

BEACON LIGHT

...Linking the Beacon Parishes

What's on this week

Sunday 30 th August	13 th Sunday after Trinity	
9.30am	Painswick	Family Worship with Communion 
11.00am	Sheepscombe	Morning Worship

Tuesday 1 st Sept 9.00am	Painswick	Morning Prayer <i>with coffee</i>
Wednesday 2 nd Sept 9.00am	Via Zoom	Beacon Prayer Email: lindsay.gardiner@icloud.com or Karen: kriding07@yahoo.co.uk
Wednesday 2 nd Sept 11.30am	Richmond	Holy Communion
Thursday 3 rd Sept 9.30am	Via Zoom	Northumbrian Morning Prayer Email Karen (as above) for link

Sunday 6 th September	14 th Sunday after Trinity	
11.00am	Harescombe	Benefice Communion 
3.00pm	Cranham	Cranham Feast Service
6.00pm	Painswick St Peter's Chapel	Evening Prayer 

Sunday 13th September – Change to the published services

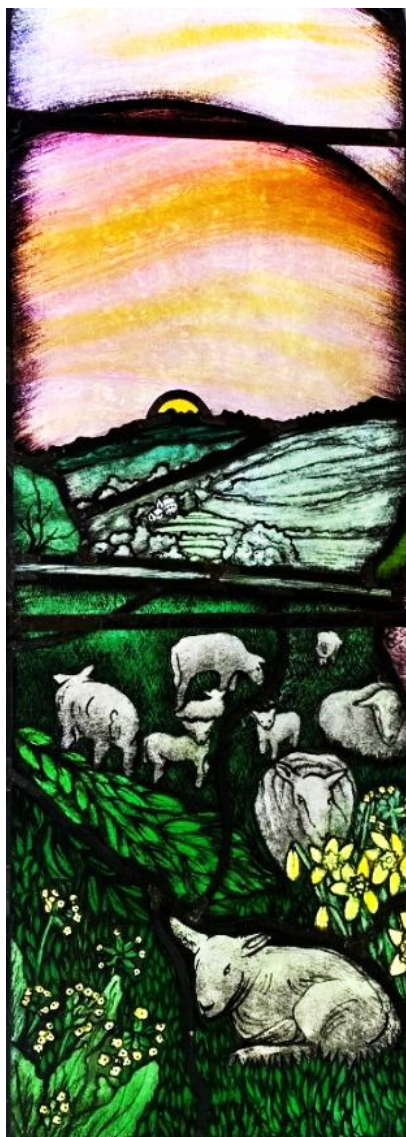
There will be no service at Pitchcombe. Pitchcombe are invited to join with Harescombe & Edge at **St John the Baptist, Harescombe at 9.30am**

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### Collect for the Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity

Almighty God,  
you search us and know us:  
may we rely on you in strength  
and rest on you in weakness,  
now and in all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**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](mailto:beaconbeneficeministry@gmail.com)

Our prayers are asked for all who are unwell or injured in mind, body or spirit, especially **John Gazzard, Irene Hodges, Valerie-Ann Hutton, Peter Jenkins, Elaine Leach, Joan Nash, Lyndsay Thomas 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 **Nancy Broackes-Carter, Judy Reed and Sue Stanley.** 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.

On **Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> September at 2.30 pm** in the **Chapel at Painswick Cemetery** on the Beacon there will be a short service for the burial of **Sue Stanley's** ashes along with those of her husband, David, who died in 2015. (For any enquires please contact [heidihurdle@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:heidihurdle@yahoo.co.uk).)

The funeral of **Nancy Broackes-Carter** will take place at **2pm on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September** in **St Mary's, Painswick.**



## Baptisms

**Ellie Ractliffe** will be baptised on **Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> September** at **St John the Baptist, Harescombe.** Please pray for Ellie, her godparents and her parents David and Claire.



## Weddings



We congratulate all the couples married in our Benefice over the summer, and we invite our church family to pray for them as they begin married life together — may they know God's love, His peace, and His blessing in every step ahead.



Congratulations to **Sharon and Graham** (*right*), who were married at **St John the Apostle, Sheepscombe**, on **22nd August.**



Please also pray for **Laura and Daniel**, who will be married at **St John the Baptist, Harescombe**, and **Joe and Sophie** (*left*), who are to be married at **St Mary's, Painswick**, both on **Saturday 29th August.**

## GOOD NEWS!

### Wool Day



Over 100 visitors enjoyed the first Painswick Family Wool Day, organised by Stroudwater Textile Trust and held in St. Mary's Church and the Church Rooms. Children participated in story times, weaving and sheep making activities, as well as watching spinning demonstrations and doing quizzes. Visitors to the church also enjoyed the refreshments provided by the Mission & Outreach team and served by the Sherlock Team. Many thanks to everyone who helped make it such a successful day. *Vics Soutar*



### Toddler Plus



Toddler Group Plus met in the summer holidays, during the Painswick Wool Day, we joined Sherlock as he explored how Jesus walked over the sea to reassure his disciples. We found out that Jesus can look after us today and can do things that we can only imagine. We made some boats to keep Sherlock safe on the water to help us remember that Jesus will always keep us safe. We then sang and danced to the song, 'My Lighthouse' which reminds us that if we keep our eyes on Jesus he

will keep us safe in the storms of life, just like a lighthouse keeps the boats safe from the dangers of the rocks. *Vics Soutar*



### Edge Church Back in Action

The church gate at Edge has now been repaired. Work started on dismantling the damaged pillars and removing the metalwork on Friday 24 July. The metal work and the gate were removed in order to repaint and straighten them. The stonework was repaired and both pillars were rebuilt by Wednesday 29 July. The churchyard was reopened for pedestrians on Saturday 1 August.

The whole gateway was back in working order with the electrics reconnected during the first week in August. The PCC are very grateful to Ecclesiastical Insurance for settling our claim so quickly and to Nick Miles and his team for repairing the gateway so promptly and doing such a wonderful job. *Viv Barrett*

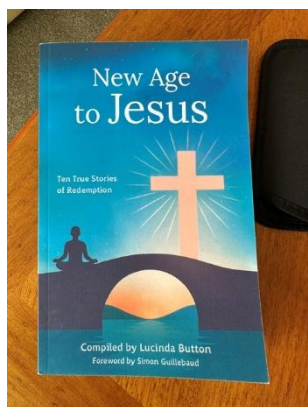


## Men's Breakfast

Around 25 of us gathered on Saturday 18th July for chat and catching up over fresh brewed coffee and bacon rolls in the Church rooms. Mark Riding and Francis Sanville gave Mike Campbell a break from kitchen responsibilities whilst Damon Blandford manned the coffee station. As usual, we had asked someone to share something of their 'life journey' with us and this time Mike interviewed Jonathan to draw out his extraordinary story.



Responses were a mixture of shock (that someone could be introduced to hallucinatory drugs as young as six years old and then hard drugs by the age of 10), surprise that the drug addiction and strange New Age practices are so rife on our doorstep in Stroud, and wonder that someone could survive such a journey whilst developing a successful corporate life before having their life transformed by an encounter with the Lord Jesus. Jonathan wrote one of the 10 accounts in the book "New Age to Jesus", available through Amazon and elsewhere, for those unable to be with us and interested to know the whole story.



Our next breakfast is scheduled for **October 24th at 9am** as usual when we hope that Dr David Pouncey will share his story. All men will be so welcome.



## CTAP Cream Tea



On Sunday 9th August, a perfect summer's afternoon, Churches Together Around Painswick members and friends gathered at St Mary's church rooms to serve cream teas, with donations for the Foodbank. We were blessed with wonderful weather and a huge number of visitors, who enjoyed tea, home-made scones, strawberries, jam and cream.

Every single scone which had been baked was eaten, and we raised over £500 as well as receiving a good number of items to go to users of the Foodbank. Our guests had such a good time that many of



them stayed all afternoon, either enjoying the sun or the shade, or the relative cool inside. We were delighted that visitors to Painswick also stayed to chat, as well as our familiar friends from across the benefice. Thank you to all those who came, and especially to the committee members, who worked very hard on a warm afternoon.

*Rev'd Kate*



## I did it! Wing Walk Completed for the James Hopkins Trust



On Wednesday 19th August I climbed aboard a Boeing Stearman biplane and was strapped on to the top of the wing to ascend to 1000 feet at 80 miles per hour. Ever since seeing the Crunchie's Flying Circus advert in the 1990s I have wanted to take on a wing walk and now I have achieved it, and more importantly, I have raised over £1000 for the James Hopkins Trust, a charity dedicated to improving the lives of children with life-limiting and life-changing conditions. I have several friends whose children have blossomed under the care of the dedicated staff at Kites Corner in Gloucester, where there are sensory rooms, wonderful play areas and respite care facilities. As you can see, it was a magnificent day for flying, with dramatic clouds framing the landscape and showing just how badly we have been affected by the hot weather. I was reminded of a poem I've always loved, "High Flight", which was written in 1941 by Pilot Officer John Gillespie Magee Jr, an American serving with the Royal Canadian Air Force, who was sadly killed while flying at the age of only 19 in December 1941.

Looking down on creation from the sky has moved many over the years, from astronauts to pilots, and today I was thrilled to be alive in that sunlit silence and truly feel God's presence.

It was tremendous fun, and I am hoping now to repeat the experience with more aerobatics, including barrel rolls and looping the loop - watch this space!

If anyone would like to donate to the James Hopkins Trust you can do so from the link below.

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/kate-davies-wingwalk> Many thanks. *Revd Kate*

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WHAT'S ON...

Global Week of 24-7 Prayer



Many of our benefice are already familiar with the team behind Lectio 365, who are heading up this global prayer initiative this week. Join us as we pray together with 155 nations around the world from 6th to 13th September in a **Global Week of Prayer**, responding to God's gracious invitation to unite in lifting up the name of Jesus.

How to get involved this year:

- 1) Come along to one of our special times of gathered prayer,
- 2) Visit a 24-7 online prayer room <https://www.24-7prayer.com/weekofprayer/>
- 3) Download the free Lectio 365 app onto your tablet or phone,
- 4) Pick up a prayer resource from your local church and use there or at home.



To find out more, contact Revd Kate curate@beaconbenefice.org.uk



Global Week of 24-7 Prayer

6 – 13 SEPTEMBER 2026

Sunday 6 th Sep 6.00pm	Painswick Church St Peter's Chapel	Evening Prayer
Monday 7 th Sep 8.30am	Sheepscombe Church	Morning Prayer
Tuesday 8 th Sep 9.00am	Painswick Church	Morning Prayer
Tuesday 8 th Sep 6.00pm	Painswick Church	Evening Prayer
Wednesday 9 th Sep 9.00am	Via Zoom	Morning Prayer Link to Zoom
Wednesday 9 th Sep 6.00pm	Cranham Church	Evening Prayer
Thursday 10 th Sep 9.30am	Via Zoom	Morning Prayer Link to Zoom
Thursday 10 th Sep 8.00pm	Harescombe Church	Compline
Friday 11 th Sep 9.30am	Via Zoom	Morning Prayer Link to Zoom
Saturday 12 th Sep 8.00pm	Via Zoom	Compline - Link to Zoom
Sunday 13 th Sep 6.00pm	Edge Church	Evening Prayer



EDGE AUTUMN SHOW

The Green
Saturday 5th September
2pm - 4:30pm

Featuring---
Produce stalls- jam & pickles
Craft stalls, Art Exhibition
Raffle for Super Hampers,
Games, Mini-Scarecrow making,
Teas and Cakes, Music,
Prizegiving for all classes-
Fruit and Veg, Bakery, Flowers,
Children's Classes, Arts & Crafts

See Village Voices for full details of entry classes
For additional enquiries contact Annie New 07976643254



Cranham feast 2026

@ THE CRANHAM CRICKET CLUB
September 4th, 5th, & 6th

Friday 4th

- Flower Show opens at 4pm! @St James
- Annual Village Tug-of-War 6pm
- Wings & wedges by Lord of the Wings®
- presents: **CHICKEN: IMPASSABLE**
- Live Music from 7:30pm
- Bar open all evening!

Saturday 5th

- Family BBQ from 1pm onwards
- Kids Race 1:30pm
- Cranham Skruffz Dog Show! 1:45pm
- Annual Boundary Race 2:30pm
- Games & Bouncy Castle
- Bake off

Sunday 6th

- Cricket 3pm
- Tombola
- Stalls
- Cake & Tea Tent
- Deer Carving 5pm
- Live Music 6 & 8pm w/ **Tao Old For Toys**
- Food by: **Taste of India**
- Parade 1pm
- Service at St James the Great Church 3pm

Bar open all day!

Cranham flower show
SEPTEMBER 4th-6th

Join us at St James the Great for our annual flower festival. This years theme celebrates the people, places and moments that have shaped our village story.

NEW! AUTUMN HOUSEGROUPS

MON
7PM

PAUL & NIKI:

Fortnightly at The Church Rooms, Painswick
paulangie.ryan@gmail.com Starting 7th Sept
nicoletta.babbs88@gmail.com

MON
7PM

ANTHEA & PAULINE:

Fortnightly at No.8 Gyde House, Painswick
anthea.glibbery@gmail.com
paulinebaylissjones@btinternet.com

TUES
3PM

HELEN & ALASTAIR:

Fortnightly at Windycot, Cranham
helen.sammon@gmail.com

WED
10.30
AM

PAUL & ANGIE:

Weekly at Timbercombe Cottage, Jacks Green,
Sheepscome
paulangie.ryan@gmail.com Starting 9th Sept

WED
7.30
PM

VICS & KATE:

Fortnightly at Merienda, Cranham
mike@mc-cc.co.uk Starting 9th Sept
lindsay.gardiner@icloud.com

THUR
2PM

MIKE & LINDSAY:

Fortnightly at The Church Rooms, Painswick
mike@mc-cc.co.uk Starting 3rd Sept
lindsay.gardiner@icloud.com



The Well

We are committed to providing a whole variety of ways to come together to worship God in our Benefice – The Well is just one example of this, which many have found to be a real mid-week blessing.

Last month The Well was led by Mike, and Rev Sarah preached from Psalm 63, about how we relate to God in when faced with difficult challenges or seasons: 'my soul clings to you, your right hand upholds me'.

Everyone is welcome to come to the Church Rooms to join us in prayer and praise and to drink from the Scriptures – pop **September 18th** in your diary now!

For more info on what to expect, contact Mike, Sarah or Vics.

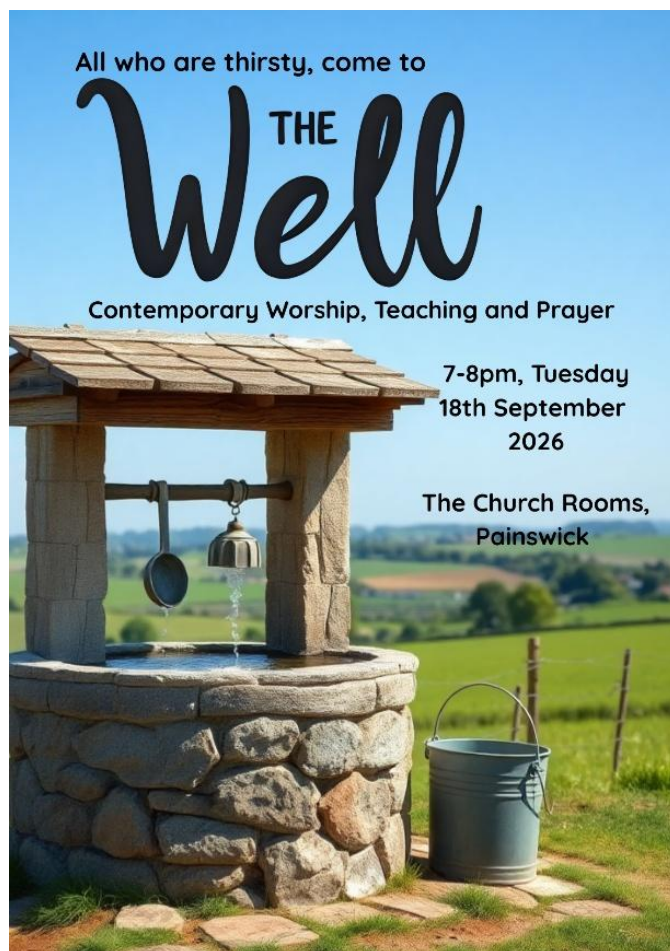
Following the success of Alpha and then The Bible Course, we are delighted to be able to offer new opportunities to meet in small groups to discuss the Bible and share in fellowship and prayer together.

We have tried to offer times during the day and in the evenings, on different weekdays and in different venues, so that many of us can get together to share and learn about God's word. We will all be using Tom Wright's "Mark for Everyone" book to help us study the Gospel of Mark. Our more established housegroups will also continue to meet, pray and study as usual.

If you have not already expressed an interest, it's not too late! Please email the benefice office with your preferred day and time, and we will be delighted to have you join in.

If none of these dates work for you, please do also let us know, so that we can try to provide an alternative in future.

We are looking forward to meeting together as we continue to learn to live in the light of God's love.





Coldplay Candlelight Experience in Painswick

A magical candlelit evening is coming to Painswick this September, as Lumos Experiences returns, hosting a live instrumental tribute to Coldplay. Set in St Mary's, made even more beautifully atmospheric with hundreds of candles, the concert features musicians performing Coldplay's most loved songs in an intimate, immersive setting.

The event takes place on **Saturday 12th September**, offering a relaxed, reflective night out for music lovers and anyone who enjoys something a little different. As last time, there will be two sittings at 7pm and again at 9pm. (The concert lasts approximately an hour).

Tickets are available through [Lumos Experiences](https://www.lumos-experiences.co.uk/), with seating arranged to give everyone a close, warm view of the performance. A lovely cultural addition to village life — and a chance to enjoy Coldplay's music in a whole new way.



Celebration Time!



Come and celebrate with us at our **Beacon Family Celebration Sunday on Sunday 13th September!**

The morning begins with an **11am Family Service at St Mary's Painswick**, followed by a fun-filled family party from **12 noon to 2pm in the Church Rooms**. There will be **toys, games and a bouncy castle** to keep everyone entertained, along with plenty of time to enjoy good food and company.

We'll be having a **bring-and-share party**, with drinks provided, so bring along something tasty to share if you can. Whether you are a regular part of our family activities or simply fancy coming along and meeting some friendly faces, everyone is very welcome. Come along, bring the family and help us celebrate together!



Could you be a Storyteller?



We're hoping to begin offering 'Open the Book'—style assemblies in our local schools in the near future, and we'd love to build a small team to help make this possible. If you've enjoyed taking part in Experience Easter, if you're a budding actor or if you simply have a heart for sharing Bible stories with children in a creative and engaging way, we'd be very glad to hear from you.

To find out more or to express interest, please contact Vics Soutar at familyhub@beaconbenefice.org.uk

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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 262517 or by email: 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.



FROM THE ROCOCO GARDENS:

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 have been 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.

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

POETRY CORNER

**Do you have a submission
for our poetry corner?**

Please email:
beaconbeneficeoffice@gmail.com

T E N E T

Roads are lost and empires fall,
Flags are torn as spears grow rust,
Names once feared, now scarcely known,
Kingdoms pass as all things must.

The battles are prepared,
One enemy is slain;
Each proclaimed its cause was blessed.
The Shepherd keeps his watch,
As infants rest upon a breast.

Reluctant travellers seek a home,
As souls flounder in their need,
The widows keep the fires alight,
While children cherish every seed.
We are held.

S	A	T	O	R
A	R	E	P	O
T	E	N	E	T
O	P	E	R	A
R	O	T	A	S

S. Dechan



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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### 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.
NB – Closed until September.

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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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## 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

## Church Contacts

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

Curate: Revd Kate Davies  
Email: [curate@beaconbenefice.org.uk](mailto:curate@beaconbenefice.org.uk) (Usual day of rest: Saturday)

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

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

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, Edge, Harescombe, Painswick, Pitchcombe – Diane Blandford  
Email: [diane.blandford@icloud.com](mailto:diane.blandford@icloud.com)  
Sheepscombe – Tessa Lentel Email: [tessalentel@aol.com](mailto:tessalentel@aol.com)

Painswick Pastoral Team: 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)

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Church Opening Times

Cranham 10.00am – 5.00pm

Painswick 9.00am – 6.30pm

Pitchcombe 9.00am – 5.00pm

Edge 8.00am – 5.00pm

Harescombe always open

Sheepscombe 9.00am – 5.00pm

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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.**