

The Painswick Beacon

Volume 49 Number 5

August 2026

Have you lost a peacock...?



...if so contact us and we will let you know who has it!

Painswick enjoys success again



Vikki Walters, Fiona Mackenzie-Jenkin, Sandra Randle, Hayley Coombs

I am delighted to share the news from the team that submitted Painswick's entry to the Gloucestershire Rural Community Council Village of the Year competition that the village has once again enjoyed success.

Of the three categories entered, Painswick was crowned winner of the Climate and Environment (Resilience) category, sponsored by Freeman Homes, and was also named runner-up in the Volunteering & Skills in the Community category, sponsored by the Gloucestershire Employment and Skills Hub.

The awards were announced on a beautiful summer evening on 16th July at Highnam Court, Gloucester. Painswick was represented by Parish Councillor Fiona Mackenzie-Jenkin and Sandra Randle from Handmade in Painswick. The evening was compered by Jon Smith of BBC Radio Gloucestershire, and listeners can hear a snippet of the post-awards interviews on BBC Sounds from his Breakfast Show on 17th July at 7.30am.

These awards are a true reflection of the remarkable work undertaken by so many residents to make Painswick such a fantastic, inclusive and supportive place to live. We would like to thank everyone who participated on the day of the judges' visit, particularly as it was one of the hottest days of the year, and also recognise the continued dedication of the many individuals and groups who contribute so much to our wonderful community.

Cllr Fiona Mackenzie-Jenkin

LOCAL COUNCIL NEWS – from the Parish Council meetings held on Wednesday 15th July

PLANNING COMMITTEE

Present: Cllrs Robin Roberts (Chair), Ann Daniels, Sandra Hunkin, Fraser Leggate, Fiona Mackenzie-Jenkin, Ian Massey, Roey Parker and three members of the public.

There were no Apologies received and no Declarations of Interest. The minutes of the planning committee meeting held on 17th June were approved and signed.

Planning Applications

a. S.26/1017/AFPA Painswick Lodge. Erection of replacement barn and creation of a new agricultural track. This application has been refused.

The Committee agreed to Support the following applications:

b. S.26/0949/HHOLD Greenacres Cottage, Cheltenham Road. Erection of rear garden room.

c. S.26/0957/HHOLD High Mead, The Green, Edge Lane, Edge. Erection of two storey extension and single storey attached garage.

e. S.26/0870/HHOLD Marlowe, Back Edge Lane, Edge. Erection of single storey side extension.

f. S.26/0879/LBC Shetlands, Far End, Sheepscombe. Demolition of outbuilding. Erection of two storey extension with single storey glazed link, orangery and garden pergola. Resubmission of S.25/1432/LBC.

g. S.26/1086/HHOLD Mulberry Lodge, The Highlands. Erection of a single storey front extension, two storey and single storey rear extension, replacement front dormer window and erection of new rear dormer window. Erection of a replacement rear porch.

i. S.26/1080/HHOLD 3 Court Cottages, Butt Green. Erection of a replacement single storey extension.

j. S.26/1119/TCA Flat 1 Gyde House, Gyde Road. T1 Cherry – reduce all over back to the previous points, approximately 2 metres.

k. S.26/1149/TCA Lullingworth, Stroud

Road. T1. Pine tree – Fell.

The Committee agreed to Support the following application with conditions that it is to remain part of the main dwelling and an acceptable construction plan being agreed:

d. S.26/1045/HHOLD Croft Edge, Hollyhock Lane. Erection of a garage/out-building.

The Committee agreed to Support the following application, but ask that an Environment consultation is undertaken due to the proximity of a spring on site:

h. S.26/1171/AFPA Site for Proposed Barn, Slad Lane. Erection of a hay and straw barn and resurfacing of an existing track.

The Committee agreed to Support the following application subject to the planting of a natural hedge:

l. S.26/1163/TCA The Old Vicarage, Damsells Mill Lane, Sheepscombe. T1 – Remove Leylandii to ground level.

PARISH COUNCIL

Present: Cllrs Sandra Hunkin (Chair), Ann Daniels, Selina Gibb, Fraser Leggate, Fiona Mackenzie-Jenkin, Gary Luff, Ian Massey, Richard Moore MBE, Roey Parker, Robin Roberts and three members of the public. There were no apologies for absence.

Public Questions:

A local resident expressed concern about the lack of communication in regard to the Draft Local Plan being undertaken by SDC and also the method being used to identify potential development sites. District Cllr Gary Luff explained the process, and it was agreed that additional publicity will be incorporated into the *Painswick Beacon*.

A local resident, speaking on behalf of the Friday Club expressed concern in regard to the current hearing loop system. The Clerk advised that a full Audio-Visual Audit is to take place on Monday 3rd August and invited the Member of Public to attend.

Declarations of Interest: Cllr Gary Luff declared an interest in the Stroud & Cotswold Citizens Advice grant application.

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 17th June were accepted and signed as a true record.

Co-option Requests: The Council unanimously agreed to Co-opt Richard Moore MBE to fill the Painswick (Slad) Ward Vacancy.

Reports: Cllr Gary Luff detailed his County Council and District Council reports. Both are available on the Parish Council website.

Chairman's Report: The Chairman updated the Council on a range of matters, including the forthcoming audio-visual assessment to be undertaken at the Town Hall. She advised Members that Cllr Fiona Mackenzie-Jenkin had resigned from the Planning Committee and that a vacancy remains on the Council for the Painswick Ward. The Chairman reminded Members to ensure that their Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests (DPI) forms are up to date. She also reported on the acquisition of a new mower and advised that a Locum Clerk will provide office cover on 29th July.

Telephone Kiosk Working Group: Cllr Fiona Mackenzie-Jenkin reported that the working group met with stained glass designer Sarah Davies. A bespoke frame, reflecting the structure of the existing door framework, is being proposed to house eight horizontal glass panels. Local carpenter and furniture maker Martyn Thornton is providing a quotation for the design, manufacture and installation of the frame and glass, together with a Perspex backing panel. It was agreed that, once the Lodge works are completed in August, Lucas will undertake the necessary repair and maintenance works.

The PIR unit has been tested on-site and is operating effectively, successfully triggering a pre-recorded test script when movement is detected within the kiosk. Jennie Barber has been selected from local artists to create the 'Painswick on the Cotswold Way' map. The intention is to

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commission a unique interpretation of the route that highlights Painswick at its halfway point, while incorporating local landmarks, heritage features and points of interest.

The Council discussed the report and agreed to approve the financial impacts, which will hopefully be offset by further grant funding towards the project.

Report from Cllr Fraser Leggate on the potential to sell merchandise to support funding of the parish council: The Council had a very lengthy debate on the potential to sell merchandise and agreed to defer this item until its September meeting, asking Cllr Leggate to provide, in advance of the meeting a full and comprehensive report, including financial costings.

Cemetery Lodge Report: The Clerk presented a report advising that the restoration of the Lodge should be completed by mid-August. The Council agreed to accept the quote from Gloucester Carpet Outlet.

Resignation of Cllr Fiona Mackenzie-Jenkin as the Council's representative

on the Hambutts Field Trust: The Council noted the resignation and agreed to appoint Cllr Fraser Leggate as its representative on the Trust.

Accounts: The Council approved the accounts for payment. The Council also approved the expenditure to purchase a new mower under emergency delegated powers. The following grant applications were also approved: £250 to the Painswick Feast; £400 to Stroud & Cotswold District Citizens Advice.

Reports from Representatives on other bodies:

Painswick Library: Cllr Roey Parker updated the Council on Library matters including the newly formed Lego Club.

Hambutts Field Trust: Cllr Fraser Leggate updated the Council on the Trust matters.

Painswick Beacon Conservation Group: Cllr Ian Massey updated the Council on the group's activities including the cattle.

Edge Village Hall: Cllr Selina Gibb updated the Council on the Village Hall

matters including the Autumn Show which is to take place on Saturday 5th September.

Ward Reports

Sheepscombe: Cllr Sandra Hunkin reported on forthcoming road closures. Cllr Roey Parker asked about defibrillator training. The Clerk will contact a provider, once the availability dates have been provided.

Painswick: Cllr Fraser Leggate reported upon the formation of an 'action group'. He also expressed his concerns about some plastic flowers on a grave in the Cemetery, the lack of street cleaning in Painswick and speeding traffic along Edge Lane.

Edge: Cllr Selina Gibb expressed her concern about road safety at the Whiteshill Junction with the A4173.

The next meeting of the Council was set for Wednesday 16th September at 7.30pm in the Town Hall.

Slad: Cllr Robin Roberts reported on Slad matters.

Stroud District Council launches early consultation on new Local Plan

The time allowed for Public Questions at the last meeting of Painswick Parish Council on Wednesday 15th July was mainly devoted to SDC's consultation on a new Local Plan. Carolyn Luke, Chairman of the Painswick Valleys Conservation Group expressed concern about a very tight timetable, of less than 30 months, alongside a local government reorganisation. (We now know that a single unitary council will replace existing county, city, district and borough councils on 1st April 2028.)

Carolyn Luke also noted that the maps accompanying the 'Call for Sites 2026' contained sites previously rejected. Gary Luff, District Councillor, said that it was important to work through the Local Plan process. Circumstances and targets have changed, and it is possible that any of these sites may re-surface during the new Local Plan process.

Background

SDC's announcement states that: 'the new Local Plan will set out how and where growth should take place across the district over the next 15 to 20 years, balancing the need for new homes, jobs and infrastructure with the protection of the district's valued environment and communities.'

An early-stage public consultation will run from Monday 29th

June to Sunday 9th August 2026 (11pm), giving people the opportunity to share their views on the key issues, priorities and potential growth options that should inform the new plan.

At this stage, the council is seeking feedback on the challenges and opportunities facing the district and how these should be addressed through the Local Plan. No decisions have been made, and this is not a consultation on specific development sites.

As part of the process, the council is required by government policy to plan for at least 846 new homes each year, alongside the provision of employment opportunities, supporting infrastructure and environmental enhancements.'

Please look at the announcement on the SDC website and respond to the Scoping Consultation with your views: https://www.stroud.gov.uk/environment/planning-and-building-control/planning-strategy/new-local-plan-2026/?utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery

Deadline for comments: Sunday 9th August 2026

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Summer Update

Painswick Rococo Garden is now open daily from 10- 5pm, with plenty to enjoy throughout the summer months.



Visitors may notice the new drought-tolerant planting in the Exedra Garden, which is already proving a great success. As gardens adapt to warmer, drier conditions, the garden team has carefully selected plants that thrive in the local climate while remaining true to the Garden's historic character.

Many of these tried and tested plants are now available to purchase at Exedra Nursery. Visitors can see how they perform at Rococo Garden before choosing plants for their own borders. Julie Dolphin and her knowledgeable nursery team are on hand to offer practical advice and help gardeners select varieties suited to local growing conditions.

Families are already enjoying this summer's 'Gnome for the Holidays' family fun trail. Celebrating the return of garden gnomes to the RHS Chelsea Flower Show, the interactive trail invites children to help Gnome Bert find his friends before they can join Rolly the Rococo Gnome's tea party. With games, drawing activities and challenges along the way, it offers fun for all ages.

The Garden is also passing on the Government's VAT reduction to visitors throughout the summer. Reduced admission prices are available, along with lower prices on children's meals, making it an affordable family day out.



The summer events programme continues with an evening of Greek Wine Tasting on 21st August, offering an introduction to a range of distinctive Greek wines in the beautiful surroundings of the Garden. On 27th August, King Arthur and the Holy Grail arrive, bringing an entertaining mix of Arthurian adventure and medieval mayhem that is suitable for both children and adults.

For opening times, event information and booking details, visit the Garden's website www.rococogarden.org.uk

Marta Gardner

Painswick Gardening Club



Our season ended on Wednesday, July 8th, with a group visit to Brockworth Court. We were treated to a tour of the house with passionate owners Tim and Bridget Wiltshire. They explained it was a sixteenth century Tudor manor originally a residence for the Priors of Llanthony Secunda. We saw fifteenth century wall paintings, a secret priest hole and felt the house was still very much a family home. Henry VIII and Anne Boleyn visited in 1535. Out in the garden we enjoyed the sun setting over the Monet Bridge and marvelled at how Tim and Bridget restored the garden and now maintain the garden between them. We adjourned for prosecco in the impressive tithe barn which dated back to the thirteenth century. Unfortunately a fire swept through it in the 1990's but owners Tim and Bridget lovingly restored it to its former glory.

Joyce Barrus



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Hot news!

They did it! Yes, Yew Trees WI won the 2026 GFWI County Quiz! Many congratulations to the team of Diana Elbert, Pat Francis, Jenny Guilding and Jane Palmer. On a very hot, humid evening in Longford Village Hall they scored 74 points to beat Frampton WI and Moreton in Marsh WI into second and third places.



Despite our June meeting being held on another uncomfortably hot evening Mike Bottomley captured his audience's attention with his moving account of The Life of Nurse Edith Cavell (1865-1915). His presentation explored her remarkable life from her childhood in the Norfolk countryside to her pioneering nursing work in Belgium. Edith fearlessly treated wounded soldiers from both sides of the conflict. She went on to help smuggle more than 200 allied soldiers into neutral Holland which led to her arrest, trial for treason and her eventual execution by German firing squad in October 1915. Edith Cavell's death sparked global outrage and became a powerful symbol of patriotic duty - Mike's lecture served as a moving tribute to this legacy.

On the 24th June a small group of members met up for a convivial light lunch at the Bell at Frampton before setting off on the ship canal from Saul Junction in a narrow boat stocked with plentiful iced water for the hot day. They chugged gently all the way to Quedgeley, enjoying lovely countryside and seeing swans, moorhens and dragonflies. Sadly numbers were depleted because of the heat which is a pity because it sounds as though it was delightful.

There is no official WI meeting in August although members will get together for a social summer supper.

Celia Lougher 812624

Painswick Community Library Librosaurus Reading Challenge.

This year's reading challenge is all about dinosaurs, we have purchased lots of new dinosaur books relevant for all ages. Come and join up for children age 3-11yrs old.

Children can earn a £10.00 book voucher just by visiting The Painswick Community Library 3-4 times taking out 3 books to read and completing an age appropriate task.

3-5yr olds x 3 books & 3 visits and can draw a picture from a book they have read.

6-8 yr olds x3 books & 3 visits plus a poem, picture or story (100 words)

8-11yr olds x3 books & 3 visits plus a poem, picture or story (300 words)

Each child will receive a £10.00 book voucher and then the top three children in each category will win a further £10.00 book voucher!!!! What's not to like! The winners will be contacted after the challenge closes on September 7th.

All activities are still free this year as we feel that it's very important that all local children can have a fun place to visit with their friends at no cost. Come along and join us we would love to see you.



*Gill Hopkins
Painswick Community Library.*

The Arts Society Painswick



On 9th July Arts Society members braved the heat to hear the story of the Koh-i-Noor diamond. Georgina Bexon, eminent art historian specialising in South Asia, was our guide.

Until 1725 the only source of diamonds was India whose court used jewellery as the principal form of adornment and social ranking. In 1526 the Islamic Moghul dynasty was founded becoming fabulously wealthy. Although fierce and cruel it supported a sophisticated artistic culture. In 1628 Shah Jahan commissioned a jewel encrusted throne (costing more than his Taj Mahal). On this throne, above two jewelled peacocks, was set the Koh-i-Noor.

In 1739, encouraged by this ostentatious wealth, Persian ruler Nader Shah sacked Delhi, taking the Peacock Throne and removing the diamond for use as an armband!. Koh-I-Noor remained outside India as blood-soaked tyrants fought for supremacy. Finally in 1813 it came to Sikh ruler Ranjit Singh who revered it as a symbol of prestige and power.

Further Indian civil war left a power vacuum now filled by the British. Following further violence after Ranjit's death, the throne and the stone passed to a boy, Duleep Singh. Through duplicitous manoeuvrings between Indian leaders and the British, the 10 year old signed away his kingdom and the diamond. Koh-i-Noor then became a prized possession of Queen Victoria. The stone was recut to become more brilliant and it became a star of the Crown Jewels. Its last outing was to rest on the coffin of the Queen Mother in 2002.

Next Meeting 10th September 'The Arts and Crafts Movement at its best'

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Painswick Music Society AGM

Come and find out about your local Music Society. You will receive a warm welcome at our AGM on Saturday September 12th at 11am in the Church Rooms. There will be a short business meeting followed by a recital given by a talented young musician. We then enjoy a social with a light lunch provided. The Music Society presents 4 concerts each spring at St Mary's Church covering classical, also folk and jazz genres. We aim to be accessible with tickets very reasonably priced and a friendly team to greet you. We also promote live music performances and workshops in local schools given by professional musicians.

This autumn we are presenting two concerts in St Mary's Church featuring elite young Gloucestershire musicians.

October 17th at 3pm Youth Spotlight showcasing Competition Finalists of Gloucestershire Young Musician of the Year 2026
Tickets: www.painswickmusicsoc.co.uk

November 15th at 3pm Gloucester Youth String Orchestra
Donations welcome

If you would like to support the Society in any way, please talk to a member of the committee at our AGM or contact us on info@painswickmusicsociety.co.uk We look forward to seeing you.

Sue Pack
www.painswickmusicsoc.co.uk



Painswick Feast and Clypping

We are excited as we start to gear up for the Painswick Clypping and Feast 2026, on Sunday 20th September. Make a note of the date in your diary!

The Clypping and Feast is a truly great communal event for Painswick, offering something to be enjoyed by everyone.

And the Feast Team who run it are super, committed, fun people. As they say: 'many hands make light work'. We would be delighted if you would like to be part of the Team.

There are always lots of areas to be attended to in the run-up, on the day, and afterwards — some is physical (like moving tables), some is organisational, and some is being a helpful presence. If you'd like to be involved, drop us a quick line at Thepainswickfeast2026@gmail.com. You will be warmly welcomed.

In particular, if you might be able to help with social media posts, we would love to hear from you.

And do write to the same address if you are local and have not yet booked your pitch for your produce or your organisation.

It is going to be a great celebration of all things Painswick!

The Painswick Feast Team



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Library Book Club

The next meeting of the Library Book Club is Monday 3rd August, to discuss *The Homemade God* by Rachel Joyce. In September we will meet on 7th to discuss *The Correspondent* by Virginia Evans. Both meetings are from 1.30-2.30pm and we welcome new members.

For further information email:
Painswick.library.bookclub@gmail.com
Pat Andrew



Sheepscombe School

We have a vacancy at Sheepscombe Primary School for Clerk to Governors, which is a flexible part time position (2 hours a week during school time). Please see details via below link.
https://www.sheepscombeschool.co.uk/about_us/vacancies/vacancies.html
Deadline for applications 12 noon 10th August

We look forward to hearing from you.
chair@sheepscombe.gloucs.sch.uk and
tlentel@sheepscombe.gloucs.sch.uk

Sachi Hatakenaka and Tessa Lentel, Co-chairs

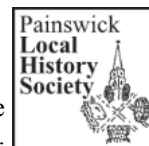
Historic Crimes in August

1836

Thomas Twinning, age 22, height 5ft.3in., hair brown, eyes grey, visage long, complexion fresh, small mole on back of neck, occupation baker. Charged with embezzlement, transported for seven years to Van Dieman's Land.

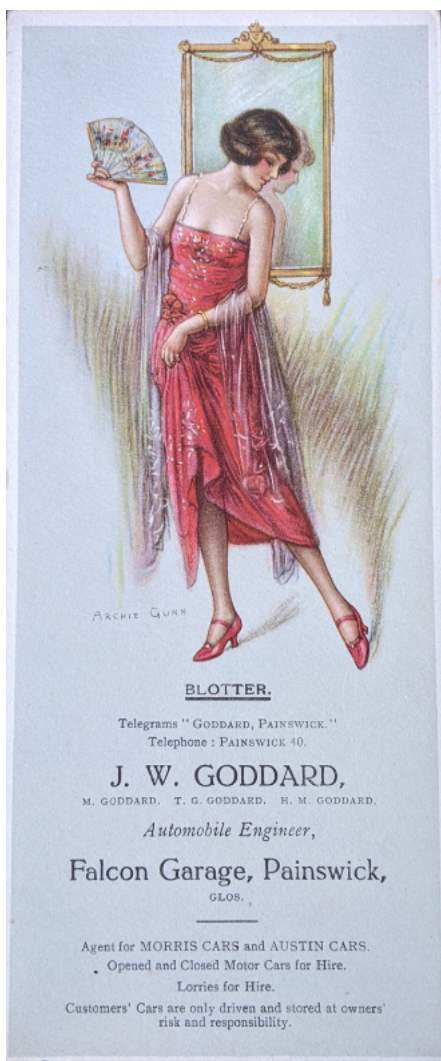
1896

Harriett Keene, married woman, was charged with stealing a vegetable marrow, value 9d, the property of Joseph Mitchell of Painswick. He reported the loss of a marrow to the police and went to defendant's house with P.C.Rhead and told her he had heard she had been on his allotment and that he had missed a marrow. She denied the theft but, following them out to the garden gate, she said she took the marrow, cooked it and ate it. She admitted picking up a small marrow from Mitchell's allotment. She had plenty of marrows in her husband's garden if she wanted any. James Bridgeman said he saw defendant go down the path near Mitchell's allotment. She stooped down and picked something up and wrapped it in her apron. He afterwards went down to the spot where she stooped down and could see where the marrow had been wrenched off. The Bench imposed a fine of 15/-. *Stroud News*

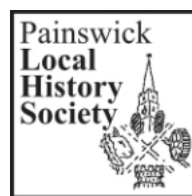


Carol Maxwell

Maps, pubs, churches, crimes and so much more ...



Painswick's history exhibitions, have, it would appear, developed something of a reputation further afield. This year's presentation, held in the Town Hall on Saturday and Sunday 11th and 12th July, attracted visitors from several other county history groups keen both to learn about Painswick's fascinating past and to observe how it was exhibited. Apparently our previous biennial displays have been well reviewed resulting in this rather enviable reputation.



Painswick Local History Society holds an exhibition biennially with the aim always to present well researched local history covering a range of subjects and eras. This year's exhibition focussed on subjects most of which had not previously been featured. A series of maps dating back over the centuries together with some intriguing aerial photographs showing old earthworks and ancient topographical features were of great interest to many visitors. The staggeringly high number of public houses and the many churches from Painswick's past also caught people's attention and raised many interesting questions. Perhaps slightly related to these two were some of the cases visitors read about in the files of criminal records available for perusal. Hundreds of cases dating back over 500 years are recorded in these files and many of the crimes committed and the punishments meted out were the source of amazement for the many visitors who spent time looking into them.

Of much interest was the collection of items dating back over a century from Goddard's Garage. These have been re-discovered since the final closure a few months ago and they certainly shed much new light on just how much the business had changed, of necessity of course, over the last 130 years or so. The paperwork, book keeping, price and parts lists etc plus items such as a very old, and definitely very heavy, L plate roused much interest. And curiously there were some very beautifully designed blotters containing the name of the garage from the 1930s when it was based at the Falcon Hotel.

Painswick's longstanding association with the arts scene was represented by displays on its musicians, poets, writers, actors, painters, designers, architects etc, plus there were displays on sport as well as the more everyday necessities such as the fire service and transport histories to name but some. Of real importance was the contribution from the Croft School reflecting some interesting investigations and studies by pupils from various classes. Their work was fascinating, beautifully presented and thought-provoking.

The exhibition attracted many visitors both local and from elsewhere including America, Canada and the Netherlands. It was very well received, caused many to look afresh at Painswick past and present with renewed curiosity and elicited many much appreciated complimentary comments.

Carol Maxwell

An introduction to the History of Painswick

Saturday 12th September, 3pm

After its well-attended exhibition in the Town Hall in July, Painswick's Local History Society has a bit of a break over the summer, but will be back at 3pm on Saturday 12th September, offering a special open meeting in the Town Hall, free to anyone to come along. 'An introduction to the History of Painswick' will be aimed, not at the longer-standing members of the society, but at those with relatively little knowledge of local history – perhaps new to the area, or who have been too busy to take much interest in it so far. The illustrated talk, by Alastair Jollans, is expected to last for a bit under an hour, with a chance for questions afterwards, but should be over well in time for the football results! More details next month.

Place(d)

You may have noticed that work is underway to transform the former Longfield shop into a contemporary art gallery, 'Place(d)'. Mark Pepperall has run a gallery in Swindon for over 10 years and having decided to relocate to the Cotswolds has chosen Painswick.

Along with displaying modern contemporary artworks from a portfolio of artists there will also be ideas from his own Interior Design Company and some pieces from a British furniture maker on sale. It is hoped that it will be ready to open either at the end of August or the 1st week in September.

We welcome Mark and Lily (a life coach) and wish them well in their in their new enterprise.

**Julian Telling
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SIMON ROBEY
DipAc, MBAC, DipChM, MRChM

Annual Public Meeting

10th Sept. 7:30pm in Painswick Town Hall

This year's speaker is Angela Julian who is the co-ordinator of Amphibians and Reptiles of the UK.



Please come along to hear what PBCG has been up to and learn, from Angela, about some of our least understood animals.

A summary of this year's work parties

A total of 912 hours were worked, almost the same as last year. Saturday work parties were most popular with 546 hours worked and an average attendance of 12.8. Wednesdays produced 184 hours at an average of 4.8.

These hours include 140 hours of track repairs, 28 hours of spraying brambles, and 14 hours of slitting path compaction. Not included in this figure are the 550 hours spent dealing with the cattle and the 320 hours of trustee's time. This all equates to nearly 1,800 hours of effort.

Work undertaken

Trees were felled to make a connection between Bottle Bank Quarry and Middle Cemetery Quarry and much cotoneaster removed.

More clearing on the right-hand edge of the first fairway as far as Holle's Hollow.

The entrance to Victoria Quarry has been opened with the removal of many pines.

Along the top edge of the cemetery wall has been cleared of scrub.

The saplings and brambles growing out from the upper plantation have been cleared.

A new clearing in the woods opposite the golf club's workshop has been created so that diseased ash, overhanging the road, could be felled safely. These trees presented a threat to road users and PGC property. This was a big project and absorbed some 200 hours of volunteer time.

Clearing work was done on the right-hand side of the track approaching the 16th tee.

Approximately 250 hours have been spent on vegetation survey work.

Notable gains

We bought three new steers and have grazed all year round for the third year in a row.

With help from Natural England and the golf club we have funded and repaired three sections of track, reducing the run-off and drainage problems.

The latest Natural England habitat assessment has shown a reduction in the average sward height, a small reduction in scrub cover and an increase in the key indicator species recorded.

The vegetation survey continues at pace.

Paul Baxter.

Longfield

Volunteers Required

Longfield may no longer have a shop in Painswick but do you have a few hours to spare, to help your local hospice charity?



Pam Jenkinson in the Stroud Branch

Longfield Community Hospice are looking for shop volunteers for our lovely charity shops, in Stroud and Berkeley?

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To find out more see our web page:

longfield.org.uk/shop-volunteer

or get in touch at volunteering@longfield.org.uk



Le Papillon

Nicki Brown writes:

I did indeed notice that Le Papillon was no longer open. I was wondering whether you could put in print my appreciation of the dedication and hard work that Sol and Emma put into trying to make their dream a reality. They offered a space where one could sit quietly and just be... no background music... just the opportunity of a shoulder if needed... as well as some really good food and coffee. Personally I miss them and wish them all the luck in the world with whatever they decide to do.

Thank you so much,

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A Warm Welcome to Kate



The Beacon Benefice is certainly a big benefice and, although there has been considerable and much appreciated help from retired clergymen and associate priests, it's some time since it has had a full-time curate to work alongside the vicar/rector. It is so good to report therefore that at last that situation has changed – we have a new curate, Rev. Kate Davies.



Kate was ordained in Gloucester Cathedral in June and by July was immersed in her new role in the Beacon Benefice working with Rev. Sarah. Hers has been an interesting journey to this important point both in her life and in the life of the local congregation and community. Born in Gloucester, she attended Denmark Road School and then attained a BA degree in Theology at the University of Exeter. Interestingly she spent the next ten years working for a large construction company undertaking a range of significant administrative tasks. Then her parents established a company providing some innovative health and safety equipment and Kate took on the administrative side of the business for them.

In 2006 her son, William, was born. She was living in Upton St Leonards by this time and when William started school in 2011 she went back to work – as a dinner lady at his school. Kate's abilities were of course quickly recognised and soon she progressed into a role which involved working closely with children with special needs. She gained a teaching assistant qualification, moved on to being in charge of curriculum management for R.E. and then found herself teaching all subjects to all years for the next five or so years, but as a teaching assistant. Altogether she was at the school for 14 years.

So how has she arrived in her new role as curate after such a very broad range of experience in her former working life? Kate explains that she has always had important underlying thoughts about the church since her university days. By 2010 she decided to give it some serious consideration but knew that it would necessitate a lengthy and complicated process. The years moved on but she knew all the time that the church was her true vocation. At last, in 2024 she embarked on some serious part-time training and happily in June this year her ordination took place in Gloucester Cathedral.

Kate sees her role as curate to be essentially about making connections, talking to people and enabling them to understand that the church is there for them. For a community such as ours this is a key factor in developing all the good aspects of community life. Rev. Sarah's current role involves training Kate and familiarising her with the many details of the Benefice which of course is very extensive including seven churches, three schools and all the other aspects of community life in the seven communities. This is some undertaking requiring a great deal of effort, time and sheer hard work but, working together, Kate is confident that they will be able 'to build on the good that's already been done and to develop much more'.

With Kate's, and Sarah's of course, hitherto range of interesting life experience and her very sincere commitment to her new role, the future for the Beacon Benefice is already looking optimistic and positive. Welcome Kate.

Carol Maxwell

Turning Pages

A rare and special literary gathering will take place at the Falcon on the 21st of August at 1.30pm. Anne Smith who used to live in Painswick (now at Millbrook Lodge, Brockworth) will read in person from her recently published book *The Girl from West Littleton*.

An autobiography, Anne's book is enchanting and deeply moving.

"From growing up in Gloucestershire in the 1940's to catering for royalty, to finding love in her later years" - singer-songwriter Johnny Coppin

Many of you will remember Anne so come and say 'hello!' and hear her read. Signed copies will be available on the day. *The Girl from West Littleton* can also be purchased from Amazon and Kindle.

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Painswick Centre AGM

A reminder that the Painswick Centre AGM will take place on Monday 21st September at 7.00pm in Beacon Hall.

The Centre plays an important role in village life, and we are always keen to hear from people who may be interested in helping to shape its future. Anyone interested in finding out more about becoming a trustee is invited to contact Ceri Chaplin for an informal conversation. Ceri.chaplin@hotmail.co.uk

Please do come along to the AGM to hear more about the Centre's work and plans for the year ahead.

Takeaway food nights

August		September	
6th	WOW Bao Buns	3rd	Wild Pizza Co
13th	Bros & Doughs	10th	Miniyakis
20th	BBQ Society		
27th	Burgerlish		

Bingo quiz night



Thursday 13th August - Show off your knowledge and have fun in a friendly competition. You might even win yourself some money!

Doors open 6pm.
Bingo £5 per round - 3 x rounds
Max 6 to a quiz team £1.00 pp

Thursday Morning Market



Bread from **Salt Bakehouse**, Meat, eggs, cheese and more from **Frocesterfayre**, fish from Dorrel of **Padstow Fish**, jams, marmalades and jellies from **Skinner's Mill Preserves** a range of vinegars, pestos and preserves from **A Wild Garden** - Amaury Blow.



Wick-Flix Returns for an Anniversary Autumn

Wick-Flix is taking its usual summer break during August, but we will be back at Painswick Centre on Friday 11th September with Kangaroo.

This warm-hearted Australian family comedy follows Chris, a former television personality who becomes stranded in a remote Outback town. There he meets 12-year-old Charlie, and the unlikely pair join forces to rescue and rehabilitate orphaned kangaroos. Inspired by a true story, it promises humour, spectacular scenery and plenty of heart.

Tickets for Kangaroo will go on sale in advance during August, so keep an eye on the usual Wick-Flix and Painswick Centre channels.

Our autumn programme continues on Friday 16th October with Tuner, a gripping new thriller about a gifted piano tuner whose extraordinary ear draws him into the much less respectable business of cracking safes.

This year also marks a special milestone: Wick-Flix is celebrating its tenth anniversary.

To mark a decade of films, friendships, popcorn and occasional technical adventures, our November screening will be chosen by our audience. It could be one of the ten most popular films we have shown over the past ten years, or something completely new.

Between now and November, we will be asking people to complete a short survey and help decide what appears on the screen for our anniversary celebration. Will an old favourite return for an encore, or will a newcomer steal the spotlight?

Have your say here: <https://forms.office.com/e/h9K9vpWtDi> or scan the QR code.

We look forward to welcoming everyone back in September.



Ceri Chaplin

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Probus Report

On 2nd July the Painswick Probus Club was enlightened by a talk on the "Qur'an - Context and Content" given by Stephen Aiano, the International Director (Cairo) of Cavendish Education International. Islam is a constant topic in the news in one way or another and the Qur'an is its foundational scripture, which includes social and political as well as religious content. The talk gave us an overview of how the Qur'an (roughly translated from Arabic as "the book that makes all things clear"), with its 114 suras (chapters) and 6,300 verses, came into being and explained what it actually says - and what it doesn't say.

On 16th July the Club was entertained by a fascinating talk on "The Battle of Hastings and the Bayeux Tapestry" given by Dr Tim Brain, formerly Chief Constable of Gloucestershire, which attracted considerable interest from our members in view of the forthcoming exhibition at the British Museum. Having first explained that it is not a tapestry at all but a wool-on-linen embroidery, Tim led us through the background of the various factions who hoped to succeed Edward the Confessor as King, and how it led to the creation of the "tapestry" in about 1077 in Canterbury under the direction of Abbot Scolland of St Augustine's monastery and the patronage of Bishop Odo. Having discussed all the individual panels and its subsequent history after leaving Canterbury, Tim finished by offering his opinion that contrary to popular belief it was not Harold who met his end with an arrow in the eye.

Robin Vick

Who's missing?

Something, or rather someone, is definitely missing in Painswick, notably in the churchyard, this summer. Our long established annual visitor, Greg Thatcher, is usually to be seen daily by now sitting next to one of the yew trees and embarking on his next piece of outstanding art work. Greg and his wife Jan have arrived in Painswick every year, Covid excepted, since 1991 and in the many years since then Greg's international reputation as an artist has grown - all based on his drawings and paintings of Painswick's yews.

Unfortunately this year we will not have the pleasure of watching him work and talking to him about it. Both Greg and Jan have had health issues which have resulted in the decision to forgo their usual sojourn in Painswick, a decision which they have made reluctantly and unhappily but necessarily. Many local residents have noticed their absence and commented that the churchyard is, consequently, somewhat bereft - that Greg is a definite summer feature there and his absence is very noticeable.

Both Greg and Jan are making good progress health-wise and have every intention of giving us the pleasure of their presence next year. They send their best wishes.

Carol Maxwell



A Date for your Diaries

On Sunday 13th September the Beacon Benefice is holding a Family Celebration Sunday. There will be a Family Service in St Mary's at 11am followed by a party in the Church rooms till around 2pm.

**BEACON
BENEFICE**



Save the date and help the foodbank

Churches Together Around Painswick are hosting a Cream Tea in the Churchyard on Sunday 9th August from 2-4 pm to raise funds for the Stroud District Foodbank.

This is sadly a very worthy cause which it is all too easy to forget about.

We all did splendidly during and in the aftermath of Covid with our support. Please take this opportunity once again to help those in need.



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Painswick Music Appreciation Group

As this Beacon arrives on the doorstep the oldest music festival in the world will be completing its eight day season in Gloucester. It will have given British composers, many of whom have had famous premiers in Gloucester, Hereford and Worcester from 1715 to today, their justified representation in the programmes alongside choral chamber orchestral and solo recitals performed by international artists from all over the world in packed cathedrals. As usual there may be little coverage by the BBC.



Meanwhile for 8 weeks, until the arrival of the Edinburgh Festival, the BBC will be blanketing the air waves with what was formerly known as the Henry Wood Promenade Concerts. As early as day 2 the Albert Hall will have resounded to a Prog Rock concert from the worthy English Concert Orchestra with the type of programme adequately provided by "Friday Night is Music Night". As it moves on towards its September conclusion (with it has to be said some excellent concerts) the schedule will include some subject matter more normally associated with Glastonbury and The Grand Ole Opry. There will be relatively minimal attention paid to our national composers past and present in what the broadcaster now refers to as the BBC Proms: "the world's greatest classical music festival".

PMAG will begin its new season in September with diverse programmes on worldwide subjects from UK to USA and beyond. Come and join us in the Town Hall on Thursday afternoons from autumn to Easter, 2:30 to 4:30PM for music, refreshments and conversation. We begin in Czechoslovakia and end with a much remembered star of the Painswick Music Society concerts in performance on DVD. We journey to the USA, Indian sub content, East Anglia, Vienna of course, and feature some of the greatest singers and soloists of the record age. The remarkable county of Gloucestershire will not be overlooked with an exciting feature on three of its favourite sons.

Michael Grey

Summer Outings with The Friday Club

Janine Guthrie and Claire Cox, of Willans Solicitors, Cheltenham, gave an informative talk on Wills, Lasting Powers of Attorney and Probate on 10th July to the Friday Club. Although attendance was disappointing due to high temperatures, it proved to be a very lively and entertaining afternoon. Claire related contentious Probate cases and Janine stressed the importance of having a Will and LPAs. Although most present had these documents in place, they all soon realised that there were facts they were unaware of. Questions were raised throughout the afternoon on specific points and all answered very competently.



We also enjoyed a thought-provoking talk on Royal Scandals: 1850 to 1950, given by Sir Alistair Macduff. Sir Alistair analysed the scandalous behaviour of several royals, including Prince Albert Victor, heir to the throne who died aged 28, and Edward VIII, who abdicated in 1936.

The Club now takes a break from meetings, with a Summer Party on 24th July, followed by three August outings (contact 813228 for more details):

A canal trip on the Endeavour, leaving from behind the Stonehouse Court Hotel, on Wednesday 5th at 10.30 am (cost £15 or £18 for non-members).

A visit to Stroud District Foodbank's Warehouse on Friday 21st;

An afternoon of Mini golf - no expertise required - for £7 on Wednesday 26th, with the option of shopping and refreshments at the Gloucester Garden Centre nearby.

Meetings resume on Friday 4th September at 2.30 pm when Mike Aggleton will talk about the history of AA Milne's Winnie the Pooh stories, how Walt Disney became involved after Milne's death, and the subsequent court cases, only settled recently.

Visitors are welcome to our Town Hall meetings (£4) – please just drop-in. Club membership is now reduced mid-year to £10, plus £2 per meeting attended. For details, contact Sylvia on 812104.

Jane Rowe 813228



Richard Falconer writes:

Sirs I feel strongly that the clipped yews, rough-cut grass and carved stone of the churchyard and Memorial Garden are not enhanced by random plastic tubs of perennials. It is often better to subtract rather than add to a street scene. Last week I removed a barrow-load of weeds and leaves from the roadside to our house. This morning I made a brief circuit of Stamages Lane, Wick Street, and Tibbiwell, and came home laden with the items pictured below. The plastic tub contained two litres of paint.





"Thirsty Thursday's"

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Painswick Community Choir

Painswick Community Choir with members of the Corinium Choir from Cirencester joined forces to sing at the Rococo Garden Picnic on Friday, 10th July. We enjoy singing 'a capella', that is, with no accompaniment, in 3- to 5-part harmonies.

Our leader, Sophie Steryx, based in Stroud, introduces us to a range of songs in harmony from different countries, in different languages & from different musical traditions. No sheet music reading is required. Sophie operates under the Natural Voice Network - working with voice and song, believing that singing is everyone's birthright, regardless of musical experience or ability.

We practise in the Cotswold Room, Painswick Centre, on Monday nights, in term time.

Joyce Barrus



Bone Matters

Exercise for osteoporosis

How many of us stop to think, really think, about the way our bodies move and how that affects so much of what we do on a daily basis? It is usually only when a physical problem arises that it becomes a truly big issue for most of us. Jo Daley is an expert in this subject and her knowledge and understanding together with her skills in helping to improve such difficult situations through movement therapy is exceptional.



Jo is a highly qualified pilates teacher who has been running classes in Painswick for the past few years. Her approach is based on the physical needs of each class participant for whom she is then able to develop specific workouts – effectively a bespoke programme for each student. With impressive experience in succeeding with this approach Jo is now focussing on the therapeutic needs of osteoporosis sufferers.

Osteoporosis is extremely common affecting one in three women and one in five men. It can arise at any age though most commonly in and after later middle age. Essentially it is about loss of bone density resulting in brittle and weak bones which therefore become more susceptible to breakage. Exercise designed specifically for the condition usually leads to lower fracture risk, strengthened muscles and improved coordination reducing the risk of falls. And this is definitely where Jo's expertise is preeminent.

Jo has been diagnosed with the condition herself and has been keeping up-to-date with all the research and advice from The Royal Osteoporosis Society UK to offer the best exercise protocol in order to manage low bone density. She is now keen, as she points out, "to create a local training programme that offers safe and effective treatment for this medical condition, often referred to as the 'silent disease'. Let's raise awareness and raise our bone density!"

Bearing in mind the importance of exercise - specifically designed for the condition - Jo plans to run classes starting in September in the Church rooms. As frequent exercise is advised there will be two classes per week: Monday at 2.00pm and Friday at 2.30pm. These will be osteoporosis-specific pilates classes focussing essentially on balance and strength and Jo will also be providing expert advice on lifestyle as well as other essential information. Each class will be limited to a maximum of six participants meaning that each individual's particular needs can be catered for.

This is an excellent opportunity locally for anyone with the condition to engage in ideal and very beneficial first-rate therapy. Jo's knowledge and teaching techniques are exceptional. For further information you should contact her - email www.daleypilates.co.uk or tel.07968799741.

Carol Maxwell

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Painswick Sports

assembled by John Barrus



Alicia Barnett Announces Tennis Retirement

Lissey Barnett was working for BBC Radio Wimbledon when, on air, she announced her retirement from professional tennis.

It has been a strong last three months, beginning with representing Roehampton Tennis Club in the National Club Championships. For the second consecutive year, the team were crowned champions without losing a match.

Lissey then went on to compete at the Birmingham and Ilkley WTA tournaments but unfortunately missed out on a wildcard to play Wimbledon.

She decided to play a few final WTA tournaments before retiring. In Bastad, Sweden she reunited with her regular French doubles partner, Eli Lechemia. The pair reached the final, narrowly missing out on the title.

They then travelled to Kitzbuhel, Austria, where they drew the number one seeds in the opening round. They came through the match comfortably and continued their impressive form all the way to the final. Playing brilliantly throughout the week, they defeated the number two seeds 6-4, 6-3 to secure a well-deserved championship title.

Lissey has enjoyed an outstanding career, competing in all four Grand Slam tournaments and representing Great Britain at the Billie Jean King Cup on three occasions.

Thank you, Lissey, for making your family, friends, and the people of Painswick proud. We wish you every success in your exciting new chapter.



Lissey Barnett Eli Lechemia

League tennis

In the Ladies Gloucestershire Summer league our A team are currently in 5th position in the Premier division and the B team are having an excellent season and are currently in first position in division 1A. The C team are also in first position in division 2B and the D team are in first position in division 4B. There are still a few matches to play so these positions may change, however the results this summer are looking good for the club.

Many thanks must go to the captains Sarah Scott, Laura Gelder Robertson, Ginny Whitton, Ness Fair and Carol Ruddy who have done great job.



Captain's Charity Day

Saturday 18th July saw 48 players competing in my charity day match for READ WITH ME

This is a Gloucester based charity which helps disadvantaged children and adults learn to read. The team winners were Richard Pearson, Ian Fendt and Andy Beard and the individual winner was Ian Fendt with a very good 43 Stableford points. Thanks to the green staff for getting the course in the best condition possible given the extreme weather.

The halfway refreshment tent was well stocked with home made cakes (thanks Karol) and cold drinks and the club bar staff provided bacon rolls before and chicken wraps after the game. After the competition an auction, raffle and several golfing games kept everyone entertained and raised more funds.

My genuine thanks to all who helped make it such a fun day. We raised £1360 on the day.

Paul Baxter



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Painswick Cricket Club

**Saturday League focus.
May to late July 2026**



1st team WEPL Premier 2 League

Currently lying in sixth position in the league, Painswick firsts have won 6 and lost 5 as of 18 July. The team have had a mixed season so far which has led to a fairly satisfactory mid table position in this tough and competitive league. In the runs, Greg Ford made a mighty 143 against Goatacre, Reece Morris also scored a fantastic 143 against Chipping Sodbury, Benny Howell, a majestic 105 against Hatherley and Reddings and Mathew Conolly hitting a gutsy 104 against Royal Wootton Bassett. Bowling wise skipper Jack Hobbs tops the wickets charts so far with 22 at an average of 21.

2nd Team Glos County League 6B

The seconds having won 5 and lost 3 are also in 6th place with Mike Green the only centurion with a patient and hard hitting 119 not out against Cam. Bowling wise Dan Wilson 13 and Emily Austen 12 are the leading wicket takers. The side has improved this season in terms of results, the squad depth is much improved especially with new players joining the club such as Josh and Stu Wilshaw and Oli Wadner.

3rd Team Glos County League 8D

Our third team having won 2 and lost 7 have struggled somewhat and are currently lying at the bottom of the league. Skipper Bruce Walker leads in the runs with a total of 304 averaging 38 and Rich Wadner tops the bowling with 12 wickets. The side continues to promote and develop youth and several youngsters are experiencing Saturday league cricket for the first time.

The clubs youth sections and Ladies teams continue to thrive and develop and they will be the main focus in our next update.

Fixtures and activities plus our club contacts are listed on our Painswick Play cricket website. See <https://painswick.play-cricket.com>. Please do contact us if you're interested in joining or helping our ever growing club.

Steve Pegram

Falcon Bowls Club

The ladies entered the Stroud triples league for the first time and came a very credible 4th. Eight ladies represented the Falcon under the captaincy of Jan Haslam.



From the left - Jan Haslam. Yvonne Smallman. Anne Newhill. Joan Norris. Sylvia Steer. Jan Gibby in the photo and Jane Titshall and Cath Lillington not pictured.

Well done to the team.

John Newhill

Interstreet Lawn Bowls Challenge 2026

Saturday 22nd August sees the launch of this year's Inter-street Lawn Bowls competition, where teams from across the community will vie for glory on the green. The competition is aimed mainly at new players and is an opportunity to have fun, some friendly rivalry and to learn the delights of the game.

Come and support your neighbours, family and friends, 2pm-6pm at Painswick Bowls Club. There will be a cash bar and BBQ.

So far nine three-player teams have entered: Gloucester Street, Holcombe, Kemps Lane, Kingsmill Lane, Lower Washwell, Tibbiwell Lane, White Horse Lane, Painswick Probus and The Formidable Family Follows.

We have space for three more. If you would like to get together a team of three, or simply to join one as an individual, please let John Dickinson know on jnp@millstream.plus.com or 07387 162183. Beginners will be especially welcome. We offer a free introduction to this next passion of your life, by arrangement.

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Planning Matters

Information received from the Parish Council

NEW APPLICATIONS

S.26/1171/AFPA

Site For Proposed Barn Slad Lane
Erection of a hay and straw barn and resurfacing of an existing track.

S.26/1080/HHOLD

3 Court Cottages, Butt Green
Erection of a replacement single storey extension

S.26/1119/TCA

Flat 1 Gyde House, Gyde Road
T1 Cherry - reduce all over back to the previous points, approximately 2 metres.

S.26/1149/TCA

Lullingworth, Stroud Road
T1. Pine tree – Fell.

S.26/1163/TCA The Old Vicarage,
Damsells Mill Lane, Sheepscombe

T1 - Remove Leylandii to ground level.

S.26/1203/LBC

Fiery Beacon, New Street
Removal of the existing kitchen floor & installation of underfloor heating

S.26/1205/TCA

Castle Hale, Stamages Lane
2 Lime Trees - Fell to near ground level.

S.26/1220/TCA

Dry Knapps House, Edge Road
T1 - Copper Beech tree - reduce 1 x limb back to the fence line by 2m

CONSENT

S.26/0406/LBC /S.26/0405/HHOLD

The Grange, Sheepscombe
Erection of a replacement single storey side extension, alterations to fenestration, reinstate chimney, internal alterations and restoration of outbuilding and re-positioning of gate.

S.26/0289/HHOLD

Greenacres, Cheltenham Road
Erection of detached garage and store.

S.26/0452/HHOLD

Mirfield, Stroud Road
Erection of garage (revised design and materials following S.24/1144/HHOLD)

S.26/0558/HHOLD

Little Jasmine Cottage, Edge Road
Replacement of 5no. windows and 1 no. entrance door. Insertion of 1no. new rooflight to the rear.

S.26/0735/HHOLD

Dutchcombe Farm
Erection of a greenhouse.

REFUSED

S.26/1017/AFPA

Painswick Lodge
Erection of replacement barn and creation of a new agricultural track

Property Report

Last month's report, suggesting a walk down Vicarage Street, went to press just too soon to mention the jewel in its crown, The Verlands, now on sale at £5.95 million through The Country House Dept. Although for many years Painswick's Vicarage, and so the building that gave the street its name, it has a style and luxury to which few vicars can now aspire. Red Lion House, another historic building and a former pub, just above the top of Vicarage Street, is also now available (Hamptons, £475,000). It's in need of renovation but has scope for four bedrooms.

Another property in the centre of the village, Gattamora in Friday Street (Murrays, £625,000) has three bedrooms with parking and courtyard gardens, while Ladymead on Kemps Lane (Murrays, £1.295 million) is a large four-bedroomed house with parking, garage, gardens and one of Painswick's few heated swimming pools. Hill House in Gloucester Street is available through Murrays at £899,950 and Mop Tree Cottage at Clattergrove through Hamptons at £750,000.

In the centre of Edge, Edge House (Hamptons, £3.25 million) is an exceptional property with almost two acres of landscaped gardens and a further 3.5 acres of paddock. In Pitchcombe, Stanley Villa on Halfway Pitch (Hamptons, £500,000) is a two bedroom stone cottage and in Sheepscombe, both Sen Sook (Murrays, £945,000) and The Sheiling (Murrays, £975,000) are available at Far End.

At Richmond Village, Apartment 3/5 is available at £270,000, with Apartment 2/5 due to come onto the market shortly. Don't forget that the gardens at Richmond are open under the National Gardens Scheme on Thursday 13th August, 10am–3pm. Admission is £5 for adults and free for children, with tea, coffee and cake available in the café.

Properties recently going under offer include 28 Ashwell, Goddards Garage and the adjoining Acacia House, Abbots Leigh on Stamages Lane, Highcroft on Cheltenham Road, Brandon Cottage on Stroud Road, Meadow Bank on Kings Mill Lane, The Old Bath House on St. Mary's Street and Yokehouse Barn on Yokehouse Lane (all though Murrays) as well as 7 Gloucester Road, Tarn House in Court Orchard and Hill View Cottage on Vicarage Street through Hamptons. Fig Tree Cottage, Rake Hill at The Highlands and Rose Cottage in Slad have exchanged and/or completed.

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Regular Village Activities. Please contact Vicky Aspinall 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/07793 126234	Painswick Centre 12.30 - 1.00pm
	Painswick Singers . Contact Jean Jones 01452 813545.	Richmond 5.00 - 6.00pm
	Paradise Art Studio evening classes. takepart@paradise-house.org.uk	Paradise House 6.30 - 8.30pm
Tuesdays	Lego Builders Club (excluding Bank Holidays)	Library 3.30 - 4.30pm
	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/07793 126234	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
	Weds Pop-In continues after Easter. Do join us for T&C. A friendly meeting place for a chat or perhaps a board game. Sandra Glass 01452 814186	Town Hall 10.00 - 12.00pm
Thursdays	Croc N' Roll Children's entertainment with Steph and her books, guitar, puppets, story books and bubbles. £1.00/child.	Library 2.30pm
	Morning Market	Painswick Centre 8.15 - 9.45am
	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@icloud.com	Painswick Centre 11.15 - 12.45am
	Taichi and Qigong - Perry Loveday 07970 698741	Painswick Centre 2.00 - 3.00pm
	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
Fridays	Badminton Club. Contact John Barrus - barrusjp@yahoo.co.uk	Painswick Centre 8.00 - 9.30pm
	Takeaway Food Night	Painswick Centre 5.00 - 8.00pm
	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
	Drop in Digital Support Session (First Friday of the month)	Library 11.00 - 12.00pm
		Meeting House 10.30am
Sundays	Quaker Meeting for Worship	Painswick Centre 8.30 - 11.00am
	Aikido www.gloucestershireaikido.club	

Village Diary

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

August

Sat	1	Painswick Beacon published		
Mon	3	Library Book Club	Library	1.30 - 2.30pm
Tues	4	Morning Prayer	St Mary's Church	9.00am
Wed	5	Holy Communion	Richmond	11.30am
	5	Turning Pages	WILD on Wick Street	1.30pm
	5	Friday Club: CCT Boat-trip on the Endeavour. Pre-book 813228	The Ocean, Stonehouse	10.30am
Sun	9	Holy Communion (BCP)	St Mary's Church	9.30am
	9	Family Worship	St Mary's Church	11.00am
	9	CTAP - Cream Teas in aid of Foodbank	St Mary's Churchyard	2.00-4.00pm
Wed	11	Morning Prayer	St Mary's Church	9.00am
Thu	13	National Gardens Scheme - Richmond Gardens. Adults £5 Children free	Richmond Village	10.00am-3.00pm
Sun	16	Holy Communion	St Mary's Church	11.00am
Tues	18	Morning Prayer	St Mary's Church	9.00am
Weds	19	The Well	Church Rooms	7.00pm
Fri	21	Turning Pages - Ann Smith reads from her book The Girl from West Littleton. Johnny Coppin accompanying.	The Falcon	1.30pm
	21	Friday Club: Visit to Stroud District Foodbank Warehouse. Prebook 813228	Unit 19, GL5 2SH	2.30pm
Sun	23	Deadline for all Beacon copy		
	23	Beacon Praise	St Mary's Church	11.00am
Tues	25	Yew Trees WI: Summer supper. Prior booking essential	Richmond Village	7.00 for 7.30pm
	25	Morning Prayer	St Mary's Church	9.00am
Weds	26	Friday Club: Visit to Aces Mini Golf Course and Garden Centre. Pre-book 813228	Glos Garden Centre	2.30pm
Thurs	27	Three Inch Fools presents King Arthur and the Holy Fail. Book via rococogarden.org.uk	Rococo Garden	5.30pm
Sun	30	Family Worship with Communion	St Mary's Church	9.30am

September

Thurs	3	Painswick Probus: The A417 Missing Link - Kate Peake	Painswick Centre	11.00 for 11.30am
Fri	4	Friday Club: The Life and Times of Winnie the Pooh - Mike Aggleton Enq 813228	Town Hall	2.30pm
Sat	5	Painswick Beacon published		



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Memories of the Pin Mill (1974-1978)

Episode 9: Random Recollections

Coming down from Edge Road, I knew that if I passed the Church by 0722, I would arrive at the Mill in time to clock on at 0730. If I went home for lunch, I would walk up and down that hill twice a day. We used to finish at 17.00, with an hour for lunch. That's a 42.5 hour week. The work itself was quite physical, and I was tired by the end of the day. What with running the machines and manhandling coils of wire and bulk boxes of paper clips, I was probably the fittest that I've ever been.

The 1970s was a time of industrial unrest, but I didn't see much of that. There were notices on the wall that implied the existence of a Union (or Guild?) that one could join, but I'm not sure who was/wasn't a member (it wasn't discussed much – not in my presence anyway). While there was some dissatisfaction, I would say that most of the people working down there were grateful to have a job – a job that was local, and one that they were able to assimilate into the rest of their lives.

The machines used coiled wire from a variety of suppliers. I soon learned that the best wire came from Rylands-Whitecross in Warrington. It's a small world - 3 years later, I would be living in Warrington and working only 200 yards from their factory!

I was always wary if I was unfamiliar with the supplier's name on a coil of wire – it probably meant that Mr Smyth had been buying more cheaply. This would be a false economy if (as did happen on occasion) the ***** wire wouldn't go through the machines!

Listening was important when you were running the machines. If there was a breakdown, you were focused on getting that machine going again. At the same time, you needed to be aware of any changes in background noise that might indicate that you had a problem elsewhere. There might be 12-15 machines running at any time, all with different rhythms, and you had to keep your ears open as any changes could be subtle.

We got very dirty working on the machines. We needed to clean our hands of oil and grease several times a shift. Soap was ineffective, so we used a green, jelly-like substance called Swarfega to do the business. This was supplied in a large drum. It seemed to be a mixture of solvent and detergent, with a pungent citrus odour that wasn't very attractive. You needed a bath when you got home just to get rid of the "clean" smell.



A French lorry driver came by sometimes to pick up boxes of product for export. He didn't speak English, so I used to try to engage him in conversation using my schoolboy French. His favourite subject was the girls. His comments were always appreciative, but would perhaps be considered inappropriate today. Although maybe an unexpected source of learning, he certainly expanded my vocabulary, and if I didn't know the meaning of a word I could look it up in my French dictionary when I got home. I didn't find all the words he used, but I'm sure they were flattering (maybe sometimes a bit too flattering!).

While working down the Mill I was also learning to drive. My instructor had a battered, light green Vauxhall Viva, which had been abused over a period of years by many young drivers like myself. Often, he would pick me up at the end of my shift for an hour's tuition. The upside of this was that I got a lift home; the downside was that he used to make me drive straight up Tibbiwell and into the village. If you met a car coming down, you were the one who had to give way. Insofar as Painswick has a rush hour, this was it, so I've spent quite a bit of time reversing down that hill. I still find it scary!

Eric Harris

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Personal Column

Condolences

To the friends and relations of GEORGE JONES of Painswick who sadly lost his life in a motorbike accident on July 9th.

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 at www.painswickbeacon.org.uk

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NEXT ISSUE

Publication date

SATURDAY

5th September 2026

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Sunday 23rd August**

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Jottings

Things from the past and now

Until 1987 every dog was supposed to have a dog licence but many people abused the system and it cost too much to enforce. In 1987 the dog licence cost thirty-seven and a half pence and was held by only about half the dog owners. In Northern Ireland you must hold a dog licence if you have a dog; this costs £12.50. So instead of a licence we now use the microchip. The law of 2016 states that all dogs must be micro chipped and registered.

Between 1953 and 1958 you could get a shilling for a squirrel tail: A scheme to try to control grey squirrels, so protecting the reds. The Forestry Commission increased what you got up to 2 shillings per tail. This scheme stopped in 1958 because it was being abused.

You had to have a bull licence but this was scrapped in 1984, so you do not need one for your average bull. But you now get one if you are a pedigree breeder to keep the pedigree of your breed accurate.

Back in 1993 you were allowed to grow more than one acre of potatoes without a licence, as many people did. But now the potatoes are big business with specialist growers growing for food, seed or varieties.

Martin Slinger

Gyde House Garden Party



On Sunday 5th July, the sun shone and the temperature was a perfect 24°C for the 2nd annual Gyde House garden party, organised and hosted by Galia, Nick & Simon Wells. Great turnout, veritable feast of culinary contributions, lots of laughs, and a really lovely time had by all in the Painswick Cotswold countryside!

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