

Whimble News



Christmas 2016

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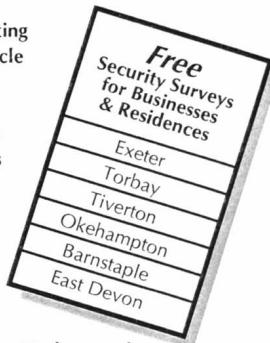


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| Friday 9th December: | EVENTINE |
| Friday 16th December : | THE WYNDHAM SINGERS 7.30pm |
| Sunday 18th December: | MAGGIE REEDAY 4.00pm - 6.00pm |
| NEW YEAR'S EVE: | STILETTO £7: Tickets Only |
| Sunday 15th January: | CASTLETOWN 4.00pm - 6.00pm |
| Friday 27th January: | WOOD PRYERS |



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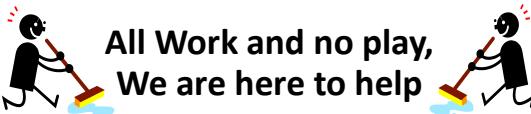
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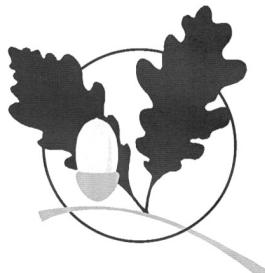
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at Brickyard Cottage, Whimple EX5 2PP
on 01404 822655 evenings & weekends

What's On In Whimble

December 2016

- 10th Christmas Fun Day for Children, Victory Hall 9.30am - 12.30pm; details page 28
- 10th Front Row Club film, Victory Hall - 7.00pm for 7.30pm
- 10th History Society Christmas Lunch, Cricket club 12.00 noon
- 11th Whimble and Broadclyst Young Farmers Christmas Bingo, Victory Hall; details page 53
- 13th WI Christmas Party, Victory Hall
- 14th WI Christmas Lunch, Thirsty Farmer
- 17th Soup and Sarnie Christmas Special Victory Hall, 12.00 for 12.30pm; details page 14
- 18th Christmas Service, Cotley Farm - 9.00am
- 24th Christmas Eve Carols in the Square – 7.00pm; details page 21
- 31st New Year's Eve Celebrations in The Square - 11.45pm; details page 23

January 2017

- 10th Project launch and information evening for Community Theatre4All, St Mary's Church 7.30pm; details page 45
- 17th Wassail – starting at New Fountain 6.30pm for singing rehearsal, setting off at 7.00pm; details page 19
- 23rd VPA AGM, Victory Hall 7.30pm; details page 46
- 28th Soup and Sarnie, Victory Hall 12.00 noon – 1.30pm
- 28th PreSchool Quiz and Curry - Victory Hall; details page 10

February 2017

- 3rd On a Whim Promotions present Gaz Brookfield at the Victory Hall; doors open 6.30pm; see posters for details
- 16th The Whimpletons present 'The Witches of Whimble at the Victory Hall Evening performance 7.30pm; details page 12
- 17th The Whimpletons present 'The Witches of Whimble at the Victory Hall Evening performance 7.30pm; details page 12
- 18th The Whimpletons present 'The Witches of Whimble at the Victory Hall Matinee performance 2.00pm; details page 12
- 18th The Whimpletons present 'The Witches of Whimble at the Victory Hall Evening performance 7.30pm; details page 12

April 2017

- 22nd A rehearsed reading of T.S. Elliot's 'The Four Quartets', St Mary's Church; details page 45

If your Association has an event which you would like listed in 'What's on...' please contact **Ed Hitchcock** on 823194 or e-mail edhitch@btinternet.com.

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Ed the Ed

Welcome to the Christmas/January edition of your Whimple News.

Thank you to everyone who so keenly responded to the advert for a deliverer vacancy in the last edition – I was delighted with quantity and speed of those responses! And thank you to our dedicated team of deliverers who battle through the elements to get this to you every couple of months.

We are off to the wedding of Peter and Vicky Bartlett-Horwood this weekend and it triggered memories of something I was involved with at friends' weddings when I had hair – when the best man had delivered his speech, a number of us suddenly stood up with score cards for his performance. No, I didn't do that to Pete Salter, the best man this weekend! And at the other end of the scale, just to provide some balance, a husband of a couple just celebrating 50 years together was asked what he hoped for, and he replied that if he got married again, he would like a speaking part.

You will see that this edition contains the first advert for the 2017 pantomime which has escaped from Neil Walker. The script, as ever, is meaningless and can only seen as a guide to the start and finish of the performance. It may be safely forgotten, or deviated from, if the cast think they can do better (you would never see Miles and me do that in our hey day!)

You will see that the village shop is gearing up for Christmas – see pages 8 to 10 – so glad I never put my hand up for Post Office duties! We had a surprise find in the shop a few weeks ago – on kneeling down and looking under the display shelves, (an annual event) we found a metal shoe horn! And as we don't sell shoes, that confused us! Perhaps it is an omen of future customer needs....

Good luck also with the selection of 11plus questions (pages 42-43) that Helicopter John found in his loft recently. We hope you enjoy the article reflecting a lovely chat I had with the ever-young Pam Brooks.

2017 looks like it will be busy with articles on the Unearth Project which sounds very exciting, and the Community Theatre 4All (page 45).

Looking forward to doing the full Wassail on 17th January with you – I hear that this year's crop of apples has been very good, so the Wassail can take the credit for that! I have had an early Christmas present in that my latest blood test, after my prostate cancer adventure earlier this year, showed normal which is great news for me and the current Mrs H.

If you would like to contribute to the Whimple News, then please either email Bob on bob.scanlan@eclipse.co.uk or drop it in the post box at Dairy Cottage opposite the New Fountain by 11th January – thank you.

The Whimple News team wish you and your families a happy and safe Christmas and New Year.

Ed H

Looking forward to Christmas, don't forget you can avoid the Christmas Eve queues in the supermarkets by ordering your fruit, veg, bread, dairy and other provisions with us. We can have your order ready for collection on Christmas Eve and you can enjoy a mince pie and glass of mulled wine with us. Order sheets will be available and the shop will be open until noon on Christmas Eve.

Our fruit and veg comes from Dart Fresh who have a large range available. Bread comes from Shauls bakery and our dairy products are supplied by Ross Cottey. We were all very sad that Ashclyst Dairy ceased trading and even sadder that it has proved so difficult to find a local milk supply. Most local dairy farmers send their milk away for production so we are currently stocking Rodda's milk and cream from Cornwall and Bruton Dairy Organic milk from Somerset. Ross is also able to offer a 'cream by post' service and paperwork will be available in the shop. He can also provide goat and ewes milk on request.

Before Christmas we have some lovely cards, wrapping paper and goodies and if you are after a specific item we can try to source it for you, so please feel free to talk to us.

As usual over the Christmas period we will open most days so that you have the opportunity to pop in for newspapers and essentials.

Post Office

The last posting dates are in the shop window or can be accessed on the Royal Mail website. We also have a range of leaflets in store to help.

Tuesday 20th December is the last day for 2nd Class post.

Wednesday 21st is the last day for 1st Class post.

Thursday 22nd is the last day for special delivery options or Friday 23rd if using the Saturday guaranteed service.

We expect to be busier than usual in the Post Office and we only have one terminal to use so it is difficult to speed up the process. However, if you are in the queue and just want stamps, come to the shop till and we will try to serve you there. Similarly we will have a size guide at the shop till if you just need to check sizes.

As more mail is being put onto flights the security questions are essential to ensure safety for all involved in the delivery process. You will be asked at least 5 questions to ensure you are getting the correct service and your parcel is safe to send:

Where are you sending your mail? We need to know this to give you the correct price for overseas services.

When do you need it to get there? 1st class post is estimated to take 1 day, 2nd class is estimated to take 2-3 days but neither is guaranteed. If you need something to arrive the next day there is a special guaranteed service that can get it there by 9am or 1pm the next day. Prices for this service start from £6.45 and increase if a Saturday guarantee is required.

What is inside the parcel? It is essential that we know what is inside the parcel as it is our responsibility to ensure it is safe to post. To ensure safety we have to ask this question and we have to ask you to put your sender details on your parcels. Without this information we are unable to accept a parcel. There are of course some items that can't be posted and a full list is available in store or on line. This time of year it is worth highlighting things such as restrictions on perfumes, nail varnishes and alkaline batteries which can only be posted if they are in their original packaging. It is generally things that can become flammable or are potentially dangerous when handled so if you are unsure, please ask us for guidance.

What is the value of the goods? We need to know this to ensure you get the correct compensation should your parcel get lost. Normal 1st and 2nd class mail would give you £20 compensation. The signed for service would give you £50 compensation. Neither of these options would cover any cash, gift cards or jewellery posted. If you were sending these items or anything worth more than £50 you should be using the Parcelforce options which cover large parcels up to £100 or special delivery which covers goods up to £500. Both of these options can have the compensation value increased at an additional cost providing the goods are permitted for that service.

Would you like a signature? If you want to know when an item has been received you can opt for the signed for service. This post is treated as 1st or 2nd class mail but it needs to be signed for on delivery and you have a reference number you can use to see when it has been received. If you need to track an item you would need the Parcelforce or special delivery options as this mail is kept separate from the other mail and you have a reference number that can be tracked throughout the mailing process.

The Christmas stamps this year are red robins for 1st class mail and blue snowmen for 2nd class. There is also a small supply of 1st and 2nd class Madonna and Child stamps available. Christmas stamps are available in books of 12 only or we have them loose as well.

For overseas cards it is worth mentioning that once the card goes over 20g in weight the price band increases. For cards under 20g going to Europe the cost is £1.05 and this increases to £1.52 for letters from 21-100g. For cards under 10g going to the rest of the world the cost is £1.05 and this increases to £1.33 up to 11-20g and then £2.25 21-100g.

Please feel free to come in and use the scales to check weights if you have lots to send or talk to us about the best options available to you. Size matters also so please check this with us. You can send a UK parcel weighing under 2kg up to 45x35x16cm in size for as little as £2.85 (2nd class). If the parcel is still under 2kg but is bigger so measures up to a maximum of 61x46x46cm the price increases to £4.95 2nd class. Once the parcel goes over 2kg the prices increase significantly so come in and talk to us or just use our scales and guides to help you calculate postage charges.

The whole postal service sounds complicated but we are happy to help. We do have to ask questions but this is to ensure safety and to help you. (cont'd)



Don't forget that the Post Office won't be open when the shop is only open for two hours. Otherwise the Post Office is open the same times as the shop. Cash withdrawals at the Post Office have no charges and most banks are supported (cash cannot be withdrawn on credit cards or cashpoint cards).

From all of the team at Whimble Stores we look forward to seeing you over the Christmas period and we hope you all have a relaxing and happy holiday.

Mark and Jenny 822316



**Whimble Pre-school
Presents**

QUIZ & CURRY

When?

Saturday 28th January 2017



Where?

The Victory Hall, Whimble



What time?

Doors open from 7pm for a 7.30pm start

How much are the tickets?

£10 per person

Team size?

Maximum of 8 people per team

Where can I get tickets?

**Available in Whimble Stores from
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Licensed Bar available on the night



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Mark, Jenny and Team



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General groceries	Banking services	Fresh coffee selection
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FRIDAY 17TH FEB 7.30PM

SAT 18TH FEB 7.30PM

MATINEE SATURDAY 2.00PM

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Appley Christmas!



..and a Happy New Year

Munchkins Miniature Shetland Rescue



Hello my name is Star

On behalf of my friends at Munchkins Miniature Shetland Rescue I would like to say a big thank you to the people of Whimble for putting their spare change in our collecting box in The Whimble Stores.

This money is really important to us as most of us have come from backgrounds of ill treatment or neglect so our vet and farrier bills are higher than usual. Some of us need regular medication and also hoof trims due to laminitis (a painful, inflammatory disease of the hoof which Shetlands are prone to).

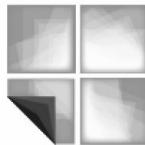
We live outside with shelters and don't eat a lot but we need hay throughout the winter when the grass is not growing and our oldies need feeds every day through winter to keep them going so money is always an issue despite lots of fund raising during the summer.

We are a very happy herd and are grateful to Tammy and Paul, along with their merry band of volunteers, for a safe, loving home for life if we need it (some of my better behaved friends can be adopted so room is made for other Shetlands needing rescue).

If you would like to know more about us please go to our website:

www.mini-munchkins.org

or find us on Facebook.



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Councillors Report

I write this report at a desk full of paper, reports and emailed opinions. The recent decision by the local Care Commissioning Group to save money by reducing the number of community hospital beds has given rise to an exceptional rebellion. I was asked to lead a small group from EDDC in order to prepare a response to the CCG and government. We have tried to be understanding but our conclusion is that the CCG have put patients at risk and the process must be abandoned until the properly staffed care in the community packages and processes are in place. We will not turn our backs on the process but will continue to work towards a proper and safe solution.



Sadly I have also learned that Sara Randall-Johnson has stepped down from the Village Neighbourhood Plan Team. She picked up this project and set it on course, especially arguing for a defined parish boundary. The additional workload that resulted has meant she seeks someone to join the committee and to help move this forward. If you feel that you might like to have a go please tell John Griffiths.

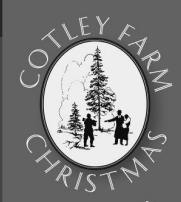
Everything happens in threes and last night was no exception as the heavens opened and the first real storm of the winter dumped inches of rain over Devon. The sheer weight of water flooded many small and isolated homes and some roads remain blocked including the B3177 at Otter Nurseries and the B3180 at Woodbury (by a fallen tree). In general East Devon was not badly hit but a number of homes in the village were overwhelmed for a variety of reasons. Please tell me if you cannot find the support you need to repair the damage.

Furthermore the parish has been asked to comment on the future make up of our parish and East Devon ward boundaries. It has been determined that EDDC will have one extra councillor (60) each representing approximately 2100 electors (between 1900 and 2300) in a district expected to have a voting public of 125,880 – including Exmouth (our largest town) and Cranbrook (our newest town). The choices for Whimple include our existing match with Talaton, a move to share with Rockbeare instead and other options involving Ottery Rural, Clyst St Lawrence and Clyst Hydon. Personally I believe that our existing match with Talaton is working very well and I have voiced (and written) my opinion. Please go to the East Devon Website follow the links and make your concerns and opinions known.

As I write this in mid November, it seems odd but this is the last village news to appear before Christmas. In which case I wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Peter

email: pbowden@eastdevon.gov.uk or peter.bowden@devon.gov.uk Tel: 823450



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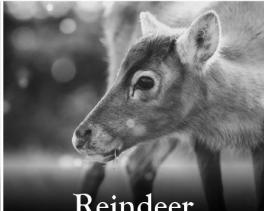
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Wassailing

Tuesday 17th January 2017

This year's wassailing will start at the New Fountain Inn at about 6.30pm. for the usual rehearsal. We will then move off at about 7.00pm for the first wassail ceremony, which will be around the Society's Whimple Wonder tree which is in the car park behind the Heritage Centre. We will then proceed up Church Road to Lower Woodhayes Orchard for the second wassail ceremony and will then move back to the Square, via Dince Hill Close, where we will gather near the tethering stone to remember the Society's first Chairman, John Shepherd. We will then continue along Town Lane and Broadclyst Road to the orchard adjacent to Knowle Cross Farm for the third and final ceremony of the evening, courtesy of Jim and Mary Chard. The last port of call will be at the Cricket Club for traditional wassail refreshments. We would urge everyone to enter into the spirit of the evening by wearing traditional dress and bringing 'instruments' that will make sufficient noise to waken the trees and ward off the evil spirits in the apple trees. Wassailing Mugs and T-shirts will be on sale on the evening.

FIRST TWO VERSES OF THE WASSAIL SONG FOR TUESDAY 17th JANUARY

(We always sing the first two verses of the Wassail song , copies of which are handed out on the night. Here is your very own copy to bring with you! You can now practice your singing over the next few weeks!)

A-Wassail, a-wassail! The Moon she shines down;
Our apple s are ripe and our nuts they are brown,
Whence thou mayest bud, dear old apple tree,
And whence thou mayest bear, we sing unto thee.

Chorus.....
With our wassail, wassail, wassail!
And joy come to our jolly wassail!

O apple tree prosper, bud, bloom and bear,
So we may have plenty of cider next year.
And where there's a barrel, we hope there'll be ten,
That we may have cider when we come again.

Chorus.....
With our wassail, wassail, wassail!
And joy come to our jolly wassail!



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Christmas Eve Carols

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Villages in Action Rural Heritage project

Unearth – Discovering the Hidden Histories of Devon’s Rural Communities.

Between now and July next year, Villages in Action will be working in Whimble on an exciting, new heritage project called ‘Unearth’.

Village in Action (ViA) is the rural touring scheme for Devon – that means that they organise performances and projects to take place in villages from East Devon to West Devon, and from Mid Devon to South Hams. You may have been to a ViA show in the Victory Hall?

ViA have recently been successful in obtaining a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund to coordinate the **Unearth** heritage project taking place across two years in eight villages and Whimble is one of the eight!

The Unearth project will help villages to explore, share and celebrate their fascinating local history.

Each village will look at the history that is already known and will take part in further research supported by partner heritage organisations - the South West Film and TV archive and the Devon Heritage Centre - to unearth local happenings, stories, customs and traditions, including a focus on any stories connected to each village hall. The Film and TV archive will be visiting Whimble to run a film evening in the new year where they will show archive footage, TV clips and more associated with Whimble and the surrounding area.

After the research has been completed, the Whimble stories will be shared with musicians, actors and artists who will then work together to create a multi-media performance piece to be performed in the Victory Hall in the Summer of 2017.

So, watch out for details in the Whimble News of the film show and the final show.

If you are interested in finding out more information about the project or would like to know how you can become involved contact the Unearth project co-ordinator, **Kate Green** on villagesinaction@gmail.com or phone on 07976 712849

Thanks from Jan Begent

I want to say a heartfelt “Thank you” to everyone for their help, their cards and their good wishes at the time of my sudden illness. I am now on the road to recovery. The friendship I have experienced in this village is truly wonderful. **Jan**

New Year's Eve 2016

Come and join us in the Square at around 11.45pm on New Year's Eve

Bring candles to light your way. Hear the church clock chime midnight

The church bells will be rung to welcome the New Year

Mulled wine will be served in The Square

We will sing 'Auld Lang Syne' together

(The church will be open)

Mark and Sally will once again serve mulled wine from No. 1 The Square – next door to Whimple Stores. Donations of wine will be gratefully accepted! Please deliver to No.1 The Square or to Whimple Stores.

Thank you

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In Memory of Albert Victor Carder

"Thank you" to everyone for their kind support and messages of sympathy in remembrance of Albert. Thank you to Chris for making the service so special, to Gwen for such glorious music, and to everyone who came to the service to remember him. Your kind donations have helped to raise a fantastic amount of money for Hospiscare and St Mary's Church, Whimple.

It was a wonderfully sunny day and the Church was beautifully decorated in preparation for the Harvest Festival service - one of his favourite times of year.

A final thank you must go to Geoffrey Gardner and Chris Martin for their numerous visits to Albert - he so looked forward to these, and to everyone who attended the Monday coffee mornings with him as he thoroughly enjoyed spending time with you all.

Albert is sorely missed by us all but will be standing beside us always.

Lin and Family

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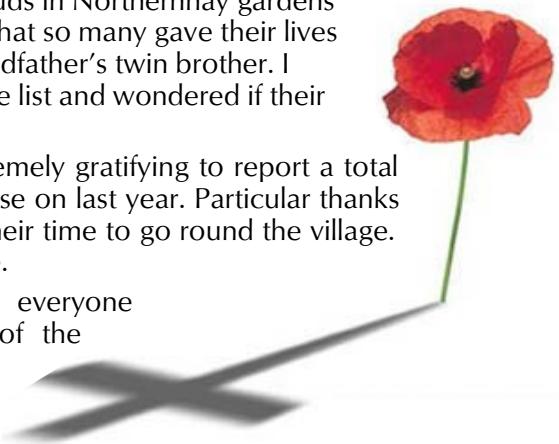
POPPY APPEAL 2016

On behalf of the British Legion I sincerely thank all the people of Whimble for their generous donations. This year especially on the centenary of the Battle of the Somme, I visited the shrouds in Northernhay gardens and it was a very moving experience, that so many gave their lives on just that one day. One was my grandfather's twin brother. I wonder how many others looked at the list and wondered if their relatives were amongst them.

In these times of uncertainty it is extremely gratifying to report a total raised of £1,545.46 which is an increase on last year. Particular thanks go to all the collectors who gave up their time to go round the village. It all keeps the worthwhile charity alive.

Once again my sincere thanks to everyone involved to make such a success of the Poppy Appeal for 2016.

Fiona Clarke

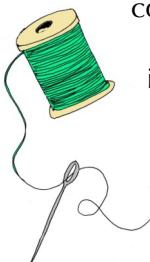


Whimbletons - help needed

Plans are well on the way for the next Pantomime in February.

This year I am trying to get in early and ask for some help please.

We are looking for any one who feels that they would be able to help out in some way back stage, making props, painting and most of all helping with the costumes.



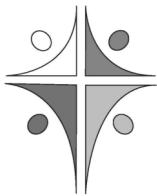
We would in particular love to hear from anyone who has imagination and creativity when it comes to deciding what costumes our cast will be wearing.

In the past, the lovely Sue Draycott has taken the lead with a very small team of helpers, but this year we are letting her out of the sweat shop and unchaining her from the sewing machine-we are allowing her to have a well deserved break so that she can enjoy the panto from the other side of the curtains.

So, if you would like to step forward or become part of a team of people who could help put the costumes together please contact me by phone or email as soon as possible to have a chat. or speak to Sue .

Cathy Bartlett-Horwood





Churches 4 All

Whimple - Talaton
Clyst Hydon - Clyst St Lawrence

WHIMPLE CHURCH

www.whimplechurch.org

Thank you to everyone for all your support during 2016. Events such as the Morning Coffee, Men's and Women's Breakfasts and Annual Fete have all been well attended and have all provided an opportunity for fellowship. Thank you also to all those people who have supported our various charities during 2016 including the donation of Shoeboxes for the annual appeal by Samaritan's Purse. Details of all the various charities that St Mary's supports can be found at the back of the Church.

Once again St. Mary's Church is indebted to the ladies of Whimple who have kindly made cakes for, and served at the Saturday morning coffee and cakes in church from May to September. Needless to say that without our customers the whole venture would be pointless, so it is a big thank you to everybody for their support. The mornings have proved to be most enjoyable and I know that a lot of people miss the stroll to the 'coffee shop' on a Saturday for a chat.

December is a very busy time for the Church. This year many organisations seem to be finishing even earlier to give their staff a break. Please spare a thought for all those people who have to work over this busy period to help you enjoy the festive season, especially those working in the Emergency services.

As usual there are lots of activities taking place. This year's Christmas Fun Day for primary school aged children will be on Saturday 10th December in the Victory Hall from 9.30am until 12.30pm. There will be Christmas crafts, songs, games, stories and lots of fun! Meanwhile parents can do those important pre-Christmas jobs that they want to do without having children in tow! Prior booking is preferred. Booking forms are available from the Village Shop or you can book a place by ringing Dianne Goodwin on 823476 or Rosie Davies on 823356.



Our Christingle Service this year is at 4.00pm on Sunday 11th December. This is an informal service particularly suitable for children, when we celebrate Jesus as The Light of the World. It will be followed by a Cake Sale in aid of the Children's Society

This year's Christmas Celebration Service is at 9.30am on Sunday 18th December. Helen and Lester Bowker have kindly agreed to host the service at Cotley Farm. This is another informal style service designed to appeal to all ages. Join us for a Bring and Share Breakfast from 9.00am.

In the evening we will be holding our Christmas Carol Service which will be followed by Mulled Wine and Mince Pies.

Please welcome our Carol Singers again this year as they sing in part of the village. The actual date has still to be finalised but full details will be on the website. If you would like to join them to sing or play a musical instrument please contact Gerri Turner on 822587. We would also welcome non singers to help us with the collection



There will be a Midnight Communion service at 11.00pm on Christmas Eve, (please note the earlier time) and on Christmas Day at 11.00am we have our Family Service with Carols. There are also a variety of other services at Talaton and Clyst St Lawrence. The Link (Churches 4 All magazine) and Christmas cards distributed around the village, list the full details. On Sunday 1st January there will be no service in Whimble. Instead there will be a Mission Community Service at Clyst Hydon.

Details of all the services and various activities can be found on our website:

www.churches4all.org

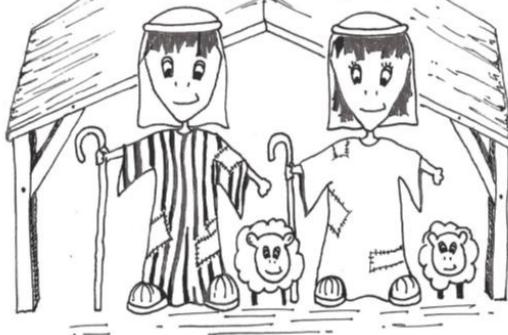
The Parochial Church Council on behalf of Whimble Church wish you a joyful Christmas and New Year.

St Mary's Church, Whimble

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In THE NATIVITY BARN , COTLEY FARM

On Sunday 18th December



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(Reginald) HECTOR WHISTLER (1905-1978)

Hector was a painter, muralist and illustrator. He was born in Jersey, the son of Fred and Blanche Whistler attending Victoria College with his brother John. He trained as an architect but before his 20th birthday he was commissioned as a Lieutenant in the Royal Jersey Light Infantry, before attending Ruskin College, Oxford.

However, during the early 1930's he came to Whimple lodging at Riverview (Brook House) with Mrs. Edith Salter (Mallett family). His presence has been recorded on the electoral roll for 1932 and 1933 .

He put his artistic and draughtsman talents to use designing for J.A.R. Stevenson at The Devon Smithy. One Christmas the Whimple Post Office was adorned with a substantial crayon drawing of Father Christmas surrounded by toys. Four of his other works completed in the village survive, including 'Whistler's landlady'.

He then attended classes at Slade school of Art of University College in London.

After completing war service as a Squadron Leader in Bomber Command he spent much of his later life in the West Indies, mainly in Barbados where he trained and then encouraged local artists. However, his painting of the Black Christ proved controversial. Amongst other works are portraits of Mr. Norman Manley, Jamaica's, PM, HRH Princess Alice , Countess of Athlone (1955). At his 1957 exhibition , HRH Prince Philip commissioned a set of eight water colour fantasies. Murals were undertaken; an example of trompe l'oeil can be seen at Mottisfont Abbey, Hants.

Mike Mallett

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A Merry

Christmas opening hours

		St Mary's Church Special Services	Post Office	Whimble Stores
Saturday	December 24th 2016	11.00pm Midinight Communion	8.00am - noon	8.00am - noon
Sunday	December 25th 2016	11.00am Family Service with Carols	Closed	Closed
Monday	December 26th 2016		Closed	9.00am -11.00am
Tuesday	December 27th 2016		Closed	9.00am -11.00am
Wednesday	December 28th 2016			
Thursday	December 29th 2016			
Friday	December 30th 2016			
Saturday	December 31st 2016		8.00am - 1.00pm	8.00am - 1.00pm
Sunday	January 1st 2017	No Service	Closed	9.00am-11.00am
Monday	January 2nd 2017			

From the Whimble

Christmas

s (normal if blank)

Whimble Surgery	Ottery Surgery	New Fountain Inn	Thirsty Farmer	Milestone Garage
		noon - 2.00pm 6.30pm-11.00pm	noon - midnight	6.00am - 9.00pm
		11.00am - 1.00pm (booked food only)	noon - 2.00pm (no food)	10.00am - 2.00pm
Closed	Closed	noon - 3.00pm (no food)	Closed	
Closed	Closed	Closed	noon - 11.30pm	
		Closed	noon - 11.30pm	
		Closed	noon - 11.30pm	
		noon - 3.00pm 6.30pm - 11.00pm	noon-11.30pm	
		noon - 3.00pm 6.30pm - 12.30am	noon - 1.00am	6.00am - 8.00pm
		Closed	Closed	8.00am -10.00pm
Closed	Closed	Closed	noon - 2.30pm 6.00pm - 11.00pm	

News Team

A conversation with Pam Brooks



Pam was born in Budlake in 1932; her grandfather was a gamekeeper to the Acklands who owned the Killerton estate. Her father got a job at Whiteways in Whimble and used to cycle there from Budlake until Whiteways offered him accommodation at Barnshayes just by the Cobden lane railway bridge; Pam was three, and can remember the flooding that used to happen under that bridge, also by Strawberry Lane and in The Green. Pam and her sister Pat, (younger by 2 years) would have to walk alongside the railway line to get to Whimble when the local lanes were under water. So flooding is nothing new!

During the war, the family had to move out of the up-stairs rooms because they took in a family of evacuees, as did other houses in Whimble. The village school was fully stretched coping with this influx of children from mainly London and Bristol. Pam (in her lofty role as a prefect) can remember taking the class register from the school to the overflow classroom which was in Redler House in Church Road. Pam was aged seven when war broke out, and she can remember recognising the engine noises of the German bombers as they flew overhead, and then going under the stairs for protection. She can also remember waving at all the troop trains that passed Barnshayes. During that time, she and Pat would put on concerts for the entertainment of other children, and once even wrote a play. Her mother would provide lemonade and cakes for the 'audiences'. Pam and Pat would play with other children from The Farm, and their Dad made them hockey sticks and cricket bats.

Pam loved school, and played netball, rounders and stool ball... Not one to hold a grudge, Pam still remembers Sheila Wills (nee Ware) beating her at the high jump on a regular basis...perhaps time for a re-match? Pam also joined the Brownies, the Girl Guides and the St John's Ambulance, and found time to be the Gymkhana Princess one year! The school was also involved in a music festival which was held at Poltimore House when it was a school. I was interested to learn that the school playgrounds in Whimble were separated into one for boys, and one for girls!

Their Dad, who had been in the Territorial Army before the war, joined the 8th Devons where he trained troops. Her brother, Jim, joined the Fleet Air Arm and was posted to such diverse places as the Russian convoys and Singapore! He eventually ended up in Australia where he married and settled.

Pam left Whimble School at 14, and went to the Fulfords Commercial College in Queen Street where she learned shorthand typing and book-keeping. In those days, her parents had to pay for everything connected with her course – travel on the train and all her books. Pam passed her exams and her first job was with Stones the solicitors in Northernhay Place where she worked on probate.

Pam met her husband to be, Owen Brooks, at one of the regular dances that were held in the village, where he taught her to do 'The Lancers' when she was 14, and they officially started 'walking out' when she was 16. They got married when Pam was twenty, at St Mary's Church here in Whimble, on 14th June 1952.

Unfortunately, the church organ was being repaired and Pam believes that they had a piano for their music. Owen was working on a farm at Clyst St Lawrence; there wasn't any farm accommodation available, so they lived in a caravan for the early part of their marriage. However, Pam and Owen loved it there. Their next home was the first council house to be built in Clyst St Lawrence. Owen was promoted to farm manager at Clapp Mill Farm (on the Clyst St Lawrence to Clyst Hydon road). Once their daughter, Karen, had started school, Pam went to work at Whiteways, first part time and then moving to full time. Sadly, Owen died in 1982 aged 55, and they had to leave the farm, so Pam and Karen moved to the small group of houses near Whimple known as 'The Farm'. In 1989, they moved to Rose Cottage.

In 1986 Pam was made redundant from Whiteways when the accounting work was moved to Victoria Wines as part of the Allied Group, who had bought Whiteways by then. Pam obtained a job with Cooksley Estate Agents in Exeter, and over the years she worked at different property management firms until she retired at age 75. Pam proudly told me that she learned to use a computer when she was 70!

Pam remains fully independent, and is very grateful for her good health. She has always enjoyed her holidays, and for 25 years, she and her good friend Edna Carthew would go on holiday together, sometimes 2 or 3 times a year! Pam now takes holidays with her sister Pat – in recent years they have stopped going abroad and take the easier option of organised coach tours in the UK. Pam loves cooking, reading and crosswords and is a willing helper with the children's reading on Monday afternoons when she lends a listening ear to the children up at the school. She loves the fact that she gets invited to trips out with the children, and is looking forward to this Christmas at Killerton with Grimms' Fairy Tales!

Ed H

Tony Thomas

It is with deep sadness that we inform our readers of the death of a well-recognised figure in Whimple - Tony Thomas - who passed away at his home on the 16th of November, he was aged just 54.

Tony lived in the village all his life, was a pupil at Whimple Primary School and worked at Whiteways Cider Factory, a true villager. He had been unwell for a number of years which meant the social part of his life that he enjoyed so much, including visits to The Thirsty Farmer or the New Fountain Inn, became a little too much. However, he could be seen walking to the village shop with the aid of a walking frame on a few occasions.

Many in the village will remember Tony for different reasons – possibly because his trousers didn't always meet his shoes, or because of his wicked throaty laugh or maybe you were entertained by one of his many stories but, ultimately, Tony will be remembered for his irreplaceable individuality.

We would like to pass on our sincere condolences to his family and friends at this sad time.

Peter Bartlett-Horwood

News From Your Local Pre-School

We have had a lovely term so far, the weather has been great for making the most of our garden this Autumn, the children have been busy sweeping up all the leaves! We had our harvest celebration where the children made bread rolls and sang songs about Autumn and harvest which they shared with their families.

We created lots of wonderful sparkly paintings that looked like firework displays, we had 'Pyjama Drama' to visit where we used our imagination to act out a story about building a bonfire and rescuing hedgehogs from it before it was lit. We are now starting to think about Christmas and have been writing our letters to Father Christmas and about to make our Christmas cakes.

Information...

We have spaces at preschool for children aged from 2 ½ to school age, please contact Jo Sibley on **07794 652549** to find out more about us.

There is also a breakfast club available.

Please visit our website – www.whimplepreschool.com for more information and to find out what we have been up to!



WHIMPLE
Pre-School
& Toddler Group

REMEMBER, if you are a keen gardener please purchase your seeds, plants & equipment online at...
www.littlegreensprouts.co.uk/whimple_pre_school_playgroup

Quiz & Curry Is Back!...

After Last Years Huge Success, our Quiz & Curry is returning on Saturday 28th January, with quiz master Tony Bickel, Tickets available at Whimple Stores from 2nd January,

As well as needing people to come and join in we will, as always be needing volunteers, so if you're a parent of a pre-school child please get involved! Hope to see you there, it's always a great night!



Dates to Remember...
Baby & Toddler Group
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Christmas Holidays
December 17th
- January 3rd



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Farewell to WRUG - but finally.

Those with long memories will recall that WRUG began at a gathering in the Thirsty Farmer in response to the reduced train from Whimple. The outcome was a desire to meet all the involved stakeholders to give our reactions while hearing their reasons and intentions for the future. You have been party to many of those.

During that time I have read many government, professional and commercial journals and papers on the Internet and elsewhere as I came to discover them, building a sense of where things were headed.

I spoke to Network Rail executives at exhibitions when there was no other way to reach them and from that beginning I was invited to, and attended, major industry exhibitions in London and Amersfort (Utrecht 2011), Milan (2015), Turin and Berlin (2016). The focus of all that came in our submission to the DfT earlier this year on the SWT franchise 2017. That process is going through now and I feel it is time for me to step back. For the moment our job is done. When the outcome is known and the franchise awarded, you may take a view whether WRUG continues to have a purpose. For the moment Prof Richard Betts has volunteered to hold the reins, and will attend Devon Rail Forum in Exeter when he can.

Following the stories last December of families with buggies going Christmas shopping being denied access to the train because there was no room, I decided to see how other Train Operators managed. Only last year I had photographed suburban train doors with Pram insignia and roll-on/off level access. I find this is now common on Metro, S-Bahn and many regional services across Germany, Italy and Switzerland. It is what Exeter needs for its 'Metro' services together with greater frequency.



This year I went to Turin and InnoTrans in Berlin, to speak to the designers and manufacturers of those trains - Alstom, Bombardier, Siemens, Stadler and Vivitrains. I have written a paper to the County Council through their Devon Rail Forum informing them of the spatial designs being widely adopted on high capacity services and how the needs of the travelling public are being put at the centre of developments by manufacturers for our near neighbours, the same companies that also supply the UK. So the obvious question is - when will we have some east of Exeter?

Roger Algate.

Thank you to everyone who bought the Father Christmas and lavender bags; also to the people who gave me Hollow Fibre Duvets and Pillows to recycle for filling toys, and to the friends who gave me white and pink yarn and lavender

A cheque for £150 has been given to the Ottery St Mary Trust.

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Otter Vale Friends of Hospiscare - Events

Friday December 16th

Coffee morning at 1 Potters Close, West Hill, by kind invitation of Mrs Rosemary Hudson. Please see posters for details nearer the time.

We also hope to be selling Christmas cards at the flu clinics at the Coleridge Medical Centre in Ottery. (Sorry for mentioning Christmas so soon!)

Rosemarie Burrows says "Thank you" to everyone who supported the recent coffee morning in The Victory Hall and gave so generously to Hospiscare. The event raised over £1,000 and Rosemarie extends that "Thank you" to everyone who helped make the event such a resounding success.



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Whimple Parish Council

A Defibrillator for Whimple

Whimple Parish Council intends to obtain a Defibrillator machine for the village. A defibrillator is a device that gives a high energy electric shock to the heart through the chest wall to someone who is having a heart attack. It can save their life. It requires no medical or specialist knowledge and is designed to be used by anyone. The machine guides the operator through the process by verbal instructions and visual prompts. It is safe and will not allow a shock to be given unless the heart's rhythm requires it.

The Victory Hall Committee has given permission for the machine to be sited on the outside of the Victory Hall and it will obviously be an advantage to everyone within the Parish.

It will cost in the region of £1,500 and any donations towards the initial outlay would be appreciated whether from businesses or individuals.

If you would like to make a donation please contact the clerk, Gerri Turner, on whimpleparishcouncil@gmail.com or 823385.

This is another project initiated and endorsed by the Whimple Parish Council towards the safety, health and well-being of our community.

Alan McArthur, Vice Chairman, Whimple Parish Council

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11 plus Questions from the 1950s

During a recent and adventurous foray in my loft I came across an old book from the '50's. It is entitled 'The Scholarship Home Tutor and Common Entrance Examination Aid' with the following flyleaf clarification, 'The gateway to the grammar school - a practical course for children and adviser for parents'

The test papers cover Arithmetic, English and Intelligence. (You will have to put your own interpretation on the latter!).

Having taken the 11+ in 1954 (and passed!) I thought I would have a look at a few of the tests to see how I would fare today. It was surprising how much I had to think about some of them.

With all the current talk of the return of the grammar school I thought - somewhat mischievously - that it might be interesting to run a few questions past you dear reader, as Ed the Ed would say, and maybe your offspring too.

Here are some starter questions. I'll omit any pre-decimalisation questions!

Answers in the next edition of the Whimble News

ARITHMETIC

(1) $63 - 19$. (2) $(76 + 18) - 29$. (3) $96 \div 5$. (4) 98×7 . (5) $1\frac{1}{3} + 5/9$ (6) $204 \div 6$

ENGLISH

In the blank in each sentence below insert a suitable word from those given in the bracket:

- (a) In — he was very generous. (SAVING, CHARACTER, BUYING, DRESSING.)
- (b) Tom — the boat through the channel. (FLOATED, MANAGED, STEERED, FLEW.)
- (c) He lived in a — with many rooms and a huge hall. (COTTAGE, SHED HOUSE, MANSION.)
- (d) When a bill is paid it is —. (FINISHED, SETTLED, DUE, PRESENTED)
- (e) Newspapers give their — the news. ((FRIENDS, WRITERS, READERS, CUSTOMERS))
- (f) Advertisements — the public to buy. (FORCE, PERSUADE, WORRY, TELL)

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REASONING

(1) Give the next two figures in these series :

- (a) 1 3 5 7
- (b) 1 3 6 10
- (c) 1 2½ 4 5½
- (d) 1 3 7 15
- (e) 16497

(3) Here is the alphabet to help you :

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNPQRSTUVWXYZ.

If a = 1 b = 2 c = 3 and so on

What is the sum of CAKE, CARE,

CAME, DONE

(b) A*K = 30 CA* = 22 B*G = 10.

Replace the stars with letters.

Good luck,

Helicopter John

(2) Do the same with these letters:

- (a) ABDBCECDF
- (b) MOPNPQOQE
- (c) ABBCBCCDCDDE

(4) Give the next two in these series:

(a) ADBECFDG

(b) 4 2 1 ½

(c) How much is R - 5? B x G? P ÷ B?

(c) 1 2¼ 3½ 4¾

(d) ZAYBXCWD



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Future ‘Community Theatre 4All’ Projects

As I write we are still a week off the first night of ‘In Remembrance of a Lost Generation’ but by the time you read this that performance will have become part of history and we will have started the process of looking forward to future projects. Outlined below are two of our intended projects for the next year. The group is always looking for new members – perhaps there is something we are planning that you would like to be involved with. If so, do come along to one of the project launch days. For further information find us on Facebook: at ‘Community Theatre 4All’ (please ‘like’ us and help us continue to spread our profile), alternatively you can contact someone by telephone (822234) or email us at:

communitytheatre4all@yahoo.co.uk

1. A rehearsed reading of T.S. Elliot’s “The Four Quartets” to be given in St Mary’s Church Whimple on Saturday 22nd April at 7.30pm. A **project launch and information evening, combined with an initial look at the text, will take place on Tuesday 10th January 2017 at 7.30pm in St Mary’s Church Whimple.** Preparation work (rehearsals) for this presentation will take place in St Mary’s Church on Wednesday evenings starting on Wednesday 15th March at 7pm. Sessions will end no later than 9.00pm (sometimes maybe earlier).
- 2.’A Midsummer Night’s Dream’ An Open Air production of William Shakespeare’s play – venue to be announced in early 2017. **The Workshop launch for this project will be on Saturday 11th March 2017 starting 10.30am in Talaton Parish Hall.** Rehearsals will be held on Tuesday evenings and Sunday afternoons in Talaton Parish Hall. Most cast will not be required to attend all rehearsals. Performances: Thursday 22nd June to Saturday 24th June.

Tom Samson

Wanted

A Prince or Princess for The Whimple Wassail on Tuesday 17th January
To enter the competition to be selected please submit an A4 poster advertising the event –

WHERE? Assemble at The New Fountain Inn at 6.30pm

WHEN? 17th January 2017

The competition is open to any child living in the Whimple area aged between 9 and 13.

Posters to be delivered to The Whimple Stores by December 21st

WHIMPLE AND DISTRICT VILLAGE PRODUCE ASSOCIATION

Our talk at the end of September was given by Dianne Long from the Devon Gardens Trust. She gave us a very interesting talk where she explained the role of the trust and its devotion to the preservation and enhancement of gardens in the UK but especially in Devon. It was a fascinating insight into the Trust's Charity aim to promote awareness of Devon's historic designed landscapes and to seek to conserve and enhance the gardens of the county.

Our last event of the year was another fascinating talk by Paul Rendall. This time his talk was on 'Hairy Hands, Devils and Black Dogs' which seemed to be a most appropriate title for this time of the year! A fuller report will appear in the next edition as, at the time of writing, the talk had not happened!

We are already looking ahead to next year and possible trips being considered are to the Bocconoc Gardens in Cornwall, to Rosemoor for their summer flower Show and the Malvern Autumn Show. Full details of these and other events in future editions of the News.

We have also been looking ahead to next year's Flower Show and we have been considering what subject titles to have for the Photography Section. So, for all the expert photographers out there, we have come up with the following titles for the ten photography classes. The titles are: 'Dawn'; 'A Woodland Scene'; 'A Botanical Subject'; 'A Cornfield'; 'Men at Work'; 'Birds in Flight'; 'A Clock'; 'Sheep'; 'A Rainy Day' and 'An Historic Monument'. So hopefully there is something for all the keen photographers in the village. We look forward to seeing the results at next year's show.

Our first meeting in the new year will be our Annual General Meeting which is to be held on Monday 23rd January 2017 at 7.30pm in the Committee Room of the Victory Hall. As always all are very welcome to attend especially anyone who would like to join our Committee - we are always pleased to have new faces with fresh ideas!

Paul Wilson, Hon. Secretary.

New Allotments

Would you like to pick your own fresh fruit and vegetables - but your garden isn't big enough or suitable for growing them?

The Parish Council is delighted to announce that there will soon be some new allotments in Whimple, adjacent to Heberton Close, Grove Road.

If you are interested in having an allotment, would like to put your name on the waiting list, or just find out more, please contact me:

Gerri Turner, on 823385 or whimpleparishcouncil@gmail.com

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WARTS UPDATE

Hello and welcome to all new and existing members of W.A.R.T.S (Whimble Against Rising Tariffs). Our aim is to periodically secure the services of the cheapest oil provider to deliver to members within the EX5 Post Code. I am pleased to report our numbers have now increased to over 230 households.

PLEASE BE AWARE:

We are unable to quote an advanced 'price per litre' as the number of drops ordered on the day PLUS the price per litre on the day determines the end price on that particular day. However, we can assure you, past experience tells us that our prices have consistently beaten any individual household prices over the past 11 years.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2017:

MONDAY 16th January 2017

MONDAY 20th March 2017

MONDAY 17th July 2017

MONDAY 30th October 2017

We kindly remind you that:

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Anyone who does not have email should call 823317

*Registration must include name, address with postcode and telephone number.

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Our 'Open Meeting' in September was well attended, with a good number of guests joining us. Linda Kettle, a Production Set Designer in Theatre and TV, entertained us with details of her training in London and Birmingham, plus her subsequent career. This included set design in a Puppet Theatre and some impressive work on TV programmes at Pebble Mill such as the original Poldark series and Howards Way. Linda showed us some models of sets she had designed, plus several folders of photographs and there was quite a lot of name dropping of stars she had worked with on various shows! She now runs her own Art Studio in Sidmouth.

Another social skittles match was held as usual at The New Inn, Broadclyst. A fun evening with lots of laughter, a few low scores, a few high ones and good food rounded off the evening. We will organise another gathering in the New Year, when we shall need the exercise after the Festive Season's feasting!

At our October meeting, the ladies from NAPS (Needles And Pins to the unknowing) gave us a wonderful display of their work, which left us all in awe of their talents. Delia Myers gave us a short presentation on the origins of the group, which was conceived in 2010 by herself and Jane Taylor in a coffee shop in Bovey Tracey. They now meet weekly in the Village Hall at Rockbeare and would welcome any new interested members. Most of the ladies are also members of the WI and attend our Wednesday afternoon craft sessions.

Our Autumn Council Meeting was at the Queen's Theatre, Barnstaple and 4 of our ladies enjoyed a lovely day. The Speakers were Mike Fowkes from Crime Stoppers (a very interesting and informative presentation), Judith Hardiman from DCC on Emergency Planning (very boring and a number of us fell asleep!) and Michael Bowyer a flower arranger and comic entertainer. He was brilliant and covered the stage with his giant flower displays entitled "Riches of Autumn", as he recalled some amusing stories. The displays were raffled at the end of the afternoon, but we were glad we didn't win one, as there is no way it would have gone in the car!

A good number of us met in October for a social lunch at Talaton - a lovely event as usual.

Whimple WI recently entered a team in the County Skittles Competition playing Pebbleford and astonishingly we won!! We are not sure how we did it, but are looking forward to the next round against Offwell – our practice sessions at the social evenings must be paying off.

Our Christmas Party will be held on the 13th December in the Victory Hall and our Christmas lunch is at the Thirsty Farmer on the 14th December.

Please contact our Secretary Ann Bowden on 823450 if you are interested in joining Whimple WI, there is always room for more and it is a lovely way to make new friends.

Barbara Ackland

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Ottery St Mary Choral Society

By the time you read this our Christmas Concert will probably be history (**Sat. 10th Dec.**). We hope you came and enjoyed it.

As in previous years we are raising money for our nominated charity **Hospiscare**, and will be singing carols at Otter Nurseries on the evening of **Wed 14th December**. Come along and be entertained while you shop or dine: surely better than the usual piped music?

This year we are generating an email distribution list of people who are interested in our concerts. To encourage you to entrust us with your email address we are offering entry into a draw for a bottle of bubbly. Send us an email with '**Bubbly Draw**' in the subject before the end of the year and we will then keep you musically informed! Your email address will not be used for anything else or sold on to another organisation. The draw will be made in January and the winner will be notified by email, when arrangements will be made for collection.

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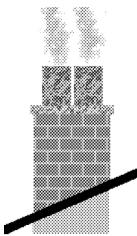
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WHIMPLE PRIMARY SCHOOL

After a fabulous first half to the term, here we are heading towards Christmas. The preparations have already started.

Firstly, I would like to thank Mr Sanders (from Whimble Stores) and Mr Williams for all their efforts in helping to clear and tidy up our Orchard area. It has made a huge difference to the use and type of activities we can provide. Our next step is to install some shelter to aid use with our inclement weather.

We continue to welcome adult help both on a regular and non-regular basis, particularly for helping with readers and playing board type games. If you have some spare time and would like to help our children then please pop in and see us. Please note volunteers are subject to safeguarding checks.

Hope you all have a lovely Christmas and New Year (Feels very weird writing that early in November!)

Carole Shilston, Acting Headteacher

On a sunny autumn day, in the middle of arts week, the whole of Whimble School went to the orchard to do our yearly apple pick. We all got into groups of our choice and went to collect as many apples as possible.

On the Thursday of arts week we very kindly had Mr Palmer show us the method of apple pressing. We all had a turn of turning the handle to make some lovely apple juice, which was homemade. We all had a cupful or if you were lucky you would get some more of our delicious apple juice. Although it was hard we all enjoyed it.

Also during arts week we were very grateful to have an African drumming workshop given to us by a man called Alan. We learnt some rhythms and he also taught us how to hold the African drums. At the end of arts week everybody went up to the hall to see our mini art gallery.

It was a great week, By Lucy and Tegan. (Willow Class)



Anglo-Saxons at Escot

Beech class had a great time at Escot being in the role of Anglo-Saxons for a day. They participated in many activities as part of daily life in Anglo-Saxon time including wood working, milling spelt to make flour and making cob for building walls. The afternoon was spent foraging for foods in nature on a walk through the woods.

This has been followed up with a session at the MUGA designing and making Anglo-Saxon settlements.



Fantastic Fridays!



We have introduced a new Friday afternoon curriculum into school this academic year. The hope was to improve the children's mental health and well-being. Alongside this, it broadens our curriculum through problem solving activities whilst promoting the school's 6Rs - Responsibility, Resilience, Respect, Reasoning, Reflecting and Resourcefulness. Needless to say it has been enthusiastically received by the children and the feedback has been very positive



Whimple School Needs You!



There is a vacancy for a Parent Governor at Whimple School.

Later in the year there will be other roles to fill including Community Governors, and we always welcome volunteers as Associate Governors at any time.

In order to strengthen the Governing Body we particularly need people with business skills such as an understanding of financial reporting, knowledge of the education system or expertise in health and safety.

We also need representatives of the Whimple Community.

If you are interested in joining the School Governors please contact me:-

Maria Wallis on 823992 or email me at maria.wallis@tiscali.co.uk

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Hayley, Lauren and Julie would like to thank all our clients for their patience during our recent refit. We look forward to greeting our clients old and new into our wonderful salon.

We also have a new member in the team, Liam, who is 23yrs old and coming to the end of his training to become a stylist. Liam will be looking for male and female models for various colour and cutting techniques while guided by our stylists to complete his portfolio. Check out his Instagram account [liamstapletonhair_account](#) for work he has already completed.

All of Liam's appointments will be at a training price reduction until qualified. Liam will be available to do hair extensions by the beginning of December, ready for all your Christmas parties.

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and thank you for supporting our salon during 2016



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Gill and Colin Down would like to thank everyone who kindly sent get well cards or flowers and for their prayers following Gill's recent operation.

Gill is now recovering well and gradually easing back into her normal social activities.

Christmas time for pets

Christmas time, full of joy and cheer with the presents under the tree and Christmas dinner smelling better than ever! We as vets want to make sure that you and your pets have a fantastic Christmas without a trip to the practice.

Cats are often more fascinated by Christmas trees than us and like to climb and explore. Make sure your tree is very secure and any glass tree decorations or those with sharp edges are well out of the way of your intrigued feline. Cats also can enjoy a nibble on tinsel. They tend to eat lengths of stringy material which can then cause a concertina effect on the intestines. This can be very harmful and requires surgery to treat, so keeping tinsel and string out of harm's way is much safer!

What Christmas is complete without chocolate? Unfortunately many dogs, and sometimes cats, also believe this to be true! Chocolate can cause vomiting and diarrhoea and in larger doses, liver failure and can be fatal. The higher the cocoa content the more the risk, so keep those expensive dark chocolate truffles out of the way of any investigative hounds in the house! Be wary of chocolates on the tree and wrapped in presents within reach. Remember a small number of extra treats can lead to rapid weight gain which can take a long time to lose.

Dried fruit is also a risk to dogs and can cause renal failure so keep Christmas pudding, mince pies and Christmas cake away from low tables or other places your crafty hound may be able to get to.

For some of us, it can all get a bit much at these festive times. We may like our house being filled with family, friends and music but not all our pets do. For some, the bustle and noise can be very stressful. If you have a timid pet who enjoys the quiet, make sure there is somewhere peaceful that they can go to not be disturbed. They may prefer to have their food and litter tray in a hidden corner.

Most importantly, have a wonderful Christmas with your furry friends and if you have any worries or suspect your pet has eaten something they shouldn't, don't hesitate to call your vet for advice. Merry Christmas!

(With thanks to Vale Vets)



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<i>Clerk:</i> Gerri Turner,	823385
St. Mary's Church	
<i>Parish Priest:</i> Chris Martin	822427
<i>Impact Cell:</i> Helen Bowker	823193
Devon County Councillor (www.peterbowden.org.uk)	
Peter Bowden	823450
East Devon Councillor	
Peter Bowden	823450
Whimble Primary School (admin@whimble-primary.devon.sch.uk)	
<i>Headteacher:</i> Mrs. S. Jessop	822584
<i>Chair of Governors:</i> Maria Wallis	823992
Whimble History Society	
<i>Chairman:</i> David Rastall	822486
<i>Secretary:</i> Roger Smith	822244
Whimble Mothers Union	
Margaret Burrough	822257
Whimble Pre-School & Toddler Group (whimblepreschool.weebly.com)	
<i>Chair:</i> Cathy Culshaw	822363
<i>Information:</i> Jo Sibley 07794 652549 or admin@whimblepreschool.com	
Whimble Womens Institute	
<i>Secretary:</i> Ann Bowden	823450
Whimble Over Sixties Club	
<i>Chairman:</i> Arthur Iball	822905
<i>Secretary:</i> Beryl Iball	822905
Whimble Recreation Trust	
<i>Knowle Cross Sports Ground:</i> Roger Smith	822244
Whimble Village Produce Association.	
<i>Vice Chairman,</i> Paul Wilson	822744
Whimble Football Club	
<i>Chairman:</i> Ian Stephenson <i>Secretary:</i> Julian Johnson	822639
Whimble Tennis Club	
<i>Secretary:</i> Roddy Bridge	822057
<i>Treasurer:</i> Marianne Randall	822025
Whimble Cricket Club	
<i>Booking Secretary:</i> Jonathon Silk	822389
Whimble Victory Hall	
<i>Chair:</i> Maria Wallis	823992
<i>Secretary:</i> Dennis Calver	823660
<i>Booking Sec:</i> Ali Tierney	822724
Whimpletons	
Cathy Bartlett-Horwood	823944
Wasters of Whimble	
Jenny Sanders	823015
Alison Betts	823967
St. Mary's Bellringers	
<i>Captain:</i> Roger Algate	822480
Whimble Scout Group	
<i>Group Scout Leader (and Marquee Booking):</i> Alex Spry	822844
Whimble Book Group	
Tanya Mooney	823326
Whimble Table Tennis Club	
Chris Beer	07787 544192

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