

The Painswick Beacon

Vol. 24 No. 2

May 2001

FOOT AND MOUTH POSITION IS 'IMPROVING'

At the time of the Beacon going to press, the County Council was in discussion with the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (MAFF) about the possibility of opening certain areas of land within Gloucestershire in time for the May Bank Holiday weekend, even though further Foot and Mouth cases are being identified elsewhere.

Painswick Beacon was the subject of exceptional treatment in early April when the Painswick Manorship agreed to reopen the common to the public, having taken advice from Council Officers. Little publicity was given to the reopening, because it was felt that with other

commons remaining closed there would be unfair pressure on the Beacon to accommodate the expected increase in visitor numbers.

Notices have been placed on the Beacon, giving details of several precautionary measures. One of the most significant is the requirement for dogs to be kept on leads.

However, it has to be said that many people have either not read the notice or decided to ignore the requirement. Local dog owners have expressed their appreciation to the Parish Council for its decision to allow animals to be exercised on the Recreation Field.

Questions have been raised about the Plantation which continues to be closed to walkers. The Parish Council will continue to review the position in the light of any relaxation by the County Council of its closure restrictions over footpaths.

The Western Daily Press carried an item this week about the problems facing Philip Meigh at Prinknash. The report says that Mr Meigh would normally expect to have some 75,000 visitors a year to his deer park, but he has been forced to close because of the risk. He has asked for permission to vaccinate, but MAFF will not agree.

St Mary's Home development gets the go-ahead, but with conditions

The development proposal by Severn NHS Trust for 20 houses on the St Mary's Home site (the drawings were published in the February Beacon) has been agreed by Stroud District planning members.

The plan calls for an access road from the A46, not far down from the Stamages Lane corner, that was subject to strong objections by the Parish Council and by Painswick Conservation Society, as well as some villagers seriously concerned about safety.

However, the Highways authority was adamant that this was the only point at which access could be granted.

The NHS Trust will shortly be putting the development out to tender - they are obliged to get the best possible price for the site - and responses are due in about the end of June.

Meanwhile, Stroud planners will be drawing up an agreement, that both the Trust and the future developer will have to sign, that ensures the position of the three affordable houses, that the developer contributes to road improvements and makes a play space contribution.

Unearthing the mystery of a cow and this Croft School shield



When the new headteacher at the Croft School, Roger Harding, was clearing through cupboards after his arrival, he uncovered the shield, shown above. No one at school knew anything about it, and Roger asked the Beacon to help to discover its history.

Enquiries have revealed that several Painswickians know about the shield, but had forgotten about it until called by the Editor; others could never remember actually having seen it.

On its face is inscribed "Presented by Painswick Child Welfare Clinic" and on the back is a typewritten part-explanation of how it came to be at the school. It reads:

During the Great War of 1914-18 a

voluntary committee of ladies, concerned with the Child Welfare Clinic in Painswick, actually purchased a cow so that needy mothers and children could have free milk.

When living conditions later improved, the cow was sold and the proceeds put into a fund which itself became known as 'The Cow'. In June 1987, the fund assets were realised and the cash used to purchase this shield which is to be presented each year to a child at the Croft School, Painswick, as a special award.

And there's the rub, for the shield has never been presented, no names appear on the mini-shields on it, and the head teacher is keen to present the award this July - hopefully with someone in the village closely associated with 'The Cow.'

The cow spent its life, milked daily, in a field at the bottom of Vicarage Street, and had a calf. When life improved somewhat after the war and the cow's milk was no longer needed, the cow was sold for £60, and the proceeds put into the welfare clinic savings fund which was administered by a committee of volunteers who also helped the district nurse with

Continued on Page 6

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Council meeting on 18th April, 2001

Reported by Tony Crook

Coun Malcolm Watts reported to the Planning meeting, before the full council met, on the meeting he had had with residents of the Butt Green area and the new owners of Painswick House. Following representations to them, Mr. and Mrs. Elvidge had decided to reduce the number of trees overall and agreed not to plant any in a way that would impinge on the houses in Butt Green. They also assured residents that traffic through the new Butt Lane gate would be private only, and that any commercial vehicles would use the old drive.

Since there was some lack of full understanding by councillors of the description of 'affordable housing', Coun Watts was asked to find an expert speaker and to set up a meeting for interested councillors.

The District Council had sent for comment an outline planning application from Richmond Care Village, that now referred to a nursing home, some associated dwellings to include ten affordable ones, in a smaller defined area, previously "not refused" by SDC's development control committee. Members felt they could not comment or object since no details were available. They did, however, reiterate concerns about safety and traffic-calming with two access points close together on the A46, notwithstanding the Highway authority's agreement. These concerns were to be sent to District planners.

The Parish Council had received a reply to their letter to SDC's head of planning, saying that although he recognised people in Painswick were keen to have the St. Mary's Home site considered with the application for a nursing home, this would be difficult: the land was in

different ownership; the development sites were not adjacent; and the applicants' aspirations were different (*Severn NHS Trust have not chosen a developer yet; tenders are expected to go out in mid-May, and no decision is likely before the end of June.* - Editor). Although SDC had approved the St. Mary's Home development proposal, no detailed papers had been received by the parish.

Main Council meeting

Coun Watts said a new play item for younger children would be introduced on to the Recreation Field and that there were difficulties in progressing the idea of a BMX track. However, he had been approached about setting up a roller-blading area which he would look into. Stratford Park already had such a facility.

Foot and Mouth outbreak

Councillors were concerned that dog fouling was now a significant problem because dogs had to be kept on leads on footpaths, and owners were not clearing up any mess. Freedom for dogs in the Recreation Field had been a tremendous asset during the disease crisis. Coun Ann Daniels said she was seriously worried by vehicles that had been allowed into a field adjacent to sheep for an Open Gardens day. She asked that her concern over the risk be recorded.

Land ownership

Coun Alan Shearer felt that the Parish Council should have a register of owners of parcels of land in the village that could be subject to development applications. Coun John Stephenson-Oliver said council should give some thought overall to the number of new properties being considered and Coun Shearer added that 70 additional houses had already been agreed. Continuing development like this made a nonsense of the Village Blueprint, Coun Terry Parker said. It was agreed that Coun Stephenson-Oliver would check whether District planners had such a register.

Miscellaneous

Council agreed to fund the new ramp for disabled access to Edge Village hall.

Joan Nash had reported that two more almshouses were available.

Instead of having notices pinned to the fence in Stamages Lane car park, it was agreed to ask SDC planning if a new noticeboard could be erected for the general public to use.

Repairs were needed to the Town Hall noticeboard which had some wood rot.

A report from Alan Shearer, Terry Parker and John Stephenson-Oliver on the Code of Conduct model for councillors, put forward by Gloucestershire Association of Parish and Town Councils, said it would prove too stringent at parish level and would deter parishioners from seeking election.

The theft of a metal seat from Painswick Beacon was noted.

Coun Martin Slinger said he had reported that 30 of the 40 road drains in Edge were blocked.

The new round table near Catbrain Quarry, a Parish Council Millennium project, would be finished about mid-summer.

Co-option

Following the resignation of Coun Keith Hardwidge, members considered three applications for co-option, and in a private ballot Mr. Tony Crook was co-opted.



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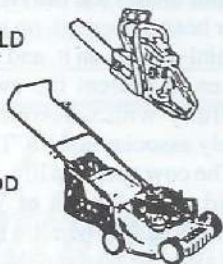
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POLICE REPORT

Incidents: 9th February to 15th April, 2001.

House Burglaries: Painswick 2, Pitchcombe 1, Slad 1, Edge 1.

Business Premises: Painswick 1, Harescombe/Brookthorpe 1.

Sheds: Painswick 1, Edge 2. Vehicles: Painswick 10, Sheepscombe 2, Cranham 3. Other: Painswick (damage 1, theft 3), Edge (theft 1), Sheepscombe (theft 1).

Items stolen from vehicles:

Handbag & contents (x3), petrol (x6), CD Player & speakers (x2), radio/cassette.

Items stolen from other places:

TVs (x2), videos (x3), handbag & contents, clocks, firewood, money, chainsaw, power saws, stone tiles, garden statue, lawnmower, strimmer and mid-stereo system.

Reported incidents:

13 incidents were reported during these two months, one of which led to the arrest of offenders, and one which is of further interest to the police.

Security Improvement Recommendations:

Several premises fitted with audio alarms were attacked in this period. When burglar alarms are heard, please do not ignore them but, if possible, check the property to make sure all is well. If you feel something is wrong, ring the police without delay. One of the recent burglaries was a walk-in theft through a closed, but not locked, kitchen door. Review your security of garden tools and machinery, especially at this time of year.

Please be sure to report ANY incident without delay.

PC Gary Power & Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator. 01452 335674

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Camera, lights and action! Caught during secret filming in Painswick, the wellknown smile of Carol Smillie, of BBC's Changing Rooms programme, machining some curtains, with Keren Jackson. The BBC was recording the transformations in two family homes, one in Gloucester Street and the other in New Street, for a TV broadcast to be shown in the autumn. Keren and hus-

band Mike had agreed a make-over with their friends, Trudi and Bill Pigott, helped by the designers from the programme, Oliver Heath and Anna Ryder-Richardson with, of course, Handy Andy doing the tricky bits.

The Beacon understands that after the changes - a Mexican touch to a bedroom and a neo-Gothic style living room - the couples remain friends!

Helping the Care Hospice climbers

In the March Beacon, you might have read about the team of 18 adventurers, staff and friends of the Cotswold Care Hospice in Minchinhampton, who are attempting to climb the 4,100-metre Mount Toubkal in Morocco's Atlas Mountains in June. The aim is to raise £20,000 for the Hospice.

In Painswick, we are proud to have one of these intrepid adventurers, Rachael Setters, as one of our District Nurses. She and her fellow climbers are training hard at present for the great climb.

Rachael and a fellow nurse from Nailsworth, Jackie Harding, hope to raise £2,500 between them. To this end, helpers and members of the Ashwell House Day Centre, and the residents of Ashwell House, are holding a Giant Raffle at a Coffee Morning, with the kind permission of the new Manager, Michelle Elliott, in the Lounge of Ashwell House on Wednesday, 23rd May, from 10.30am to 12.00 noon. To tempt you, the gifts donated for the raffle so far include: lamps from Ikea store, free meal tokens from local hostellers, chocolates, a 24 inch Toblerone (that I am assured will need a hacksaw to cut it!), a basket of fruit, bottles of wine, and a basket of vegetables. We will also be having a Bumper cake stall.

Once again we must thank all our loyal supporters and our hard-working band of helpers for enabling us to raise £404 for the Cotswold Care Hospice at our coffee morning on Saturday, 7th April. We were lucky to have a fine sunny morning - an unusual occurrence in a very wet week.

Flora Semark

Many of you I know in Painswick work hard raising funds and helping at the Hospice. Can you go just that little way further and support Rachael with us?

If anyone would like to contribute to the raffle or to the cake stall, your gifts would be very much appreciated. If you cannot come, but would like to participate in the raffle, please give me a ring on 813503, or contact any of our helpers. Do please try to come along - you are assured of a very warm welcome. **Pam Bailey**

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Hand-writing can be a bit of a headache for us

The Beacon is now published fully electronically, with a good deal of the copy from contributors, societies and clubs being sent as emails or email attachments. This is by far the fastest and easiest method for us to handle, both in editing and placing into the page.

The bulk of contributed copy is typewritten, and this is handled in the main by scanning the sheets as if they were images, and then converting these images into words that can be edited by using other software. The latter can be time-consuming, and shorter pieces are usually retyped for speed by a committee member.

Where we receive hand-written articles, these have to be typed up by a committee member, and then sent to the Editor as an email. Retyping copy can introduce errors and omissions that are difficult to detect in the deadline haste. The editorial committee would like to ask all contributors, as far as is practicable, to provide their copy by email (the Beacon

email address is on the back page), if you have access to a PC and are comfortable sending emails, or typewritten. We still welcome articles that are hand-written, of course, but it would ease the production job significantly if this could be avoided.

Photographs for publication are best in black-and-white. There is no difficulty in scanning colour prints into the page, and then converting these to black-and-white, but there is a loss of quality in doing so. Grey pictures, rather than strongly contrasting black and white images, reproduce best, so try to avoid shots taken indoors with flash, unless you are familiar with 'bounce' flash and have the equipment to do so. The result is almost always 'soot and whitewash.'

It is possible that at some point the Beacon committee will consider printing in colour, but this is more time-consuming and more costly. Meanwhile, photographs taken in natural light will reproduce best.

From The Beacon Ten Years Ago

Young pupils at the Croft School learned with dismay that there would be a power cut last Wednesday. They have been incubating eggs as part of their learning experience, but the break in the electricity supply would result in the eggs not developing. This would mean that all their work over the past two weeks, turning the eggs twice a day, would have been in vain.

Nor was it possible to move the incubator any distance, as the temperature could not be maintained during the move. The only alternative seemed to be starting again with a new batch of eggs - this meant that they would probably hatch during the Whitsun holiday, and the children would miss the exciting event.

However, all was not lost. When the MEB heard of the problem, they arrived before school to set up a small portable generator to keep the power supply to the incubator. The eggs were safe, the pupils were happy and the staff were relieved that all the hard work had not been in vain.

Passport service at P.O.

The range of services being offered at some post offices is being extended, and as part of that programme, Painswick Post Office has been selected to provide a passport checking service.

For a fee of £4, the Post Office will check that application forms have been completed correctly, and forward the application by secure mail. This service complements the existing ones of foreign currency, cheques and insurance.

Rapid UK speaker at the Wives' Fellowship

On Wednesday, 23rd May, John Holland of the Gloucestershire-based rescue organisation, Rapid UK, will be speaking about his experiences to the Wives' Fellowship in Christ Church Hall. The meeting begins at 7.30pm.

Since this volunteer service has attracted such wide interest, the Fellowship is extending an open invitation to anyone who would care to go. There will be a collection in support of Rapid UK's work.

The Fellowship would like to thank everyone who supported their coffee morning on Saturday, 31st March when £340 was raised for the charity, Cloud 9.

Cricket Club awards evening

The Cricket Club's annual Vice-Presidents' evening was held at Broadham on Friday, 6th April. The event is also the occasion for the presentation of various awards to club members. Player of the Year awards were made to John Barnard (Young Player), Phil Jones (First Eleven) and Chris Loveridge (Second Eleven).

Awards were also made to Steve Holford as Most Improved Player and to Andrew Wise as Clubman of the Year. David Emery received a special award for his commitment to producing high quality wickets throughout the season. The Club welcomes potential new players of all standards. Anyone with an interest should contact Phil Jones (305320), Ian Hogg (725747) or Andrew Wise (01453 755202).

PAINSWICK has for many years been classified as an H4 village (ie one not suitable for substantial development), but the County planners have recently altered our classification to a Principal Settlement on a par with towns like Cirencester and Dursley. We have opposed this change and, in doing so, have been supported by Stroud District Council and CPRE.

Within the next year, the Painswick Local Plan is to be replaced by a local plan for the Stroud district. This involves some risk that the needs of communities like ours might, through ignorance, be over-ridden, so we are pressing for amendments to deal with the special requirements of villages and rural areas.

The fact that most of Painswick...is designated a Conservation Area may not be sufficient to protect our village from unsuitable developments, and constant vigilance will have to be maintained. (*Extract from the Painswick Conservation Society's AGM*).

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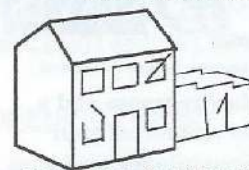
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PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Received

*1 Abbey Cottages, The Vatch, Slad. Retrospective application for change of use of land to garden.

*Barley Mow Cottage, Slad. Renewal of outline permission for erection of one dwelling and garage, and construction of new vehicular access.

*Olivers Mill Cottage, Cheltenham Road. Erection of single-storey extensions to provide porch and conservatory. Revised size and position of conservatory.

*Sheepscombe County Primary School. Extension and retention of Pratten classroom.

*Kings Mill House, Kings Mill Lane. Replacement of external lighting.

*Wayland, Cotswold Mead. Alterations to garage and erection of conservatory.

Consents

*Spoonbed Farm, Gloucester Road. Driveway to serve cottage below farmhouse. Change of use of land to domestic curtilage.

*Bayliss Cottage, Sheepscombe. Erection of stables/haystore.

*Byeways, Stepping Stone Lane. Erection of extensions.

*Damsells Mews, The Park. Fell one lime and one horse chestnut.

*Queens Mead, off Stamages Lane. Renewal of permission for erection of one dwelling with new access to Queens Mead.

*The Bungalow, Pyll House Farm, Jack's Green, Sheepscombe. Renewal of permission for extension to farm worker's dwelling.

*Beechcroft, Jack's Green, Sheepscombe. Erection of extension.

*The Stables, Greenhouse Court, Bull's Cross. Extension to provide dependant person's annex.

Refusals

*Clissold Farm, Jack's Green, Sheepscombe. Change of use from agricultural to domestic to form new access.

*Damsells Mews, The Park. Fell one field maple and one ash.

Appeal dismissed

*The Stables, Painswick House, Gloucester Road. Moving a statue of Pan to the conservatory of The Stables.

Notification of appeals

*Rockfield House, Rockmill, near Stroud. Retrospective application for reconstruction of retaining wall.

*Damsells Mews, The Park. Fell one field maple and one ash.

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All attention at Painswick Dog Club's training session. An eager spaniel, Spud, with his owner, David Hay, has his eyes on trainer Mike Vines, waiting for the next command. Behind is Michele Phillips with Ben, whom she trains for owner, Bill Gott.

Dog training and the litter problem

Painswick Dog Training club has now been running for more than two years. The club meets every Tuesday and teaches owners and dogs of all ages and standards, from puppies that have just been inoculated, to older dogs who are learning distance control and scent work.

Trainer Mike Vines has over 40 years' experience in training dogs in many different spheres, and is able to deal with all sorts of doggy problems. The members believe strongly that ownership of a dog should not ruin the enjoyment of their surroundings by the rest of the public. All members clean up after their dogs and even voted for last year's excess funds (the

club is non-profit making) to purchase a dog litter bin in the churchyard.

Unfortunately, there are some irresponsible dog owners in Painswick who still do not pick up after their dogs. If not having a bag is a problem, we suggest buying nappy sacks which are cheap, and fold up so small that several can be placed in a pocket without causing a bulge. If you see anyone not picking up after their dog, please report them to the dog warden on 01453 754491/7.

Michele Phillips

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Welcome, Roger!

The newest, the oldest and the youngest: Mr Roger Harding, the new Head teacher at the Croft School, pictured in the new outdoor play area for Reception and Year One class run by Mrs Gibbs. With him are Richard, the school's oldest pupil, and Douglas, the youngest.

Mr Harding has been a Head for nine years, lives in Gloucester and has three school-aged children. His wife is also a part-time teacher at a village school. He has travelled extensively and taught overseas for eight years, which makes him keen to involve the Croft in international aspects of education. He is keen on sport and computer technology, and the added facets these bring to a child's learning and opportunities. "I have had a lot of encouragement and many recommendations and ideas, some of which will certainly be acted upon," he says in his newsletter.



Class 5 pupils had great fun last week, with some blood-curdling Greek mythology. Here are a couple of their efforts, recounting Theseus and the Minotaur

The door slammed shut behind him (Theseus) with such force that the blood-stained walls shook around the entire labyrinth. He was on his own now, no going back, only forwards into the rotting maze...Why was he doing this? No one had ever managed to get out of here alive anyway. He took another step forward and heard a loud crunch underfoot. Theseus looked down at the floor. Bones, loads of

them, littering the floor like mangled crisp packets and sweet wrappers. He removed his foot from the pile of rotting bones and stepped carefully to a clear spot. Sweat was breaking out on him as the awful stench of decaying bodies filled the already humid and stuffy air.

Theseus picked his way along the vile passage...and drew his shining sword from his scabbard, just in case anything suddenly happened.

Harriet Bentley

Theseus quickly turned around. There was the Minotaur about to charge him. Theseus charged first and cut the Minotaur on the face, blood sprayed everywhere as it roared in agony. He was really angry now! The Minotaur ran towards Theseus and hit him in the leg with its horns. Theseus fell back...but got up and stabbed the Minotaur in the heart. The Minotaur cried again and fell to the floor.

Louise Goode

From Page One

The cow and the shield

maternity matters. They met in the Green Room at what is now the Painswick Centre.

Some of the money was used each year for youngsters' Christmas parties, Mickie Le Page told the Beacon. It was finally decided to use the remaining funds to buy this shield for the school, but also to present a cup to the Painswick Show Society for young competitors and another cup to Painswick Horticultural Society for awarding to a children's class.

Further enquiries have been halted by the Beacon's deadline, but we would be fascinated to have any more details of the shield, so that Mr Harding can have a better description of its background; and on behalf of the Head, we would also like to hear from anyone associated with 'The Cow' fund who could qualify and be willing to help with its first presentation.

PAINSWICK PAPERS

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Vacancy at the almshouses

The Gyde Almshouses Charity is seeking applications for a one-bedroomed almshouse that has become vacant in Gyde Road, Painswick.

To qualify, applicants must have resided in Painswick Parish area (Painswick, Edge, Sheepscombe, Slad and the Uplands) for five years preceding application, or be a native of the parish for a period of ten years in aggregate at any times, and

must be 60 or over, or in the opinion of the Trustees, be unable to look after himself or herself on health grounds, infirmity or accident.

Applications to: Mrs D. Baker, Clerk to the Trustees, Gyde Almshouses Charity, 6 Lawns Park, North Woodchester, Stroud, GL5 5PP.

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The Millennium appeal tops £8,600 and more renovation could go ahead

We are very pleased to announce that the Millennium Appeal for the Painswick Centre has now raised £8,680 (including £2,000 from the Parish Council). This has enabled the committee to complete the re-wiring of the centre and decoration of the main hall.

So far 45 local residents, businesses, clubs and societies have been generous enough to contribute £100 plus to have a commemorative plaque permanently mounted on our Supporters' Wall. These large engraved brass plaques have been used to celebrate individual lives, families, old friends, times past and many present activities going on in Painswick.

The appeal will continue to the end of the year, but we feel it is time to show our appreciation to you all with a ceremony to unveil the Supporters Wall, and give you the opportunity to see the work that has been done so far. This ceremony will be held on Saturday, 16th June from 5.30 pm to 7pm (approx). It will include a free glass of wine and live entertainment.

If you would like your name, or that of your business or club etc. included in the Supporters Wall in time for the opening ceremony, please get an appeal leaflet from the Gloucestershire Guild of Craftsmen Shop at the Centre, or contact Jackie Herbert on 813229 who will arrange to have one delivered to your door.

If we can reach our target of £10,000, it will enable us to renovate the kitchens and toilets to give the people of Painswick a facility which will be second to none. Thank you all for your continuing support and generosity.

Jackie Herbert

SEARCH FOR HERITAGE TREES

Jon Stokes of the Tree Council is undertaking a national project on Heritage Trees, and has asked for help and input from Painswick parishioners. Heritage Trees are trees with stories; they will almost certainly be old, and have stood through the passage of time, bearing silent witness to change and events, such as The Civil War or Siege of Gloucester.

Did they mark old roads? Were they used as assembly places for units of King Charles's army, meeting places, or more gruesome, hanging trees? Local examples of possible Heritage Trees would be the Painswick Oak. Did it mark a Saxon road? The Sweet Chestnuts at Dell Farm; were they associated with the Quakers burial ground?

Once a register is completed by the Tree Council, 50 of the most suitable nominations will be included in a book to be presented to the Queen to mark her Golden Jubilee next year.

Stroud District Council plan a similar project, to include a book to contain 50 of the most prominent Heritage Trees from within the various parishes in its area. The inclusion of a tree or trees from Painswick parish in either or both books would be a great honour, and add further interest to the area for the future.

Any information or details of any such trees situated within the boundaries of Painswick parish, would be much appreciated by David Hopkins, Painswick Tree Warden, at Magpie Cottage, Sheepcombe, GL6 7RJ. Tel. 813827.

Hambutts Field Trust looking forward

Twenty years ago, a small group of Painswick residents got together and produced the purchase money for Hambutts Field in Edge Road, in order that the field should remain forever an 'open space' for the benefit of the people of Painswick, and for walkers on the Cotswold Way. The latter crosses the field at the start of the southern half of the route to Bath.

To achieve this, the field was vested in the Commissioner for Charities in trust for the Open Spaces Society who managed the field until last year when it was felt that a change to a local trust management scheme would be beneficial. Accordingly, the status of the field has been changed so that it is now held in trust by The Hambutts Field Trust.

This trust is now established with seven trustees who meet formally twice a year and on frequent occasions informally to supervise the grazing, hedging, tree planting, insurance etc. The trustees have been grateful for gifts from the Women's Institute, a fine pair of seats from the late Mrs Hellene Brotherton of Hambutts Barn, and a generous bequest of £5,000 from the late Mrs Helen McKee of The Lamp House, Victoria Square.

The trustees look forward to the lifting of the Foot and Mouth restrictions,

when villagers will again be able to enjoy a stroll or a rest in the field. Responsible dog owners will be welcome to exercise their dogs but, say the trustees, owners that do not clean up after their pets are not welcome. The trustees are: John Workman (chairman), Patrick Ridgewell (treasurer), Alan Marshall (secretary), Virginia Falconer, Ferdinand Gaugain, Linda Evans and Dick Jarrett.

Red Cross helpers wanted

British Red Cross Flag Week starts tomorrow (6th May) until 12th May, and local collectors are urgently needed and would be much appreciated. If you can help, please get in touch with Joan Ashton on 617632.

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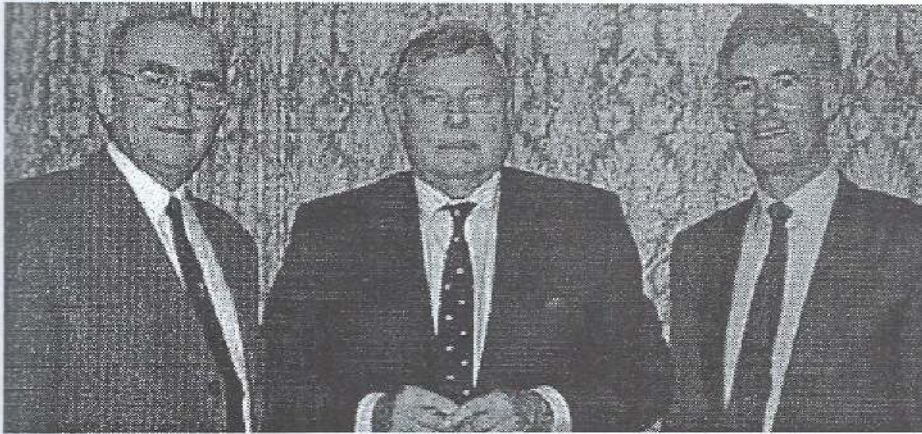
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Peter Alliss with the outgoing captain, Terry Stead (left), and incoming captain David Walker, at Painswick Golf Club's presentation evening

Peter Alliss honours golf club

The 'Voice of Golf,' Peter Alliss, was guest of honour at Painswick Golf Club for the annual presentation evening. Thanks to business contacts of Terry Stead, the Club Captain, what can be a low-key event was turned into a very special evening for prize winners and around 130 members and guests.

Sue and the new management company, NB Associates, got the evening started with a superb buffet that tasted even better than it looked and was a model of organisation in getting everyone served so quickly. Those able to enjoy the company, at the meal, of Peter and his wife (who navigated them to the Club very ably), all spoke of how they put them at ease with conversation on various subjects; though Peter might have had some apprehension about being lauded in verse by former Ladies' Captain Delia Mason, who tastefully and effectively captured the mood of the occasion.

Introducing his guest, Terry explained the connection with the Avon Rubber

Company which led to his presence on this occasion; they were one of Peter Alliss's first sponsors when the revolutionary one-piece rubber slip-on grip replaced the wrap-on leather one. It was a great achievement by Terry to get Peter to the club, and a fitting climax to his year of captaincy.

Peter Alliss spoke for about twenty minutes, without notes, and held us spellbound, without the aid of television pictures. Having spent his entire life in golf, he has a deep love for the game, its traditions and for ordinary golfers and clubs. Yes, he had rubbed shoulders with all the golfing icons and met the great and the good, all illustrated with his trademark, good humour; but it was the love of the game and his continued enthusiasm for golf, belying his seventy years, that shone through.

Assisted by Les Blake, Competition Secretary, Peter presented the prizes for the major club events. He made everyone feel special in his inimitable way and posed for commemorative photos with all of them. He autographed many books and memorabilia and seemed to enjoy the evening as much as we all did. David Walker of Painswick, installed as new Captain at the AGM afterwards, has a hard act to follow for next year's presentation evening!

Jim Hodge

Painswick First XV take the championship, but Nathan bids farewell

Painswick first fifteen completed a successful league season when they defeated Old Elizabethans in a rearranged match at Bristol by 30 points to 13, and in so doing became Gloucestershire Division 2 champions. Alastair and Nathan Bressington scored all the Painswick points.

This was Nathan's last game for the club for the foreseeable future as he has signed to play for Bristol RFC next season. The Painswick players wish Nathan every success with the his new club which is expected to be a considerable force in the Zurich Premiership next season.

Having to play two games in three days had its effect last Sunday (29th April) when Painswick, in an entertaining match, lost to Cirencester in the Stroud Senior Combination Cup. Painswick had led by 14 points to 3 early on, but eventually lost by 28 points to 17. On Sunday 22nd April, Painswick Adders were beaten by Wotton-under-Edge at Stroud in the final of the competition for third fifteens.

The Club's AGM is on Friday, 4th May and the Annual Dinner on Friday, 15th June.

Other results [{L}denotes league match]
 Sat 7 Apr. (L) Tewkesbury 1st XV 18 Painswick 1st XV 22. Tewkesbury 2nd XV 0 Painswick Utd 9.
 Sat 14 Apr. (L) Bristol Telephones 1st XV 20 Painswick 1st XV 29.
 Sat 21 Apr. Stroud Nomads 12 Painswick 1st XV 33.

Cricketers' wipe-out

Painswick 1st XI opened the league season at Churchdown last Saturday (28th April), and scored 138 for 8 to which the home side responded with a total of 137 for the loss of one wicket. The players will be keen to put this defeat behind them as next Sunday they are away to Dumbleton in the first round of the Village Club Championship.

Dumbleton is famous for its ground's attractive setting and the team would welcome support from Painswickians. The match starts at 2.30pm. The league programme continues next Saturday with the first eleven at home to Ruardean Hill and the seconds away in the corresponding fixture.


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Easter competitors: Back row, left to right: Katie Holland, Edward Andrew, Harry Waller and Richard Goddard. Front row, left to right: Andrew Green, Tom Mahendran, Joe Hobbins, Sam Horder, Lucy Moir, David Treglown, James Barnett, William Unwin, Michael Goddard and Jack Reed.

Impressive performances from the juniors

On an unusually dry and sunny day on 18th April, these 14 juniors took part in Painswick Tennis Club's Easter tournament. Each played six matches in their group and the top four from each group went on to the next round. The standard of tennis from the juniors was most impressive, and many games were very close. The winner

was Harry Waller, with James Barnett second, Lucy Moir third and Edward Andrew placed fourth. There were Easter eggs for all competitors who, along with the spectators, had an enjoyable morning.

Things look very promising for junior tennis in Painswick with this sort of standard being shown.

Cakes, preserves and books wanted for Christian Aid Week shop

Christian Aid Week runs from 13th May to 19th May, starting with Sunday Service at St Mary's Church at 6.15pm. The preacher will be Tim Mould, a Christian Aid staff member.

The Christian Aid shop, as usual in Christ Church Hall, Gloucester Street, is open from 10am to 4.30pm, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, and from 10am to noon on Saturday. Coffee available daily. Items for the various stalls can be delivered on Tuesday afternoon and evening.

There will be no bric-a-brac stall this year, but please give generously to the Quality Goods stall, minimum value of £4 - a new venture this year. Goods are needed for the garden shop, book stall, cakes and preserves. Any enquiries to the Rev. Peter Minall, 813730.

On Wednesday, 16th May, Thursday and Friday, everyone is invited to share lunch at Christ Church Hall from noon onwards. If you have been in the past, please tell your friends what they missed, and if you can contribute by assisting or baking, please get in touch with Jean Newell on 812083.

Letters to the Editor

New trustees sought

Are you a newly-retired person with business management skills, and perhaps experience of caring for others?

Stroud and District Crossroads, Caring for Carers, is a national charity that specialises in giving short breaks to carers who look after a relative or friend, in order that they can get a well-earned break from their caring role. We do this by providing trained staff who take on the role

of carer in their absence in the client's home. We are looking for new trustees to join our management committee on a voluntary basis.

We meet monthly at our office at Bond's Mill, Stonehouse and occasionally at training sessions in Bristol with other Crossroads schemes from the South West division.

If you are interested in joining a worthwhile charity that is growing to meet increasing needs, please contact either Lorraine Easdown on 01453 822822 during office hours, or Audrey Timpson on 812296.

Audrey Timpson, Edge Road

Deeply grateful

All who knew my brother, Walter, marvelled at his courageous struggle back home to 'Mantle' after the shattering stroke he suffered in America almost two years ago. During that time, Hazel, I and the family in general have got to know Painswick and many of its inhabitants very well. It's almost a second home for Hazel and

me. Our real home being in distant Dorset, we found it impossible to do all that we should have liked to have done for Walter while he was so poorly. However, the wonderful care and attention he received from the Cheltenham and Gloucester hospitals and the Social Services worked wonders for him. The tremendous support of Painswick friends, and others far and wide, lifted his spirits further and helped him to laugh in the most difficult situations. Our hearts go out in deepest gratitude to all who visited Walter and kept him supplied with the little comforts and necessities of life, and reassured him by looking after his home and his affairs.

What great friendship Walter was blessed with! I extend sincere appreciation - for the family as well - to everyone who cared for him and, lastly, who joined in the uplifting valedictory service.

I am sure that Walter's "pleasant voices" will speak to many of us for some time yet.

Tony Goodman

Tribute on Page 19

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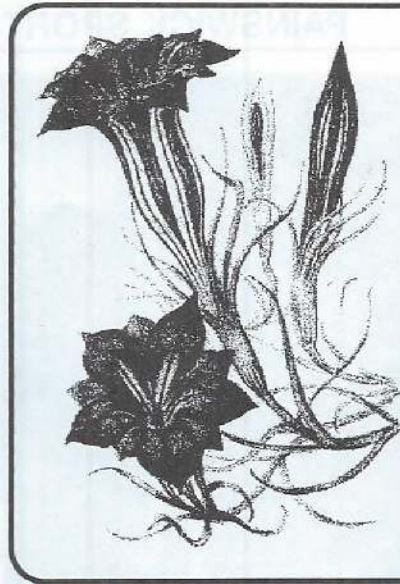
John Rhodes
 812709

Marathon runners for Mencap Homes and WhizzKidz

Running in the London Marathon on 22nd April were two young women who raised money locally for charities. Angie Sadler from Tewkesbury, daughter-in-law of Marion and Peter Sadler of Kingsmead, finished in a personal best time of 3hours, 12mins, running in aid of Stroud and District Mencap Homes Foundation. Marion is presently chair of the Homes Foundation and she would like to thank everyone in Painswick who sponsored Angie, whose efforts ranked her the 126th lady to finish.

Not far behind was Tabby Puzey, daughter of Diana Feilden of Hambutts Mead. Tabby lives in Scotland, where her training in the Scottish hills obviously paid off; she was running on behalf of Whizz-Kidz and would like to tell the people in Painswick who sponsored her that their generosity and that of others raised £900,000 in all for the Whizz-Kidz charity. This will provide 350 delighted children with wheelchairs.

Diana would like to thank everyone in Painswick who supported Tabby to the tune of about £300.



Drawing at the Rococo

During the Autumn, Painswick Rococo Garden will be hosting three one-day botanical art workshops in The Orangery for beginners. These classes will be run by the local botanical artist and teacher, Sally Birch. Sally will be looking at the plants of the season in the Garden.

The day will begin at 10am and run through till 3pm. The cost is £15 per day. A packed lunch can be brought or The Coach House restaurant will also be available. The dates are 13th and 27th September and 11th October. If popular, it is hoped to extend these workshops all year round, which means there would be one for the snowdrops!

Left: An example of Sally's work, Angel's Trumpet

Painswick power

In a huge shake-out at Stroud District Council, both of Painswick's Tory district councillors, John Stephenson-Oliver and Barbara Tait, have won positions of influence. John became Leader of the Council, and Barbara Deputy Leader.

The "Rainbow Alliance" of Labour, Liberal Democrat and Green lost a budget confidence vote, and control shifted to the Tories, with Liberal Democrat support.

Loads of entertainment at Pitchcombe Open Day

Pitchcombe Village Hall Open Day will be on Saturday, 2nd June, from 10am onwards. There are events throughout the day and evening, and refreshments. Parking for the Open Gardens and Plant Sale. The day will provide an opportunity for people looking for a new venue for events, receptions, classes, community activities, clubs and societies. If that's you, please contact Stephen Rowley on 01453 763181.

In the evening, starting at 7.30pm, there will be the Songs and Poetry of Gloucestershire, performed by Puzzle Jug. Poems by Laurie Lee, Ivor Gurney and others, with traditional folk songs collected and made popular by Vaughan Williams and Percy Grainger. An evening of entertainment for all ages. Admission is free. Details also from Steve Rowley.

Memories of a Painswick boyhood

Readers of the Beacon might remember that, some while ago, we featured some reminiscences of Stanley Lionel Hanks, who was born in Painswick in 1913. He was the youngest of a family of nine and his father was the local carrier, with a stable in Gloucester Road (the building which became the old Health Centre).

The children went to local schools and spent their holidays roaming the countryside, with a four-wheeled trolley they had built with old pram wheels and wood from the local tip. They also played tracking games on Painswick Beacon, and used golf clubs and balls they found in the woods and quarries to 'play a few holes' on the golf course.

The family's landlord was Sir Francis Hyett of Painswick House, and the children were free to roam his farms, allotment and the Rococo Gardens (which were less well known at that time). Stanley

was in the Painswick Boy Scouts for some years - and he and his friends also joined the Young Britains. This organisation appealed to children because leaders took them to sporting events in their cars - and car rides were still a novelty then.

All the family attended the Congregational Church in Gloucester Road (now the Christ United Reform Church). As a teenager, Stanley, reluctantly, led a Sunday-school class there.

Stanley has recently drawn together all his memories of Painswick with the publication of a small book, complete with photographs. This has been made possible by the co-operation of the Fair Shares scheme which, like the LETS, works through exchange of skills, rather than money. Stanley has been a member for some time. Among other things, he has given lifts to people and has helped others with shopping. This has earned him credits that he has used to pay for the production of the booklet. His only cash outlay was for materials that did, of course, have to be bought.

Although only a few copies have been produced so far, it would be possible to print others if there were enough interest. If anybody wants to ask about this, or to find out more about the Fair Shares scheme, they should contact Joy on 541337.

Philippa Roberts

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Fred goes back to Gyde House for the new homes launch

Last month, when Wainhomes launched their development of 19 new homes at Gyde House, it was fitting that one of Gyde's "old boys," Fred Semark, was chief guest.

Fred spent much of his childhood there before going into the Royal Air Force as an apprentice just before the last war, and of course he has been a Gyde House trustee for a number of years. He and his wife, Flora, came to live in Painswick when he retired from the electronics research company he started when he left the RAF.

Fred, one of eight children whom his mother was trying to care for after his father died, first came to Gyde House when he was seven. "There were 40 or 50 children here, half boys and half girls. We were looked after well, at a time when there was great poverty. It was very tough being parted from my mother, but I got to see her once a year. Kids are very durable."

As a trustee, Fred helped through the sale of Gyde House for development. "The



Gyde Trust has benefited from the sale, and that money is invested to secure the Trust's objectives to help blind, deaf and dumb children, and those deprived of a home life. The house is being well restored, but it's a different sort of place now," added Fred.

Celebrating the launch with champagne, Fred is seen above with Jane Bovey of Hamptons International, the selling agents, and Wainhomes sales director, Daniel McGowan.

Victorian Street Market

will be on Saturday, 14th July. Hopefully the weather will smile on us this year (it's about time). There are loads of stalls, a steam engine and, hopefully, lots of villagers dressed in Victorian dress.

Come on, give it a try, it's fun. There will be a fancy dress competition for children and goodies to buy. If you would like to help with organising, or to hire a stall, please contact Beverley Gorton 812716 or Sylvia Marden 812459.

PROPERTY REPORT FOR APRIL - this month from Murray's Painswick agency

This year has made a steady start, and although overall all our offices are experiencing an increase in turnover, we lack the sparkle of excitement that we remember from early last year. Not surprising really, considering the falling financial markets, a general election around the corner and all those sadly affected by the terrible foot and mouth outbreak, not to mention the weather.

However, interest rates are falling and wise people are moving their money to the safer havens of property-related investments. This should make mortgages cheaper and easier to obtain, and with a fair wind and a few days of much needed sunshine, we anticipate that that all-important confidence will return. Pains-

wick, of course, is the exception to all these rules: Demand continues to outstrip supply, and we have dozens of buyers waiting for the right properties to come on to the market. Recent activity has kept us busy with new instructions, including an excellent bungalow in Pullens Road, a modern four-bedroomed house in Brookthorpe, a substantial house on Kingsmill Lane with an acre, a three-bed period cottage in Sheepscombe, and a Cotswold house with stables and five acres overlooking the Slad Valley which went under offer within days. Latest sales include a large new house at Edge, three stone cottages in Vicarage Street, Victoria Street and one in Slad, with contracts exchanged on a large Cotswold house for

improvement also in the Slad Valley, not forgetting No 1 Prospect Cottages in Tibbiwell Gardens, a small terraced cottage with a great views that we sold successfully in a well-attended auction at The Falcon at well above the reserve price. This was one of the first auctions in Painswick for many years and something we hope to repeat more often.

We have had four completions in the last few weeks, a bungalow at Pitchcombe, a large Victorian house between Edge and Whiteshill, Horseshoe Cottage at Tibbiwell, and a delightful cottage at Sheepscombe, bought by a couple who got engaged here, loved it so much that they have come here to live, and will be married in Painswick this summer.

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Cobblers, snake-charmers and poverty

One afternoon in April, Painswick W.I. members enjoyed a quick trip to India, when Mr Peter Berry from Hucclecote came to tell us about his visit to the roof of the world. Peter, a self-confessed railway enthusiast, admits to being barmy about steam trains. "I've never grown up," he says, mentioning that he has photographed trains in France, the U.S.A., Africa and China, as well as in India, meanwhile paying tribute to an understanding wife.

Having travelled from Gloucester to the Himalayas by air and bus, he was immediately impressed by the tremendous width of the River Ganges. The slides we saw showed men in flip-flop shoes, working among grit and rubble on a building site on the road to Darjeeling. In fact, all were leaning on their shovels. Meanwhile, women carried wet concrete on boards, balanced on their heads, up ladders to the tops of buildings.

The narrow, single-track railway, built 120 years ago by the British for tea and military supplies, wound along beside the

A trip around India by rail for Painswick W.I.

rough road, in and out, close to the edge of the precipitous mountainside. Trains are hauled by tank engines built in Glasgow. "Go by train to see the real country," said Peter. The road was cluttered with people and vehicles - full of fumes as well. "They don't keep to the left or right they just go," he said. Meanwhile a group of goats were taking an afternoon nap between the railway lines.

All the water needed for Darjeeling (7,000 feet up) has to be carried, while the drains are simply open trenches with everything running downhill. Fruit and vegetables were on sale in the market, a snake charmer squatting nearby. A row of cobblers sat in line, waiting to repair one's shoes. Bolts of dress fabric in every conceivable shade were on offer, as were

meat and fish, "Flies everywhere," remembered Peter. Wherever he travels abroad, he carries a supply of 25 Mars bars, just in case he doesn't fancy the local rations.

At the start of our meeting, Barbara Thorley had played 'Jerusalem' in her usual lively way, then mentioned that, in case there was ever no one present to play the piano, we now have a tape of 'Jerusalem'. "So you won't escape," she said quietly. Yes, Madam President!

Bulb orders for next season need to be in by the beginning of June. There is a trip to Althorp Park on Monday, 30th July and one to see The Mousetrap, at St Martin's Theatre, London on Saturday, 29th September.

Jane Otway gave a lively report of her delegate visit to the County Annual Council Meeting in Cheltenham Town Hall, ending with a poem about W.I. membership. The last line ran: "Are you an active member, or do you just belong?"

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In March, Stroud District Council invited members of W.I.s to help to clean up the Cotswolds. Two members of Painswick W.I. volunteered, and on Monday 9th April, Shirley Purdy and Jane Otway, seen above with their husbands, Dick and Francis, and two grandchildren, Simon and Jonathan Curtis, cleared the verges alongside the A46 between the car park and Broadham.

Six black bags were filled, mostly with plastic and glass bottles, cans, fast food throwaway packaging, cigarette and crisp packets and other paper items. They also collected a car exhaust pipe and silencer, a wheel, wind shield and wipers and other car components, plus two broken traffic cones and a plastic Kennedy barrier.

Within three days, 14 new items had appeared and were retrieved, probably discarded by car drivers. It is good, say

members, that the Parish Council have entered the village for the Bledisloe Trophy this year. But the appearance of the south approach to the village is marred by the scruffy surrounds at the entrance to the Broadham sports field. Perhaps sports club members could take a leaf from W.I.'s book and tidy up their bit now that the A46 verges has been cleared.

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A man of many parts stranded on a desert island

Anne Smith's local celebrity guest on Thursday, 29th March for this season's Desert Island Discs was the man who made such a major contribution to The Painswick Beacon: Alan Bamber.

Members of the Music Appreciation Society were treated to a fascinating kaleidoscope of his life so far – evangelical Sunday School which began a church association that stayed with him throughout; practising musician, from early piano lessons to spare time organist; sports fan, living in Edmonton meant Spurs; accomplished bridge player; Russian linguist and folk song expert; maths at Oxford; computer qualification, teaching and consultancy.

And much else, all illustrated with 16 recordings of mostly operatic and Baroque music. His favourite: *Così fan tutte* duet; his desert island wishes: bridge book by Andrew Kambites, local expert; and a copy of *The Guardian*, a cup of coffee and pecan Danish pastry flown in daily by helicopter. A splendid evening.

And so to a light-hearted season's ending; 'Finale, Members' Choice on Thursday, 12th April. Fourteen recordings spanned the range of our musical interests, mostly, but by no means all, classical although personal voting pointed that way, led by Schubert's String Quartet, Saint-Saens' Organ Symphony and Mendelssohn's Piano Concerto.

Honourable mention goes to Harry Belafonte and the spoof revivalist sermon, *In the Book*, by Johnny Standley, which brought the house down.

Next season's Opening Night will be on Thursday, 13th September – unless the date is changed – so watch this space.

Ralph Kenber

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Any budding Buddhas out there?

"Let's get this straight. You are really asking us to build a three-storey apartment... in the Painswick Centre?"

I'm taking time out from rehearsals for our next production (Peter Shaffer's *Black Comedy*, 5th, 6th and 7th July) to hold a first technical meeting. Our dynamic team of techies (Jacek Wolowiec, Russ Herbert and Tony Gibson) is bubbling with enthusiasm and Russ is expressing the team's whole-hearted support for my dramatic vision. With a certain directorial authority, I rise to my full height and stare him straight in the navel.

"Certainly! The script calls for a South Kensington basement flat with a sculptor's studio, a bedroom upstairs and a cellar below."

Tony, who is a master of detail, looks thoughtful.

"Mmm... South Kensington... Could be tricky. We'll have to watch out for the Circle Line when we're excavating the cellar. And the District Line. And the Piccadilly Line..."

All murmur in agreement. I sometimes think Tony should get out more.

An intricate and lengthy civil engineering discussion ensues about JCBs, RSJs, earth movers and other erotica. I seem to be losing control of the meeting. I decide to change the subject.

"Let's talk about the lighting."

The eyes of Jacek, our lighting techie, light up...

"The unique thing about *Black Comedy*," I explain, "is that - because of a blown fuse - all the action is in the dark ..."

...and then grow dim again.

"Then, let's fix the fuse! And then we can have the lights on. And then everyone can see," he interjects, with the dogged logic with which techies are so liberally endowed.

"We could issue the whole audience with night-vision goggles," muses Russ, as another obfuscating technical discussion threatens to emerge.

I try to shed some more light (as it were): "The whole point of *Black Comedy* is that light and dark are reversed. Whilst the audience watches the play in the light, everyone on stage is acting as if in complete and blinding darkness. It's a riotous comedy of errors and confusion with everyone in the dark."

"No change there, then," mutters Tony, still pondering on the spatial constraints posed by the London Underground system.

I decide that it's probably safer to leave them to it and return to the rehearsal, which has continued in my absence under

the control of co-director Lesley Wolowiec. They have just reached the very tricky point where Brindsley, a penniless sculptor, is trying to return a suite of antique furniture and a fabulously valuable Buddha (all of which he has 'borrowed' from a neighbour to impress his potential father-in-law and a millionaire collector) under the cover of darkness and under the nose of the hapless neighbour.

Slightly to my surprise, Lesley seems to have everything under control, the whole cast seems to be word perfect and the performances worthy of the West End.

Rather than interfere, I concentrate on the more important strategic issues involved with putting on a play. Like, for example, making the coffee. And finding the fabulously valuable Buddha that plays such a critical role in *Black Comedy*.

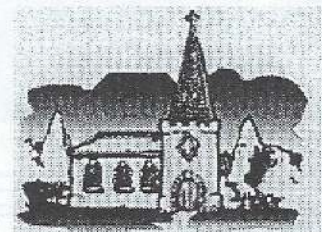
Until a couple of months ago, I was in negotiation with some terribly nice Taliban chaps in Afghanistan who said they had a good-sized Buddha surplus to requirements. However, owing to an unfortunate spot of mistranslation, they seem now to have blown it up. So, I wonder, is there a Beacon reader out there with a Buddha to spare? If so, please give me a call on 812167.

Finally. A reminder. On 31st May, 1st and 2nd June, Gill Cox is directing an adaptation of George Eliot's *Silas Marner* in Cranham Village Hall. Call Gill on 814367 to be sure of a ticket.

Jack Burgess

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Emma and piano duet delight audiences

The second concert of the Painswick season was given to a capacity audience by the distinguished clarinettist, Emma Johnson, making her third visit to St Mary's Church, with accompanist John Lenehan, for a concert of music, ranging from classical to Benny Goodman.

She opened with what she called a "byway of the repertoire" – Beethoven's variations on *La ci darem la mano* from Mozart's *Don Giovanni*, originally written for two oboes and cor anglais, and later rearranged for clarinet and piano. A nice way to whet our appetites.

The substantial Brahms sonata in E minor gave Miss Johnson the chance to show just what can be done when the clarinet is played by a real virtuoso. Dynamics from just-audible pianissimi to church-filling fortes were an eye-opening experience and the wild abandon of her last movement was amazing. Just how do you get such a range of tone, dynamics and moods from such a small instrument?

After the interval came Poulenc's sonata, originally premiered by Benny Goodman. Its bright introduction, followed by some haunting cantabile

Painswick Music Society reviews by John Parfitt

passages, were beautifully done, with the last con fuoco movement given a full jazzy treatment with terrific support from John Lenehan's piano.

Oliver Messiaen made his appearance with his moving *L'abime des oiseaux* (The Abyss of Birds) from his Quartet for the End of Time for unaccompanied clarinet, written while he was a prisoner-of-war in 1941.

Then came Rachmaninov's short and tuneful *Vocalise*, followed by not just one lollipop but a whole box with Giamperi's variations on *Il Carnevale de Venezia*. A great fun piece to end with – although we wouldn't let them go without a Benny Goodman style encore to end a great afternoon.

THE YOUNG pianists, Philip Moore and Simon Crawford-Phillips, came to St Mary's on Saturday, 21st April for the third concert of the season – its first for piano duo – and a very entertaining one too. Helped along with interesting introductions by the performers themselves.

The first item was an old favourite to many: Debussy's impressionist *Prelude a l'apres-midi d'une faune* with its famous

liquid opening passages in Ravel's piano duo transcription. That got us in a good mood for Mozart's C major sonata, full of entertaining little puzzles of the 'where else have I heard that tune' sort. A couple of nicely done performances that only gave us a foretaste of the astonishing second half to come.

This started with another conventional work, the Schubert rondo in A. They gave this a nice thick texture, successfully recalling the orchestral sound which the composer was aiming for. Clearly well at home with it, the duo really made it sing. Then came Debussy's *Epigraphes Antiques*, a set of musical pictures based on antique legends, also very fluently done with the images of this programme music – really wild in places – coming over very well. Then followed the final tour de force, Stravinsky's *Trois mouvements de Petrouchka*. This is a technically demanding three-movement virtuoso piece on an heroically grand scale, and we heard the performance open-mouthed. Vigorously, with great fluency and extraordinary dynamics, the two young pianists gave us an unforgettable performance, which alone was worth the ticket price. You can see why they win prizes.

The final concert of the season will bring the Haffner Wind Ensemble on Saturday, 5th May. On form, make the trip.

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Youth club urgently needs trainer

Painswick Youth Club welcomes Chris Garrett as a new helper. The club has taken on many new members, with most nights around 20 young people attending. Some of the youngsters have shown a good deal of interest in fitness training. Would anybody be able to provide an hour on Wednesday evenings to help the boys with a fitness programme?

A big thank you is due to Somers-set Moore for his donation of a darts board. The interior of the youth club has had a

good tidying up this spring and now there is a need for some more tables. Has anyone got a table they might be able to donate to the club? If so, please contact Jenny Broadbank on 611072.

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held in the Town Hall on Wednesday, 23rd May at 7.30pm. Everyone is welcome.



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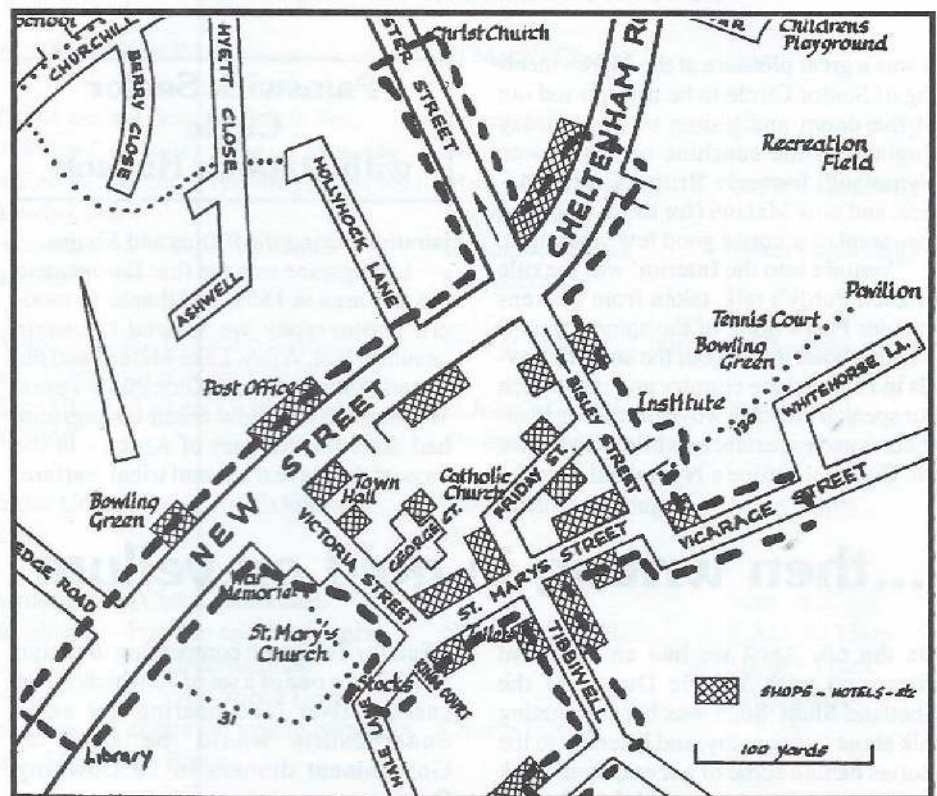
Adding a touch of beauty for 2001

Make the village look really beautiful this year! It is time to plan summer flower displays. Painswick Horticultural Society is running the Painswick in Bloom competition, so why not have a go at planting up a hanging basket or container. The Society's aim for Painswick in Bloom is to encourage residents and businesses in the village centre to grow flowers and plants, and to reward their efforts.

Flowers will enhance the village centre and give pleasure to all those who live and work in Painswick as well as to visitors. Your involvement could also assist in improving Painswick's chances in the Bledisloe Cup Best Kept Village competition. Good overall planning with regard to height, shape and colour is important. Success with container planting usually results from good feeding (if possible with long-lasting fertilizer when planting) and consistent watering. Keep removing dead flowers and any weeds to ensure they look good throughout the season.

The Competition

- * The competition covers all plantings in containers in the centre of the village that can be viewed closely from the road or footpath. These may be tubs, window boxes and hanging baskets.
- * Only the area of the village within the dotted line on the map shown is judged. There is no entry form or fee and the competition is open to everyone within this area.



Judging will be in the area within the dotted lines shown above

- * The judge is chosen by the Society. This year it will be Mrs Jenny Bailey from Stroud, who was instrumental in setting up Stroud in Bloom.
- * There is one class for Residents and one for Businesses, with one winner in each class.

- * Judging takes place in late July/early August. A PHS committee member will accompany the judge.
- * The winners in each class will be presented with the Society's silver trophy at the Horticultural Society Show held on Saturday, 8th September. The committee have agreed that no winner will be awarded first place in two consecutive years.
- * The winners and those commended, together with the judge's comments, will be announced in the October issue of the Painswick Beacon.

Naomi Dunn

Watch the birdie!



Well, that's exactly what members of Painswick Bird Club did at their evening meeting on 24th April. Our speaker was Chris Sperring MBE who gave the most interesting and enlightening talk on the various owls, both resident and visiting. His warmth and enthusiasm for his subject were infectious, with the right level of humour to captivate his audience.

The high spot of the meeting was when he introduced us to a beautiful barn owl called Cockney. The bird was well-be-

haved (apart from one small natural happening), and when the speaker started to talk about the lovely wing feathers, it was almost as if he had pressed a button, for the bird slowly and fully opened and displayed the wing facing the audience.

I, for one, learned so much about the subject that I would like to share with readers, but I'm sure the Beacon would not allow me so much space.

There were two main messages that came from Chris. Well, they were the same really: Don't mess with nature. The first was, if you see a wounded owl do not take it to a sanctuary, for they are full of them, and some are put down because of the numbers. Place it in a hedge tree nearby where Mum and Dad will take the necessary care. The second is a plea for more natural grassland which leads to more voles for food.

Interested? Might we then see you at future meetings?

Harold Wood

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Policeman and his prisoner on a bike...

It was a great pleasure at the March meeting of Senior Circle to be transported out of the doom and gloom of present-day England to the sunshine of Africa - to Nyasaland, formerly British Central Africa, and now Malawi (for those who, like me, went to school a good few years ago).

'Venture into the Interior' was the title of Dick Purdy's talk, taken from Laurens van der Post's book of the same name. It was this book that set out the author's travels in Livingstone country and into which our speaker cleverly wove his personal anecdotes and experiences while working for the Colonial Office's Nyasaland Admin-

Painswick Senior Circle with Daphne Hudson

istration during the Fifties and Sixties.

Livingstone was the first European to see this area in 1859, and thanks to modern photography we viewed the same beautiful Rift Valley, Lake Malawi and the Shearing River through Dick Purdy's eyes. We learned, too, how much Livingstone had done for that part of Africa - in the days of the slave trade and tribal warfare,

and how much British rule achieved there through education and medicine before Malawi became independent.

On a lighter note, I like the story of the native policeman in his red pillbox hat who cycled 40 miles to collect a prisoner on the back of his bike; and how, from the list of those who had not paid their taxes, the builder's stint of community service became a means of building better roads and houses for the locals. That's an idea that might well be tried out here today.

Here in Painswick, there are quite a number of people who spent their working lives in Colonial Africa, and they have fascinating tales to tell. Clearly, Africa took hold of them and is still very much a part of them. A most enjoyable afternoon, and a book to read too!

...then writing in gold on vellum

On the 6th April we had an excellent afternoon with Valerie Dugan of the Shetland Shop. Such was her fascinating talk about Calligraphy, and listening to the stories behind some of her exquisite work she brought for us to see, I found more than half the afternoon had gone before I remembered I was supposed to be taking notes for my Beacon effort!

Here is a very talented woman, possessed with incredible patience, producing art work from gold to coloured pencil on vellum and card, and obviously gaining real pleasure at the same time. Some of this is available for those of us who want that extra special occasion card, but Valerie also exhibits and wins awards. Her proudest moment was as a winner of

a Sunday Telegraph competition to design a plate to be one of a set of 72 which, when cast in silver (and bearing her name underneath), would be used at Government dinners in 10 Downing Street.

Her winning entry, the Lord's Prayer, gained her a Gold Medal and was on show at the Goldsmiths' Hall, London in 1993. Valerie has since produced a replica, hand-painted in blue on a bone china plate, so that those of us unlikely to be invited to such a grand occasion may see it for ourselves.

But I think I liked best of all her delicate alphabetical painting with appropriate intertwining flowers, beautifully framed by her husband, Paul. And then a Clock, complete with mouse to delight a child - or maybe her delightfully illuminated V in red and blue and gilded on vellum.

She must have been a gifted child, winning a scholarship to an art school at 13, and knowing at that young age what she wanted to follow as a career.

She pays tribute to her headmaster who, on retirement, proceeded to write the Bible in the fashion of the Scribes, but recalled for us that she had to begin her career, not in gilded fashion, but mixing paints for Aspro packets!

She has come far since those days and as a member of the Cotswold Craftsmen, she exhibits at many local shows. The Three Counties Show at Malvern has sadly been cancelled.

However, the Craftsmen's Spring Gardening Show at Malvern is still planned for May, their Annual Show at Southam Tithe Barn for September, and the Autumn Garden Show at Malvern where, at all three, more of Valerie's work will be on view.

Rococo update

"What is happening to the statue of Pan?" That was one of the questions asked by members at the April meeting of the Painswick Horticultural Society of Paul Moir, General Manager of the Rococo Garden. Paul was invited to give members an update on the history and current events at the garden. We were treated to an informative talk, comparing original drawings with restorations, the Maze, Orangery and wedding arrangements.

He also explained his new interpretation of the meaning of Rococo. Members were left in no doubt that we have a gem in our midst, that is constantly developing. The next meeting is Wednesday, 9th May. Annual General Meeting and talk on Cacti and succulents.

Stan Miles



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VILLAGE DIARY to SATURDAY, 2nd JUNE AND FORWARD DATES FOR 2001

May			
Sat 5th	Painswick Music Society Concert: The Haffner Wind Ensemble of London Open Garden in Sheepscombe: Home made cakes; Coffee & Tea; Plants for sale. Adults £2, Children free (No dogs) Also on Sun. 6th History Exhibition: Sheepscombe Past & Present. Free entry, donations to Village Hall Fund. Also on Monday 7th Flower Festival: Entrance free - donations to Village Hall Fund Also on Sunday 6th and Monday 7th	St Mary's Church Trench Hill Sheepscombe Methodist Chapel Sheepscombe St. John's Church Sheepscombe	3pm 10am - 4pm daily 10am - 4pm daily 10am - 4pm daily
6th	Historical Sheepscombe Village Walk: Guide - Elisabeth Skinner: Dogs on leads. Teas at village hall. Donations to Village Hall Fund Musical Medley by Cranham Village Choir. Tickets £5 to include Nibbles and glass of wine. Tel: 813360	Start at St John's Church St John's Church Sheepscombe	2.30 - 4pm 7.30pm
7th	Traditional May Day: Raffle; Skittles Competition; Art Exhibition; Stalls and much more. Teas/Lunches	Sheepscombe Village Hall	11am - 3pm
8th	Horticultural Society Outing to Forde Abbey, Chard, Somerset Painswick Dog Training Club (Tuesdays) - Puppies and Beginners Intermediate Advanced Dogs Mothers' Union: The Work of The Door - A centre for young people in Stroud, organised by the churches - Mrs Diane Rowe	Christ Church Hall Church Rooms	9am - 6.30pm 9.30 - 10.15am 10.15 - 11am 11 - 12 noon 2.30pm
9th	Coffee Morning with Cake Stall & Raffle in aid of Painswick Centre Hosts: Senior Circle Conversational French Classes (Advanced) - Wednesdays Conversational Italian Classes (Intermediate) - Wednesdays Horticultural Society AGM: Talk on Cacti & Succulents - Mrs A Robson Wives' Fellowship: On a Wing and a Prayer - Pat Harris	Town Hall Library Room " " Town Hall Christ Church Hall	10am - 12noon 9.30 - 11am 11.30am - 1pm 7.30pm 8pm
11th	W.I. Market: Fridays	Town Hall	10am
13th	Painswick Bird Club: Harold Wood - The Birds of Kingsmill Lane Christian Aid Service: Speaker - Tim Mould from Christian Aid HQ	Starting from Kings Mill St Mary's Church	8.30 - 10.30am 6.15pm
15th	Goods accepted for Christian Aid Shop (No bric-a-brac) Local History Society: Annual Outing Jazz Evening: Local Musicians, no entry charge	Christ Church Hall Ostlers Room, Falcon	1.30 - 5pm 8.30pm
16th	Christian Aid Shop including Garden Shop, Cakes, Preserves, Toiletries, Books and a Quality Stall. Lunches/refreshments. (until Sat 19th) Senior Circle Outing to Moreton-in-Marsh Candle Factory; also Tea with Loughborough W.I. Parish Council Meeting	Christ Church Hall The Falcon Town Hall	10am - 4.30pm 10am - noon Sat. 1.30pm 7.30pm
17th	W.I. Resolutions Meeting Theatre Club Outing to Malvern	Town Hall The Falcon	2.30pm 6.30pm
18th	Senior Circle: Kauai, An Hawaiian Idyll - Janet Jenkins	Town Hall	2.30pm
Sat 19th	Horticultural Society: Chairman's Spring Social Event to Hodges Barn, The Chipping Croft and Cherrington, Glos		3pm depart 10.15pm return
20th	COPY DATE: All items to Mrs Jillie Speed, The Old Carriage House, Edge, or Beacon Mailbox in New Street		

23rd	Ashwell House Residents & Day Centre Coffee Morning with GIANT Raffle & BUMPER Cake Stall to support Rachael & Jackie on their Sponsored climb Annual Parish Meeting Wives' Fellowship Open Meeting: Speaker John Holland, Rapid UK All Welcome.	Ashwell House Lounge Town Hall Christ Church Hall	10am 7.30pm 7.30pm
24th	DIARY DEADLINE: All items to Mrs Edwina Buttrey, 14 The Croft, or Beacon Mailbox in New Street		
Sat 26th	Art Exhibition - Lillian Hoskins (Until 3 June)	Town Hall	Daily
June			
1st	Senior Circle: The Art & Architecture of the Cheltenham Public Schools - Peter Clarkson	Town Hall	2.30pm
Sat 2nd	JUNE ISSUE OF THE PAINSWICK BEACON PUBLISHED Pitchcombe Village Open Day		10am onwards
6th	Horticultural Society Outing: Coughton Court, Alcester, Worcs. (NT)		10.30am depart
16th	Unveiling of Supporters' Wall	Painswick Centre	5.30pm
Sat 23rd	Theatre Club Outing to Bath	The Falcon	12.30pm
27th	Horticultural Society Outing: Hatfield House, Hatfield, Herts		9am depart
28th	Art Exhibition - Joyce Bell & Mary Hosler (Until 1 July)	Town Hall	Daily
July			
5/6/7th	Painswick Players Production: "Black Comedy" by Peter Shaffer Tickets: Shetland Shop/Post Office or 812167	Painswick Centre	8pm daily 2.30p Sat. Matinee
14th	Victorian Street Market		
21st	Theatre Club Outing to Cheltenham	The Falcon	1.30pm
26th	Horticultural Society Outing: Snowhill Manor, Broadway, Worcs. (NT)		12 noon depart
27th	Art Exhibition - Robert Ball (Until 5 August)	Town Hall	Daily
30th	Painswick W.I.-Trip to Althorp Park		
August			
6th	Art Exhibition - Mary Bingle (Until 12 August)	Town Hall	Daily
Sat 11th	Charity Coffee Morning: Bring & Buy, Cakes, and etc	Town Hall	10am - 12 noon
15th	Horticultural Society Outing: RHS Garden, Rosemoor, Grt. Torrington, Devon		8.30am depart 7pm return
September			
Sat 8th	Horticultural Society Annual Show & Exhibition	Painswick Centre	3 - 5pm
28th/29th	"At Last!!! The Millennium Review" - Painswick Players	Painswick Centre	8pm daily
November			
Sat 10th	Charity Coffee Morning: Bring & Buy, Cakes, etc	Town Hall	10am - 12 noon
Sat 17th	Woollen Sale	Town Hall	
29th/30th & 1st Dec	Farcical Christmas Production by Painswick Players - to be announced	Painswick Centre	Daily



Tribute to Walter aka 'Benny'



Walter Goodman, musician and academic, as many will remember him

The death of Walter Goodman came after a courageous struggle against the effects of a severe stroke whilst on holiday in America in 1999. He had managed to return to his home and live there for a few months before going back into hospital following a fall. It also brought back for many memories of his 26 years as Organist at the parish church, golden years of music-making at St Mary's.

Born into a devout Methodist family in Caerphilly, he enjoyed a happy and carefree childhood. Life revolved around the chapel and its many activities. At the age of about twelve, he "discovered" the organ, and within a short while became the chapel organist. (At one time the choir included ten members of his family).

Winning a music scholarship to University College, Cardiff, he achieved his BMus, ARCO and LRAM. Wartime service in the army prevented him from taking his Master's degree. Whilst at university he was given his first paid appointment - organist in a Roman Catholic church at £30 a year! He also met a young professional violinist, Katie, and this led to more than 50 years of devoted marriage.

Beginning his teaching career in Dursley Grammar School and St. George's, Bristol, he became Head of Music at a Birmingham Grammar School,

followed by The Crypt School, Gloucester. (He was known to generations of schoolboys as "Benny"). In retirement, he taught at Westonbirt.

Alongside his school work, he lectured for the WEA (as much as 100 lectures a year), and later for the Open University. This was in addition to the post of Organist at St Mary's, Painswick, where he ran three choirs, operating like concentric circles. There was the main church choir, then the St. Mary's Singers with up to 30 members, and within that the Small Choir, that met on Sunday mornings to sing Tudor anthems and settings of the Mass by Palestrina and Byrd. After leaving St. Mary's because of health problems, Walter played for Sunday services at Moreton Valence and Standish churches.

Not content with this mountain of music-making, Walter would be asked to write programme notes for the Three Choirs Festival. In later years, he worked voluntarily on the cataloguing of the music manuscripts in the Cathedral Library.

Unsparring in making his gifts available to others, Walter Goodman influenced and inspired the careers of numerous young people. It was appropriate that at his funeral service Dr John Sanders should have played the organ, but also that Walter's last pupil, 13-year-old Oliver Lomborg, now an Organ Scholar at Kings School, Gloucester should have played "Lamento" (Guilmard), representing those many pupils who had sat at the feet of this quiet, kindly, academic musician during the last 60 years.

Peter Minall

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BUSINESS ADVERTISERS. Following the allocation of space for the coming year, we would like to thank all our advertisers for their continuing support. We do receive a large number of enquiries, both locally and from towns nearby.

In order not to become swamped, we limit the advertising space in each issue to 20 per cent. The downside of the Beacon's popularity is that for the size currently being published we are full until September, and then have only one or two spaces left in other odd months. There is a waiting for cancellations or the possibility of larger issues that would release more advertising space.

We thought it would be useful to let readers and advertisers know the present situation.

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The Personal Column

101st Birthday

Many congratulations to BRIAN de COURCY IRELAND who celebrates his 101st birthday anniversary on 5th May.

90th Birthday

And our congratulations to BILL WEAR who will be 90 years young on 9th May.

Engagements

Congratulations to JOLYON RIDGWELL and ISABELLE BENSON of Claypole, Lincolnshire, who announced their engagement recently; also to Dr CATHERINE MORRISON and PHILIP DAVIES of Maesteg, Mid-Glamorgan, whose engagement was announced recently.

Babies

Congratulations to RUTH and TONY COOKE on the birth of their daughter, Rosemary Rebecca, on 17th April (a first grandchild for Helen and John Kilmister, and a new grandchild for Pat Bradenock and John Cooke);

also to ROSE and LAWRENCE CURTIN on the birth of their daughter, Dorothy, on 29th March (a first great grandchild for the late Robert Payne);

And to TOR and MICHAEL CASH on the birth of their son, Arthur, a brother for Sebastian.

Wedding

Congratulations to NEIL DALLEY and KIRSTY PROSSER who were married recently in Las Vegas.

All Hail

Welcome to ANTONIA KINGSLAND and MAURICE EVELYN-BUFTON who have moved into Cherry Tree Cottage, Longridge;

also to CLAUDIA and PETER WILLIAMS and their small sons, Ollie and Toby, who have come to live in Lilac Cottage, The Park, from Maidenhead; also to CARL POLLOCK who has moved into Cambrai, Cheltenham Road.

Changes of House

GREG, IRIS and ANGUS McCORMICK have moved from The Park to St Anne's, Gloucester Street; and Mr and Mrs PATRICK Le MESURIER are moving from May Cottage, Edge Road to Horse Shoe Cottage, Tibbiwell.

Condolences

Sincere sympathies to the families and friends of DODIE SUTTON and IVOR HARDWIDGE, who died recently; and to MURIEL ALDER-SMITH, who wrote to tell of the death of her husband, Brian, on 1st April. Brian and Muriel lived in Vicarage Street before moving to Otterton, Devon.

Thank You

The family of DODIE SUTTON would like to thank the many friends and neighbours for their kindness, support and comfort after Dodie's sudden death in April. Special thanks to Philip Ford, and especially David Archard for his advice and counsel, even through his own private grief. There were family flowers at the funeral, and any donations in lieu should go to the Painswick Surgery Emergency Fund.

KURT and DIANE RAVENHILL would like to thank their dear friends for the tremendous support and kindness shown following the death of Toby.

DIANA FEILDEN would like to thank everyone who supported the Whizz-Kidz coffee morning on 6th March and who gave support to her daughter, Tabby, in Scotland. More than £200 was raised for this little-known charity.

Did You Hear?

GAYE SEGURO was on BBC Radio Gloucestershire on 11th April describing the sensitive handling by MAFF and the Army of the situation when her animals had to be destroyed in the Forest of Dean.

NEXT ISSUE

Publication Date
SATURDAY 2nd JUNE

Items for publication to Jillie Speed*,
The Old Carriage House, Edge, by
SUNDAY 20th MAY

Mini Ads to Leslie Brotherton,
Longhope, Blakewell Mead, by
SUNDAY 20th MAY

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Diary items (only) to Edwina Buttrey,
14 The Croft, by
THURSDAY 24th MAY

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