

The Painswick Beacon

Vol. 29 No.1

April 2006

Library - *action*

From feedback we have received it would seem that the front page articles we have run about the library in each of the last two months has stimulated some fairly animated discussion, both privately and publicly. It seems that local interest is not confined to the traditional expectations one has of a library – a range of books to borrow, maybe with one or two newspapers to read while there.

Our understanding is that, while having a fairly extensive range of books is regarded as important, there are two other particular 'dimensions' to the debate

- what associated services are desired, in addition to those already provided and appreciated, and
- are these particular premises capable of accommodating these, and other community services.

On page two we report the concerns that the Parish Council has, with the Beacon reports quoted during its proceedings. A petition supporting the retention of the library and bearing over 700 names has been handed in to the County Council, an exceptional expression of strength of feeling, and the Council is determined to vigorously maintain representations.

Three **action** steps are in hand, and readers concerned for the future of both these services and premises will, we believe, find each is worthy of careful note – if not participation.

■ The Parish Council has resolved to prepare a paper which will set out the range of uses to which it believes these premises can be put, and complete that document within the next few weeks.

■ The idea of a Friends of Painswick Library which was 'floated' on this page has drawn an initial 30 responses; not bad, considering that each respondent will have their own idea as to what may be involved. A letter has been sent to them all inviting them to **meet on Thursday 13th April at 10.30am**, with local manager Kath Pritchard present, in the library itself. Copy of that invitation has also gone to the Parish Council and the Church Wardens, as well as County Councillor Joan Nash for information. It will be for that group to decide what it wants to

do in both practical and representational terms, so it could be very important that every effort is made to attend. By making this known through these pages it is hoped that others who have not 'registered' their interest will come along as well; it is effectively an open house!

■ As can be seen, we are publishing (on page 12) a letter from our County Councillor Joan Nash in which it can be seen that arrangements have been made for Councillor Tony Hicks, GCC Cabinet Member for Libraries, and Mrs Jo Hand of the County Libraries Service to meet residents "... who have ideas about the possible future of the Library and perhaps form a working party to look at the broader picture of Community facilities in Painswick. I hope that anyone who is interested in this task will come on **Monday 15th May at 7.30 pm in the Church Rooms**". Mrs Nash has told the Beacon that she welcomes the formation of a Friends of Painswick Library grouping which could, among others, make representations directly 'to the top' by one or more representatives of that group attending on 15th May.

It is clear that within a week or two of publication of this issue of the Beacon ideas will not only have begun to be articulated but will be represented to the decision-makers. After that it will be too late to exercise much influence, so making one's aspirations known needs to be now.

All the more reason for noting both of the dates mentioned here in your diary, not least the first. The door to the library will be open to us that day, but for how much longer this will be so seems to depend upon local ideas and initiatives.

Have you aspirations for the future of these premises and, if so, what are they?

To what extent is the future of these premises in our hands?



Village Quiz

A full house again this year, and an exciting evening.

Mr Stomp, final results, and more pictures inside.



Inside, this month: The **hen calls round**, Rococo a **twitter**, know your **onions**, news of **exhibitions**, going **off to SA** voluntarily, full **quiz results** and pics, **new martial arts** group, **takeover** at t' market, **Rupert to exhibit**, coffee **a la Croft**, some **cake for HM**, meandering **peahen**, strictly **for the birds**, hitting the **Easter egg** trail, **selling for books**.

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS - by Leslie Brotherton

Reports upon meetings of the Parish Council cannot help but be selective, if only because of space constraints. We try to highlight points of wider interest. The full minutes of Council meetings are available at the Council office on Wednesday and Friday mornings, as well as Painswick Library.

TRAFFIC COMMITTEE

At the start of the meeting the Chairman, Ann Burges Watson, reminded members that a pedestrian struck by a car travelling at 40mph led to a 9:10 chance of death, while this figure changed dramatically to 1:50 for a vehicle moving at 20mph.

Resurfacing of A46

The committee agreed to write to the County Council and to the Ringway contractors complimenting them upon the consideration and courtesy of staff at all levels engaged upon the recent contract.

Whiteshill Road - Edge

The committee endorsed the proposal by the County Council to instal a vehicle-actuated speed restriction sign to the south of the Stockend junction. Martin Slinger undertook to report this intent to the Edge Village Hall committee on 11th March and seek publication in the village newsletter.

30mph Restriction - The Highlands

The committee took note of representations made by Norman Rampton who reported unanimity among residents of The Highlands, The Park and Cheltenham Road that the 40mph speed restriction be removed and the 30mph limit be extended to just north of the Highlands/Park junction. It was agreed to immediately request this of the County Council.

It was also agreed that there would be a distinct advantage in a traffic-calming feature at that point by carriageway narrowing or islands to further slow traffic.

Vehicle actuated signs - 'Slow Down'

Arising from the strong support for such signs at the recent public meeting it was agreed, subject to members looking at precise positioning by site visits, to seek installation of such signs at (in order of priority) north-bound between the 30mph sign at Broadham Field and Lullingworth, south-bound between the Highlands/Park junction and Gyde Barn, and exiting the village at St. Mary's Mead.

Painswick village - 20mph

The Chairman reported that the officers of the County Council had expressed willingness to consider the introduction of a 20mph speed restriction to the whole of the village. It was agreed to request that such be progressed and invite their suggestions as to where, on all access roads, this might commence. The committee recorded its desire that this measure be introduced as soon as possible as it had the potential to greatly influence the speed of traffic, and hence public safety, on both main and side roads.

Pedestrian crossing - New Street

Arising from the Parish Plan and further representations at the public meeting the committee considered requesting a pedestrian 'green man' controlled crossing in New Street. Note was taken of technical reasons for such only being able to be located adjacent to the traffic lights at the Post Office. The Chairman reiterated concerns to meet the needs of the least mobile in the community by having such a safer crossing of the A46. It was agreed, with one dissension, to request such a crossing.

PARISH COUNCIL

Special Meeting 7th March

St. Mary's churchyard - footpaths

The meeting had been convened to consider a working party report upon the request from the Parochial Church Council for financial support of its intention to improve and maintain footpaths within the churchyard.

It was drawn to the Council's attention that the churchyard had been closed for burials since 1875 and that the PCC was legally entitled to relinquish responsibility for its upkeep to the Parish Council or,

if not accepted by them, the District Council. The PCC, however, remained of the opinion that they would wish to retain responsibility for upkeep but would need to receive financial support wherever possible as the range of matters they needed to fund themselves was stretching their resources too far. The Council was informed of several costed capital projects in the pipeline, amounting to many thousands of pounds, most of which required funding from church resources at an early date. The working party were mindful that this churchyard, located at the very heart of the village, was also a through route for residents and visitors and that the maintenance of the footpaths was a matter of concern to the wider community and not just the PCC itself.

After discussion, and noting that the total cost was likely to be £28,500, it was agreed that the Parish Council offer to meet in excess of half of the cost of refurbishment of the footpaths within the churchyard through a first payment of £5000 in 2006-07 and five subsequent annual payments of £2000.

PLANNING COMMITTEE

As with the full Parish Council, the opportunity is afforded to the public to raise questions at the start of the meeting.

The Countess of Liverpool spoke to express her concerns and reservations regarding an application for change of use of land at **Holcombe Barn**, adjacent to her own home, from agricultural to equestrian purposes. The committee noted the particular points raised and undertook to take them into account when considering its own views.

Painswick Hotel - signage

The committee agreed in principle to support the introduction directional signs routing visitors to the Painswick Hotel via Bisley Street, with a maximum of four signs - two on the Cheltenham Road, one at the bottom of Bisley Street and one at the top of Tibbiwell - with sizes comparable with existing signs (voting 7 for 3 against).

Broadham Field - floodlighting

The committee was informed that the District Council had decided that the extent of light spillage from this floodlighting installed for rugby training did not comply with its planning conditions and that enforcement action to rectify the situation had been initiated.

PARISH COUNCIL

Affordable housing

Sinead Barker, employed by the Gloucestershire Rural Community Council, spoke to the Council about her work assignment, it being to facilitate consideration of and action to advance the creation of affordable housing in rural communities. She pointed out that she was independent of any agency or statutory authority and was seeking to address pressing needs. Her attention was drawn to the fact that several local surveys had been undertaken in recent years and that there was a general impression that a quest for suitable land was the main concern.

The Council agreed to set up a Working Party to meet with Ms Barker to study plans of the village with a view to identifying plots which might be investigated with land owners around the village perimeter in particular with a view to their sale for this purpose.

Fire engine - test runs

No detailed response had been received to the further letter sent to the Chief Fire Officer (*see page 2 last issue*), but his offer to arrange for one of his officers to attend the next meeting of the Parish Council was welcomed.

Heavy Goods Vehicles
other than requiring access to the village or diverted
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Michael.obst@gloucestershire.gov.uk
with
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A46 resurfacing

The Council endorsed the proposal to write to the main contractors, Ringway, expressing its appreciation of the courteous manner in which its staff at all levels had conducted themselves throughout the two weeks of road resurfacing.

Painswick library

The Chairman reported that a petition (*see page 2 last issue*) containing 708 signatures had been presented to the County Council supporting the retention of the library in Painswick. Vice Chairman David Hudson spoke strongly in support of the Parish Council maintaining representations and pressure upon the County Council in this regard. The Council endorsed the proposition from Chairman Terry Parker that a paper be prepared setting out the diversity of uses to which the library premises may be put "pre-consultation and not post-consultation". A member remarked that at that point it would be too late. (*See front page for meetings subsequently arranged.*)

Council vacancy - Sheepscombe

The Clerk reported that the prescribed procedures had been put in place but no volunteer had as yet offered their services to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Gordon Bruce.

It was noted that co-option can be used by the Council and it was hoped that a resident from within three miles of Sheepscombe would volunteer their services.

Footpath Committee - chairmanship

Consequent upon the resignation of Gordon Bruce the Council moved to fill the vacancy of Chairman of the Footpath Committee.

Mrs Jeanne Berry was appointed.

Bledisloe Best Kept Village competition

The Council discussed entry for this competition for 2006 and agreed that Painswick village be entered. (Painswick is not qualified to enter the Calor competition again until 2008.)

Public conveniences - Stamages car park

The completion of major works to refurbish these conveniences was reported, as was the state-of-the-art fixtures and fittings.

Members also reported the new 24-hour availability of one unisex convenience, access being actuated by a 20p piece.

Traffic - vehicle actuated signs

Arising from the deliberations of the Traffic Committee and a site meeting on 14th March (*see report opposite*) it was decided to recommend to the County Council the introduction of three such signs.

GCC Charter

The Council decided to enter into a partnership with the County Council by means of a Charter that had been drafted by the County Council and the Gloucestershire Association of Parish and Town Councils; this essentially a mutual undertaking to keep each other informed of matters which may or do affect the other party.

Painswick RFC & Sports Club - grant

The Council decided to set aside £1000 as a possible grant to the club, this from the Margaret Hampshire bequest, towards off-pitch facilities for youngsters consequent upon a dramatic increase in their attendance - especially on Sundays - subject to the Council being first satisfied as to a specific and tangible item upon which it would be spent. This was decided with 3 members voting against.



Painswick Country Market

The AGM of Painswick's own Country Market took place on 28th February. This was followed by an excellent lunch prepared and served by caterers, allowing marketeers to enjoy the meal without having slaved in the kitchen.

At the meeting a presentation of a cheque and basket of flowers was made by Anne Leoni, the chairman, to Doreen Boon who was retiring after 11 years as controller.

Doreen will be a hard act to follow for Pamela Westcott, who was elected to take her place.

Market decisions are made by an elected committee of 10 but the controller has overall responsibility for the running of the markets which take place every Friday at the Town Hall from 10.00-11.00am. There are various stalls including freshly baked cakes, tasty savouries, preserves - including chutneys, all of which are preservative free. Also for sale are locally grown seasonal vegetables and fruit, garden flowers, a wide variety of plants, eggs and eye catching craft-work.

All of these items may be ordered in advance. After making your purchases why not relax with a cup of coffee and tasting of delicious cake from their own cake table?

Pam and Anne say "Do join us on the Queen's 80th birthday on Friday 21st April when we will be serving a slice of birthday cake to celebrate this occasion."

Customers are asked to note that the Easter Market will be on Maundy Thursday, 13th April, and not on Good Friday.



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Therapist - Ruth

Ruth Coxall, who lives in The Highlands, offers two distinctive therapies and one is already being advertised in these pages.

Ruth has qualified in smoking cessation using hypnotherapy and this method claims a 90% success rate. She points out that with the impending ban upon smoking in nearly all public places her hypnotherapy may be of particular help to those who have tried to quit smoking before, but failed.

Another skill Ruth has to offer lies in what is described as Past Life Regression Therapy. She tells the Beacon that "It has proved to be an effective healing therapy for a wide range of emotional problems from severe phobias to common relationship difficulties. All of our emotions, thoughts and feelings are stored in the subconscious and using hypnosis, details of our current lives and, I believe, our past lives can be safely accessed. A client always seems to choose a past life that brings them insight and understanding in this one".



We asked Ruth how she came into practicing therapies and obtained her qualifications and she told us. "It all began when I was visiting a health kinesiologist in Stroud. I'd heard of past life obviously but experiencing it seemed a bit 'fruitcake' to me. Yet, whilst I there I had several spontaneous past life experiences. Fortunately I was with someone who could explain what was happening to me and why. Each past life experience gave me a completely new understanding of all that was happening in my life at that particular time. I was so excited about this life changing event that I contacted the Past Life Regression Therapy Association on the internet; from there I found a course to take.

How does it work? As you know, we are all products of our upbringing and past experiences but we also have a set of behaviours or personality traits instilled at birth. The trouble is that we presume our own personal beliefs and behaviours are the norm, even though they may cause us problems. PLRT helps to clear any negative memory cells that we were born with, freeing us to change positively. The changes bring healing and can be dramatic. However, some people come simply out of curiosity and find real joy in realising that death will not separate them from those they love."

Contacting Ruth Coxall is best by telephone on 812101 or by Email: ruth@coxalls.plus.com

District Councillor Surgery

Barbara Tait will be holding a surgery on Saturday 8th April between 10.00am and midday on the first floor of the Town Hall and says "all are welcome to come and make enquiries and raise issues".

Vous parlez français?

Stroud College is soon starting up a 'French for Beginners Course' in Painswick at The Painswick Centre. It will commence on the 26th April and run on Wednesday mornings from 10.00am to 12.00 noon, in the Cotswold Room, until 14th June (initially). Open to all ages, but continuation will naturally depend on numbers.

If anyone is interested, or would like to know more, they can contact Stroud College on 01453.763424, or simply call into the College in Stratford Road to enrol prior to the commencement of the course. The enrolment desk in the front foyer is open every day.

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Chat and snack

Prompted by a reader who, tongue a little way into cheek, dropped us a note wondering whether some newer residents might have the impression that the Austerity Lunches might be either a "Kind of soup kitchen for the poor and needy" or the exclusive preserve of and for churchgoers, we asked Gill Gyde to remind us of their actual history and enduring attraction.

The first thing to note is that these are organised once a week on a Monday for twenty occasions from October through to March from midday until 1.15pm. For each of these weeks a local voluntary organisation or a group of friends undertakes to host the event and the popular venue is Christ Church hall. A glance at our Diary pages 17&18 illustrates the wide range of hosts from this

community of ours. While the lunch is, of course, nourishing in itself, and healthy, it does remind those partaking that there are many elsewhere across the world whose diet is simple all the time.

The lunches provide the people of Painswick the opportunity to meet up with one another and enjoy a simple lunch of home-made soup, bread and cheese, is open to all and, in particular for anyone moving into our community, joining in has been found to be a truly an excellent way of getting to know new

people. An added bonus is the Tradecraft stall run by Alison Robinson, which sells a varied selection of Fairtrade goods.

The vegetable soup used is nearly always home-made and freely contributed by the hosts. A modest charge is made of £2.00 and by this means funds are raised for those in need, as they have done since 1971. About £30,000 has been raised across those 35 years!

Gill says "Thank you to everyone for their support of the 2005/06 season of Austerity Lunches which has raised £1700 to be shared between Christian Aid, Stroud and District C.A.B and the Family Haven."

During the summer the committee will be considering which local charities to support for 2006/07, and would be pleased to receive any suggestions.

We do remember

that grey box in New Street has still not received its bright new red coat, but BT assure us that it is still in their schedule of to-be-done-soon tasks.



VILLAGE QUIZ

Another year, another Village Quiz, and another capacity attendance of 108 participants in 27 teams - each combining memory, wit and a distinct intention of enjoying themselves.

The resulting final positions in the scoring 'pecking order' do not tell the whole story because, as the eleven rounds of questions progressed, and Joker cards had been deployed, it became increasingly apparent that only two points separated the top 5 teams right up until Round 9. Indeed, the evening concluded with only three points between the top three with **The Coasters** in pole position on 85, the **Bluebottles** on 84 and **I Sappienti Ignorante** on 82 - and they don't come much closer than that! We accidentally picked up the wrong results sheet when the announcements were made and have, since then, apologised to The Rosie Four for inadvertently placing them in third position.

Much effort had been made by most teams to produce a mascot or dressing up to reflect their adopted team name, and it was an added pleasure to select **The Lilies of the Field** for presentation of boxes of chocolates.

The Beacon committee drew considerable pleasure from preparing the event, and thank all who took part in so sporting and convivial a manner for making the evening such a success.



1st

2nd

3rd



A pale grey scarf was found at Painswick Centre after the Quiz.

A call to 813101 and it can be returned to its owner, with pleasure.



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The Coasters	<i>Jolly Stompers Dance Group</i>	1
Bluebottles	<i>Painswick Conservatives</i>	2
I Sappienti Ignorante	<i>Italian Group (Weekly Meetings)</i>	3
Drama Queens of England	<i>Painswick Players</i>	4
The Rosie Four	<i>Slad Village</i>	5
Sheep or Goats?	<i>PADFAS</i>	6=
Ding Dongs	<i>Ancient Society of Painswick Youths C</i>	6=
Band of Hope	<i>PCMS</i>	8
Bookworms	<i>Jenny Gaugain and book club A</i>	9=
Key Notes	<i>Painswick Music Society</i>	9=
The High Fliers	<i>Painswick Bird Club</i>	11=
The Conservators	<i>Conservation Society</i>	11=
Dusty Pages	<i>Jenny Gaugain and book club B</i>	13
Village Idiots	<i>Susie Oakley's Friends</i>	14
The Lilies of the Field	<i>St Mary's Guild</i>	15
The Bookends	<i>Painswick Reading Circle</i>	16
Four Wags	<i>Dog Walking friends</i>	17=
Esmeraldas	<i>Ancient Society of Painswick Youths B</i>	17=
Seeds & Weeds	<i>Painswick Horticultural Society</i>	19
Ha'penny people	<i>Gunton and friends</i>	20=
Millers & Farmers	<i>Harescombe Village</i>	20=
The Recycled Teenagers	<i>The Friday Club</i>	22
Tuppence	<i>Painswick Probus Club & Ladies Probus</i>	23
The Shuttles	<i>Painswick Badminton Club</i>	24
The Has Beans	<i>Painswick Horticultural Society</i>	25
Quasimodos	<i>Ancient Society of Painswick Youths A</i>	26
The Geriatric Challengers	<i>Ashwell House</i>	27

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THE Aid Week

May 14th to 20th

Amazingly, it is almost a year since the Painswick Valleys raised the record total of £9,691 for Christian Aid in one week. We were all still in shock from the horrors of the Asian tsunami. Since then there has been an appalling earthquake in Pakistan and it seems that every month we hear of a new natural disaster. Christian Aid works with partners in so many of the world's poorest countries that there is almost always a channel through which they can give help. Director Dr. Daleep Mukarji has welcomed the announcement by Kofi Annan that the United Nations will create a \$500m emergency fund.



But many problems are ongoing and don't make the headlines. In many parts of Africa communities are teetering on the brink of collapse. In the north there is civil war and the resulting desperate plight of refugees. In the south there is the nightmare of the AIDS pandemic and East Africa is experiencing one of the worst droughts in living memory. In all of these areas Christian Aid is working through its local partners who know best what help is needed in their area. As I write, 130 tons of bean seeds are being distributed to 10,000 families in Burundi.

Christian Aid week this year starts on 14th May. The need is huge and so we need to break our record again. The red envelopes have been ordered and collectors recruited. Christ Church hall is booked for the shop and our cooks are planning the delicious lunches. There will be full details in May but please note the date in your diary now and start looking out books and treasures for us to sell, and deciding who you will invite to have lunch with you on 17th, 18th and 19th!

Thank you in anticipation!

Liz Davies



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Coffee, cakes and Crafts at Christ Church

Once again we shall be holding a coffee and crafts event on Saturday 29th April from 10.00am – 1.00pm in Christ Church hall.

As well as coffee, a selection of delicious cakes will be on offer and a variety of crafts stalls selling the work of local crafts people.

Gill Gyde



You had 3 reported crimes in Painswick during the month of February.

2 were criminal damage

1 was a theft from a motor vehicle.

After reading the crimes I can say that there is nothing really to worry about.

Nothing really to report but what I would say is, that if anyone happens to be out walking or walking their dogs and they see anything suspicious, then please call 999 or Crime Stoppers on 0800 555 111.

Pc 24 Reuben Wyatt Mobile Police Station
07734.06827

Readers are reminded that the direct line to Painswick's PC
07799 624643

Not stuck

1st Painswick and Cranham Brownies welcomed some visitors in March.

They were Howard Powell and Alison from the Stroud branch of Guide Dogs for the Blind, and Howard's guide dog Whitney. The brownies have been collecting used stamps since the autumn of 2004 and would like to thank everyone who has helped with the collection.

Lara Fair 7, and Georgia Saunders 10, our youngest and oldest brownies handed over a heavy sack of stamps. We hope to put a new collection box in the library soon so please help us fill another sack by saving all your stamps.

Patsy Ratcliffe, Jackie Gray, Katherine Davies.



Our apologies to Whitney, as we discover that representing black dogs in black and white pictures does not do them justice! Ed.

Polling hours and absent voters

With effect from 23rd March new legislation applies which, among other points, affects polling hours and absent voting. All polling hours are standardised so, on 4th May the polling stations will be open from 7.00am until 10.00pm.

The deadline for registration of postal vote applications is 11 days before polling day. This means that the deadline for receiving absent vote applications at the District Council office for the May elections will be Tuesday 18th April. Any elector who wants an existing postal or proxy vote to be sent to a different address for a particular election will be asked to provide a reason.



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The View from Here ... an exhibition

An exhibition is being held by local artist Rupert Aker on 14th-17th April (Easter weekend) in the Town Hall. Rupert, who lives in Longridge, paints in both oils and watercolour and the exhibition draws together a range of paintings inspired by the views around Painswick.

Rupert's work is found in collections at home and abroad, including three works in the Brown-Forman collection (owners of Jack Daniels and Southern Comfort) in the US. Some notable owners in the UK include celebrity chef Jamie Oliver, broadcaster Jonathan Dimbleby and food writer Derek Cooper OBE. In recognition of the role that St Mary's Church and surrounding churchyard play as a landmark and centrepiece to the village, 25% of the proceeds will be donated to the church restoration fund.



After Narnia, a Month of Sundays...

Picture the scene. I am sitting here writing this late on Sunday afternoon. Well roast lamb and mint sauced, I await the inspirational muse. I sharpen a pencil in preparation for the gush of ideas which is sure to overwhelm my writer's block before long. Then I notice the six other pencils I've already sharpened, neatly lined up on the desk in front of me. Apparently, sharpening half a dozen pencils (plus a healthy slug of whisky) was how Hemingway prepared himself for a writing session. A great idea, I reflect, but a bit pointless if you're using a personal computer. That's the problem with progress...



May - is *A Month of Sundays* by Bob Larbey, who (amongst much else) was responsible for TV's *The Good Life*. Say that it's set in a rural rest home for senior citizens and that it's a beautifully touching, funny, happy, heart warming play. Mention that the cast includes the hugely experienced Peter Minall and Ray Davis as two incorrigibly rebellious elderly inmates of a rest home, the feisty Ann Dorman as a no-nonsense cleaning lady, the spirited Ellie Jackson as a young nurse, me as a long-suffering, put upon daughter of one of the incorrigibles and the inimitable Kevin Parker as my husband: a cast whose ages range from seventeen to seventy odd.'



At this point there is a Most Organised interruption to the creative process:

'No foolishness this month, please!' The Most Organised One is calling through the open door: 'Just because it's April, it's no excuse for fooling around with April Fool jokes in the Beacon.'

I am about to interrupt her to protest that the Beacon doesn't countenance April Fool jokes but the MOO interrupts my interruption:

'Just tell everyone what a success the YiPPies production of *The Magician's Nephew* was last week and that our next production - 4th 5th 6th

For a nanosecond I toy with asking which end of the age range she thinks she occupies. But courage fails me. I settle for:

'Anything else?'

'Well, you could include some of the photos from last Saturday's YiPPies performance to fill up the page.'

With that she's gone and I settle down once more to await the inspirational muse. Instinctively, my hand reaches out for the pencil sharpener and the whisky bottle. Not necessarily in that order...

Jack Burgess

www.painswickplayers.org.uk



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Concerts in St Mary's...

A final reminder to reserve your tickets for what will be a stunning series of four concerts in St Mary's Church organised by the Painswick Music Society. The first concert is on Saturday 8th April, when we welcome Robert Irvine (cello) and Fali Pavri (piano). Details of their programme were set out in last month's Beacon.

Sir Thomas Allen (baritone) will sing for us at our second concert on 22nd April. His programme includes Schumann's Dichterliebe, five Elizabethan lyrics, five Shakespeare songs, four songs by Warlock and four by Copland. He will be accompanied by Malcolm Martineau on piano. Immediately before his appearance in Painswick, he is performing at the Wigmore Hall, and shortly after he is singing at Glyndebourne.

Nicola Eimer is giving us a piano recital for our third concert on 6th May, and the Allegri String Quartet completes our season on 13th May. More details of all our concerts can be found in our brochures available in the library and other outlets in Painswick.

All the concerts take place at 3.00pm on Saturday afternoons in St Mary's Church. The artists perform on raised staging so as to afford better visibility. Many of us bring a small cushion to sit on. The doors open from 2.00pm. Seats are allocated on a first come first served basis. There will be a short interval of about 20 minutes to allow everyone to stretch their legs. Teas are available afterwards to round off the afternoon, when there is usually an opportunity to meet the artists.

Membership, which provides admission to all four concerts, costs £32 – a saving of £19 on the individual tickets. Students and children are welcome and tickets cost £3 per concert. Tickets for the concerts can be obtained from Hywel James, Canton House, New Street, Painswick GL6 6XH (tel. 812419) or from "The Chairman", New Street.



Painswick Music Society



Peter Rowe

"Threads of Red"

As part of this year's Stroudwater Textile Festival, the Guild Gallery is holding an exhibition of new contemporary textile work. Titled "Threads of Red" the exhibition will tie in with the history of wool weaving, trade routes and 'stroudwater scarlet' in the Stroud Valleys. The Guild Gallery will show a diverse range of contemporary textile techniques, media and exquisite craftsmanship.

From 2nd to 20th May the exhibition will be open between 10.00am and 5.00pm, Tuesday to Saturday.

The annual Stroudwater Textile Festival is the focus for the Stroudwater Textile Trust's year long programme of textile related events. A rich programme of exhibitions, talks and workshops from artists, historians, writers and collectors will take place throughout the Stroud Valleys.

Visit the Festival website www.stroudwatertextilefestival.org.uk for further information.

The Festival brochure will be available in March.

Jenny Ford 814745

Local History Teaser

Every village has its characters and here's a real classic from Painswick. Dating from the late 19th and early 20th centuries, who was he, what was he and where did he live? He's certainly worth careful scrutiny!

Last month's photograph was taken in the Park of Painswick House and the occasion was, of course, Painswick Show with the horticultural marquee in the background. The couple sitting left of centre were Horace and Gertie Hollister-Short. They lived at Yuleston, Gloucester Street which was for some years Painswick's police station. He was a schoolmaster at Painswick School.



Painswick Local History Society's March meeting took the members on a fascinating historic ramble through Pitchcombe. Mr Michael Little, whose family have occupied the beautiful (if somewhat cold) Pitchcombe House, was able to draw on a wealth of primary sources kept by his family over the centuries, to offer an informative and entertaining glimpse into our neighbouring village and his family.

The Society's next meeting is member's research evening on Tuesday, 18th April, starting at 7.30pm at the Croft School. Everyone is welcome.

Carol Maxwell

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Down on the Severn Estuary

Mike Teesdale, a voluntary member of the Wildfowl and Wetland Trust centre at Slimbridge, gave an illustrated talk on "Developments at Slimbridge", on Tuesday 14th March.



His presentation was a reminder of the national and international importance of Slimbridge, and of the huge numbers of ducks, geese and swans which over-winter on the reserve. Vital conservation, research and educational activities were reviewed.

The meeting was followed by the Club's AGM. The new programme for the year ahead includes a winter bird-

watching cruise on the Exe estuary in Devon.

The next meeting is in the Town Hall on Tuesday 11th April at 7.30pm, when Mike Robinson will give an illustrated talk on "Birds of Gloucestershire", covering habitats ranging from the Forest of Dean to the Cotswold water parks.

Bill Boydell

Lost or Found

This fine peahen has been sighted in several gardens in the Brookhouse Mill and Kingsmill Lane area across several weeks now.

Our thanks to Peter and Jean Harley for this photograph.



Strictly birdsong

How many times do you hear the sound of birdsong and wish to be able to identify the vocal artist? Now is a chance to fill some of those gaps in your bird knowledge.

This weekend (8th & 9th) the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds are visiting the Rococo Garden to help visitors identify our resident birds and newly arrived migrants by both song and sight.

The RSPB will be on site both days from 11.00am to 5.00pm with information available all day. However there will be two guided tours each day, one at 11.15am and the other at 3.00pm.

Normal admission applies of £5.00 for adults and £4.00 for over 60's. RSPB members will be admitted for half price on production of their RSPB membership card, as will Painswick Bird Club members on production of their membership card.



Paul Moir

Beacon SUBSCRIBERS	at 20th March	last March	2005-06 YEAR TOTAL
New, or renewing after lapsing	83	75	116
Renewed from last year	326	321	492
Total - including postal	409	396	608
Dwellings in Painswick village	1057		
Subscribers in village	296 = 28% of households		

Spotted



The **Yellowhammers** are back again, perched on the telephone wires towards the top of Stepping Stone Lane. They must think it's Spring!
Ralph Drew

Yellowhammer *Emberiza citrinella*
Males are unmistakable with a bright yellow head and underparts, brown back streaked with black, and chestnut rump. In flight it shows white outer tail feathers. Often seen perched on top of a hedge or bush, singing. Its recent population decline make it a Red List species.

Parliamo italiano.

* Un anno fa . .

A group of us met together to form a self help group to learn Italian. One year on and we still meet but now with at least a survival knowledge of the language. We have a native Italian speaker to help us and he is now learning the grammar...well, can you explain easily why certain English phrases are constructed as they are? So we are all learning. At the moment the highlight of our meetings (after coffee and a chat, in Italian of course,) is listening to the tale of Paride (Paris to most people) and the story of Troy. We are pleased with ourselves that by and large we understand most of what we hear. We are quite a way off joining the advertised intermediate/advanced group as yet but who knows, maybe next year.

Forming a group with a common purpose has led to extended social contacts and friendships. We recommend anyone to do the same.

* a year ago.

Ann Dorman 814548

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Easter Egg Trail at the Rococo Gardens

Painswick Playgroup are again organising another Easter Egg Trail on Friday 7th April from 2.30-4.30pm. **ENTRANCE IS BY TICKET ONLY, SOLD IN ADVANCE**, and priced at £4.00 per person (under 1's are free). The ticket price includes entrance to the Rococo Gardens and the Easter Egg Trail (with a set of questions for 6-11 year olds and another set for the under 5's), craft activities, face painting and a few surprises along the way ... and of course Easter eggs. Those attending are encouraged to walk to the Gardens, if possible, as parking is limited.

Tickets are available from The Shetland Shop, St Mary's Street, Painswick, or Painswick Playgroup (Monday-Friday 09.00-12.00) or Julia Murray on 01453 766554. For further information, please Email: eastertrail@btconnect.com



Willow

There seems to be no end to ingenuity and creativity these days at the Croft School.


Here we caught children, aided by Rosie Wooley from the Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust and parents Katherine Davies and Susie Eady creating a living willow sculpture. That these fronds of willow brought by Rosie from Slimbridge will soon grow into a fine hideaway, and shady spot for one of those balmy summer days, is likely to be a real bonus.



Thorough, in the extreme, these six youngsters were far from deterred by bitterly cold weather as the Beacon 'caught' them checking out the lie of the land in the Rococo Garden a couple of weeks ago, and showing their Size 2 feathered friend what might be in store!



The Beacon was represented at this coffee morning with thorough effort by the young people - ranging from tables, operating the 'cafeteria', the sales table



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The Nature Quiz

On Wednesday 8th March our team of Georgia Saunders, Francesca Jackson, Lauren Wilcock and Lara Evans competed in the first round of this year's Nature Quiz against two other schools, Parliament Primary and St Dominic's Primary. With five rounds to the quiz, the final score was 29 to Croft, 26 to Parliament and 23 to St Dominic's.

It was an exciting competition with brilliant play by all three schools. Because of The Croft's win, they will now go through to the semi finals. Well done Croft!

Sophie Hall and Lauren Wilcock

Top press: We have just heard that our semi final will be between The Croft, Minchinhampton and Sightherton Schools, some time in April. *Janet Hoyle*



Fairtrade week at the school

The Croft School's Fairtrade Week started on Monday 13th March. We had a visit from a lady from Tradecraft and the week was packed with activities such as making leaflets, rehearsing plays, researching fair trade, writing to supermarkets, cooking with Fairtrade ingredients and holding a coffee morning. Fairtrade helps farmers in developing countries and it guarantees a fair deal for poor farmers around the globe.

Jonathan Murray and Simon Linsell

Fairtrade Coffee morning

On Wednesday 15th March we had a Fairtrade Coffee morning. Cakes, tea and coffee were sold for £1, or 50p to children. We raised just over £400. All ages came from playgroup children to elderly people. Many jobs were needed, from washing up, greeting visitors at the door, serving tea, coffee and cakes to running a raffle for fair trade prizes. It all started at 9.30am and ended at 11.30am. Everyone had fun and it was a complete success.

Jacob Lee and Lara Evans



...ing, to take photographs, and sample what was on offer. What we experienced was a truly ... from greeting their visitors, to explaining what had been prepared, to waiting and clearing ... and the raffle; supported throughout by a considerable effort by several parents.

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Sophie Gordon

Anne Aberdeen, The Dowager Marchioness of Aberdeen and Temair writes:

I am Sophie Gordon's mother, and I would like to say thank you to the people of Painswick, who made my daughter so happy and so at home here. Her funeral was a truly heart warming occasion for the family, and we are all so grateful to the many people who came to the church and who gave so generously to the Sophie Gordon Memorial Fund which has £596 in it. This splendid sum of money will go to Meadowbank which was Sophie's home for so many years.

Plaudits

Jackie Herbert writes, and we hesitantly print:

I have just had a fantastic response to a small-ad in the Beacon and wonder what on earth we would all do without this wonderful magazine. I was amazed and horrified to read that only 4 out of 10 householders subscribe, despite every household receiving a copy every month. Then I thought that perhaps I have sometimes in the past forgotten to send in my subscription, or simply cannot remember whether I have sent it in or not. Senior moments?

May I suggest to your readers that if you think you may have missed paying in the past then send £10 now to make up for it. The Beacon, plus the Painswick Directory, is worth at least that amount every year.

Well done and many thanks to the Beacon Team.

Peggy Bradshaw wrote:

I felt I must write to thank you for the 'Village Quiz'. I am sure it took a lot of thought to organise. We, from Ashwell House, enjoyed the evening. It was fun, interesting and stimulating, and of course having the bar was helpful.

Many thanks again, and I hope we can repeat the same thing again next year; Deus Volante!

and Anne Smith added:

Many thanks for a most enjoyable evening at the quiz on Saturday. We thoroughly enjoyed ourselves, regardless of not knowing all the answers. Many thanks again from the Recycled Teenagers.

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County Councillor Joan Nash writes:

Painswick Library

The petition from Painswick Residents asking for the retention of Library facilities in the village was presented to Councillor Tony Hicks, Cabinet Member for Libraries, at the County Council Meeting on 22nd February and it is encouraging to read in the Beacon that there are residents who are interested in taking part in "idea sharing" in relation to the Library and the Community.

Painswick Library is part of the County Library Service which is constantly under review in order to provide the best Library service for the whole County, with the funds available.

The Library building in Painswick is in need of maintenance, a considerable sum of money will be needed to ensure the continued provision of services. The use of the Library is not as great as many other Libraries in the County, but is a very important service to those who do use it. The building has been in the Community for a long time, first as the School and latterly as the Library, and many residents are concerned that there continues to be a Community use for it.

Painswick Library had not been singled out for closure at the time of the petition, but could now be focused for looking at the best way forward for providing Library services in the village and for the future of the building.

It would be good to see a Community facility alongside Library use in the building. I feel that work needs to be done to overview the whole area of needs in the village, engaging with representatives of other Community buildings, to ensure that the village makes best use of these interesting old buildings and can afford to provide the facilities we all want to enjoy.

Councillor Tony Hicks, Cabinet Member for Libraries and Mrs Jo Hand, County Libraries Service have agreed to join me to meet residents who have ideas about the possible future of the Library and perhaps form a working party to look at the broader picture of Community facilities in

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Painswick. I hope that anyone who is interested in this task will come on Monday 15th May 2006 at 7.30 pm in the Church Rooms.

HGV relief

Rosemary Sharpe noted, on 8th March:

The last two weeks have proved that heavy duty lorries do not need to travel through Painswick on the A46. All seem to have found an alternative route without drastic circumstances. It would appear, therefore, to be possible to ban the aforementioned, except for access, quite easily.

This would make for a more peaceful life for Painswickians living in New Street, and beyond, add to the safety of children and the elderly, and preserve the beautiful buildings for the future.

The Beacon

A number of remarks are enclosed with subscriptions and modesty, combined with space, prevents us reproducing them all, but include just one from Roz Harris who rightly refers to the whole team:

A big thank you to all the Beacon people who work so very hard. It is so valued and excellent.

Charity sale



The annual charity sale in aid of the Brooke Hospital for Animals will be on 8th April at 10.00am in the Town Hall.




We will be selling bric-a-brac, toys, books, etc. Entry is 50p to include a cup of coffee and a biscuit. There will also be a tombola.

All are welcome.

Jill Alder

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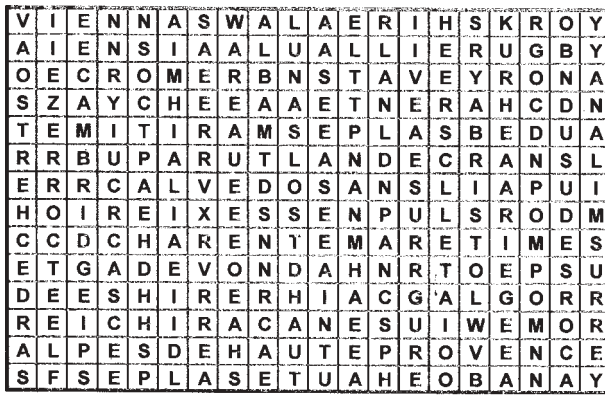
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Poets laureate

Last month we came up with what was probably our hardest challenge ever - finding all nineteen laureates. If you attempted the exercise, here are the answers - in chronological order:

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| John DRYDEN | Robert SOUTHEY |
| Thomas SHADWELL | William WORDSWORTH |
| Nahum TATE | Alfred Lord TENNYSON |
| Nicholas ROWE | Alfred AUSTIN |
| Laurence EUSDEN | Robert BRIDGES |
| Colley CIBBER | John MASEFIELD |
| William WHITEHEAD | Cecil DAY-LEWIS |
| Thomas WARTON | Sir John BETJEMAN |
| Henry James PYE | Ted HUGHES |
| | Andrew MOTION |



Centre sale

Our next event will be The Country House Sale, which will be held in the Painswick Centre on **Sunday 4th June**. We have changed the date planned originally because it clashed with another event in the village. As last year, we are happy to include in the Sale most objects, with the exception of large items of furniture, clothing and electrical goods.



Exhibitors will receive 75% of the sale price, with the Centre receiving the other 25%. However, on this occasion, we are proposing to donate half of our share to provide **new books for Croft School Library**.

If you wish to submit items for the Sale, please contact me on 814070, and I will provide you with a Seller's number and labels with which to price mark your goods. If you wish to donate items for the Sale we will be pleased to accept them! If you would like to help on the day of the Sale by manning one of the tables we would be very happy to have you with us. I am sure that once again we can rely on your support, either as a Seller or Buyer, for what should be a very worthwhile event.

Ralph Drew



Cranham auction

As many readers may know, two auctions a year are held at Cranham Village Hall, these to aid, in rotation, the Church, the School, the Village Hall, and Cricket Club.

The **Spring Auction this year will be on Saturday 22nd April**, to aid the Village Hall. Viewing of Lots will start at 10.00am, and the Auction begin at 12.00 noon. Hot and cold refreshments will be available.

We try to include mention here as we are told that this is one of the events to which a number of local residents look forward. We heard about this first Cranham auction too late for inclusion in the last issue, but there is still time enter lots for sale, or note the date and time to attend and bid.

Entry forms are available from Mrs Jean Garret on 812077. The Auction itself is always interesting, and if additional information is required do contact Gary Mason on 812816.

Gioachino Rossini

Rossini, King of "opera buffa", was the most popular composer of the early nineteenth century. He was essentially a happy composer best known now for his brilliant overtures, showpieces for his operas of which he composed no fewer than 39 between the ages of 14 and 37! It was the overtures - not always related to the music of the opera itself! - that Richard Burges Watson made the centrepiece of his thorough and very relaxed presentation on 9th March.

He started with a jewel of an overture, that of the Barber of Seville. Tancredi was Rossini's first opera seria and we heard the overture to this, followed by arias from the Italian girl in Algiers (great singing by Cecilia Bartoli), the Barber of Seville, an opera buffa and probably his most popular one, and, very soulful, from Othello, opera seria. The La Gazza Ladra overture followed by arias from La Cenerentola (Cinderella) ended the first half.

Next, the gorgeous overture to Semiramide, a neo classical opera. His last opera, William Tell is grand opera, a mighty masterpiece, and we heard the famous four-part overture, totally different to the preceding ones. Richard ended with two choral works: the beautiful quartet "Sancta Mater" from Stabat Mater and Kyrie and Gloria from La Petite Messe Solonelle. What lovely music!

Ralph Kenber

Newent Onion Fayre

You don't have to like onions to enjoy this Fayre. There is something for all the family. Keith Urch and Mike Davis shared their memories and slides with us at our March meeting. Newent has held a Fayre in September since the 14th Century. It closed in 1939 and during the years leading to its revival 11 years ago was held only intermittently. Today it goes from strength to strength and over the past 11 years it has raised £4.5 million for Charity.

Exhibitors come from far and wide and return year after year. The town is closed for the day and the streets are filled with a variety of stalls, entertainers, art exhibitions, food and drink venues and fairground rides. All the community is involved and the day is "narrated" by the country's oldest Town Crier. It is now a premier event in Gloucestershire and the only Onion Fayre nationwide. It does of course have an Onion Show and here monster onions weighing 8lbs sit alongside champion shallots, chives, spring onions and garlic. Classes are open to everyone and handsome cash prizes are to be won. It is all run by volunteers and epitomises the

traditional view of the English country fayre - we left hoping that the one item they cannot organise, the weather, is kinder to them this year!

Our next meeting is on April 12th, subject Show Presentation at 7.30pm in the Town Hall. If you have never entered our Show because you don't know the rules of how to present vegetables and fruit, jams and chutneys, cakes etc. you will be able to find out 'how'. There will also be a Bring and Buy Plant sale. Visitors, as always, are welcome to join us.

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Cricket

The new season gets underway later this month when Painswick's first eleven are away to Cirencester on Saturday 29th April and the second eleven at home to Gloucester Civil Service. The first eleven last year won promotion for the second successive season and now play in Division 1 (1st XI) of the Readers Gloucestershire Cricket League. On Saturday 6th May the first eleven are at home to Newent and the second eleven away at Charfield. All league matches start at 2pm. On Sunday 7th May Painswick entertain Birdlip in the Village Championship Knock-Out Competition. The players will very much welcome the support of Beacon readers. With the arrival of the lighter evenings, net practices are now being held at Broadham Fields on Wednesdays at 6pm. Anyone with an interest in playing for the club is welcome to attend the practices.

Churches Together Cricket

The Churches Together Around Painswick (CTAP) Committee is grateful to the Painswick Cricket Club for once again hosting the annual match between a CTAP team and a Churches Together team from Stroud. The provisional date for the match is Sunday 9th July.

Rugby

Painswick won through to the semi-final of the Cheltenham Combination Senior Cup when they defeated Tewkesbury by 26 points to 7. They now play Cheltenham or Cheltenham North at Broadham on Tuesday 11th April with a 6pm kick-off. Today, Saturday 1st April, Painswick first fifteen are away to Cirencester in the Stroud Senior Combination Cup Semi-Final. The Tewkesbury match was hard fought with the Cherry and Whites down by a converted try to a Matt Coombs' penalty in the first-half before Coombs was successful with two further penalty attempts and wing-threequarter James Wynn finished off an excellent movement with an unconverted try. In the second-half Painswick increased their lead with tries by centre-threequarter Jake Saunders and another from James Wynn, one of which was converted by Matt Coombs. Cainscross second fifteen had consider-

able cause to celebrate when they defeated their Painswick United opponents at Victory Park by 33 points to 7. The reason they were especially pleased with their victory was because it had been twelve years since they last defeated the Cherry and Whites second fifteen.

Results [(L) indicates league match. (M) Merit Table]

Sat 4 Mar. (L) Painswick 1st XV 10 Chosen Hill 1st XV 31.

Sat 11 Mar. (L) Aretians 1st XV 15 Painswick 1st XV 0.

(M) Chosen Hill 2nd XV 32 Painswick United 15.

Sat 18 Mar. Cheltenham Combination Cup. Tewkesbury 1st XV 7 Painswick 1st XV 26.

Sat 25 Mar. (L) Drybrook 1st XV 13 Painswick 1st XV 5.

(M) Painswick United 15 Hucclecote 2nd XV 20.

Fixtures

Sat 1 Apr. Stroud Senior Combination Cup Semi-Final. Cirencester 1st XV v Painswick 1st XV.

Sat 8 Apr. (L) Painswick 1st XV v Widden Old Boys 1st XV.

(M) Cinderford 2nd XV v Painswick United.

Sat 15 Apr. Painswick United v Old Richians 2nd XV.

Sat 22 Apr. (M) Hucclecote 2nd XV v Hucclecote 2nd XV.

Vice-Presidents' Day

The Club is hosting a Vice-Presidents' Day on Saturday 8th April. The day starts at 1.30pm with a buffet/drinks before the league match against Widden Old Boys.

Antwerp Tour

Painswick go to Belgium for their end of season tour over the last weekend in April.

Hockey

Painswick Ladies continue to enjoy their hockey and have the distinction of being the only team in their division to play on grass. Recent results have reflected a number of injuries with the club unfortunate in meeting the two top teams in the division in the final two league matches of the season. Victories over the Cherry and Whites in those games have ensured promotion for Bourton Vale and Newent. The Sunday morning Mixed Hockey fix-

tures have been hit by bad weather with three of the March fixtures having to be cancelled. Last Sunday's match was cancelled as Painswick Ladies were playing in the Gloucestershire Tournament at Dean Close School in Cheltenham. The club will again be playing in the summer evening Indoor Mixed 7-a-side league at Benthams and also in the Outdoor Mixed 11-a-side league at the Oxtalls Centre in Gloucester.

Results

Sat 4 Mar. East Gloucestershire 5 Painswick 0.

Sat 11 Mar. Stroud 3 Painswick 1.

Sat 18 Mar. Painswick 0 Bourton Vale 3.

Sat 25 Mar. Newent 6 Painswick 0.

Tennis

The club held a very successful Curry and Skittles evening at the Painswick Centre on 10th March. The winner of the "killer" event was Peter Willoughby with Roger Stewart runner-up and Lynn Steer in third place. The members were grateful to Carole Smith and Norah McAndrew for organising the evening. The Painswick B team won the Painswick Mixed Floodlit Cup with Nailsworth the runners-up. Team practices for the summer league have begun with the Ladies' practice night on Wednesdays at 6pm and the Men's on Fridays at 7pm.



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New Martial Art in Painswick

The inaugural meeting of the Painswick and District T'um Phu Association was held in the Painswick Centre on Thursday, 18th March. We were fortunate enough to have Rolf Palio address the meeting. Rolf is a highly experienced former English champion and is justifiably proud of his Mai Tee T'um, the highest honour in T'um Phu. He explained that T'um Phu is one of the most ancient of the martial arts and is unique in using just the fingers to paralyse an opponents central nervous system. This is achieved by thrusting the tips of the fingers into a vital point just below the navel, known in Mandarin Chinese as the T'um. Rolf went on to relate the fascinating history of T'um Phu, which according to legend, originated in a little village in the foothills of the Himalayas. Each Spring as the snows melted, hordes of marauding bandits would sweep down from the mountains, brandishing seven-foot long spears, causing the unarmed villagers to flee in terror. Then, one day, the wise man of the village sought the help of the Monks of the Holy Phu, who revealed to him the Great Secret of the T'um. He took this knowledge back to the village. All Winter long, the villagers trained and practised until they had perfected the art of T'um Phu. And when the following Spring, the snows melted and the marauding bandits swept once more upon them with their seven-foot long spears, the villagers did not flee but stood their ground and bravely did battle.

Sadly, they were all slaughtered. All, that is, except the wise man, who wisely discovered (just in time) another way of surviving a marauding bandit with a seven foot spear, namely, stay eight feet ahead of him. And so the secret of T'um Phu survived and was passed on to the present day.

The evening ended with an exhibition contest between a 'scratch' team from Painswick and County Conference League champions, Gloucester Gladiators. Although Painswick lost by 9 T'ums to 6, it was a hard fought contest and there were some good Painswick performances. Amongst the ladies, Avril Folie, in particular, showed great promise, collecting two T'ums and only losing a third through a (disputed) low Phu ruling. J.Burgess and L.Brotherton also displayed fine personal T'ums.

We are, of course, always on the lookout for new members. In particular, we want to start a junior section which will offer youngsters the chance to gain a Tee Ni T'um qualification. For those who might be interested in joining us, our next club night is on Wednesday, 5th April, 8.00pm in the Painswick Centre.

Alf O'Priol, Secretary

Charabanc

Seats are still available on the coach to Bath on Wednesday 19th April. The outward journey is at 10.00am, and homeward 5.00pm from Bath. The fare £7.50.

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



War memorial

The paved area around the memorial, which had become very uneven and covered in lichen, has been completely cleaned and re-laid to a very high standard.

The contract was carried out by local firm AJ Bullingham Building Services Ltd.



Race week coincidence?

Acting on a 'tip off' our photographer used his camera to check upon a possible French take-over of the care centre site.

Closer examination revealed the flag to be Irish, and whoever put it there must have had a head for heights.




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Humanitarian trip to Mwandi, Zambia

In October this year I will be travelling to Southern Africa to volunteer at the Mwandi Hospital and Orphanage in Zambia with an organisation known as i-to-i who specialise in bringing voluntary support to areas where it is needed most (see www.i-to-i.com for details).

On this placement I will be helping out in the hospital out-patients department and pre-school as well as providing manpower for their current building projects.

I was born in South Africa and as such Africa has always held a very special place in my heart and it is with this in mind that I would like to give practical help back to the country and it's people.

To enable me to volunteer in Zambia I need to raise £1000 to help towards the cost of the placement, flights and visa's. I am planning on doing this through a variety of ways including a plant sale (Stamages Lane, 20th May – weather permitting), a car-boot sale and a local car-wash scheme.

If you would like more information or to make a donation (either financial or saleable items for the car-boot) please call me on 810703.

Jennifer Cartwright-Taylor (volunteer no. 1029520)



Subscriptions to the Beacon

We are very appreciative of the rapid response, this year, to our invitation to readers to subscribe to the Beacon. As we explain from time to time, we are totally reliant upon a mix of voluntary subscribers and advertisers to produce this monthly newspaper for Painswick, so our watching out for the response contained in the March issue is truly important to us.

We publish a statistical summary of the monthly position and the first one for 2006-07 is on page 8. **The figure which means most to us, and which we monitor carefully, is the one which shows how many households in the village are subscribers. As can be seen, this month it has so far reached 296, being 28%; the total last year was exactly 40% - being four out of ten.**

When we are asked for guidance about subscriptions we stick with our policy that the decision is entirely your own - we will deliver copy whatever you decide. However, each copy costs about 50p to prepare and print, so an annual subscription is very much appreciated. For UK postal subscribers the minimum has to be £12.00 to cover postage and envelope.

Incidentally, we lose out with several subscribers who inadvertently or otherwise put their un-stamped envelope in a Royal Mail post box. We have to travel to Salmon Springs sorting office to retrieve it, and pay £1.21 surcharge for the privilege! Please only use the Beacon Box next to the telephone kiosk in New Street, or post with a stamp to Shirley Clark, or actually hand the envelope across the counter inside the Post Office - for free. Again, thanks in anticipation.

PROPERTY REPORT for April by Hamptons International

Although the cold March has dampened our spirits it has not affected the flurry of activity we are currently experiencing in the property market. This all bodes well for an active Spring especially as we now hold a bank of superb new instructions waiting to launch onto the pre-Easter market.

Hamptons advice to enter the market early during 2006 has been heeded resulting in a 40% increase in stock and we are very busy with viewings and sales. However, the average time between agreeing a sale and exchange of contracts has been increased to approximately 12 weeks and it seems that the longer it takes to exchange, the more likelihood there is of the deal falling through. Sadly we have lost a few sales this month due to chains breaking and this can be avoided if vendors

can appoint a solicitor as soon as they put their property on the market.

New instructions in Painswick include, Copper Beeches off Knapp Lane, Barncroft in Blakewell Mead, both luxuriously modern family houses; Always in Kingsmead – great location with potential; Dalegarth in Cotswold Mead already with a sale agreed; Towys a 2 bedroomed bungalow at the top of Tibbiwell Lane; Mill View – a newly built 2/3 bed house – a compact property with garden and views – ideal second home; and the new house in Butt Green is almost complete and is now viewable. Court Barn on the Stroud Road is also back on the market - a charming cottage with 4 bedrooms and patio garden and on the Cheltenham Road a modern 3 bed bungalow with lovely views. In Edge we are offering Chapel Cottage – a two

bedroomed period cottage with adjoining unconverted chapel suitable for a variety of uses, subject to planning permissions. Both of these properties are Grade II Listed, Laurel Court in Slad is a fine Grade II listed wing of a substantial country house and on the edge of Sheepscombe we are offering Laburnham cottage and Lawn Cottage at Painswick Court – both 3 bedroomed period cottages in lovely rural surroundings.

Recent exchanges in Painswick include The Ridings in Court Orchard and The Tower Cottage off Kemps Lane – we have many others on the brink of exchange which we won't report as all fingers are crossed!

For more information or advice on any property matter please call Miranda or myself on Painswick 01452 812354

Diane Mearns

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APRIL

Sat	1	Coffee Morning (Helen & Anne) in aid of Emmaus Over Sixties Pole-dancing (beginners)	Town Hall Fire Station	9.45 to 12 noon 9.30pm
Tue	2	Dog Training Club (Tuesdays) Badminton in the Painswick Centre (Tuesdays)	Christ Church Hall Painswick Centre	9.30 to 12.00noon 2.00pm
Wed	5	Probus: The Cossacks - Mr M Chance	Ostlers Room, Falcon	10.00am
Thu	6	Jolly Stompers Line Dancing: Beginners Experienced beginners - Thursdays Cotswold Care Support Group Meeting Tea Dances - Thursdays Music Appreciation: Children and Music	Town Hall Ashwell House Painswick Centre Cotswold Room	12.00 to 1.00pm 12.30 to 1.30pm 2.30pm 2.30 to 4.30pm 7.30pm
Fri	7	Country Market with coffee available: Fridays Painswick Playgroup's Easter Egg Trail Friday Club: Fashion show "Weekenders" Adrian Ivey Theatre Club Outing to Cheltenham A Bingo Evening in aid of the Cobalt Unit	Town Hall Rococo Gardens Town Hall The Falcon Town Hall.	10.00am 2.30 to 4.30pm 2.30pm 6.30pm 7.00 for 7.30pm.
Sat	8	Coffee Morning & Sale for Brooke Hospital for Animals Surgery: Barbara Tait Strictly Birdsong – with RSPB (see p9) Painswick Music Society Concert: Irvine and Pavri	Town Hall Town Hall (upstairs) Rococo Garden St Mary's Church	10.00am 10.00am to noon 11.00am to 5.00pm 3.00pm
Tue	11	Clothes Sale (For 4 days) Bird Club: Birds of Gloucestershire – Mike Robinson	Patchwork Mouse Town Hall	10.00am to 4.00pm 7.30pm
Wed	12	Horticultural Society: Show Presentation Easter Fun Day: Crafts, games & fun for children	Town Hall Church Rooms	7.30pm 2.00 to 4.15pm
Thu	13	Easter Country Market: Coffee served as usual Friends of Painswick Library	Town Hall Library	10.00am 10.30am
Fri	14	No Country Market Today Good Friday Procession of Witness (start from) Exhibition of paintings by Rupert Aker (see p7) Painswick Singers: Faure Requiem	St Mary's Church Town Hall St Mary's Church	10.30am Daily 7.30pm
Tue	18	Local History Society: Research Evening Jazz Evening no entry fee	Croft School Ostlers Room, Falcon	7.30pm 8.30pm
Wed	19	Probus: AGM Coach to Bath: Enquiries 813965/813227	Ostlers Room, Falcon Stamages Car Park	10.00am 10.00am
Thu	20	Music Appreciation: Last night of 18th Season	Cotswold Room	7.30pm
Fri	21	Country Market with coffee & 80th Birthday Cake for HM The Queen	Town Hall	10.00am
Sat	22	Copy dateline for May to Editorial Team Cranham Auction (see p13) Painswick Music Society Concert: Sir Thomas Allen	Cranham Village Hall St Mary's Church Town Hall	3.00pm 7.30pm
Tue	25	Yew Trees WI: The Elsa Conservation Trust	Town Hall	7.30pm
Wed	26	French for beginners (see p4) Painswick & District Conservation Society AGM - With guest Speaker	Cotswold Room St Mary's Church Rooms	10.00am to noon 7.00 for 7.30pm
Thu	27	Diary deadline for May to Edwina Buttrey via. Beacon box please		
Fri	28	Friday Club: Being a Churchwarden – David Ryland	Town Hall	2.30pm
Sat	29	Coffee – cakes – craft	Christ Church	10.00am to 1.00pm

MAY

Tue	2	to 20th Exhibition 'Threads of Red' (see p8)	Guild Gallery	10.00am to 5.00pm
Wed	3	Probus: 007 – Alias Ian Fleming: Mr M Freedman	Ostlers room, Falcon	10.00am
Thu	4	Elections – District Council Cotswold Care Support Group Meeting &5/6 Painswick Players: Month of Sundays	Ashwell House Painswick Centre	7.00am to 10.00pm 2.30pm 7.30pm
Sat	6	May issue of The Painswick Beacon published Painswick Music Society Concert: Nicola Eimer, piano	St Mary's Church	3.00pm
Sun	7	Bird Club: Easy Guided Walk	Nagshead Nature Reserve	10.30am
Wed	10	Horticultural Society AGM, followed by talk - The work of 'Perennial' - Susan Bowers (with raffle)	Town Hall	7.30pm 8.15pm
Fri	12	Friday Club: How to film a dwarf - Jane Treay	Town Hall	2.30pm
Sat	13	Horticultural Society Chairman's Spring Social Event: Corsham Court & Supper at Uley Painswick Music Society: Allegri String Quartet	Stamages Car Park St Mary's Church	2.30pm 3.00pm



Sun	14	Christian Aid Week (see p6) Christian Aid Service	Christ Church	6.30pm
Mon	15	Library Future: meeting with Tony Hicks (see p1)	Church Rooms	7.30pm
Tue	16	Local History Society: Annual Outing		
Wed	17	Probus: Investigation of major crime – Mr C Eynon Christian Aid Shop opens	Ostlers Room, Falcon Christ Church Hall	10.00am Daily
Sat	20	Theatre Club Outing to The Watermill	The Falcon	10.30am
Tue	23	Yew Trees WI: Badgers - Tony Dean	Town Hall	7.30pm
Wed	24	Bird Club: Guided walk at Slimbridge	Slimbridge	10.50am
Fri	26	Friday Club Outing		
Sat	27	Fête: Fundraising for St Mary's churchyard	Painswick House	tba
Wed	31	Probus: French wines from the Romans to the Supermarket – Mr J Storer	Ostlers Room, Falcon	10.00am

JUNE

Thu	1	Cotswold Care Support Group Meeting	Ashwell House	2.30pm
Sun	4	Country House Sale	Painswick Centre	tba
Fri	9	Friday Club: Bare foot to Buckingham Palace	Town Hall	2.30pm
Wed	14	Probus: Wildlife in the garden – Mr D Cramp	Ostlers Room, Falcon	10.00am
Tue	20	Local History Society: AGM	Croft School	7.30pm
Fri	23	Friday Club: Strawberries & Cream Tea (Stalls etc)	Yew Tree House	2.30pm
Tue	27	Yew Trees WI: talk about the Everyman Theatre	Town Hall	7.30pm
Wed	28	Probus: They didn't say it was dangerous (Bomber Command) – Mr N Brown	Ostlers Room, Falcon	10.00am

JULY

Sun	2	Summer Fayre Country House Sale	Croft School Painswick Centre	tba
Wed	5	Theatre Club Outing to Bristol	The Falcon	5.00pm
Thu	6	Cotswold Care Support Group Meeting	Ashwell House	2.30pm
Fri	7	Friday Club: Arsenic & Old Lace - Patricia Moroney	Town Hall	2.30pm
Sat	8	Tennis Club Summer Social		
Wed	12	Probus: Falcon Bowling Club Meet	Falcon Bowling Green	10.00am
Fri	21	Friday Club: Being Chairman of the Parish Council	Town Hall	2.30pm
Tue	25	Probus: Ladies' Lunch at The Hill, Stroud Yew Trees WI: BBC Radio Gloucestershire	Town Hall	7.30pm

SEPTEMBER

Fri	8	Friday Club: Pilates - Heidi Hardy	Town Hall	2.30pm
Sat	9	Horticultural Society: Annual Show	Painswick Centre Hall	3.00 to 5.00pm
Wed	13	Probus: The Silk Road – Mr P Covey-Crump	Ostlers Room, Falcon	10.00am
Fri	22	Friday Club Outing to Bristol Zoo		
Tue	26	Yew Trees WI: Travel ...paintings - Peter Jenkins	Town Hall	7.30pm

OCTOBER

Fri	6	Friday Club: Painting with Adele	Town Hall	2.30pm
Wed	11	Horticultural Society: The ... Outer Hebrides	Town Hall	7.30pm
Fri	20	Friday Club: "Variety is the spice of life" - Linda Evans	Town Hall	2.30pm
Tue	24	Yew Trees WI: Cookery demonstration - Robert Rees	Church Rooms	7.30pm



Churches Together Around Painswick Holy Week/Easter Services 2006

Palm (Passion) Sunday April 9th

8.00am	BCP Holy Communion. St. Mary's Church.
8.30am	Mass. Church of Our Lady & St. Thérèse.
10.30am	Meeting for Worship. Friends' Meeting House.
10.30am	Sunday Service. Christ Church.
4.00pm	Donkey Procession. Painswick Praise. St. Mary's Church.

Maunday Thursday April 13th

7.30pm	Compline. St. Mary's Church
7.30pm	Service and Holy Communion. Christ Church.
7.30pm	Service. Sheepscombe Methodist Chapel.

Good Friday April 14th

10.25am	Procession of Witness. Start at St. Mary's Church, followed by hot cross-buns & coffee at Christ Church Hall.
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12.00-2.00pm Meditations on the Stations of the Cross.
St. Mary's Church.

2.00pm Good Friday Service. St. Mary's Church.

Easter Day Sunday April 16th

6.00am	Hymns and prayers. Cranham Common.
8.00am	B.C.P. Holy Communion. St. Mary's Church.
8.30am	Mass of the Resurrection. Church of Our Lady & St. Thérèse.
9.15am	Easter Breakfast. Christ Church.
9.30am	Holy Communion. St. Mary's Church.
10.30am	Festival Service & Holy Communion. Christ Church.
10.30am	Meeting for Worship. Friends' Meeting House.
6.00pm	Service and Holy Communion. Sheepscombe Methodist Chapel.

For the details of other Holy Week and Easter Day church services in the parish, please see the various church notice boards.
Details of services at Prinknash Abbey are displayed on the notice board at the Church of Our Lady & St. Thérèse.



APPLICATIONS

THE PAINSWICK CENTRE, BISLEY STREET Conversion of redundant lounge bar, kitchen & storeroom for lease as of-
fice/storeroom

MAYFAIRE, SLAD Extension & alterations to dwelling (resubmission following permission 05/1000/FUL)

8 HYETT ORCHARD, HYETT CLOSE Works on lime tree

15 CANTON ACRE Replace existing garage with a shed containing a storage area and summer house.

BLAKEWELL HOUSE, EDGE ROAD Internal alterations, ground floor rear extension to form dining room, utility, logstore & garage access, first floor ensuite extension.

VALENCIA, VICARAGE STREET Installation of a new window & rooflights, erection of a porch and canopy roof. Internal alterations.

HOLCOMBE BARN Change of use from agricultural to equestrian

3 CLATTERGROVE Erection of extension to dwelling

REVISED PLANS

COLUMBUS COTTAGE, CHELTENHAM ROAD Erection of extensions to provide dining room, bedroom, bathroom and therapeutic pool

GREYCOT, FAR END, SHEEPSCOMBE Extension to dwelling

14 CHURCHILL WAY Erection of 2 storey side extension. Demolition of existing garage

CONSENT

DOVECOT COTTAGE, STEPPING STONE LANE Erection of a greenhouse

BARN AT SLAD Retrospective application for additional re-roofing to barn and construction of retaining wall

BEECHWOOD COTTAGE, SHEEPSCOMBE Alterations and extensions

WOODLANDS, STAMAGES LANE Erection of single storey extension to front and 2 storey extension to rear. Demolition of conservatory.

THE COACH HOUSE, PARADISE HOUSE, PARADISE Access improvements & internal alterations

COLUMBUS COTTAGE, CHELTENHAM ROAD Erection of extensions to provide dining room, bedroom, bathroom and therapeutic pool

CORVARA, COTSWOLD MEAD Extension of existing flat roof covered area. Removal of old pantry & boiler room to create study & utility rooms. New flat roof to cover total.

GREENSTEDE, CASTLE CLOSE Erection of an extension to dwelling.

SHEEPSCOMBE HOUSE, SHEEPSCOMBE Resubmission following refusal of 05/1708/FUL. Refurbishment of existing outbuildings to form home office.

BELL COTTAGE, FRIDAY STREET Repointing of front elevation of property with traditional lime mortar, removal of redundant chimney flue and stack, make good roof with tiles to match existing.

JENKINS FARM, JENKINS LANE, EDGE Erection of wooden storage shed

LYNWOOD, SLAD Erection of three storey extension with alterations to rear roof

REFUSAL

THE BULL, WICK STREET Creation of a new vehicle track to The Bull

Appeal Matters

APPEAL WITHDRAWN

MILLPOOL HOUSE, TICKLESTONE LANE, KINGSMILL LANE Erection of extensions (Withdrawn consequent upon permission for amended scheme.)

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Solid Oak Dining Table -for sale. 82 inches by 42 inches fully extended. C1900. Interesting bobbin-turned legs, stretcher, D-ends, two butterfly leaves. Lovely patina. £750. Contact 813619.

Ostrich Farm - large droppings of guano concentrate available; free to collectors or £35.50 per tonne delivered locally. Telephone first to check availability. Why not pay us a flying visit? Freephone 010406.

Clothes Sale - New and almost new. Starting on 11th April 10.00am to 4.00pm. Give your summer wardrobe a boost at the Patchwork Mouse. Enquiries please ring 813122.

Kidney Shaped Dressing Table, White/Gold trim, triple mirror, glass top. Good condition. £25.00. Telephone 813635.

Calling Craftspeople - For sale 23 hand marbled bookbinding papers need a new home. Tel. 813570.

Two-seater Sofa for sale, Blue, excellent condition £75.00. Tel. 01344.775971 or 07768.998912.

Found, in January, wallet-type purse, in Hyett Close area. Includes a key. 812565

MINI-ADS - non-commercial, maximum of 30 words - are 10p per word with a minimum payment of £1. Maximum of 14 accepted per month. Beacon subscribers have 25% discount. Please send money with mini-ad to Philip Oakley, Stoneleigh, Gloucester Street, GL6 6QN. If paying by cheque, please make it payable to The Painswick Beacon.

FREE-ADS

Quarry tiles, brand-new. Enough for a cloakroom. Free - Classic black and red 814009.

FREE-ADS is a new free service for recycling unwanted possessions to good new homes, free of charge. FREE-ADS - maximum of 30 words - can be placed in the Beacon Post Box in New Street or emailed to painswickbeacon@supanet.com

From last month we wondered whether you knew which roofline carried three chimneys. They are atop the Court House.

This month we stay high up - and wonder if you know where this and the rest of the structure might be?



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The Personal Column

Weddings

Congratulations to SIOBHAN JEANNETALOATES, elder daughter of Philip and Hilda Loates of Abu Dhabi, and ALEXANDER JAMES HERBERT, younger son of Russell and Jackie Herbert of Painswick, who are to be married today, Saturday 1st April, at St Mary's Church.

Engagement

Congratulations to Captain SAM HART of Tonbridge in Kent and LUCY GRAYSON whose engagement was announced recently.

Get well soon

Our best wishes for a speedy recovery for AUDREY WATTS, PHIL EDWARDS and GWEN WELCH.

Birthday

When they gathered for their annual 'spring supper' at the Golf Club on the 16th March, the Short Mat Bowls Club surprised MARY FRANCIS with an early presentation of a birthday cake - an advance celebration of her 90th birthday, which is in fact next week.

Condolences

Our sincerest sympathies to the family and friends of MARY PARRY and SEPTIMA WOOLLEY who died recently.



Comings and goings

Welcome to Mr and Mrs WATKINS who moved into Rose Mullion in Lower Washwell Lane, and PENNY and BRIAN FOSTER who have moved into the Old Inn in George Court, but farewell to Mr and Mrs REASON who are moving away, and Mr and Mrs SPARROW moving to Appleshaw in Pitchcombe.

Personal Messages

Lyn Standen dropped us a note to say: We visited friends at the Castle Village in Berkhamsted and bumped into **Flora Semark**. She misses Painswick and sends everyone her best wishes.

Ken Oliver wishes to thank everyone for their kind messages and help after his, fortunately, brief spell in hospital.

Rachel Taylor would like to thank those who sent flowers, cards and made kind enquiries during her recent stay in hospital.

Jennifer Chapman, Alice and Ailsa would like to thank every one who sent cards and messages of sympathy following Leslie's death. Their kind thoughts and support were greatly appreciated.



NEXT ISSUE

Publication Date

SATURDAY 6th MAY

Items for publication to Editorial Team using E-mail or the Beacon Post Box by **SATURDAY 22nd APRIL**

Mini Ads to the Treasurer, Philip Oakley, Stoneleigh, Gloucester Street, GL6 6QN **SUNDAY 23rd APRIL**

Business adverts to Dermot Cassidy at 1 Painswick Heights, Yokehouse Lane, Painswick GL6 7QS by

THURSDAY 20th APRIL

Diary items (only) to Edwina Buttrey **THURSDAY 27th APRIL**

Letters and articles for publication are particularly welcome by Email to **painswickbeacon@supanet.com** or, alternatively, on computer disk. 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 be sure to provide your name, address and a contact phone number. The **Beacon's telephone number is 814500**

Our web site is **www.painswickbeacon.org.uk** including **Beaconline** carrying the Painswick Beacon web edition. Address for general correspondence *not items for publication*, Stoneleigh, Gloucester Street GL6 6QN

Beacon Committee

Editorial team this month

Jack Burgess, Leslie Brotherton*
Carol Maxwell, and Terry Parker
*co-ordination and compiling

Personal Column: Rachel Taylor 813402
Diary: Edwina Buttrey 812565

Feature Writers:
Carol Maxwell 813387
Leslie Brotherton 813101
Jack Burgess 812167

Sport: Terry Parker 812191
Directory: Leslie Brotherton 813101

Business Advertising:
Dermot Cassidy 813737

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