

BEACON LIGHT

...Linking the Beacon Parishes

What's on this week

Sunday 4 th October	18 th Sunday after Trinity	
11.00am	Pitchcombe	Benefice Communion – Homelessness Sunday 
5.30pm	Painswick	Harvest Service & Supper 
6.30pm	Cranham	Evensong

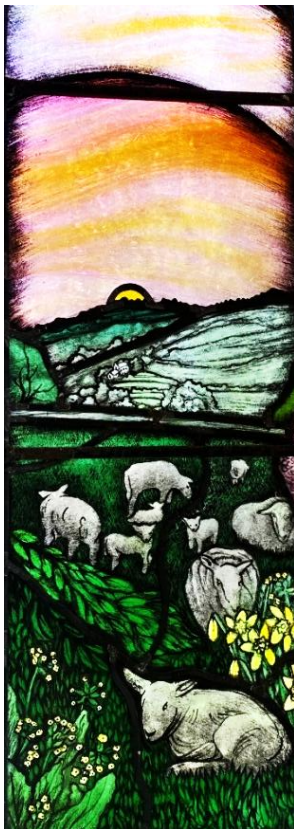
Monday 5 th Oct 8.30am	Sheepscombe	Early Bird Morning Prayer <i>with coffee</i>
Tuesday 6 th Oct 9.00am	Painswick	Morning Prayer <i>with coffee</i>
Wednesday 7 th Oct 9.00am	Via Zoom	Beacon Prayer <i>Email: lindsay.gardiner@icloud.com or Karen: krining07@yahoo.co.uk</i>
Wednesday 7 th Oct 11.30am	Richmond	Holy Communion
Thursday 8 th Oct 9.30am	Via Zoom	Northumbrian Morning Prayer <i>Email Karen (as above) for link</i>

Sunday 11 th October	19 th Sunday after Trinity	
9.30am	Pitchcombe	Harvest Worship
9.30am	Painswick	Holy Communion (BCP)
11.00am	Harescombe with Edge	Holy Communion
11.00am	Painswick	Family Worship 
11.00am	Cranham	Holy Communion
5.30pm	Sheepscombe	Harvest Service & Supper 

Collect for the Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity

God, our judge and saviour,
teach us to be open to your truth and to trust in your love,
that we may live each day with confidence in the salvation which is given
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

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, Ann Johnstone, 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, Lillian Hauting, Quentin Mathias, Bill Parker, 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.

Rosemary Alder's memorial service is on **Monday 12th October 2026** at **12 noon** at St John the Baptist, **Edge**.

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## GOOD NEWS!



### Harvest Festival and Supper at Edge

Over 30 parishioners sat down to a Harvest Supper of a variety of cottage pies and an array of autumn fruit puddings on Saturday evening. The Edge WI members had provided the delicious supper and this followed the Harvest Festival which had been held in Church.

In the Harvest service at St John's Church, the wonders of God's Creation was the theme, and special mention was made of those, often overlooked, who work so hard to provide food for us all, namely the farmers. Traditional harvest hymns played by our organist Paul resounded through the church, Wendy and Martin read, while Ann led us with prayers of thanksgiving. Donations of produce and money were made for the work of the Stroud Food Bank both in church and in the village hall afterwards.



Thanks go to all of the WI members for their hard work, to the village hall for providing the facilities and the bar, and to members of our community for supporting this Harvest Celebration.



# Toddlers+Plus

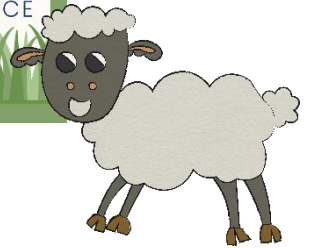
Come and join us in St. Mary's Church  
for a Bible story, craft, song and prayer.

## Thursdays 11.00-11.30am

10th Sep, 24th Sep, 8th Oct, 22nd Oct, 5th Nov, 19th Nov, 10th Dec.







## Toddlers Plus



At Toddlers Plus we explored the story of Noah. We found out how much Noah trusted God by building an Ark in the middle of a desert! - and how much God cares for us by promising never to send a flood like that again. We all made our own Noah's Ark, found pairs of animals to put into a giant Ark, sang and prayed together. It's great to see the group really binding together. *Vics Soutar*



## ‘Safeguarding is rooted in the very character and mission of God’

Recently Di Blandford was nominated in recognition for work she has done here serving our churches to keep them safe at a special service in St Paul's Cathedral recognising and celebrating the ministry of Parish Safeguarding Officers from across the Church of England. It was a moving occasion, bringing together those who give so much of themselves in service of creating safer churches and communities.

Bishop Robert writes in this week's Bulletin:

“Safeguarding is not simply an administrative function of the Church. It is rooted in the very character and mission of God.

Too often safeguarding can be reduced to policies, procedures and training. Of course, these things matter. They help create accountability and provide the structures necessary to keep people safe. Yet safeguarding begins at a much deeper level: with the conviction that every person is made in the image of God and possesses a dignity that must be honoured, protected and nurtured.

One of the most powerful themes of the service was Jesus' identification with those who are vulnerable: “When you did it to one of the least of these, you did it to me.” In caring for others,

listening well, responding to concerns and creating safer communities, we are not simply undertaking a responsibility; we are encountering Christ himself. This is why Parish Safeguarding Officers deserve our deepest gratitude. Much of their work goes unseen. They ask careful questions, maintain records, support good practice and work closely with diocesan safeguarding teams. Often, they stand alongside people in difficult circumstances, listening to painful stories and helping navigate complex situations. The emotional and spiritual demands can be significant. Many of the most important things Parish Safeguarding Officers do are things that nobody notices because problems are prevented before they arise. Their ministry helps create communities where children are protected, where vulnerable people can participate fully, where trust can grow and where fear is replaced by confidence and belonging.

Bishop Robert concludes:

"Your ministry is not simply an organisational necessity. It is a profound expression of the Gospel. Through your service, churches become places where people can flourish, where the vulnerable are valued, and where the love and justice of God are made visible in the world."



# HOMELESSNESS SUNDAY

—❤—

**SUNDAY 4 OCTOBER**  
**11AM**

**PITCHCOMBE CHURCH**

*Guest Speaker*  
**Louise Mackenzie**  
from Gloucester City Mission

❤ **DONATIONS OF:** ❤

- New medium size, men's boxers
- Trainers in good condition
- Coffee
- Sugar
- Cup soups
- Wrapped sweets
- Baked beans
- Tuna
- Long life milk

## WHAT'S ON THIS WEEKEND...

### Beacon Benefice Service - Homelessness Sunday

Join us at **Pitchcombe Church** this weekend for a special Beacon Benefice Service as we mark Homelessness Sunday. We're pleased to welcome Louise Mackenzie from Gloucester City Mission as our guest speaker.

Please give generously as we look to support the Mission's work. Donations needed include particularly **men's boxers, good-condition trainers, coffee, sugar, cup soups, wrapped sweets and long-life food.**

Everyone across the benefice is warmly welcome.



## HARVEST SUPPER AT PAINSWICK

Please join us for our Harvest service and a shared supper afterwards – and please let us know you are coming - Click on the poster or [here](#) to book your place!  
See the poster for details!

### Painswick Harvest Service Preparations

Some flowers, fresh produce, packets and tins of food are needed to help decorate the church on Friday 2nd October prior to the Harvest service itself on Sunday 4th October.

All donations are given to our designated charities, supporting families in need. We would also be pleased to welcome helpers at 9.30am on **Friday 2<sup>nd</sup>** especially from persons capable of clambering on the pews, to decorate the windows, as many of the Flower Guild are finding it difficult these days! *Freda*

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October, Wednesday 7th at 2.15pm for 2.30pm start.

The Eighty Seasons: Rediscovering the History of Painswick Music Society 1946-2026
Talk by Prof. Martin Woodhead.

Beacon Hall, Painswick Centre, Bisley Street, Painswick GL6 6QQ.

The Painswick Music Society was founded just after WWII, by a famous local musician, Mercia Stotesbury, the first violinist ever to play on British Radio. This talk by the Society's Chairman, will explore how it survived - and thrived - as a small local charity with big ambitions! Martin celebrates the 80 years of the Society with music and stories from its concerts, including the composers and musicians from Gloucestershire and the Cotswolds who have featured. Visitors are welcome to our talks. £5 charge incl. tea and biscuits after the talk. No need to book, please just turn up. Queries to 01452 690 989

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Collecting cash  
and food for  
Stroud District  
Foodbank  
during the service

ST JOHN'S SHEEPSCOMBE  
INVITE YOU TO A

# Harvest Celebration

AT 5.30PM ON SUNDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER

*followed by a 'pay as you can'  
harvest supper in the village hall*

Joining us for supper?  
Please email Karen by the 4th of  
October to book your place.  
[kridding07@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:kridding07@yahoo.co.uk)



## Harvest Worship

### Pitchcombe

Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> October  
9.30am

### Cranham

Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> October  
11.00am



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Gloucestershire
Historic Churches Trust

CHORLEYS PRESENT:

**GHCT Private Preview Evening: 15th
October**

Join us for a private viewing of the Gloucestershire Heritage Collections Trust (GHCT) collection ahead of its forthcoming sale at Chorley's.

This is an opportunity to see the collection before the sale and enjoy an informal evening with fellow GHCT supporters.

Refreshments will be provided, including soft drinks, fizz and canapés.

Venue: Chorley's, Prinknash Abbey, GL4 8EU

Places are limited, so please reserve your complimentary ticket in advance via the link below:

Reserve your place at the Private Viewing

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## GRANDPARENTING FOR FAITH

Grandparents, join us for tea, cake and prayer

Wednesday 14th October  
2.00-3.00pm

St Mary's Church Rooms, Painswick

Bring along a photo of your grandchildren and join us for a relaxed hour of sharing, encouragement and prayer as we explore the joy of grandparenting and faith.



BEACON  
BENEFICE

For more information, contact Vics:  
familyhub@beaconbenefice.org.uk

# Sherlock Supper

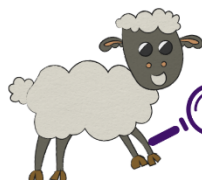
Fun

Crafts

Games

Stories

Sherlock Investigates:



## Can Jesus really heal people?



Tuesday  
13th October



4.30-6.00pm



St Mary's  
Painswick

### Supper menu

- Cottage pie & peas
- Fruit crumble with custard



Children, bring your own adult with you!  
Cash donations on the door

SCAN THE QR CODE TO  
LET US KNOW YOU ARE COMING



VICTORIA SOUTAR

familyhub@beaconbenefice.org.uk

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Painswick Music Society Youth Spotlight Concert

Saturday 17th October
at 3pm at St Mary's Church



Our 80th Anniversary Celebrations continue with a special concert featuring highly talented young musicians from Gloucestershire. Three finalists from Gloucestershire Young Musician of the Year competition will each give a solo recital. The concert features:

Herbie Urquhart-Dixon - violin
Robin Nishimura - flute
Isla Fujioka - piano

Tickets £12.50: under 18s free
www.painswickmusicsoc.co.uk or pay at the door
Tell 07496 857888

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## A CHRISTIAN RESPONSE TO PALESTINE: SEEKING TRUTH, JUSTICE AND PEACE

led by the Revd Sue Parfitt with a screening of award-winning film:



**Led by Revd Sue Parfitt** with film *Where Olive Trees Weep*, followed by discussion, Q&A and reflection.  
**Prinknash Meeting Room (GL4 8EX) - Saturday 24 October 2026 | 10am–4pm**

The film explores life under Israeli occupation in the West Bank and Gaza, sharing stories of trauma, resilience, dignity and nonviolent resistance. Revd Sue Parfitt is an Anglican priest and Christian activist who has campaigned for peace and justice in Palestine for many years.

Bring a packed lunch or pre-order at the café. **All faiths and none warmly welcome. Donations welcome** to cover costs and support humanitarian efforts in Palestine. **Booking advised – limited space:**

[moira.govan@gmail.com](mailto:moira.govan@gmail.com) 07498 797252

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HARVEST LUNCH AT CRANHAM

Please join us for our Harvest service in the church and a shared lunch in the village hall afterwards and please let us know you are coming! Click on the poster or [here](#) to book your place!



Benefice All Souls Service

Everyone is welcome to come to this special service as we pause to remember our loved ones who have died.

If you would like the name of a loved one to be read out during the service or have any questions, please email Anna in the

Benefice office

beaconbenefice@gmail.com.

YOU ARE WARMLY INVITED TO OUR

All Souls Service



Sunday 1st November
at 3pm

ST MARY'S CHURCH, PAINSWICK

A service of remembrance and hope,
for all who have lost someone.

If you would like the name of a loved one to be read out during
the service or have any questions, please email

beaconbeneficeoffice@gmail.com.

SPECIAL
EVENT

REMEMBRANCE
SUNDAY



IN MONTY'S FOOTSTEPS

8TH NOVEMBER, 3PM

A rare chance to hear Henry Montgomery share the remarkable
human stories uncovered on his journey retracing his grandfather's
footsteps through Britain and Normandy.

"Insightful. Moving. Unmissable."

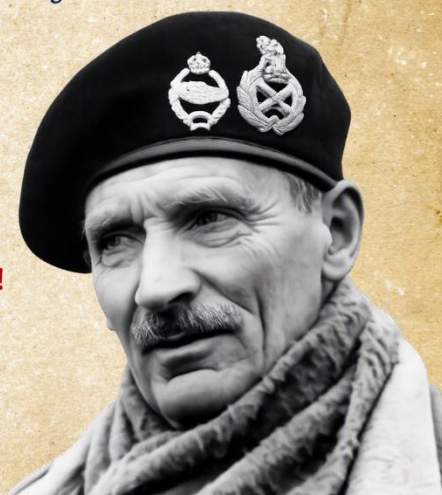


Book Your Tickets Now!

£10 each

All profits are for The British
Normandy Memorial

BEACON
BENEFICE



In Monty's Footsteps – a Special Remembrance Sunday Event

This Remembrance **Sunday, 8th November at 3pm**, St Mary's Painswick welcomes Henry Montgomery, grandson of Field Marshal Bernard Law Montgomery and a Trustee of the British Normandy Memorial.

Inspired by the extraordinary weeks before D-Day, when his grandfather travelled across Britain to meet troops, visit training exercises and factories, and help raise morale, Henry undertook a remarkable journey of his own.

Over eight weeks, Henry retraced his grandfather's footsteps through Britain and Normandy, uncovering the personal and human stories behind D-Day and the Normandy Campaign. His journey was undertaken in honour of the 22,540 names on the British Normandy Memorial and to support the Memorial's educational work.

Come and hear Henry share the stories, experiences and reflections from his journey, remembering the enormous collective effort, and individual sacrifices, that shaped one of the most significant moments in our history.

Sunday 8th November | 3pm | St Mary's Church, Painswick

Tickets £10 – book via the QR code on the poster, click on the poster or [click this link](#).

"In Monty's Footsteps" is also available as a podcast on Spotify.

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### Thinking about Confirmation?

Confirmation is a special opportunity publicly to affirm your Christian faith and your desire to follow Jesus.

If you've ever wondered whether Confirmation might be something for you, or you're simply curious and would like to know more, **Revd Sarah would be delighted to hear from you**. She'd be very happy to have a chat, answer any questions and talk through what confirmation might look like — with no pressure or commitment.

It would be lovely to hear from anyone who is interested, whether you're a young person or an adult.

Please get in touch with the office [beaconbeneficeoffice@gmail.com](mailto:beaconbeneficeoffice@gmail.com)

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Community Lunches are Back This Autumn!

Friends, this is a fantastic opportunity to meet and share lunch with neighbours and friends, new and old. Please have a think about which neighbours you may know who would appreciate an invitation to an affordable (pay as you feel), simple lunch in a relaxed setting.

Thanks meanwhile go to the Monday Walkers Group who will be preparing and serving the first lunch, on Monday 26th October at Painswick Town Hall.

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**Painswick Community Support**  
presents

# Community Lunches

Homemade Soups

## 2026 Autumn dates

|                           |                                 |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 26 <sup>th</sup> October  | Monday Walkers                  |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> November  | Painswick Local History Society |
| 9 <sup>th</sup> November  | Painswick Dog Training          |
| 16 <sup>th</sup> November | Library Book Club               |
| 23 <sup>rd</sup> November | Painswick Community Support     |
| 30 <sup>th</sup> November | Painswick Parish Council        |
| 7 <sup>th</sup> December  | Painswick Valley Christian Aid  |

**When** Mondays 12 – 1.15pm  
**What** Homemade soups, cheese, bread & butter. Tea and Coffee available  
**Where** Painswick Town Hall

Served by community groups

Pay as you feel  
(Cash only please – all donations for charity)

In association with Painswick Parish Council



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

Please email:

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

## AUTUMN HOUSEGROUPS

|                               |                                                                                                                                              |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>MON</b><br><b>7PM</b>      | <b>PAUL &amp; NIKI:</b><br>Fortnightly at The Church Rooms, Painswick<br>paulangie.ryan@gmail.com<br>nicoletta.babbs88@gmail.com             |
| <b>MON</b><br><b>7PM</b>      | <b>ANTHEA &amp; PAULINE:</b><br>Fortnightly at No.8 Gyde House, Painswick<br>anthea.glibbery@gmail.com<br>paulinebaylissjones@btinternet.com |
| <b>TUES</b><br><b>3PM</b>     | <b>HELEN &amp; ALASTAIR:</b><br>Fortnightly at Windycot, Cranham<br>helen.sammon@gmail.com                                                   |
| <b>WED</b><br><b>10.30 AM</b> | <b>PAUL &amp; ANGIE:</b><br>Weekly at Timbercombe Cottage, Jacks Green, Sheepscome<br>paulangie.ryan@gmail.com                               |
| <b>WED</b><br><b>7.30 PM</b>  | <b>VICS &amp; KATE:</b><br>Fortnightly at Merienda, Cranham<br>curate@beaconbenefice.org.uk<br>familyhub@beaconbenefice.org.uk               |
| <b>THUR</b><br><b>2PM</b>     | <b>MIKE &amp; LINDSAY:</b><br>Fortnightly at The Church Rooms, Painswick<br>mike@mc-cc.co.uk<br>lindsay.gardiner@icloud.com                  |

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.

There is also, in addition to the Well, a Fellowship Group that meets in various locations around the Benefice on the first Tuesday of each month usually at 7.30 pm. For more info contact Helen Sammon on [helen.sammon@gmail.com](mailto:helen.sammon@gmail.com)

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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.

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## 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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## 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?



Brookthorpe



Cranham



Edae



Harescombe



Painswick **New**



Pitchcombe **New**



Sheepscombe

*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.***

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

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### FROM THE ROCOCO GARDENS:

As the evenings draw in, the scarce days of spectacular autumn sunlight become even more precious. The colourful flowers in the Exedra Garden continue to bloom until the first frosts, and the autumn leaves of native and exotic tree species look particularly spectacular this month, as they begin to turn to warm golds and reds, revealing more of the garden wildlife as they fall.



From **1<sup>st</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> October**, visitors can celebrate Rococo Garden as a historic, working garden. Its Georgian kitchen garden is home to a cornucopia of heritage fruit and vegetable varieties, including some familiar favourites and others that may be more unusual. A seasonal display in the Bothy will showcase the autumn harvest, with a wide variety of produce also available to purchase from the shop.

During October half term, the garden will be open daily from **24<sup>th</sup> October to 1<sup>st</sup> November**, with the *Big Bat Trail*, a family-friendly trail offering the chance to explore the Garden, discover fascinating facts about bats and enjoy some autumn fun along the way.

The garden is open **Wednesday to Sunday, 10am to 5pm**, with last admission at 4pm. During half term, it will be open daily.



## 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.

**Rhiannon Parker**, the Fraud Protection Officer for Gloucestershire  
Constabulary, will give a talk at the Pitchcombe coffee morning  
at **10.30am** on **Tuesday 13th October** in the church.  
All welcome

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Church Contacts

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

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

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

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

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

Painswick Pastoral Team: 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** 10.00am – 5.00pm

**Edge** 8.00am – 5.00pm

**Painswick** 9.00am – 6.30pm

**Harescombe** always open

**Pitchcombe** 9.00am – 5.00pm

**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.