

BEACON LIGHT

...Linking the Beacon Parishes

What's on this week

Sunday 3 rd May	5 th Sunday of Easter	
11.00am	Edge	 Benefice Communion: for Christian Aid
6.30pm	Cranham	Evensong (BCP)

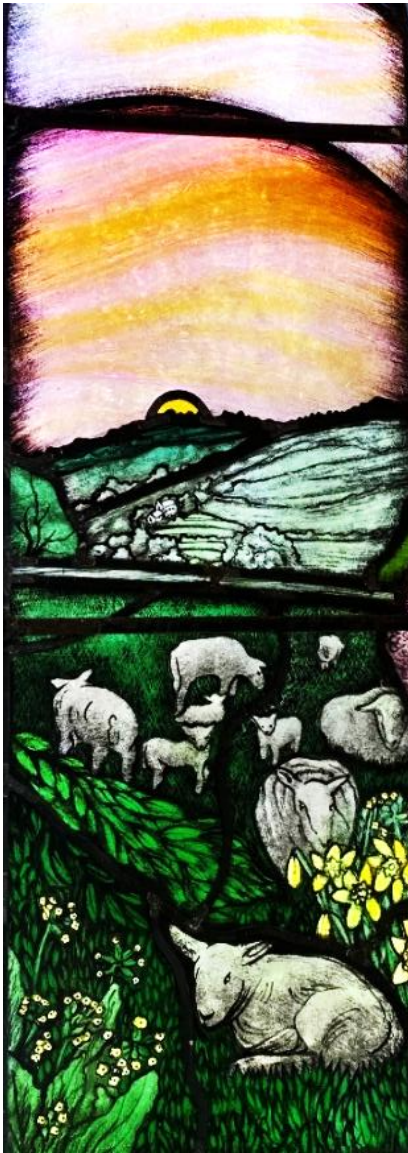
BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY 4 th May 11-3pm	Sheepscombe	 Family Games
Tuesday 5 th May 9.00am	Painswick	Morning Prayer <i>with coffee</i>
Wednesday 6 th May 9.00am	Via Zoom	Beacon Prayer Email: lindsay.gardiner@icloud.com or Karen: kriding07@yahoo.co.uk
Wednesday 6 th May 11.30am	Richmond	Holy Communion
Thursday 30 th April 9.30am	Via Zoom	Northumbrian Morning Prayer Email Karen (as above) for link

Sunday 10 th May	6 th Sunday of Easter	
9.30am	Pitchcombe	Morning Worship
9.30am	Painswick	Holy Communion (BCP)
11.00am	Harescombe with Edge	Holy Communion
11.00am	Cranham	Holy Communion
11.00am	Painswick	 Family Worship

Collect for 5th Sunday of Easter

Risen Christ,
your wounds declare your love for the world
and the wonder of your risen life:
give us compassion and courage
to risk ourselves for those we serve,
to the glory of God the Father.

Amen



Beacon People and Prayers

Is there someone in particular you would like us to pray for?

Beacon Intercessory Prayer Co-ordinator: Mike Campbell
Tel: 07812 000646 Email: beaconbeneficeministry@gmail.com

Our prayers are asked for all who are unwell or injured in mind, body or spirit, especially **Julie Berry, Basil Butler, Liz Flint, Jean Garratt, Irene Hodges, Valerie-Ann Hutton, Peter Jenkins, Elaine Leach, Sue Pouncey, Don Say, Hazel Stacey, Alan Tyson and Dick Williams.**

Let us also pray for all people, whether they are relatives, friends or professionals, who care for the sick or disabled in their homes, and for those recovering from surgery or undergoing cancer treatment.

We remember before God **Sue Dunnett, Bill Lambell, Tom Mahendran, Denise Magauran, Mary Morse, Alan Price, Audrey Reeves and Laurence Turner.** May they rest in the peace and love of Christ. We also remember all whose anniversaries of death fall at this time. May their families and loved ones know the peace, light and love of Christ our Lord.

A service for **Laurence Turner** will be held at **St Mary's church, Painswick** at **1pm** on **5th May 2026.**

A mass will be held for **Denise Magauran** at **4.30pm** on **Tuesday 5th May** at **Our Lady and St Therese, Painswick.**

Tom Mahendran's funeral will be held at **St John's, Sheepscombe** on **6th May 2026** at **11am.**

Audrey Reeves' funeral will take place at **Gloucester Crematorium** at **2pm** on **13th May 2026.**

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## Weddings

Please pray for **Frances Hibbert** and **Martin Arnal**, who are to be wed at **11.30am** at **St Mary's Painswick** on **Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> May.**

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Annual Parochial Church Council Meeting (APCCM) Announcement

We are pleased to announce that the remaining Annual Parochial Church Council Meeting (APCCM) for this year will take place as follows:

Harescombe – Tues 12th May at 2pm in the Parish Hall, Harescombe

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## GOOD NEWS!

### In Monty's Footsteps



This week, *In Monty's Footsteps*, Henry Montgomery's journey continued to uncover powerful and often unexpected stories from the Second World War—bringing history closer to the present.

At Hampden Park in Glasgow, Henry explored the remarkable role football played during wartime. Meeting Scottish Football Museum curator Richard McBrearty, he reflected on the historic Scotland vs England match in 1944, attended by an incredible 133,000 people—including General Montgomery himself. More than just a game, the match symbolised morale, unity, and resilience in the face of war.

Henry also heard deeply moving accounts of the Merchant Navy—their courage, sacrifice, and the dangers they faced keeping vital supply lines open. Stories from South Shields painted a picture of wartime childhood on the home front, reminding us how the war touched every corner of the country. Among the most extraordinary stories this week was that of a soldier who landed on D-Day, was shot three times, and left for dead—yet survived, taking seven years to recover. His story stands as a powerful testament to human endurance and sacrifice. These experiences continue to highlight why the collective sacrifices made across Britain—and beyond—remain so important to our freedom today. Follow Henry's journey @**BritishMemorial**, and listen to *In Monty's Footsteps* podcast from Friday 1st May 2026.



### What's On...

### May Day in Sheepscombe

Come along to our May Day celebration on **Monday 4 May, 11am–3pm at Sheepscombe Village Hall!** Enjoy homemade cakes, lunches, drinks, live music, games, a raffle, and fun for all ages—including face painting and a “Garden on a Plate” competition.

**Bring cash** and support a great cause, with proceeds going to the Disasters Emergency Committee. We hope to see you there!



## MAY DAY 2026

Monday 4 May, 11am–3pm  
Sheepscombe Village Hall



Teas, Coffees, Soft Drinks  
Delicious snacks & lunches,  
homemade cakes & puds!



Plant Stall, Raffle, Live Music

Skittles, Face Painting,  
Traditional Games

(Duck Race, Splat the Rat, Buzzer Challenge,  
Where in the World?, Guess Teddy's Name – and  
lots more!)



Garden on a Plate Competition

*Please bring cash*

All proceeds from the day will go to the  
Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC)



## 'Tweens & Teens' - What every parent needs to know!



Care for the Family is running an evening workshop, 'Tweens & Teens' - What every parent needs to know! On **Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> May 7.30pm in Gloucester**. At this live event for parents and carers, you'll get practical tools to help you come alongside your teenager as they try to establish their identity, assert their independence and find their place in the world.

Care for the Family always produces high quality, evidence based and thought provoking information. For more information please click on this [link](#) or contact: Victoria Soutar at [familyhub@beaconbenefice.org.uk](mailto:familyhub@beaconbenefice.org.uk)



**Wycliffe Choral Society & Orchestra**

# **Verdi Requiem**



Jessica Robinson *soprano*  
Beth Moxon *mezzo soprano*  
Andrew Henley *tenor*  
William Stevens *bass*

Leader - George Ewart  
Conductor - Christopher Swain

**Sunday 10th May, 7pm**  
**Wycliffe College Chapel, Stonehouse**

Tickets: £18 (under 18's £2.00). Available from:

- Ticketsource  
[www.ticketsource.co.uk/wycliffe-choral-society](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/wycliffe-choral-society)  
Phone: 0333 666 4466
- Canal Trust Bookshop: Queen's Rd, Stonehouse  
(Wed, Fri and Sat 10 - 4pm)
- Stroud Sub Rooms: 01453-796880, [thesubrooms.co.uk](http://thesubrooms.co.uk)
- Pay on the door



## **Wycliffe Choral Society & Orchestra**

Wycliffe Choral Society & Orchestra present Verdi's Requiem on **Sunday 10 May at 7pm in Wycliffe College Chapel, Stonehouse**. We're delighted to welcome stellar soloists in demand across the UK and internationally, including Jessica Robinson, a recent finalist in Cardiff Singer of the World.

This concert is also a special occasion, marking my final performance after 43 years as Musical Director. We hope you can join us for this memorable evening.

## Christian Aid Week 10-16 May 2026



Belinda Kasudi lives with her husband David and their five children in a wooden one-bedroom home in Dagoretti, Nairobi. David works for a building company, but his shifts are irregular. Some days there is no work – and no pay. Belinda picks up whatever jobs she can find, such as taking in laundry for neighbours. A stable income is vital for Belinda's family. As she tells us: **'Everything here has to be paid for. We even buy**

**water... Providing enough food for the children is very difficult, because it's so tough to find a job.'**

Belinda loves learning and is excited to be part of the Imarisha Kilimo project. She has been able to create her own water-saving cone garden, growing spinach, beetroot and local specialities such as *managu*. Belinda delights in being able to feed her children fresh ingredients, and in selling any extra vegetables to help with costs like school supplies. As she joyfully explains: **'I am a woman who is happy, because I know that my family eats the food that I love to grow.'**

Join us this Christian Aid Week to help fund lasting change for people like Belinda.

On **Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> May**, the Painswick Valley Christian Aid committee will serve **Cream Teas from 12 - 4.30pm**, and a **bring and buy garden shop from 11am - 4.30pm** at St. Mary's Church Rooms Painswick. Do drop in for a warm welcome.

A **3-course salmon supper** will be held at **7.30pm** on **Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> May**, also in the Church Rooms, tickets in advance from Jane Burt, 01452 810935 or Dylan Davies, 01452 812966.

And look out for the drop-off envelope coming through your door - if you wish to contribute it can be returned to your village drop-off point, in the case of Painswick this is the Lychgate office. Alternatively, you can donate online by scanning the relevant QR code below.



Cranham



Painswick, Pitchcombe,  
Edge & Harescombe



Sheepscombe

Thank you. *The Painswick Valley Christian Aid Committee.*



### Attention All Gardeners!

During Christian Aid Week, **10<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> May**, there will be a 'bring and buy' Garden Shop on **Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> May** at St. Mary's Church Rooms. If any keen gardener would like to grow plants for the shop, it would be greatly appreciated.





## The Bible Course:

grasp God's big story in 8 weeks!



Monday nights from 11th May, 7.30pm,  
The Church Rooms, Painswick

Want to join us?

Contact [beaconbeneficeoffice@gmail.com](mailto:beaconbeneficeoffice@gmail.com)

Suggested £20 donation, which includes your Bible Course guidebook.

## NEW! The Bible Course – Monday

**11 May. Arrive for a 7.30pm start!**

**Starting this May** - Ever wondered how the whole Bible fits together? Join us for *The Bible Course*, an engaging 8-week journey that helps you grasp God's big story from beginning to end.

Meeting on Monday evenings from **11th May** at **7:30pm** in the **Church Rooms**, we'll share a cuppa and dive into this study by Dr Andrew Ollerton – brought to you by The Bible Society.

Whether you're new to the Bible or looking to deepen your understanding, this course is for you. Register your interest using the form below - If you can't make it this time but are interested, please still register and let us know—we'd love to keep you informed about future courses.

[Register by clicking here](https://forms.gle/kBA981GMZbNUwJUM7) or copy this link  
<https://forms.gle/kBA981GMZbNUwJUM7>

**All are welcome – we'd love to see you there!**

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Cranham to Host Benefice Ascension Day Service



On **Thursday 14th May at 6.30pm**, all are welcome to celebrate with us as we mark Jesus' bodily ascension to heaven at this special service and begin to pray earnestly for the Holy Spirit to move in our communities.

This year marks the 10th anniversary of the global prayer movement called *Thy Kingdom Come*. Across the world, the nine days after Ascension Day (until the eve of Pentecost) will be observed as days of prayer and preparation for the celebration of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, and the 'birth' of Christ's church. During this time, here in our Benefice we will be joining in with this wave of prayer – so come along to our Ascension Day Service to find out more.

Meanwhile, please also save the date of **Tuesday, 19th May**, when we will gather at St Mary's, Painswick, at **7pm** for a time of dedicated praise and prayer for '*Thy Kingdom Come*'.

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## Home Communion, Home Visits and Lifts to Church

If you are in need of home communion, **please contact Delyth Allen (Pastoral Visitor) on 07854 262617 or by email: [delythallen58@gmail.com](mailto:delythallen58@gmail.com)** who will be only too happy to arrange this.

Although there are some people already offering lifts on a regular basis, if you are able to help by offering an occasional lift, please get in touch with Delyth Allen (contact details above).

Similarly, if you yourself are in need of a lift to a church service at another church and are struggling to find help, please let Delyth know so she can try to assist you with this.

## Wintershall: Life of Christ

**THURSDAY 18 JUNE – book early for discounted travel!**

CTAP are exploring organising a group trip to see *The Story of Jesus, Brought to Life* at Wintershall.

This open-air production, *The Life of Christ*, is a moving and immersive retelling of the Gospel story, performed on the Wintershall Estate.

 **Proposed date:** Thursday 18th June

 **Travel:** A coach would be arranged, depending on numbers

We are currently gauging interest across our churches. If you would be interested in attending, please let me know [beaconbeneficeoffice@gmail.com](mailto:beaconbeneficeoffice@gmail.com).

Once we have an idea of numbers, we will confirm ticket availability, pricing, and transport arrangements.

All are very welcome.

Anna



The poster for 'The Life of Christ' at Wintershall features a blue background with a large white cross. At the top, the Wintershall logo (a crown) and name are displayed, followed by the tagline 'Experience the story'. Below this, there are four circular images: two on the left showing people in historical costumes, one on the right showing a man with a beard and red scarf waving, and two on the bottom right showing people in historical costumes. The title 'The Life of Christ' is prominently displayed in white, with the subtitle 'The greatest story of all time' below it. The dates '16 - 20 June 2026' and the time '10am - 3.30pm' are listed. A quote reads: 'Our powerful, biblical, outdoor drama takes you back to a time when Jesus lived on earth.' Another quote states: 'See the remarkable events of Jesus' life re-enacted as you follow the actors around Wintershall's beautiful lakes and ancient woodland.'

WINTERSHALL  
*Experience the story*

**The Life of Christ**  
*The greatest story of all time*

16 - 20 June 2026  
10am - 3.30pm

Our powerful, biblical, outdoor drama takes you back to a time when Jesus lived on earth.

See the remarkable events of Jesus' life re-enacted as you follow the actors around Wintershall's beautiful lakes and ancient woodland.

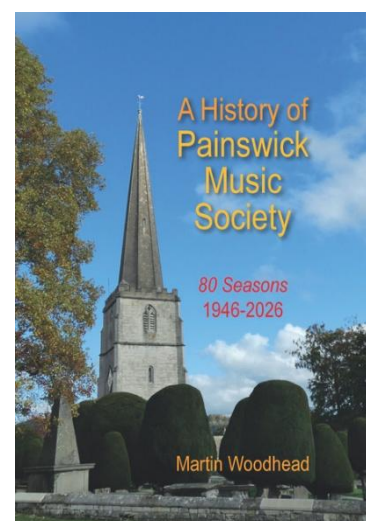


## Painswick Music Society

Our latest concert has officially **sold out**, marking a wonderful moment in our 80th Anniversary celebrations.

“A History of Painswick Music Society” is a celebration of the Society’s 80th Anniversary Season, written by its Chair, Prof. Martin Woodhead.

The book explores how the charity got started in 1946, the people involved, the challenges they faced, as well as their achievements, notably attracting hundreds of famous musicians and singers. Copies are available at all this year's concerts, no charge, but please make a donation to support the charity - in cash, by card or via the ‘Support’ page at [www.painswickmusicsoc.co.uk](http://www.painswickmusicsoc.co.uk).



## Your church needs you!

### PLEASE GIVE GENEROUSLY AND JOYFULLY!

Our churches are working hard to share the Gospel and keep our buildings warm and welcoming. Could you please think and pray about whether you are able to tithe regularly to help us?

*Gracious God, Thank you for your generosity to me. As I reflect on what it means to give faithfully, and regularly, open my hearts to your Spirit. Help me to see Giving not as an obligation but as joyful participation in your work in the world. Amen.*

**Pitchcombe's QR Code to come soon!**

**Sort: 30 - 98 – 29 Acct: 00284962**

Thank you for all the ways you give, seen and unseen. Your faithfulness makes a real difference.



Brookthorpe



Cranham



Painswick



Harescombe



Edge



Sheepscombe

### NEW! FROM THE ROCOCO GARDENS:

May will bring something a little different at Rococo Garden, where a range of seasonal activities are planned.

On **16<sup>th</sup> May**, the garden will host an **“En Plein Air” painting competition**, turning the grounds into an open-air studio for the day. Visitors can wander through the garden and watch artists at work as they capture its character and spring colour. The competition is open to 2D artists of all ages, abilities and styles - from experienced painters to those simply keen to have a go - making it an accessible and creative event for participants and observers alike.

Later in the month, from **23rd – 31st May**, **'Buzzly's Bee Busy Trail'** offers a family-friendly half-term activity. Children are invited to follow Buzzly the honey bee through winding paths and hidden corners, using their senses to explore nature. Additionally, there is a special **'Bee Day' on 30 May**, featuring a live observation hive, beeswax candle rolling, short talks and honey tasting. These activities aim to give a closer understanding of bees and how they support our environment.

The garden itself provides plenty to enjoy at a relaxed pace. As the last surviving Rococo Garden in England designed purely for pleasure, it features rolling lawns, ornamental follies and quiet corners to explore. Late May is a particularly colourful time, with aquilegia (columbine), iris and sweet william in bloom, alongside fresh growth in the Kitchen Garden.

The garden is open **Wednesday to Sunday (and daily during the half-term week), from 10am to 5pm.**



## Beacon Light Editorial Information

Deadline for all submissions to Beacon Light (news, dates of events and services, Beacon People additions & amendments, and posters in JPEG or PDF format): **Sunday, for Friday's publication.**



## Church Contacts

Rector: Revd Sarah Haslam Tel: 07870 126048  
Email: [beaconrector@gmail.com](mailto:beaconrector@gmail.com) (Usual day of rest: Friday)

Beacon Intercessory Prayer Co-ordinator: Mike Campbell  
Tel: 07812 000646 Email: [beaconbeneficeministry@gmail.com](mailto:beaconbeneficeministry@gmail.com)

Beacon All Ages Minister: Victoria Soutar  
Email: [familyhub@beaconbenefice.org.uk](mailto:familyhub@beaconbenefice.org.uk)

Benefice Administrator: Anna Favier-Brannan  
Tel: 01452 814795 / 07356 246338 Email: [beaconbeneficeoffice@gmail.com](mailto:beaconbeneficeoffice@gmail.com)  
Benefice Office: The Lychgate, Stroud Road, Painswick, GL6 6UT  
Website: [www.beaconbenefice.org.uk](http://www.beaconbenefice.org.uk)

Beacon Weddings Co-ordinator: Canon Helen Sammon  
Email: [weddings@beaconbenefice.org.uk](mailto:weddings@beaconbenefice.org.uk)

Benefice Safeguarding Team:  
Cranham, Harescombe, Painswick and Pitchcombe – Diane Blandford  
Email: [diane.blandford@icloud.com](mailto:diane.blandford@icloud.com)

Edge – Ann Kennett Email: [a.kennett279@gmail.com](mailto:a.kennett279@gmail.com)  
Sheepscombe – Tessa Lentel Email: [tessalentel@aol.com](mailto:tessalentel@aol.com)

Painswick Pastoral Assistant: Delyth Allen Tel: 07854 262517  
Email: [delythallen58@gmail.com](mailto:delythallen58@gmail.com)  
Please contact Delyth for help to arrange lifts to church or home visits (including Communion).

Painswick Church Rooms Bookings Co-ordinator: Margaret Radway Tel: 07896 430107  
Email: [margaret.radway@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:margaret.radway@tiscali.co.uk)

The Painswick Community Support initiative provides community support for Painswick.  
If you need support, please contact 07956 203087 [painswickcommunity@gmail.com](mailto:painswickcommunity@gmail.com)

Cranham Community Response Team: The initial contact for Cranham residents is  
[jennybarracough.cranhampc@gmail.com](mailto:jennybarracough.cranhampc@gmail.com)



## Church Opening Times

**Cranham** 10am – 5pm  
**Painswick** 9.30am – 5pm  
**Pitchcombe** 9am – 5pm

**Edge** 8am – 5pm  
**Harescombe** always open  
**Sheepscombe** 9am – 5pm





## Coffee Hotspots

**Pitchcombe Coffee Morning** Second Tuesday of the month, at 10.30am in Pitchcombe Church.

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Edge Coffee Morning Last Friday of the month, at 10.30am in Edge Village Hall.

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**Sheepscombe Coffee Morning** First & Third Thursdays of the month,  
10.00am to 11.30am in Sheepscombe Village Hall.

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Cranham Pop-up Café Every Tuesday and Friday (10.00am to 1.00pm) in Cranham Village Hall.

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**Painswick Community Hub Coffee Morning** Every Friday, 10.00am to 11.30am, in Painswick  
Town Hall. Tea, coffee and homemade cakes.

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Blessing

May the road rise up to meet you.
May the wind be always at your back.
May the sun shine warm upon your face;
the rains fall soft upon your fields and until we meet again,
May God hold you in the palm of His hand.

Amen.

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