

BEACON LIGHT

...Linking the Beacon Parishes

What's on this week

Sunday 26 th April	4 th Sunday of Easter	
9.30am	Pitchcombe	Holy Communion
11.00am	Sheepscombe	Holy Communion
11.00am	Cranham	Morning Worship
11.00am	Painswick	Beacon Praise
6.00pm	Painswick	Evensong

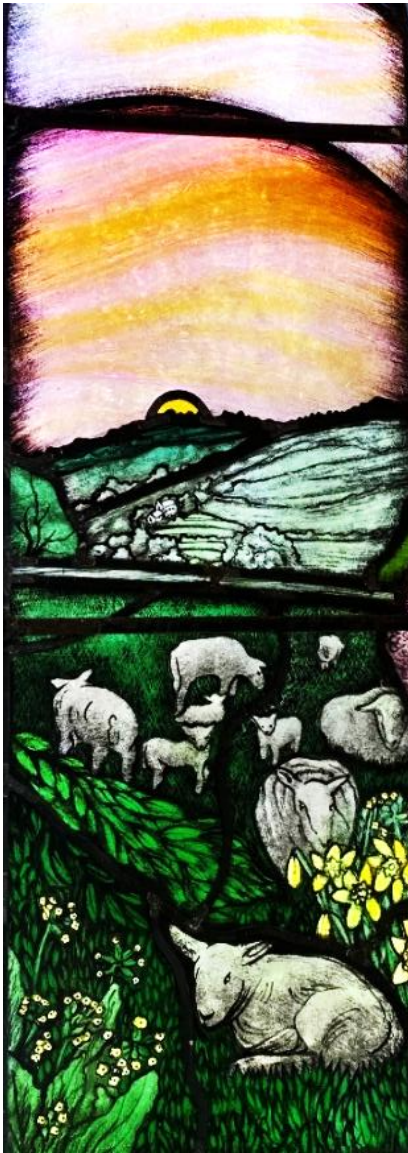
Tuesday 28 th April 9.00am	Painswick	Morning Prayer <i>with coffee</i>
Wednesday 29 th April 9.00am	Via Zoom	Beacon Prayer Email: lindsay.gardiner@icloud.com or Karen: kriding07@yahoo.co.uk
Thursday 30 th April 9.30am	Via Zoom	Northumbrian Morning Prayer Email Karen (as above) for link

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

Collect for 4th Sunday of Easter

Risen Christ,
faithful shepherd of your Father's sheep:
teach us to hear your voice
and to follow your command,
that all your people may be gathered into one flock,
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, Michael James, Bill Lambell, Tom Mahendran, Denise Magauran, Mary Morse, Barbara O'Dwyer and Audrey Reeves.** 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.

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



Annual Parochial Church Council Meeting (APCCM) Announcement

We are pleased to announce that the remaining Annual Parochial Church Council Meetings (APCCMs) will take place in the respective churches (unless stated otherwise) as follows:

Cranham – Sunday 26th April at 12.30pm

Harescombe – Tues 12th May at 12 noon



Alpha Celebration

After some thought, the Alpha celebration will now take place in the autumn (likely late October/November) as a taster for the next course in January. Please complete your questionnaire to capture key learnings, then take time to rest and recharge.

Thank you for making Alpha possible—it's been an incredible start to 2026, and for some, the beginning of a personal relationship with Jesus.



GOOD NEWS!

In Monty's Footsteps



Henry Montgomery's journey, *In Monty's Footsteps*, continues to uncover the human stories behind the collective effort that shaped the success of D-Day and the wider Normandy campaign in 1944.

This week in Plymouth, Henry explored the city's strong Royal Navy connections, speaking with students, lecturers, researchers, and a chaplain at an HMS training centre, gaining insight into how the legacy of 1944 still resonates today.

In Normandy, he met documentary producer Emma Newton, who shared powerful perspectives on the

often-overlooked Afro-Caribbean contribution to the war. He also spoke with Memorial Ambassador and veteran Ken Hay, Hervé Junet-Muller, grandson of SOE agent Georges Muller, and the grandson of Private George Hanks, alongside a Norman family friend. Together, their stories highlighted enduring connections forged through sacrifice and remembrance.

These conversations support Henry's mission to raise funds for the British Normandy Memorial education programme. You can follow Henry's journey **@BritishMemorial** on Facebook, X and Instagram. From **Friday 1st May 2026**, 'In Monty's Footsteps', the **podcast and documentary series**, will be available [here](https://www.britishnormandymemorial.org/monty/) (<https://www.britishnormandymemorial.org/monty/>) and across all major podcast platforms.



Henry Montgomery, grandson of Field Marshal Bernard Law Montgomery and Trustee of the Normandy Memorial Trust

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### What's On...

#### '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)





## **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**

**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!**



### **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.



### **Cranham to Host Benefice Ascension Day Service**

On **Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> 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'.



## 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).

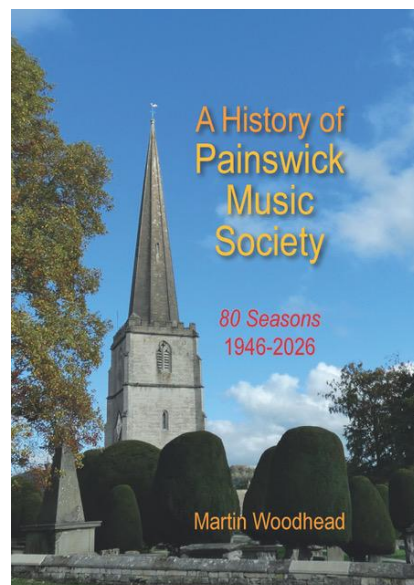
Similarly, if you yourself are in need of a lift to a church service at another church and are struggling to find help, please let Delyth know so she can try to assist you with this.



## 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 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).



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## 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



Edae



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**.



## 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.

## 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.**

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Church Contacts

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

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

Beacon All Ages Minister: Victoria Soutar
Email: familyhub@beaconbenefice.org.uk

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

Beacon Weddings Co-ordinator: Canon Helen Sammon
Email: weddings@beaconbenefice.org.uk

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

Edge – Ann Kennett Email: a.kennett279@gmail.com
Sheepscombe – Tessa Lentel Email: tessalentel@aol.com

Painswick Pastoral Assistant: Delyth Allen Tel: 07854 262517
Email: 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

The Painswick Community Support initiative provides community support for Painswick.
If you need support, please contact 07956 203087 painswickcommunity@gmail.com

Cranham Community Response Team: The initial contact for Cranham residents is
jennybarracough.cranhampc@gmail.com

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## Church Opening Times

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

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

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Blessing

May the peace of God which is beyond all understanding keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God and of His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

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