

# *Whimble News*

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**Christmas 2004**

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# What's on in Whimple



## December

3rd	Senior Citizens Christmas Party	Victory Hall	
3rd	Late night shopping in Ottery St Mary		
4th	History Society - Sale of Christmas Cards & Gifts	Heritage Centre	10am-12.30pm
4th	Festival of Christmas	O.S.M. Parish Church	7.30pm
6th	Christmas Demonstration	Victory Hall	7.30pm
12th	S Club 11	Scout Hut	10.45am
16th	Orchard Harmony Christmas Concert	St Mary's Church	7.30pm
12th	S Club 11	Scout Hut	10.45am
24th	Carols in the Square	The Square	7.00pm
31st	New Year's Eve Party	Victory Hall	8.00pm
31st	Welcoming the New Year	The Square	11.45pm

## January

9th	S Club 11	Scout Hut	10.45am
12-15th	Talaton Pantomime	Talaton Parish Hall	7.30pm
17th	History Society Wassailing		7.30pm
23rd	S Club 11	Scout Hut	10.45am
22nd	Big Night In! - Miracle Theatre	Victory Hall	7.30pm
29th	Over 60's trip to Tiverton Pantomime		
29th	Curry and Quiz Night	Cricket Club	7.30pm

## St Mary's Church For Christmas services see page 20

### Monthly Programme of Services

1st	Sunday	8am	Holy Communion
		11am	All Age Service
2nd	Sunday	11am	Holy Communion
		11am	S club 11 in the Scout Hut
3rd	Sunday	8am	Holy Communion
		11am	Morning Service
4th	Sunday	11am	Holy Communion
		11am	S club 11 in the Scout Hut
5th	Sunday	11am	Joint Benefice Communion

Please use the Whimple Diary held in the Post Office for checking availability of venues and booking events.

If your Association has an event which you would like listed above please contact Lynda Trevena on 822876 or e-mail [lynda\\_amelia@hotmail.com](mailto:lynda_amelia@hotmail.com)

# Ed The Ed

Well, where did 2004 go? It seems like only last month I was introducing all the village happenings for Xmas 2003...and here we go again!!! Well done to Tanya and Vicki at the Thirsty, for raising, at the last count, some £730 on/after the Pink Evening with Mid Life Crisis. It was a very busy evening, with some brilliant music, despite the lack of our own chanteuse, the lovely Brigid, who was poorly monkey on the night. Whilst on the pink theme, Gill Wilson has contributed a piece on her sponsored walk – another excellent achievement! Well done Gill!

I know that change is a good thing, but I was thrown into confusion recently when I visited the shop to find that Graham had altered the layout....apparently there were problems with queues forming as they waited for Wendy to finish her conversations. Still, now we can all listen into these most private moments whilst we wait to be served.

We have a short introductory piece from Alison and Jim Creasy who are now at the helm of SS Post Office, having taken over from the very able Gordon and Heather. I am glad that they will be staying in the village, and hope that Gordon will soon be able to rejoin our contributors.

I am sorry to cast a cloud of darkness over the coming festivities, but you lucky people have not one, but two local pantomimes bursting onto local stages in Talaton and Whimble, in early 2005. The Talaton advert is near the middle of this edition, for dates in mid-January and having been last year, the bar has to be a valuable supporting asset to the production...and they have a matinee especially for children on the Saturday afternoon. I will go and support them again, as we had an excellent time last year. Likewise for the Whimbletons later in February, any local bar has to be a positive influence on how you perceive the latest offering from the pen of Peter Bolwell. Most of the cast will have been in a bar by the time they get on stage, but that can only be an improvement after the rehearsals! The script looks really good this year...let's see what the Whimbletons can do to it and how we can make good music and singing in Victory Hall naught but a pleasant memory.

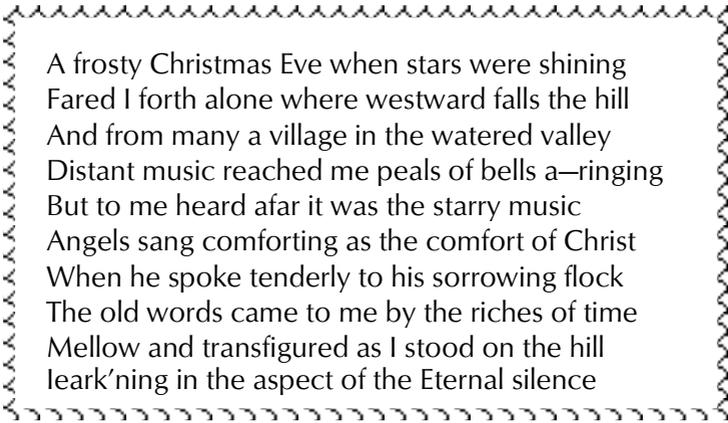
We have an advert in this edition for 2 helpers in the News team...desk top publishing skills for one, and an interest/skill in helping young Miles with the advertising role for the magazine. If you are interested, please contact any of the team and we will be only too happy to fill you in (in the nicest possible way!)

If you would like to offer us something for the content, then please leave it either at the PO with Alison and Jim, or direct to the boy Scanlan (frightened passenger in the silver tart-mobile for Pam the poser!) on [bob.scanlan@eclipse.co.uk](mailto:bob.scanlan@eclipse.co.uk), by 17th January 2005 (and don't forget Wassailing that evening!)

On behalf of the News team, I would like to wish you and your families a peaceful and happy Christmas, and a happy New Year. Enjoy the magazine!

# FROM MY WINDOW IN THE SQUARE

Edith Marie-Louise Grout



A frosty Christmas Eve when stars were shining  
Fared I forth alone where westward falls the hill  
And from many a village in the watered valley  
Distant music reached me peals of bells a—ringing  
But to me heard afar it was the starry music  
Angels sang comforting as the comfort of Christ  
When he spoke tenderly to his sorrowing flock  
The old words came to me by the riches of time  
Mellow and transfigured as I stood on the hill  
leark'ning in the aspect of the Eternal silence

I always feel a great thankfulness and joy come the Christmas-tide mainly because it is the season of good will. Kindness abounds; messages of love arrive daily, and to me it is free-hearted. It is the time to give; it is the time to receive. To be the object of affection and in return have affection is certainly the best form of happiness life can offer. I am blessed to have more than my share. Love is curative and to express it softens us. It also closes the distances. Knowing that we love and are loved gives us strength and makes our existence special. We all need each other.

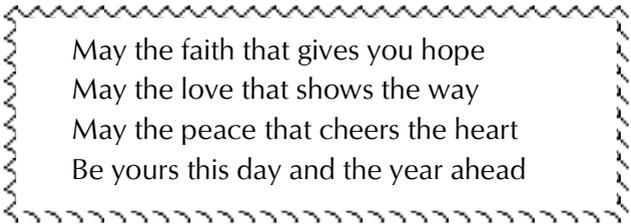
Shaded and sheltered by the old Church tower, whose bells toll gently each passing hour, I sit by my blazing fire in this old stone house dressed in soft white walls. This house is far gayer than my neighbours do think. There is a bundle of fur soon curled up in my lap, purring and full of love, Suki's affection so sweet, my reciprocation to her affection is a treat. Even the owls hoot in the night, just to assure me: all's well and all right. I always remember one night in December when I heard the heavenly sound of a bird, my favourite robin. The notes were like bells which reflected the joy of his song. With the lights shining brightly in The Square he often thinks it is daylight. I wish I could sing like that in the night; my reward, like the bird's, is an awakening light.

In the house I have decorations of holly which connects me with its symbolic role in winter. Holly seems always to have been an emblem of continuity and constancy in the landscape and respected as such. All over Britain, or at least in those areas favoured by its fascinating patchy distribution, it marks portals and boundaries. In Cornwall hollies were planted to mark the courses of tin lodes. In some areas of arable England they were even left standing when hedges were grubbed out and their darkly brooding silhouettes are still used as sightlines during winter ploughing

Evergreen suggests the continuance of life, red berries with all the ambivalence too for danger. So many beliefs linger on in different countries, and English counties, that one wonders what inner processes, both in the world and ourselves, give a sense of connectedness of things that we are only just beginning to recapture. Between the extremes of traditional conviction and the newer proven scientific facts, is the reassuring sight of a glossy green tree with shining red berries in the dark of winter.

In my garden when the weather is still relatively mild the birds find plenty of nutritious food to keep them going. My blackbirds particularly favour the haws, they also feed avidly on my red crab-apple which I keep for them; whereas the song thrushes show a preference for yew berries. It is not only the thrushes that are attracted to the deep red clusters of hawthorn berries. Flocks of greenfinches are also a familiar sight at this time of the year. The thrushes seem to like the fleshy part of the berry, whereas the greenfinches' interest is the nutritious kernel which lies inside the stone. It is fascinating to watch how they crack the stone in a matter of seconds with their specially designed broad heavy beak. The tits and sparrow rely more on peanut bags and fatballs hung under the trees in the garden

This is also the time of the year when the postman delivers envelopes and little parcels full of those symbols of the season to come:- packets of seeds. Each year I marvel at the pleasure that nursery catalogues and pictorial seed packets give me. They feed the inner world of illusions and dreams. As a child I was always presented with little packets of seeds. I stared at magic visions of picturesque thatch-covered cottages amidst an explosion of hollyhocks, marigolds, sweet smelling stocks. All purveyors of seed catalogues play on that inner Arcady, on the hankering for the lost garden of Eden. The vegetables on the labels are always beautifully turned out and of lush proportions. They are always grown in neat tended rows with never a slug in sight. Books on gardens are plentiful in my house. The text usually is secondary, but the photos preferably in lush colour are everything. Like the coloured picture of the cottage garden on seed packets they swing open a window into an Arcadia that is peculiarly English. Half the delight of gardening for me is this constant dream of seeing glorious blooms nodding in the breeze.



May the faith that gives you hope  
May the love that shows the way  
May the peace that cheers the heart  
Be yours this day and the year ahead

# New Faces at the Post Office

We have been totally overwhelmed by the kindness that has been shown to us since coming to the village, and would like to thank everyone for the messages, cards and flowers - what a lovely welcome!

Leaving our families back in Reading was a difficult; and it has been so comforting to be amongst such caring folk.

We were both born in Reading and have lived and worked there for over 40 years, so making the decision to leave was not easy. However we felt that the quality of our lives could be improved, and the South West beckoned. From our very first visit to Whimple we knew we had found the right location, and the Post Office a challenge we thought we were ready for. With our backgrounds in Sales and Administration, and a longing to be part of a community it seemed to tick all the right boxes.

Gordon and Heather will be a hard act to follow, and I hope we are able to give you the same level of service you are used to. This may take time to achieve, as this is a brand new venture for us both, so we hope you will be patient with us!

Thank you all once again – you've been terrific.

**Jim and Alison Creasy (and of course, Molly)**

## LAST RECOMMENDED POSTING DATES FOR CHRISTMAS

Once again the season of goodwill is upon us and we turn our thoughts to friends and family away from home. Please do not miss the last posting dates – they are a little earlier this year.

<b>Standard parcels</b>	<b>Wednesday 15th December</b>
<b>Second class letters and cards</b>	<b>Saturday 18th December</b>
<b>First class letters and cards</b>	<b>Tuesday 21st December</b>

For any other mail services, please enquire at the Post Office

## PRESENTATION to GO & HO of the PO

This is going to be a special Christmas for Gordon and Heather Owen. Besides serving the community in the Post Office for many years, Gordon has not only kept us well informed via the Whimple News of its various services, but has also bravely taken in his stride its new developments and computerised workings. We have also enjoyed the brainteasers from GO & HO at the PO.

We are pleased at the good measure of health they now have. We all owe them a debt of gratitude for all they have done, and it is proposed to make them a house-warming presentation for their new home in the village.

Contributions can be placed in the tin on the counter in the Village Stores up until just before Christmas, by kindness of Graham.

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Tim Wright

# FROM WHIMPLE TO SOUTH OF FRANCE

(The continuing diaries of two former inhabitants of Whimple,  
Janine and Paul Peryer )

In April we had our official welcome from Monsieur le Marie. He resembled a cross between Graham from Whimple Stores and Compo from Last of the Summer Wine. We also have a loudspeaker on the post next to our house and every morning at 10.30am there are village announcements. The mayor first of all sings a song very badly! It is like karaoke gone wrong. Then he gives you the 'message of the day', followed by the secretary screaming other messages for several people in the village, followed by five minutes of music in very bad taste! Luckily it doesn't go on very long. The whole thing is like an old fashioned film.

Interesting places to visit near us are some wonderful underground wine cellars in an old tin mine. The medieval city of Carcassonne (a world heritage site) and the museum of Salvador Dali are not far away. Also a fabulous little hotel for meals.

And now I want to tell you about the 'wildlife' here in France. We had an electrician here to price up a rewiring job and he had to look at the state of the wires in the loft. Well, his reaction was 'vous avez une probleme'. He showed us a handful of rat droppings.. I had been telling Paul for days it was noisy in the loft but we put it down to bats. Off I went to buy the biggest rat trap you have ever seen! They don't call it 'the little nipper' here, like the English ones, but 'Lucifer'.

Lucifer was put to the test with a huge chunk of cheese dripping in chocolate on (you've guessed it) a croissant! Well the next day an almighty bang. .it was a BIG trap after all and 'bingo' one rat trapped... .well half trapped. He must have caught his leg in one side of the trap because for the next four days we heard Plop plop plop bang! Plop plop plop bang as Monsieur 'Le Rat' wandered around with Lucifer on one of his feet. We were so excited that we immediately bought two more Lucifers. Tres bien; it has all gone quiet now.. . until last night. Bold as brass a mouse came walking calmly through the living room. Tomorrow little lucifers will be acquired.

And there's more. In the evening you hear the biggest choir of toads and frogs. Also we hear strange howling and barking. Are they wolves in the foothills of the Pyrenees or stray dogs? We also regularly see flamingos fly over at night who come to eat mussels and oysters in the lagoons by the coast.

The butterflies are stunning like you used to see years ago. The birds are different so I had to buy a book on them. We have lots of lizards in the garden. It is funny to see them turn their heads when I talk to them. There are snakes too, one a metre long and that was a baby. Our electrician told us of a daddy snake three metres long curled up on the seat of his van beside him.

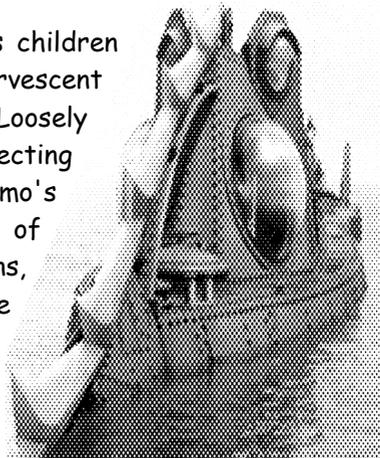
We've got a plumber starting to fit a new bathroom, boiler and en-suite. In order to do the latter, he had to dig a large trench through the drive to connect up with the sewage pipe. A huge JCB turned up and not only dug up half my plants and veg. but also went straight through the mains. This put the village without water for two hours. Bearing in mind it was 40°C degrees, everything tinder dry and farmers needing every drop of l'eau for their vines, we were not too popular... Within two minutes Monsieur le Marie was on the scene to survey the damage, wave his red face about, throw his arms in the air and say 'c'est la vie'. He then disappeared to shout an announcement over the tannoy that due to a mishap at the Peryers there was no water in a third of the village for a few hours... Needless to say I went shopping in a large hat the next day.

Aubrey Curry

## Big Night In!/Villages in Action

### Miracle Theatre - 20,000 Leagues Under the Sea

A visual and musical delight for adventurous children and adults, with an unusual blend of effervescent comedy and multi-media special effects. Loosely based on Jules Verne's novel, unsuspecting landlubbers will be lured aboard Captain Nemo's submarine and taken to the depths of unfathomable oceans to meet tormented villains, heroic mermaids and various monsters of the watery world. Miracle produce shows which entrance children with a level of humour to keep adults entertained as well.



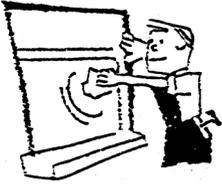
Suitable for all over 7.

**Saturday 22nd January 2005 at 7.30pm**

Whimble Village Hall

Tickets from Whimble Post Office or from Louise on 01404 822008

Prices: £5 (£4 concessions)



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**Open All Day New Years Eve – Evening Ticket Only @ £4.00**

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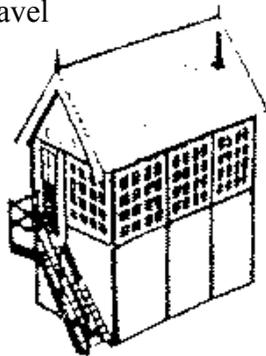
**Limited availability – please book in advance**

**Tanya, Vicky and all the staff wish everyone in the village a very  
Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year**

# From the crossing keepers hut

November – a time to pause for thought maybe – remembrance - remembering those who lost their lives at Upton Nervett on November 6th but closer to home, those responsible for a very selfish act of vandalism last night, not only against the railway but also those who travel daily upon it. To deliberately set fire, with the aid of straw, to trunking containing vital communications cabling to ensure safety at Cobden rail/road access leaves me somewhat speechless. Those responsible would have to have an excellent knowledge of the area. What a let down you all are to your neighbours and the community you live in.

**Alex Spry**



## S Club 11



On Sun 19<sup>th</sup> Dec @11:00, S Club 11 and Impact will be leading a:

### Special Christmas Celebration !!

This will definitely be a not-to-be-missed, extraordinary, fantastically fun event with an electrifying mix of music, drama, dance, quizzes, competitions, prizes and much, *much* more! The children and young people will lead the adults into having a truly exciting time! To squeeze everyone in it will be in the church, so if you're aged between 0 & 100, come along!

And advance warning of another unique experience:

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> January: **S Club First Birthday Party @ Scout Hut!**

**Forthcoming dates are: Dec 12, 19, Jan 9, 23, Feb 13, 27.**

For more info contact Phil or Rebecca Dominy on 822163 or [dominypr@hotmail.com](mailto:dominypr@hotmail.com)



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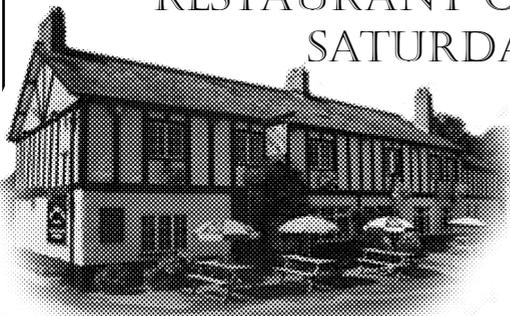
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## NEWS FROM OTTER ROTTERS

**Our continued thanks to the staff in Whimble Stores and the PO for selling our tags and bags.** A slight change on the tag front is that we are dropping use of rubber bands, so would you simply leave your tags under a brick please, ideally use two bricks, to keep the tags clear of the ground and therefore dry! Quite a lot of detail, but it all helps when you have to repeat tasks over and over again! I hope you like our garden bags, they are very good value and nearly twice the size of the 70 litre compost bag.

By the time this is published we hope to be using a tipper lorry bought via the CRED fund, which exists to aid environmentally and community directed ventures. This should provide a smoother and swifter collection process and will be indispensable in Honiton where we have also started rounds on Mondays and Wednesdays. Incidentally, we are continuing all the rounds throughout Winter to establish the demand, so you can get out into the garden and continue to clear and snip away as usual! We will also take your Christmas trees (one tags worth). Since starting in August despite routinely visiting Rull Farm and Wood Hayes lane, we have never had customers, so will only include these places if you phone please.

For those new to the scheme collections are fortnightly i.e. 7th Dec, 21st Dec, and so on, and we sell compost in bags or bulk. The bulk delivery is very good value if you are planning major changes in the garden.

Thanks for supporting Otter Rotters

**Hugh Roberts 822651**

## BOOK CLUB

Would you be interested in joining/starting a book group in Whimble?

The idea is that people who like reading and talking about what they have read, meet up once a month or so and take it in turns to choose a book, everyone in the group reads it and the next month they all discuss it.

It can be as informal, or formal, as we like and it doesn't have to be like that programme on Channel 4.

Ring **Katy Howard** on 823038.





## **Veterinary Clinic, Whimble**

### **New Surgery Arrangements**

In our continuing effort to improve the service we offer to our clients, we are now equipped to perform routine surgical operations at the Whimble surgery.

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countryside .... space for  
the children to play"*



## Christmas Carols in Whimble Square 7.00pm Christmas Eve

It is time once again to remind everyone about this event, which has become a village custom - now pre-dating most inhabitants! All are welcome and all you need bring are yourselves, warmly clad and weighted down with change for The Devon Air-Ambulance Collecting Boxes. We always require instrumentalists of all ages and abilities - young players are especially welcome. Should the weather be prohibitive outside then, as during the last 2 years, the event will take place in the Church. Lusty singing will be the order of the day - and quantity rather than quality - so don't be shy! Any instrumentalists interested, no matter how rusty, please give me a call on 822344 well in advance so that I can make sure that suitable sheet music is available.

Barbara Lambert



Whimble Pre-School Playgroup

## **CURRY AND QUIZ NIGHT**

**Saturday 29th January 2005**

**7.30pm at Whimble Cricket Club**

**Teams of up to four persons**

**Tickets £5 per person, includes one entry into Prize Draw**

Tickets available from Angela 822313

& during January from the Post Office and Whimble Stores

# St. Mary's Church

## Services to be held over the Christmas period

28th November at 11.00am Holy Communion

6.30pm Advent Carol Service (with choir)

5th December at 1.00pm Christingle Carol Service

12th December at 11.00am Holy Communion

19th December at 6.30pm Service of Lessons and Carols

24th December at 11.30pm Holy Communion with Carols

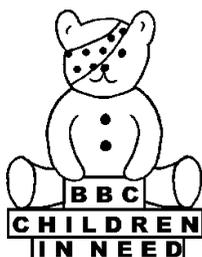
25th December at 11.00am Christmas Day Service - followed by Holy Communion

26th December at 10.00am Boxing Day - Holy Communion.

Do come along and help us celebrate Christmas by joining in some of the services shown above. All the services are lovely but especially so The Advent Carol Service which takes place by candlelight, the candles being gradually lit as the service progresses until the whole church is aglow with light and colour, thus signifying Jesus' coming and his bringing of light into the world. A choir leads the singing of well known carols and also performs some choral pieces.

The Christingle Service is an ideal service for everyone. Carols are sung as the children process around the church holding their Christingles (an orange encircled with a red ribbon, decorated with sweets and topped with a lighted candle). The orange representing the world, the ribbon the blood of Christ, the sweets God's blessings and the candle denotes Jesus as the 'Light of the World'. The children love this service and even if you don't have a child to bring along, please come and enjoy the service with us.

We look forward to welcoming you to one or more of our services over the Christmas period



## BBC Children in Appeal

A cake stall held in the school playground on Friday after school raised a fantastic £66.20.

Many thanks to all who brought cakes and biscuits to sell, and to those who came and bought them.

Emma Palmer

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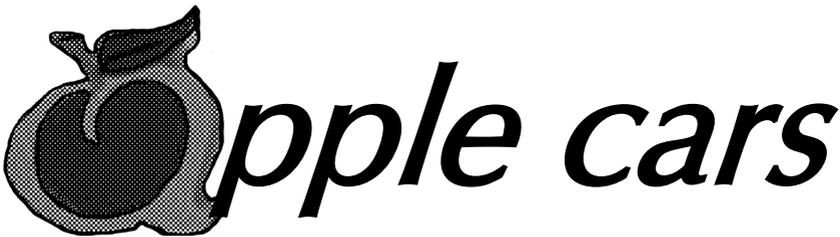
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# Goldilocks and The Three Bears

Whimble Victory Hall

7.30pm

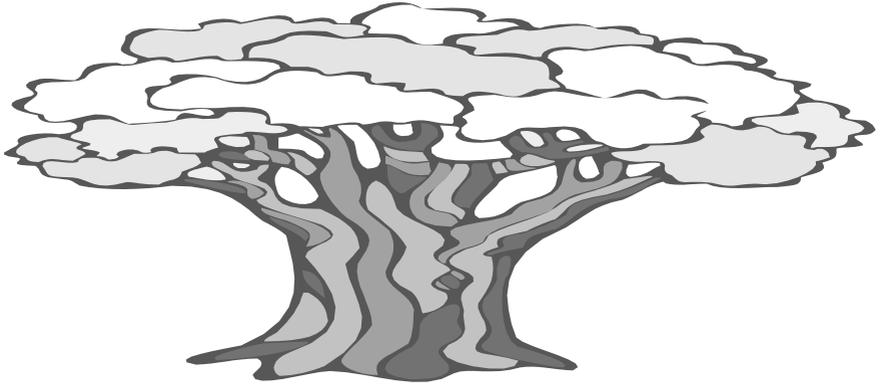


Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> Friday 18<sup>th</sup> Saturday 19<sup>th</sup>



February 2005

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Note: due to the complexity and level of difficulty, each course will accept a maximum of eight participants each. Sign up early and get a discount. The course covers two days, and topics covered in this course include:

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**HOW TO FILL ICE CUBE TRAYS**

Step by step guide with slide presentation.

**TOILET ROLLS- DO THEY GROW ON THE HOLDERS?**

Roundtable discussion.

**DIFFERENCES BETWEEN LAUNDRY BASKET & FLOOR**

Practising with hamper. Pictures and graphics.

**THE AFTER DINNER DISHES & SILVERWARE - DO THEY LEVITATE AND FLY INTO THE KITCHEN SINK OR DISHWASHER BY THEMSELVES?**

Debate among a panel of experts.

**LOSS OF VIRILITY**

Losing the remote control to your significant other. Help line and support groups.

**LEARNING HOW TO FIND THINGS, STARTING WITH LOOKING IN THE RIGHT PLACE INSTEAD OF TURNING THE HOUSE UPSIDE DOWN WHILE SCREAMING.**

Open forum

### **DAY TWO:**

**EMPTY MILK CARTONS: DO THEY BELONG IN THE FRIDGE?**

Group discussion and role play.

**HEALTH WATCH - BRINGING HER FLOWERS IS NOT HARMFUL TO YOUR HEALTH.**

PowerPoint presentation.

**REAL MEN ASK FOR DIRECTIONS WHEN LOST**

Real life testimonial from the one man who did.

**IS IT GENETICALLY IMPOSSIBLE TO SIT QUIETLY AS SHE PARALLEL PARKS?**

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**LIVING WITH ADULTS: BASIC DIFFERENCES BETWEEN YOUR MOTHER AND YOUR WIFE**

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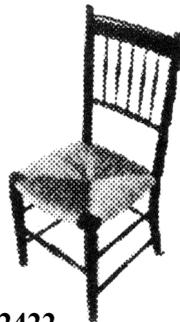
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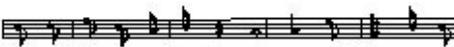
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Or find me at the Exeter end  
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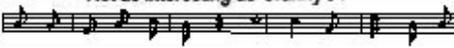
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# Only In America

1. Only in America.....can a pizza get to a house faster than an ambulance.
2. Only in America.....are there handicap parking spaces in front of a skating rink.
3. Only in America.....do drugstores make the sick walk all the way to the back of the store to get their prescriptions while healthy people can buy cigarettes at the front.
4. Only in America.....do people order double cheese burgers, large fries, and a diet coke.
5. Only in America.....do banks leave both doors to the vault open and then chain the pens to the counters.
6. Only in America.....do they leave cars worth thousands of dollars in the driveway and put their useless junk in the garage.
7. Only in America.....do they use answering machines to screen calls and then have call waiting so they won't miss a call from someone they didn't want to talk to in the first place.
8. Only in America.....do they buy hot dogs in packages of ten and buns in packages of eight.
9. Only in America...do they use the word 'politics' to describe the process so well: 'Poli' in Latin meaning 'many' and 'tics' meaning 'bloodsucking creatures'.
10. Only in America.....do they have drive-up ATM machines with Braille lettering.

## FIREWORKS IN WHIMPLE

Some well-deserved plaudits and thanks for Graham Fowle and his team following the magnificent Fireworks display on the cricket field. The weather was kind to us, and Graham had listened to the comments from last year, and gave us an amazing 30-minute display that was very professional. It must have been excellent business for the bar and for Chris the Fish and Chip man – good to see that local businesses benefited as well. Judging by the vast numbers up there, 2004 proved to be a major village attraction, so well done and thanks to Graham and his team.

Ed.H.

All ye goode and faithful people of Whimple (well there's a contradiction in terms if ever I heard one) are cordially invited by King Michael from the Neighbouring Kingdom of Bitlumpia (nowadays known as Talaton) to an evening of fine entertainment and much joviality in His Highness's majestic medieval castle (renamed "The Parish Hall" following the collapse of the tower and the filling in of the moat).

Our merry band of mummers will perform a humorous tale of heroism (that's a pantomime to you, luvvie) when the Yuletide Festivities are over (Wed 12th - Sat 15th Jan to be precise).

The drawbridge will be lowered after the Vespers bell to admit all revellers (oh please! Doors & licensed bar open at 7.30pm) in preparation for the Grand Royal Procession that will signify the commencement of the merrymaking (right, that'll be curtain at 8.00pm then).

Have no fear that tender maidens or aspiring squires will be corrupted (it's not X rated, unlike some other shows we know of...) Indeed, they are especially bid to join our juvenile jollity on Saturn's day (For heaven's sake! There's a matinee performance on Saturday afternoon at 1.30pm for 2pm - that's when the big hand is on...).

Your Royal Invitation can be collected from Ye Olde Village Shoppe in Bitlumpia when all taxes and tithes have been duly collected (roughly translates as 'tickets on sale from the Talaton Village Shop of olde people').

Adult £4 Concessions £2.50 (under 16's and over 60's)

Special price for First Night - Adult £3 Concessions £2.

Matinee performance all seats £2 (must be accompanied by a child to take advantage of this special price).

Telephone Bookings 822890

Fear not to travel to Bitlumpia for there are no brigands to assail you upon your epic journey into uncharted territory (don't worry, we've called a truce with the Whimpletons so there'll be no reprisals for venturing forth to see "The man who wouldn't be King". After all, Ed the Editor started the trend last year, remember?

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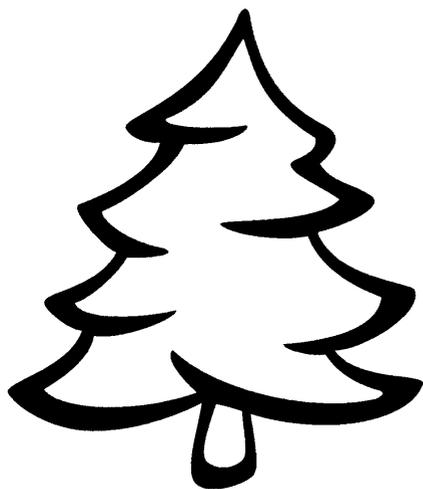
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# I Quit!

I am hereby officially tendering my resignation as an adult. I have decided I would like to accept the responsibilities of an 8 year-old again.

I want to stay up on Christmas Eve waiting to hear Santa and Rudolph on the roof. I want to build a snowman, without thinking about anything except whether the snow sticks together, and what I can possibly use for the snowman's mouth.

I want to go to MacDonalds and think that it's a four star restaurant. I want to think smarties are better than money because you can eat them. I want television to be something I watch for fun, not something I use for escape from the things I should be doing.

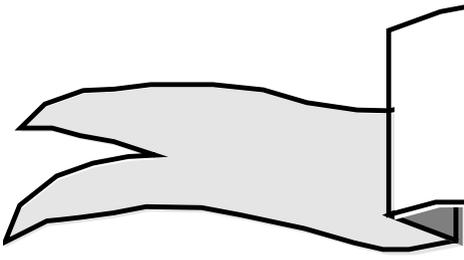
I want to return to a time when life was simple, when all you knew were colours, multiplication tables, and nursery rhymes, but that didn't bother you, because you didn't know what you didn't know and you didn't care. All you knew was to be happy because you were blissfully unaware of all the things that should make you worried or upset. I want to think the world is fair. That everyone is honest and good. I want to believe that anything is possible.

I want to be oblivious to the complexities of life and be overly excited by the little things again. I want to live simply again. I don't want my day to consist of paperwork, computer crashes, depressing news, bills, gossip, illness, and loss of loved ones. I want to think that everyone, including me, will live forever

I want to believe in the power of smiles, hugs, a kind word, truth, justice, peace, dreams, the imagination, mankind, and making angels in the snow.

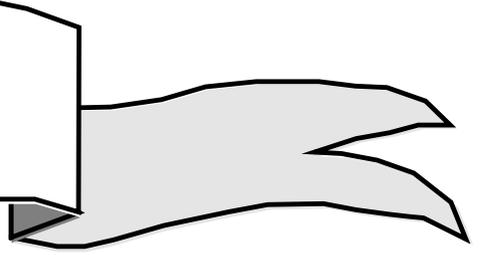
So . . . here's my cheque book and my car keys and my credit cards. I am officially resigning from adulthood. And if you want to discuss this further, you'll have to catch me first, 'cos....."Tag! You're it."





Merry C

Christmas





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# WHIMPLE WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Autumn already and Christmas fast approaching, where does time go?

At the close of our October meeting our members left for their homes far better informed than they had been on arrival: our speaker had been Zoe Spenser from Care Direct who gave us a wealth of information concerning benefits and help available to the older members of society. This was extremely interesting and very lucidly presented.

On November 9th we held our AGM with reports being made by our President, Secretary and Treasurer. Our President was re-elected for another term and our committee now numbers twelve. We ended the evening with a couple of light hearted quizzes to tease our brains!

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 14th December when we will hold our Christmas Party and entertainment. We would be so pleased to see any former members who would like to join us for this seasonal occasion. Please let Ann Bowden know if you would like to come along.

Braving dark and damp, our members come along on the second Tuesday of each month for a bit of sunshine, generated through a pleasant evening with friendly company. Why not join us and brighten YOUR winter.



If you have any queries about W.I. please contact the Secretary,  
**Ann Bowden** on 01404 823450.

**Sue MacCulloch**

## LITTER IN THE VILLAGE

A number of people have asked me to put a short entry in the News to highlight their fears of a litter problem in the village. They have seen litter discarded round the village, and in the central area, such as The Square, it has become very disappointing for residents to see, and to clear up. It is good that we have such public-spirited people, but it is a shame that they should have to do it at all. John Ball is one of these kind people, emptying the bin at the playground – thanks for doing that John.

The Parish Council has sited Dog Litter bins, which can also be used for litter, as well as the normal waste bins. I have no real measure on the size of this problem, but if you want to let me know your views and evidence, please drop me a line. You can also mention it to your Parish Councillor who can take it to a Council meeting for discussion and action.

**Ed H**

# Jan Keslake

L.T.E.C. M.I.P.T.I.



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We will be pleased to call to your home  
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We will attend Sandfords, Whimpe (by kind permission of Mrs Pratt) from 10.30 to 11.30am  
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**for commission to be earned.**

---

**Coming soon from the PTFA;**

**Bingo Night**

**Fashion Show**

**A Night at Whimple Theatre (okay, Village Hall)**

**Whimple PTFA has many meetings throughout the year. If you can spare the time and would like to help give the Whimple kids a more enjoyable education, please come along. Look on the school notice board for dates.**

# Whimble Scouts Corner

Thanks to all those who helped and attended our Jumble Sale last Saturday. We raised just over £200 for the group so well done, everyone.

We say goodbye to Adam and Penny who have been running Scouts for 7 years and 3 years respectively. They will be leaving at Xmas and my thanks to them for their hard efforts during their time here.

That means new leaders and helpers and instructors are needed in the Scout Section (10-14 years). A team of 2 would mean helping week after week; a team of 6 will mean helping once a month. If you consider yourself a good candidate for this role please phone me for more details on what is involved.

Cheers for now

**Alex Spry** (Group Manager)

01404 822844



## Parish Council News

This autumn finally saw the completion of the supply of water to the allotments - the allotment holders should particularly benefit from this facility during the summer months.

The use of the dog waste bins has been quite encouraging and the reduction of dog mess has been notable - the Parish Council would like to say thank you to all who use the bins. Please remember they can be used for all items of litter.

A number of items of maintenance have been carried out around the parish.

The Parish Council once again marked the two minutes silence on Remembrance Day with the firing of maroons.

Councillor Peter Bowden has been invited to become a member of the Standards Committee for East Devon District Council. Finally, in the new year the Parish Council will review applications for grants from organisations and individuals who are active or resident within the parish. Please apply to the Clerk, at the address below, by February 7th, giving brief details of purpose and the amount required.

**Mrs G Turner** - Parish Clerk, Penraddon, Hand and Pen, Whimble, EX5 2PX.



# Touchdown

*For that Personal Touch...*

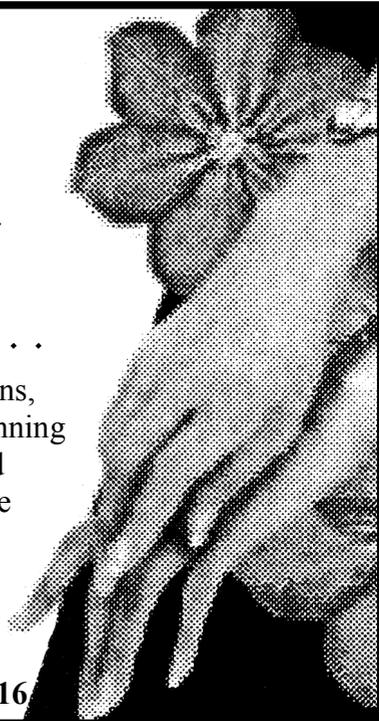
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# *New Year's Eve Party*

*at*

## *Whimble Victory Hall*

*with music, dancing and games,*

*8.00pm - 12.30am*

*Friday 31st December*

*'Bring and Share' finger supper*

*and licensed bar*

*Tickets £2.50 from Whimble Stores,*

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*or Pam 822262*

*(any proceeds will be donated to St Mary's Church  
Restoration Fund)*

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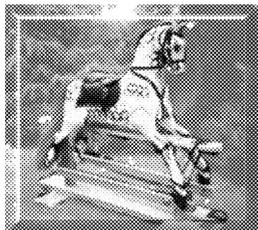
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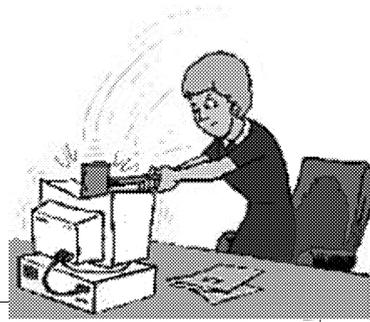
## Conversation- Déjeuner en français

**Would you like to get on track  
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**Then, why not try to do so in an  
informal friendly way:  
around a French light lunch,  
you will be able to enjoy French  
conversation, bien sûr!**

**For further information phone  
Florence Fyot - 811530.**

# Computer Problems.



Dear Tech Support:

Last year I upgraded from Boyfriend 5.0 to Husband 1.0 and noticed a distinct slowdown in the overall performance, particularly in the flower and jewellery applications, which operated flawlessly under Boyfriend 5.0. In addition, Husband 1.0 uninstalled many other valuable programs, such as Romance 9.5 and Personal Attention 6.5, and then installed undesirable programs such as Football 5.0, Cricket 4.3, and F1 3.0. Conversation 8.0 no longer runs, and Housecleaning 2.6 simply crashes the system. I've tried running Nagging 5.3 to fix these problems, to no avail. What can I do?

Signed,  
Desperate

Dear Desperate:

First, keep in mind that Boyfriend 5.0 is an Entertainment Package, while Husband 1.0 is an Operating System. Try to enter the command: "C:/ITHOUGHTYOULOVEDME" to download Tears 6.2, which should automatically install Guilt 3.0. If that application works as designed, Husband 1.0 should then automatically run the applications Jewellery 2.0 and Flowers 3.5. Remember, though, that overuse of the above application can cause Husband 1.0 to default to Grumpy Silence 2.5, Happy Hour 7.0, or Beer 6.1. Beer 6.1 is a very bad program that will create Snoring Loudly 10.8.

Whatever you do: DO NOT install Mother-in-law 1.0 or reinstall another Boyfriend program. These are not supported applications and will crash Husband 1.0. In summary, Husband 1.0 is a great program, but it does have limited memory and cannot learn new applications quickly. You might consider buying additional software to improve memory and performance. I personally recommend Hot Food 3.0 and Lingerie 7.7.

Good Luck,  
Tech Support

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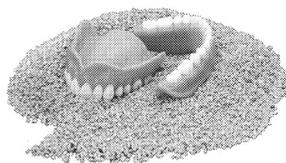
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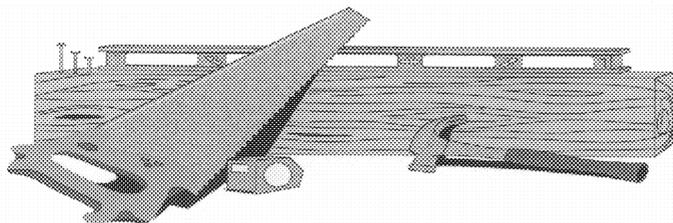


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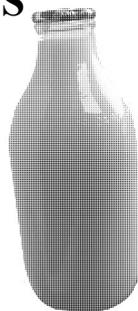
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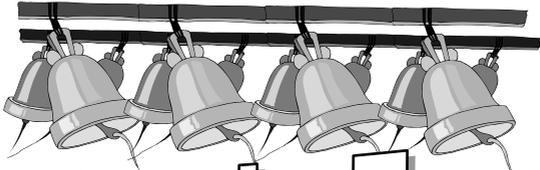
**Please contact**

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**Summerbridge, Whimpe, Devon**

**Tel: Whimpe 822458**





# New Year's Eve 2004

**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**

**We will sing 'Auld Lang Syne' together**

**( The church will be open )**

## **HELPING LOCAL CAUSES WHEN YOU SHOP ON-LINE!**

You will have seen elsewhere in this magnificent magazine, an advert for the PTFA and their web shop. The Whimble History Society also offers this facility, so that you, gentle reader have a choice of web shop where you can do your internet shopping, and support a worthy local cause. Below we note the details for the History Society website –

The web shop gives you the choice of a huge number of well-known and branded retailers in addition to giving you the chance to change a utility supplier, like electricity. So, instead of going direct to your selected retail site, go first to the Whimble History Society website, [www.whimble.org](http://www.whimble.org) , and click on the links to our online shop or simply go direct to

**[www.buy.at/whimblehistorysociety](http://www.buy.at/whimblehistorysociety).**

You will be surprised at the choice of retailers on our site and, as you develop this habit, you will be contributing to the ongoing costs of the Whimble Heritage Centre. We have ambitious plans to make all our archives available electronically, present talks on Whimble's heritage, develop the informative Village Walks and provide facilities in the Heritage Centre for everyone to participate in the ongoing heritage of the village of Whimble.

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# WE PUT OUR BREAST FOOT FORWARD!

In answer to Cancer Research UK's call to 'think pink' and raise money for research into breast cancer, myself and another Exeter mum set out on an epic four day walk from Lynton, on the North Devon coast, down to Exeter – around 65 miles. As an added incentive for people to sponsor us, we planned to walk a minute for every pound that was pledged in only our bras (and bottoms of course).



So, on Saturday September 25th we both put our breast foot forward, girded our loins, bared our chests and strode out to cross the County. We set off with the target of hopefully raising £500 by walking for at least ten hours topless – and at times there was certainly a nip in the air!

Apart from raising so much money, we both have memories of a great adventure. From the middle of foggy Exmoor, when we couldn't see 10 ft in front of us, to triumphantly walking onto Exeter Quay with our pink bras on. Our walk not only raised cash, but certainly increased awareness of the cause - and even the farmer on his quad bike drove past us twice to check he wasn't seeing 'double'! Throughout we met many supportive people - all of which gave us donations

We were completely overwhelmed by the amount of people who got behind us (and in front!) with their support – the final figure we raised was £2300!!! – just FANTASTIC, thank you all so very much for your help and encouragement.

**Gill Wilson**

## MOTHER MOLLY'S CHRISTMAS MULLED WINE RECIPE

Two bottles of red wine (preferably Claret)

One bottle (i.e. half the amount of wine) of water

Sugar

Nutmeg

Cinnamon

Heat the wine to almost boiling point.

Boil the water and add to the wine.

Add sugar, nutmeg and cinnamon to taste.

Serve with mince pies and have extra bottles of wine at the ready because it goes down very easily, especially on a cold night.

Happy Christmas to you all



# 'A Touch of Christmas'

## ORCHARD HARMONY

Presents a collection of  
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# CRIME CHECKLIST

A number of villagers have asked for a check list to keep at home in case the need arises, to ensure that full and accurate information is passed on to the police.

## IF URGENT RING THE POLICE

**Explain what you saw, suspicious circumstances, direction of travel, etc.**  
**Urgent attention needed ring 999** or to leave a message **0845 2777444**  
or to give information to **Crimestoppers 0800 555111**

Date ..... Time .....

Locations of incident .....  
There was a:  Burglary  Theft  Damage  
 Car theft  Theft from Car  Assault  Other

### SUSPECT VEHICLE

Reg. No. .... Vehicle make.....  
Vehicle model ..... Colour .....

<input type="checkbox"/> Saloon	<input type="checkbox"/> Estate	<input type="checkbox"/> Sports	<input type="checkbox"/> Van
<input type="checkbox"/> Lorry	<input type="checkbox"/> Motorbike	<input type="checkbox"/> Bicycle	<input type="checkbox"/> Other

Describe what you saw .....

### SUSPECT PERSON/S

<u>COMPLEXION</u>	<u>BUILD</u>	<u>HAIR COLOUR</u>	<u>HAIR STYLE</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Sallow	<input type="checkbox"/> Thin	<input type="checkbox"/> Black	<input type="checkbox"/> Short
<input type="checkbox"/> Pale	<input type="checkbox"/> Medium	<input type="checkbox"/> Grey	<input type="checkbox"/> Long
<input type="checkbox"/> Medium	<input type="checkbox"/> Muscular	<input type="checkbox"/> Dark Brown	<input type="checkbox"/> Curly
<input type="checkbox"/> Olive	<input type="checkbox"/> Stocky	<input type="checkbox"/> Light Brown	<input type="checkbox"/> Straight
<input type="checkbox"/> Dark	<input type="checkbox"/> Fat	<input type="checkbox"/> Ginger	<input type="checkbox"/> Balding
<input type="checkbox"/> Spotty	<input type="checkbox"/> Obese	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Bald

<u>EYE COLOUR</u>	<u>OTHER</u>	<u>CLOTHING</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Black	<input type="checkbox"/> Beard	Upper body .....
<input type="checkbox"/> Brown	<input type="checkbox"/> Moustache	Lower body.....
<input type="checkbox"/> Blue	<input type="checkbox"/> Tattoos	
<input type="checkbox"/> Green	<input type="checkbox"/> Glasses	
<input type="checkbox"/> Hazel		
<input type="checkbox"/> Grey		

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Could you detect an accent and if so what was it? .....

**Describe exactly what you saw** .....



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# Whimble History Society



## WHIMPLE HERITAGE CENTRE

Passers by will have noticed the building activity that has been taking place at the rear of the Heritage Centre during the past months. This work has been the building of an extension to the Centre.

It was always planned to build such an extension as the History Society knew that the amount of artefacts and records held by them would more than fill the existing building. They still have items stored in two other buildings.

Fund-raising for the £100,000 required started in late 2000. It was thought that it would take between six and eight years to raise. Due to generous donations from some members this sum was raised this year, allowing the building work to take place a few years earlier than planned.

The extension will be a new wing to the Centre comprising another gallery, toilets, storage areas for records and for artefacts not on display, and offices. It will allow the present records storage area to also become a gallery.

Building work will be completed by the end of this year. The Society's Committee will then set about fitting out the interior for use as galleries etc. It is planned for this to be completed in time for next year's opening of the Centre in April.

The members of the Society will be having a preview of the building work on 30th December, the anniversary of the death of the Society's late Chairman, John Shepherd.

The new wing will be formally opened in April and will be named 'The Whiteway Wing'. This is to commemorate the over 100 years of Whiteway Cyder Co Ltd operating in the village, the custody of that firm's archives and historical items being gifted to the Society and the generosity of the Whiteway family towards the Centre project.



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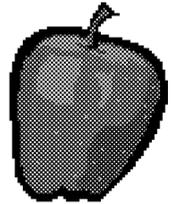
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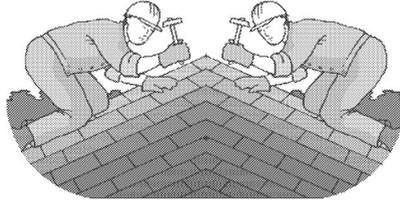
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# Whimble News

Would you like to help the Whimble News get better and better?

Following Peter and Angela Smith's departure from the village for Pastures New, we would like to invite any and all local people to come onboard and to help with the production of the 'News'.

We have a strong team of helpers at present, but would like to recruit two new members of that team as well. Anyone with desk-top publishing skills would be particularly welcome, as would someone to help out with the advertising when we finish the current year in June 2005.

Involvement is very easy going and relaxed, with most volunteers giving little more than an hour each two months.

If you can offer help and would like to be involved – please call 'Ed the Ed', or any member of the current team.

Thank you and we look forward to continuing bringing the Whimble News to you.

## Christmas Demonstration

Fast and effective Christmas decorations including wreaths, garlands, table spray and a host of ideas for creating your own magical Christmas.

**7.30pm 6th December  
In The Victory Hall**

Entry £3.00 to include drink and mince pie.

Tickets available at Whimble stores and the Post office.

Raffle to be held on the night.

# Organisations in Whimble

<b>Whimble Parish Council</b>	
<i>Chairman:</i> Sara Randall Johnson	822524
<i>Clerk:</i> Mrs Gerri Turner, Penraddon, Hand and Pen	823385
<b>St. Mary's Church</b>	
<i>Contact:</i> Rev. Rob Wilkinson	822521
<b>Devon County Councillor</b>	
Mr. R. Giles, 14 Winters Lane, OSM. EX11 1AR	813387
<b>East Devon Councillor</b>	
Andrew Dinnis	850363
<b>Whimble County Primary School</b>	
<i>Headteacher:</i> Mrs. D. Brice	822584
<i>P.T.F.A. Chair:</i> Adrian Hewitt 1 Church Rd	823549
<b>Whimble History Society</b>	
<i>Chairman:</i> Richard Webber	822038
<i>Secretary:</i> Roger Smith	822244
<b>Whimble Mothers Union</b>	
Margaret Burrough Gateshayes Farm	822257
<b>Whimble Pre-School &amp; Toddler Group</b>	
<i>Chair:</i> Sally Young 11 Chard Ave	823228
<i>Playleader:</i> Jo Westney Glencroft, Church Road	822168
<b>Whimble Womens Institute</b>	
<i>Secretary:</i> Mrs. Ann Bowden, Bradcott House, The Green	823450
<b>Whimble Over Sixties Club</b>	
Mrs B. Iball 11 Rectory Close	822905
<b>Whimble Recreation Trust</b>	
<i>Knowle Cross Sports Ground.</i> Mr P. Garraff, Luppit	891206
<b>Whimble Village Produce Association.</b>	
<i>Chairman:</i> Mr. A. Bratt, Rockwell, Talaton	822437
<b>Whimble and Broadclyst Young Farmers' Club</b>	
Mr. R. J. Burrough, Gateshayes Farm	822257
<b>Whimble Football Club</b>	
<i>Chairman:</i> Geoff Delves, 10 Elizabeth Close	823258
<b>Whimble Tennis Club</b>	
<i>Secretary:</i> Judith Imbo	823240
<i>Treasurer:</i> J. Hughes	822659
<b>Whimble Cricket Club</b>	
Mr. R.J.Smith	822244
<b>Whimble Victory Hall Management Committee</b>	
<i>Secretary:</i> Pam Scanlan, Albecq, The Green	822262
<i>Booking Sec:</i> Teresa Daniels	823169
<b>Whimble Post Office</b>	
Alison and Jim Creasy	822359
<b>Whimbletons</b>	
Emma Palmer	823083
<b>Neighbourhood Watch</b>	
John Munslow, 44, Slewton Crescent	823456
<b>St. Mary's Bellringers</b>	
Judith Canniford, 22 Grove Road	822873
<b>Whimble Scout Group</b>	
<i>Group Scout Leader (and Marquee Booking):</i> Alex Spry	822844
<b>Otter Rotters</b>	
Hugh Roberts	822651

# The Whimble News Team

## **Editor**

Ed Hitchcock 823194

## **Production**

Bob Scanlan 822262

Vivienne Leonard 822415

Anni Hindle 822025

## **Delivery**

Ed & Nicky Hitchcock 823194

## **Advertising**

Miles Leonard 822415

Pam Scanlan 822262

## **Community diary**

Lynda Trevena 822876

## **Treasurer**

Miles Leonard 822415



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