

The Painswick Beacon

Vol. 1 No. 1

April 1978

OYEZ! OYEZ!

THE traditional town crier's announcement heralds the first edition of a new Painswick venture: a newsletter to be called 'The Painswick Beacon'. It will be published monthly and delivered to every household in the area; both the newsletter and its delivery will be free of charge.

Many villagers have expressed considerable interest in such a newsletter because they believe there is a need in our thriving community for a means of communication between the many varied organisations and differing age groups which make up our village.

The aim of 'The Beacon' is to provide information about all manner of local events and matters of concern to us all, from Parish Council affairs to 'lost and found' items. It will be free from editorial bias and is your publication, which can only flourish with your participation. Newsworthy contribu-

tions will always be considered for publication and should be forwarded to any member of the editorial committee, the details of which are shown on the back page.

We hope that you the reader will like 'The Beacon' and find it both interesting and useful. It is, above all, a community venture, the response to which has so far been most encouraging not least from the local business people whose generous support has enabled us to produce the newsletter free of charge.

With the Silver Jubilee Year still fresh in our memory it is appropriate that the newsletter should stem from an upsurge of community action typified by the winning of the Bledisloe Cup. Finally, it is your newsletter so do please make your views about its content known to the committee so that 'The Beacon' may be worthy of the village.



Photo: Jane Otway

Ron Watts in his role as Town Crier at last summer's Victorian Street Market.

Country Players' springtime production

THE play "Bonaventure" by Charlotte Hastings was performed in Painswick in 1957 when it was produced by the late Mrs Margot Jenkin and is being repeated next week in response to popular demand. This is a good old-fashioned who-dun-it, the murderer not being unmasked until the closing moment - keeping you guessing until the very end. Tickets are available as usual from the Shetland Shop, Committee members or at the door.

Barn dance

THIS will be held on 28th April at 8.00 pm in the barn at the home of Mr & Mrs Nash at Holcombe Farm. Dancing to Hetty Peglers Tump. Tickets £1.25 including supper (limited to 120) from Naomi Maclaurin-Jones, 3 Vicarage St. and Helen McKee, Lamp House.

Youth Club

THIS is now established with a membership of approximately 100. We are grateful to the Parish Council and many other people for their financial help (we now have over £200) and their moral support. We are open on Friday evenings - 7 - 8.30 pm for 11 - 13 year olds, 8.30 - 10.15 pm for 14 - 18 year olds. Activities include table-tennis, snooker, darts, table football, cards, chess, music and we have a coffee bar. Our first outing was to Bristol Ice Skating Rink on 28th March.

Institute disco change

AS MANY villagers will probably know, we have recently been forced to discontinue the discos in the hall due to the trouble caused at the end of these functions. However, a disco is to be held during April (see Diary) for members and their guests only and strictly for those over 18 years old. Please make a note in your diary. Tickets from the Club Steward - 80p each. We hope to organise a junior disco in the near future. Julie Smith, Secretary.

Hello... ..and goodbye

DR. JENNIFER SPENCE who has recently joined the practice at the Surgery in Gloucester Street.

SERGEANT SMITH, who replaces Sgt. KEYES at the Police Station.

IAN and VICKY STEWART who have moved into Dalegarth, Cotswold Mead on 8th March.

JOHN & ELAINE SULEWSKI and their two sons, who return to America after three years in Painswick.

MRS TRICKEPT, who retires after 13 years as a teacher at Painswick Primary School. She is replaced by Mr Green, who trained at St. Paul's, Cheltenham.

Parish Council news

from the meeting held on 22nd March, 1978

Village plan

THE STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL has asked for an official comment from the PARISH COUNCIL on the Draft Village Plan.

The PARISH COUNCIL has no specific comment to make other than to express its "great concern about traffic and parking in Painswick."

New St. flats development

THE Council is seeking an agreement with the developer which would give the parish the responsibility for the maintenance of the car parking area. The residents in turn would collectively contribute half the maintenance costs to the Council.

A line will be drawn across the car park area to indicate the boundary between the residents' and the Council's parking zones.

To deter visitors from using the car park the Council is proposing that a chain be placed across the entrance.

Toilet facilities

THE Council has unanimously decided not to charge for the facility once the new ladies toilets have been completed. The present coin boxes will be removed and probably sold.

A supplementary estimate has been approved to cover the cost of toilet wall rails which will be fitted as an aid to the physically handicapped.

Recreation ground

WORK is being put in hand to renovate the play equipment in the recreation ground.

Plantation trees

THE extent of the beech bark disease is to be assessed and the affected trees cut down. It is thought that the value of the wood will cancel out the cost of felling and removal.

How many trees are affected is not known but it is thought to be a considerable number. A re-planting programme will

be considered as soon as the extent of the disease is known.

Street lighting

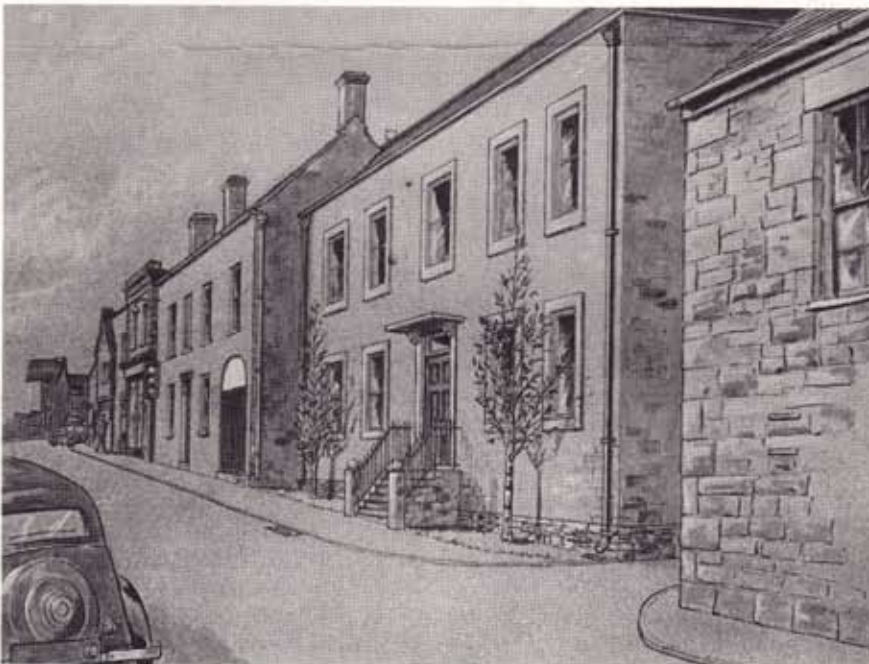
THE Council believes that the Village street lighting should be improved. The General Purposes Committee is to look again at the results of the survey carried out three years ago and make recommendations to the full Council.

Painswick proposes not to support the Association of Parish Councils' Appeal against the decision whereby the responsibility for street lighting finance will pass from District to County Council level in April 1979.

Bledisloe cup

PAINSWICK as the holder is barred from this year's competition but the Council is to request that the Village should be allowed to enter. Although we cannot win, the belief is that we need the practice if the standard is to be maintained.

New Street flats—the facts



The front elevation of the flats in New Street.

G & J Mann Ltd (the Developers) commissioned Douglas Gunn & Associates, Chartered Architects of Nailsworth, to produce a sensitive design for the run down Home's Garage site in the centre of Painswick.

Since the site was of the greatest importance, the Planning Officers and Architects consulted from the early stages. In an infill scheme of this

kind there are two general solutions:-

- 1) match the surrounding buildings.
- 2) produce a very modern design and contrast with the surroundings.

Because the centre of Painswick is very traditional it was felt that a modern design would produce a jarring note, and option (1) was pursued. The fin-

al design is a two-storey building built in a special faced stone which has been produced to closely match adjacent buildings - this will weather in time and fade into the street scene. Although the windows are modern, they are of sliding sash type and of Georgian proportions - stone window surrounds and stone canopy echo features of the buildings around, and a flight of steps leading up to the "piano nobile" and Georgian door should ensure a sense of belonging.

Local opinion and comment has been instrumental in shaping this project, and an invaluable contribution has been made by Painswick Parish Council who have agreed a scheme whereby the flats have greatly improved access to their garages, and access is given in turn to the rear of the Town Hall.

The builders are PMPD Builders Ltd of Stroud, who include skilled stonemasons in their team, and it is they who are building the ashlar stonework.

It is hoped to complete the building by the end of this year when the flats will be marketed by Messrs. Davis Champion & Payne, of Stroud.

Artist's impression by kind permission of Stroud D.C. Planning Department.

Disease scars Painswick approach



Painswick from Gloucester Road as it was....



....and as it is now

Photo: Peter Wiggins

THE FAMOUS "Road to Painswick", a local beauty spot illustrated in Eric R. Delderfield's book "The Cotswolds" has been lost to Painswick because of the ravages of Beech Bark Disease.

Over 40 Beech trees on Lord Dickinson's estate were found to be infected and in a dangerous condition and, after obtaining the necessary planning consent, this necessitated the complete felling of all trees in the narrow woodland lining the Gloucester Road.

Lord Dickinson explained that there was a high risk of the trees being blown on to the Gloucester Road, possibly causing a serious accident. He went on to say that all the trees had to be felled as the risk from high winds to the remaining trees would have been greatly increased following the thinning out of the infected ones.

Everyone will be delighted to know that Lord Dickinson plans to re-plant the woodland

this Autumn though, unfortunately, it will be many years before this beauty spot returns to its former glory.

One unresolved matter, however, is the fate of "The Plantation" on the other side of the Gloucester Road which belongs to the people of Painswick. This woodland is also affected and plans will have to be made soon as to what must be done there.

Photo reproduced by kind permission of E. R. Delderfield

SPORT

Tennis club

THE new season commenced on 1st April. New members are invited to join, whether Seniors or Juniors.

The Club participates in the Gloucestershire League, entering three teams. In addition there is ample opportunity for players of all standards, both through joining with friends and arranging games beforehand or by turning up 'on spec' on 'open' days, which are Monday and Thursday evenings, when everybody is expected to make up with those wishing or waiting for a game.

The Hon. Secretary is Mr. Maurice Pick, 5 Gloucester Road who will supply information to potential members.

Cricket club

Full Fixture List - New Talent Sought

THE statistics of the 1977 season were published at the AGM last month. Eric Harris topped the batting averages,

Don Hayward topped the bowling averages, but the highlight was undoubtedly the record opening stand of 121 between Arthur Perrins and Jack Smith against Woodchester.

For the coming season Jim Parks has arranged a full list of league and friendly fixtures. Captain Kevin Butler and Vice Captain Dave Job are looking to improve the Club's position in the League, the side having fought hard to remain in Division II of the Stroud League last year.

The Club would welcome new players - perhaps teenagers or newcomers to the village who could take their place in the League team or play the occasional Sunday match. Ring Kevin 813586, if you are interested.

Painswick Bowling club

THE Green will be opened for the new season on Saturday, 29th April at 3.00 pm by the newly elected President, Mr. W. Sanderson, who will welcome old and new members and any prospective members. There is a good fixture list ready and the usual Club competitions will be arranged throughout the season.

Childrens clothing sale

..... is now in its second year and has over 70 members. It is a voluntary organisation, with any proceeds and some surplus clothing going to NSPCC.

Existing members are reminded of the Next Sale (see Village diary) - please do come, and bring a friend.

New members are welcome - free membership entitles you to buy and/or sell your good but outgrown childrens' clothing (also maternity wear). So if you are interested please ring

Judith Perry 813527

Jan Lilley 813223 Now.

Thank you...

....to everyone who has sent in copy: the response has been tremendous. As a result, there just hasn't been room to include it all! We hope that those whose material has been condensed will understand that this was necessary in order for the item to appear and we assure those whose contributions aren't here that they will appear in future issues. We have finally selected items which are of particular relevance in April/early May.

Schubertiad

A MUSICAL evening to mark the 150th anniversary of Schubert's death is to be held at Painswick House on Friday, 5th May in aid of the Wynstones School Development Fund.

The organisers hope to recapture the atmosphere of one of Schubert's own musical parties where much of his music was first performed. Painswick House is seen as a delightful and appropriate setting. The programme will include poetry as well as songs, keyboard and instrumental music.

Supper

A buffet supper will complement a festive evening.

Tickets at £3 each, to include supper and a glass of wine, may be obtained from Painswick Post Office. Further information from Barbara Garland, Fair Mount, Private Road, Rodborough Common, Stroud.

Music Society

FOUR concerts have been arranged in this, the Society's 33rd season (see Diary for details). Your support through membership is invited - contact Mrs. J. Brooke (Amberley 2279).

Wanted

EUROLANGUAGE require comfortable homes for French students ages 11-17 Boy/Girl; 1/7/78 - 29/7/78, 1/8/78 - 29/8/78.

£25 per week. Live with family. All meals required. Contact Mrs M. Grace 813468.

PAINSWICK PLAYGROUP require two 8' x 10' carpets for the children to play on. Many thanks to the kind lady who has already supplied one.

Contact Mrs L. Barnfield 813411
A PIANO in sound condition for the Senior Circle who need one for their meetings. Such a gift would be much appreciated. Tel. 812323.

URGENTLY: Yorkshire Stone flags for hearth. Tel.812020.

For sale

PARKER KNOLL CHAIR in Brown, with Beechwood arms, £7. 2 other easy chairs £5 each. Good condition. TAYLOR, Kwetu, The Croft; P.813402.

Additional Curates Society

THE Annual lunch in aid of the above Society will be held on 6th May (see Diary*). Everybody is welcome. Tickets, which are only necessary to help with catering, are available at £1 from Helen McKee, Lamp House.

Editorial:

Eddie Buttrey (812565)
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The Committee would like to thank the following for their technical assistance in producing this first issue:-

Sylvia Steer - Typing

Peter and Lois Wiggins - Layout and printing liaison,

and to Chris Jones, the paper boys and milkmen who have distributed it.

If you know...

of anyone who did not receive one, let US know so that they may be included next month.

Notes for contributors

THE deadline for the May issue is Friday evening, 21st April. Contributions to any member of the committee please, and before that date if possible. Typed or handwritten copy will be welcome, but it should be double spaced. Can contributors please put their name and address/telephone number on their items; this helps if any points need clarification.

Sponsors

We thank the following contributors for their help in supporting our first three issues of 'The Painswick Beacon'.

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Gloucester 67412

Donations

Donations to cover the cost of the first three editions are still welcome. If you would like to contribute, please contact any member of the committee.