER

01453 759635

A puzzle for our younger readers

Calling all children aged 9 and under: If you look carefully through these pages, you will find eight small pictures about Christmas. Each one has a small number with it. Work out what the pictures are and put your answers in the crossword boxes on the right. Clue number 1 (two words) goes down, the others are across. Then do two more things: Join up the dots round the picture, and then brighten up the whole thing with some decorations (but we must still see your answers!). Cut out or copy this page, add your name, age and address, put it in an envelope and place it in the Beacon's post box in New Street by 17th December. The best ones will win a prize!

Busy time at the Playgroup

Painswick Playgroup have had another busy term. Having said goodbye to over twenty children at the end of the summer (many of whom went on to the The Croft), we started the autumn with thirty children attending playgroup over the five mornings. All have settled in well as have Linsey Grant and Christine Thompson who join Beaty Bell and Keren Jackson on the staff.

Topics this term so far have included 'space' (sadly no trip to the moon on offer, despite pleas from some parents) and 'animals' involving visits from both stuffed and live specimens and a real vet in the form of Mr Reed. The children are now onto the theme of Christmas (yes, it's that time of year already) culminating with the Christmas story being told by staff and children on 18th December. The following day is the annual Christmas party with, we are told, a surprise visitor. We'd like to take this opportunity to thank all the shops and businesses who have so generously made donations to the Playgroup Christmas raffle.

Painswick Playgroup is open from 9am to 12pm five mornings a week in term time. Children must be two years nine months old to attend. For more information ring Beaty Bell, the Playleader, on 0961 528879 or 01452 610997.

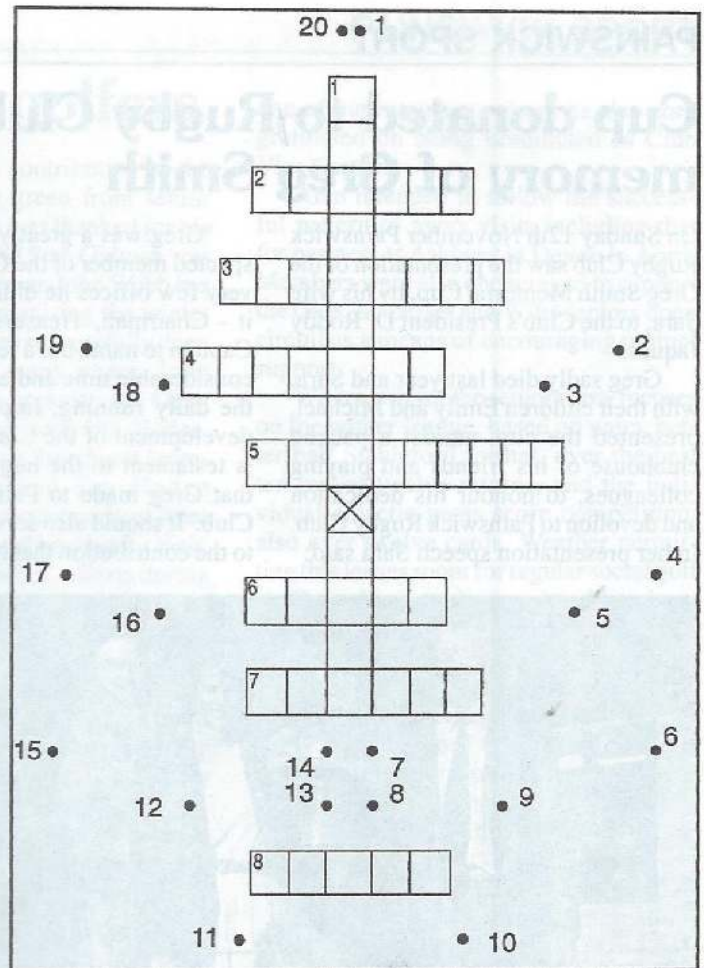
Boxing Day walk

The Parish Council's annual Boxing Day walk will start from Stamages Lane car park at 10am, returning there at approximately noon. If conditions allow, the route will be along the Painswick Stream and then through the Cranham area. There will be a different route (on firmer ground) if the conditions are unfavourable. Dogs (with their owners) are welcome but must be kept on a lead at all times.

Christmas illustration

The Christmas illustration on the front page is the second that Peggy Ward has kindly drawn for the Beacon, the previous one being back in December 1989. Peggy is well known in Painswick for her painting and drawing skills. She has been a member of the Country Studio painting group for many years, and she is also a member of the Gloucestershire Society of Artists and the Fosse Way Artists.

Peggy, who lives in Pitchcombe, is also well known locally in another connection - for her long period as a teacher at the Croft School. She was at the school for twenty years in all, spanning the time when they moved location from Stroud Road to the Croft, where she was Deputy Head to Derek Hodges.



Pilates Plus

A new series of Pilates Plus exercise classes will be commencing on Monday 8th January, 9.30 to 10.30am, at Painswick RFC and Sports Club (Broadham). These exercises "not only change your shape and improve your appearance but will relax and restore balance to your body giving you relief from stress and back pain". For more details contact Ann Crowther on 01242 254043, mobile 0410635915.

Croft land auction

Pauline Berry has been in touch to confirm that the Croft Land auction (November Beacon) took place at the Falcon on 28th September 1964. She was present at the auction and recalls the land being sold for £47,000.

Please help the Brownies!

Painswick and Cranham Brownies are urgently seeking at least one new Guider to help run this happy and enthusiastic pack of twenty-two brownies. If anyone would like further information as to what would be involved, or knows of someone who may be interested, please contact Patsy Ratcliffe on 813854.

G J HOGG PAINTER AND DECORATOR

Interior and Exterior Painting
Wallpapering, Glazed Tiling

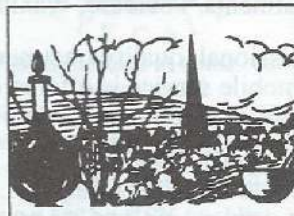
Estimates Free

8 Upper Washwell
Painswick
Glos. GL6 6QY

Telephone
PAINSWICK 812505

THE PAINSWICK PHARMACY

NEW STREET. Tel. PAINSWICK (01452) 812263



OPENING TIMES

MONDAY TO FRIDAY
9.00 - 1.00 AND 2.00 - 6.00
SATURDAY
9.00 - 1.00

Cup donated to Rugby Club in memory of Greg Smith

On Sunday 12th November Painswick Rugby Club saw the presentation of the Greg Smith Memorial Cup, by his wife Sara, to the Club's President Dr Roddy Jaques.

Greg sadly died last year and Sara, with their children Emily and Michael, presented the cup, amidst a packed clubhouse of his friends and playing colleagues, to honour his dedication and devotion to Painswick Rugby Club. In her presentation speech Sara said:

"Greg was a greatly loved and respected member of the Club. There are very few offices he didn't hold within it - Chairman, Treasurer, First Team Captain to name but a few. He devoted considerable time and energy towards the daily running, improvement and development of the Club and this cup is testament to the huge contribution that Greg made to Painswick Rugby Club. It should also serve as testament to the contribution that his family have

made. To Joyce, Greg's mum, who many of you will not realise started the Junior Section of the Club in years gone by, to Julie - Greg's sister, to Tony, Greg's father, Dave his uncle, and his surviving Uncle Jack who still contributes greatly to the running of the Club. Painswick RFC is steeped in Smith history and this cup goes to honour all that hard work and dedication."

Greg was a great supporter of junior rugby and very much a team man and for this reason it has been decided by Sara, with the Club's concurrence, that the Greg Smith Memorial Cup should be initially for the Junior Section of the Club and will be awarded to the junior team with the most outstanding achievement during the season.

"It's great to have a few of the juniors here today to see the cup that they will be playing for. I'd just like to say to them that if they would like to see the man whose name is on this cup then take a look around the walls of this hall. His face appears on many of the team photographs and any of the older players will be able to tell you about him and what a great man and rugby player he was. He would want you to strive to win this cup and I look forward to presenting it to the winning team when the time comes.

It is important for us all, for me, for Emily and Michael, for Joyce and Julie, and both sides of the family, and for his friends, that his name lives on and especially in the Club he loved so much and the sport he so adored. I am as proud presenting this cup as Greg would be having his name written upon it."

On behalf of the Club Dr Roddy Jaques thanked Sara and the Smith family for their generous donation and expressed how pleased the Club were to receive such a magnificent memorial cup which has now taken up its rightful place in the trophy cabinet of the Club where it will remain until presented by Sara at the end of the season.



Left to right: Club President Dr Roddy Jaques, Julie Job (Greg's sister), Sara Colver-Smith, Joyce Smith and Andrew Morgan; with Sara and Greg's children Emily and Michael at the front.

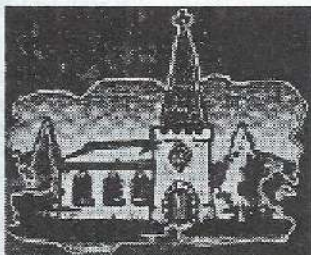


Get well soon, Adrian

All of the children whom Adrian Aldridge coaches tennis at Painswick, together with their parents, would like to say how sorry they were to hear of his recent car accident. They want to send him their very best wishes for a full and speedy recovery and look forward to seeing him again soon.

PAINSWICK VILLAGE DENTAL SURGERY

Les Robinson B.D.S.
Private, BUPA, Denplan



Appointments available Monday to Saturday and late evening Thursday

* Cosmetic Dentistry * Hygienist
* Personal Professional Service in Relaxed Atmosphere

TEL: (01452) 814427

Hoyland House, Gyde Road, Painswick, Glos.
GL6 6RD

Sheree Carver

Therapeutic and Indian Head Massage, Aromatherapy, Beauty Therapy (Wedding Make-up, Self Tanning Treatments, Pedicure, Waxing)

Professional, quality treatments; A mobile service is offered or escape distraction and come to my treatment room

Gift Vouchers available

Telephone 01452 812922

FROCESTER FAYRE



T.W.Hawkins & Sons
Church Farm, Frocester,
Stonehouse, Glos., GL10 3TJ.
Tel/Fax 01453-822054

FARM FOOD AT FAIR PRICES

Our products include: all joints of pork - cut to your requirements, farmhouse pork sausages, home-cured bacon, home-cured gammon joints and steaks, homemade faggots in gravy, homemade assorted pies, real dripping, ½ pigs for freezer. All products are subject to availability, but please do not hesitate to contact us for a full product and price list. All orders over £40 and within 15 miles can be delivered free of charge.

Go on, try some and 'taste the difference'!

Enjoyable year for senior golfers

The Annual Dinner of the Painswick Golf Club Seniors on 1st November was the penultimate event of Sam Thurlow's year as Captain. The new catering staff provided a superb meal for senior golfers, partners and guests, including the President, Club Captain and the Ladies Captain.

Sam had to admit that it had not been a vintage year as far as matches against other clubs were concerned, with eight wins, five halved and nineteen lost, but against this a record number of people had played. Out of 55 senior members 42 had participated and this should stand us in good stead for the future. The Seniors Open, organised by John Weston, had attracted golfers from far and wide and was judged a success by all concerned. All the season's internal summer competitions had been well supported and Sam presented prizes as follows:

Senior Championship - Jack May (a welcome return to winning form after hip surgery). David Walker took the Tankard for the best net score.

Millennium Trophy - David Warren; Centenary Cup - David Warren; Arthur Paget Trophy - Brian Webb; Organ Niblick - Jim Hodge.

At the AGM the next day the treasurer, Jim Eva, reported a good financial year with gifts to the Club of hardwood

patio furniture and a contribution to the new practice putting green from senior funds. Dennis Aldous was thanked for his service as Secretary and Stan Gidman was appointed as his successor. John Webb has taken on the job of organising the winter eclectic competition, so successfully done by John Bright for many years. John Weston undertook to organise the Open again, with assistance from Jim Hodge. Jim Eva (treasurer), Ian Smethurst (competition secretary) and Jim Hodge (publicity and Opens correspondent) were all re-appointed with acclamation for their, and retiring office bearers', efforts during the year. Sam Thurlow added his personal thanks to all who had supported him during his enjoyable year of captain.

Alan Fisher was elected as Senior Captain for the coming year and nominated John Webb as Vice Captain. In thanking the members for the honour of being elected Alan promised to uphold the tradition of enjoyment of our golf on what he described as 'our wonderful course', thanks to the hard work of the greens staff and committee, chaired by David Walker

one of our members, whom he also congratulated on being nominated as Club Vice Captain.

Alan intended to follow the successful pattern of away visits including that for partners at Ashbury in Devon in April. Members were also encouraged to support the Glos, Somerset and Wilts seniors open circuit as a means of encouraging mutual support.

Winter golf for the seniors now focuses on the winter league, based on pairs, better ball Stableford format, over the best ten out of twelve returns, and the individual eclectic gross score competition, also over twelve cards. Weather permitting this leaves room for regular social golf on Thursday mornings and on Tuesdays, providing we are clear of the tee before the ladies time of 8.45am. The Christmas Texas Scramble with the ladies and our own Christmas competition will see us fully occupied until the spring. There is nothing better for blowing away the winter blues than seniors golf at Painswick - 'survivors' repair to the 19th hole for resuscitation!

Jim Hodge, 812573
(for anyone interested in participating)

Painswick's first league defeat

Gloucestershire Division 2 leaders, Painswick, suffered their first league defeat of the season when they travelled to the Bristol club, Southmead, last Saturday (25th November). Not surprisingly, Painswick were disappointed with the game's outcome which saw them lose by 16 points to 13. They will be anxious to have put the result behind them when they play their next league fixture against Bristol Telephones at home on Saturday 9th December. Alastair Bressington had another successful day, scoring all Painswick's 13 points with a converted try and two penalty goals. Last Saturday's results have put pressure on the local side as, with the other top teams all winning, Tewkesbury are now level with Painswick at the top of the division. Both teams have 12 points with Dursley in third place with 10. Painswick are scheduled to play

Dursley away on 16th December in what promises to be a keenly contested game.

Results [(L) league match]

Sat 4 Nov. Painswick 1st XV 8
Brockworth 1st XV 38. Smiths 2nd
XV 38 Painswick Utd 3.

Sat 11 Nov. (L) Painswick 1st
XV 18 Bishopston (Bristol) 16.

Sat 18 Nov. Painswick Utd 10
Old Centralians 2nd XV 38.

Sat 25 Nov. (L) Southmead 1st XV 16
Painswick 1st XV 13. (L) Painswick Utd
22 Southmead 2nd XV 0.



Ladies' golf

Competitions at this time of year are slowing down but there are still a few to take place, namely the monthly medals, the mixed competitions, the Winter Eclectic and another Texas Scramble.

Eight lady members had a "day out" to Broadway Golf Club. Although it was rather windy, it did stay dry and the golf and meal were much enjoyed.

Unlike most courses that are adversely affected by the winter weather, Painswick course is very rarely closed due to weather conditions. Perhaps the unique landscape of the course has a hand in this!

TREE SURGERY

Environmentally Sensitive

Thinning - Reshaping - Felling
Planting: Fruit Tree Pruning:
Wildlife Advice
Professional Service: Fully Insured:
Vision 21 Accredited

Landcare Services

6 Pullens Road, Painswick

John Rhodes
812709



Eye examinations at home - for the
housebound

Specialised service - free (NHS) for
those over 60 including Glaucoma
screening and full sight test
Telephone 01453 833272
or 0973 488696 (mobile)

Graham O'Regan BSc FSMC FCOptom

THE CENTRAL STORES

NEW STREET
(01452 813209)

John and Barbara wish you all
the very best for Christmas
and the New Year

We offer our usual fine
selection of seasonal goods,
a good range of fine wines,
cooked ham and roast beef,
patés, cheeses, etc.

We wish to thank all our
customers for the excellent
support over the
past 41 years

Claire's 3500 mile ride across Central Asia

The name Claire Burges Watson may not ring as many bells with readers as the likes of Sir Ranulph Fiennes and David Hempleman-Adams, but for initiative, bravery and endurance Claire's recent solo trek through Central Asia takes some beating. Claire is the 29 year old daughter of Richard and Ann Burges Watson who live in Gloucester Street, Painswick, and last month she returned home after an astonishing sixteen month ride by horse and camel across six remote countries - and all in the good cause of raising money for two children's charities.

The journey began on 16th June 1999 when Claire travelled by train to Ulaanbaatar, in the heart of Mongolia. She set off from there on 4th July 1999, to embark on an epic adventure that ended at Ashkabad in Turkmenistan, some 3,500 miles to the west, on 6th November 2000. The distance travelled was about the same as London to Istanbul and back, or Land's End to John O'Groats five times. The journey took her through Mongolia, Kazakhstan, Kirghizstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan, travelling in the footsteps of Genghis Khan and Alexander the Great many centuries before. The aim was to raise money for the Christina Noble Children's Foundation, which looks after street children in Mongolia and Vietnam, and for a Burmese orphanage that Claire had previously raised money to help build. Claire financed the cost of the trip herself, and all the funds raised through sponsorship will be split equally between the two charities.

It was a journey of extremes - extremes of terrain, weather, human nature, wealth and poverty. The landscape varied be-



Claire Burges Watson in Central Asia

tween hundreds of miles of desert sand or steppe, and mountain ranges as high as 7000 metres, with snowy passes at 4000 metres that had to be gingerly negotiated with heavily-laden horses. There were also spectacular alpine valleys and remarkable fauna and flora. During the winter the temperature plummeted to minus 40°C and travel became impossible for several months - not just because of the sheer cold but because of inadequate grazing for the horses who became weak and tired. At other times of the year the day-time temperature exceeded 40°C, and after experiencing this a diversion was needed to avoid travelling through the desert in 50 degree heat.

Also remarkable were the people Claire encountered and especially those she employed as guides. The main means of travel was on horse or camel back, accompanied by one or two guides whom she would cajole or pay to travel with her for a few days or weeks before they returned home to their families. Some of the

guides were reliable and friendly, helping to erect tents and feed the animals. Some were surly and threatening. Some got blind drunk on vodka and became either dangerous or maudlin and homesick! One chased her with a whip. But, as the diary of her journey so clearly shows, Claire's amazing strength of will and depth of personality saw her through. She could be tough and unyielding if necessary, such as when bartering with local traders for the purchase of fresh horses or refusing payment to a guide who had not kept his side of the bargain, but she also showed many acts of kindness - for instance in paying for some children's education and for another child's operation. Tears flowed, too, when one of the precious horses that she had purchased succumbed to illness and died.

Extremes of human nature were also evident in the people Claire met on the way. In many places she received a heroine's welcome. She was given shelter and overnight accommodation by families who invited her into their humble dwellings and insisted on preparing her sumptuous meals even though they could ill afford it.

At other times, though, she was given a hostile reception and pelted with stones by the local children. Camping for the night sometimes had to be done after dark to avoid attracting attention from malevolent locals. One person, who had helped her, rather spoiled things by making sexual advances and on more than one occasion she had to flourish her knife or

... on more than one occasion she had to flourish her knife or starting pistol to ward off those with evil intent...

starting pistol to ward off those with evil intent. She had numerous brushes with authority, particularly the border patrols who would conjure up objections to her continuing on her way and expected bribes before allowing her to do so. This led to her adopting some devious tactics to circumvent petty restrictions and bureaucracy. Corruption was evident, and in some countries Claire saw at first hand the life-threatening deterioration in people's livelihoods in the aftermath of the overthrow

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE

THE PAINSWICK HOTEL

KEMPS LANE, PAINSWICK
GLOUCESTERSHIRE GL6 6YB
TEL: (01452) 812160
FAX: (01452) 814059

"The Cotswolds Best Kept Secret"

A light lunch. A quiet dinner with friends.
A family party. Prepared by our Award
Winning Team of Chefs

Superb Luncheon

Served Daily 12.30 - 2.00pm

2 courses £13.00, 3 Courses £16.00

Traditional 3 Course Sunday Luncheon
£17.50

Dinner Menu

2 courses £23.00, 3 Courses £26.00

The best of Cotswold meat, game, Severn
salmon and Vale of Evesham vegetables

Or simply relax by a roaring log fire and enjoy
the peace and beauty of the Hotel with our

Delicious Afternoon Tea Menu

Cornerstones Chauffeur Service

Available 24 hours a day for
airports, theatres, London,
Licensed Mercedes or well
turned-out cars

Tel: 01452 770337 Fax: 770987
Mobile: 07802 154968

CENTRELINE



STONEMASONS & TRADITIONAL
BUILDING REPAIRS

TEL: 01452 813892

FAIRFAX HOUSE VICARAGE STREET PAINSWICK

Claire's journey, continued

of communism. Sometimes the barriers were insurmountable, and at one point she had to make a detour to Moscow in order to avoid an impassable border.

In fact the journey was far from being a straight line from east to west: it involved several diversions and backtracking in order to plot a fresh way forward, either because of red tape or because of natural barriers. Several rivers were crossed which in retrospect Claire says were highly dangerous and on one occasion a horse almost drowned.

Animals played a key part in Claire's travels. She depended on them to carry her guides and all her baggage but the downside was a succession of problems caused by tiredness, illness and accidents. There was also the constant threat of wolves roaming in the open countryside. More friendly company was given by a dog called Jilda. Picked up as a puppy, Jilda became a constant and much-loved companion. Towards the end of the journey Jilda was put in the safe keeping of a friend who took her by plane to Europe, and at the time of writing Claire is making arrangements to fetch her pet home - from Belgium of all places!

As well as the company of her pet and the transient companionship of the local guides, Claire was encouraged on her way at crucial times by friends and acquaintances from the West who joined her for short parts of the journey or at stopping

places. Among them was her brother Tom. She is also grateful to her sponsors, Star Communications in Norfolk, who gave her a satellite phone which enabled her to keep in touch with the outside world.

Wanderlust

Claire's spirit of adventure and love of exotic travel derives partly from her childhood experiences, when as the daughter of a diplomat she lived for brief periods in many parts of the world - from Europe to Nepal to Japan. Her wanderlust continued when she left university, when after a spell working for stockbrokers in London she persuaded her employers to relocate her to Hong Kong. Despite the exotic location, however, she tired of the job and after five years decided to use her bonus to finance her ambitious charity fund-raising plans. She had been nurturing these for some years.

It all began in fact when Claire found she was getting overweight as a result of too much beer drinking! This prompted her to put in a spot of exercise and this led to her taking part in a triathlon and later the London Marathon. Killing two birds with one stone, she used these events to raise money for charity.

The Burmese orphanage came about as a result of an appeal for sponsorship by the British Embassy there. Claire raised money for the construction of a new building to replace their ramshackle and leaky home, but more money was needed to maintain it and to initiate education programmes so that the children could get good jobs when they left. Claire is look-

ing to establish a "mini-endowment" to keep the orphanage going.

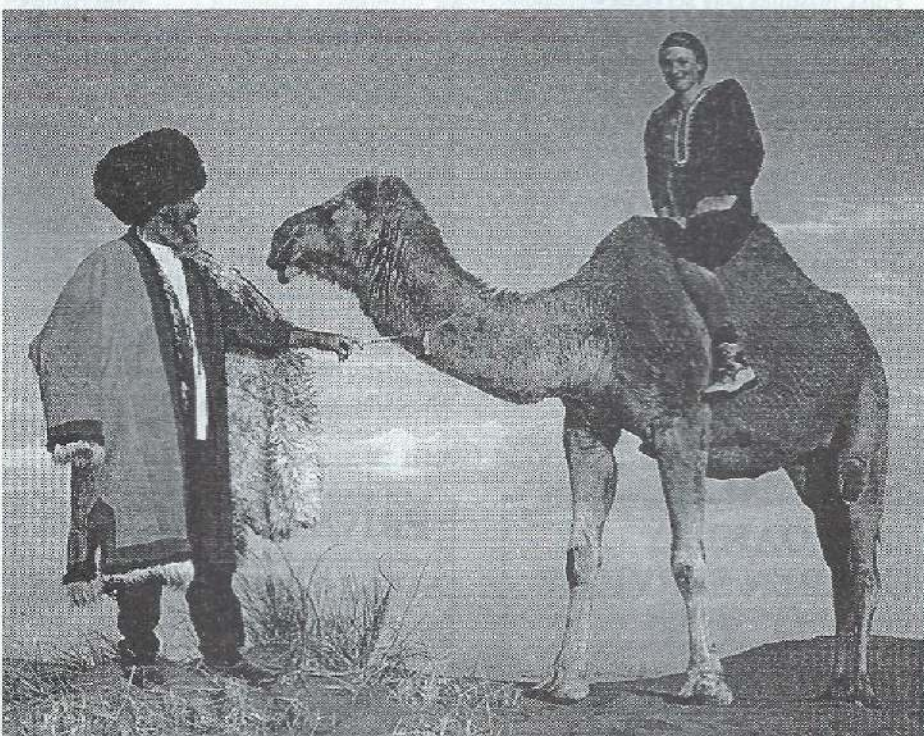
The Christina Noble Foundation runs a variety of projects aimed at helping street children. It has supported over 80,000 children in Vietnam, including setting up an outpatients' clinic, dental clinic and a vocational programme. The foundation has now moved to Mongolia where its work has included setting up the country's only hospital providing free healthcare. Claire has played a major role in the Foundation's fund-raising.

Claire has also personally raised £16,000 for Mongolian herdsmen who lost their livelihoods when a terrible winter wiped out over three million of their animals.

Claire is keen to do more to help her chosen charities, and hopes that other people will do so too. More details of these, and of her amazing trip, can be found on her internet website - www.tartar.org. This includes a diary of her journey and conveys a much more thorough and vivid account of her adventures than this brief article.

Claire will be in great demand to tell her story and several national media institutions are planning special features. No doubt a number of Painswick's clubs and societies will already be wondering if she can find the time to give them a further taste of her amazing journey.

... Claire has also personally raised £16,000 for Mongolian herdsmen who lost their livelihoods...



Claire with her desert companions

Garages and All Building Maintenance
Natural Stonework a Speciality



Extensions

HORNE & KILMISTER

General Builders

For Free Estimates phone
Painswick 812760
and 01453-872329

LANDSCAPE GARDENING

A Complete Garden Service

Regular Garden Maintenance
Grass Cutting, Hedge Trimming

Construction of:-
Ponds and Water Gardens
Drystone Walling, Paving
Fencing, Turfing, Seeding
All Aspects of Tree Surgery

FULLY INSURED
Ask for Adrian Harris

Floribunda
(01452) 527647

Painswick 2000 video - buy now!

The millennium video is still on sale - at Painswick Post Office. Stocks dwindle, but there are still copies to be had.

This must still be a timely purchase, if you do not already have a copy. The two thousand years from which the video draws its name end this month. Many have mentioned how it has been exactly the right idea for a Christmas present, or a keep-sake for the younger generation who may some day want to reflect upon past times.

These images, and the research which led to the commentary, tell more about

Painswick and our heritage and environment than could possibly have been revealed to us or our successors by many thousands of words.

In addition to copies (costing £10) which suit the PAL video system we all use in this country, others are available in the SECAM and NTSC format suitable for such as Asian countries or America, complete with special mailing packaging.

This is also an opportunity to thank all who purchased some 600 copies since this video went on sale late last year.

Leslie Brotherton

Painswick 100 years ago

Fourteen additional gas lamps were about to be placed in the streets of Painswick, including a handsome one outside the Town Hall. This was expected to be a great improvement and would be much appreciated by the inhabitants.

John George Ayers, trading as Ayers & Son, timber merchants of Smalls Mill, Painswick, was summoned at Stroud Police Court for failing to post up an abstract of the Factories Act in his factory; also for employing a young person under 16 years old for more than seven days without having obtained a medical certificate as to his fitness for service. Mr Ayers pleaded guilty to both charges and urged oversight in both cases. Ayers was fined 10/- with 6/- costs, and for neglecting to display the notice fined £1 with 7/- costs.

Messrs Savory & Sons, pin manufacturers of Painswick, were also summoned for having on the 14th employed one 'young person' and one young woman during dinner hour. The Inspector had visited the factory on the day in question at ten

minutes to 2 o'clock and saw a large number of persons packing pins in small paper packets. He took the names of eight - one a woman of over 18 and another of 15. Mr Stuart, for the defendants, informed the Bench that the owner of the factory did not wish any work to be done during meal hours. These girls, by their own voluntary act, commenced work on the 14th before expiration of the dinner hour. They were on piece work and the more work they accomplished the more pay they received. Maurice Owen Phipps, Manager at Savory's Mill, said that no instruction had been given employees to work during meal times. Maurice Cook, foreman, deposed that he had strictly forbidden the employees working during such hours.

Joseph Phipps, farmer of Dell Farm, admitted to having allowed three pigs to stray in Greenhouse Lane and was fined 2s 6d.

Full Christmas Day services were held at both St Mary's Church and the Congregational Chapel. There was a special Sunday evening service when the Rev W H Seddon preached to a full congregation. 'The Nativity' was described by Mr T Kimberley and illustrated by Mr Percival Wiseman in a lantern show given at the Mission Room on the 29th.

The heavy and continuous rain on Sunday the 30th caused the Wick Stream to overflow its banks. Houses and mills were flooded and employees at some mills were unable to start work on Monday morning, the 31st.

John Bailey

Late night shopping in New Street

The Patchwork Mouse and Paraphernalia will both be opening for late night shopping on THURSDAY 7th DECEMBER from 6 to 9pm, and both shops will also be opening from 11am to 3pm on Christmas Eve for last minute gift buying. For other Christmas and New Year opening hours see the timetable displayed in both windows.

River Severn flooding

"The late rains, coupled with the high tides at this season of the year, have caused the Severn to overflow its bank for many miles towards Worcester. The county left under water presents a desolate aspect, the tops of trees and hedges alone being above water. A large number of sheep and cattle have been drowned, and much property has been destroyed or washed away. The traffic on the river has been stopped, as the towing path is covered with water to a considerable depth, as are nearly all the roads in the vicinity of the river and low lying meadows. Business is consequently at a stand-still in many districts, and farming operations are completely suspended.

Should the water continue to rise at the rate it has for a few days longer, the lower part of Gloucester will be submerged and much loss and inconvenience must be sustained by the poor inhabitants who reside in those localities."

Readers might be forgiven for thinking the above is a recent report - it is from the Stroud Journal of Saturday 28th January 1860! Things don't change much, do they?

John Bailey

Postman Santa



Santa Claus emerges from his grotto again, with the Post Office still proud to be his biggest helper. Children who expect a reply need to have their letters in the post before Friday 15th December, stamped and addressed to Santa Claus/Father Christmas, Reindeerland, SAN TA1.

Ray Appleby

PAUL COOKE

COMPLETE GARDEN MAINTENANCE

MOWING HEDGE CUTTING
PATIOS PONDS

Free estimates

Phone 01452 813738

Mobile 0402 912392

VACUUM CHIMNEY SWEEP

Phone 01452 813738

OAKLEY GARDEN SERVICES



For all your garden needs

MOBILE: 07979 590818

TEL: (01452) 814533

Cotswold Care Hospice Painswick News

In spite of a very wet day for our Autumn Fair in October we managed to raise £1006 for the work at the hospice. This grand total was made possible by the hard work of our helpers and the support and generosity of friends and all the customers who came to buy. Thank you to everyone.

Flora Semark

PRIVATE HIRE TAXI

ALLAN & MARTIN WEAGER
(Formerly Rylands)

01453-763947 (Allan)

01453-764845 (Martin)

Allan (mobile): 07712-776470

Martin (mobile): 07808 722255

Strong Painswick connection with the Haven Trust

The Haven Trust, a charity based in Gloucester providing nursery facilities and support for homeless families with young children, was founded twelve years ago through the vision of a Painswickian, Diana Feilden.

Although Diana is no longer involved on a day to day basis (she is now an Honorary Member) the leadership of the project remains very much within the Painswick Community, as does much of the support.

Anthony Robinson (Castle Hale) has just become Chairman of the Trust in succession to Gloucester solicitor, Peter Whiteman. Bob Shea (currently Secretary), Janet Jenkins (Chair of Fund-raising) and Ian Marsh (Treasurer) are all Trustees. Brian Davies heads up the fund-raising from all statutory bodies and several

other Painswickians are currently involved in a training course for volunteers in the nursery. Clearly, The Haven would struggle without the Painswick connection and we are extremely grateful to all our supporters and friends.

We have an urgent need at present for someone prepared to take on the book-keeping role as a volunteer. It is not terribly demanding (twelve to fifteen hours per month on average) and can mainly be done from home if preferred. If you know of anyone (previous experience would be helpful but not essential) who might be interested to contribute to such a worthwhile project in this way, please do call Ian Marsh (812829).

The Haven Trust is currently facing another challenge. Many of our Friends have received invitations recently to support another Haven trust (which the Charity Commissioners registered only two to three years ago), and although they are a national charity they are becoming very active in Gloucestershire. Not surprisingly our 'Friends' are getting somewhat confused.

We have appealed to the Charity Commissioners, who, although embarrassed, are not prepared to take any action. It would be most helpful to receive letters from any of our Painswick 'Friends' or other supporters expressing confusion, to increase pressure on the Commissioners. (Please direct to Bob Shea.)

Ian Marsh

Autumn wedding



Peter Chance and Rosalind Hemming who were married at the Hatton Court Hotel on 14th October. Rosalind is the daughter of Ken and Jane Hemming and a grand-daughter of the late Mrs Mabel Partridge of The Park, Painswick. Rosalind and Peter will be living at 'Welcome', The Park.

One chapter in a longer story...

The above is the title of a new film by Jonathan Stedall about St Christopher's, a school in Bristol for children with severe learning difficulties. It is scheduled for transmission on HTV at 5pm on Sunday 7th January.

Jonathan lives in Sheepscombe and has had a long interest in the curative schools and village communities inspired by the work of Rudolf Steiner. In 1968 his first film on the subject, 'In need of Special Care', won a British Film Academy award, and more recently he made a film about the Paradise Community, 'Nettles in Paradise', for BBC television. (It is worth checking in the press nearer the time for possible alterations to the date and time)

Drivers needed for Meals on Wheels

I hope the Beacon can help me locate some new drivers to replace three who have retired recently. Our aim is to have enough drivers so that each person has only one run per month. We now have about thirty drivers on the roster, delivering up to 4,000 meals per year in and around Painswick. In terms of balanced representation some of the surrounding villages are under-represented in terms of serving clients in those areas. We hope, in other words, to find a few more people from Sheepscombe, Cranham and Edge to help with meal delivery. The job takes about one hour and goes even faster if the driver has a helper. Petrol costs are covered by the authorities. Interested persons should call me on 814470 or email Robert.Shea@btinternet.com.

Bob Shea

HOME 'n' DRY

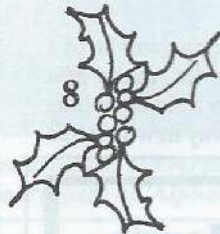
'DRY CLEANS CARPETS'

ABSOLUTELY NO DRYING TIME! - Guaranteed

- Deep Clean and remove soil & spots
- Lift and rejuvenate carpet pile
- Leave your carpets with a clean fresh scent
- Benefit Asthma & Dust Allergy sufferers
- Leave your rooms ready for immediate use

New 'DRY' Foam Upholstery Cleaning

For a free, no obligation quotation call
01452 612229 or 0370 437777



The Falcon Inn

Superb LUNCHES and DINNERS in our restaurant every day. Bar snacks, morning coffee.

The recently refurbished STABLES ROOMS are available both daytime and evenings, complete with their own bar, for your private receptions and parties of up to 60 persons.

Our en-suite bedrooms have every modern facility and are ideal if you have friends or relatives coming to visit you in the PAINSWICK area. Call FIONA or JON on 01452-814222 for more details

Christmas Services

A warm welcome is extended to all at the services listed below:

Sunday 17th December

Please see individual church notice boards for the regular Sunday Services.

- 10.30am Family Carols: Friends' Meeting House, Painswick
4.00pm Carol Service: Christ Church, Painswick

Saturday 23rd December

- 6.15pm Lessons and Carols: St Mary's Church, Painswick

Sunday 24th December

- 8.30am Mass: Church of Our Lady and St Therese, Painswick
9.30am Holy Communion said, ASB: St Mary's Church, Painswick
10.30am Carol Service, Methodist Chapel, Sheepscombe
10.30am Morning Worship: Christ Church, Painswick.
10.30am Sunday Meeting: Friends Meeting House, Painswick.
3.00pm Crib Service: St Mary's Church, Painswick
5.00pm Blessing the Crib: St John's Church, Sheepscombe
5.00pm Blessing the Crib at service of Lessons and Carols: St James's Church, Cranham
11.30pm Christ's Mass of Midnight: St Mary's Church, Painswick

Christmas Day

- 8.00am Holy Communion BCP: St Mary's Church, Painswick
8.30am Mass: Church of Our Lady and St Therese, Painswick
9.30am Family Communion: St John's Church, Sheepscombe
10.30am Christmas Morning Service: Christ Church, Painswick
10.30am Short Meeting: Friends Meeting House, Painswick.
11.00am Family Communion: St James's Church, Cranham
11.15am Family Worship (Carols for Christmas Morning): St Mary's Church, Painswick

For Christmas services at Prinknash Abbey and the Catholic church in Stroud, please see notice board in the Church of Our Lady and St Therese, Friday Street.

COTTAGE CLINIC, PAINSWICK
PHYSIOTHERAPY AND SPORTS INJURIES

We treat pain...

neck
shoulders



back and everything
in-between!

knees

Also post-operative
rehabilitation

01452 812344

feet

Please telephone for an appointment

CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

Senior Circle given glimpses of an Eden before the Fall

Scattered across the Pacific Ocean like so much fairy dust are its atolls and islands. These seeming havens of tranquillity and self-sufficiency have captured the hearts of visitors and their magic has inspired poets, artists and writers, leaving the rest of us who have not made this voyage of discovery wondering what it is we have missed.

Well, the Senior Circle doesn't have to wonder quite so much any more because Anthony Robinson, who spent a year on one of the atolls of Kiribati in the 1960s, gave us a vivid account of the life, customs, music and history of a people whose ways reflect the name of the sea surrounding them.

Onotea, Anthony's atoll, like most of the others is small. Five miles long by a few hundred yards across and a precarious ten feet above sea level. Surrounding reefs and lagoons add space and serenity.

As a service overseas volunteer Anthony lived and worked within the community. He learned their language and traditions. Playing the guitar and having the instrument with him speedily gave him entree to family circles. His perceptive narrative he interspersed with slides, recordings of their music made at the time, and then, accompanying himself on the guitar, sang to us folk songs and songs of his own composing, one of which to a mischievous young boy was still being broadcast over local radio when he returned to the island in 1993.

Life on an atoll is not easy and self-sufficiency comes from the sea and two important trees - the coconut palm and the pandanus tree. These two trees provide materials for shelter and food and, importantly, the local brew 'karewe'. This sweet cordial from the palm becomes beer after three days, whiskey after four, and 'watch out' after seven.

An abiding memory for us will be of a young man, high among the fronds of a palm, chanting a joyous refrain as he harvested his karewe to the way in which this

would lubricate his love. Hissing away in the background was surf on sand.

Anthony's closely analysed account pointed up the difficulties facing a poor and relatively isolated people by our western culture. Their traditions are under threat. One can only hope that Kiribati which welcomed the new millennium with gentle singing and dancing will be treated with similar gentleness as the century matures.

Patrick Daly

The appreciation of modern art is something quite beyond a number of us older folk these days and the media seems to inflict outrageous exhibits on us which we tend to dismiss almost with disgust. However, help is at hand as we learned from Lyn Gibson who is a lecturer in Art with the University of Bristol's Adult Education Scheme.

She recently gave us a very informative lecture offering us the chance to understand art. "It's all a matter of studying subject, form, method and context which helps direct one's thoughts towards understanding a particular work of art". Maybe, but the first slide showing bricks did little to help. Looking at slides of famous paintings was a different matter. With patience and an expert tutor there is a great deal to be learned from clues given by the artist if one knows what to look for. But not those bricks, I thought.

The religious painting 'Supper at Emmaus' by the 15th century Caravaggio portrayed drama by light and shade rather than being merely a painting of three men at the Supper. From the Flemish school, Jan van Eyck's 'The Betrothal of Arnolfini', so well known to many of us by the lady in a gorgeous green gown, is an illustration of the use of colour and detail to signify love, comfort and personal wealth. David Hockney's 1970 painting on a similar theme offered interesting comparisons - but not unless you were shown what to look for. Art, we were told, changes as society changes, which probably accounts for a great deal of the material thrust upon us today. Whether it will stand the test of time remains to be seen.

Daphne Hudson

Paul A. Morris

City & Guilds

General Builder * Plastering * Patios
Dry Stone Walling
Natural Stone Work A Speciality
Hard Landscaping

19 Wickridge Close, Uplands,
Stroud, Glos GL5 1ST
Telephone (01453) 752004
Mobile 0781 8087375

Email: paulmorris72@Hotmail.com

FREE ESTIMATES

PAINSWICK PAPERS

Have your
newspapers
magazines
and comics
delivered to your door



TEL. 814265

Painswick Players "get it in order"!

Regular playgoers witnessed the development of this talented group in the production of Michael Frayn's comedy, *Alphabetical Order*. I went on the final night, which was very well attended by an appreciative audience. The all round achievement by the Painswick Players is astonishing. Congratulations to Alasdair King, making his debut as director, whose confidence in putting on this challenging play was well rewarded. Thank you, Alasdair, for your imaginative, excellent and enjoyable production.

The play opens to a chaotic scene in the disorganised library of a provincial newspaper. We meet the characters working for the struggling paper and witness the changes in their lives that come about as result of the new assistant librarian's super-efficiency. The filing system is in complete alphabetical disorder, re-order and finally utter chaos.

The stage, set and props teams accurately re-created the 1970s and the audience was obviously very impressed. Thanks to Maggie Drake, Tony Gibson, Bill Gott and Charles Dorman for a great set. Jackie Herbert took on a huge task finding props for a most convincing office. Apart from preparing vast amounts of

papers, she used real furniture some of which she acquired at auction and then enterprisingly recouped funds for the Painswick Players by selling to grateful members of the audience! Jacek Wolowiec masterfully co-ordinated lights and sound - the music was great and really set the scene. Lynne Gibson and Ann Yates's costumes and make-up were authentic and really evocative of the era.

Lesley Wolowiec took the part of the humourless, tentative but quietly controlling new assistant librarian, which she played with great sensitivity and poise. The much loved, disorganised, librarian was played by Jean Burgess, performed brilliantly and so naturally. Kevin Parker was the 'wordy', whimsical journalist, who he portrayed excellently, and with ease. Jack Burgess captured the jolly, boyish, teasing role of the office messenger most convincingly. The patronising features editor was a role that Gill Cox obviously enjoyed giving a confident and amusing performance. Well done, to Benedict Kolczynski who in the part of the slow moving, alcoholic writer brought much laughter, and Andrew Leach who conveyed the just the right degree of sleaze as a waggish reporter.

The front of house and bar team, led by Jan Campbell, provided a warm welcome. Thank you to Elaine Howell who, with Jan, worked hard to publicise the event. The professionally produced and informative programmes were superb and we thank Kevin Parker for his artistic efforts.

It is amazing the amount of enthusiasm and energy that the cast and creative team can squeeze into their spare time to work on the play. A big thank you to all involved. If you were not fortunate to see this production, do watch out for future activities by the Painswick Players and come along, bring your friends and experience great, live, local entertainment.

Naomi Dunn



Nora (Gill Cox, centre), interrupts an intimate conversation between Lucy (Jean Burgess) and John (Kevin Parker) in 'Alphabetical Order'.

Youth Club news

Help needed during the Christmas holidays

The Youth Club will be closed from Wednesday 6th December for six weeks and will reopen on Wednesday 24th January 2001. Would anyone like to help out during this time to enable the Club to remain open? If anybody could spare the time it would be very much appreciated and support will be available. Please contact Jenny Broadbank on (01452) 611072.

The Youth Club would also like to thank those people who have helped with donations towards the Air Hockey table which has recently been installed at the Club and is being much enjoyed. The Youth Club is also pleased to report that numbers have been stable for a while and that all members have been pulling their weight.

GODDARDS GARAGE

Cheltenham Road, Painswick



- * Brake Safety Centre
- * Full servicing & repair facilities
- * Pre-MOT checks/MOTs arranged
- * Ti Crypton engine tuning service
- * Petrol/Diesel/Tyres/Exhausts
- * Private Hire Taxi
- * Paraffin/Coal/Calor Gas/Charcoal

Personal attention for your car
Telephone - **812240**

PRICE DAVIS

Chartered Accountants & Registered Auditors

We offer a fast response and a personal service for all your taxation and accountancy problems

Contact Howard Davis on:

Painswick 812491

Mobile phone 0836 515701

Email sales@pricedavis.co.uk



Michael Davis

Building and Maintenance Contractor

Painswick 01452 812598

Mobile 07889 092279

e-mail: Mike@painswick4.fsnet.co.uk

ALL types of building work carried out.
Natural Stonework and Dry Stone
Walling a speciality

Lived and worked locally for
over 30 years

Member of the Guild of Master Craftsmen

Two for the price of one at the WI

Painswick WI president Barbara Thorley conducted two meetings in one afternoon in November. First on her agenda came the regular monthly one where plans were made for the provision of food for our forthcoming Christmas party. There was news of a WI Christmas concert to be held in Cheltenham, and a yeast cookery day in Cirencester in March.

Secondly came our Annual Meeting, with reports from Barbara, secretary Doreen Boon and treasurer Jenny Urbani. The President and committee were re-elected for the coming year.

Members were then free to enjoy a cup of tea, a leisurely chat and take time to admire and examine the incredible number of craft items made by Painswick members during the year. Covering no less than four large tables, what an impressive picture they made! There were greetings cards, photographs of splendid outdoor scenes, embroidered pictures, cross-stitch (the finest imaginable), a handsome wastepaper bin, glove puppets, numerous tunics, pullovers and a waistcoat, all in knitting, a clown wearing red pants and a

jaunty yellow cap, a basket containing pink and blue dried larkspur.

One table held a wooden inkle (loom) used in spinning, as well as some shuttles for weaving. There was a basket of spun silk in a glorious shade of blue. On this table also were a lady's suit in fine woollen cloth, jackets and beautifully crocheted shawls, all in home-spun wool.

Another table was piled high with

80th birthday



Painswick WI celebrated their 80th anniversary with a special lunch party in Christ Church Hall on 25th October. Above: the ladies assembled for a photo before sitting down to lunch. Far right is the WI President, Barbara Thorley. Left: the anniversary cake.



crocheted and knitted blankets, gloves, socks and other comforts, in delightful colours. They were made by the Wisbees group (WI sewing bees) and will be given to various charities. All in all, the display was a very good effort for a year's spare time work.

Finally, there was a collection of books published by the WI headquarters with titles such as 'Making your own Curtains', 'Cooking for a Crowd' and 'Pub Walks along the Cotswold Way' (good idea!)

Dorothy Binns

DON'T LEAVE IT TO CHANCE

Leave it to the ones you love and **Make a Will**



- TRUST WILLS OFFER A HOME VISIT, FIXED FEE, WILL WRITING SERVICE ENSURING YOUR LOVED ONES WILL BE PROVIDED FOR ACCORDING TO YOUR WISHES.
- WE ALSO PROVIDE ENDURING POWERS OF ATTORNEY AND LIVING WILLS

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL

0800-279-0405



SMITH BROS.

GENERAL BUILDERS AND DECORATORS

- NATURAL STONEMWORK
- ROOFING - ALL TYPES
- NEW BUILD & EXTENSIONS
- ALL REPAIRS - MAINTENANCE WORKS
- ESTABLISHED 1956

2 Gloucester Street, Painswick,
Gloucestershire GL6 6QN
Telephone: Painswick (01452) 813051

Bastet Boarding Cattery

NOW OPEN

Proprietor - Janet Horner
Feline Advisory Bureau Trained
Forty Acres, Wick Street
Stroud

Tel: 01453 752006

Individually heated chalets with
outdoor runs

PAINSWICK OSTEOPATHS

Paul Stamp DO
Helen Froggatt DO



PPP Registered Osteopath

Painswick Doctors' Practice

01452 301748

Parking and evening appointments available

The Painswick Beacon

VILLAGE DIARY to SATURDAY 13th JANUARY 2001

December

Sat 2nd	Paradise Community Christmas Fayre	Town Hall	10am - 1pm
	Glos. Guild of Craftsmen: Free Talk & Demonstration: Anne James, Potter; Jan McMillan, Knitter; Stan Greer, Letter Cutter.	Guild Gallery Painswick Centre	11am - 4pm
	"Christmas Seasoning" New Exhibition Daily until 16th December	Tues - Sat Sundays	Fiery Beacon Gallery 11am - 5pm 2 - 5pm
3rd	Village Advent Service of Carols and Readings	St Mary's Church	6.15pm
4th	Austerity Lunch: Hostess - Mrs June Tufnell	Christ Church Hall	12.15 - 1.15pm
5th	Painswick Dog Training Club (Tuesdays) - Puppies and Beginners Intermediate Advanced Dogs	Christ Church Hall	9.30 - 10.15am 10.15 - 11am 11 - 12 noon
6th	Conversational French Classes (Advanced) - Wednesdays Conversational Italian Classes (Intermediate) - Wednesdays	Library Room " "	9.30 - 11am 11.30am - 1pm
	Painswick Probus: Gloucester Cathedral (Problems/Solutions) - R Chout	Ostlers Room, Falcon	10am
	Wives' Fellowship: Christmas Social	Christ Church Hall	7 for 7.15pm
7th	Bring & Buy Sale of Christmas Produce, including Cookery Demonstration 'Quick and Easy Christmas Cookery' by Robert Rees	Painswick Centre	10am - 2pm
	Cotswold Care Support Group Meeting	Ashwell House	2.30pm
	Painswick Music Appreciation Group Christmas Special	Town Hall	7.30pm
	Late night shopping: The Patchwork Mouse and Paraphernalia	New Street	6pm - 9pm
8th	W.I. Market: Fridays	Town Hall	10am
	Senior Circle: The Christmas Party	Town Hall	2.30pm
Sat 9th.	Coffee Morning for Sue Ryder Care	Town Hall	10am - 12noon
	Glos. Guild of Craftsmen: Free Talk and Demonstration - Sue Rangely, Embroidered Textiles; John Jelfs, Ceramics; Dorothy Reglar, Designer Clothes; Rachel Setford. Textiles; Wytzke Lazenby, Leather Work; Christopher Rowlatt, Book Binding.	Guild Gallery Painswick Centre	11am - 4pm
	Christmas Concert by Painswick Singers, followed by mulled wine and mince pies in the Church Hall. Voluntary donations. All welcome	Christ Church	7.30pm
10th	Painswick Beacon Conservation Group: Meet in the car park between the two parts of the plantation off Gloucester Road, signposted to the Cemetery. Bring mug/wine glass for mulled wine & mince pies	Car Park	10am
11th	Austerity Lunch: Hostess - Mrs Anne Leoni	Christ Church Hall	12.15 - 1.15pm
12th	Mothers' Union: 'Christmas Flowers and Carols' - A demonstration of Christmas flower arrangements followed by a selection of members' favourite Carols.	Sheepscombe House	2.30pm
13th	Horticultural Society: Quiz Night	Town Hall	7.30pm
14th	W.I.: Christmas Party	Town Hall	2.30pm
Sat 16th	Glos. Guild of Craftsmen: Free Talk & Demonstration - Liz Lipiatt, Textiles; David Alnutt, Ceramics; Mollie Meager, Stained Glass; Helen Roche, Textiles.	Guild Gallery Painswick Centre	11am - 4pm



17th **COPY DATE: All items to Mrs Jillie Speed, The Old Carriage House, Edge, or Beacon Mailbox in New Street**

Carol Service Christ Church 4pm

18th Austerity Lunch: Hosts - Society of Friends Christ Church Hall 12.15 - 1.15pm

19th Jazz Evening: Local Musicians, no entry charge Ostlers Room, Falcon 8.30pm

20th Parish Council Meeting Town Hall 7.30pm

Wives' Fellowship: Carol Service Ashwell House 8pm

21st **DIARY DEADLINE: All items to Mrs Edwina Buttrey, 14 The Croft, or Beacon Mailbox in New Street**

23rd Service of Lessons and Carols St Mary's Church 6.15pm

26th Boxing Day Walk organised by the Parish Council, approx. 2 hours Stamages Lane car park 10am

January 2001

3rd Painswick Probus Meeting Ostlers Room, Falcon 10am

Cotswold Care Support Group Meeting Ashwell House 2.30pm

Painswick Music Appreciation Group: Frederyk Chopin Town Hall 7.30pm

Sat 6th January Issue of The Painswick Beacon Published

9th Painswick Players: Open Meeting to plan forthcoming Revue (5th, 6th & 7th April). Potential new members especially welcome. Cotswold Room Painswick Centre 7.30pm

10th Horticultural Society: Clematis - Mrs V Brooks Town Hall 2.30pm

April

2nd, 23rd & 30th Calligraphy Day Workshop for beginners/improvers Church Rooms 10am - 4pm
For details see Library notice board. Contact Audrey Watts 813098

Rugby Fixtures

(L) denotes league match. Matches start at 2.30pm.

First XV

Sat 2 Dec. Minchinhampton 1st XV (Home)

Sat 9 Dec. (L)Bristol Telephones 1st XV (Home)

Sat 16 Dec. (L)Dursley 1st XV (Away)

Sat 23 Dec. Cheltenham Saracens XV (Away)

Sat 30 Dec. Old Cryptians 1st XV (Home)

Sat 6 Jan. Longlevens 1st XV (Home)

United

Dowty 1st XV (Away)

Minchinhampton 2nd XV (Away)

(L)Dursley 2nd XV (Home)

Longlevens 2nd XV (Away)

Old Cryptians 2nd XV (Away)



Property Report

Advertisement

HAMPTONS

INTERNATIONAL

The Old Chapel, Bisley Street
Painswick, Glos. GL6 6QQ
Tel: 01452 812354
Fax: 01452 813279

email painswick@hamptons-int.com
The ultimate property se@rch: www.hamptons.co.uk

Now we are in the run up to Christmas viewers do become scarcer; however the stability that continues to be the dominant theme of the property market is good news for both buyers and sellers. It is a good time to buy and sell, with less hassle.

The showhouse of the Painswick Heights Developments is now ready for viewing and although the official opening will be in the New Year we can show prospective purchasers around this most unusual property which must be seen to appreciate the fabulous spacious accommodation.

We are still waiting the brochure on Gyde House but work has commenced on the building and the first four properties will be released in January. We can take "early bird" reservations at this stage - do ask for details.

During last month we were instructed on the following properties - Marylands, a two bedroomed bungalow, in Far End, Sheepscombe; and Crestwood - a three bedroomed bungalow in Cranham - both with absolutely magnificent views. In Slad - Worgans Cottage a charming period cottage in an elevated setting overlooking the famous "Cider with Rosie" country. At Longridge, Orchard House, a fine five bedroomed modern property - with wonderful views to Sheepscombe.

All of our properties can be viewed on our Internet site together with up to 4 photographs and some have virtual walkthroughs.

We are happy to help on any property related matter - please telephone 01452 812354.



Talk on well dressing at Horticultural Society

At Painswick Horticultural Society's meeting on 8th November Mr Orchard-Robinson introduced us to the Derbyshire custom of well dressing. Most of the members knew little of this skilled and artistic craft and marvelled at the ingenious use of natural materials to depict mostly biblical scenes in keeping with the celebration of God's gift of water. The ritual and traditions of this art conveyed so successfully in words and slides by Mr

Orchard-Robinson ensured a memorable evening.

At our next meeting, a quiz on gardening (not too difficult and preceded by festive fare!) will bring the year to a close.

Remember, if you have not renewed your subscription by this meeting, you will not be notified of the horticultural outings in the spring.

Pauline Lamont, Secretary

A personal choice at the Music Appreciation Group

They must have known they were in for an enjoyable evening for they came in good numbers on 9th November to listen to 'My Music', expertly presented with much dry wit by John Parfitt.

It was a fascinating kaleidoscope of his interesting and varied life which he illustrated with music that caught his fancy at different stages. His methodist background gave us renderings of the hymn 'Sagina' and choral and organ music by Stainer. His father bought a radiogram in 1938 and John acquired 78s in Bristol arcades for 1/6 - three weeks' pocket money! His mother taught him the piano, there was music at school and the Bristol Schools' Choir. Bach's 3rd Brandenburg Concerto illustrated his piano period. Then came Naval College with two organs, on one of which the boys learned to play - Stainer's organ music to illustrate this period.

In the 1950s came the Greenwich Naval Course - lots of musical offerings in London, illustrated by Davrell Fancourt singing bass arias from Ruddigore. More music in Bristol - Julian Slade's 'Salad days' (composed next door to Painswick Town Hall); then a 1927 record of Gigli

in Lucia di Lammermoor. The scene then changed and John played us music he "just liked" irrespective of where it fitted into his life history. This included Mendelssohn, Rossini and, to finish, Beethoven's Septet - John's first ever CD.

To come: Leslie Brotherton's talk on Richard Strauss, to be reported next month. And don't miss our Christmas Special on 7th December - with wine!

Concert note: We are going to Cheltenham Town Hall on 25th January for Kodaly, Mendelssohn and Bizet. There may still be a seat or two left if you hurry: call Anne Leoni on 812521. Likewise if, following the great success of Swan Lake on 2nd November, you want to join us for a "special insert" - the English National Ballet again, performing the Nutcracker Suite in Bristol on 30th January. There are still a few seats left; non-members welcome!

Ralph Kenber

Bellringing news

A peal on ten bells was rung by visitors to the tower on Saturday 18th November, and a quarter-peal was rung on the evening of Monday 20th November by ringers from local towers.

On Saturday 9th December bells will be rung by the Painswick band for the wedding of Captain Fred Gray and Jody Waller at 1 o'clock. Best wishes to the happy couple. Fred is son of Paul at the Shetland Shop.

Patsy Sykes-Wright

Roland Boggan

Chartered Accountant

Fast & Efficient Service
Limited Companies
Partnerships & Sole Traders
For all your Accounting, Tax
and Business Advice
Telephone 01452 812075

Cranham - To Let. Three bedroom bungalow in the heart of the village. Wonderful views. Available from 1st December. £650.00pcm. Contact Mrs E Johnson 814413

Greenhouse - Wooden frame 13ft. x 7ft. 3 ins. Free to whoever will dismantle and take it away! 813202

Solid oak front door. Five panels / three bars - 77ins. x 30ins. - metallic 'furniture'. £175 o.n.o. including delivery within Painswick 812918

Super family gîte in the Dordogne, to let. Swimming pool and accommodation for up to 2 families. From £280 per week. Telephone David Allison 0033 5535 42291

To Let in Pitchcombe. Bungalow unit, one bedroom, in quiet location, overlooking the Painswick valley. 812682

Lanzarote. Luxury one bedroom bungalow on quiet beach-front resort with three pools, restaurants, bars and shops nearby. Vacancies most months. From £180 pw. Telephone 01452.611873

MINI-ADS - non-commercial, maximum of 30 words - are 10p per word with a minimum payment of £1. Maximum of 14 accepted per month. *Beacon* subscribers have 25% discount. Please send money with mini-ad to Leslie Brotherton, Longhope, Blakewell Mead, Painswick GL6 6UR. If paying by cheque, please make it payable to *The Painswick Beacon*. Receipts are not forwarded unless requested.

ELECTRICAL AND ALARM SERVICES

New Installations, Rewires, Extra Sockets, Lights, Showers, Security Lighting, Economy 7 Heating, etc.

Professional intruder alarm systems fitted from £330. Remote control car alarms fitted from £70.

Door Entry and Closed Circuit Television Systems fitted

For a friendly, prompt and reliable service contact
Steve Gallagher

on Eastington (01453) 791209

ALL WORK
FULLY GUARANTEED WITH
NO ADDED VAT



Allen Hale

Your local stockist for
The Real Meat Company

Allen Hale

New House, Friday Street
Painswick. Tel 01452 813613

BRINGING YOU FLAVOUR
WITHOUT EQUAL.

WELFARE WITHOUT COMPROMISE

The Personal Column

Babies

Congratulations to VIRGINIA and MARK WATERKEYN on the birth of their third son, Sam, a brother for Charlie and Harry, and a ninth grandchild for Sally and Michael Brennan.

Congratulations to GILLIAN and MARK HANCOCK on the birth of their daughter Millicent, a sister for Beth and George;

and to DON and NIKI BABBS of Bears Den, Painswick Beacon, who had a baby girl, Lora Aleksandra, on 22nd November.

December Wedding

Best wishes to Capt FRED GRAY and JODY WALLER who are to be married on 9th December at St Mary's Church. (Fred is Paul Gray's son and Jean Gray's grandson.)

Engagement

Congratulations to ANNABEL BLAKE of Pitchcombe and TIM EVANS of Wimbledon whose engagement was announced recently.

95th Birthday

RUTH de COURCY IRELAND will be celebrating her 95th birthday on 11th December. (Brian and Ruth's 73rd wedding anniversary was on 1st December.)

Condolences

Our sincere sympathies to the family and friends of PADDY BROOKS, MARGERY FINCH and DOREEN RODBARD who have died recently. And sympathies to Penny Overton (nee Heal) whose husband Vic recently died very suddenly.

Congratulations

Congratulations to JOLYON RIDGWELL who has gained an MBA degree at the Judge Institute of Management Studies, University of Cambridge, where he is a member of Sidney Sussex College.

Get Well Soon

Best wishes for a speedy recovery to TOM CARROLL, REGGY MERRYWEATHER, TED GYDE, JOAN BROUGHTON, BARBARA LEWIS and RICHARD HINDS.

Welcome

We welcome ANN and RICHARD BURGESS WATSON who have moved into Highfield House (formerly Grey Cottage), Gloucester Street, from Kent.

Thank you

We would like to thank the many neighbours and friends who supported the family over the past three years. On behalf of the late Deanne Boydell we also record our appreciation of the efforts of all those at Hoyland House, as well as medical and support services beyond the local community.

Bill, John and Helen Boydell

A very big thank you to all of you who supported me this year on my 25 mile bike ride for Teckels Animal Shelter. A grand total of £272.90 was raised by you for this good cause.

George Hodder

Gus and I wish to thank all those friends who have kindly inquired about my mother Gladys Hobbs and who have visited her during her recent illness. As from December Gladys will be resident at Resthaven where she will be pleased to see all her friends. With my thanks to you all.

Jennifer Gaugain

Beacon subscribers - at 17th November			
	2000-01	1999-00	1998-99
New/Returned	88	139	123
Renewed	537	518	498
To date	625	657	621

NEXT ISSUE

Publication Date
SATURDAY 6th JANUARY

Items for publication to Jillie Speed*,
The Old Carriage House, Edge, by
SUNDAY 17th DECEMBER

Mini Ads to Leslie Brotherton,
Longhope, Blakewell Mead, by
SUNDAY 17th DECEMBER

Business adverts: Contact Liz Fisher,
Harebell Cottage, Blakewell Mead, by
THURSDAY 14th DECEMBER

Diary items (only) to Edwina Buttrey,
14 The Croft, by
THURSDAY 21st DECEMBER

* Articles for publication, and other items for the Beacon Committee, may also be placed in the Beacon Post Box in New Street (next to telephone kiosk).

Items for publication are welcomed on computer diskette (returned to you after use) or by email to:
Painswick.Beacon@dial.pipex.com
In all cases please give your name, address and phone number.

BEACON COMMITTEE

Editor: Alan Bamber 814500
(Beacon calls only)

Copy Editor: Jillie Speed 814148

Personal Column: Rachel Taylor 813402

Business Advertising: Liz Fisher 812130

Diary: Edwina Buttrey 812565

Sport: Terry Parker 812191

Distribution: Arthur Lock 813565

Treasurer: Leslie Brotherton 813101

Other committee members: Tony Crook,
Iris McCormick, Carol Maxwell

Writers please note: Although our January issue will be published as normal on the first Saturday in the month, the deadline for submitting items (see above) is earlier than usual because of the Christmas holiday.



PAINSWICK ELECTRICAL SERVICES
N.I.C.E.I.C. approved CONTRACTORS

SERVICE
INSTALLATIONS
REPAIRS


The Electrical Contractors Association

Mr M TURNER
2, Folly Lane, Stroud, Glos. GL5 1SP
01453-758342 and
Painswick 812659

DAVID ARCHARD
In association with
Philip Ford & Son Ltd

FUNERAL DIRECTORS
AN INDEPENDENT FAMILY BUSINESS
Private Chapels of Rest
24 Hour Personal Service

DIRLETON HOUSE
CAINSCROSS ROAD
STROUD
01452-812103 or 01453-763592

The
Anthony Fisher
Curtain Company

SPECIALIST CURTAIN MAKER
A very personal advice and making service for simple drapes or elaborate window dressings. For an appointment to see thousands of fabrics, everything from Sandersons to Coloroll, in your home or my office/showroom at:
41 Brunswick Road, Gloucester
Please ring Glos 309333 (day) or Painswick 812130 (evenings).