

The Painswick Beacon

Volume 47 Number 11

February 2025

Painswick revitalising

2025 has definitely kicked off positively in Painswick. At various and convenient locations around the centre vibrant new life is manifesting itself in two new businesses and in two well-established shops. And in all four enterprises there is a laudable emphasis, a resounding focus on LOCAL.

Le Papillon



For the past few months there has been much speculation about the future of the very significant business premises on New Street, formerly named the Pooch. Well now the wait is over and its renaissance is amazing and oh so welcome. Solomon Gilbert has reopened it as Le Papillon - a deli, coffee shop and wine bar - and what a transformation.

Solomon, a Cotswolds born and bred young man, lives in Painswick with partner Emma. He explains that he has definitely been inspired by the village and the beauty of the valley and that this in itself has provided the motivation to develop Le Papillon as a truly local business. Even the name is a recognition of the wonderful selection of butterfly species on Painswick Beacon.

Le Papillon is an ambitious enterprise. From 8.00am freshly delivered bread and pastries are on sale. Fruit and vegetables, olives and cured meats, and a wonderful selection of cheeses, all locally sourced, are always available. Other deli items are on sale including some, e.g. a brand of honey and a brand of cider, which are exclusive to Le Papillon. In fact, the bread and all the deli foods are from Stroud market – we have a mini Stroud market in our midst.

Le Papillon is also of course a place to enjoy a relaxing drink whether that be tea, coffee or a soft drink in the daytime, or a glass of wine as well as tea and coffee in the evening. Opening hours are 8.00am-4.00pm, then 6.00pm-10.00pm Monday – Saturday.

Solomon believes passionately in a circular economy i.e. using local produce from local sources to enable sales to local people – make it local “bringing life back” as he points out. The range of skills he has developed during the past ten years working in cyber security are invaluable in the running of the business. He is also very aware of the need, the desire, to make Le Papillon a truly Painswick business. To this end he has given much thought to how the premises are presented and together with Emma has worked hard to restore the building as faithfully as possible to reflect its historic significance as a vital shop on New Street.

This is definitely a welcome and very local new business for both visitors and Painswick residents to enjoy.



juniper



The building on the corner of King's Court and St Mary's Street has a surprising and fascinating history. It has, amongst many other things, been a pub, a centre for the Plymouth Brethren and the village police station – these chiefly in the early years of the 20th century. More lately it has been a hairdressing salon and a clothes and tea shop. And now ... it has truly come to life as an outstanding coffee shop.

Lucy John opened the doors to this excellent new enterprise two days before Christmas and many residents and visitors alike quickly recognised its undoubted appeal. Lucy had previously operated a mobile coffee shop, the Box Coffee, in her converted horsebox, thoughtfully started as a result of Covid, and this business enabled Lucy to develop and enhance her undoubted skills and knowledge regarding coffee. She also has valuable experience with a background in hospitality having been involved with husband, Charlie, in running The Oak public house.



Juniper is the new fresh name for the business and essentially what is on offer is top quality coffee, pastries, bread, tea and home-made cakes – home-made by Lucy. The emphasis is definitely on using healthy, fresh, organic ingredients, including the milk, and all locally sourced. Lucy herself is a local, a true Painswickian, born and bred here, and educated at the Croft School no less. A takeaway service is also on offer and, as Lucy points out, is popular with both visitors and local residents. A wide range of coffee beans and ground coffee, all sourced from an excellent and very reliable company in Cheltenham, can also be purchased.

At present the café is cosy and friendly, making the most of the space available. In warmer weather there is seating outside too. Lucy explains that the plan is to install a commercial kitchen in order to expand the menu to cater for light lunches. Eventually too the aim is to open the room at the rear to provide comfortable seating where customers can truly relax. Interesting to realise that this will in fact be in one of the old police station cells – how times change!

Juniper is open Monday-Friday 8.00am-3.00pm and weekends 9.00am-3.00pm. Do go in and enjoy some really excellent fare.

continued on page 10

On other pages:

Rococo Snowdrops p5; EV Charging bays p10; Historic crimes p19

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS - from the meetings held on Wed 15th January 2025

Planning Committee

Present: Cllr Sandra Hunkin Chairman
Cllr Ann Daniels
Cllr Adrian Gyde
Cllr Ian Massey
Cllr Rosie Nash
Cllr Roey Parker

In Attendance: 2 Members of the Public

Apologies: Cllrs Andy Cash & James Cross.

Matters requiring a decision

S.24/2248/HHOLD 11 The Croft
Erection of single storey rear extension, porch with replacement roof over garage, and garden outbuilding.

S.24/2222/LBC Hill Farm House
Erection of a single storey extension and bay window to replace the existing porch and lean-to plant room. Internal alterations to upgrade ground floor wc, first and second floor bathrooms. New external door opening at ground floor in to existing kitchen, widen existing door opening to new bay window. New door openings to 2nd floor bathroom and into existing roof-space. Infill of original external door.

S.24/2226/HHOLD Dutchcombe Farm, Yokehouse Lane
Erection of a single storey side extension including hard landscaping.

The committee agreed to support the above applications

S.24/2221/HHOLD Hill Farm House

Erection of a single storey extension and bay window to replace existing porch and lean-to plant room. Erection of fencing, a replacement shed with solar panels, ground source boreholes and trenching and replacement garage doors.

S.24/2282/HHOLD S.24/2283/LBC
Painswick Lodge

Internal alterations & refurbishment, upgrading of existing services. Remedial works to retained walls, partitions & ceilings. Removal of inappropriate rain-water goods. New entrance doors to north elevation (replacing an existing window) & reinstatement of historic doors. Existing opening door opening closed up. Landscaping works including re-configuration of access drive.

The Committee agreed to the above applications subject to the Conservation Officers support.

S.24/2197/HHOLD Junipers, Edge Road
Extension and conversion of existing garage into annex.

The Committee agreed to Support this application, subject to it being conditioned that the annex will remain part of the main dwelling.

Parish Council

Present: Cllr Adrian Gyde Chairman
Cllr James Cross
Cllr Ann Daniels
Cllr Sandra Hunkin
Cllr Gary Luff
Cllr Ian Massey
Cllr Rosie Nash

Cllr Roey Parker

In attendance: 1 member of the press

Apologies: Cllrs Andy Cash, Selina Gibb and County Cllr Sue Williams.

The Minutes of the meeting held on 20th November 2024 were accepted and signed as a true record.

Reports

County Councillor and District Cllrs reports are available on the Council's website.

Additionally, District Cllr Gary Luff updated the Council on the Electric Vehicle charging points which are due to be installed in the Stamages Lane car park in the Spring.

Chairman.

The Chairman reported that the Beacon did not publish the revised Chairmans report, the previous report had omitted thanks to Martin Slinger for his service to the Council and its Community, the Chairman advised that he has since spoken with Mr Slinger and extended his apologies.

Cemetery Lodge Restoration

The Council discuss and agreed upon the following quotations from Bespoke Services:

Insulation to loft flat roof x 2 layers of 200 mm rockwall or similar to internal ceilings / s: £900.00

Replacement of staircase as per including

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handrail and spindles including making good surroundings areas: £2,300.00

Insulate, plasterboard and plaster all slopes to top floor ceilings: £3,900.00

These works should enable an EPC rating to make the lodge habitable, and then an application for a grant to help cover the costs of the other works detailed in the quote can be applied for.

Finally, the Council extended its sincere thanks to Cllr Rosie Nash for her tremendous efforts in moving this project forward.

Accounts

The Council approved the accounts as circulated previously for payment.

Reports from Representatives on Other Bodies

Councillors attended meetings of the following bodies:

Painswick Beacon Conservation Group. Cllr Ian Massey gave an update on the cattle.

Gyde Trust Meeting. The attendance of Cllrs Ann Daniels, Adrian Gyde and

Gary Luff was noted.

Edge Road Traffic. Cllr Gary Luff reported that a public meeting is to be held.

Bowls / Tennis Pavilion. Cllr Rosie Nash reported attending a recent meeting.

Gyde Almshouses. Cllr Adrian Gyde reported his attendance at a recent meeting.

Ward Reports

Slad. Cllr Andy Cash had sent in a written report highlighting various problems due to blocked drains on the Slad Road and thanking Councillor Sue Williams for her help in getting them cleared. He requested that the Slad Village sign that had been knocked over be re-instated and noted that the Slad Road bend on the approach to Stroud would benefit from the extension of the 30 mph stretch continuing from town only 100 metres before.

Sheepscombe. Cllr Roey Parker expressed her concern that during a recent fire in the village the fire crew were unable to access the property because the appliance was too large to gain access, she asked if the fire service were aware

of the size restrictions of the roads in Sheepscombe, it was agreed to ask the County Cllr to investigate. Cllr Parker also updated the Council on a recent broken sewer pipe issue. Cllr Sandra Hunkin reported concerns about a large delivery vehicle getting stuck in the village.

Recreation Ground. Cllr Ann Daniels reported that the badger sett has extended and asked that the fencing be adjusted to allow for the increase in the sett.

Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 19th February 2025 at 7.30 pm in the Painswick Town Hall.

Casual Vacancy for a Parish Councillor

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- Work on projects that benefit the community.
- Help maintain and enhance the charm of Painswick.
- Contribute to decisions on local services and issues.

No previous experience is necessary just enthusiasm, commitment, and a passion for making Painswick the best it can be.

Interested?

For further details, contact the Parish Clerk:
clerk@painswick-pc.gov.uk

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Painswick Music Society 2025 Season



2024 saw St Mary's packed for four wonderful concerts and over 400 local children experienced the joy of music with professional musicians. Spring 2025 will continue that great Painswick charitable mission with this exciting programme:

- Saturday 15th March, 3pm: Clare Hammond piano recital, including Ravel, Debussy and newly discovered works by Holst.
- Saturday 29th March, 3pm: Carducci String Quartet play Shostakovich No2, then joined by Emma Johnson (clarinet) for Mozart and Bliss quintets.
- Saturday 12th April, 3pm: The Neoteric Ensemble, brass and woodwind sextet play Vaughan Williams, Gershwin, Toby Street, Rob Buckland, and more.
- Saturday 10th May, 3pm: Jess Gillam (saxophone), Sam Becker (double bass) and Zeynep Özsuca (piano) include Telemann, Britten, Gershwin, Poulenc.

To buy £80 Membership (four-concert Season Ticket) or buy tickets for single concerts go to: www.painswickmusicsociety.co.uk

An additional 'stand-alone' concert to fill St Mary's with glorious choral music is announced for Saturday 26th April 2025 4pm as Lincoln Cathedral early music chamber choir ANON explore beautiful music by anonymous composers from the Lincoln archives.

As a charity (271069), PMS mission is to offer high quality music-making for all. Young concertgoers pay only £10 for Membership (four-concert Season Ticket for 21s and under & students in full-time education). In 2025 the first 20 tickets will be free to young concertgoers, for each concert. Finally, we are planning another schools-programme for 2025, so hundreds of local children can experience live music-making by top professionals. None of this is possible without generous support, donations and practical help from the Painswick community, and beyond. Please contact us to find out more. Email info@painswickmusicsoc.co.uk

Martin Woodhead, Chair

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

Reg Wrathmell brilliantly covered the life and career of this great Russian composer (whose name has been given to the worlds premier international music prize) and was in many ways one of the foremost melodists of the late Romantic period. With a life only spanning 53 years until 1893 he was a contemporary of Brahms and Dvorak and in Great Britain, Hubert Parry and Sullivan all born around the 1840s.



His compositions ranged from concerti, ballet, opera, song settings, chamber music and orchestral music including seven symphonies some still capable of selling out today's concert halls. Often criticised in his home country for being less Russian than his peers he nevertheless composed settings for the Orthodox Church often forgotten today. Compared to his contemporaries his output was extensive and unlike some he was an orchestrator supreme and did not have to rely on others to provide that skill.

Reg managed to incorporate excerpts from the well known such as the first piano concerto, the violin concerto and the waltz from Sleeping Beauty to the lesser known, the opera Eugene Onegin, Piano trio and the 1st "Winter Daydreams" symphony. He included three songs for soprano and piano which proved a revelation to this PMAG audience. As ever all was accompanied by entertaining and erudite commentary and an unparalleled knowledge of past performances and performers. PMAG must persuade him to revisit this subject with a follow up.

Next meetings 2:30 PM in the Town Hall:-

Thursday February 6th
Thursday February 20th
Thursday March 6th

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Snowdrops Spectacle at Rococo Garden



Snowdrops, pure and steeped in history, have enchanted gardeners and plant enthusiasts for centuries. Locally, you are probably familiar with the famous Rococo Garden's snowdrop display, but a few interesting details may surprise you...

At Painswick Rococo Garden, these dainty flowers form one of the UK's most breathtaking naturalised displays, with over five million plants blanketing the historical garden from late January to March.

The garden showcases at least 13 varieties, including the creamy, ruffled blooms of *Galanthus Lady Elphinstone*, named after the late Queen Mother's sister and godmother to Elizabeth II.

However, the Garden's most treasured snowdrop is *G. Atkinsii* a tall, elegant snowdrop with a special local connection. Named after the 19th-century Painswick nurseryman James Atkins, this hybrid was likely collected during a trip to Naples and planted in the Garden soon after. Its large, elegant blooms, sometimes bearing a rare fourth petal, make it a highlight of the season. You can easily spot them blooming near the Red House.

Another notable variety is *G. Lyn*, named after the wife of plantsman John Sales, who discovered it in the woods near Cirencester.

These unique snowdrops add depth to a display that captivates both seasoned enthusiasts and first-time visitors alike.

The sight of millions of snowdrops blanketing this local historic garden is a timeless reminder of nature's beauty and resilience, and it brings us hope for the new year.

Interesting fact! The Hyetts allowed Painswick residents to collect six snowdrops each season.

Useful Information:

- Open daily: 18 January – 2 March
- Hours: 10 am – 5 pm (last admission 4 pm)
- Monday – Friday: Join a daily talk with the Garden Team at 2pm
- Light meals, freshly brewed coffee and delicious cakes
- Free admission to Friends of the Garden and Historic Houses members
- Dogs on leads are welcome

Marta Gardner

Library Book Club

The next meeting of the Library Book Club is on Monday February 10th from 1.30- 2.30pm and we will be discussing Blood and Beauty by local author Sarah Dunant. This is an historical novel which tells the story of the notorious Borgia Pope, Alexander VI and his equally notorious children Cesare and Lucrezia.

Our meeting in March is on Monday 10th. The choice of book has yet to be decided. New members are always welcome to join us and for further information contact painswick.librarybookclub@gmail.com



Pat Andrew



The inclusion of letters, maximum 150 words, in these columns does not imply that the Beacon committee endorses the views expressed, or otherwise. Please supply the Beacon with your full name and address although such details will not appear in the Beacon unless you so request.

Dear Editor

What can we do to encourage more dog owners to be responsible?

Last year, working with a party clearing a bridle path on the Beacon, we collected two large carrier bags full of dog poo which had been jettisoned into the adjacent undergrowth.

This week, on my walk to Sheepphouse, I saw at least 5 bags of poo which had been lobbed into the hedges. And today there were three bags which had been deposited in the Church Garden's compost heap.

There are many litter bins around the village where the bags can be disposed of, but surely if the dog owner does not come across a handy bin, is it much of hardship to request that they take the bag home to put in their own refuse bin?

Would such dog owners welcome others throwing their bags over their own garden boundary?

Penny Boydell

Christmas Cake Stall

Thank you to everyone who supported the Christmas cake stall at the Goodwill evening, your support has enabled me to send a donation to the following local charities - Longfield Hospice, Gloucestershire Young Carers and Home Start, Stroud and Gloucester branch.

Christine West

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News from St Mary's

'Big 5' Action Areas for 2025

Back in 2024 our churchwardens and I initiated a conversation with our benefice churches using a 'Big Ask' questionnaire, because we wanted our congregations to have their say about church life in the benefice, and to test the direction of the past few years. In doing so, the plan is that we can all move forward together.



Some initial findings are summarised here as follows:

- 97% feel welcome when visiting their church
- 78% would highly recommend their church
- 90% say they have someone they could get help and support from within the church
- We are a narrow cross section compared to wider community: 69% are over 70 years old, 74% are female, therefore

We need to grow the number of children & their adults, and men in our congregations!

Having reviewed the results of our survey the next step is for us to develop some specific ways in which we can build God's kingdom in our benefice through prayer, discernment and action in the following five areas:

WELCOME: connection, pastoral care and fellowship – To include building connections and relationships with communities through eg baptisms, weddings and funerals

WORSHIP: Variety in worship to continue – To cater to varied views expressed and to reach 'new' people

DILIGENT DISCIPLESHIP: encourage & practice! Especially increased prayer, fellowship, service and homegroups. Linked to this is our fourth target area-

OUTREACH: continue, and initiate Continue to build relationships with children and their adults (eg family services, toddler groups, Sherlock Suppers and parenting courses)

Initiate men's outreach – pub gatherings, curry nights and Saturday breakfasts are already being planned for this year!

FINANCE & FACILITIES: explore together– Giving, fundraising, stewardship, generosity. We noted the particular goals of Cranham and Painswick congregations to improve existing facilities (including loos, importantly).

We have one further question as we start 2025: **WHAT DO YOU THINK?** Please write to me and let me know how you think your local church can continue to grow and serve the parish here for years to come.

Wishing you peace and every blessing in the year ahead,

*Revd Sarah
beaconrector@gmail.com*

Quaker Meeting House

Many newcomers to Painswick – and perhaps some old-comers – may not know much about the little building and its tranquil garden just off Vicarage Street; nor about the Quakers themselves. The Meeting House has been an important influence in our village for more than 350 years, and every Sunday morning Quakers and non-Quakers have sat together in a community of stillness, listening... to their inner guidance, the "language of the pure Spirit which inwardly moves upon the heart..." (John Woolman 1720-1772)



The founders of the Quaker Movement rejected much church teaching, hierarchy, and ritual, advocating a lived adherence to the values of simplicity, truth, equality and peace.

This is what a new-comer wrote 100 years ago about her first visit to a Quaker Meeting for Worship (slightly adapted for length):

"One Sunday morning, I found myself one of a small company of silent worshippers who were content to sit down together without words...unhindered by any human utterance. Utterance I knew was free, should the words be given; and, before the meeting was over, a sentence or two were uttered in great simplicity by an old man... My whole soul was filled with the unutterable peace of the undisturbed opportunity for communion with God, with the sense that at last I had found a place where I might, without any suspicion of insincerity, join with others in simply seeking Spirit presence. To sit down in silence...might open to me (as it did that morning) the very gate of heaven".

So, dear friend, we warm-heartedly invite you to come find out what your own experience might be. Sitting quietly in the garden or in the Meeting House - you will always be welcome!

Painswick Quaker Meeting House
Vicarage Street, Painswick, Stroud GL6 6X
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Men prove stronger?

Members of the Yew Trees WI skittles team are still analysing the reason for their defeat at the hands of the team from Painswick Probus Club. Their annual match took place in the Skittles Alley at Painswick Centre in mid-January. Was it that they were missing two players due to illness? No, probably more likely that the refreshments they provided energised their opponents for the final round, because up until then it had been a close fought battle. Whatever; the resulting friendly, sociable evening was enjoyed by all.

On Tuesday 25 February "Fraud Protection and Cyber Security" will be the subject of a talk given by Rhiannon Parker. Ladies switch off and come and join us at 7.30pm in the Church Rooms.

Celia Lougher 812624

Painswick Community Support

Winter Community Supper

Our next winter supper, in collaboration with Matt Reekiew-Black and Painswick Parish Council, will be held on Monday 3rd March at 6pm (arrival 5.30pm) in the Church Rooms. Thank you to our Parish Council for helping us to fund this supper. Matt is very kindly providing the following two course menu:

Starter: Fresh baked focaccia with balsamic and olive oil and marinated olives

Main: Pork Normandy with mashed potato or vegetarian butternut squash and red onion Wellington

Once again, we have capacity for 60 guests. Sign up by scanning the QR code right or calling us on the phone number below.



Community Lunches

These are continuing every Monday at the Town Hall until March 3rd, which will be our last one for this winter. Please continue to support our different community groups hosting these and help raise money for charity.

The remaining lunches are hosted by :

February 3rd - The Croft School Year 6 Class

February 10th -The Croft School Year 6 Class

February 17th - Churches Together Around Painswick

February 24th - The Falcon Bowling Club

March 3rd - Dog Training Club

If you need help or support or have any questions, please call or email us (mobile: 07956203087, email: painswickcommunity@gmail.com). Our phone is manned 7 days a week from 9am to 5pm.

Delyth, Hannah and Louise

On behalf of Painswick Community Support

Painswick Probus



On Thursday 16 Jan 2025 the Club held its first meeting of the year to hear from John Macartney about the demise of British Leyland and in the evening to respond to the challenge from the Yew Trees WI in the annual skittles match.

British Leyland

John Macartney returned to share with a good turnout of members his inside knowledge of the unhappy relationship between the flourishing Leyland Motors company and the ailing British Motor Corporation (BMC) in a merger in 1968. The merger was devised by the Wilson government in a bid to save not only 130,000 BMC jobs but also a million other jobs supporting the conglomerate. A chance meeting between John and Donald Stokes, then Chairman of British Leyland, led to his immediate appointment as a young PA to Donald Stokes, to handle customer complaints. The role soon expanded to include fact-finding and reporting directly to the chairman for a 2 year period during the turbulence of the attempt to make the merger work. The huge merger of so many extant brands proved to be too difficult for Stokes to handle for many and varied reasons. John was unequivocal in his condemnation of the government which did not deliver the promised funding to enable new model designs and development. The final nail was a series of unofficial strikes orchestrated by the communist Derek 'Red Robbo' Robinson who orchestrated 530 unofficial strikes in a 3 year period ending with the collapse of the corporation in 1975.

Skittles Match

After a nervous start for the Probos team, they won the first set (or leg or down?), but the Yew Trees recovered to win the second and third sets. However, Probos won the fourth set and achieved the higher total score by a margin of 22 pins, thereby retaining the magnificent trophy shown below:



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Last year was a period of recovery and consolidation for the Centre.

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*Mahboob (aka Boo) Hussain
on behalf the the Trustees*



Wick-Flix returns in February on Valentine's night with the classic romantic film, **Ghost**.

One of the most memorable romantic films ever and winner* of two Academy Awards, Sam (Patrick Swayze), living as a ghost, discovers his death wasn't just a random robbery gone bad. To help him reconnect with the love of his life, Molly (Demi Moore), and solve his own murder, he enlists the talents of a skeptical psychic (Oscar-winner Whoopi Goldberg), who doesn't even believe her own abilities. Ghost is a supernatural mystery-thriller that will cross over into your heart and never leave. Ghost will surprise you, delight you, make you believe. Patrick Swayze plays a ghost who teams up with a psychic (Whoopi Goldberg) to uncover the truth behind his murder and to rescue his sweetheart (Demi Moore) from a similar fate. "The word of mouth is that Ghost is a must-see romance," says Entertainment Weekly. Ditto to that!

Doors open at 7pm. £10 entry per person including your first drink. Tickets available on the door or in advance from <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/wick-flix-february-2025-ghost-tickets-1222586110969?aff=oddtcreator> or by clicking using the QR code.



Ceri Chaplin

Painswick Gardening Club

Our first Meeting of 2025, on January 8th, was a fascinating talk on the Chelsea Flower Show through the eyes of the Reporters and Photographers. Mandy Bradshaw qualified as a Journalist, 'chasing ambulances', working for the Echo and its sister paper, the Citizen. She was called in to cover a gardening article and got hooked. She enjoyed submitting larger pieces to Cotswold Life. Other assignments followed, including "ghost writing" gardening articles focusing on the Cotswolds. As we found out during her talk Mandy is also an excellent photographer and, as such, applies to Chelsea for a Press Card which is hard to get. She looks for new stories specifically relating to Gloucestershire and the Cotswolds and is more interested in the displays and reaction to medal awards than the Celebrities.



On February 12th we have Chloe Cox from 'Wildstroud' coming to talk to us about gardening for wildlife: "Wildlife Project". This will be very useful for us to be able to include pollinators in our plant selections this year.

We meet in the Town Hall at 7 pm for tea/coffee and perhaps a glass of wine, ready to start the talk at 7.30pm. Come and join us.

Joyce Barrus



Pippa Metcalf was able to come at short notice on Friday, 10th January, and talk to us about the Stroud District Foodbank. Most of us are aware of the food donation collection points in some of our local supermarkets and collections in the Stamages Lane car park. But not the importance of foodbanks, how they work and how much they are needed. Volunteers endeavour to make up food parcels from donations, supplemented by additional purchases with money donations. The target is to make foodbanks redundant by securing a hunger free future.

The Stroud District Foodbank opened in 2011 and works in partnership with local organisations. These can offer people who are struggling to afford the basics, vouchers, to enable access to food parcels. We have Vicky Weaver coming on January 24th to talk about 'Bespoke Life' for Companionship and Support: Based in Cheltenham, The Bespoke Life was created to offer a personal assistant service supporting in daily tasks, activities, travel and events.

Members are off to see 'Pirates of Penzance' on Thursday 30th January at the Everyman, in Cheltenham.

On 7th February we have Kate Peake coming to talk on Vintage Transport in Gloucestershire. Helen Plumb is coming back on 21st February to talk on Opals in Australia. So there is plenty going on in Painswick. Come and join in: Our Meetings are in the Town Hall, starting at 2:30pm. Members £2, Guests welcome £4.

Joyce Barrus

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Anne-Marie Randall retires from Painswick Goodwill...

New Chair Required

Painswick Goodwill takes place at the end of November and is a much-loved event in the annual village calendar. I took the reins in 2018 and apart from during covid, I have chaired it ever since.

Every year, the Painswick community comes together for the Goodwill event, first gathering at the church for carols led by children from The Croft School, followed by a parade to Santa's Grotto in the Painswick Centre. The Beacon Hall is always bustling with stalls selling Christmas gifts and the car park hosts both food trucks and festive entertainment.

The Goodwill aspect of the evening has always been, for me, the primary focus. I wanted families to be able to have a great time without spending much money. For example, a donation for the Foodbank could be exchanged for a map showing local businesses where children could collect stickers to complete their map and then enter into a prize draw. Or the idea of children bringing a gift for Santa instead of receiving one, all donated presents were given to the Salvation Army in Gloucester and then distributed throughout Gloucestershire.

Though Goodwill has been the principle focus we have managed to make some money too. This year we were able to donate just under £1000 to both the Painswick Centre and St Mary's Church. In fact, year after year we are bowled over by the generosity and support shown by local people and businesses.

The event relies on the incredible support of so many people to make it happen. We've always had Randwick Reindeer, or Tibbiwell Alpacas on hand and a host of festive elves bringing magic to the grotto and supporting Father and Mother Christmas! In the background the event is driven by an amazing team of volunteers and I've loved working with them all. A special thanks goes out to Amanda, Ros & Phil Ion, Jenny, Susie, Becks, Sandie, Annalie, Vicky M, Sam, Ella, Vicky C, Lizzie, Bruce, Nick and of course Rob, the Painswick Centre manager, who took on a lot this past year. Thanks too to our Vicar Sarah who has made such a difference to the event since taking over in the Parish, and to The Croft School and the bell ringers and to all the other people who have volunteered and helped over the years. This has all been possible because of you.

I'm so proud of what the team and I have created over the last seven years, but now it's time to hand over to a new chair and team, one with fresh energy and ideas. I hope I speak for everyone when I say that the village would undoubtedly be a sadder place without the Goodwill, and I sincerely hope that someone comes forward to take over the organisation of this much treasured local event. If you are interested in taking up the chair then please contact the Painswick Centre Manager (manager@painswickcentre.com)

Anne-Marie Randall



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Painswick revitalising continued...



Handmade in Painswick started life as a pop-up shop at the end of Covid. Sandie Randle and Anne-Marie Randall originally established the business in the Painswick Centre as an arts shop and café and it quickly became a very popular venue. Last summer they moved the shop into the Malthouse Collective at Salmon Springs and at the same time set up a pop-up shop in Bisley Street. Now at last the Bisley Street premises are

the sole permanent location of Handmade in Painswick.

“We’re delighted that this is now our permanent home,” says Anne-Marie emphasising that what is on sale is of course all made in Painswick, hence the importance of being based here for both residents and visitors alike. The shop is a joy in which to browse. Occupying one of the amazing medieval houses in Bisley Street it is light and well presented. Anne-Marie, a photographer and a creator of photogems (personalised photo jewellery), and Sandie, a retired professor of anthropology who is now a celebrant and keeper of alpacas, are passionate about the fundamental mission of Handmade in Painswick - to support the work of local artists and through local sales to thereby develop the importance of the arts as an essential aspect of local culture and the local economy.



About 40 local artists, makers, artisans and authors are represented by the goods on sale. There is a collaboration too with Stroud Bookshop whereby books can be both ordered and then collected here. The locally made items include edibles, pottery, artwork, greetings cards, jewellery, woodwork, books and textiles such as cushions, lampshades, napkins, tea towels, and much more. Picture framing and leather repairs are services also available.

Furthermore, one section of the premises is the open art studio of artist Aly Lloyd. Aly’s work is stunning. Geometric and precise structural forms are created demonstrating Aly’s exceptional skill and stimulating real visual interest.

Handmade in Painswick is a real gem of a shop focussing entirely on Painswick itself and the important related connection of a wide range of arts to local identity. Everything on sale has been created and produced in Painswick and the range and quality of goods is impressive indeed. It’s definitely worth visiting on a regular basis. Opening hours are 11.00am-4.00pm Wednesday–Saturday.



Painswick’s Longfield shop in Bisley Street is a perfect example of a community retail outlet selling excellent value items whilst simultaneously serving a wonderful cause. Its staff too have always been conscientious and truly dedicated. With a changeover in personnel that situation will assuredly continue.

The manager for the past few months, Vanda, has now taken over the management of a branch in Cheltenham. Kate, the assistant manager, has also moved into a new and much planned-for role as a trainee psychological wellbeing practitioner with the NHS based in Stroud. With a degree in psychology and criminology and a masters degree in psychology, it is her dream come true. “I’ve been studying for it for the last five years,” she explains, and adds that, despite being understandably excited about it, she is sad to have left her post in our Longfield shop.

The new manager is Melanie de Gray Birch. With a very evident positive and enthusiastic approach Mel commenced working in the Painswick shop in January. She brings a wealth of invaluable experience to the job from which our Longfield branch will inevitably be the beneficiary. Over a period of 25 years she has worked in the head offices of some top prestigious companies such as Marks and Spencer and Arcadia, as head of buying and design. She grew up locally, attending the Croft School, and has a degree in fashion and illustration. With her considerable nationwide experience behind her she has happily now relocated back to where she grew up.

As a student, Mel explains, she frequently volunteered in charity shops thus broadening her thinking and understanding. This, together with her subsequent in-depth experience in retail, design, fashion and management, undoubtedly more than equips her with the skills and outlook to make a great success of running our Longfield. She has a manifestly strong belief in the purpose of Longfield and the work which it carries out. She is adamant in her respect and admiration for the way in which it cares for and supports people facing life-limiting illness. “I have 100% belief in Longfield,” she stresses.

She is keen to continue and further develop the Painswick shop as one with a strong community spirit and for it to be regarded as a real ‘destination’, a top quality, outlet. Painswick’s Longfield shop has always had a great reputation and looks to continue as such. More volunteers are definitely needed for a range of tasks, multi-tasking in fact, and all ages are welcome. Could that be you? Let’s make sure our shop continues along its hitherto successful path.

Carol Maxwell



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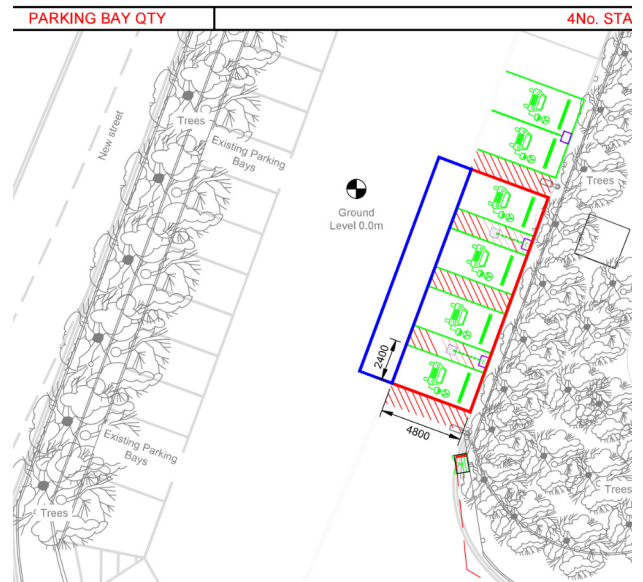
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EV Charging points coming to the car park

Four electric vehicle charging points are due to be installed in Stamages Lane car park towards the end of February or the beginning of March.

There will obviously be some disruption to the car park during the installation but it is hoped that this will be kept to a minimum.

The plan and picture show the location of where the charging points are to be sited.



Time to walk those paths

A truly outstanding presentation. That was the verdict of the History Society's members after listening to Alan Pilbeam's talk on the subject of old paths in Gloucestershire. And it all began thousands of years ago ...

Most paths were in place by the 8th century but many certainly pre-date that. For example, the Cotswold Way passes most of the 31 Iron Age Gloucestershire hillforts and some of the long barrows, to and from which tracks would have been well established. The same applies to the many Roman villas in the county. From Saxon times a definite pattern emerges, namely paths to the manorial mills, to the village arable strip fields, to the village woods, round the parish boundary and to the local minster. The last of these was significant as there were so many monastic connections, Bisley being the most important for Painswick, hence the Bisley Path.



For several centuries a strong belief in the power of shrines meant people were prepared to travel long distances and special trackways were built to and from them. There were four in Gloucestershire. People also chose to go abroad, for example to Rome and Compostela, usually leaving from Bristol resulting in some very important pilgrim paths through the county to Bristol.

In later centuries the trackways focussed increasingly on industrial purposes. Extant account books, for example, give amazingly precise details of the incredibly long paths taken by drovers, often from Wales to London, by foot with huge herds of animals. In many localities such as Painswick the mills were critical and the tracks to and from them were vital for both the workers living up the hill and for the transporting of the wool. In Cheltenham with the importance of the spas walkways were created specifically for the spa wells and to this day exist as the main roads within the town.

So much was covered in this talk and not just facts. It definitely inspired much thinking about the importance of understanding our road systems and the fact that so many, which we take for granted, have in fact been in place for many, many centuries.

At the next meeting Mark Bowden will present a talk on the subject of wooden castles – might Painswick have had one such castle? Croft School, Tuesday 18th February, 7.30pm. Everyone welcome.

Carol Maxwell

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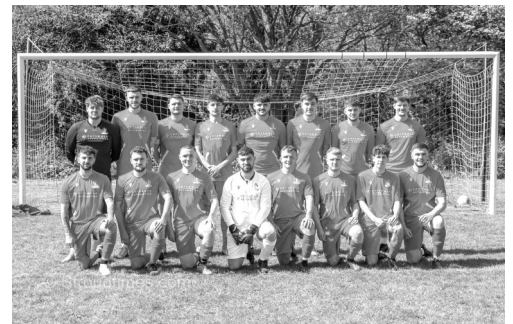
assembled by John Barrus



Painswick Football returns to Painswick



Saturday 18th January saw their first ever home match at Broadham. Originally the club was based at the Recreation Ground but owing to the sloping pitch had to move away to Gloucester. The club's first team has progressed through the divisions of the Stroud District League over recent years and last season they ended top of division one (see team picture). This means they were promoted up to division two of the Gloucestershire North Senior League where they now lie 6th out of 16 teams. The club also runs 2 other teams which are in the Stroud League
Report of the first ever match at Broadham
Painswick FC vs Winchcombe Town FC: 2-0



Last time Painswick played against Winchcombe they lost. One reason they won today was surely because they were on home territory, feeling a sense of pride to be playing in the village again. The game featured lots of moments where Winchcombe were looking like they might push through, but Painswick's experience and talent dominated the game.

Both teams' formations were 4-3-3: 4 defenders, 3 centre midfielders and 3 forwards. This formation is perfect for playing quick football on the ground as favoured by Painswick's manager, Carl Goodman.

The first half showed a very confident group of players. As kick-off started you could sense the players were buzzing to be back on home turf. Painswick were playing fluid football mainly on the left-hand side of the pitch, constantly winning challenges with ease. As one of the home team's players was sluggishly fouled, a free-kick just outside of the eighteen-yard box was granted by the referee. The kick was magnificently slotted into the top corner by right-back Ben Tyndall. Fantastic football was played on a poor pitch

In the second half there were some good chances from the opposition. In the 75th minute their midfielder struck a great power shot from a free kick twenty yards out but was denied by Painswick's reserve keeper. A highlight of the second half was a fluke goal scored by Painswick's striker Mike Willett, deflecting off Winchcombe's centre-half. Either way, the ball crossed the line and Painswick had secured three points. My player of the match was Rhys Goodman who put in a brilliant performance as the team's brick wall of a centre-back.

Nesty Coles

Broadham Fields is a great facility, thanks to the Rugby Club, and now offers football, rugby and tennis with a great atmosphere for spectators on a Saturday afternoon.

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Painswick Rugby Club

.. also had a home match on the same afternoon against Newent 2nds. The club also has a very active junior section for different age groups on Sunday mornings again at Broadham.



Tennis

Painswick Tennis Club have entered 4 teams in the Gloucestershire Winter League this season and with most matches now completed the A team in the Premier division are lying 3rd. The B team in division 1B are 4th, the C team in division 2B are 1st and the D team in division 4B are 2nd. Good results all round.

In the Stroud Winter League the A team are 1st in division 1 and the B team are 1st in division 3. The senior ladies A team are 4th in their division 1 and the B team are 2nd in division 2. Most divisions in all the leagues have around 6 teams in each.

The new clay courts have been a blessing in the recent frosty weather allowing normal play to carry on.



Golf

Painswick Senior's New Year got off to a start with the mid-week competition being held on Thursday 9 January 2025. Thirteen hardy competitors braved the icy conditions. The winner was Finlay McLean with 34 points and the bottle of wine for the nearest the pin on the 18th was won by Paul Gobey.

The monthly social team event held on Thursday 16 January 2025 but had to be abandoned due to thickening fog as the morning progressed. However, all was not lost, the field of 27 competitors retreated to the clubhouse and enjoyed a very delicious serving of soup and bread laid on by the Beacon Bar & Kitchen.



A misty view from the golf course

On that point, club members are keen to welcome non-golf playing visitors to the club house to enjoy the reasonably priced and tasty fayre laid on by Matt and his crew from the Beacon Bar & Kitchen - this is a great way to break up a walk across the Beacon.

Robin Hare

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Visits to Mansion House, and Incinerator



Thirty-five members of the Cotswold Naturalists' Field Club enjoyed an excellent New Year lunch at the George Inn, Frocester, a Grade II Listed coaching inn that once stood on the Gloucester-Bath turnpike road, now superseded by an easier route constructed along Nailsworth valley. The presence of large properties in the small village of Frocester and the archaeological remains of a Roman villa indicate past wealth, helped by its location on a trading route from Roman times onwards linking the Arlingham peninsula and Severn crossing to Cirencester.

Our next excursion will be to The Mansion House, Cirencester Park, the home of the Bathurst family. On Thursday morning, 20th March we will step through the tallest yew hedge in the world, pictured, for a guided tour of the Mansion's State Rooms followed by refreshments. If you are interested in joining this visit, please contact me.

On Wednesday 5th February at 2.30 pm we welcome Katherine Kear to our monthly meeting at the Painswick Centre. As well as being a Master Florist, Katherine is a Folklorist exploring myths and legends, and their origins. Her talk will focus on folklore of plants, trees and flowers, based on her book 'Flower Wisdom'. In a change of programme, Tony Conder will give a talk on 'Gloucestershire's History and Traditions', at Box Village Hall, on Tuesday 18th February at 2.30 pm. Non-members are very welcome to our meetings (£5 charge). Please just turn up; no need to book

Finally, there are still a small number of places on the Club's morning visits to the Javelin Park Incinerator for a talk and site visit. The dates are Thursday 27th March and Tuesday 29th April. Further details from the organiser Peter Cornish tel. 01453 823286 or me.



Jane Rowe 813228

Jottings - Moles

Moles are the small black mammals that live mostly underground in burrows. They gauge the height of the burrow when digging, by their tail, which stands up. We usually know they're about when they push soil up from their burrows to make mole hills. This provides very good soil aeration. Moles live on crustaceans, slugs, worms and plant roots. Their saliva contains a toxin which can paralyse earthworms, so they can store them to eat later. Researchers have found "larders" with over a thousand earthworms. Mole runs are essentially "worm traps". With their acute hearing they can hear a worm drop into their burrows. Moles do squeeze the earth out of the worm before eating it. The only time you see them on the surface is when they are looking for a mate - that's between February and May. They have a gestation of about a month and have between 3 and 5 babies which then leave home at about a month old. The nest is usually a large mole hill with a nest of grass.

The mole hills above the ground do cause trouble in fields and on your lawn, so spread them out or your lawn and fields become bumpy (don't push the mole hill back into the ground or when the mole passes next time it will push it up again).

Cutting through mole hills with your lawn mower or farm machinery will damage the blades. If the earth material of a mole hill gets into silage or hay when it is made and stored, the area around it may become rancid by the winter. Livestock of all kinds do not like to eat that part. Mole hills can be used as garden compost when you add a bit of other compost to it.

Martin Slinger

Spring equinox yoga retreat

Kim Brocket has been running yoga classes for over 25 years and also along side these well attended yoga retreats in France, Italy, the Brecon Beacons and on Dartmoor. These have always been residential, a long weekend away at various retreat centres.

This year she is trying to keep the yoga pound local and show locals that they don't need to escape on a plane or down the M5 to experience rest and rejuvenation.

Together with her friend and fellow yoga teacher Emma she has decided to use the Painswick Centre to make this retreat experience more local and more inclusive for those who can't get away, and also to support the Painswick Centre Charity.

They will use the weekend to celebrate the spring equinox, a time of renewal. This weekend retreat is more financially accessible and also perfect for those who don't want to travel. We will be hosting the retreat at the Painswick Centre between the hours of 10-4 on Saturday 22nd and Sunday 23rd March activities include; yoga, chanting, breath workshops, Tibetan healing exercises and meditation, forest bathing and mindful walks. £120 for two days or £75 for one day. Delicious vegetarian food and refreshments supplied too.

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Winter work parties progressing nicely



I spend a lot of time on the Beacon either walking or playing golf, so I feel I have a good overview on how the conservation work is progressing. Unbelievable it is ten years since I volunteered to help PBCG and since then some areas of the site have changed incredibly. Early efforts focused on removing hundreds of ash saplings but, as they were not treated, they grew back stronger than ever. Using glyphosate dabbers and the onset of ash dieback disease has meant those dense patches of saplings are a thing of the past. This enabled us to focus on larger scale clearing along the edges of the secondary woodlands and start regenerating small areas of grassland. This also coincided with the grazing becoming better established. Early grazing efforts relied upon borrowing local farmer's cows and were not very successful. Once we committed to buying our own cattle, we then had the flexibility of when, where and for how long they were grazed for. Natural England has slowly allowed us to graze for longer and longer, until now the ideal outcome is to keep the cows on site all year round. The NoFence system has been vital in allowing this to happen.

At the start of each winter season, I make a list of things to do. Primary work would be a project in a new area which involves felling quite a lot of larger trees (many of which will be diseased ash), and brush cutting back brambles. This is followed up by selective spot spraying of bramble regrowth and then grazing.

Secondary work would involve revisiting these sites after three or four years to deal with subsequent regrowth. We must be careful not to clear too much too quickly; if the follow-up work is not forthcoming then secondary regrowth will take over within five or six years, especially if the area is not grazed.

So far this year we have tackled four new areas. The triangle just before the end of the Beacon at the Royal William end, The wooded edge of the 8th fairway, the 15th fairway and, at the request of English Heritage, the middle ditch on the ramparts. The main area of secondary work completed is the long section of ramparts above the Cotswold Way. Here we have taken out 50 – 60% of the scrub, leaving the smaller bushes. We will remove these in four- or five-years' time when they are larger and new smaller ones have developed. The ideal habitat is a light covering of small scrub which is regularly grazed.

The cows have had their busman's holiday to Cud Hill and are now back on the Beacon. Getting them there was quite a saga, involving them being stuck in the stock trailer because of the extreme wet weather. The return journey was much simpler as we walked them back. Perhaps next year we will walk them both ways.

Paul Baxter.

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Town & Country Financial Planning repeats award

Town & Country Financial Planning, the firm of Independent Financial Advisers located in Painswick, has again received an 'Achievement of Excellence' award for providing effective estate planning to its clients.

Martin Falshaw, co-founder of T&CFP says "The award demonstrates our continued commitment to providing effective inheritance tax and estate planning for our clients. We are rightly proud of the recognition as the award was made by industry experts who are well placed to understand the quality and value of our work".

Martin goes on to say "We saw a definite up-tick in inheritance tax planning enquiries prior to last year's General Election as people became increasingly concerned about how much of their family's wealth the state was going to pocket. The Autumn Budget has only fuelled these fears".

"Although it's been the farmers who have been attracting all the headlines, proposed changes to how pensions, AIM shares and Business Property Relief are treated for inheritance tax purposes is compelling families to revisit their planning".

"With the basic 'Nil Rate Band' allowance not having increased since 2009, and the Chancellor's announcement that it will remain frozen until 2030, families who do not consider themselves wealthy can be caught out by this wealth tax. And we're not talking 'small beer' here. Even though most of our clients would describe themselves as having 'modest means', projected six figure Inheritance Tax bills are not uncommon if no action is taken".

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PLANNING MATTERS

Information received from the Parish Council

NEW APPLICATIONS

S.24/2248/HHOLD 11 The Croft
Erection of single storey rear extension, porch with replacement roof over garage, and garden outbuilding.

S.24/2222/LBC Hill Farm House
Erection of a single storey extension and bay window to replace the existing porch and lean-to plant room. Internal alterations to upgrade ground floor wc, first and second floor bathrooms. New external door opening at ground floor in to existing kitchen, widen existing door opening to new bay window. New door openings to 2nd floor bathroom and into existing roofspace. Infill of original external door.

S.24/2221/HHOLD Hill Farm House
Erection of a single storey extension and bay window to replace existing porch and lean-to plant room. Erection of fencing, a replacement shed with solar panels, ground source boreholes and trenching and replacement garage doors.

S.24/2282/HHOLD Painswick Lodge

Internal alterations & refurbishment, up-grading of existing services. Remedial works to retained walls, partitions & ceilings. Removal of inappropriate rain-water goods. New entrance doors to north elevation (replacing an existing window) & reinstatement of historic doors. Existing opening door opening closed up. Landscaping works including reconfiguration of access drive.

S.24/2226/HHOLD Dutchcombe Farm, Yokehouse Lane
Erection of a single storey side extension including hard landscaping.

S.24/2197/HHOLD Junipers, Edge Road
Extension and conversion of existing garage into annex.

CONSENT

S.24/1966/HHOLD S.24/1967/LBC Hambutts House, Edge Road
Removal of asbestos garage and erection of a replacement garage, solarium and solar panels. Replacement of asbestos roofing and alterations to dry stone wall.

S.24/2194/TCA Cedar House, Butt Green

T1 Cedar - Height reduction of 1.5m and spread by a maximum of 2m. Crown lift up to 8m all around. T2 Sycamore & Horse Chestnut - Height reduction of 3m and spread by 2m, pruning back to previous reduction points. Crown lift up to 4m all around.

S.24/2108/TCA Stonewyck, Cheltenham Road
T1 - Removal of small Lime. T2 - Removal of small Oak. T3 - Removal of Weeping Copper Beech. T4 - Removal of Rowan tree. T5 - Removal of Rowan tree (2). T6 - Lawsons Cypress - reduction by 1m in height, hedge trim sides. Crown raise a few branches by maximum 1m. T7 - Slight reduction of plum on neighbours side by 3m and delicately (max 1m) reduction on clients. Shape accordingly. T8 - Silver Pear - Hedge trim to shape and reduce on the garden side. T9 - Reduction of White Beam tree to previous pollarded points. T10 - Reduction of Norway Maple to previous points - approx 3m reduction. T11 - Crown lift of Liquid Amber tree to 3m

Property Report

In 1941 a stray German bomb flattened several buildings in the centre of Painswick, including the newspaper shop run by Herbert Ireland, leaving him and his family homeless. The resourceful Mr. Ireland however converted a poultry-house on a spare plot in Vicarage Street into a six-roomed bungalow for the family. After the war, the property was demolished and eventually replaced with a modern two bedroom detached cottage called Angel's Roost, built relatively sympathetically to fit in with the generally much older properties surrounding it. You could now own a piece of this history as Angel's Roost is available for sale through Hamptons at £450,000 – rather more than the price of a poultry-house.

It's one of several new properties on the market this month in Painswick and our local estate agents at Hamptons and Murrays say that the start of the year has been busy with new buyers entering the market. Also newly available is Woodside on Kings Mill Lane (Murrays, £895,000), a modern four-bedroom detached property by the junction with Ticklestone Lane.

In the upper part of the village, 12 Berry Close (Murrays, £295,000) is a 3 bedroom family home near the Croft School and just round the corner from 9 Hyett Close (Hamptons, £325,000) an end of terrace 3 bedroom property with scope for improvement.

6 Stamages Lane (Hamptons, £475,000) is a modern townhouse with 3-4 bedrooms and Croome House on Bisley Street (Murrays, £595,000) is a handsome period house in the heart of the village with 3 beds, garden and 2 parking spaces.

12 White Horse Lane is now under offer through Murrays, as is May Cottage on Edge Road through Hamptons. Contracts have been exchanged on Frithway at Longridge, Grey Cottage in Edge and Vermont in Cranham.

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Regular Village Activities. Please contact Vicky Aspinnall on cvasp.26@gmail.com

Mondays	Gentle pilates. Info from Heidi 07970 262538	Painswick Centre 8.45 - 9.45am
	Improvers pilates. Info from Heidi 07970 262538	Painswick Centre 9.50 - 10.50am
	Beginners/improvers pilates. Info from Heidi 07970 262538	Painswick Centre 10.55 - 11.55am
	Ballyhoo modern dance classes. Julie ballyhoochalford@gmail.com	Painswick Centre from 3.45pm
	Community Choir. Contact sophie@sophiesterckx.co.uk	Painswick Centre 7.00 - 8.30pm
	Short Mat Bowls. All equipment provided. 2.00/session	Town Hall 2.00 - 4.00pm
	Mindful Meditation with Kate. kate-beatty.co.uk/07793126234	Painswick Centre 12.30 - 1.00pm
	Painswick Singers. Contact Jean Jones 01452 813545.	Richmond 7.30pm
Tuesdays	Paradise Art Studio evening classes. takepart@paradise-house.org.uk	Paradise House 6.30 - 8.30pm
	Zumba with Martina 07891 194396	Painswick Centre 9.45 - 10.45am
	Painswick Art Club £35/term. Contact Joyce Barrus on 01452 812942	Church Rooms 9.30 - 1.00pm
Wednesdays	Rococo Sprites. See www.rococogarden.org.uk	Rococo Garden 9.45 am
	Strength and Balance class for the over 60s. Contact Trish Tenn on 07956 4666617 or tennpatricia@gmail.com	Painswick Centre 10.00 - 11.00am
	Painswick Bridge Club. Contact Peter Sibley on 812126 or Margaret Wilson on 812305	Church Rooms 6.45pm
	Table tennis. Contact David Harris on 07453 027766. £5.00/person/session	Painswick Centre 7.30 - 9.00pm
	Yoga with Kate. www.kate-beatty.co.uk/07793126234	Painswick Centre 7.30 - 8.45pm
	Classical Pilates Mat Classes Jo on 07968 799741 or info@daleypilates.co.uk	Painswick Centre 10.30 - 11.30am
	Strength and Conditioning Circuits. www.lovelifeladies.co.uk	Painswick Centre 12.30 - 1.30pm
	After school art classes. Term time only. classes@painswickcentre.com .	Painswick Centre 3.45 - 5.15pm
Thursdays	Warm Wednesdays. A warm space to meet up for coffee and a chat. All welcome. Contact Sandra Glass on 814186	Town Hall 10.00 - 12.00pm
	Morning Market	Painswick Centre 8.15 - 9.45am
Fridays	St Mary's Mums, Contact 07833 727701. Term time only	Church Rooms 9.15 - 10.45am
	Nurturing yoga. Contact Kim on yoginikim@icloud.com	Painswick Centre 9.30 - 11.00am
	Vinyasa Yoga. Contact Kim on yoginikim@cloud.com	Painswick Centre 11.15 - 12.45am
	Tai chi. Contact Joe on 07960 753782	Painswick Centre 1.30 - 2.30pm
	Dog Training Club. Contact Fiona Chapman on 01452 812462 or fiona.chapman123@btinternet.com	Painswick Rugby Club 9.30 - 12.30pm
	Qi Gong Classic Exercise - jeffdocherty@yahoo.com	Town Hall 9.30 - 10.30am
	Classical Pilates Mat Classes. Contact Jo on 07968 799741 or info@daleypilates.co.uk	Town Hall 5.45 - 6.45pm
	Takeaway Food Night	Painswick Centre 5.00 - 8.00pm
Sundays	Yoga for Backs. Contact Kim on yoginikim@icloud.com	Painswick Centre 9.30 - 11.00am
	Ballet with Claire Tracey. Contact BalletClaire@outlook.com	Church Rooms 9.30 - 10.30 am
	Painswick Community Hub Café. All welcome	Town Hall 10.00 - 11.30am
	Church Choir Practice. cgsuain@btinternet.com or 01453 822998	St Mary's Church 5.30 - 6.30pm
	Classical Pilates Mat Classes. Contact Jo on 07968 799741 or info@daleypilates.co.uk	Church Rooms 11.00 - 12.00pm
Painswick Baby and Toddler Group - Term time only	Youth Pavillion 9.30 - 11.30am	
Sundays	Mass	Catholic Church 8.30am
	Quaker Meeting for Worship	Meeting House 10.30am
	Aikido www.gloucestershireaikido.club .	Painswick Centre 8.30 - 11.00am

Village Diary

Please let me know your club and society dates for the diary on cvasp.26@gmail.com

February

Sat 1 Painswick Beacon published

	1	PBCG working party	TBC	9.00am
Mon	3	Community Lunch provided by Croft School Year 6	Town Hall	12.00 - 1.15pm
Tues	4	Morning Prayer	St Mary's Church	9.00am
Wed	5	Cotteswold Naturalists: Folklore of plants, trees and flowers - Katherine Kear. Enq 7767 014957	Painswick Centre	2.30pm
	5	Holy Communion	Richmond	11.30am
Thurs	6	Painswick Music Appreciation Group: Vivaldi - Dr Tim Brain	Town Hall	2.30pm
	6	Painswick Probus: Lord Ismay - John Kiszley.	Painswick Centre	11.00 for 11.30am
	6	First Thursday: Interview with Elisa Lodato - Ghost Story. Tickets from firstthursdaypainswick.co.uk	Painswick Centre	7.00pm for 7.30pm
Fri	7	Friday Club: Glos vintage transport - Kate Peake. Enq 812942	Town Hall	2.30pm
	7	PBCG working party	TBC	9.00am
Sun	9	Family Worship	St Mary's Church	11.00am
Mon	10	Community Lunch provided by Croft School Year 6	Town Hall	12.00 - 1.15pm
	10	Library Book Club	Library	1.30 - 2.30pm
Tues	11	Morning Prayer	St Mary's Church	9.00am
	11	Cotteswold Naturalists: Members consultation meeting Tel 813228	Church Rooms	2.30pm
Wed	12	Painswick Gardening Club: Wildstroud, Wildlife Project - Chloe Cox	Town Hall	7.00 for 7.30pm
	12	Holy Communion	St Mary's Church	12.00pm
	12	Prayer and Praise	St Mary's Church	7.00pm
Thurs	13	The Arts Society: The Great Exhibition of 1851 - Anna Warrilow	Painswick Centre	10.00am for 10.45am
Fri	14	Wickflix - Ghost	Painswick Centre	7.00 for 7.45pm
Sat	15	PBCG working party	TBC	9.00am
	15	Golden Snowdrop family trail starts - until February 23rd	Rococo Garden	10.00am - 3.30pm
Sun	16	Deadline for Beacon copy		
	16	Holy Communion	St Mary's Church	11.00am
Mon	17	Community Lunch provided by Churches Together Around Painswick	Town Hall	12.00 - 1.15pm
Tues	18	Cotteswold Naturalists: Gloucestershire's History and Traditions - Tony Conder. Enq 07767 014957	Box Village Hall	2.30pm
	18	Morning Prayer	St Mary's Church	9.00am
	18	Slow Stitch with Liz Taylor hosted by Handmade in Painswick Arts and Crafts. Tickets from handmadein.uk/workshops	The Old Fleece, Bisley Street	10.00 - 1.00pm
	18	Painswick Local History Society: Wooden Castles - Mark Bowden	Croft School	7.30pm
Thurs	20	Painswick Probus: Scandals and government - Mike Warburton	Painswick Centre	11.00 for 11.30am
	20	Painswick Music Appreciation Group: A musical walk around the British Isles - Michael Grey	Town Hall	2.30pm
Fri	21	Friday Club: Opals in Australia - Helen Plumb. Enq 812942	Town Hall	2.30pm
Sun	23	Beacon Praise	St Mary's Church	11.00am
Mon	24	Community Lunch provided by the Falcon Bowling Club	Town Hall	12.00 - 1.15pm
Tues	25	Yew Trees WI: Fraud and Protection and Cypher Security - Rhiannon Parker	Church Rooms	7.00 for 7.30pm
	25	Morning Prayer	St Mary's Church	9.00am

March

Sat 1 Painswick Beacon published

Foodbank

Our next collection will be on Wednesday 12 February. Volunteers will be in the Stamages Lane car park from 10am - 12 noon. The top items required by the Foodbank this month are: tinned ham and corned beef, fruit squash, UHT milk, shampoo and conditioner and laundry liquid. Other non-perishable items will also be received with thanks.

We also have a special request for this collection. If you have any clean and serviceable sleeping bags you no longer require, this would help our homeless community in Stroud. We would be very grateful to receive these at the same collection point.

As always, if you wish to make a bank donation, you can do so using the following details:

Stroud District Foodbank CIO
Sort code: 09-01-29
Account: 2199491

Thank you!
The Foodbank Team
Mobile: 07950 651228

Natasha's commitment

Readers may recall Natasha Houseago's role as artist in residence at the Rococo Garden. Natasha is now artist in residence at Nature in Art at Gloucestershire Archives where she has been working on an Egyptian inspired Pledgehog in 100 year old ash. On 18th February for one day only she will be at Stroud Museum in the Park where people can commit their green pledge to paper and place it inside the carved Pledgehog.

This is a great opportunity both to see more of Natasha's wonderful carving skills and to promote a strong belief in a green future.

Carol Maxwell



Historic February crimes

1845

John Frankis, 68, 5ft 9ins, butcher, scanty brown hair, eyes grey, long visage, charged with stealing a hay knife the property of William Peglar. Guilty, 7 days hard labour in the Penitentiary.

Joseph Birt, 18, 5ft 4ins, labourer, hair dark brown, eyes light hazel, visage long, complexion fresh, charged with stealing a quantity of apples of William Henry Hyett. Guilty, 1 calendar month hard labour Horsley House of Correction.

1875

Edna Arnold alias Edna Gardner summoned for being drunk and disorderly at Painswick. PC Reed said defendant was drunk in Bisley Street. Mr Capel: 'I suppose she never comes to Painswick without getting drunk?' PC Reed: 'No, sir, she does not. She was throwing her clothes about and making quite a disturbance.' Defendant said she was not drunk, she had only a quarter of gin. Fined 2/- and costs 8/6. Defendant: 'I cannot pay it.' Chairman: 'Then you will go to gaol and be kept on bread and water.' A fortnight was subsequently allowed for payment. *Stroud Journal*

1885

Joseph Cresswell, 59, 5ft 3ins, gardener, hair brown, education imperfect, summoned for being idle and begging. 14 days hard labour.
William Green, 65, 5ft 3ins, labourer, hair grey. Poaching, 1 month hard labour.

1905

William Marsh, a youth of Painswick, charged with cruelly beating a horse. Harold Ward stated that he was cycling behind defendant for about two miles and saw him beat the animal 30 or 40 times with a heavy stick. ... Defendant said he had to get home quickly and the horse, which was old, would not go. He threw away a stick with thorns with which he had beaten the horse as well as an ash stick 3 feet long. Insp. Wood, RSPCA, stated that when he saw the animal the next day its mouth was cut and it had several wheals across its back. Fined 10/- and costs £1 3s.6d, or 14 days gaol. *Stroud News*

1915

William Phipps of Spoonbed Farm, was proceeded against for allowing a pig to stray on the highway at Upton St Leonards. In his absence he was fined 5/- and costs 6/6d. *Gloucestershire Echo*

Carol Maxwell

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Personal column

Condolences

To the family and friends of ELISABETH MAJOR of Shoestring Cottage, Tibbiwell, Painswick who died on January 5th, 2025. There will be a private family cremation. In lieu of flowers donations can be made to Longfield Hospice <https://longfield.org.uk/donation-one-off/>

To the family and friends of ANTHONY FISHER who passed away peacefully aged 86 on 6 January at Moreton Hill Care Centre. A resident of Painswick since 1968 Anthony worked closely with the Tennis Club when they acquired the Broadham courts and after his retirement from the drapery business was involved in the Painswick Surgery Patient Group. He was a keen golfer and dedicated runner and many will remember seeing him on his frequent runs through the village and surrounding area. He will be sadly missed by his wife Liz, son James, daughter Roz and their families.

Please help!

This little black, possibly female, cat has been living rough along the stream from Painswick to Pitchcombe since about October. I first found her eating bread off the bird table. I now feed her twice a day, and she is living under the wood deck. I have 2 indoor Siamese cats, so I cannot have her. I have tried to find her a place in a rescue centre, but they are all full.



If anyone can give her a home, I will pay for the initial vet's fee. I can borrow a humane trap from Stroud rescue. Please ring me 01452 813978. Yvonne Rawson

MINI-ADS

Royal portable gas heater. Never used. Still in box. £30 Ono. 01452 812075.

Elderly lady seeking occupant (preferably retiree/remote worker) for bedsit in Edge. Rent-free, in exchange for cooking meals and helping around the house. Call 01452 812773.

Mini-Ads

Primarily for Painswick residents. Text maximum 30 words. Flat charge £6. Free to subscribers for private sales. £6 for business use, holiday rentals. etc.

Provide text, your name, address and contact details with payment in advance. Deadline as for all copy. More info call Peter Rowe, or mail: advertising.beacon@painswick.net

You could help Vicky Aspinall, if you would send information about those you know for whom a mention in the Personal Column would be appreciated cvasp.26@gmail.com

Additional copies of the Beacon

are available from the Premier shop or online, where the Beacon can be seen in full colour at www.painswickbeacon.org.uk

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NEXT ISSUE

Publication date

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