

# The Painswick Beacon

Vol. 23 No. 8

November 2000

## "A PEACH OF A PLACE"

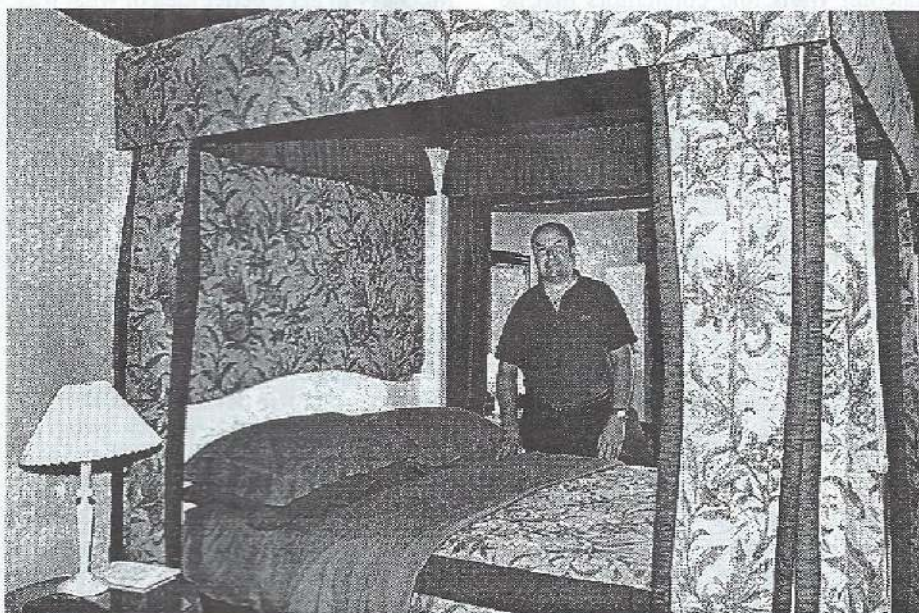
**Which? guidebook heaps praise on Cardynham House**

Painswick's hotels and guest houses are again attracting national praise. Following the recent awards given to the Falcon Inn, it is the turn of Cardynham House at the Cross to win accolades. The latest version of *Which?* Magazine's Hotel Guide has selected Cardynham House as one of its Hotels of the Year.

*Which?* publishes a yearly Hotel Guide and one of its features is the naming of three top hotels in each of a number of categories. Cardynham House has been chosen in the 'Quirky Character' category.

Unlike some hotel guides, entries in the *Which?* publication are entirely independent of the hotels and guest houses who cannot request or pay to appear in the Guide or write their own text. Entries in the Guide, and the nominations for best hotels, are the result of visits by *Which?*'s anonymous team of inspectors.

The Guide describes Cardynham



John Paterson in a 'medieval bedroom' at Cardynham House

House as "a peach of a place with fabulous rooms and oodles of atmosphere. Amid the silvery-grey buildings of picture-perfect Painswick this 16th Century house is impossibly quaint." It goes on to state that each of its nine bedrooms is "a window into a different world" and that the "pick of the crop is the Pool Room, with

its fireplace, a divine free-standing bath, terrace and small indoor pool."

The other hotels chosen by *Which?* in the 'Quirky Character' category are 'By Appointment' at Norwich, and 'The Gore' in London.

Perhaps an equal compliment to Cardynham House, though without the 'official' connotation, came last February when the Independent newspaper selected it as one of the fifty most romantic hotels in the world.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

## St Mary's say goodbye

The staff and remaining residents of St Mary's Home relocated last week to their new premises in Hucclecote, thereby ending the Home's association with the Stamages Lane site which stretches back nearly a hundred years.

To mark the occasion a special thanksgiving service was held in the Parish Church on 18th October. The staff of St

Mary's took a prominent part in the service and the address was given by the Head of the Home, Sue Woodcock.

Subsequently a farewell party was held in St Mary's, when the staff welcomed back some of their ex-colleagues and villagers who have assisted them over the years.

Sue Woodcock and her staff have expressed their thanks to villagers for their support, and are particularly grateful to the Parish Church and to Painswick's shopkeepers who have always made the residents and staff very welcome. They say they are all going to miss the spectacular views down the Painswick Valley.

(See also poem inside)



At the farewell party, left to right: Sue Woodcock - Head of Home; Margaret Court - Occupational Therapy Assistant; Coral Gregory - Care Assistant

## Calling all blood donors

The next blood donor session at the Painswick Centre is on Wednesday 29th November, 1.30pm to 3.15pm and 5pm to 7.15pm. Previous and new donors will all be very welcome. For more information please contact Maureen Stephenson on 01452-610764.

## Rowena Francis to leave

The Minister of Christ Church, Revd Rowena Francis, has informed the church that she will be leaving early in the new year. She has accepted an invitation to be Minister of Warwick Road United Reformed Church, Coventry.

Rowena has been Minister of Christ Church since August 1996. She shares her ministry between Rodborough Tabernacle and Christ Church on a 75:25% basis, and both churches are therefore looking to make a new appointment.

Christ Church is a joint Baptist/URC church and a new minister may come from either of those denominations. An 'interim minister' will be asked to supervise and assist the church until a permanent appointment is made.



## Council Meeting on 18th October

Reported by Alan Bamber

### Mountain bike track

Malcolm Watts told councillors that he had been looking into the proposal for a mountain biking area on the recreation field. The prospects were encouraging. He had been to see an existing BMX track in Stonehouse which he thought was superbly designed and took up only a small area. It was a soil and stone mix which did not involve any timber structures and so could easily be dismantled. Encouraging responses had also been received from the insurers and from the District Council. It was agreed that a group of councillors should continue to collect information, including costs, and come back to the council later with a definite proposal.

### Hollyhock Lane

It was agreed to write to the County Council to press for the implementation of the proposed order making Hollyhock Lane a public footpath and to find out what resurfacing and maintenance work they will then carry out. David Hudson said the County Council would upgrade it to "footpath standard" but they needed to clarify what this meant. He said he had spoken to local residents who had again stressed the need for a good surface for pedestrians, at the same time as deterring cars.

### Trees on Gloucester Road

Councillors decided to take a close look at trees in the grounds of Painswick House which were said to be dangerously overhanging the Gloucester Road.

### SDC Local Plan

The Council agreed to hold a special meeting on 8th November to discuss their response to changes in the Local Plan. The deadline for representations on the modified Plan is 27th November.

### Police Information Point

The Council again discussed ways in which the public could have direct access to the police in Painswick following last

month's closure of the police station. PC Gary Power, who was present at the meeting, confirmed that Inspector Mac McGarry has asked him to look into setting up a "Police Information Point", but he said he needed to talk to Inspector McGarry to get a better idea of what was required.

### Care Village

A letter from Keith Cockell, Managing Director of Richmond Care Village, reported on progress with the proposed nursing and residential care centre in Painswick. He said that a Slope Stability report was being prepared, as required by the outline planning consent, and that despite "rather slow progress" he was now formalising ideas for the detailed design of the centre. Mr Cockell added that it would be helpful to develop ideas with "an appropriate and representative group of people from Painswick" who could advise him on local needs and be a valuable sounding board. He asked if the Council would consider forming such a group.

After a long discussion the Council decided that as they will have a formal role in the decision when plans are submitted, they should not be involved in this way. It was agreed to write back saying they are appreciative of what the applicant is seeking but that the Parish Council is not an appropriate vehicle for setting up such a group.

In the course of the discussion it was suggested that the Council might invite residents to apply, and then select from among them to ensure that the group is representative and unbiased, but the consensus was that this would be difficult to achieve and could put the council in a tricky position. Another idea suggested, but not pursued, was that the council put a statement in the Beacon asking people who are interested in joining the group to contact Mr Cockell.

### Recreation Field

Council chairman Terry Parker said he was still waiting for advice on council members' dual roles as councillors and trustees, including the possibility of individual councillors opting out of trust membership. He said that at the recent trustees' meeting it had been agreed to consider allowing parking on part of the recreation ground and for special events to be held there on up to twelve occasions each year, with the applicant responsible for supervising the event.

### Chamber of Trade

A letter from the Painswick Chamber of Trade and Commerce suggested that in view of recent car thefts further consideration should be given to installing CCTV at appropriate places. Johnny Johnston cautioned that there were legal

implications regarding privacy; his view was that it was up to individual traders to install systems on their own premises. The Council decided to write for advice to the District Council's Community Safety Officer.

### Town Hall

Two Painswick societies had written asking if the Town Hall could be re-decorated. One of them commented on the lack of ventilation and problems with cleanliness after other users had been there. It was agreed that Keith Hardwidge, the councillor responsible for the Town Hall, should investigate these problems and respond to the societies.

### Stroudend Tithing

The Council agreed to provide written support to the Stroudend Tithing Educational Trust in their quest for lottery funding for a research project. The project involves a study of the social, economic and landscape history of the area of the old parish known as the Stroudend Tithing. (See separate article about the project on page 12)

### Common Land

In a letter to the Council, Amaury Blow (Painswick Manorship) stated that in his view, shared by English Heritage, the trig point on Painswick Beacon should be removed. He felt that the trig point was of less importance than the iron age fort and that its presence had contributed to the erosion there. His intention was to give over the task to Mr Derek Whitting who had helped to erect the trig point in 1948 and had expressed an interest in keeping it as a souvenir.

Amaury Blow also commented on the proposal to erect "height restrictors" at the entrances to car parking areas on the commons as a way of preventing access by travellers. This had been suggested as an alternative to blocking off the areas altogether. He said this would require discussions with various parties in order to identify suitable areas and to address the question of funding. He felt that as the car parks are primarily for the use of the general public they should be funded at least as much by public bodies as by the Manor. He ruled out Cat Brain Quarry for this use.

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## "A peach of a place"

Continued from page 1

It has also had an excellent review in Time Out, and judging by recent press interest it seems likely to feature further in the national media in the future.

Proprietor John Paterson is rightly delighted by the award but he was quick to give most credit to former owner Carol Keyes, from whom he bought the property a year ago.

John believes the building dates from 1489 (making it the 15th rather than 16th century) but not much appears to be known of its early history. Latterly the premises have been used by a succession of businesses. The late Colleen Haine wrote that a person named Thomas Fawcett was recorded in 1820 as a shop-keeper at 'The Cross' and that in 1859 it was advertised for sale as a "Dwelling house with Shop". Older residents will recall that the Irelands' newsagency was there for many years after the Second World War, and that subsequently several other newsagents and businesses have been there.

Currently a part of the property is let in the evenings to the March Hare Thai restaurant, another local establishment that is attracting favourable comment.

## Your chance to shape the future of Painswick!

### Public VDS workshop planned

An exciting - and very important - event will take place on Saturday 27th January, when a public workshop will be held to take forward the idea of a Village Design Statement.

Everyone has their own ideas as to how Painswick should look in the future. Everyone has their own ideas as to what things they like and dislike about the village. And now, by coming to the workshop, everyone will have a great opportunity not only to express those ideas but to have a real influence on the future appearance of the village.

The event will take place partly in the Town Hall and partly out on the road. The basic idea is that teams of residents will each go round an area of their choice, noting down points of interest and taking photographs. Later in the day they will meet up in the Town Hall to collate and describe their findings, and pool ideas. It will all be aided by a back-up system that will enable you to see and present

your own photographs not long after they have been taken! The VDS design team will make a note of all the points made and will reflect the main findings in their final document, 'Painswick 2001 - design for the future'. This document will eventually play a key role in shaping the future of Painswick.

The workshop will last from 9.30am to about 4pm. It promises to be a really enjoyable day as well as important for the future of the village. All Painswick residents are most welcome.

More details will be given nearer the time, but please make a note of the event in your diaries. More information is available from the file in the reference section of the Public Library, or the Team Administrator Leslie Brotherton, at Longhope, Blakewell Mead, Painswick, GL6 6UR.

Plans are afoot to do similar exercises in Sheepscombe, Slad and Edge.

Anne Smith, for the Design Team

## Austerity lunches



The new season of austerity lunches started on 17th October when a team from St Mary's Church hosted the event. The lunches are held every Monday from 12.15pm to 1.15pm at Christ Church Hall, Gloucester Street, where homemade soup, bread and cheese are available for a minimum contribution of £1.20. The money raised goes to charity. Last year over £1700 was raised.



## The Falcon Inn

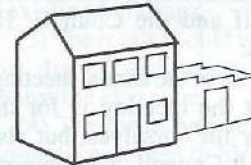
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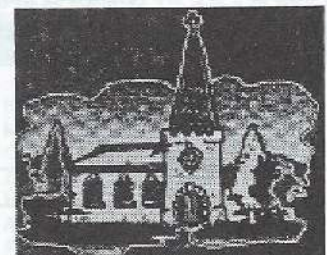
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# Farewell Hazel

Painswick said farewell last month to one of its most well-known and respected residents when Hazel Hendry upped sticks and moved to Tewkesbury.

Hazel lived in Painswick for around thirty years and during that time became famous - not just in these parts but much further afield - for her fund-raising efforts for charity and her humanitarian trips to the Balkans during the various conflicts, often at times when travel there was highly dangerous. In all Hazel estimates that she walked about 3,400 miles for charitable causes, including walking "the cross" - John O'Groats to Land's End and Fishguard to Felixtowe. She also cycled 900 miles. Among the belongings that she carried off to Tewkesbury were a huge number of certificates, awards and thank-you letters that Hazel received from around the world.



*Hazel Hendry (centre) enjoys a farewell cup of coffee with Hilary Howe and Fiona Fletcher after morning service at Christ Church on 22nd October*

Before departing Hazel expressed her thanks to all the people who have helped her and supported her work, including many friends in the village and at Christ Church. Special support has been given by her children Julie and Adam and she

also said she could not have made all her trips without financial help from her ex-husband Allan. Hazel made it clear that she doesn't intend to lose her friends in Painswick - she will just be making more friends elsewhere. She is now living at 17 Lapwing Close, Northway, Tewkesbury, GL20 8TN, telephone 01684-297883.

## My style is my own...

In a recent letter to the Parish Council, Amaury Blow of Painswick Manorship responded to comments made by councillors about the nature of the meetings held between himself and the Council. He wrote as follows:

"To those critics of the annual meeting: Please note that the meeting is for the benefit, not only for ourselves, but also that of the Parish Council. The purpose being to discuss points of mutual interest. In particular the commons/manorial lands of the Parish/Manor, which are, of course,

amongst other things, used as 'Public Parks' and in some places as nature/historical conservation sites and in some other places as village greens. Although the meetings are not required to run the commons they have proven to be most useful to both ourselves and, I trust, the Council.

The form the meeting takes, I accept, is individual, and, perhaps to some 'bizarre': However, it should be born [sic] in mind, that I come to these meetings, not as a councillor, nor a public official, but as myself - a private and independent person (and, of course, as some will have doubtless noted, a Tory to boot) with all the foibles that that entails.

I am afraid that I can not, and will not, use the inert or arid language of Institution or 'political correctness': In conveying meaning I would rather use my own words, syntax and construction than the meaningless verbal formulas constructed by others. My style is my own (sound bite!).

Those who either feel that the meetings are not of value (and I believe them to be most valuable) or find my method of approach unbearable (as many people do) should simply not attend.

Needless to say I have every respect for Mr Terry Parker, who, along with many of the Councillors, I regard as a friend. It is simply that I regard Mr Parker, along with a number of the other Councillors, to be politically mistaken, but then what should you expect, I am a Tory and an active one at that.

With very best wishes.

And, of course, if they do decide to cut and run before our next meeting, vote Conservative!"

## London coach

For your West End shopping, Christmas matinee, or a seasonal rendezvous with friends, a coach has been arranged for Wednesday 6th December. It will leave Stamages Lane car park at 8.30am, setting down at Harrods, Knightsbridge (11.15am approx) and the National Gallery (11.30am). The return journey will be from the National Gallery, Trafalgar Square only, leaving at 6.30 pm. The fare is £9.

Bookings (cash or cheque payable to 'Painswick L & B Outings') should be made with Joan Truman, Little Place, Hollyhock Lane, Painswick GL6 6XH. Enquiries to Joan Truman (813965) or Pauline Berry (813227).

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# Letters to the Editor

## The Painswick Centre

I feel that I must write in response to the Millennium letter I received from the Painswick Centre. As stated in this letter the Painswick Institute was left to the people of Painswick for the benefit of local people. It seems to me that it is being turned into an exhibition centre for visitors, i.e. the Cotswold Room - conference room; Gallery - Glos Guild of Craftsmen; Beacon Hall - large parties and badminton; Cafe Bar - open during the day (lots of us work); Green Room - meeting place.

I was a club member for thirty-seven years and many of my friends for a lot longer. This was a place where we could socialise. This has now been taken away

from us. This was done solely by the trustees who gave the club no help when it was going through a difficult time and I feel that they have a lot to answer to. I am sure that if Frances Williams was alive she would be horrified to see what has happened to the Institute. So come on you new committee - re-open the doors to Painswick people again and let's have our Social Club back.

I Dicks

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.

## PAINSWICK POLICE REPORT

### Incidents: 15.9.00 - 13.10.00

House burglaries: nil. Business premises: nil. Sheds: Painswick 1, Slad 2. Vehicles: Painswick 3, Cranham 2, Sheepscombe 1. Other: Pitchcombe 1 (theft), Cranham 1 (theft).

### Items stolen:

From vehicles: Radio/cassette (3), handbag and contents (2), mobile phone, petrol.

From other places: Cash, chainsaws (4), strimmers (2), generator, leaf blower, petrol, trailer.

### Reported Incidents:

Ten incidents were reported of which three were of value to the police. Thank you.

### Security Improvement Recommendations:

It is of concern that garage and shed burglaries are continuing with the theft of garden machinery. Although all these buildings were secure and locked the thief still manages to gain access and we encourage you to review the security of your garages and sheds. One tip that we suggest is for you to chain your garden machinery and pedal cycles together and to

the structure of the building. With a substantial chain and padlock, hopefully this will make it difficult to steal your property.

PC Gary Power and Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator

## Street lighting freephone

There is a new freephone number for reporting street lighting problems to the County Council. The number is 0800 5421890.

The County's Road Lighting Manager says that last year more than 9,000 freephone calls were made to report street light failures and the public's prompt notice of these meant that a large number were attended to very quickly.

For those on the internet, it is possible to report street light problems by emailing [lightout@gloscc.gov.uk](mailto:lightout@gloscc.gov.uk).

## Mobile phone masts

At last month's Parish Council meeting a policy was agreed for dealing with mobile phone companies' applications for the erection of masts. A draft report presented by Malcolm Watts and David Hudson was accepted by the council.

The issue has arisen because of environmental concerns raised nationally and locally, especially regarding possible health hazards associated with such masts.

The Parish Council's policy is stated to be in line with a letter issued to planning authorities by the Minister for Housing and Planning, Nick Raynsford MP, and it includes the following sections:

"(1) It is accepted that some people are concerned lest there are health hazards associated with these working masts. Until a definitive resolution is available on safety the PPC will normally expect masts to be 200 metres away from permanently inhabited buildings and schools.

(2a) New antennae should share an existing mast if possible.

(2b) Masts should not be located to present a sky-line vista over a large area of surrounding terrain.

(2c) masts should be discreetly located so that visually they are as unobtrusive as possible, e.g. within mature trees or on top of existing buildings.

(3) The masts should not normally support dishes which are widely visible against the skyline.

(4) The masts and all ancillary items should be coloured to blend with the surroundings."

## Thank you

Thank you all so much for supporting the MacMillan Coffee Morning when £150 was raised, and also to everybody who donated and helped.

J Smith and E Stockbridge

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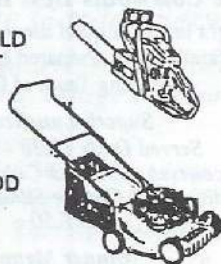
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# Great response to Painswick Centre appeal

The Painswick Centre Management Committee has been delighted by the tremendous response that the people of Painswick have given to the millennium appeal, and especially by the number who came to the Open Day last Saturday in spite of the truly appalling weather. Nearly everyone who went along was impressed by the improvements that have already been made, and supportive of future plans for the Centre.

The Open Day itself raised £1700 from donations to the appeal, bringing the total amount raised at the time of writing to over £2000, a wonderful response to an appeal that is still only a few days old. Over twenty people or organisations have already pledged £100 donations to the 'supporting wall' and it is hoped to have their plaques in place in the next couple of months. The money received means that the committee will soon be in a position

to start the next phase of improvements to the Centre.

The Committee has set a target of raising £10,000 within a year. A great start has been made but there is still a long way to go, so the Committee hopes villagers who have not yet responded to the Appeal will consider doing so. Donations, however small, will all be most welcome. And those who are interested in the supporting wall are reminded that, if wished, the sum may be paid by ten instalments of £10.

## Future events

With Christmas looming on the horizon, the Management Committee have arranged an event for anybody who enjoys cooking, or rather watching somebody else doing it! On Thursday 7th December, Robert Rees, lately of The Country Elephant, and currently becoming quite a

celebrity on the local culinary scene, will be giving a cookery demonstration of seasonal fare, in the newly-renovated Cotswold Room of the Painswick Centre. Admission to the event is free to everyone bringing an item of Christmas produce for the 'Bring and Buy' stall (anything from cakes to table decorations). Otherwise we will ask for a donation towards the Centre funds. The event will start at 10am and coffee will be available.

Looking further ahead to the quieter time of January, a special event has been arranged to take place on Saturday 27th January - an evening of first class singing given by 'The Bill'. The Gloucestershire Police Male Voice Choir are taking the night off from pounding the beat to give a concert of a wide variety of choral songs.

Reminders and further details of these two events will be given in the December issue of the Beacon.

## Charity Bazaar

On Saturday 18th November there is to be a Charity Bazaar in Christ Church Hall, Gloucester Street, 10am to 3pm. Alongside the hosts, Christ Church, several local charities will be running stalls, and as well as all types of gifts there will be a cake stall and refreshments. It's an event not to be missed!

The Charities with stalls are Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust, Mencap Homes, The King's Table, Haven Trust, Cotswold Care and the Oncology Unit. Christ Church are themselves collecting for GEAR and Winston's Wish.

## Painswick 100 years ago

Laura Pearce (14) was admitted to Stroud Hospital on the 1st suffering from gunshot wounds to the face accidentally inflicted by Lewis Clarke (19) of Cheltenham Road, Painswick. Mr Clarke senior had secured the loan of a gun for the first time, to scare rooks from his walnuts. He placed the weapon on a ledge in the corner of the pin box making shop, where the girl and others were employed. Whilst having tea Mr Clarke asked his son to fetch the gun, which exploded by accident and resulted in Laura being shot in the face. Regrettably Laura did not recover and died in hospital on the 6th. A large number of Painswickians joined the funeral cortege from Mr and Mrs Clarke's home in Butt Green to the Cemetery Chapel where the vicar led a short service. Many of those who attended the service were from the factory where the accident occurred including a number of girls who worked with the deceased.

Farmers were well advanced with gathering fruit crops but the abundance of the harvest rendered sale of the crop almost impossible. Cider making had commenced and had benefited from the abundance of

apples but the bulk made it difficult for farmers to secure enough cases to store the beverage.

Painswick School Board had received complaints respecting Miss Alpine, headmistress of the girls' school. The Board resolved to investigate.

Miss Wemys successfully obtained the services of a lady teacher from London who welcomed a stay in the country to give wood-carving classes at the mission room.

At Stroud Police Court John Carter & Son, bakers of Shepscombe, were summoned under the Bread Act for having sold bread from a cart without the provision of a weighing scale on 30th October in Painswick. The Inspector of Weights and Measures proved the case and the defendants were fined £1 with 7s costs.

John Bailey

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## Looking back with pride - the Gloucestershire Guild goes public!

A pleasant ceremony took place at the Painswick Centre on Friday 20th October when the Gloucestershire Guild of Craftsmen, who now have their headquarters at the Centre, formally handed over their archives to the Gloucester Record Office. The archives, consisting of several large boxes of material, were gratefully accepted by the County Archivist Nicholas Kingsley.

A remarkable collection of archive material has been collected and maintained for many years by the Guild's archivist Stuart Robinson. Sadly, through ill health, Stuart is no longer able to act as guardian of this unique record of one of the country's oldest craft guilds, and it was therefore considered timely to hand over the material to the Record Office. Stuart was represented at the hand-over by his wife Pat, a former member of the Guild who designed and made beautiful silk scarves and hangings. Also present were the Guild's Patron, Mrs Carolyn Elwes, and the President, Stephen Wright. Guests included some senior members of the Guild and local people who have helped in running the annual summer exhibition in Painswick.

Mrs Elwes said she was delighted that the archive will now be in the public domain and she hopes that the many people who have had links with the Guild over its sixty-seven year history will appreciate the increased accessibility of the archive in its new home. The items in the



*County Archivist Nicholas Kingsley receives one of the Guild's historical items. Out of sight on the floor are several enormous boxes of archive material! With Mr Kingsley are (left to right) the Guild Coordinator Penny Smith, the Guild's Patron Carolyn Elwes, and Pat Robinson, wife of the Guild's former archivist Stuart Robinson*

archive will now be comprehensively catalogued and people wishing to access the records or seek relevant information about them need only contact the Record Office in Gloucester. The Guild would also be delighted to hear from anyone who has any historical material that relates to the Guild and could be added to the collection.

The Guild's new permanent base in Painswick is enabling it to plan an educational programme for next spring, when a

variety of skills will be seen at weekend workshops, demonstrations and lectures. To establish an interest in the programme, there are taster sessions for visitors to the Painswick Centre every Saturday during November and December right up to Christmas. (See separate item below)

## The Guild Gallery - just the place for Christmas shopping!

A new opportunity for the village - shop for Christmas at the new Guild Gallery!

The Gallery is open Tuesday to Saturday, 10am to 5pm. It is stocked with a wide variety of beautiful things, wood ware, jewellery, colourful textiles, lots of pots from useful mugs and bowls to individual pieces. We have handmade cards for all occasions and many small items ideal for gifts.

The Guild will be running a series of

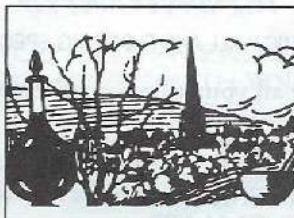
free informal talks and demonstrations at the centre throughout November and December - Saturdays from 11am to 4pm. Drop in and meet the makers, see what they do and how they work.

The programme is in the Beacon diary for November and don't forget to look at the December diary too. Everyone is welcome, so tell your friends, relations and visitors to call in and see us.

Anne James

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## Young skiing star

Ray and Julia Barker of Laburnum Cottage, Jack's Green, are understandably delighted with their children's success in the world of skiing. Daughter Fern was born on St George's Day, 23rd April 1990, and that date now has a particular significance for the family as Fern has been selected for the England Schools squad and will go to Italy next March for ski training. Fern's brother, Ashley, is not being left in his sister's shadow as the 13 year old has also been selected for the England Schools squad which will be taking part in the World Schools Games in the French Alps again in March 2001.

Fern began her skiing on the artificial slope at Gloucester at the age of five where she followed her brother in his interest in the sport. Her talent was noted in 1996 when she was invited to the "ski and snowboard show" at Olympia to take part in one of his master classes. She so impressed there that she was asked to demonstrate with the 'Interski' ski school demonstration team. She returned to Olympia in 1997 with the Interski team and again in 1998 to represent the



*Fern Barker in action*

Thompson Ski Academy in their under 12 race team. Fern has progressed to the national artificial slope circuit, racing in England, Scotland and Wales. She has won several events over the years with the highlight to date her considerable achievement in winning the All England Under 12 girls Artificial Championships at Rossendale in Lancashire where she

also finished in the top twenty-five female racers senior event.

It is not only on the artificial slopes that Fern has had skiing success. In March 1997 Fern took part in her first ever race on snow at the Scottish National Children's Championships. She won her age group by a wide margin to become Scottish Open Age Group Champion, a feat she repeated in three consecutive seasons. Fern has trained in Europe where she has always finished in the top three in the under 12 category. Indeed she has never failed to be in the top three in her age group in any snow race in which she has participated. Fern has recently undergone a week's coaching with a group of Austrian coaches and has been offered training alongside top Austrian juniors at the Stams Sports Institute.

Fern is clearly a very talented youngster whose ambition is to become the best female skier in the United Kingdom with the aim of representing Great Britain in the Winter Olympics. Coaching and training are expensive and she needs financial support if she is to achieve her ambition. Sponsorship is an essential part of sporting success and it would be very rewarding for the local community to help in progressing her international sporting career.

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## Painswick Golf Club - news from the ladies' section

The Ladies Section of Painswick Golf Club would be very pleased to welcome new members. It is a busy and friendly section of the Golf Club but there is scope to increase the membership and a warm welcome awaits anyone wishing to join. Tuesday morning is ladies morning with tee-times reserved from 8.45am to 9.30am. Tee-times are also reserved most Saturday mornings from 9.30am to 10am.

Under the leadership of Captain Ann Moss and Vice-Captain Ann Smith the ladies have had an interesting season so far. It being the millennium year they got together with a small committee to organise a mixed open tournament in June. As this was the Club's first venture they were delighted that the event attracted some sixty-three entries, the winners coming from Cotswold Hills and the runner-up from Cotswold Edge. Those who entered it said how much they enjoyed it, so look out for the 2001 date!

The Club extends its congratulations to two of its members, Jane Titshall and Ann Smith, for taking second and third places in the County Kitkat Competition held at Shirehampton, Bristol.

In memory of Margaret Kemp, a late Captain who did such a lot in building up

the ladies' sections at Minchinhampton and Painswick, a mixed Texas Scramble with both clubs is held annually and this year over forty players took part at Painswick. The Scramble was most enjoyable and was followed by a lovely meal in the Clubhouse. The winning pair in the Margaret Kemp Challice were Bronwen Godley and Ann Smith, with Helen Thomson and Shirley Tindle second, and Delia Mason and Kate Haddock third.

In the Club's Ladies Championship, held in the summer, the winner of the Gross Cup was Delia Mason, with Lesley Wylde second and Jan Appleton third, and the Net Cup winner was Jane Titshall with Ann Moss second and Bronwen Godley third.

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## League successes for Painswick

Coach Wayne Lee reports that the players are in good spirits, not least because of the first fifteen's unbeaten run in the league with five wins in five matches. Last Saturday (28th October) Painswick played a re-arranged match at Broadham against Old Elizabethans from Bristol and won by 15 points to nil. Nathan Bressington scored two tries with Jack Gardiner successful with one conversion and a penalty attempt. The previous Saturday Painswick played exceptionally well to beat another Bristol side, Kingswood, by the convincing margin of 53 points to 12. Full-back Alastair Bressington gave an outstanding performance, scoring twenty-eight points with four tries and four conversions. Nathan Bressington scored two tries with Martin Hayward, Ben Pollard and Rob Maitland each crossing the line once.

On 14th October Painswick travelled

the short distance to play old rivals Cainscross in a league game which resulted in victory by 35 points to 7. Painswick United, in the corresponding home match, produced a fine display to beat the Cainscross second fifteen by 86 points to nil.

Painswick's successes in the league contrasted with the defeat they suffered against Hucclecote in the Tetley Bitter Vase National Cup on the Hucclecote ground. The home side's success was built on the experience of their pack which produced a solid performance. Painswick will have been disappointed not to have progressed to the next round as they would have been drawn against Tewkesbury, a side they beat a few weeks ago.

Several readers have queried the

references in last month's Beacon to the United fifteen's league fixtures. Although shown as league games as such but reflect the merit table for second fifteen sides which has been organised by the Citizen's Pink Un newspaper.

Results [(L) indicates league match]

Sat 7 Oct. Tetley Bitter Vase. Hucclecote 1st XV 25 Painswick 1st XV 15. Painswick Utd 0 Gordon League 2nd XV 64.

Sat 14 Oct (L) Cainscross 1st XV 7 Painswick 1st XV 35. (L) Painswick Utd 86 Cainscross 2nd XV 0.

Sat 21 Oct (L) Painswick 1st XV 53 Kingswood 1st XV 12. Kingswood 2nd XV 38 Painswick Utd 0.

Sat 28 Oct (L) Painswick 1st XV 15 Old Elizabethans 1st XV 0. Painswick Utd 7 Drybrook 2nd XV 45.

## New Year's Eve disco

Painswick Rugby Club will be holding a New Year's Eve Disco and Buffet. Tickets priced £7.50 are available now from the Royal Oak or the Falcon - or £10 at the door.

## Half-marathon veteran

Anthony Fisher of Painswick took part in last week's Stroud half-marathon and completed the course in an excellent 93 minutes - third fastest in the over 60s category. Anthony says he does not go in for many full marathons these days but he is still keen on half marathons, having run three in the past few weeks.

The Stroud course is one of the fastest in the country and attracts top class athletes. This year's winner, Laban Kipkemboi of Kenya, broke the course record with his time of 61 minutes 50 seconds, which was also the country's fastest half-marathon of the year.

We are not aware of any other Painswick runners taking part in the Stroud event this year, but if anyone did, please let the Beacon know.

## Going skiing? - get fit for the piste!

Hundreds of thousands of people will be heading for the slopes this year to enjoy the heady fresh air, the blue skies, the wonderful snow and breathtaking views, to say nothing of the gluhwein! It is a fabulous holiday, but tearing down a mountainside with two planks of fibreglass strapped to your feet does not always go without its problems. However, the risk of problems can be reduced if you are prepared for the piste. Injuries happen mainly when muscles are weak and untuned or not properly stretched.

It is for these reasons that Libby Graesser, Chartered Physiotherapist of Five Valleys Physiotherapy and Sports Injuries Clinic, is running a pre-ski class to beef up the ligaments and muscles, predominantly around the knee although the shoulders, arms, backs and hips are also considered. This year's class (their tenth year) is to be held at Painswick Rugby Club, Broadham Fields, on Monday evenings, 6.30 to 7.30pm starting on Monday 6th November. The cost is £4 per session or six sessions for £20. To benefit it is recommended that you sign up for six sessions if at all possible. The last session is 18th December, but the class starts again on 8th January 2001.

## Bridge at Sheepscombe

A very good attendance at our AGM decided to change playing times to meeting at Sheepscombe Village Hall at 7pm every other Thursday for a prompt start of play at 7.15pm, with play to complete by 10.30pm, hopefully allowing us a coffee break midway.

Our treasurer Ralph Kenber reported that Club finances were strong and it was decided to invest in some new equipment.

Our next game will be on Thursday 16th November. If you need a partner please contact Barry or Joy Edwards on 812588, preferably on the Monday. Looking forward to seeing you.

## CHRISTMAS!

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# PLANNING APPLICATIONS

## Applications

- Stoneleigh, Gloucester Street. Demolition of existing single storey extension and erection of new single storey extension plus internal alterations. Conversion of stable to form study.
- Little Acre, Kemps Lane. Addition of timbered framed loggia to patio area.
- Gyde House, Gyde Road. Additional plans re highway proposals (GCC).
- Ladymead, Kemps Lane. Erection of conservatory.
- Spoonbed Farm, Gloucester Road. Construction of driveway to serve cottage below the farmhouse.
- Spring Bank, Steanbridge Lane, Slad. Erection of extension to dwelling to form extra bedroom and dayroom, including insertion of dormer window.
- Stonewyck, Cheltenham Road. Erection of shed.
- Pyll House Farm, Sheepscombe. Erection of agricultural implement shed.

## Revised Plans

- Laneside, Queens Mead. Erection of garage and greenhouse. Main changes: change of design and materials.

## Consent

- Damsells Mill Cottage, The Park. Erection of single storey side extension.
- North of Painswick Golf Club, Golf Course Road. Erection of 18m slimline monopole support structure with 3 antennae 2m in height attached and associated equipment cabin at ground level.
- Valpre, Vicarage Street. Internal alterations, changes to existing fenestration and insertion of dormer windows to front elevation.

## Consent, continued

- Oak House, Hambutts Drive. Erection of summer house in rear garden.
- Braeside, Cheltenham Road. Erection of detached garage.
- Byeways, Slad. Erection of conservatory.
- 3 Court Cottages, Butt Green. Erection of conservatory and porch.

## Plan withdrawn

- Lovedays Garden, St Mary's Street. Re-roof outside washroom/lavatory and insertion of replacement windows. Demolish covered passage and install buttress supporting arch.

## Refusal of Certificate of Lawful Use or Development

- Pyll House Farm, Jack's Green, Sheepscombe. Change of use of building for stabling of two ponies and storage of animal bedding and supplementary feed.

## Appeal Dismissed

- Land at Jack's Green. Erection of one dwelling with consulting room on ground floor.

## Day Centre coffee morning

Once again the Age Concern Day Centre at Ashwell will be having a coffee morning. This will be held on Friday 17th November and as in the past will be held in the lounge of Ashwell House.

There will be home produce, raffle, guess the weight of the cake competition and other attractions.

We look forward to seeing you. Please don't forget - Friday 17th November, 10am to 12 noon.

Pam Bailey

Beacon Footnote: Last month's item from the Day Centre was incorrectly given the headline 'Please help the Lunch Club'. Our apologies for confusing the two groups. Both meet at Ashwell - the Lunch Club on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and the Day Centre on Wednesdays.

We are therefore repeating last month's message, which was that the Day Centre needs more drivers to help transport their members to and from Ashwell House. More details are available from Pam Bailey (813503), Ethel James (813358) or Pat Walker (813253).

## Goodbye St Mary's

Our old house has got too shaky,  
Our old house is now too old,  
It's always let the rain come in,  
And at times the freezing cold.

But we would ring the handy man  
And he'd be there, day or night,  
And no matter what the problem,  
Would always put it right.

But nothing lasts forever,  
At least that's what they say,  
And so the fateful day has dawned  
When we have to go away.

We have been so very happy  
In this ugly heap of stone,  
In its beautiful surroundings  
It's always felt like home.

However stressful things became  
We could always raise a laugh,  
Through the tantrums and the  
banging doors  
(And that was just the staff).

We have shared the sadness and  
the tears,  
The stresses and the pain,  
And no doubt in future years  
We will do the same again.

So, we'll close the doors for one  
last time  
And leave without a fuss,  
For though we leave St Mary's,  
St Mary's - will always be in us.

The above poem was written by care worker Millie Williams, and was read out at last month's thanksgiving service by her colleague Coral Gregory.

## Lib Dems book sale

The Painswick with Upton St Leonards Liberal Democrat Group is holding a book sale and coffee morning in the Town Hall on Saturday 18th November between 10am and noon. Admission is 50p to include coffee and biscuits. Everyone is very welcome.

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## Croft School registration

The Croft's reputation as a friendly school with a good academic record has meant a demand for places, so it is never too early to register your child. We have names on our books up to 2003 and we already have twenty-four children registered for the beginning of the next academic year.

If you have a child who will be 4 years old on or before 31st August 2001 and you'd like to register them for the Croft School, please contact Mrs Merrick at the school office (812479) at the earliest opportunity.

## By the way...

Here are some well-known writers who have, or had, close associations with these parts. Can you name the town or village that they are closely linked with? Some are very easy, but do you know them all? - Laurie Lee, W H Davies, Revd W Awdry, Jilly Cooper, Ivor Gurney, Edward Thomas.

Answers on page 12.

By Grumbler

## Eyes for a bargain



The village auction at Cranham on 22nd October was highly popular, with many people from Painswick among the large number present. At times it was like a rugby scrum trying to get round the hall to see all the goods up for sale.

## Service with a smile...

Unusual requests are part and parcel of life in Painswick's Tourist Information Centre, but the staff sometimes find it difficult not to smile at some of the things that visitors ask for.

Terry Causon recounts the time when some American visitors asked whether there was a Hilton or Holiday Inn "down town". And another American couple came all the way from the States armed with an internet booking for local accommodation without knowing the name of the hotel or B & B. (The office phoned round a number of establishments on their be-

half and finally tracked it down. So much for modern technology!) Then there was a request to book indoor tennis courts at Oxstalls. This met with the polite answer that not only is Oxstalls in Gloucester but the courts haven't yet been built!

Less amusingly, the Office often has to take action on complaints that have nothing to do with them, such as being told that the "toilets are blocked".

The Tourist Office closes for the season today (4th November), but access to tourist information may be obtained via the library at normal library opening times.

## Tree of Light celebration

Cotswold Care will once again be organising a 'Tree of Light' celebration in Stroud this Christmas.

A large Christmas tree, covered in lights which each shine out in memory of a loved one who has died, will stand in Merrywalks Shopping Centre. The lights will be switched on during the Tree of Light service which will begin at 7pm on Monday 4th December. Stroud Light Music Choir, the Kings Stanley Band and local children will take part in the service

which is to be conducted by Revd Canon Barry Coker.

To dedicate a light on the tree and to have the name of a loved one included in the Book of Remembrance, please contact Cotswold Care Hospice, Burleigh Lane, Minchinhampton, tel 01453 886868.

Last year's Tree of Light Celebration in Stroud was extremely well received and attended by over 700 people.

## Storm damage

Painswick did not escape the effects of last Sunday and Monday's storms. Unpleasant consequences included overflowing streams, driveways blocked by fallen trees and branches, and residents being forced into emergency night-time measures to prevent flooding and other damage. There were also the wearisome and all-too-familiar power failures. These varied in number and duration. Worst affected were places north of the village where at the time of writing some houses in the Park and Clattergrove areas have been without electricity for two days.

But all in all, looking at the dreadful pictures on TV and in the national papers, Painswick seems again to have got off relatively lightly.

## Did you see?

Did you see Holly Chapman, Pat Robinson's daughter, playing the violin on the BBC2 regional programme on 19th October?

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# The Stroudend Tithing Educational Trust

## New project looking for public support

Stroudend Tithing is that part of the old Parish of Painswick bounded in the north by Greenhouse Lane and the Bisley Track at Steanbridge extending south to the confluence of the Slad Brook and the Painswick Stream in Stroud. It sits astride Wickridge bounded in the west by the Painswick Stream and the east by the Slad Brook.

The greater part of the Tithing lies within the Cotswold Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. It is especially important because of its unspoilt landscape and many buildings of considerable historic interest and architectural merit relating to the period of prosperity generated by the local woollen cloth industry, beginning in the late medieval period and lasting until the early 19th century.

The Trust aims to promote an understanding of the social, economic and landscape history of the Stroudend Tithing by undertaking research which will provide a local educational resource in the form of publications, CD Roms and a permanent exhibition in the new Stroud Museum located immediately adjacent to the Tithing. This material will be designed

to appeal both to the broader public and schools with specialist material available for detailed studies required for secondary education and above.

### The Proposal

The study will involve both archive studies and fieldwork. The former will require a qualified researcher able to read historical manuscripts. The Trust has already employed an archivist to make an assessment of documentary resources available in the Gloucestershire Records Office. There is wealth of documentary evidence waiting to be examined as and when funds become available.

Much of the fieldwork, however, can be undertaken by local volunteers and will entail studies of the landscape, environment and historic buildings of the Tithing. A comprehensive survey and analysis of the historic landscape including roads and tracks, field boundaries and hedgerows, place/field names and aerial photography is anticipated to reveal the true extent of the Tithing's early industrial development.

The historic buildings, many of which

are former mills or workshops, together with the mill owners houses and workers cottages, will be part of a local house history project involving as many property owners as possible in undertaking their own research. We have been most fortunate to be offered the opportunity of a seminar to be given by specialists in the field of building history from Nottingham University to those interested owners.

The Trustees are seeking sources of finance for the project to enable a start to be made on the archive material and to arrange a time and venue for the house history seminar.

There is a possibility of a grant from Lottery Local Heritage Initiative Fund. Their Committee are particularly interested in the extent of public support and involvement in the project. We hope that we shall be able to demonstrate sufficient interest from local groups, societies and individuals to ensure that we are able to proceed with this project.

For more information about the project, please contact Carolyn Luke on 814139.

## Autumn walks programme

The autumn and winter programme of guided walks organised by the Cotswolds AONB Partnership includes several interesting-looking walks in this area. Coming up in the next few days are: (P = pub snack available, L = bring packed lunch)

Saturday 4th November (today!), 10am. 'Autumn Colours in Miserden Park'. A walk by Sudgrove, Bisley and Nottingham Scrubs, starting at Miserden Village Hall and School car park. 6 hours, 10 miles. (P, L)

Wednesday 8th November, 10am. 'If you go down to the woods'. Woodlands around Sheepscombe in autumn colours. Starting at National Trust car park, Old Ebworth Centre, off B4070. 4 hours, 6 miles. (P)

Friday 10th November, 6.30pm. An evening walk near Stroud. Limited numbers. Phone 01453-751687. 2 hours, 3 miles.

Saturday 11th November, 10am. 'A Dally by the Dilly'. Longridge Wood, Down Wood, Blackstable Wood and Cockshoot, starting at Bulls Cross. 3 hours, 5 miles.

Wednesday 15th November, 10am. 'View the Dale'. Haresfield Beacon, Standish Woods, starting at Cripplegate NT car park on road to Haresfield Beacon from Edge. 2.5 hours, 4 miles.

More details, plus the complete timetable of walks in the Cotswolds, are in the current issue of The Cotswold Lion, available free from tourist offices.

## Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust

Trust supporters may have noticed that Helen Briggs's popular Coffee and Trust Goods Sale has not been billed as a forthcoming attraction. This decision was made after careful consideration.

May I now refer you to the Charity Sale at Christ Church! Saturday 18th November, 10am - 3pm. [See page 6] The Trust have booked a table here for Bring and Buy and Trust Goods. Please support this new venture.

Septima Woolley

## 'By the Way' - answers

(See question on page 11)

Laurie Lee - Slad; W H Davies - Nailsworth; Rev W Awdry - Stroud; Jilly Cooper - Bisley; Ivor Gurney - born in Gloucester; Edward Thomas - one of the Dymock poets and also associated with Adlestrop ('Yes, I remember Adlestrop')

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## Can you help Painswick and Cranham Brownies?

Pam Currier, who has been Tawny Owl for the past ten years, retires next February. Therefore we are looking for at least one new Guider. At present we have twenty-two energetic, enthusiastic Brownies and a growing waiting list. If you are able to help or know of someone who may be interested please contact Patsy Ratcliffe, 813854.

## Sue Ryder Care

A date for your diary - Saturday 9th December, Town Hall, 10am-12 noon. This is when the annual Coffee Morning will be held and you can enjoy a home-made mince pie with your tea or coffee. There will be the usual cake stall, bring and buy and also a raffle. Christmas cards will be on sale. Please come and support an excellent cause.

Joyce Tranter and  
Naomi Maclaurin Jones

### In prays of my computer

Eye have a spelling chequer,  
It came with my pea sea,  
It plainly marques four my revue  
Miss steaks eye kin knot sea.

Eye strike a quay and type a word  
And weight for it two say  
Weather eye am wrong or write,  
It shows me strait a weigh.

As sbon as a mist ache is maid,  
It nose bee fore two long,  
And eye can put the error rite,  
Its rare lea ever wrong.

Eye have run this poem threw it,  
I am shore your pleased two no,  
Its letter perfect all the weigh,  
My Chequer tolled me sew.

Origin unknown

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## The Croft land auction in 1964

Michael Little has given the Beacon a document that may be of interest to readers, especially those living in the Croft area of the village. It is the particulars of the sale by auction of land at 'The Croft' on 28th September 1964.

The auction (assuming it went ahead) was at the Falcon Hotel, and was conducted by Messrs Jackson-Stops of Cirencester, by direction of the owner Mrs Ursula Usher. The site is stated to be about four and a half acres, and to have outline planning consent for eight houses to the acre. An accompanying map shows that the land includes the areas now largely occupied by Churchill Way, The Croft, Berry Close and Hyett Close, but it does not cover the whole extent of the Croft area, some of which was developed at a later time.

Of particular interest are some of the special conditions of sale. Several named

residents are given rights of access or employment. One section states that the property is sold subject to:

"A right of way granted by a Conveyance dated 15th May 1944 by William Arthur Usher in favour of Elfreda Hutton as follows: - 'at all time and for all purposes (in common with others entitled thereto) with or without horses carts carriages motor cars or other vehicles over the road leading from New Street Painswick aforesaid to the land thereby conveyed' (being the roadway edged in brown and the area hatched in blue on the plan)." The area in brown on the map is Hollyhock Lane.

No doubt some readers will know whether the sale went through on that date and who the purchasers were. We will give the document to the Local History Society, who may find it useful in looking into the history of this part of the village.

## News from the Library Service

### Library 2000 Appeal

There's still time for book lovers across Gloucestershire to support the 'Library 2000 Appeal'. By sponsoring a book for your local library you can help reach a target of 2000 new book donations by the end of the year.

The Head of Library Services, Colin Cambell, says: "Customers were frequently telling us that they would be happy to purchase a book for their local library. With this in mind we developed a book donation project called 'Library 2000 Appeal'. The aim of the scheme is to channel this generosity towards books, which our records show readers in Gloucestershire particularly want."

Readers can go along to the local library where they will find a list of sought-after books including a cross section of adult fiction, non-fiction, children's books, books in other languages and large print titles. Sponsors of books will be given the opportunity to select the library that they wish the book to begin its life with. The book will also be reserved for the sponsor for two weeks, so that they can be the first to borrow the book.

### Who dunnit?

Libraries across the county are asking readers to help them to identify the most popular crime, thriller or spy book of the past ten years. Take part and you could win a copy of this year's national 'Gold Dagger' crime writers' award-winning book.

Every year the UK Crime Writers' Association awards the 'Golden Dagger' to

the best crime novel of the year. First awarded in 1953 the Golden Dagger has been awarded to authors such as Colin Dexter of the Inspector Morse Mysteries and comedian Ben Elton.

Gloucestershire Librarian Anne Morgan says "we all love a good 'who dunnit' book", so the county is asking local residents to identify the 'Gloucestershire Golden Dagger'.

To enter this free prize draw readers simply fill in a 'Golden Dagger' card available at the library telling the library service which particular winning crime book they have most enjoyed and why. The more books you read the more chance you have of winning. Closing date for entries is 30th November.

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## Some requests to our readers

Three items that the Beacon Committee would like to draw to readers' attention:

### Annual Directory

For several years the Beacon has published an annual directory of Painswick organisations. We believe it has become a valuable source of information for many households. The Directory is normally distributed with the December issue of the Beacon, and the 2001 edition is now in course of preparation.

To be really useful it is very important that the Directory is accurate and complete. The Beacon relies heavily on information from readers. So we ask all Painswick businesses, shops, clubs and societies, B & Bs and so on, to let us know in the next few days (deadline 10th November) of any changes to their details. Obviously we also need to hear from any new enterprises. If the Directory is printed with the wrong club secretary, wrong phone number, missing information, etc, it will be like that in everyone's house for a whole year! The person to contact is our Directory compiler Leslie Brotherton, at Longhope, Blakewell Mead, Painswick, GL6 6UR, tel 813101. Leslie can also be emailed on:

Leslie.Brotherton@care4free.net

PLEASE ACT NOW!

### Painswickian of the Year

Every year the Beacon committee chooses a Painswickian of the Year - a person whose achievements or efforts on behalf of others have been a credit to the village in the past year. Although the choice is

ours, we like to be guided by the views of residents, and so we are once again inviting readers to give us nominations. Drop a line to the Beacon's Copy Editor Jillie Speed (see back page) or use our post box in New Street. Please jot down a few words in support of your choice, but no more than a hundred please!

### Annual Quiz

Next year's village quiz will be on Saturday 17th March, 2001. More details will be given nearer the date, but we hope all village clubs and societies will make a note of the date in their diaries and avoid planning anything else for that evening! Early reservations may be made at any time. Watch out for clues - the first is a categorical assurance that there won't be a single mention of Posh 'n Becks (whoever they may be).

### Knitwear sale

There will be a Grand Knitwear Sale in the Painswick Centre on Saturday 25th November, 10am to 2.30pm. Famous makes will be available - mainly discontinued lines and colours.

Barbara Tait

### Remembrance Day

*As in the past few years, residents are invited to go to the War Memorial at 10.50am next Saturday, 11th November to observe the two minutes silence.*

### Paradise Community Christmas Fayre

The Paradise Community's Christmas Fayre will be held in the Town Hall on Saturday 2nd December from 10am to 1pm. This will be an opportunity to purchase beautiful handcrafted bowls made from trees from the Paradise estate, plus handwoven items in pure wool, all at reasonable prices. There are many other stalls with cards and gifts.

Something for everyone at Christmas. Make a note of the date!

### Don't all rush!

Twigs Garden Centre are looking for someone to play Father Christmas in their grotto during weekends in December, and they are wondering if someone in Painswick might fancy the job. He needs to be "a happy, cheerful soul" (which lets the Beacon editor off the hook). Please ring Beverly Gorton on 01452 730852.

### Caught in the act!



*After distributing the buns to children at this year's Clipping Service, the helpers were spotted tucking in themselves! (No, we cannot tell a lie - it was a put-up job). Left to right are Joan Truman, Irene Hodges, John Todd, Margaret & Fred Jones*

### Max Knowles

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## Crack Cancer campaign

Last year Susy, myself and our team raised £1060 for motor neurone. This year we had hoped to at least match this sum. In fact the total raised for the Cobalt Unit was £2200.

We really don't know how to express our thanks and appreciation to the many firms, businesses, friends and families who contributed so generously, plus, of course, those who gave of their time, not only on the day, but in the weeks leading up to the sale. The response was fantastic. Thank you, too, to all the folk who came and spent at our garden party.

We sum it up with a quote from dear friends of ours who lost their son aged 21. "We can't do anything about those lost to this disease except remember, but we can sure work to help those stricken with cancer in the future."

In the event that I've missed thanking anyone, I apologise.

June Gardiner, for Susy Archer, John Hogg and Alan Coates

## 'CHRISTMAS SEASONING'

*A new exhibition at the Fiery Beacon Gallery - 21st November to 14th December*

Zesty, zingy, spicy, tangy - no blandness here. A visual feast awaits the visitor to the Christmas Exhibition at the Fiery Beacon Gallery. Stirring the mix are local artists Carol Keyes, Elizabeth Hatt and Candida Wright, while Clare Cox and Della Tinsley add a taste of London flair with etched mirrors and soft velvets. A dash of jewellery from not one, not two, but three jewellers and a silversmith lend substance and sparkle to the brew. Blacksmithing, ceramics, scarves and sculpture bind the mixture together.

Be sure to savour the goodies on offer at the show which runs from Tuesday 21st November until Saturday 16th December. Opening times are Tuesday to Saturday 11am to 5pm and Sunday 2pm to 5pm.

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## CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

### Painswick Players are speechless!

Reader(s), you find me at a loss for words! (*Highly unlikely: I smell a rat - Editor*). This month, I am under strict instructions from our Director just to get a huge plug in for the play (*Alphabetical Order*, 16th 17th, 18th November, Painswick Centre) and "TO GET ON AND LEARN YOUR LINES!"

So, here goes → → → →

Mind you, I bet you a fiver that our esteemed editor refuses to print something that huge. (*Too right he did! But we're sure most readers will notice this - the real Editor*)

Jack Burgess,  
Painswick Players

### Alphabetical Order

**A Drama in a Newspaper!**

**Drama In Painswick!**  
**The Painswick Players Present**  
**Michael Frayn's Incisive Comedy**  
**At The Painswick Centre**

**7.30pm on 16/17/18 Nov**  
**& 2.30pm on 18 Nov**

Tickets from The Gloucestershire  
Guild Gallery, The Shetland Shop &  
The Painswick Post Office.  
Or ring Mrs Rose Smith on 812369

## Wild birds spectacular - by floodlight

The Conservation Society is arranging a visit to the redeveloped Slimbridge base of the Wildlife and Wetlands Trust on Tuesday 12th December.

This promises to be a particularly interesting out-of-hours event, and should appeal to our own members and those of Painswick Bird Club who are cordially invited to join us. The highlight of the visit will be when we assemble in the warmth of the Peng Observatory, some fifty yards from the shop, at 6.30pm. From here we can witness the feeding of the swans and other birds as they up-end, dive or dabble for their food; all this under floodlighting, with a commentary broadcast to us from the Warden as he walks among the birds. This is not only an enlightening experience, but one which we know all will enjoy and remember for a long time to come.

The coach will leave Stamages Lane car park at 4.45pm. We will be greeted on arrival by Sandy Prax who will show us around the superb new building there, followed by a chance to take a leisurely wander around the shop prior to the main event. This is an opportunity for some unique Christmas presents to be purchased - not least for children on your seasonal list.

We will then move into the restaurant area for a finger buffet with coffee, tea or

fruit juice. Those wishing to have wine can purchase at the time. We expect to start our return journey before 8.30pm.

The cost, inclusive of coach, admission, demonstration and buffet, will be £13.50; and we can refund 50p to any who produce their WWF membership cards on the coach! Tickets are on sale now at *The Patchwork Mouse* in New Street. We hope anyone not in membership of the Society or the PBC will feel free to contact me if they are interested in attending this unique event and, if seats are still available on 27th November, we will be in touch to offer them on a first-come-first-served basis.

Dawn Mallinson

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## History Society hears of 'Stroud's Other Industries'

At the Painswick Local History Society meeting on 17th October Dr Ray Wilson, Secretary of Gloucestershire Society for Industrial Archaeology, gave a talk on "Stroud's Other Industries".

Dr Wilson's talk was illustrated by an excellent collection of slides. He explained that though cloth making had been Stroud's principal industry since the Middle Ages there were many other industries in the area. Many of these made use of the skills that had been developed by the cloth industry or were industries which the cloth industry itself required, such as the manufacture of machinery. When the cloth industry went into decline at the beginning of the 19th century there was much rebuilding of the mills for other purposes and there was plentiful labour available.

Those who attended the talk were taken on an extended trip around the Stroud Valley area being shown pictures of buildings, machinery and many of the people who had worked in the factories over the last 200 years.

The first port of call was what is now the Sainsbury's site at Dudbridge. Canals appeared there at the end of the 18th

century and Dr Wilson showed a photograph of a crane at the canal side which had been manufactured in Preston in 1856. We saw a picture of the workforce outside the Dudbridge Iron Works, Messrs Humpidge, Holborrow and Co, who made steam engines. There was also an iron foundry on the site which remained in operation three days per week until shortly before the clearance of the site by Sainsbury's. The preserved Kymmins Mill now houses the National Archive of the Construction Industry.

In the case of Bliss Mill at Chalford we were warned not to take too literally old pictures of mills taken from publicity material; they often had extra storeys or bays added to impress customers. Dr Wilson also warned us of the difficulties of getting people together to talk about their shared work experiences; they were often unable to agree on the details.

Hill Paul at Stroud railway station was an example of a clothing factory which was one of the first to use steam for operating sewing machinery. A sales rep before the war recounted how after visiting Hill Paul he would be conducted by his customer to the railway station

where he would board a train for Bristol. He would then immediately return to Stroud by another train and visit Holloway's, Hill Paul's competitors. It would have been discourteous to have gone direct!

We were shown a picture of a gateway flanked by side buildings which had been taken from Frogmarsh Mill and moved to Bodnant Gardens in North Wales in 1938. This was a pin mill, like a number which existed in Painswick. There were also examples of wool drying stoves, of which we have two examples in Painswick, a well preserved one at Kemps Lane and a dilapidated one near Highgrove. Brookhouse Mill at Painswick was used for pin manufacture until 1962 when it closed. One of the former employees there, Mrs Kate Searle, told of her experiences there working in extremely wet conditions; they made skewers for meat labels and rings for calendars, and exported some of these to South Africa.

The next meeting of the Local History Society will be at The Croft Primary School at 7.30 on Tuesday 21st November, when Neil Holbrook will talk about recent work on Roman villas in the Cotswolds.

Hywel James

## Publications aplenty

Whether you are looking for a perfect little Christmas present or just a good read Painswick Local History Society has the answer.

Chronicle Number 4 is now available - the millennium issue, no less - and comprises a fascinating set of articles ranging widely in time and subject matter. There is, for the first time, a lively correspondence section as well as personal memories and the results of some erudite research. Subjects include Painswick Beacon on VE night, a good look at the churchyard tombs, the Post Office forty years ago, Charles Baker's work, Roman coins at Highfold Farm and, of course, many others.

Together with issues 1, 2 and 3 a truly all-encompassing picture of Painswick's past is gradually building up. Of course,

the editors are always pleased to hear from anyone who can add more 'pieces to the jigsaw'.

Carl Moreland's excellent 'Painswick: Timechart of a Cotswold Village' is available in both hardback and softback versions. This very attractively presented book tracks Painswick's history alongside contemporary major events occurring on a wider scale. On a lighter note, no Christmas stocking should be without a copy of 'Barks and Bites from Bow-wow Land'. Painswickians have, it would seem, lived very long and healthy lives for quite some time. They are also notorious for serving puppy-dog pie, especially to people from Stroud. Here is a small booklet which explains all. An essential short read, especially for residents.

All the publications are very reasonably priced and are available from local retailers or direct from Carol Maxwell (813387) or Gwen Welch (812540). Issues 1 and 2 of the Chronicle are very low in number now but 3 and 4 are easily available.

And finally, at no cost at all, there is a leaflet, 'Painswick Milestone Project', mapping out the milestones in and around Painswick. The Society's millennium



Horne's garage in New Street - the subject of an employee's reminiscences in the latest Chronicle

project aimed to restore several local milestones and this involved a good deal of hard but enjoyable research and work. The leaflet is a valuable source of information for anyone walking in the locality. And it's free...

Carol Maxwell

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## Windows and bells - The Senior Circle looks, listens and learns

Purchasing a new home is one thing but when Tony Bradley bought Mary's Acre and discovered the property had a tale to tell, further research into its background must have been quite compulsive. And that is why he gave Senior Circle such an interesting afternoon on 29th September when he brought along slides to support a very interesting dialogue on the history of his home.

It was a comment by a visitor which first got him thinking about unusual windows. An oddly placed manhole by the front door eventually proved that a well had pumped water to the house - a modern idea in the olden days. One beautiful print showed a gabled house, sadly to be replaced many years later by the dormer windows of today, cream and grey stonework and obvious signs that doors and windows had been moved by successive owners. With the house dating from the 1600s (when the oldest part was built), Tony Bradley has a wealth of detail about owners with amusing comments on family problems which arose on the death of some of them.

Many remember our late Chairman, Robert Payne, who was left the house by an aunt. Mrs Seddons, wife of the

Painswick "Clipping" vicar and herself a wealthy lady, once lived there. It was also a maternity home, borne out not only by the advertisement in the Stroud Journal but also by several ladies in the audience who now have living proof of its existence.

There was so much of interest to see and hear. May I suggest a stroll down Stamages Lane with time to imagine when this was once a house close by the main road to Stroud and the A46 not even heard of?

I must confess 13th October and the promised topic "The Art of Church Bell Ringing" by S J Coleman didn't really appeal to me, being the wife of a Painswick bell ringer, but it didn't take long to find myself part of a most amusing yet interesting afternoon learning the intricacies and history of bellringing. To me, all this talk of call changes and the like had always sounded very technical but Steve, as he wanted to be called, soon had several members of the audience dancing the Chain to illustrate in the most amusing way how bells work when ringing the changes. Our Dancing Master, a lighted hearted chap, who in official circles is

Ringling Master of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocese, brought along a set of hand bells to illustrate the various call changes, each with its own particular history. He also had us weightlifting with a 1720 clapper made of wrought iron. And then amusingly he had Pat Daly up on his chair to illustrate the action of the bell rope with "Sally" slipping easily through his fingers. On a more serious note we learned how our own bells are hung, how they work and of Painswick's fame in the 19th Century for ringing ten to twelve hours at a stretch - which I'm not sure would go down too well with some folk these days! The general atmosphere and interest would have warmed Patsy Sykes-Wright's heart if only a few younger folk had been present - a recruitment drive that never happened. But ringers can range from 8 to 80 so who knows? It was a most amusing and well spent afternoon - I think I shall respect Peter a little more now and understand the reason why one can get hooked on this rather unusual hobby. After all, there are 50,000 others like him in this country!

Daphne Hudson

## 'Plants of Personality' at Horticultural Society meeting

At our meeting in the Town Hall on Wednesday 11th October, the speaker, Mr Michael Leech, who is a horticultural advisor and television presenter, took as his subject 'Plants of Personality'.

To justify this title, Mr Leech introduced us to variants of plants we may already grow in our gardens, not necessarily exotica but plants which have some special characteristic and unfamiliar to most of us. He provided us with a wealth of valuable information and supported his talk with superb slides.

The evening was altogether memorable and the next weekend saw many of us no doubt scurrying to a garden centre in the faint hope of finding just one of these 'plants of personality'.

If you would like to join this society and enjoy talks of this calibre, please contact Mrs Shirley Burley on 812378. The subscription is £4 a year and if you join you will be made most welcome.

Pauline Lamont, Secretary

## No takers for Computing Club

... despite best efforts by several people.

The ideas surrounding a possible computing club or cyber café in Painswick have been explored through two meetings at Painswick Centre, and through articles in the Beacon in April and September. While it is known that quite a number of residents have ventured into computing at home, no strong feeling has been expressed that either a club or café is required. Both of these ideas have been dropped, at least for the time being.

Leslie Brotherton

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## Red kites for Painswick?

On 13th October Nigel Snell of English Nature treated the Painswick Bird Club and the Beacon Conservation Group to an excellent talk on the introduction of red kites into the Chilterns. English Nature and the RSPB have been responsible for this project.

Red kites are wide spread in Europe but are only plentiful in Spain and East Germany. They remained common until the 1800s as local names such as Kites Nest Lane and Farm would suggest, but being easy to poison and shoot they were decimated along with other raptors. Their remaining stronghold was central Wales where there was little interest in shooting. Wales being rather wet is not their ideal habitat and the breeding rate is correspondingly low.

In 1989 kites were introduced from Sweden but this was not a success as they decided to go home! From 1990 onwards kites have been brought from Segovia in Spain. Young kites' defence mechanism is to feign death and thus are very easy to handle. One chick was removed from each nest and since they are able to survive for twenty-four hours without food and water, twenty were transported by air to Heathrow.

On arrival in the Chilterns they were released into aviaries and fed on chopped

dead meat for four to five weeks until they could be released. Before release they were fitted with coloured plastic wing tags which would last about four years, leg rings that would last a lifetime and on their tail feathers was glued a minute radio transmitter. This emits two different types of bleep, one when the bird is stationary and another when in motion. If the stationary bleeps for too long it is probably bad news for the kite. A recent innovation is to fit a harness with a minute radio transmitter that is computer monitored; this device will last over four years.

With its five-foot wingspan, forked tail and russet colouring the kite is very distinctive, it is designed as a glider and is able to take advantage of the air currents around the hills. Kites are quite sociable birds and like to roost in large numbers! They weigh about the same as a buzzard but are larger overall. Basically they are scavengers of carrion but will take nestlings of magpies and crows and also eat worms.

In the Middle Ages kites were valued for their street cleaning ability. Males and females are indistinguishable and breed at two to three years. Their life span is thought to be about twenty years. They



nest high up in trees often on top of an old squirrel drey or magpie's nest. A seemingly untidy pile of sticks is made interspersed with bits of plastic and string; even a pair of knickers and a lottery ticket have been found! These additions are thought to be distinguishing marks. Up to four whitish eggs the size of hens' eggs but more rounded are laid. The chicks hatch at weekly intervals, often the youngest remains small and is eventually eaten by its siblings. The parent bird feeds the chicks up to six weeks.

Kites differ from buzzards in other ways. Buzzard chicks will lie on their backs and scratch intruders, the parents will attack intruders with their strong talons and beak. Kites are altogether much more laid back and seem to hope for the best!

As they like to breed where they are born they do not spread out easily but one has been seen at Rissington this year. The Cotswolds with its wide valleys and strips of woodland are an ideal habitat for the red kite and it is to be hoped that they will grace us with their presence in two to five years time.

Red kites can be seen at Ibstone, which is near the Stokenchurch interchange on the M40.

Joan Cooper

## News from the Painswick Beacon Conservation Group

Recent committee meetings of the Painswick Beacon Conservation Group covered several topics of general interest. The following points are taken from notes provided by Duncan McKenzie.

- The Group has offered to contribute £150 towards the cost of a replacement table seat at Catbrain Tump. Cedric Nielsen is obtaining a quotation for the cost of a complete metal structure and installation.
- The committee has agreed that the trig point be removed and the final destination be decided by others.
- The Golf Club has agreed with English Nature not to use wood chips again on the various paths around the Golf Course. It may be remembered that comments have been made about the quality

of some of the chippings used, with some showing traces of paint still adhering.

- Gloucestershire Wildlife has been surveying all the junipers in the county and they will contact Professor Parker at Cambridge University about DNA tests to establish the origins of the junipers.
- Notice boards: A first draft by Gloucestershire County Council Planning Department has been provided and English Nature has held a meeting with the Cotswolds AONB and GCC to discuss some revision of the text and layout. The aim of the notice boards is to inform the public about the Common, its history and flora and fauna, to encourage better understanding of the significance of the site.
- The Group has been invited to become Associate Members of the Cotswolds AONB Partnership. This will provide a number of advantages to the group. The group could be invited to sit on bodies considering various aspects of AONB management which may affect our common. We would also have the advantage of being able to pass on problems which are outside our terms of reference such as, for example, proposed changes to the route of the Cotswold Way. The committee agreed to seek Associate Membership.
- On behalf of the committee Duncan

McKenzie congratulated Cedric Nielsen on his recent award from English Nature. This rewards all the hard work he has put into the conservation of our unique grasslands area.

- The dates for the next scrub clearance sessions are Sunday 26th November and Sunday 10th December. The Group would like to remind the general public that this work is essential for the maintenance of the common, so please be tolerant of this activity. Occasionally in the past our members have been subjected to some abuse when carrying out this work.
- No butterfly count was carried out this year because the data is no longer required by the Butterfly Conservation for its Millennium Atlas.
- It has been a good year for the fly orchid with over eighty flower heads being counted. Also a perfect bee orchid in flower was recorded.
- Cedric paid tribute to former secretary Leslie Brown. Her experience as a headmistress had been very valuable in helping to run the Group. Everyone was very saddened by her untimely death and a minute's silence was held in memory. The meeting confirmed the appointment of Malcolm Watts as Chairman and Cedric Nielsen as Secretary.

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## Not their day

### Unsuccessful peal attempt by visiting bellringers

There has not been much ringing in the tower lately, which is disappointing for the few ringers left in the band and also, judging from the comments received, for the many people in the village who enjoy the sound of the bells - although others are apparently grateful for the silence!

However, on Saturday morning 21st October, there were welcome visitors hoping to ring a peal of Stedman Cinques on the twelve bells. This was an expert band, members of the Ancient Society of College Youths, ringers at St Paul's Cathedral in London, and they had asked to come to Painswick for this peal, being part of their practice for the national twelve-bell competition in Tewkesbury in May 2001. There are about a thousand members of the College Youths, who come from all over the country, and this particular band of twelve was made up of friends who often ring together, not only at St Paul's.

Sadly, their peal attempt did not succeed; a mistake was made in the sequence of bells after an hour. This could not have



*Members of the Ancient Society of College Youths in the Painswick tower before their peal attempt. They had come to Painswick from around the country. The Society, established in 1637, is the oldest in the country and their membership also includes teams in the US and Australia. The Stedman Cinques peal that they attempted is named after Fabian Stedman, one of their founder members.*

been pleasing to the College Youths, though for the present members of the depleted Painswick Youths it was comfort-

ing to know that even experts can go wrong. But the ringers enjoyed their visit and three of them kindly got up early the next day to ring with three of the locals for Morning Service. They also hope to return early next year for a further practice here, if they reach the final of the competition.

## The Beacon Singers are no more ... Long live The Painswick Singers!

It was with some sadness that the news of the demise of the Beacon Singers was received recently.

Some of us who have been singing for many years with the Choir felt that it would leave a great gap in the social life of Painswick. Therefore we decided to get together singers who would like to continue this worthwhile activity and form a new small choir.

We have found a splendid new conductor, a very highly qualified musician, and Sue Pack has agreed to accompany us for a period.

As The Painswick Singers we shall be presenting a Carol Concert in Christ Church on Saturday 9th December at 7.30pm and we are presently looking for more singers, particularly basses and tenors.

We rehearse on Mondays at 7.45pm in the Church Rooms and will be very

pleased to hear from anyone who would like to join us.

Please contact Valerie (01452-812400), Enid (01452-813268) or Audrey (01452-812296) and you will be made very welcome.

**FOOTNOTE:** Christ Church is delighted that the annual Christmas concert will take place after all, and will give a warm welcome to the new choir. The church hopes to use part of the proceeds from voluntary donations to go to their new Organ Fund, and with this in mind the concert will include a short organ interlude by their organist Graham Stephenson. The Christ Church organ has given much pleasure for over a hundred years but it is showing signs of wear and tear and needs attention which may cost a large sum of money. Contributions to the organ fund from well-wishers will be most welcome.

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## Painswick Show Society's AGM

The Annual General Meeting of the Painswick Show Society will be held on Tuesday 21st November at the Church Rooms, Painswick, at 8pm.

All members are invited to attend along with anyone wishing to be involved in Painswick Show 2001.



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## Harp recital at Music Society's AGM

For most music lovers the harp is not the most well known instrument. We often glimpse the top of it, somewhere at the back of an orchestra where it is not often played on its own. We had a rare and fascinating opportunity to watch a beautiful harp being played at close quarters recently in Painswick! Those fortunate members of Painswick Music Society who turned out for the AGM were treated to an excellent concert by harpist Jemima Phillips. She is a brilliant musician and her performance was quite outstanding.

Jemima, who lives in Gloucestershire, is a foundation Scholar at the Royal College of Music where she studies harp and piano. She has already made quite a name for herself and is much in demand as a soloist. This summer she appeared at the Cheltenham Festival where she won the Keith Nutland award for the most outstanding musician in the festival. She delighted her AGM audience with a varied programme, which showed off the harp to the full, concluding with impressions of New York as a brilliant encore.

This recital was worthy of a place in our concert season and continues the tradition of intro-duc-ing a fifth recital as part of the AGM.

A short business meeting opened the evening, which included a full report of the Society's finances. After a successful, indeed record breaking season, the Treasurer, Hywel James, informed members of a healthy state of affairs which would enable us to hold 2000 concert ticket prices for next year. The programme for 2001 was announced, which will include the very popular clarinettist, Emma Johnson. She will be making her third appearance for the Society.

Plans for the year 2002 are well under

way with a booking made for top British string quartet, the Lindseys.

Peter Jenkins, Chairman, thanked all those who had contributed in a year when once again the membership had increased. He thanked Anne Kenber for her work as Secretary, Barbara Thorley for organising the programme and artists, Hywel James for his work on the finances, membership and ticket sales, Naomi Dunn for publicity and Gill Cox for producing excellent programmes. He was grateful to many others who had given time and effort during the year. He spoke about the

Society's sponsorship of the Stroud schools' music workshops, which had been undertaken by the Schubert Ensemble of London. Two ensembles from Stroud High School had taken part in the Cheltenham Festival as a result of this initiative.

Committee member Christina Mathers resigned this year after many years of service to the Society, and Peter Jenkins thanked her for her contribution. The remaining committee was re-elected leaving one vacancy. Ray Le Page thanked Peter Jenkins for his work as Chairman of the Society and the evening concluded with a delicious buffet with wine organised by Janet Dent and committee members.

Naomi Dunn

## Music Appreciation Group meetings are full of surprises

The theme on 28th September was the year 1923, chosen by Jim Grantham of the Cirencester Gramophone and Music Club because it was the year of his birth which he was proud to share with some famous singers. We were treated to examples of their art at various points during the evening, firstly Cesare Siepe singing 'Non piu andrai' from Mozart's Marriage of Figaro.

The rest of the programme was taken up with works by famous composers that were first performed in that year: excerpts from Elgar's King Arthur Suite, Howell's string quartet 'In Gloucestershire', Respighi's The Pines of Rome, Canteloupe's Songs of the Auvergne, Poulenc's ballet Les Biches and Pizzetti's Requiem. After refreshments, Jim played recordings of Maria Callas singing Casta Diva from Bellini's Norma and Victoria de los Angeles songs by Grieg and Rodriguez. Finally excerpts from Janacek's 1st String Quartet, Sibelius's Symphony no 6, the second entr'acte from Richard Strauss's opera Intermezzo and the symphonic poem Pacific 231 by Honegger. Altogether a fascinating programme of contrasts, most ably presented.

Alex Nichols

disappointed. Surprised because which of them knew, for instance, that of the later great composers only Brahms, Bruckner, Liszt and Mahler never wrote an opera, but that Haydn wrote twenty, Schubert and Dvorak ten each and Mendelssohn seven?

Alex Nichols, in his wide-ranging and most interesting presentation, played excerpts from one opera each, Rusalka being the only well-known one. Other excerpts came from operas by Holst - in fact primarily an opera composer! - Walton, Schumann (Genoveva, which only had its UK premier this year!), Sibelius and Fauré (exciting and beautifully orchestrated).

Gershwin's Porgy and Bess surprised some of us by being his one true opera beside his many musicals, and the evening ended with Joplin's Treemonisha - glorious syncopated ragtime singing. An enjoyable evening of learning, all the better for welcoming back Walter Goodman after a long absence.

Don't forget: 'My Music', an "eclectic evening" to be presented by John Parfitt on 9th November, and Leslie Brotherton's 'Richard Strauss' on 23rd November.

Ralph Kenber

Those who came with an open mind to 'He wrote an Opera?' on 12th October were probably greatly surprised but not

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# The Painswick Beacon

VILLAGE DIARY to SATURDAY 2 DECEMBER 2000

November

Sat 4th	Glos. Guild of Craftsmen: Free Talk and Demonstration - Toff Millway, Potter; Neil Ions, Potter	Guild Gallery Painswick Centre	11am - 4pm
5th	Brooke Hospital for Animals: Coffee; Bring & Buy, books, bric-a-brac	Town Hall	11am - 3pm
6th	Austerity Lunch: Hostess - Mrs Linda Davies	Christ Church Hall	12.15 - 1.15pm
7th	Painswick Dog Training Club (Tuesdays) - Puppies and Beginners Intermediate Advanced Dogs	Christ Church Hall	9.30 - 10.15am 10.15 - 11am 11 - 12 noon
	PCMS: Technological Advances in Medicine - Mike Gear	Church Rooms	8pm
8th	Conversational French Classes (Advanced) - Wednesdays Conversational Italian Classes (Intermediate) - Wednesdays Some places still available: Tutor - Caterina Krucker	Library Room " "	9.30 - 11am 11.30am - 1pm
	Painswick Probus: Former Yugoslavia - K Barber	Ostlers Room, Falcon	10am
	Horticultural Society: Well Dressing in Derbyshire, Mr K Orchard-Robinson	Town Hall	7.30pm
	Wives' Fellowship: Hand made Boxes, Wax Painting - Alison Apperley	Christ Church Hall	8pm
9th	Music Appreciation Group "My Music", presented by John Parfitt	Town Hall	7.30pm
10th	W.I. Market: Fridays	Town Hall	10am
	Senior Circle AGM. Followed (2.30) by 'Investigating Art', Lynne Gibson	Town Hall	1.45pm/2.30pm
Sat 11th	Glos. Guild of Craftsmen: Free Talk and Demonstration - Sarah Beadsmore, Weaver; Katherine Coleman, Glass Engraver	Guild Gallery Painswick Centre	11am - 4pm
	Theatre Club Outing to Cheltenham	The Falcon	1.30pm
	Painswick Conservatives Bridge Drive	Church Rooms	2pm
13th	Austerity Lunch: Hosts - Christ Church	Christ Church Hall	12.15 - 1.15pm
14th	Mothers' Union: "Food from the Bible"	Church Rooms	2.30pm
15th	Parish Council Meeting	Town Hall	7.30pm
16th	WI: Annual Meeting	Town Hall	2.30pm
	Painswick Players Production "Alphabetical Order" by Michael Frayn Tickets £5 (Thursday) from Post Office, Shetland Shop, Glos Guild Shop	Painswick Centre	7.30pm
17th	Coffee Morning - Age Concern Day Centre	Ashwell House	10am - 12 noon
	Lansdown Art Club: Art Exhibition	Town Hall	2 - 5.30pm
	Painswick Players Production "Alphabetical Order" by Michael Frayn Tickets £6, from Post Office, Shetland Shop, Glos Guild Shop	Painswick Centre	7.30pm
Sat 18th	Charity Bazaar. Several local charities participating	Christ Church Hall	10am - 3pm
	Lansdown Art Club: Art Exhibition (also Sun 19th)	Town Hall	10am - 5.30pm
	Art & Craft Fair: Free Entrance (also Sun 19th)	Cranham Village Hall	10am - 4.30pm
	Glos. Guild of Craftsmen: Free Talk & Demonstration - Helen Newman, Jeweller; Fiona Blaxill, Furniture Maker; Mary Noble, Jeweller	Guild Gallery Painswick Centre	11am - 4pm
	Painswick Players Production "Alphabetical Order" by Michael Frayn Tickets £5 (matinee) £6 (evening)	Painswick Centre	2.30pm 7.30pm
19th	<b>COPY DATE: All items to Mrs Jillie Speed, The Old Carriage House, Edge, or Beacon Postbox in New Street</b>		
	PCMS/GDMS Songs of Praise (at Wotton under Edge)	St Mary's, Wotton	6pm
20th	Austerity Lunch: Hosts - Women's Institute	Christ Church Hall	12.15 - 1.15pm



21st	'Christmas Seasoning'. Exhibition at the Fiery Beacon Gallery, Continues until 16th December	Fiery Beacon Gallery	Tues - Sat 11-5pm Sun 2pm - 5pm
	Local History Society: Recent work on Roman Villas in the Cotswolds - Neil Holbrook	Croft School	7.30pm
	Jazz Evening: Local Musicians, no entry charge	Ostlers Room, Falcon	8.30pm
22nd	Painswick Probus: The Oldest Department - T Riccalton	Ostlers Room, Falcon	10am
	Wives' Fellowship: Salisbury Cathedral - Ron Cook	Christ Church Hall	8pm
23rd	<b>DIARY DEADLINE: All items to Mrs Edwina Buttrey, 14 The Croft, or Beacon Postbox in New Street</b>		
	Painswick Music Appreciation Group, "Richard Strauss" presented by Leslie Brotherton	Town Hall	7.30pm
24th	Senior Circle: My Life as an MP - David Drew	Town Hall	2.30pm
Sat 25th	Annual Church Mission Bazaar	Church Rooms	10am - 3pm
	Grand Knitwear Sale: Famous makes - mainly discontinued lines/colours	Painswick Centre	10am - 2.30pm
	Glos. Guild of Craftsmen: Free Talk & Demonstration - Jenny Bicat, Textiles; Michael Lythgoe, Bird Sculptor; Hazel Johnstone, Potter	Guild Gallery Painswick Centre	11am - 4pm
26th	Painswick Beacon Conservation Group, Working Party	Catbrain Quarry car park	10am
27th	Austerity Lunch: Hosts - The Puffins	Christ Church Hall	12.15 - 1.15pm
29th	Painswick Probus: Annual Dinner		
	Blood Donor session	Painswick Centre	10.30am - 3.15pm & 5 - 7.15pm
30th	Painswick Bird Club: Talk on Buzzards - by Robin Prytherch	Town Hall	7.30pm
<b>December</b>			
Sat 2nd	<b>December Issue of The Painswick Beacon Published</b>		
	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

**Rugby Fixtures:** (L) denotes league match. Matches start at 2.30pm.

	First XV	United
Sat 4 Nov.	Chosen Hill (Away)	Chosen Hill 2nd XV (Home)
Sat 11 Nov.	(L) Bishopston 1st XV (Home)	Coney Hill 2nd XV (Away)
Sat 18 Nov.	Old Centralians 1st XV (Home)	Old Centralians 2nd XV (Away)
Sat 25 Nov.	(L) Southmead 1st XV (Away)	(L) Southmead 2nd XV (Away)
Sat 2 Dec.	Minchinhampton 1st XV (Home)	Dowty 1st XV (Away)

### Property Report

Advertisement

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The signs are that the housing market is back on track for a steady autumn. The first half of the Millennium year was incredibly buoyant and prices increased fuelled by the demand. However, as more properties came onto the market in the second half of the year coupled with the usual holiday lull, prices seemed to level out which caused a natural correction in the market. There is now more of a balance emerging in terms of supply and demand for properties and coupled with other recent trends this makes it an ideal time for purchasers with more choice and stable prices.

We are delighted to confirm that completions took place recently on the following properties - Colethrop Cottage in Colethrop, Forest

View, Sheepscombe, Abbey House Barn in The Vatch, Badgers - a bungalow in Brimpsfield and in Painswick 5 Churchill Way and Little Garth in Tibbiwell.

We have also been instructed to market 17 Churchill Way and Finchurst in Queens Mead, both of which have already been sold subject to contract. Red Stables is now on the market with Hamptons - a unique 18th century listed house with an intriguing history in a lovely elevated location with approximately 2 acres of garden and paddock etc. Also at Coopers Hill we are marketing an old Coach House with a large garden and grass tennis court. We are shortly to receive printed particulars of the first units for sale at Gyde House - if you are interested in receiving information on these conversions please register with us at The Old Chapel, telephone 01452 812354.



## A child in World War II

Splendidly eye-catching, as Painswick WI members entered the hall in October, was a shining copper pan, oval in shape, on the President's table. This contained a collection of dahlias and kaffir lilies, both scarlet, yellow rudbeckias and shining green foliage, arranged by Mary Stuart.

Members signed a petition to the Queen concerning state retirement pensions; it was decided to send a bouquet of flowers to past-President Gladys Hobbs on her completing sixty years' membership of Painswick WI, and volunteers were forthcoming to help with the Austerity Lunch on 20th November. Members heard that Audrey Watts is arranging a class, for the spring, to make greetings cards. Janet Dent, our representative at the WI Autumn Council at Pitville School in September, told what a pleasant and interesting meeting this had been.

The speaker for our meeting, Mr Roger Horsfield, began by mentioning casually that part of his history degree course at Oxford had been to read all the letters written by Nelson to Lady Hamilton. Most of Roger's subsequent career had been spent as a teacher and schools inspector. Born in Liverpool on Christmas Day 1933, he described the Second World War as seen by one whose earliest memory is of, as a two-year old, washing up, having put everything into the bath! There was the excitement of being taken on the Mersey ferry to Birkenhead.

After his third birthday the family moved to Dover and in due course he was sent to school, not, he said, taken, as children are these days. He was frightened by dogs as he walked alone, and looked both ways many times before crossing a road.

War came. Chamberlain spoke, the wireless was on loudly in each house in the road. Roger was evacuated to Nelson in Lancashire to stay with Auntie Annie and Uncle Tom. At this point our speaker continued his tale in a wonderfully Lancastrian accent. One saw Auntie Annie spreading newspaper on her best carpet to prevent its being dirtied. Roger sent his mother a postcard, saying simply, "Auntie Annie has made seven pounds of raspberry jam".

Sixty mill chimneys smoked away in Nelson, there were sixty children in the class at school, and the teacher said "aye" instead of "yes".

Roger spent that first Christmas on the far side of the Pennines, in Bradford, with Auntie Molly and Uncle Harry. On Christmas Eve the centre of Bradford was bombed. The phrase "There's a war on" was on everyone's lips. He was forced to eat rice pudding, but preferred the underneath part, refusing the skin.

Back in Kent with his parents, now in the country at Barham, he set a snare for rabbits and snared a cow instead. Its horns were caught fast. Women knitted scarves, socks and gloves for the forces. Canadian soldiers camped in the woods. Spitfires, Mosquitoes and an early Gloster jet flew overhead, as did doodlebugs. People worried about spies. Canterbury was bombed. Mrs Churchill and Mrs Roosevelt visited the WI in Barham. Eventually came the euphoria of peace.

Members had brought to the meeting items of WWII memorabilia: ration books, recipe books, photos of soldiers, items labelled 'Found on the Beach at Dunkirk'. A small parcel containing a first aid kit, unopened, bore a label saying 'Only to be opened to save life, not minor cuts'.

A picture post card showed men and women working in a harvest field at Wotton-under-Edge. Sitting proudly at the wheel of a tractor was a young lady whom we know as Beth McDonald. Beth sent the card by post to her brother, then a prisoner of war in Germany, with only the very few words written on it that were permitted. The Germans rubber stamped the card heavily, and eventually her brother brought it back to England.

Dorothy Binns

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# The Personal Column

## Babies

Congratulations to LOUISA and ANTHONY STRONG on the birth of their daughter, Rachel, on 18th October, another great-grandchild for Brian and Ruth de Courcy Ireland;

and congratulations to HELEN and GARETH PUGH of the Painswick Hotel on the birth of their second child, Charlie.

## Engagement

Congratulations to GRAEME KILBY (son of Hilary and John Kilby) and ZARA VERNON of Fulham, who announced their engagement recently.

## Get Well Soon

Our best wishes for a speedy recovery to DAVE MORRIS, MAIR DALY, ROSIE SMITH, LOUISE MILLAR, GLADYS HOBBS, URSULA DAWS, COLIN NASH, PHIL OAKLEY and GREG McCORMICK.

## Welcome

We welcome ADRIAN and ALICE McDOWELL who have moved to Bentley Cottage, Vicarage Street;

Revd CHRIS GARRETT who has come back to Painswick to live at 18 Gloucester Road from Croydon;

MARTIN and CHARLOTTE GAMMAN and their children Andrew, Louise and Annabel who have moved to Upton Hill;

Mr and Mrs HOLLAND who have moved into Spindlewood, Sheepscombe;

Mr and Mrs HOBBS who have moved into Beechcroft, Sheepscombe,

SIMON FERRIS who has moved into 8 Berry Close;

JAYNE ROBERTS, the new Manager of Resthaven, who has come from St Faith's Home, Cheltenham;

and DAVID and INGE BATTY who have come from Prestbury to live at Little Gables, The Highlands.

## Farewell

We say farewell to ROS JOHN of Sheepscombe who has moved to Nailsworth;

to HAZEL HENDRY who has moved to Tewkesbury;

Mrs and Mrs HARBUTT who have moved to Frampton-on-Severn;

the WRIGHT family who have moved to Devon from Gloucester Road;

and BRIAN and JOY CARTER who have moved from Nettles, Kingsmill Lane, to Cheltenham.

HILARY KILBY has moved to Cheltenham but she will still be working at Murrays Estate Agents so she hopes all her friends will keep in touch. Her new phone number is 01242 243076.

## Visitors from Canada

Welcome recent visitors from Canada have been HELEN DUNLOP, and also RISA CASHMORE and BETTY ANNE CORAYDEN, nieces of Marg Shea.

## Congratulations

Congratulations to the SLADER girls who are following in father's footsteps. ELLA has qualified as an Associate of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors and continues her career with Drivers Jonas, Chartered Surveyors in the West End. Around the corner in Berkeley Square, GEORGINA has joined another firm of surveyors, G V A Grimley, as a graduate planner, having gained a Diploma in Planning with Merit at Oxford Brooks University. Father NICK is in anticipation of retirement and perhaps handing over the reins eventually!

## The Big Eight 0

Congratulations to Wally Brooks who was 80 on 22nd October.

## Condolences

Our sincere sympathies to the family and friends of DEANNE BOYDELL who died recently.

## Thank You

On behalf of the late Colonel Elliott Patterson I would like to thank Dr Jaques and the nurses at Hoyland House for their help and kindness during his illness.

Tim Mifflin

Linda Arnold would like to thank the wonderful friends and neighbours who regularly visited her mum, Bronnie Jennings, whilst she was housebound and then in hospital before her death in September. A big thank you also to those who

attended the church service, wrote lovely letters and cards, sent flowers and generously donated to the Stroud Hospital League of Friends. Your kindness is greatly appreciated.

## NEXT ISSUE

Publication Date  
**SATURDAY 2nd DECEMBER**

Items for publication to Jillie Speed\*,  
The Old Carriage House, Edge, by  
**SUNDAY 19th NOVEMBER**

Mini Ads to Leslie Brotherton,  
Longhope, Blakewell Mead, by  
**SUNDAY 19th NOVEMBER**

Business adverts: Contact Liz Fisher,  
Harebell Cottage, Blakewell Mead, by  
**THURSDAY 16th NOVEMBER**

Diary items (only) to Edwina Buttrey,  
14 The Croft, by  
**THURSDAY 23rd NOVEMBER**

\* 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:  
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In all cases please give your name, address and phone number.

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