

The Painswick Beacon

Vol. 24 No. 6

September 2001

Welcome to the Rev. John and his family...

The Rev. John Longuet-Higgins, the newly appointed vicar for St Mary's, will move with his family on 10th October into The Vicarage in Orchard Mead.

Last week, four members of the family, well, five if you include the dog, Dylan, spent three days at The Vicarage doing some preparatory work for the move, attending to the garden, and some painting and decorating. "That's why we are dressed like this," Diane, the vicar's wife, told the Beacon photographer when he called, pointing to their casual dress. They had, in fact, arrived only that minute, having driven from Huddersfield, where John is currently a team vicar, looking after four churches.



Outside their new home, the new vicar, with his wife, Diane, Philip and daughter, Joanna, Extreme left is Rebbekka, Joanna's friend. On Diane's knee is Dylan

John spent his childhood in Comberton, near Cambridge, studied International History and Politics at Leeds University, and worked in Leeds afterwards for Price Waterhouse, now Price WaterhouseCooper. He then read for his postgraduate diplomas in theology and in pastoral care at St John's College, Nottingham. "I still keep my interest going in international affairs," he said. His first post

was a curacy in Kidlington, near Oxford, where he spent four years before taking up his job in Huddersfield six years ago. "It's been fascinating work; not many people know it, but Huddersfield has the largest Asian Christian population in the country outside of London."

Diane is from Dewsbury, so knows their present home area well. She is a palliative care nurse, working for the Marie Curie agency, and hopes to transfer to a similar post here. "We are looking forward to living in the countryside again, especially here where it is so beautiful. And the children are looking forward to their new schools," she said. Gloucestershire won't be entirely alien territory for the family; John has a second cousin in Standish.

Certainly local schools are going to enjoy having the talented youngsters around. The oldest, Philip, is 14 in November, and already an accomplished, though very modest, cricketer. He is cricket vice-captain of his school, plays for Huddersfield, is coached at the Yorkshire cricket academy and has had trials for the county. He is a fast bowler, and also enjoys Rugby. His sister, Joanna, 10, is also an athlete, sprinter and long jumper, and a talented dancer who plays the flute and piano. Matthew, the youngest at five, is shaping up well as a runner.

The vicar's induction ceremony at St Mary's Church will be at 7.30pm on 2nd November. As well as Painswick, he will have charge of Sheepscombe and Cranham, with the planned addition of Edge, Pitchcombe and Harescombe.

...and goodbye to Dr Roddy

Dr Roddy Jaques will be leaving the Painswick Surgery at the end of September to pursue his career in sports medicine. Dr Rhys Evans, from Cheltenham, will join the surgery staff at the beginning of October. He trained and has worked in South Africa, and his specialist interests are family health and minor surgery.

Dr Jaques told the Beacon last week: "Some readers will already be aware that I am leaving the surgery from 1st October. It will be exactly 12 years to the day since I joined Jim Hoyland, Jenny Chapman and Candy Jansen in the old surgery in Gloucester Street. The child of the first expectant mother for whom I cared is now going on to secondary school, so I leave with a few more grey hairs than when I arrived.

"Many patients have been very kind in their words of support to me over the last few months, and I find it difficult to put into words the enjoyment I have had in some of the relationships established

as your doctor and friend. I am sure few will be surprised to hear that I am going into Sports Medicine full time - a portfolio of work - privately at The Winfield in Gloucester and the Droitwich Knee Clinic, work inside the NHS for the Sports Injury Clinic at Gloucester Royal Infirmary, and finally for the English Institute of Sport, looking after Olympic athletes in the south west of England, based at the University of Bath.

"As well as leaving the surgery, I will probably be moving house from Sheepscombe to Cheltenham in the near future, mostly to satisfy the increasing transportation demands of our three children moving on to secondary education in Cheltenham over the next few years."

The Beacon was aware two months ago of Dr Jaques's plans to leave, but respected the surgery's request not to publish until Roddy's replacement had accepted the appointment. -The Editor

Fun and games at the Cross Hands

Eric Johnson's house has been the centre of fun and games of one sort or another for many a year. Cross Hands, in Stepping Stone Lane, was once one of Painswick's most disreputable public houses, renowned for rowdy carousing and drunken brawls. Not any more. Only the glazed front doors remain of the public house, and behind those doors different fun and games are now taking place.

Eric runs his business, The London Games Company, from Cross Hands. He is not a Bow-wow and he didn't set out to produce games. Born and brought up in Welwyn Garden City, he progressed to City University, London to study production engineering. After five years, he explains modestly, the university gave him and everyone else a BSc degree "out of sympathy" for lasting the course.

His first job was with RHP Bearings in County Durham and then Northampton as works manager. In 1981, an opportunity arose with the company to become production manager in Stonehouse. Eric and his wife, Viv, started to look for somewhere to settle, and after driving to Painswick the decision was made - Viv said: "This is where I want to live."

Cross Hands was on the market but, oh, what a mess! The owners had been living in Italy and had rented out the house, it seems, to some fairly dubious characters, the upshot of which was police raids and suspicion of drugs operations. (What was it about this house?) Notwithstanding, the Johnsons bought it.

Shortly afterwards, Eric was headhunted by SKF in Luton and took the job. He says now that the family should have moved then, but for a variety of reasons decided to stay. Besides, they liked living in Painswick. Eric laughs as he says that Painswick kills ambition, that living here is so ideal that it heavily influences such important career decisions. He commuted daily for several years and by 1990 was the product division director.

Laughter again as this slightly self-deprecating man explains that at this point he made the worst decision of his life. He could have gone to the United States, but...his brother ran a project

Eric in his office at Cross Hands, where he has daily contact with his partner in London



management consultancy (construction) in London, had produced some software and needed help to develop it. Eric went into business with him, just as the construction industry collapsed in a big way.

It was at this point that Eric's life started to change. His brother had an idea for a game that Eric liked. In blissful ignorance of the industry, they persevered with perfecting their idea, eventually producing Rapidough, a family game involving play dough and tremendous fun.

Innocently, they hoped to approach a big company with it but found there was no interest. The lessons in running such businesses and the money and marketing necessary began to hit home. Just at the point when they felt ready to launch the game themselves, sadly Eric's brother died. Despite the setback, he and his current partner eventually persuaded Hamleys to take the game. Their first sales in 1993 were modest.

They knew they needed to develop more games because big companies would not treat them seriously with only one product. After several failures they have now developed a couple of games that Eric is characteristically optimistic about. His one sadness is that it has become increasingly difficult to manufacture in Britain and he has had to turn to China.

Eric explains that games fit into four genres and the one that is advised against is strategy games. Their latest game is ... a strategy game, Boku, and he is very enthusiastic about it.

Still finding it difficult to get it into the shops, they have produced several versions. Until they achieve really positive cash flow, advertising is too expensive and they have to use PR methods and agents. Marketing and sales continue to be the most problematic aspect at present. They usually find it necessary to go into business with other companies but, as Eric points out, there is a cost involved and the constant possibility of the other company going bankrupt. Currently they are involved with a Finnish company, Tactic,

who sell Rapidough in Scandinavia.

Eric has to go to London weekly for the company, and for the software company, Pertmaster, that is run by his nephew. However, he operates in the main from the utility room at Cross Hands, working largely via his computer and accompanied by his dog, Molly.

Viv, an advisory teacher for language-impaired children in Gloucestershire, and Eric married in 1968. Their son Paul, 16, has just completed GCSEs, and they have two daughters: Suzannah, 29, married and living in Melksham, and Clare, 27, a graphic designer in Stroud.

The games are great fun and Eric has generously offered copies of Rapidough and Boku to the Beacon as competition prizes.*

Carol Maxwell

**The Beacon appreciates this gesture and expects to run a competition later this year*



Garages and All Building Maintenance
Natural Stonework a Speciality



Extensions

HORNE & KILMISTER
General Builders
For Free Estimates phone
Painswick 812760 or 01453 872329

NABC



SMITH BROS.

GENERAL BUILDERS AND DECORATORS

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

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

Time extended for comment on the village design plans

In the last issue of the Beacon, I was able to draw attention to the draft the Design Team had prepared of a Parish Plan, and which was in the Painswick Library, and elsewhere, for public comment until 21st August.

We are told that a lot of people have read that draft, and quite a number of observations have been received. These will enable us to focus further upon, as well as modify, the text and information in a number of places.

It is hoped that a second draft can be prepared fairly quickly, and offered for further comment. This will, we hope, be in the library, with others in the three villages of Edge, Sheepscombe and Slad by Tuesday, 4th September, with comments invited by 14th September - at the very latest please.

At that point, we must do our best to incorporate as much of the new input as we can, without feeling that we continue with third and more drafts; this is partially dictated by our commitment to presenting a pretty well complete report to the Parish Council, the District Council, and then the printers by the turn of the year.

So your help will again be appreciated.

Anne Smith
Design Team Leader

Mass times survey

The local Catholic Church Management Team has been discussing the appropriateness of the 8.30am Mass start time in Painswick. The team would be most grateful if readers who attend Catholic churches in the area could write or telephone me at 6 Berry Close, Painswick (tel: 812514) with their opinion, for as well as against.

Clare Haynes, Chairperson

Fiona wins a Bronze medal for Great Britain

Fiona Buttrey, whose parents, Eddie and Michael, live in The Croft, has returned from the European underwater hockey championships, with a bronze medal.

Fiona, 27, was in the 12-strong British Women's squad that gained medal honours in Belgrade, competing against several international teams. In the semi-final, they narrowly lost to France, while the Netherlands took gold to retain their European title.

Fiona learned to play underwater hockey, or Octopush as it's called, while reading for her degree at Swansea University. She was a keen member of the sub-aqua club there, and later captained the university for several years.

She went on to play for the Welsh Ladies team, and took part last year in the national championships at Crystal Palace. This year, she was asked to train with the British Elite squad.

"That meant a gruelling fitness programme, with swimming and special training for five and sometimes six days a week, with squad meetings all over the country."

Fiona was selected for the British team in May, but her hopes of playing were nearly dashed two weeks later, when she had to have an operation on her ankle to remove a plate and screws from an earlier break.

"I was lucky. Everything went smoothly, and after some hectic training, I was back in the squad just a week before the competition."

Octopush is played on the bottom of a swimming pool by two teams of six, each person wearing a mask, fins, and a snorkel, and using a small wooden pusher to guide the puck, made of plastic-coated lead.

"It's very tactical, especially at international level, and action-packed, one of the few sports in which men and women compete on equal terms, because it's about skill and teamwork, rather than strength."

Fiona lives and works in South Wales, where there are several teams; she plays



A proud Fiona, in her GB costume, wearing her medal

for one in Llanelli. Next month she starts training again - this time for the World Championships to be held in Calgary. As underwater hockey is a minority sport, there is no funding for international competitors. Fiona was sponsored by her employer and by Swansea City Council, as well as selling raffle tickets. "If there's anyone out there with influential contacts who could help with promotion or sponsorship, I'd really love to hear from them," she told the Beacon.

THE PAINSWICK HOTEL

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

"The Cotswolds Best Kept Secret"

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

Superb Luncheon

Served Daily 12.30 - 2.00pm
2 courses £13.00, 3 Courses £16.00
Traditional 4 Course Sunday Luncheon
£17.50

Dinner Menu

2 courses £24.00, 3 Courses £27.50
The best of Cotswold meat, game, Severn salmon and Vale of Evesham vegetables

Or simply relax on the terrace and enjoy the peace and beauty of the Hotel and Gardens with our

Delicious Afternoon Tea Menu

BAY TREE GARDEN SERVICES

Landscaping
Fencing
Lawn and Hedge Work
General Maintenance
Water Features
Garden Design
Free Estimates

Tel: 01452 538264
Mobile: 07900 684899

www.baytreegardenservices.co.uk



Michael Davis

Building and Maintenance Contractor

Painswick 01452 812598

Mobile 07889 092279

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

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

*Lived and worked locally for
over 30 years*

Member of the Guild of Master Craftsmen



Philip in the Newcastle triathlon

Philip, Ironman triathlete at 51

Philip Angier, 51-year-old son of Diana Feilden of Hambutts Mead, successfully completed the 'Ironman' triathlon in Penticton, Canada, this week, in a creditable 15 hours. He's thrilled by his achievement, he told his family on the telephone. "Not bad for an old chap like me."

The event began 22 years ago as a bet - a bunch of Navy Seals argued over who was the fittest athlete, and decided to put together the Waikiki Rough Water Swim, the Around Oahu Bike Race and the Honolulu Marathon. "Whoever finishes all of these will be the Ironman," announced Commander John Collins, who suggested the idea. Little did he realise that this would become one of the world's most recognised athletics events - 2.4 miles of swimming, 112 miles biking and 26.2 miles running.

Philip, who recently retired as the chief executive of Traidcraft, the wellknown fair trade company, took on a professional trainer and went a week early to Canada to prepare for this taxing and extraordinary competition. He has always been keen on fitness, having taken part in several marathons, London twice, and others such as the Great North Run. He rowed for Oxford when he studied at Corpus Christi, and later for Leander.

On the same day as Philip participated, his older sister, Tabby - wellknown for her charity runs - finished the 12-mile mountain run at Glen Urquhart Highland Games. "And that's not bad for an old girl," she told her mother.

When Philip gets home, he will be taking up advisory work in the North East, dealing with regional development and help for the unemployed.

Pitchcombe's evening of promise

The new car park at Pitchcombe Village Hall has been such a success that bookings this year to date already exceed those for the whole of last year.

This has highlighted the need for further internal improvements for which fundraising is about to start.

The first event will be a Promises Auction at 8 pm on Friday, 21st September at the Village Hall, hopefully conducted by a well-known local auctioneer.

Anyone wishing to offer a Promise is welcome to contact Peter Fenwick on 812200.

Even if you can't give a promise, be sure to attend. Some excellent promises have already been pledged, and promises auctions offer a unique opportunity to buy goods and services often at far below their real cost. There will also be a free glass of wine to get the bidding going.

20 youngsters move on from playgroup

Painswick Playgroup had a busy summer term with visits from PC Breakwell and the Road Safety Officer, and visits to the Cotswold Wildlife Park and the Library.

We had to say goodbye to 20 of our children at the end of July. We wish them well as they start their new schools.

Thank you to the outgoing Playgroup Committee for their dedication and hard work and a big thank you to Christine, Linsey, Rachel and, of course, Beaty whose commitment, enthusiasm and smile make our playgroup such a special place. There are still places for the coming term. For more information, please ring Beaty Bell on 610997.

PS. Thanks to everyone who donated jumble and who supported our sale in the Town Hall in July. We are hoping to repeat the event in the near future.

Death of Fr. Tom

The local community will have been saddened to learn of the death of The Very Rev. Canon Thomas Curtis Hayward. Father Tom was Stroud's Parish Priest, with responsibility for the Church of Our Lady and St. Therese in Painswick from 1978 to 1996. For the past five years, he was Chaplain to the Community of More Hall Convent at Randwick.

Father Tom was ordained to the priesthood in 1956. He was a frequent visitor to Painswick, not only to celebrate Sunday Mass, but also to participate in Painswick's ecumenical events and to join with villagers in the Monday morning organised walks. The Bishop of Clifton, the Rt Rev. Declan Lang, will preside at the Requiem Mass arranged for Tuesday, 4th September, at 11.30am in the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Beeches Green, Stroud. A Mass will also be said in the Stroud church on the preceding evening at 6pm.

Painswick fire calls

The Painswick fire appliance has been called to four incidents in August (to date). Two calls were in support of the Gloucester fire engines outside the Painswick 'patch'. There was one fire at Edgeworth and one fire in Tibbiwell Lane. The fire in Tibbiwell Lane started late on Sunday 19th August. The fire service was called just after midnight to find an outhouse on fire. It was quickly extinguished by a crew wearing breathing apparatus and using a hose reel jet.

Mike Powis, Sub Officer

**A.J. BULLINGHAM
LANDSCAPE &
GARDEN SPECIALIST**
All aspects of garden work undertaken

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



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

FREE ESTIMATES

**COTSWOLD
EYE CALL**



Eye examinations at home - for the
housebound
Specialised service - free (NHS) for those
over 60, including Glaucoma screening
and full sight test
Telephone 01453 833272
or 07967 743676 (mobile)
Graham O'Regan BSc FSMC FCOptom

The richest collection of ironwork in Britain

Don't take our word for it! Come and hear Amina Chatwin on Wednesday, 12th September, in Painswick Town Hall at 7.30pm, and she will show you why the ornamental Regency ironwork in Cheltenham can be described as the richest collection in Britain.

Amina Chatwin is a researcher and author of several books on ironwork in Britain, including Modern British Blacksmiths – possibly the definitive work on that subject.

After this evening Cheltenham will never be the same again.

Tickets, to include free coffee etc, are available from Dawn Mallinson in the Patchwork Mouse, 813122.

Or contact: Douglas Robinson, Painswick and District Conservation Society, 812286.

Quaker tapestry open days raised over £250

Thank you to all the people who visited the Quaker Meeting House during our open days. Although there are still a few donations to come in, the amount raised for Hope for Children was over £250.

We were very pleased to have so many Painswickians visit the Meeting House, many for the first time. Nearly all our visitors commented on the tranquil atmosphere of the Meeting Room and the elegance of its proportions. We hope you will come again to sit outside and appreciate the view across the valley.

We also had visitors from as far afield as Australia and New Mexico, the latter commenting on how hot the weather was. We so much enjoyed meeting our hundred plus visitors, it has been suggested that we could have an exhibition of Quaker art and craft work next year. So watch this space! In the meantime, if you want to experience a Quaker Sunday Meeting, we start at 10.30 am and everyone is welcome.

Ann Yates

POLICE REPORT

Incidents up to 14th August:

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

Total 10.

Items stolen

Handbag and contents, wallet, credit cards.

Reported incidents

Four were reported to the Police.

Security improvement recommendations

Although there have been three burglaries,



nothing was taken, which suggests the offenders might have been looking for cash.

PC John Breakwell and Neighbourhood Watch coordinators

HERE'S HOW TO REPORT AN INCIDENT TO THE POLICE

PRIORITY 1

Urgent attention needed. Dial 999
(For example, if you see someone breaking into a property)

PRIORITY 2

Warrants prompt attention. Dial 01242 521321
(For example, anyone behaving suspiciously)

PRIORITY 3

Information useful to the Police. Dial 01453 882224

Report any incidents directly to the Police without delay

CRIMESTOPPERS

To report a crime anonymously 0800 555111

-----Cut out and keep by your telephone-----

Coach outing to London

The autumn coach outing to London will be on Wednesday, 17th October, leaving Stamages Lane car park at 8.30 am, setting down at Harrods at about 11.15 am, and The National Gallery, Trafalgar Square at 11.30 am. The return journey will be from Trafalgar Square only, at 6.30 pm The fare is £9.

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

TREE SURGERY

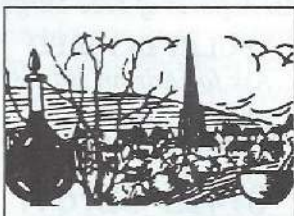
Environmentally Sensitive

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

Landcare Services
6 Pullens Road, Painswick
John Rhodes
812709

THE PAINSWICK PHARMACY

NEW STREET. Tel. PAINSWICK (01452) 812263



OPENING TIMES

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

PRICE DAVIS

Chartered Accountants & Registered Auditors

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

Contact Howard Davis on:
Painswick 812491
Mobile phone 0836 515701
Email sales@pricedavis.co.uk



Speed bumps and limits not the answer...

In reply to Mr Rhodes's letter, I cannot support his requests for speed humps and several pedestrian crossings in Painswick. We have all seen the result of the scheme in Gloucester: cycle lanes seldom used; road humps, I understand, are to be removed; pedestrian crossings next to roundabouts causing traffic accidents. I would not like to see Painswick spoiled in this way.

I do support speed restrictions and will encourage cameras to ensure speeding motorists are duly caught and fined. One problem in Pullens Road, that causes traffic to mount the left side pavement, is the parked vehicles (some large ones) on the right side of the road that also block the pavement for pedestrian use.

I feel that the present traffic lights slow up traffic enabling pedestrians to cross the roads if care is taken. We cannot ban all traffic from the village, and whilst I am trying to get lorries diverted away from the village, there will always be some deliveries necessary if there are to be any businesses in Painswick.

I would be delighted to return to the "horse age" which Painswick was designed to live with, but that age has passed and we have to bear with some problems of traffic in order for the village to survive.

**County Cllr Joan I Nash,
Holcombe Farm**

With reference to John Rhodes's letter in last month's Beacon, Traffic Calming Needed Urgently, I would like to make a few comments with regard to fact: The County Council will not allow traffic calming measures to be installed on a major road (in this case the A46), even though it goes through a busy village. The reason for this is so as not to impede the free flow of traffic, and for the same reason they will not allow the imposition of a 20

LETTERS

mph speed limit. With regard to the actual speed of cars travelling through the village, on three weekdays in July a speed gun was operated in the centre of the village. Three cars were logged driving at speeds in excess of 30 mph and the average speed of the remainder was between 20 - 25 mph.

Two years ago, the Parish Council asked for a pedestrian crossing to be installed in New Street between the bus shelter and the Lych Gate. This was refused because a pedestrian crossing has to be 50 metres from a corner. However, it seems not unreasonable to suggest that there should be somewhere on this busy road where pedestrians have the right of way.

With regard to the B4073, the main road to Gloucester from Painswick, like the A46, there is nothing the Parish Council can do about the ever-increasing flow of traffic. There is, however, a case to be made for some form of traffic calming to slow cars down before they round the corner into Pullens Road. The situation in Pullens Road is not helped by the parking of cars on the pavement and especially large vehicles.

**Cllr David Hudson,
Chair, Parish Council Traffic Cttee.**

I read with a certain amount of interest the letter by John Rhodes (Beacon Aug 2001), in particular item 4 which relates to Pullens Road. I believe that larger commercial vehicles (similar to John's) should be "compounded" overnight, and not left in residential areas. That is not, however, the point. If you park a fairly large commercial vehicle in a narrow road (albeit partially on the footway), and if another equally large vehicle cannot pass using the available roadway, then you must expect the driver to mount the footway, and perhaps to remain there only to exit where the footpath has been lowered by a crossover or other low point.

The new Highway Code, Rule 218, applies equally to this and other parts of the village. Until we utilise the old tip area

of the Recreation Ground, or other suitable place, parking in and around Painswick will always be a problem. As for crossing the A46, the traffic lights do a useful job of providing a break in the traffic, but at the cost of higher speed. Has anyone else noticed how much slower traffic is when there is a power cut? Perhaps we should turn off the traffic lights and put a "Give way to oncoming traffic" sign on the A46 just before Bisley St.

We all have our pet ideas about traffic calming and, of course, we don't want anyone to be hurt on our roads. In my retirement I have driven many thousands of miles around Cotswold villages and I don't think that Painswick is quite ready for speed humps, pink tarmac, sharks' teeth and cameras yet. However, with a major road coming through the middle of our lovely village, we must all be on our guard.

**David Ryland,
Upper Washwell**

Further to John Rhodes's letter (August Beacon), I am, in the main, in agreement with the need for traffic calming in certain areas of Painswick. There are, however, also dangers involved in having to step off the pavements because of static traffic - i.e. those vehicles parked either wholly or partly on the pavement.

Having recently begun to take my father out in a wheelchair, I find there are few safe routes we can traverse, including Pullens Road, where often can be found parked on the pavement a large green vehicle with a trailer of sorts attached, thereby not leaving enough space for the passage of a wheelchair. This vehicle, I believe, belongs to none other than one, Mr John Rhodes, who should, perhaps, set his own house in order before knocking on the doors of others.

**Mary Bessant,
2 Sunny Terrace, Vicarage Street**

PAINSWICK POST OFFICE



***ANOTHER NEW
SERVICE FROM
PAINSWICK POST OFFICE**

Not at home to receive that package?

Arrange to have it delivered to us, and collect it at your convenience.

Pick up a leaflet for full details

USE US OR LOSE US!

PAINSWICK POST OFFICE 812303



**Watch & Clock Restoration
and Service.**

J. D. HOBBS

B.A. Hons, H.N.D., Grad. B.H.I.

01452 812762

A Graduate of the British Horological Institute



LANDSCAPE GARDENING

A Complete Garden Service

*Regular Garden Maintenance
Grass Cutting, Hedge Trimming*

Construction of:-

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

**FULLY INSURED
Ask for Adrian Harris**

Floribunda

01452 527647

...Fines must be deterrent

I read Mr Rhodes's letter with some interest. Whilst I am sure we all identify with his desire for security, I wonder if a period of mature reflection might be beneficial before the Parish Council are asked to take steps that would change the character of the village forever. Like most of us, I suspect Mr Rhodes came to Painswick and was captivated by its charm. He could, of course, have purchased a house on the Heron Estate where he would have had the wide pavements, zebra crossings, speed humps, (pink tarmac etc.) that he craves, and saved himself a great deal of money besides. He chose instead to accept the limitations of living in a rural community and an historic setting. I sympathise with his desire for peace and safety (don't we all?) but at what cost?

Many of the matters he refers to have been considered before: it would be ideal for some if ALL traffic were diverted away from Painswick, but we live in the age of the motorcar and have to deal with the problems that come with it. There is no doubt that some motorists ignore the speed limits, whether the sign they pass says 30, 40 or 50. What is clear is that simply replacing the number on signs will not dissuade them from doing so. The only deterrent is enforcement of the existing limit - and there is no doubt that the most effective deterrent is the sight of a policeman or a blue flashing light. I suggest that most of these people are "repeat offenders" - commuters who use

Other replies

Other letters in response to Mr Rhodes's traffic calming suggestions, making similar points to those published here, have been received. We regret that there is not enough space to publish them all.

Since there was no meeting of Painswick Parish Council in August, Mr Rhodes's letter, which was sent to the Parish Council as well as to Joan Nash, the divisional county councillor, has not been discussed yet.

The Parish Council meets on 19th September, after which the Beacon will be able to publish the Council's views on the subject.

Richard R Gittins Building Contractor

Stone Masonry Work : Extensions
Roofing & Traditional lime plastering
Reg. NHBC and DSWA

Tel. 01452 814475

Beechdene, Jacks Green, Sheepscombe, GL6 7RA

LETTERS

the route regularly. A fine or two might be the salutary lesson they require. As for the suggestion that traffic on the A46 is continuous (hence a crossing is needed), surely that is not the case, given that traffic lights stop the traffic, providing an opportunity for pedestrians to cross there. All that is needed is something for which people who live in the country are famous - patience.

Mr Rhodes is clearly upset by traffic noise in Pullens Road, but is it not the case that speed humps merely cause motorists to speed away from them in a low (and noisier) gear? It must also be borne in mind that the emergency services find these devices difficult.

I hope that Mrs Nash and her fellow councillors will not be tempted to take any action that will further degrade the beautiful environment in which we are privileged to live (and for which we are custodians for future generations), until this whole matter has been given the fullest consideration and consultation. Above all, would the result "create a better environment" as Mr Rhodes suggests?

Graham Lilley,
Lower Bumps, Edge

200-odd replies from the whole village scarcely a "majority"

I read with interest the letter from Tony Bradley and the other members of the Care Village promotion group on page 9 of the August Beacon. I understand that whilst many residents have supported the scheme, many more have not, so that their word 'majority' seems wholly inappropriate.

All households in Painswick, approximately 1400, were sent questionnaires enclosed with The Beacon in May 1996, and of these just over 200 replied in favour of a nursing home.

The concept of a village within a village seems foreign to a community such as Painswick which already has numerous clubs and organisations, and which would further unbalance the age ratio.

The road reorganisation that would be required to make a safe turn off from the A46 for the 70 plus new residents envisaged by the developers would presumably mean major road works and extra overhead lighting. Is this really what the village wants?

Angela Hudson,
Hillcrest, Gloucester Street

Heard any good ghost stories?

As part of a summer holiday project, I would be very pleased to hear from readers of anything they may know about local ghosts, ghost stories, or strange and unexplained local happenings.

I recently bought a book about ghost stories from the Cotswolds, but surprisingly there was none from

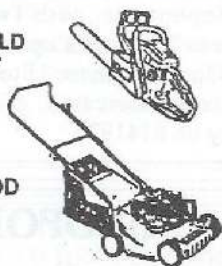
Painswick, and I would very much like to put the records straight. Since Painswick has been settled for 2,000 years, I'm sure there are stories to tell - I've heard some rumours of sighting, but if anyone has more information, please write or email.

Tobi Moulton,
Turnways, Butt Green, GL6 6QS
admin@pan-risk.co.uk

The Beacon is aware of numerous ghost stories around the village, and a list was made some while ago. However, we would be equally keen to hear from readers of any experiences they have had or stories they have heard, and would like to publish a series of them in future issues

LAWNMOWERS SERVICE • REPAIR • SALES

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



FREE LOCAL
COLLECTION & DELIVERY

CHELTEMHAM MOWER SERVICES
MOBILE: 0831 282533
TEL: 01452 714098

www.users.globalnet.co.uk/~cmowers

PRIVATE HIRE TAXI

ALLAN & MARTIN WEAGER
(Formerly Rylands)

01453-763947 (Allan)
01453-764845 (Martin)
Allan (mobile): 07712-776470
Martin (mobile): 07808 722255

Cricket season ends on a high note

At the time of writing it seems probable that Painswick have won Section B of the Stroud District Midweek Evening Cricket competition. Confirmation has been delayed because the organisers' calculations have been complicated by the number of rain-affected matches. If Painswick have been successful, they will be promoted to Section A.

In the Readers Gloucestershire County League (First XI), Painswick will retain their place in Division 3 but not without some anxieties in the final stages of the season.

Last Saturday, both elevens won their matches, the First Eleven beating Cotswold and the Second Eleven defeating Westbury-on-Severn. The Second Eleven who play in Division 4

(Second XI) will remain in that division unless the league is restructured. The First Eleven play the final game of the season today (1st September) against St. Stephens in a friendly match at Cheltenham.

The annual cricket week was again a very successful event with the matches being played in excellent weather and some fine performances recorded, not least, a century by Ian Hogg against old rivals Upton St. Leonards.

On Sunday 5th August, the Painswick side travelled to Fairford with a side that included four members of the Bressington family. Alastair was released by Gloucestershire from the Cheltenham Festival to play with Father Adrian and brothers, Nathan and Edward, to mark the occasion of Adrian's 50th birthday.

Rugby kicks off with some tough games ahead

Painswick Rugby Club players are looking forward to the start of the new season with the realisation that promotion to the First Division of the Gloucestershire League will bring a series of hard fought matches.

The first game being played today (1st September) is a friendly against Widden Old Boys at Broadham which the two clubs will be using to experiment with various player options. Fixture Secretary Ian Hogg told the Beacon that there had been difficulty in obtaining fixtures for the club's second fifteen (Painswick United) in the pre-Christmas period, because of a newly structured competition between clubs in the Bristol area.

Painswick have been drawn at home against the Bristol club, Kingswood, in the first round of the Tetley Bitter Vase national competition. The match will be played at Broadham on the afternoon of Saturday, 15th September. The First Fifteen play the Gloucestershire Police at home next Wednesday evening (5th September).

The club's first two league matches are at home to Frampton Cotterell on 22nd September, and away to Old Cryptians on 29th September. The United start their season away against Frampton Cotterell 2nd XV on 22nd September.

The players welcome the support of parishioners at their matches, and the opportunity to meet them for a "jar" in the clubhouse afterwards. Early season Saturday matches start at 3pm, with mid-season games kicking off at 2.30pm.

Results (Saturday matches are all league games):

Mon 30 Jul. Painswick 189-7 (A. Bradley 46 not out) Beaulieu 190-3.
Wed 1 Aug. (Midweek league) Frocester 122 Painswick 123-3 (R. Hopkins 50).
Thu 2 Aug. Cadnam 266-6 Painswick 159 (A. Wise 44).
Fri 3 Aug. Painswick 182 (I. Hogg 104) Upton St. Leonards 183-4.
Sat 4 Aug. All matches cancelled - rain.
Sun 5 Aug. Fairford 225-8 Painswick 201 (Alastair Bressington 68).
Wed 8 Aug. (Midweek league). Painswick

versus Stonehouse - rained off.
Sat 11 Aug. Tetbury 1st XI 240-8 Painswick 1st XI 109.
Gloucester Civil Service 2nd XI 192-8 Painswick 2nd XI 96.
Sat 18 Aug. Old Richians 2nd XI 126 all out - rain stopped play.
Sat 25 Aug. Stroud 3rd XI 78 (S. Base 4-50, S. Golding 4-10) Painswick 1st XI 80-4. Westbury-on-Severn 2nd XI 148 Painswick 2nd XI 149-7 (C. Partridge 59).

Badminton season gets underway

The 2001/2002 badminton season has now begun, and the challenge is set for members entering the annual tournament to beat last season's holders of the Yarnold

Cup, Jane Titshall and Ron Bridgman.

Friday evening sessions will be held again this season, open to members and anyone of a reasonable standard, including newcomers. These begin on Friday, 28th September until Friday, 7th December at the Painswick Centre at 8pm. Enquiries to Judith Courts on 813716.

Junior badminton starts on Thursday, 13th September, with two sessions, 6.30pm to 7.15pm for up to 11 years old, and 7.15pm to 8pm for 11 to 14 years old. If you are interested, please call Di Radway on 614197.

No Drying Time*

Home 'n' Dry

We use only natural safe products.

Eliminates up to 85% of allergens.

Benefits Asthma sufferers.

*Carpets are dry and ready for immediate use

- Carpets
- Upholstery
- Oriental Rugs
- Sisal
- Sea grass
- Odour Treatments
- Stain Treatments

01452 612229

Office: 22 Rowan Gardens Gloucester GL3 4DU

CHIROPODY

at
Painswick Surgery
Gyde Road

Appointments
01452 812545

JOHN SAUNDERS
CERAMIC WALL AND FLOORING SPECIALIST

For all your tiling requirements

BRIDGE HOUSE
BENTHAM Tel. 01452 864210
CHELTENHAM Mobile 0976 352360
GLOS. GL51 5TZ

PAINSWICK PAPERS

Have your newspapers magazines and comics delivered to your door



TEL. 814265

Junior players and coaches have another good season

Painswick Junior Tennis has had another very successful year, with more than 90 children, aged 6-15 years, enrolled as junior members. Coaching continued throughout the winter and we were able to expand our provision to meet the Summer season demands. Thanks go to our coaches Peter Bolton, Adrian Aldridge and Ruth Smith, for all the hard work they have put in over the last year.

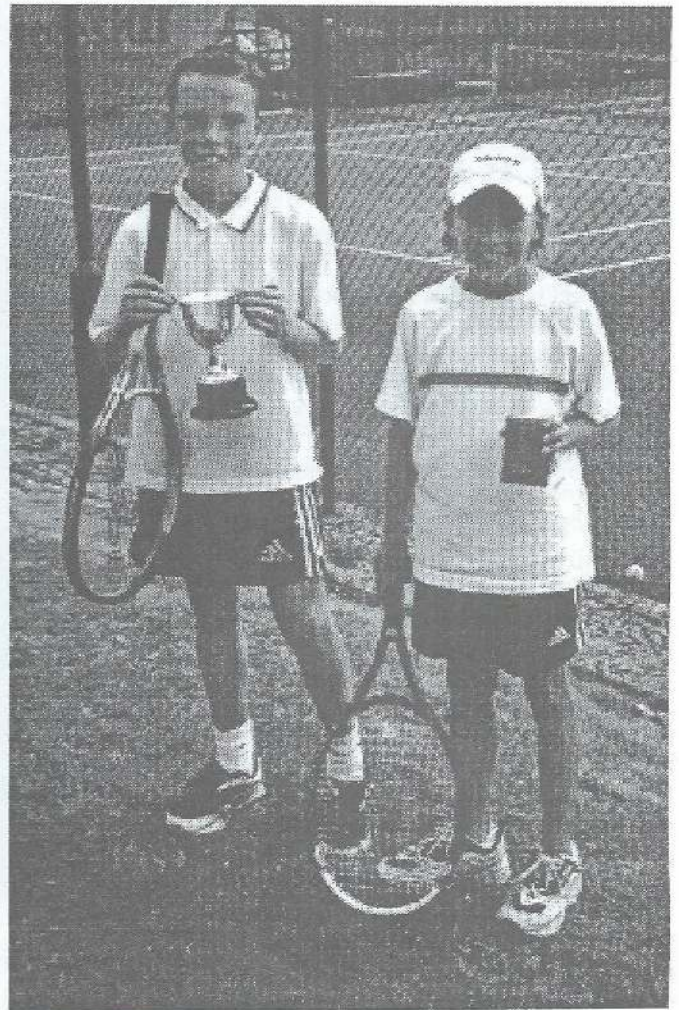
The season ended with a number of tournaments. The mixed Under-12s was won by Harry Waller, with Lucy Moir in second place, and the unsuccessful semi-finalists were James Barnett and Edward Andrew. The girls' Under-15 tournament was won by Lucy Moir, with a tie for second place between Rosie MacAndrew and Bryony Overs.

The Nestle Ladder tournament for the Under-12s was won by Lucy Moir, with Edward Andrew in second place, Joe Hobbins in third and Harry Waller, fourth. The ever-popular Parent and Child tournament was won by Sam Horder and his dad, Richard, who defeated James Barnett and his dad, Nigel, in a very close match.

Many of the children are also participating in the L.T.A. Matchplay competitions and are improving their ratings. The club trophy for the most improved boy goes this year to Edward Andrew, and the girl's trophy to Megan Horder.

Six teams competed in the National Junior Club League. We await the final outcome but are confident that all our teams did very well in their division.

Finally, thanks to Nigel Barnett and Richard Horder for organizing the coaching so successfully. An application form for junior coaching can be obtained from Nigel on 813941.



Harry Waller and Lucy Moir, with their trophies

Mixed fortunes in the league

The summer tennis season is moving towards its final stages, with a handicapped mixed doubles tournament currently underway, and the club's main tournament, which includes the singles championships, scheduled to be held in the fortnight beginning 3rd September.

The league programme has brought mixed fortunes for the various Painswick teams. The Men's A team achieved second place in Division 1, but will stay in that division next year because only one team

is promoted to the Premier Division. The Men's B team won Division 2B and will be promoted to Division 1.

The C team seem likely to be relegated, but the D team won Division 5A and will be promoted to Division 4 where they will probably be in competition with the C team.

The Ladies A and B teams have mirrored the Men's performances, with the B team being promoted to Division 1 to join the A team who keep their position in that division. The C team will stay in Division 2, with the D team promoted to Division 3. The E team will remain in Division 5B, with the F team staying in Division 5A.

Tuesday tennis events

So many players entered the Annual Tuesday Night Tennis Tournament that mixed doubles and men's doubles events took place. Winners were Judith Courts and John Shipman in the mixed, and Danny Luke and Shaun Crawford in the men's. The Bar-B-Q traditionally followed to end the evening. The next social is the 40th anniversary dinner and dance on Saturday, 17th November. Tickets from Ruth Smith, 813693, at £30 each.

FRANCES FENWICK
FLORAL DESIGN

WEDDING &
FUNCTION SPECIALIST
SYMPATHY TRIBUTES

Portfolio of designs to choose from
Professionally qualified florist
Please telephone for a consultation:
Frances Fenwick NDSF FSF

07778 655220 Fax:01452 812246
www.francesfenwick.co.uk
Unit 1, Kellavie, Wragg Castle Lane,
Pitchcombe, Glos. GL6 6LU

G J HOGG
PAINTER AND DECORATOR

Interior and Exterior Painting
Wallpapering, Glazed Tiling

Estimates Free

8 Upper Washwell
Painswick
Glos. GL6 6QY

Telephone
PAINSWICK 812505

RESTHAVEN

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

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

Resthaven Home of Healing Ltd
Regd. Charity No. 235354

Volunteers sought for the Citizens Advice Bureau

Are you retired, or not working full-time, and would you like to help in the community, get some skills for the future and perhaps become more confident?

If you can answer yes to some or all of these questions, and you have an interest in people's problems without being judgmental, the Stroud and District Citizens Advice Bureau would like to hear from you.

They are looking for more advisory staff. Full training is given, leading to the NACAB Certificate in Generalist Advice Work, which can be accredited by the Open College towards an NVQ.

The kind of advice you would be giving would be about benefits, housing, debt, employment, consumer issues and relationship problems. You do not need to have specialist knowledge, though this is always useful, because there is plenty of supervision and management support.

If you are interested in this valuable work, and can give eight to nine hours a week, please call the CAB office in Stroud on 01453 762084.

Open Day at Paradise

The ever-popular Paradise House Open Day will be on Saturday, 15th September, at Paradise House, off the A46 behind the old Adam and Eve, starting at 2pm.

Visit the splendid weavery and woodwork shops, the organic gardens, the many stalls, coconut shy and bric-a-brac. Home-made teas are available. Admission is £1 and children go in free.

**Building Repairs
Painting & Decorating
Carpentry**

T MIFFLIN

Enquiries Welcome
Telephone Painswick 813866

Dizine
R A P I D I N C S
a step in the right direction
Tel: 07769 770698
E-mail: dizine@hotmail.com
STATIONERY, ADVERTISEMENTS, BROCHURES,
Co-Operate Identity, Website Design



Daisy and her mystery fawn, Frisky, in the shade of the trees at Prinknash Park

Mum's the word on Frisky's dad

When staff at Prinknash Bird and Deer Park first noticed that Daisy, one of the fallow deer, was pregnant, it came as a shock and a puzzle. First, Daisy was a bit old at 15 to be a mother, secondly it was well past the rut, but primarily because she was always fenced off from any stags.

However, a couple of weeks ago, Daisy produced a beautiful fawn, named Frisky, who has caused quite a stir with her arrival. Philip Meigh, the park director, has had regional and local newspapers and TV crews clamouring to see the result of this "immaculate conception."

Philip is still uncertain about how Daisy mated, but he has two theories: ei-

ther Boris, his herd stag cleared the six-foot high wire fence in his urge to get to Daisy (but why did he go back?), or one of the stags from the wild herd around the park fancied "a bit on the side," as it were. The wild deer are larger than those in the park, and it would be easier for one to leap over.

When first born, both Daisy and her fawn were happy for visitors to get up close and stroke them.

However, the flush of cameras and publicity crews have made the pair more wary, and it's difficult to get them to move away from the dappled surrounds of the trees, as our picture shows.



The Falcon Inn

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

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

Our en-suite bedrooms have every modern facility and are ideal if you have friends or relatives coming to visit you in the PAINSWICK area

Call FIONA or JON on 01452-814222 for more details

Riverbank threat from Himalayan Balsam

While out walking with my wife along the Painswick Stream from the Lower Washwell footpath to Tocknells Court, I noticed the unwelcome and highly invasive plant, Himalayan Balsam (*Impatiens glandulifera*) growing happily among the riverbank vegetation. This plant was introduced to the south-east of the country in the 19th century, and has spread rapidly across England. Although an attractive plant, with purplish pink and pale pink flowers in summer, it is highly invasive and will quickly take over an area to the exclusion of our native flora. This will also have a negative effect on birds and insects that feed off these plants.

However, unlike the Giant

Hogweed (*Heracleum mantegazzianum* - great name, bad plant) mentioned in the July Beacon, Himalayan Balsam is harmless to human beings when touched or handled. Through my work on water voles (*Arvicola terrestris*) and otters (*Lutra lutra*) with the Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust, I have come to realise how quickly non-native plants and animals, the American mink being an obvious example, have had a detrimental effect on our native wildlife.

The otter has thankfully made a steady return to Gloucestershire's rivers and streams, although so far we have no evidence of their presence on the Painswick Stream. The water vole, however, once a common sight on the

Painswick Stream, has disappeared from 83% of its former haunts in Gloucestershire over the last 20 years.

It struck me that control of Himalayan Balsam could be done as a community project, one or two days a year is all that would be needed. It is, of course, vital that farmers and landowners agree to us carrying out the work.

Hence, I have two requests: first, could anyone owning land adjacent to the Painswick Stream let me know if they would be willing for the work to take place. Secondly, would anyone interested in helping please contact me on 814210.

Pete Bradshaw

Know a good rural project?

Following the success of the current Rural Projects Grants scheme, Stroud District Council is planning to set aside £100,000 for such grants in the 2002/03 financial year. The closing date for applications is 31st October 2001.

The scheme is a one-off initiative, aimed at enhancing or introducing permanent local facilities in rural areas that demonstrate a significant benefit to the local community. Preference will be given to projects that benefit the young, elderly and those with disabilities, have a long life-span, and with some contribution from the local community, either financial or in-kind.

Typically, the projects could be larger ones, such as providing or updating a

sports ground or village hall, or smaller ones such as replacing play equipment. Covering ongoing running costs will not be considered, and it is unlikely that the council will support grants to individuals or companies. All applications must be endorsed by the parish council, because the SDC is keen to give awards only where a particular project can prove it has the support of the local community.

The major change over the previous Rural Projects Grants scheme is that the maximum has been increased to £6,000. Application forms are available from the Parish Council clerk and from David Marshall at the Ebley Mill offices.

Additionally, SDC is reviewing its list of voluntary organisations to which it gives grant aid. The purpose of these grants is to help voluntary organisations with their annual running expenses where they provide a service to the local community that is in line with the council's key objectives. The timescale for these is the same as that of the Rural Projects Grants scheme. Application forms can be obtained from Mrs E. Elliott at Ebley Mill, telephone 01453 754125.

Vicarage Street closure

Vicarage Street will be closed to traffic from 15th to 20th October for resurfacing work. Pedestrian and vehicle access will be maintained, and diversion signs will be put up. Vehicles will use Lower Washwell Lane to get to Vicarage Street.

Thank you to all those who supported the Oncology Unit coffee morning, made donations and helped on 14th July. I am pleased to let everyone know that we raised £255 which has been split between Focus and Cancer Research. Joyce Smith

The hills are alive...

The pleasures of a summer's day can often be spoiled by the sound of mowers, hedge trimmers or someone's multi-watt sound system. A number of Beacon readers have commented on this latter problem taken to an extreme last Sunday when the sound of amplified live music filled the valley as far as Pitchcombe.

Following the sound was not difficult, and it proved to be coming from Poultry Court in the grounds of Painswick House. Mr Jeremy Drew explained that it was in celebration of a 31st birthday, so only happened once a year, and perhaps the people living nearby would like to treat it as a free concert.

If you have a problem with noise, the numbers to ring are 01453 766321 and, out of hours, 01452 532467 and ask for the noise pollution officer.

From The Beacon 10 Years Ago

Many people have expressed concern about the state of the buildings in Cheltenham Road, at the junction with Gloucester Street. Residents will recall that these premises have been used by several shops in past years, but they have been empty for some time and the site has assumed an unsightly appearance.

There have also been comments about the work being carried out on what is a Grade 2 listed building. Major John Sutton, chairman of Painswick Conservation Society, said his members were concerned about "this eyesore in a key part of the village," and they have written to the District Council, asking that the owner submit an application showing his detailed plans for the site.

GODDARDS GARAGE

Cheltenham Road, Painswick



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

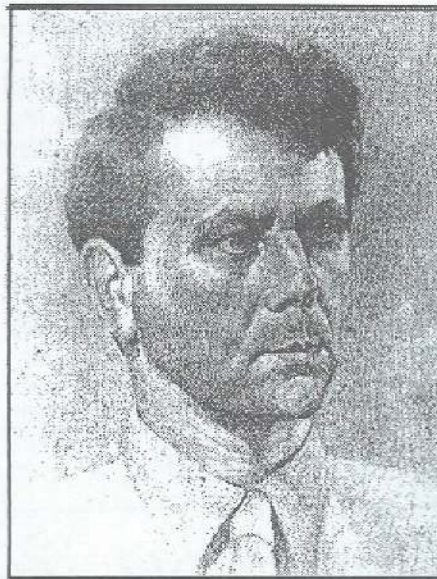
Telephone - 812240

Composer Gerald Finzi and his links with Painswick

Gerald Finzi was born in St John's Wood, London, on 14th July, 1901, and his centenary was celebrated at this year's Three Choirs Festival in Gloucester, which was appropriately dedicated to English music. His father died of cancer in 1909 whereupon the family moved to Harrogate.

They came to stay at the foot of Chosen Hill in 1920, thus beginning the link with the Cotswolds that Finzi maintained for the rest of his life, including, of course, those all-important links with the Three Choirs Festival. In 1922, Finzi's mother bought Kingsmill House in Painswick, where they were to stay for three years, at which point Finzi was advised by Adrian Boult to return to London in order to study music there.

Finzi went to the 1922 Gloucester Three Choirs Festival, and thereafter became a regular visitor, along with other distinguished English composers, such as Elgar (until 1934), Vaughan-Williams and Howells. They were all well represented at Gloucester's Festival this year. Three of Finzi's major compositions were performed: his setting of Wordsworth's poem, *Intimations of Immortality*, his clarinet concerto, first performed at Hereford in



Portrait of Finzi by his wife, Joy. Copyright Nigel Finzi

1949, and his cello concerto which had been written at the end of his life.

The performance of the *Intimations of Immortality* was particularly moving for those of us who had been at the first performance in Gloucester Cathedral in 1950. It had been a triumphant occasion for Finzi.

Finzi's sojourn in Painswick was important more for the people he met, including the Blow family at Edge, and other members of the arts and crafts movement, then prominent in the Cotswolds, than for the music he composed while he was here. This included his *Requiem da Camera*, written in memory of his own music teacher, Ernest Farrar, who had been killed in the 1914-18 war, and his *Severn Rhapsody for String Orchestra*, inspired by the view of the Severn Vale from Hilles.

Finzi attended the 1956 Three Choirs Festival as usual at Gloucester, describing it as one of his happiest. During the course of that week (2nd - 8th September), he had taken his old friend, Ralph Vaughan-Williams, to visit Chosen Hill, and they had called at the sexton's cottage. One of the sexton's children had chicken pox and, three weeks later, on 27th September, Gerald Finzi was to die of a rare complication of this disease.

It has been good to remember him, and his family, at this year's festival.

Jim Hoyland

**Dr Hoyland was invited by the Beacon to contribute this piece on the occasion of the Three Choirs Festival. He has written a fuller account of his recollections and the life of Gerald Finzi in and around Painswick for the next issue of the Painswick History Society's Chronicle.*

Two attractions in aid of Crack Cancer Campaign

There will be a Grand Bingo Evening on Tuesday, 4th September at Christchurch, Eyes down at 7.30pm, with some wonderful prizes, all in aid of the Cobalt Unit.

Also being held in aid of the Unit is the Annual Garden Party on Saturday, 15th September from 2pm to 4.30pm at 8 & 9 Upper Washwell, or Christchurch if wet. Last year, £2,400 was raised for the Crack Cancer Campaign.

The main attractions are the splendid home-made scones for cream teas, and the cakes and pastries on the cake stall will be mouth-watering to say the least. There will be lots of fresh local produce on the stalls, blackberry and apple jams, marmalades and pickles to name but a few. Also a Nearly New stall, a Raffle with great prizes, Tombola, Bric-a-Brac, Face Painting, Books and a Plant stall. All in all, an event too good to miss.

Donations to the above stalls will be a great help. Telephone Jane Gardner on 812505 or just pop in any afternoon.

Ten-week course on the Victorians

A ten-week course in Victorian Art and Architecture, offered by Bristol University, begins on Monday, 8th October in Painswick Library, at 10am.

The course will cover the Victorian retreat into the nostalgic world of chivalry and Arthurian legend, and assess the significance of that myth for the maintenance of social values at home and in the empire. The course tutor is Peter Clarkson MA, and the fee £46. Prior enrolment is essential.

Stroudend Tithing wins research grant

Members of Stroudend Tithing Educational Trust were delighted to hear that the Trust had been awarded a Local Heritage Initiative Grant by the Countryside Agency. The grant will enable the Trust, with members of the local community, to research the industrial, archaeological and natural heritage of the Stroudend Tithing, with professional help from Nottingham University.

The grant is conditional on a certain amount being raised locally, and there being sufficient volunteer input. We have already had a number of offers of support, and would greatly appreciate any further interest. Contact Carolyn Luke on 814139.

PAINSWICK ELECTRICAL SERVICES

N.I.C.E.I.C. approved CONTRACTORS

SERVICE

INSTALLATIONS

REPAIRS



The Electrical Contractors Association

Mr M TURNER

01453 758342 and 01452 812659

Mobile: 07850 784899

TREE SURGERY

- Mature Tree Maintenance
- Thinning & Reshaping
- Tree Removal & Chipping
- Hedge & Shrub Trimming
- Fruit Tree Pruning



Member of the Association of Professional Foresters

Landscape House Churchdown

Glos. GL3 1NX **01452 535165**

OVER 20 YEARS EXPERIENCE

Free Consultation - Fully Insured

GRAHAM FEAKINS HND

Learn about the last of the Romanovs

Have you ever wanted to know more about the lives of the last Tsar and his family, their strange relationship with Rasputin and their mysterious death in a cellar in Ekaterinburg, Russia?

Now you will have the chance to see into the lives of this extraordinary family and how they contributed to the revolution that shook Russia and the world. The University of Bristol Public Programmes Office is offering a course entitled: Revolution in Russia: the downfall of the Romanov Dynasty, in Painswick.

There is a choice of two different times to attend this ten-week course: Mondays, beginning 1st October, from 7.30pm to 9pm at The Library, or Tuesdays, beginning 2nd October, from 2pm to 3.30pm in the Church Hall Rooms.

Dr. Anastasia Hackett, an historian with a Russian background, and resident of Edge, will teach the course, which will include photographs and film of the last Imperial Russian family.

Don't miss this rare chance to glimpse into one of the most exciting periods of 20th century history.

For further information, contact the University of Bristol, Public Programmes Office, 8-10 Berkeley Square, Bristol BS8 1HH, or telephone (0117) 928 7172.

Revolution for libraries

Thanks to over £800,000 of lottery funding, 210 new computers are to be installed in public libraries in Gloucestershire, as part of a major investment of more than £10 million of National Lottery funding in computers and state-of-the-art technology across the UK.

Painswick Library will get two new PCs to replace their present ones, with a vast improvement in access speeds as this 'People's Network' moves on to broadband. The People's Network, when completed in 2002, will link every public library in the UK to the Internet and the National Grid for Learning, making technology accessible to local communities at the click of a mouse.

In Gloucestershire, this will mean the development of an information and communications technology centre in each of the 39 libraries, backed by funds of £841,649, all connected by a high speed network. The PCs will be installed between October this year and November next year. Membership of the library service, which is free and easy to do, is the only requirement to make use of the People's Network.

Peter Gaw, Principal Librarian for Information Services, told the Beacon: "We are absolutely delighted to be able to provide yet another new service for the local community. The People's Network computers will mean local people can come into any public library in the county and use word processors, spreadsheets, database, graphics packages, desktop publishing and scanners free of charge.

"This will benefit students who need to type up school or college work; the unemployed who can use the Internet to research jobs and then use the word processor to prepare their CV; or a local organisation that could use the database to keep a record of all their members. Tourists can also use libraries to keep in touch with friends and family via our email facilities. This is yet another way in which libraries are changing to enhance their services.

"Library staff will be specially trained in these new facilities, and our libraries will shortly become Community Learning and Information Centres that will continue to inform, educate, challenge and inspire the people in all our communities."

PROPERTY REPORT - this month from Murrays Painswick agency

Virtually every valuation we go to at the moment, the first questions asked are: "Has the market peaked? Are property prices going to fall? Should we sell now before it's too late?" Not surprising really, with most aspects of the media doing their level best to talk us into a recession.

So why are our Stroud Valleys offices experiencing the busiest few months we can remember, with record sales more than doubling that achieved last year? Yes, there are more houses for sale but most are selling as soon as they reach the market, with plenty of eager buyers keen to secure their new home.

Prices have moved on too, perhaps here more than the national average, and

although this is great news for homeowners, those who are selling must be careful to avoid the temptation of pricing their property ahead of the market.

Buyers are still cautious and expect asking prices to be realistic, and if they reject a property on price, those buyers are gone. It is much harder to sell later even if the price is reduced; time lost could be invaluable, particularly if the market was to falter.

We are still optimistic, however, that the summer holidays do not seem to have slowed things down, and we see no reason why things should change through the autumn. All in all, still good times to buy or sell in Painswick.

Sales have been excellent with many exchanges and completions. New instructions have been buoyant too, and to mention a few: Smalls Mill (sold and completing this month); Cherry Croft, a bungalow in Pullens Road; Aarons a surprisingly roomy four-bed cottage, and Woods Mill in New Street; Forest View, a beautifully restored cottage in Sheepscombe; and six super properties all with fantastic views, Greystones in Lower Washwell, Bryher by the golf course, Hornbeams and Hazeldine in Slad, Highcroft at Edge, and last but not least, Woodside Farm with its cottages and 18 acres at Cranham for which we are overwhelmed with enquiries.

MURRAY'S
INDEPENDENT ESTATE AGENTS

**FOUR COTSWOLD OFFICES &
MAYFAIR LONDON**

Victoria Street, Painswick

01452 814655

www.murraysestateagents.co.uk

HAMPTONS
INTERNATIONAL

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

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

Arriverderci and au revoir

For many years now, Italian and French conversation classes have been conducted at Painswick Library by Caterina Krucker. Sadly, Caterina has now announced that she will be moving away.

When I first came to Painswick four years ago, I had already begun learning Italian, so was thrilled to find a class on my doorstep. But I was even more delighted when I discovered what a wonderful teacher Caterina was.

Her classes were lively, her teaching style encouraging. She always found the positive side in each student, helping each of us build on our own special skills, while not neglecting those areas which needed work.

Classes didn't stop just at the language - Caterina always had plenty of tales for

us about the culture and lifestyle of Italy, and she kept us up-to-date with developments in modern Italy.

When she announced to the class that she was moving away, we were in despair. But Caterina is not one to abandon her students and has been a great help in locating a replacement teacher to start Italian in the autumn.

I hope the French class have had similar success and will be able to go on. Whatever the future for the Painswick language classes, Caterina will be sadly missed - but her influence will live on and we will build on what she has given us.

We all wish Caterina and Steve the very best for their new life in the Dordogne.

Louise Hyland

Wilfred Hollinrake CBE

Born in Burnley in 1912, Wilfred Hollinrake grew up in Southport. He met Dorothy, his life's companion, at County Hall in Preston, and they were married in 1941. One of the most outstanding students to be received by the Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy, he had a distinguished career in local government during its most formative period in the development of public services.

Just after the war, at the age of 33, Wilfred moved from the West Riding of Yorkshire to become Deputy Treasurer of Somerset County Council, and later

County Treasurer. He also became President of the Society of County Treasurers. Nationally, he was financial adviser to the Association of County Councils, their senior negotiator with the government over Rate Support Grant, and on the Treasury Committee on local authority borrowing.

He was appointed Commander of the Order of the British Empire in 1972. On his retirement in 1974, he became a governor of Taunton School, and was an adviser to TSB and the Birmingham & Midshires Building Society.

Wilfred and Dorothy were keen walkers, and their holidays were invariably spent in the Lake District. In retirement, they increasingly came to stay with friends in Painswick. Finding that the air relieved Wilfred from his asthma, they moved here from Taunton in 1991, and quickly settled amongst the warmth of Painswick's people and its landscape.

After Dorothy's death in 1997, Wilfred found help and companionship from many. His gentleness, kindly wit and smile endeared him to all.

Wilfred and Dorothy led uncomplicated, uncluttered lives -- material possessions meant little to them. Their beliefs rather lay in self-reliance and charity. Of transparent integrity and quiet resolve, Wilfred had no need or desire for recognition, albeit it was given him.

As a couple they were both strong and determined in different ways. He was content for Dorothy's energy and love of life to surround him and, in turn, he brought security, calm and constancy. Both so different and yet so complementary, they are now together again.

John Downs

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Received

*The Stables, Painswick House, Gloucester Road. Erection of tool/storage shed.

*Mermagen House, Vicarage Street. Extensions and alterations to dwelling.

Revisions

*Back Edge Hall, Back Edge Lane, Edge. Erection of three-car garage with attic space over. Existing garage to be demolished.

*Highgrove Barn, Lower Washwell Lane. Erection of new extension. Main change: Proposed gable reduced in scale.

*Tullyfield, Longridge, Sheepscombe. Erection of extensions and alterations to existing dwelling. Main change: alteration to roofline

Consents

*Land at Stroud Road. Outline application for nursing home complex together with up to 20 associated ancillary dwellings.

*Tibbiwell House, Tibbiwell Street. Alterations to dwelling.

*Edge Cottage, Edge. Erection of conservatory extension, front and side porch extensions, and change of use to garden land.

*Beech Farm, Beech Lane, Sheepscombe. Alterations and extension to dwelling; demolition of garage, stables and agricultural buildings; erection of stables with menage.

*Forest View, Far End, Sheepscombe. Erection of first floor extension.

*Rockmill House, Painswick Road. Erection of lean-to roof and pergola to garage, and external work to garden.

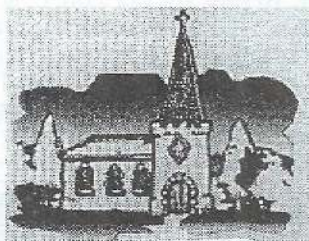
*Pen-y-Bryn, Steanbridge Lane, Slad. Erection of extension.

*Packhurst Farm, Edge. Insertion of two dormer windows.

*The Old Vicarage, The Green, Edge. Erection of roof extension to existing single-storey extensions and alterations.

PAINSWICK VILLAGE DENTAL SURGERY

Les Robinson B.D.S.
Private, Denplan



Appointments available 6 days a week and late evening Thursday

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

TEL: 01452 814427

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

ANDY AYLMEY PLUMBING & PROPERTY MAINTENANCE

All work undertaken
Quotations given
Local recommendations
available

GLOUCESTER 416116

FREDWOOD FORESTRY

Contracting, Tree Surgery
Firewood

Tel 01453 753601 Fax 01453 750530
Mobile 07740 307983

Volunteers are needed to help with victim support work

Stroud Area Victim Support Scheme is looking for new volunteers to deliver our service to victims of crime throughout the Stroud district.

We cover the whole of the Stroud District Council area, and volunteers are needed across the district.

Volunteers come from all walks of life. A liking for people, a willingness to listen and the ability to offer help and information in a sympathetic manner are the main requirements.

Some travel is required within the local area. A minimum time commitment of two hours a week is required.

The majority of our work is with victims of burglary, handbag theft and criminal damage, although we do also support the victims of violent crime.

All volunteers go on a high quality training course with other volunteers from VS across the county, and expenses are paid. The next basic training course starts in late September, so now is a good time to make that initial enquiry.

To discuss volunteering for SAVSS, please call the coordinator, Alison Hustwitt on 01453 751488, or write to Stroud Area Victim Support Scheme, The Old Town Hall, The Shambles, High Street, Stroud, G15 1AP.

Roland Boggem

Chartered Accountant

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

THE GARDEN PLAN

Landscaping Patios Fencing
Trees Borders General Maintenance

How does your garden grow?

FREE ESTIMATES
GENERAL AND SPECIFIC PROJECT WORK

Stuart Colley

Painswick

Mobile: 07932 972675 Tel: 01452 814379
stuart@upperwashwell.netscapeonline.co.uk

CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

Botanical art at its best

At the last of our fortnightly talks before the summer recess, it was a question of "Ancient and Modern" when Sally Birch entertained the Senior Circle on the subject of Botanical Art.

This talented lady brought along many exhibits of her work, as well as the tools of the trade with which she produces fine black and white and painted sketches of the flowers and vegetables that are part of our everyday living. First, she showed us excellent slides of paintings - as clear as present day photography - yet belonging to the 15th/19th centuries, the originals now sadly gathering dust in the vaults of museums. These illustrated books were often used as Botanical and Herbal Dictionaries by scientists of the day.

To mention one or two I especially recall - a delightful 11th century Bramble, identical to that which we'll be picking

Painswick Senior Circle

shortly in our hedgerows. Leonardo da Vinci's Madonna Lily and a Parrot Tulip from a Haarlem collection - all cleverly painted so long ago. And to end, an up-to-date painting of grasses with a mountainous background illustrating their natural habitat.

For those tempted to try their hand at this delightful pastime, Sally Birch is holding three workshops in September and October in the Orangery at the Rococo Gardens. She tells me they are good fun and those new to the art generally surprise themselves.

Senior Circle resumes with a full programme of talks on 7th September - do join us!

Daphne Hudson

Away from it All at Mothers' Union coffee morning



A coffee morning has been arranged in the Town Hall on Saturday, 6th October from 10am until noon, in aid of the Mothers' Union 'Away From It All' project.

This project has been running for several years and provides respite holidays for families in need.

Each year, the Mothers' Union in Gloucestershire arranges for several families to have a caravan holiday on the Devon coast, and money is needed to continue and expand this work. Enquiries to Gwen Welch, 812540.

History Society to hear about the Painswick Show

The history of Painswick Show will be the subject of the first talk in the new programme of Painswick Local History Society on Tuesday, 18th September. The speaker will be Martin Slinger, President of Painswick Show Society.

Meetings of the History Society are held in Croft School and start at 7.30pm. Membership costs £6.50 (single) and £10 (joint), and subscriptions can be paid at meetings or sent to Gwen Welch, membership secretary, at Stocks Cottage. Tel 812540.

M. BAKER & SONS

Members Federation of Master Decorators

PAINTERS AND DECORATORS

established in 1970

A family business specialising
in quality decorating

Wentworth, Cowle Road, Stroud,
Glos

01453 765502

24-hour mobile 07860 704044

ELECTRICAL

AND

ALARM

SERVICES

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

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

Door Entry and Closed
Circuit Television Systems fitted

For a friendly, prompt and
reliable service contact
Steve Gallagher
on 01453 791209

ALL WORK FULLY GUARANTEED
WITH NO ADDED VAT

Old Time dancing classes start at Painswick Centre

An exciting new venture into the elegant world of Traditional Old Time (Classical Sequence) dancing starts at the Painswick Centre on Wednesday 12th September at 2pm.

Geoff and Joy Codd, both qualified teachers with the International Dance Teachers Association, will be there to teach you some of the lovely Saunters, Tangos, Gavottes, Waltzes, Glides, Blues and Two Steps that have been danced all round the country since the beginning of the last century. Perhaps some readers can remember attending the balls of yesteryear with gentlemen in evening dress and ladies in ball gowns.

It might be a surprise to learn that these events still take place, and there is a Society for the Preservation of Old Time Music and Dancing. Geoff and Joy are members of the Society, and hope to be able to bring to Painswick some of that splendid atmosphere that is as much about socialising as actually dancing.

The venture will consist of a six-week course, two hours each week, with an interval for tea & biscuits. The cost will be £30 each which can be paid weekly or as a one-off payment.

After the six-week course, by which time a good basic grounding of the dances will have been taught, there will be regular Tea Dances each Wednesday afternoon from 2-4pm, with perhaps a new dance being taught on alternate weeks. This will build up a good repertoire of dances.

While it is preferable to have men and women couples, it is quite acceptable for two ladies to dance together, so please do come along if you have a partner, and enjoy a very sociable way of keeping fit and listening to lovely music as well.

For further information, please call Geoff or Joy on 01453 833150.

Police band booked for the autumn

While we are enjoying a reprieve from the somewhat indifferent weather that this summer has produced so far, the autumn evenings of late October may seem a long way off, but some of us might enjoy the prospect of something to look forward to, once the days begin to draw in.

So, following the success of the concert given by the ever-popular Gloucestershire Male Voice Choir, the Painswick Centre Management Committee has arranged another concert, this time to be given by the Gloucestershire Police Band, equally as popular as their singing counterparts.

This will take place on Saturday 20th October at the Painswick Centre. Further details about tickets and the time of the concert will be in October's Beacon.

Maggie Drake

Opening bars for Music group

Painswick Music Appreciation Group crashes into action on Thursday, 13th September. Come to our Opening Night and listen to a random selection of music we might hear in the coming months. Also - and importantly - at the AGM in the interval, listen to and discuss the proposed changes in our structure.

On 27th September, Alex Nichols will present '100 Years of Song,' recordings since 1901, ranging from ballad to opera.

Ralph Kenber

Entries close for Horticultural Society Show

A reminder that today (1st September) is the closing date for entries in the Painswick Horticultural Society's Annual Show, and that the show takes place next Saturday, 8th September, at the Painswick Centre.

Exhibits may be staged between 10am and 1pm, with the opening at 3pm. There will be, as usual, fine displays of flowers, vegetables, cookery and handicrafts to admire, plants and produce to buy, and home-made teas to enjoy.

The ever-popular Ten Pence stall will provide interest for all age groups, a friendly atmosphere of a traditional village event will prevail, and the successful competitors will be rewarded as Society president Gordon Gardner presents prizes to conclude the afternoon at 5pm.

Additionally, the winners in both classes, residential and business, of the Painswick in Bloom competition will be announced.

As there is a home bowls fixture the same afternoon as the show, car parking will be available on the Recreation field for show visitors and for bowlers, provided that the field is in reasonably dry condition.

Tickets for the Autumn Supper can be bought at the Show, and members will be able to renew their subscriptions at a cost of £4 each, and receive programme cards, giving details of Society events for the coming year. New members are most welcome.

Philip Berry, 813227



Computer Problems?
Call B.C.S
PC & Internet Solutions
Upgrades - Repairs - Training
Home or Small Office

Tel - 01452 812720
Mobile 07767 416606

OAKLEY GARDEN SERVICES LIMITED



For all your garden needs
MOBILE: 07979 590818
TEL: 01452 814533

MICHAEL NYE
Fine Woodworking
Beautiful furniture, kitchens, cupboards, doors, windows, boats, musical instruments

==YOUR IDEAS BECOME REALITY==

Tel. Edge 01452 814372



Allen Hale
Your local stockist for
The Real Meat Company

Allen Hale
New House, Friday Street
Painswick. Tel 01452 813613

BRINGING YOU FLAVOUR
WITHOUT EQUAL.
WELFARE WITHOUT COMPROMISE

The Painswick Beacon

VILLAGE DIARY to SATURDAY 6 OCTOBER AND FORWARD DATES FOR 2001

September

Sat 1st	Last day - Exhibition "... To the painted banquet ..."	Fiery Beacon Gallery	11am - 5pm
2nd	Tennis Club unveiling of the Valerie Funnell Memorial Bench - All welcome	Broadham Courts	1pm
3rd	Painswick Players Auditions - everyone welcome	Painswick Centre Green Room	8pm
4th	Painswick Dog Training Club (Tuesdays) - Puppies and Beginners Intermediate Advanced Dogs	Christ Church Hall	9.30 - 10.15am 10.15 - 11am 11 - 12 noon
	Crack Cancer Grand Bingo Evening	Christ Church Hall	7.30pm
6th	Cotswold Care Support Group meeting	Ashwell House	2.30pm
7th	W.I. Market: Fridays	Town Hall	10am
	Senior Circle: Crime Prevention - Gary Powers	Town Hall	2.30pm
Sat 8th	Sponsored Cycle Ride/Walk in aid of Gloucestershire Historic Churches Trust. Contact Michael Buttrey - 812565	Gloucestershire	10am - 6pm
	Horticultural Society Annual Show & Exhibition	Painswick Centre	3 - 5pm
11th	Mothers' Union: "2001 - The Year of the Volunteer" Members talk about their voluntary work	Church Rooms	2.30pm
12th	Wives' Fellowship Opening Service - Brian Oosthuysen	Christ Church	8pm
	Old Time Dancing Classes start	Painswick Centre	2pm
	Painswick Conservation Society: Regency Ironwork in Cheltenham	Town Hall	7.30pm
13th	Music Appreciation Group Opening Night	Town Hall	7.30pm
Sat 15th	Paradise House Open Day Crack Cancer Annual Garden Party	Paradise 8-9 Upper Washwell	2 - 4pm 2-4.30pm
18th	Jazz Evening: Local Musicians, no entry charge	Ostlers Room, Falcon	8.30pm
	Painswick Local History Society: Painswick Show, Martin Slinger	Croft School	7.30pm
19th	Parish Council Meeting	Town Hall	7.30pm
	Aerobics class - Contact Laura Gheorghe-Pickford on 07990512915	Church Rooms	8pm
20th	W.I.: Up the Garden Path - A talk by Mary Ellen	Town Hall	2.30pm
21st	Senior Circle: Norwegian Journey - Pat & Mair Daly	Town Hall	2.30pm
	Pitchcombe Promises Auction	Village Hall	8pm
Sat 22nd	PCMS: Visit to Malmesbury Abbey - GDMS Family Day £2 Tea and Evensong	Malmesbury Abbey	2pm 4.15pm



23rd	COPY DATE: All items to Mrs Jillie Speed, The Old Carriage House, Edge, or Beacon Mailbox in New Street		
	Clipping Service	St Mary's Churchyard	3pm
24th	Calligraphy for Beginners/Improvers £36 for 3 Workshops Details: Tel. 01452 611614 (Also 1st & 8th October)	Church Rooms	10am - 4pm daily
26th	Wives' Fellowship AGM	Christ Church Hall	8pm
	Aerobics class - Contact Laura Gheorghe-Pickford on 07990512915	Church Rooms	8pm
27th	DIARY DEADLINE: All items to Mrs Edwina Buttrey, 14 The Croft, or Beacon Mailbox in New Street		
	Music Appreciation Group: Alex Nichols presents 100 Years of Song	Town Hall	7.30pm
October			
1st	Calligraphy for Beginners/Improvers Details: Tel. 01452 611614	Church Rooms	10am - 4pm daily
	University of Bristol Course: Revolution in Russia - the downfall of the Romanov Dynasty - Anastasia Hackett MA DPhil (10 meetings £38) Mondays. Enrolment - 0117 928 7153	Library Room	7.30 - 9pm
2nd	University of Bristol Course: Revolution in Russia. As above.	Church Rooms	2.00 - 3.30pm
4th	Cotswold Care Support Group Meeting	Ashwell House	2.30pm
5th	Senior Circle: The Life of a Factory Inspector - Gus Gaugin	Town Hall	2.30pm
Sat 6th	October Issue of The Painswick Beacon published		
	Coffee Morning - Mothers' Union/PCMS - in aid of Mothers' Union Projects	Church Rooms	10am - 12 noon
8th	Calligraphy for Beginners/Improvers Details: Tel. 01452 611614	Church Rooms	10am - 4pm daily
	University of Bristol Course: Victorian Art & Architecture P Clarkson MA (10 meetings £46) Mondays. Prior enrolment essential: Tel. 0117 928 7844	Library Rooms	10 - 11.30am
17th	Coach to London: enquiries - 813965 or 813227	Stamages Lane Car Park	Depart 8.30am
Sat 20th	Gloucestershire Police Band	Painswick Centre	TBA
November			
Sat 10th	Charity Coffee Morning: Bring & Buy, Cakes, etc	Town Hall	10am - 12 noon
Sat 17th	Woollen Sale	Town Hall	
	Tennis Club: 40th Anniversary Dinner Dance: Tickets £30 from Sept.	Broadham Rugby Club	7-7.30pm until 1am
29th/30th & 1st Dec	Painswick Players - "The Farndale Avenue Housing Estate Townswomen's Guild Dramatic Society's production of 'A Christmas Carol'"	Painswick Centre	Daily
Sat 8th	Sue Ryder Coffee Morning	Town Hall	9.45am - 12 noon



Auditioning for... a kind of Christmas Carol

Sensing the opportunity for a Beacon exclusive, I collar Kevin Parker, the director of our next production (29th, 30th November and 1st December at The Painswick Centre) at a recent Painswick Players committee meeting, and try to wheedle from him a few juicy details about what it is all about.

"What's it going to be, then Kev?" I say by way of an opener.

"Oh thanks! You can top me up with the red, please," he said, hurriedly draining a nearly full half pint glass.

Wearily, I open yet another bottle of the cheap Hungarian Red. "I meant: what's it going to be, the next production?"

"You mean the one scheduled for 29th, 30th November and 1st December at The Painswick Centre?"

"The very same!"

"The Farnsdale Avenue Housing Estate Townswomen's Guild Dramatic Society's production of A Christmas Carol," he says in a triumphant rush.

"The... er what?"

"The Farnsdale Avenue Housing Estate Tow..."

"Yes, yes!" I butt in hurriedly. "When you say Christmas Carol, is this A Christmas Carol as in Scrooge, Tiny Tim and much God rest ye merrying?"

"Ye-es... sort of. What it is, is the tale of an amateur dramatic society's attempt to put on an ambitious Christmas production, which all goes horribly and hilariously wrong."

I suddenly have an overwhelming sense of déjà vu. Fighting back the urge to say 'No change there, then', I invite him to expand a little.

"Well, you see, the Farnsdale Avenue Hous... this am dram group, all in festive mood, decide to mount their stage version of A Christmas Carol.

"Enthusiasm being their middle name, the ladies present a dizzy array of characters from the Dickensian favourite

Painswick Players

(plus a few which aren't), battling on against all the odds and against each other, and adding those wayward touches of ingenuity for which the ladies are so justly famed."

"I see... I think. Who's in it, then?" I probe gently.

"Ah, well..." he says, offering his glass again with a 'Fill-it-up-and-I-might-tell-you' look in his eye. With a sigh, I hand him the bottle and watch more of the cheap Hungarian Red glug glug away.

"Well... actually, no one's in it yet. We're holding auditions on Tuesday, 4th September in the Green Room at the Painswick Centre." I am visibly stunned by this news.

"But that's the same date and venue as the Painswick Players AGM!"

"That's right! Two hilarious dramas for the price of one. Can't be bad," he says, as he strolls away, still clutching the bottle of cheap Hungarian Red.

So, there you have it. Come along to the Painswick Players AGM at 8pm on Tuesday, 4th September (Green Room at the Painswick Centre), and you can join the rest of the membership in trying to solve the baffling mystery of exactly what has been happening to the vanishing PP stock of cheap Hungarian Red.

But you will also be able to find out more about the Painswick Players' production of The Farnsdale Avenue Housing Estate Townswomen's Guild Dramatic Society's production of A Christmas Carol.

If all this sounds just too much excitement for the human body to stand in a single evening, auditions for The Farnsdale Av... the next production are also being held on Monday, 3rd September, again at 8 pm in the Green Room at the Painswick Centre.

So there's no excuse. Be there!

Jack Burgess

www.geocities.com/painswickdramaticsociety

Paul A. Morris

City & Guilds

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

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

Email: paulmorris72@hotmail.com

FREE ESTIMATES

A. J. FERN
CARPENTER-JOINER

and
General Building Services

Telephone: Stroud 750105

MINI-ADS

Mediocre 63-year-old squash player seeks partner of similar low standard. Can play anytime. Please call Ralph Drew on 814070

Bungalow, in delightful and peaceful situation, to let. One bedroom. Pitchcombe. 812682

N64 computer console and controller, good condition. £50 or near offer. 813857

Aiwa CD deck in full working order, £5. Saltan filter coffer maker £5. 813101

Canaries - one bedroom bungalow on quiet beach-front resort with three pools. Restaurants and shops nearby. From £200p.w. Vacancies October onwards. 611873

Technics single tape deck. Two motor microprocessor, logic control and Dolby B/C, £20. 813101

Found - Child's Bracelet in Gloucester Street. Valuable, possibly a Christening present. Initialled. 812879.

Autumn grazing sought by smallholder for ten sheep. 812879.

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

PAINSWICK OSTEOPATHS

Paul Stamp DO
Helen Froggatt DO

BUPA



PPP Registered Osteopath

Painswick Doctors' Practice

01452 301748

Parking and evening appointments available

The Personal Column

Weddings

Congratulations to DUNCAN ARCHARD and MICHAELA DANNY, who were married at St Mary's Church, Painswick on 18th August;

to PETER BRADSHAW and EMMA PEACHEY who were married at St Mary's on 4th August;

and to MICHAEL DAVENPORT and LICHEN ROWSON who married on 25th August at St John's Church, Sheepscombe.

Sapphire Weddings

Congratulations to DULCIE and LESLIE BROTHERTON who will have been married for 45 years on 15th September;

also to JANE and JIM HOYLAND who also married on 15th September, 1956.

Ruby Wedding

Congratulations to JENNY and PHILIP OAKLEY who celebrated 40 years of married life on 26th August.

90th Birthdays

Congratulations to PHYLLIS LEACH who was 90 on 6th August; to GLADYS HOBBS who will be celebrating her 90th birthday at Resthaven on 1st September;

to STAN BEARD of 6 Ashwell House, who will be 90 on 6th September;

and to RUTH HEAL (Canon Heal's widow) who is 90 on 24th September.

Get Well Soon

Best wishes for a speedy recovery to SANDRA ILLINGWORTH, LUCY BICKFORD, MIKE FREEMAN, BILL WEAR and KEITH CRANE.

Condolences

Sincere sympathies to the family of CHARLIE KEMMETT who died so suddenly, and to the family of NIGEL WALKLETT who died recently.

Comings and Goings

We welcome DENISE MAGAURAN who has moved into Flax Cottage, Vicarage Street from Jerusalem, Israel;

Mr and Mrs WHEELER who have come to live at Brooklands, Sheepscombe;

KEN and PATRICIA HELPS who are now living at Stonecroft, Hambutts Mead; Mr POPPLESTONE and Ms WERNHAM, the new owners of No. 5, Painswick Heights;

and Mr and Mrs MITCHELL now living in The Old House, Cranham.

And farewell to Mr and Mrs MARSHALL who have moved from Edge Lane to Stow-on-the-Wold;

and to JAN APPLETON and FRANCES JOHNSON who have moved from The Bunch of Grapes to live in Keswick, Cumbria.

Change of House

CATHERINE and DYLAN DAVIS and their daughters, Kate and Rosemary, have moved from Churchill Way to Melbury House, Edge Lane.

Exam Results

Congratulations to RALPH KENBER, who has been awarded an Upper Second Honours BA degree in History with English from Cheltenham and Gloucester College of Higher Education.

In earlier days, Ralph obtained a First Class Honours B.Sc and his M.Sc in Chemistry from London University, and is a Fellow of the Institute of Linguists.

Any more exam successes for publication?

Thank you

KEN and JOYCE OLIVER thank all their friends in Painswick, Pitchcombe and Edge for the flowers and gifts that were sent to them to celebrate their Golden Wedding anniversary in July;

PETE and EMMA BRADSHAW (nee Peachey) would like to thank their families, friends and neighbours in Painswick for making their wedding day so memorable. A special thank you to the Rev. Peter Minall who came out of retirement to conduct the ceremony.

Did you see?

Hale Cottage, Hale Lane appeared on the front cover of the August issue of Period House magazine; an article about the house is to be included in the September issue.

NEXT ISSUE

Publication Date
SATURDAY, 6th OCTOBER

Items for publication to Jillie Speed, The Old Carriage House, Edge, by
SUNDAY, 23rd SEPTEMBER

Mini Ads to Leslie Brotherton, Longhope, Blakewell Mead, by
SUNDAY, 23rd SEPTEMBER

Business adverts: Contact Liz Fisher, Harebell Cottage, Blakewell Mead, by
THURSDAY, 20th SEPTEMBER

Diary items (only) to Edwina Buttrey, 14 The Croft, by
THURSDAY, 27th SEPTEMBER

Letters and articles for publication are welcomed on computer diskette (returned after use) or by email to: painswickbeacon@supanet.com Items to be published, and other mail for the Beacon Committee, can also be placed in the **Beacon Post Box** in New Street (next to the telephone kiosk). Please provide your name, address and contact phone number.

BEACON COMMITTEE

Editorial Team:

Editor: Tony Crook 814500
Asst Editor & Sport: Terry Parker 812191
Editorial Asst: Jillie Speed 814148
Personal Column: Rachel Taylor 813402
Diary: Edwina Buttrey 812565
Clubs & Socs: Carol Maxwell 813387
Gen Features: Iris McCormick 812879

Business Advertising: Liz Fisher 812130
Distribution: Arthur Lock 813565
Treasurer: Leslie Brotherton 813101

DAVID ARCHARD

In association with
Philip Ford & Son Ltd

FUNERAL DIRECTORS AN INDEPENDENT FAMILY BUSINESS

*Private Chapels of Rest
24 Hour Personal Service*

**DIRLETON HOUSE
CAINSCROSS ROAD
STROUD**

**01452 812103
or 01453 763592**

The
**Anthony
Fisher**
Curtain Company

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