



Whimble News



John Griffiths receives the East Devon 'Best Kept Village' award from EDDC Chairman Graham Godbeer and Vice Chairman Christine Drew.

Christmas 2013



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What's On in Whimble

December

- 6th Over 65s Christmas Party – Victory Hall.
- 8th Last day of the School Silent Auction...Details on page 25.
- 14th Front Row Club presents 'Arthur Christmas' - a Christmas special -Victory Hall, 3.00pm Free ice creams! Details on page 13.
- 14th Front Row Club presents The Shawshank Redemption Victory Hall, 7.00 for 7.30pm.
- 15th Christmas Bingo Victory Hall, 7.00pm. Details on page 22.
- 21st Soup and Sarnie Christmas Special Lunch, Victory Hall, 12.00noon until 1.30pm. Details on page 12.
- 24th Carols in the Square 7.00pm. Details on page 37.
- 31st New Years Eve in the Square...Details on page 39.

January 2014

- 11th Front Row Club presents 'The Great Gatsby 7.00 for 7.30pm Victory Hall
- 13th VPA Victory hall – AGM. 7.30pm. Details on page 42.
- 17th Wassail starting at the New Fountain 6.30pm. Details on page 27.
- 25th Soup and Sarnie Lunch, Victory Hall, 12.00noon until 1.30pm.
- 25th Pre School Quiz and Curry Victory Hall 7.00pm. Details on page 43.

February

- 8th Front Row Club presents 'Love is all you need' 7.00 for 7.30pm. Victory Hall.
- 20th The Whimbletons Panto 'Snow White' at the Victory Hall 7.30pm. Details on page 19.
- 21st The Whimbletons Panto 'Snow White' at the Victory Hall 7.30pm. Details on page 19.
- 22nd The Whimbletons Panto 'Snow White' at the Victory Hall **Matinee.** 2.30pm. Details on page 19.
- 22nd The Whimbletons Panto 'Snow White' at the Victory Hall 7.30 Details on page 19.

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



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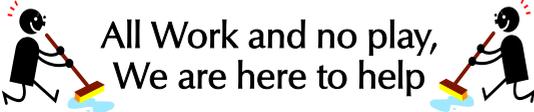
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Ed the Ed

Welcome to the Christmas edition of your Whimble News, and the team hope that you enjoy your 'read'. We have a number of new advertisers in this edition and I would encourage you to make use of their services.

It is good to see that the Village Shop with Jenny and Mark appears to be busy – they have a great range of foods, and as you know, I am a fan of their low calorie cakes. The range of vegetables and fruit is expanding, and I would encourage everyone to use the shop. Just by buying a few items would be a useful contribution to keeping a shop here in Whimble. I have now moved on from cakes to enjoy fine bacon, chipolata sausages and their rolls and loaves, plus very fresh and local vegetables. Plus you don't have to drive anywhere! If you haven't popped in yet, please do....you will be pleased you did.

Well done Whimble on winning the best kept village competition....see our cover (if you missed it!) and the article on page 11. If the EDDC dignitaries knew what that rascal John Griffiths gets up to on the panto stage they would have had second thoughts about appearing in a photo with him!

We Brits are never very good at giving praise so we are delighted to include on page 57 an article that we received – normally we wouldn't publish anonymous articles but we have made an exception this time. Well done to Chris Martin and his congregation.

Sadly, Fred Fowle died in late October and there was a service for him at the Crematorium, which was well supported by the village. Fred had owned and ran the Village Shop before passing it to Graham. Fred was always behind the counter helped by Pat, and was very kind and helpful to everyone. He continued to practise his watch and clock repairing skills as well as running the shop! I know that when I went in one day to buy some car wash shampoo (you don't know till you ask!) – he told me that he didn't stock any, but was worried about my enforced idleness. So he went out the back and decanted some of his own and presented it to me with instructions to go straight home and get car washing! Our thoughts are with Pat, Graham, Denise and family.

We bid farewell to John and Liz O'Hanlon, who have sold the brewery, and will be moving to pastures new. John was the Master of the Hunt for several years, and Liz trod the boards with the Whimbletons and they kindly supported the panto with generous donations of their beer, for which we were very grateful. We wish them luck in this next stage of their lives.

If you would like to contribute to the fine pages of this worthy magazine, then please either leave it with Jim and Alison at the PO, or send it direct to Bob on bob.scanlan@eclipse.co.uk by January 13th 2014.

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

Ed H

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Whimple Post Office News

A huge thank you to everyone who supported us in our fund raising efforts for Children in Need, we will let you know how much the final total is next time. Despite not being too keen to try a 'onesie', Jim is now addicted to his - a rather bizarre sight to behold, as some of you may have seen !!!!

Royal Mail have changed the sizes for 'small' parcel rate making it far more reasonable to send anything now falling into this category. So try to keep your parcels under 45cm x 35 cm x 8cm or 35cm x 25cm x 16cm.

Items can weight up to 1kilo (bag of sugar) for £2.60 2nd class.

Here are the all important last Christmas Posting dates.

Air Mail Overseas

Wed 4th Dec	Asia, Far East, Japan, New Zealand.
Thurs 5th Dec	Australia
Fri 6th Dec	South and Central America, Caribbean, Africa, Middle East
Mon 9th Dec	Cyprus, Eastern Europe
Tue 10th Dec	Canada, France, Greece, Poland
Fri 13th Dec	USA
Sat 14th Dec	The rest of Western Europe

And in the UK

Wed 18th Dec	2nd Class
Fri 20th Dec	1st Class
Mon 23rd Dec	Special delivery only

Of course we would recommend you post well before these dates if you possibly can.

Finally Jim and I would like to thank you all for your continued support throughout 2013. We wish you and your families a very Happy Christmas and a Healthy New Year.

Jim and Alison.



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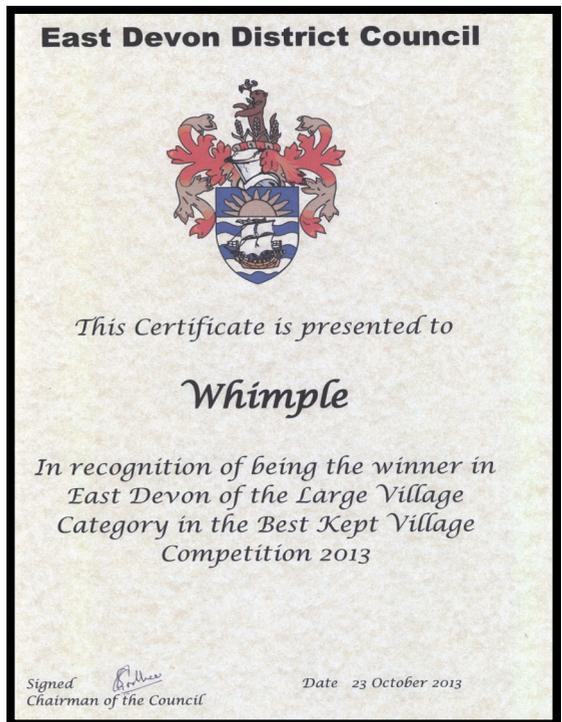
BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION

Last Spring, the Campaign to Protect Rural England and the Mole Valley Farmers invited Whimble to compete in the Best Kept Village Competition in Devon competition. Posters were displayed around the village together with a set of rules for the competition. Judging took place during the months of May, June and July and final judging in July and August. The organisers in Whimble, namely Cllr Sue Ayres and Cllr John Schofield, worked hard to involve many Whimble villagers in helping make the village as attractive as possible, encouraging residents to make their front gardens look delightful and to help in keeping the area neat and tidy and litter free. The condition of public buildings and open spaces including sports pavilions, street furniture and notice boards, etcetera were to be taken into consideration by the judges. An illustrated map of Whimble showing points of interest and a copy of Whimble News were also sent to the organisers of the competition. Following several visits to Whimble by the judges during the following months, final Judging results were made in September.

The Campaign to Protect Rural England and Mole Valley Farmers as sponsors feel that this is a very important competition which shows residents and visitors alike that we are proud of our beautiful villages and are keen to ensure that it remains well loved and cared for. We are delighted to announce that, through the good work carried out by Sue Ayres and John Schofield, the Best Kept large Village in Devon was won by WHIMBLE !

The Winner's Silver Cup and framed Winner's Certificate were collected by Whimble Council Chairman John Griffiths at East Devon Council Offices on 24th October and is now on display in the front window of Whimble Stores.

It is to be hoped that Whimble will again compete in 2014, and win!



Whimple Victory Hall

Christmas Special Lunch

by the Soup and Sarnie Team

12.00noon for 12.30pm

on Saturday 21st December

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The next Soup and Sarnie Lunch is on Sat 25th January 2014



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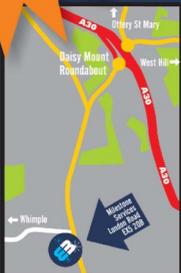
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VICTORY HALL



The Children's Christmas matinee is 'Arthur Christmas' and will be shown on 14th December at 3.00pm. This replaces the scheduled screening of 'Hugo' which we hope to screen at a later date.

The children's screening is organised and run in aid of FOWS.
Front Row Club has donated ice creams.

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A Very Special Birthday

On 7th November Edith Marie-Louise Grout celebrated her 95th birthday.

To celebrate that birthday, albeit a little early, a garden party in Edith's honour was arranged at the Bishop's Palace on Midsummer's Day. The event was attended by 140 guests, including four Bishops, who were entertained by Whimble School Choir. Edith particularly values a letter of congratulation she received that day from Dominik Furgler, the Swiss Ambassador.

Edith was born in Switzerland, came to England in the 1950s, moved to Devon in 1963, and eventually moved to Whimble in 1982 where she has been a very active member of the community ever since. Among her many interests were, of course, her 'From my Window.....' articles that regularly appeared in this magazine.

Ten years ago Edith wrote a book, also called 'From my Window in the Square' telling her life story and including many of her own writings and those taken from local publications. Now ten years on she is about to embark on another book with the working title 'A life of everlasting smiles'.

We send our birthday congratulations to Edith and look forward to her new book.

Bob Scanlan



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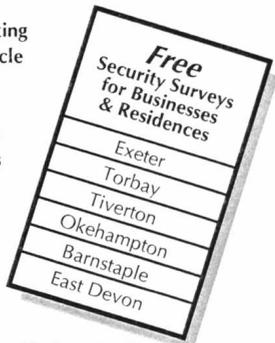
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WHIMPLE HISTORY SOCIETY PROJECT TO REMEMBER THE START OF THE GREAT WAR IN 1914



This is a poignant time of year to be asking you for help.

The History Society has embarked upon a project to commemorate the centenary of the start of The Great War. We hope to open the Heritage Centre in 2014 with an exhibition of stories and pictures which illustrate the social history of Whimple when news of the war broke out. We also want to be able to tell the stories of the many Whimple people who not only went to fight in the war but also stayed behind. To do this we need help. Some people have already kindly made themselves known but we need more volunteers to help us piece it together. Can you spare some time? A few hours, one day or more - any amount.

Below are a few extracts from David Parker's book 'The People of Devon in the First World War' I hope they will encourage you to contact us.

The high summer of 1914 was like many summers before, with final preparations being made for a host of popular events on and around the Bank Holiday, Monday August 3rd. Advertisements were appearing all over the county for horse and pony shows, regattas, horticultural shows, flower shows and in Whimple the villagers were preparing to host a sports day.

On the evening of Sunday August 2nd 1914 news of the imminent prospect of war reached the village of Broadclyst. During evensong the daughter of the verger appeared in the doorway of the church with a piece of paper in her hand. The verger was a Naval Reservist, and a telegram had arrived. On reading the telegram he got up noisily, hung his cassock on its peg in the tower vestry and left. By the time the congregation came out of the church he was on his way to the depot in Exeter. Throughout Devon thousands of others with military and naval training received similar calls.

On Bank Holiday Monday, August 3rd Germany declared war on France and its armies immediately invaded Belgium and Luxembourg. On August 4th the British Government sent an ultimatum to Germany to evacuate those countries: by eleven o'clock in the evening there had been no reply and by midnight Britain was at war.

On August 7th Lord Kitchener called for 100,000 more men to create a 'New Army'. Despite the high numbers in Devon's Territorials, local mayors were asked to stimulate more recruiting and to identify reliable recruiting contacts in all the parishes.

We have the names of over 100 Whimple men who joined The Great War and we are looking for volunteers to help research the part they played. If you would like to help please contact me. You can also approach anyone from the History Society or pop a note into our post box which can be found outside the Heritage Centre.

Sue Ayres 823082 or email sue@reubenayres.com or info@whimple.com.

A CONVERSATION WITH LUCY SMITH

In our latest chat, Lucy and I spoke about Whimple's Christmasses past, and more general 'bits and pieces' about the village. Lucy was very involved with the church as a young lady because both parents were active supporters of St Mary's – her father, if you remember, was the main man for 'ringing the bells and stoking the coals', whilst her mother was flower arranging in the church and a member of the WI. Lucy had also run the Sunday School for a number of years, and at Christmas time, was responsible for organising the Nativity Play which was performed at the Victory Hall with a cast of some 20 - 30 children. These Nativity Plays had been put on at the Hall since the 1920s, so they were a well established tradition in Whimple. All the costumes were created by the army of parents, with some splendid scenery – and all performed to a full house for one night only. Lucy appeared as an angel some time in the 1930s, and one Roger Smith, aged seven, continued the thespian tradition by playing Joseph, and I believe, went onto bigger and greater things.

There were also Whist Drives with poultry as prizes, once a year in the Victory Hall and these were well attended by some 100 or so people - local Whimple folk plus people from the surrounding villages.

We had previously discussed the carol singing, when a group of Whimple singers would borrow a local lorry and tour nearby villages and towns, making a collection for a charitable cause. One of the causes St Mary's in Whimple supported was missionary work and the money collected was handed over to the vicar at Midnight Mass on the Christmas Eve. The carol singers also went around Whimple but apparently would be cunningly selective as to where they would go – aiming for the houses where they were most likely to be well received in terms of money given, plus with the chance of mince pies and something to drink – Dick Whiteway at Woodhayes was always a good bet for these!

The Harvest Festival was a highlight in the church calendar and the altar boy carrying the cross was known to speed up his pace so that he could get to the Harvest Festival dance that followed the service in the Victory Hall, and get a good seat! Who would think that he is now a well respected elder of our village?

Lucy also remembered the Cricket Club – they would have a 'start of season' dance, held at the Victory Hall, and Lucy could clearly remember the sandwiches (without crusts, gentle reader....how they lived in the old days!), and all the evergreen decorations around the fire (which was not alight, thank goodness!).

Since this was written we have learned that Lucy has had a nasty fall and is in hospital. We send her our best wishes and hope for a speedy recovery

HI HO HI HO!



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Greeting from Radcliffe on Trent

Dear Friends in Whimble,

The Whimble News and History Society Calendar 2014 have just dropped through our letter box here in Radcliffe on Trent. Reading the magazine and looking at the calendar pictures brought a lump to our throats. Great to see so many wonderful people enjoying events that illustrate the community spirit of helping one another in Whimble.

We are now really settled in Radcliffe on Trent - helping at church services and doing food for the youth club on Sunday evenings. It is wonderful to be near the grandchildren, Daniel and Joshua and see them growing up. Also helping Matthew and Tina with their Scouts and Beavers.

May you all have a wonderful Christmas and enjoyable and successful 2014.

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Simon Egerton, presented by Villages In Action

This one-man show was a first-hand exploration of the life of 'Paul' through a combination of story-telling and song. The tale included his slightly unorthodox family unit as a child ('posh, and a bit camp'), through puberty, marriage, his Mother's death and the surprising reasons behind his Father's subsequent move overseas. Simon cleverly used the combination of clear and precise dialogue, and some very powerful song writing and musical performance to evoke a range of emotions in the audience. His approach made the audience feel as though he was talking to us as old friends. We thoroughly enjoyed the show and would recommend it.

Prior to the event, however, I decided to take a look online to get an idea of what we could expect. This was a mistake. As is often the case, the online clips captured none of the atmosphere or personality of a live act. I suspect a number of people may have done the same as me and decided not to come on that basis, as the audience numbers were low and the event was very nearly cancelled completely.

Whimble is extremely fortunate to have a number of people who work very hard to bring high-quality and good-value entertainment (live music, comedy, film, speakers etc) into the village for the benefit of local people. The time, effort, stress (and cost) involved in organising these events should not be underestimated and it is only feasible to run such events if there is good support from local people. I have had many people say to me how amazed they are that so much goes on in Whimble compared to other much larger communities. It is a fact Whimble should be proud of. Therefore, I would ask that before deciding that a future event is not 'your thing', take a risk and support some of these events. You may be pleasantly surprised. If you don't take that risk, you may find that things start to get a lot quieter around here!

Many thanks to the VIA team, and looking forward to future events.

Alex Tooze

Whimble and Broadclyst Young Farmers



Christmas Bingo
Sunday 15th December
Whimble Victory Hall



doors open 7.00 p.m., Eyes Down 7.30 p.m.

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News from Whimple Stores

Many thanks to all who are regularly shopping with us and changing their shopping habits. We would love to see more people so please feel free to let us know what sort of things you want. As mentioned before we hope in the future to be able to offer tea and coffee but this will take some time and other immediate repair costs have taken priority. Don't forget that Frank is still happy to deliver fresh fish on a Wednesday – if you would like to place an order with him please call on a Tuesday evening 01823 277669 and we will hold it for you at the shop until you can collect.

Many people ask about our current suppliers and we have bread, cakes, pasties and sausage rolls delivered daily from Shauls Bakery in Exeter. We have fruit and veg delivered 3-4 times a week from Milfords in Exeter. We also get freshly picked veg from Broadclyst Community Farm and the chard and kale are particularly delicious and popular. We have a delivery of homogenised westcountry milk for all those who don't like the creamy un-homogenised milk from Ashclyst Dairy. Surprisingly the westcountry milk is more expensive for us to buy as there is a chain before it gets to us. The Ashclyst milk is organic, delicious and very local. It is made, processed and bottled at a farm just outside of Broadclyst and the family and their team are a pleasure to deal with. They have a great range of cream and yoghurts which once tried will remind you of how yoghurts used to taste.

We currently have a lovely range of produce from Courtneys and we can take orders for these items or anything else. Cheeses may be worth ordering in for Christmas. Cheese, hams and pates come to us from Hawkridge Farm and whilst we order in a small selection they do offer a very large range. We can also order in home made cakes, although we hope to offer a small selection at the weekends.

Looking ahead we hope to be working with Fresh & Green from West Hill. They produce veg and offer a medium or large veg bag for £9 or £12 – delivery on a Thursday afternoon. We need a minimum of five people to make this work for Fresh & Green so please contact us if you are interested. We are also talking to local farmers about supplying fresh meat and hope to receive some beef from Dartmoor Farmers in the near future. They are offering vacuum packed quality beef reared on the moors. We should also be getting some Faith in Nature shampoos and some Little Pod vanilla paste.

As many of you know Lucy has given up her paper round and we are delighted that so many people have chosen to come to us for their daily and weekend papers. Our area is unusual for papers as there are two wholesale distributors and at the moment we cannot get the Times or Sun newspapers. We are investigating if this can be changed sooner than next summer when our wholesaler will have the contract for those two papers.

Christmas opening hours are in the magazine. We have decided to open on Boxing Day and New Year's Day so that you can get your emergency supplies and newspapers.

The opening hours over Christmas will be shorter to give us a breathing space and allow us to spend some time with the family. We hope this doesn't cause you too much inconvenience. Thank you for your support so far and we wish you a Merry Christmas and all the best for 2014.

Mark, Jenny, Harry & Dulcie

Whimple Primary School Silent Auction



Shhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhh!

Whimple School Silent Auction is running until the 8th December.

With over 45 items to bid on from yummy chocolate brownies to a round of golf for four there is something for everyone. It's easy to do: -

- click on the school website www.whimple-primary.devon.sch.uk,
- click on blue ptfa button,
- email bids to friendsofwhimpleschool@gmail.com.

Happy bidding. Good luck.

Thank you for your support

Sam Walker

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Whimble History Society



Friday 17th January 2014 - Wassailing

This year's Wassailing will start at the New Fountain Inn at about 6.30pm for the usual 'rehearsal'. The assembled company will then move off at about 7.00pm to Wymcote for the first Wassail ceremony, courtesy of Mr. and Mrs. I. Hardcastle.

The procession will then proceed up Church Road to Lower Woodhayes Orchard for the second Wassail ceremony. The procession will then move back to The Square, via Dince Hill Close, where the procession will gather near the tethering stone to remember the Society's first chairman, John Shepherd.

The procession will then continue to the orchard adjacent to Knowle Cross Farm for the 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 (a small charge will be made).

We 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 apple trees and ward off any evil spirits in them.

Xmas shopping opening times for the Heritage Centre are:- 30th November and 7th December from 11.00am until 2.30pm.

Ottery St Mary Hospital League of Friends.

Thank you to all the Whimble people who came to our coffee morning on 5th October. We made £651.58p. My stall made £64.00.

Thank you to those who gave me toiletries to sell.

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Alex Kumar and Jo Harman at the Victory Hall

The latest gig from On A Whim Promotions was another experience in discovering new talent from near and far. First up was young Alex Kumar from Exmouth, a solo singer-songwriter with a very clear talent on the guitar. After first making us think that he must be older than he looks, because of his substantial set of great, self-penned songs with sophisticated guitar work, he put us right by revealing his age in introducing his masterpiece *1963* – “a bit of nostalgia for a time 34 years before I was born”...! Clearly a lad with a great future in front of him.

Another pint of Yellow Hammer later and it was time for the headline act – Jo Harman and Company from Brighton, visiting Whimble as part of their UK tour. An evocative mixture of blues, soul, jazz and rock in a unique style, the music from Jo and her band grabbed the audience and took us on a journey through a range of emotions. Not only were the songs deep and sincere, Jo also had a great stage presence and rapport with the audience. Mostly showcasing her own original material, including a lot from her recently-released debut album *Dirt On My Tongue*, Jo also dropped in a few covers of classics such as Crosby, Stills and Nash’s *Love The One You’re With* and the immortal *Let It Be* (and luckily, when quizzed by Jo, our children *had* heard *Let It Be* before!). Jo’s voice was truly astonishing, belting out the loud, upbeat numbers as if it were Wembley Stadium, but also dropping to quiet, sensitive, soulful tones that held the audience in silent rapture. Again, it’s amazing to see such talent in full flow.

As with many of the performers that On A Whim promotions bring to Whimble, Jo and Co are the kind of band you’d normally expect to see at a much bigger venue or festival. We’re lucky that Alex & John are so passionate about bringing great, original music to our village – well done guys, another triumph!

Richard Betts



THE BIG BREW UP

A very big thank you to all who supported the "SSAFA Big Brew Up" in October. My team of helpers made and/or served delicious cakes and bacon butties, coffee and tea, which, with the help of a raffle made a total of £300. Thank you also to all who came along to eat drink, socialise and donate. It was such a success that I would like to have another similar event in the dark months of either January or February. The date is to be confirmed. This event will be for a local Charity, East Devon Riding for the Disabled Association which offers riding therapy for children and adults at Hitts Barton Riding stables just outside Whimble. If you would like further details or to volunteer to help please contact **Rosie Davies** either by phone 01404 823356 or Email rosemary-davies@yahoo.co.uk

WRUG needs you to count.

Those of you that take the 08.02 train to Exeter will know how busy it is. Similarly if you return from London in the afternoon onwards you will experience the same thing. So WRUG has reached the stage when numbers have become important to the argument. It seems the easiest way to collect accurate and relevant data is for passengers to gather it themselves. Can you help?

What we would like is for you to count the number of people getting on your train...and if you can, the number getting off at your station (probably not Exeter!). Then feeding that count into a common site together with sufficient identification to be useful. Typically that would be the train time (boarding) and destination station; and the date. If you could include a count of bikes and prams/pushchairs so much the better.

Face book might be a good central point, or email the count weekly to me and I'll collate it and publish it somehow. If this appeals, and you are willing to help, have a go and email me as usual - roger.algate@gmail.com

Similarly I am keen to have the help of some technically savvy youngsters to take over the Facebook page and web presence - preferably who also use the train for college/school/uni. Please get in touch.

Roger Algate

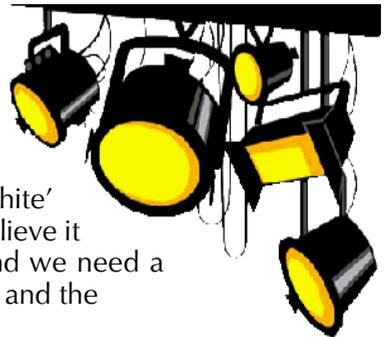
Prompter Wanted

The Whimbletons will be unleashing 'Snow White' on the village, at the end of February 2014. Believe it or not, we have started rehearsals already, and we need a 'prompter' to help us through all the rehearsals and the production itself.

This would be an ideal opportunity for any aspiring Whimbleton to see how the mayhem develops and make their mark for a part in future productions. It is always great fun and the Whimps are a very social crowd.

If you would like more details then please just pick up the phone to me and I will be delighted to clarify anything about the panto.

Ed Hitchcock Chairman, the Whimbletons Tel 823194



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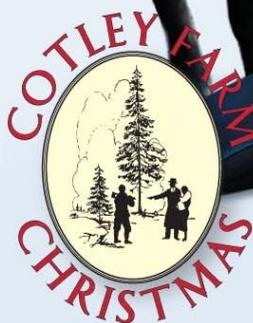
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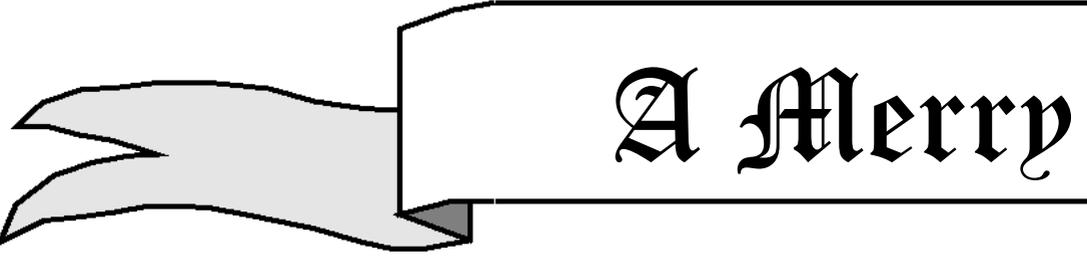
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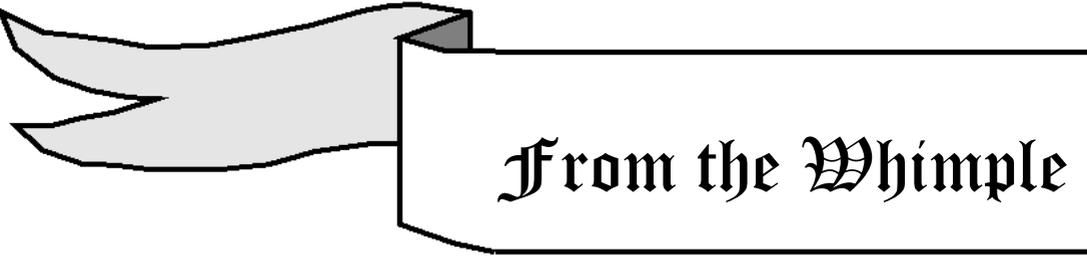




A Merry

Christmas opening hours

		ST MARY'S CHURCH SERVICES	POST OFFICE	WHIMPLE STORES	WHIMPLE SURGERY
TUESDAY	DECEMBER 24TH 2013	1130PM MIDNIGHT COMMUNION	900AM -1230PM	8.00AM - 12.00PM	
WEDNESDAY	DECEMBER 25TH 2013	1100AM FAMILY SERVICE WITH CAROLS	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
THURSDAY	DECEMBER 26TH 2013		CLOSED	9.00AM - 11.00AM	CLOSED
FRIDAY	DECEMBER 27TH 2013			8.00AM - 12.00PM	
SATURDAY	DECEMBER 28TH 2013			8.00AM - 1.00PM	CLOSED
SUNDAY	DECEMBER 29TH 2013	10.30AM MORNING WORSHIP		9.00AM - 1.00PM	CLOSED
MONDAY	DECEMBER 30TH 2013		CLOSED	8.00AM - 6.00PM	
TUESDAY	DECEMBER 31ST 2013		9.00AM -1.00PM	8.00AM - 12.00PM	
WEDNESDAY	JANUARY 1ST 2014		CLOSED	9.00AM - 11.00AM	CLOSED
THURSDAY	JANUARY 2ND 2014				



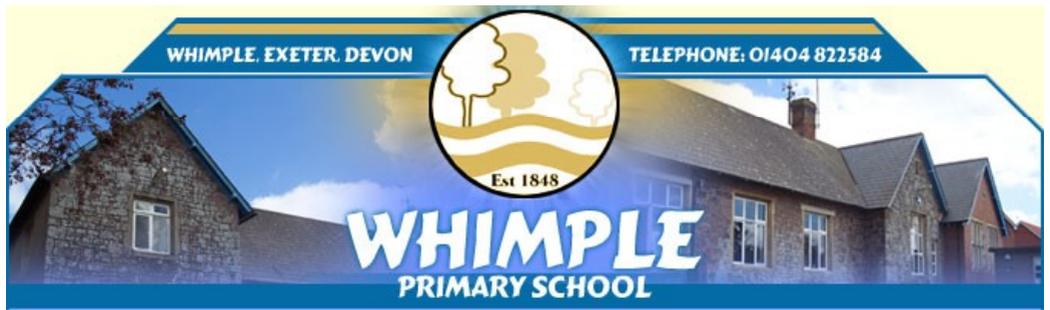
From the Whimble

Christmas

(normal if blank)

OTTERY SURGERY	OTTERY PHARMACY (CO-OP)	NEW FOUNTAIN INN	THIRSTY FARMER	MILESTONE GARAGE
	9.00AM - 6.30PM	NOON - 2.00PM 6.30PM - 11.00PM	NOON - 12.00PM	7.00AM - 8.00PM
CLOSED	CLOSED	NOON - 2.00PM (NO FOOD)	NOON - 2.00PM (NO FOOD)	CLOSED
CLOSED	CLOSED	NORMAL HOURS (NO FOOD)	CLOSED	8.00AM - 8.00PM
	9.00AM - 6.30PM		NOON - 11.30PM	7.00AM - 9.00PM
CLOSED	CLOSED		NOON - 11.30PM	8.00AM - 9.00PM
CLOSED	CLOSED		NOON - 11.30PM	8.00AM - 8.00PM
	9.00AM - 6.30PM		NOON - 11.30PM	7.00AM - 9.00PM
	9.00AM - 6.30PM	NOON - 3.00PM 6.30PM - 12.30AM	NOON - 1.00AM	7.00AM - 8.00PM
CLOSED	CLOSED	NOON - 3.00PM 5.30PM - 11.00PM (NO FOOD)	CLOSED	8.00AM - 8.00PM
	9.00AM - 6.30PM	CLOSED 2ND - 8TH JAN INCLUSIVE	NOON - 2.30PM 6.00PM - 11.00PM	7.00AM - 9.00PM

News Team



Whimble School gets inspected

The school has had an unexpected visit from OFSTED and the inspector's report will be available to read online by the time you read this.

Our overall grading this time was 'Good' with the behaviour and safety of pupils being judged as 'Outstanding'.

It is disappointing that we did not retain our overall 'Outstanding' grade. However, if you read the new report, and compare it with the previous one, you will see that there has been no change in provision but that the 'goal posts' have been moved.

At the time of the last inspection 9% of schools were being graded as 'Outstanding' and this has already fallen to less than 7% under the new inspection regime. Schools are now graded as 'Outstanding' only if they are judged outstanding in 'teaching and learning' as well as in other aspects.

Our SATs results in 2012 put us as one of the top performing schools in England, but in 2013 a dip in reading skills for our highest attaining pupils reduced the assessment to 'in line with', rather than 'above', similar schools. This was sufficient to put us outside of the 'Outstanding' criteria.

We remain proud of Whimble School's achievements and the views that were expressed by parents were resoundingly positive.

Susie Jessop, Head and **Maria Wallis**, Chair of Governors

The Musical Assembly

Everybody in the school went to a very special assembly which was called the music assembly! The instruments were... advanced recorder, beginner guitars, piano, advanced guitars, piano and violin. There was also the school choir which was very good and the theme was old folk songs which included a lot of dying!

By *Sam Walsh* and *Max Walker, Year 4*

Apple picking

On Wednesday the 16th October we went to the orchard to pick the juicy ripe apples, we managed to fill 19 bags full of the lovely apples which got made into cider.

Class 5 of Whimble Primary School partnered up with the reception class and they helped them pick the apples and we all enjoyed it. The whole school went to the orchard. We picked apples for 45 min and we sang three songs. The first song was 'Autumn Days' second song was 'Michaelmas Daisies' the last song was "Harvest Samba. We went back to the school and soon after the tractor came down to the orchard to collect them and took them down to Darts Farm and got made into cider. All the school including the teachers enjoyed the day. It was the reception children's first time and they tried very hard. The next time you go to Darts Farm you might be drinking the cider from apples Whimble Primary School collected.



From **Summer Burgess**, year 6

Teeth

We did an experiment using two white eggs, two plastic cups, a bottle of cola and tube of toothpaste. We wanted to see if toothpaste really protects our teeth.

First we covered one of the eggs with toothpaste. Then we put each egg into separate cups and covered them with sugary cola. Every week we checked what had happened to the eggs.

Guess what has happened?

The egg with toothpaste has gone a little bit speckled and a bit green but it is still mostly white. The egg without the toothpaste has gone dark brown all over. Yuk!

Toothpaste really does work, so brush your teeth!

By **Jonny and Sam** year 3.



Poppy Appeal 2013.



I am pleased to report that the Poppy Appeal 2013 has raised £1393.35 in the village. This is down by £20 on last year so in these hard times is a tremendous achievement.

There was a good turnout for the Remembrance Service in the church and thanks go to the Scouts for their contribution as well as the choir.

Thanks specially go to all the collectors who made it out in the village despite it being half term and Halloween, I hope they did not get confused with the Trick or Treaters! The shop excelled too and was one of the best contributors.

Although some people buy their poppy from a supermarket, it all goes to the same cause.

Thanks to all who attended the Thirsty Farmer Quiz on the Sunday evening.

Next year we celebrate?! the outbreak of the First World War and the History Society will have a Battlefields of Remembrance talk in November.

Many thanks to all.

Fiona Clarke Poppy Organiser

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Tim Wright

Lee Maddicks

David Drew

New Year's Eve 2013

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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

Jan and John at The Jays will be serving mulled wine on New Year's Eve.
Any donations of wine will be gratefully accepted! Please leave at 'The Jays'.

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Whimble Soapbox Karting Challenge

On the 20th October you may have witnessed a rather bizarre event taking place in the centre of our village..... if not, you missed a great afternoon of minor chaos; it was the inaugural '*Whimble Soapbox Karting Challenge*'.

A few, mad soapbox groupies of Whimble had to design and build a go-kart able to run from the New Fountain Inn to the Thirsty Farmer and back again (using man/woman/boy/girl power only!), whilst changing drivers and having to drink a pint of their choice midway and at the end!

Bedlam isn't quite the right word but witnessing two Santas, an ambulance and a chariot with two roman goddesses (not to mention the other madcap daredevils) hurtling towards you, is a fairly unusual site on a relaxing Sunday afternoon!



The event was organised by John Griffiths & Ross Thompson. Despite a very late 'squall', which put the challenge in a last minute doubt, the sun burst out for an extremely fun afternoon for all.

We would like to thank the New Fountain Inn & the Thirsty Farmer for their huge support for the event, Sally Young who made absolutely fabulous laurels for the winners, the marshals – Susie Adams, Shaun Copp, Neil Walker, Tony Bickel, Peter Coslett and Paul Carpenter. Paul Walsh helped with the plush safety signs and course safety, as did James Baker by supplying the hay bales. Samantha Thompson and Penny Daniels somehow kept some form of order, monitoring times and working out which team laid claim to the much sought-after and magnificent trophy, which was no mean feat! Samuel Walsh & Connor Thompson were also integral, ensuring the eager teams started & finished at the right time and place. However, the final thank you has to go to the teams (who paid to enter) and the spectators who turned out to raise some money and have some good old fashioned fun, well done Whimble!!

The inaugural challenge trophy was won by On a Whim Doctors - John Griffiths and Alex Tooze. The Stig would have been left in their wake..... well maybe?

The official final placings: 1st On a Whim, 2nd 9½ digits, 3rd Team Whiteway, 4th Team Bird, 5th The Military Two-Step, 6th Chariots of Fire, 7th Green Taff and we are still waiting for Fireman Ted to finish; if you find them please point them in the right direction.

Together we raised £121.00 for Whimble Primary School. The question was instantly posed after the event finished; will it happen again next year? Watch this space..... I hear that some folks have developed design patents already.....

Ross Thompson

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WHIMPLE AND DISTRICT VILLAGE PRODUCE ASSOCIATION

We are now very much into autumn and it will certainly be winter by the time this edition is delivered! The wonderful summer seems such a distant memory now!

Following our wash up meeting for this year's Flower Show we decided that in order to encourage more exhibitors and hopefully more exhibits, we would put "Suggestion Boxes" in the Post Office and Village Stores inviting your ideas. We are looking for suggestions for suitable classes in the various Sections with particular emphasis on the Photography and Flower Arranging Sections. Please feel free to put forward any constructive comments as we are always looking to provide Classes which you will support. These boxes will remain in place until the end of February so if you do have some good ideas for classes for the Show please let us know.

Our last event of the year was a very successful and enjoyable trip to Westonbirt to see the arboretum in all its autumnal splendour. A full coach made the trip up the M5 and had an excellent day with a very helpful guide on hand to give lots of information. Fortunately the weather stayed reasonably dry and all were safely returned by 6.15pm. Many thanks to Doreen for arranging this trip.

We are already planning ahead for next year and we have a talk booked for the evening of Tuesday 25th March 2014. This will be given by Mary Benger and will be a talk on how she developed Burrow Farm Gardens. This should be an excellent evening as these gardens are now very well known and should give us an insight in to how Mary planned these wonderful gardens.

We are also going to have a trip to the Lost Gardens of Heligan and this will be on Saturday 3rd May 2014. This will probably be a joint trip with the Ottery St. Mary Gardening Club. This will enable a larger coach to go and thereby make it cheaper for everyone. Once again, Doreen Staddon is taking names so give her a ring to reserve your seat and avoid disappointment, telephone 823594.

Our Annual General Meeting is to be held on Monday 13th January 2014 at 7.30 in the Committee Room of the Victory Hall. All are very welcome to attend especially anyone who would like to join our Committee – we are always pleased to have new faces!

Don't forget that details of these events, together with all our activities are on our website and this can be found at: www.whimplevpa.org.uk.

Paul Wilson,

Hon. Secretary.





**Whimple Pre-school
Presents**

QUIZ & CURRY

When?

Saturday 25th January 2014



Where?

The Victory Hall, Whimple



What time?

Doors open from 7pm for a 7.30pm start

How much are the tickets?

£8 per person

Team size?

Maximum of 8 people per team

Where can I get tickets?

**Available in Whimple Post Office from
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Licensed Bar available on the night



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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!

Vale Vets



The Hospiscare Coffee Morning was again very generously supported and resulted in the splendid sum of £750 being raised. The success of this event is due to the willing help I receive from the local Friends of Hospiscare group from members of Whimble WI and, of course, everyone else who comes to what has now become an annual event. My warmest thanks go to every one of you.

Rosemarie Burrows

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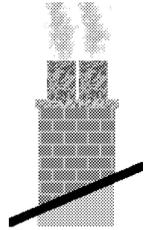
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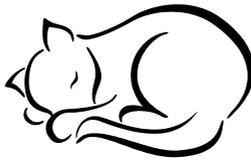
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INSPIRING WOMEN

Whimple Women's Institute continues to grow. We provide a variety of talks and activities and the opportunity to make new friends. In October Rebecca Newman gave an interesting talk on book binding and demonstrated some of the skills and techniques needed in restoring old books. By way of contrast, the topic in November was the life and times of Marie Lloyd, which told us more of her personal life in addition to her theatrical career.

Outside activities have included the Autumn Council Meeting at Plymouth which was attended by two members and several members have attended a class to improve their computer skills.

There is a warm welcome for new members and visitors. If you are interested just contact Pam Scanlan (822262) for details.

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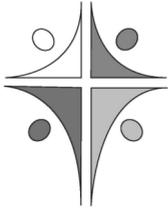
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WHIMPLE CHURCH

www.whimplechurch.org

Churches 4 All

Whimple - Talaton
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Thank you to everyone for all your support during 2013. 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.

There was a very good attendance at the harvest service on 22nd September with a large quantity of food given for St Petrocks who support homeless people in Exeter.



This year the harvest lunch was held up in the orchards opposite Lower Woodhayes. It was wonderful to be eating a great feast outside amongst the abundance of the apple harvest. The weather was very kind being warm & still and the orchards looked stunning in the sunshine.

All ages took part from 1 to 89! A quiz about apples entertained the adults and the youngsters enjoyed apple bobbing, peeling the longest apple peel and throwing an apple the furthest.

Many thanks to Margaret Bucknell for the stunning table decorations, everyone who provided delicious apple puddings and puddings and cakes and for the helpers who transported the bales and chairs to the site.

- It was very inspirational, made me think about what there was to look forward to in the future, and it was really fun.
- Well arranged fun activities, enabling me to get closer to God
- An amazing, fantastic experience!!! An opportunity that I will never forget!!!
- Good food! Fun with friends!!
- Muddy!!! Thoughtful!!!!
- Roll on next year!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

This year's **Christmas Fun Day** for primary school aged children will be on Saturday 7th December in the Victory Hall from 9.0am until noon. 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 Post Office the Church or you can book a place by ringing **Dianne Goodwin** on 823476.

Our **Advent Carol Service** is on Sunday 1st December at 6.30pm and our **Christmas Carol Service** is on Sunday 22nd December at 6.30pm. Both are traditional in style with readings and a mix of congregation and choir sung carols.

Our **Christingle Service** this year is at 4.00pm on Sunday 8th December. This is an informal service particularly suitable for children, when we celebrate Jesus as The Light of the World.

This year's **Christmas Celebration Service** is at 9.30am on Sunday 15th December. This is another informal style service designed to appeal to all ages. Join us for a Bring and Share Breakfast from 9.00am

There will be a **Midnight Communion** service at 11.30pm on Christmas Eve, 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 and The Link (Churches 4 All magazine) and Christmas cards distributed around the village list the full details.

Please welcome our **Carol Singers** again this year as they sing in part of the village on 15th December from 6.30pm, to raise money for St Petrocks, the organisation in Exeter which helps the homeless. If you would like to join them to sing or play a musical instrument please contact Gerri Turner on 822587.

The Parochial Church Council on behalf of Whimble Church wish you a joyful Christmas and new year.



As you can tell, the Impact weekend this year was a great success. We took 17 10 – 16 year olds up to Heatree Activity centre, on Dartmoor, which has great on-site facilities. On the Saturday afternoon the group were able to do climbing and abseiling or kayaking. It was a bit cold (especially if you fell in) but the accommodation was very well set-up with nice hot showers. After lots of cake and hot chocolate everyone was warm again!!

On the Sunday we avoided the rain and walked up to Hound Tor, where they did more climbing. These weekends are a combination of fun, activities and games, and we also look at the Bible and some aspect of the Christian faith – this year we looked at our spiritual journeys - accompanied by plenty of good food! We want to thank everyone who helped with food, lovely soups and curries and also the Impact group itself, as they are a pleasure to be with for the weekend!!



Ian and Maggie Spicer, Helen Bowker & Julian Wilson.

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Christmas Concert

December 14th at 7.30pm

Ottery St Mary Parish Church

As December arrives and you find yourselves busy with preparations for the festivities, don't forget that Christmas music is a sure way to help you relax and celebrate the season. Come along and join the Choral Society for their annual Christmas concert in Ottery St Mary Parish Church on **Saturday 14th December, at 7.30 pm.**

This year's major choral work will be **Haydn's Great Organ Mass** and the orchestra will be performing **Mozart's "Linz" Symphony**. The choir will be singing a selection of Christmas music, and as usual you will have the opportunity to join in with some of your favourite carols. At the end of the evening you will be offered a glass of wine and a mince pie while you chat to your friends and members of the choir. A retiring collection will be made for our chosen charity, Hospiscare.

Tickets are available from **Stagestruck** in Ottery St Mary. Telephone: 01404 811311.

Classics Galore Concert

On November 9th many of you will have been in the audience for this year's wonderful fund-raising concert. More than a thousand people gathered in the Great Hall of Exeter University for an evening of well-known light classical music. Ottery St Mary Choral Society formed the greater part of a chorus of more than one hundred singers



who were accompanied by the Classics Galore Symphony Orchestra. The Lymstone Band also contributed several rousing pieces arranged specially for brass instruments, The audience thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity of singing along to well-known songs, in particular the finale of Land of Hope and Glory, accompanied by much flag-waving to rival the Last Night at the Proms in the Albert Hall. The final sum raised for the Force Cancer Charity is expected to exceed £13,500.

Our thanks to all of you who supported us so enthusiastically and we look forward to welcoming you again at the Christmas Concert,

Please visit our website for any more information you need about the society and forthcoming concerts. www.otterystmarychoral.org

For more information regarding Ottery St Mary Choral Society please contact: osmcs@hotmail.co.uk or telephone **Annie Bassett** - Chairman - 823331

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Our last order date was 18th November where we achieved a price of 53.99p per litre against the 56.4p per litre price quoted for just 1000 litres. Our next order is on Monday 27th January.

PLEASE BE AWARE:

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

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2014:

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MONDAY 17th November



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A letter to the Editor:-

Where there is a will there is hope.

One Sunday recently, I was feeling as though I had the world's problems on my shoulders and I was forever hearing my mind saying "what if?". The negative nature of "what if?" therefore blowing all thoughts and problems out of proportion. This I inherited from my lovely Dad who is no longer with us.

On this particular Sunday I had my wonderful sister in law staying with me, who very sadly had been hit by a thunderbolt only a few weeks prior. Adjusting to her new life with the help of anti depressants she was regaining her smile. This particular morning in question we were both sat on my bed in our dressing gowns talking through our issues when all of a sudden we heard the church bells. We both shouted "Church it's on, let's go quickly" Getting dressed and trying to look a little more adjusted than if we had just fallen out of our beds, we frog marched to church.

I had not been to St Marys for some time and my sister in law had moved away from the village several years ago. However, on arrival we were met by so many friendly faces welcoming us and making the visit so comfortable. We both immediately felt at home.

The service was exceptional given by Chris, St Mary's vicar, I felt as though everything about the service was addressed to the two of us, which of course would be and was ridiculous. Chris spoke in layman terms when giving the sermon, easy to understand, I was transfixed and never having been an avid reader of the bible I was feeling the hunger to know and understand more. Chris has a gift not only to minister the word of God in easy understandable vocabulary, but also he is an observer, seeing the need of one and is able to approach and talk so easily. A very generous and warm human being.

After the service we were offered coffee and bickies, chatting to people we had lost contact with. As we were leaving Chris took the time to introduce himself to both of us. Chris was so warm and down to earth he immediately spoke about his introduction to the Church from an early age. He gave us his time and after a short while we both felt privileged to be part of his congregation.

We left the church oblivious of the time, but feeling so much more at peace than we did when we arrived. I vowed that Sunday to write about my day for the village news just in case somebody out there is feeling, as we were, shackled by negative thoughts and needing to re install in our minds that we are truly blessed and above all loved.

Take my advice, just go, either by sitting in Church all alone, or by joining the congregation in their service. Be assured there is no need for you to feel awkward or unsure, as you will be welcomed with open arms. Just go and see for yourself, I will be there and hopefully when my sis is back she will be there also.

If you never buy a lottery ticket you will never have a chance of winning!

Christmas Funnies

What do elves learn in school?

[The Elf-abet!]

What nationality is Santa Claus?

[North Polish.]

Who is never hungry at Christmas?

[The turkey, he is always stuffed.]

What do you get if you cross Father Christmas with a detective ?

[Santa Clues!]

A woman went to the Post Office to buy stamps for her Christmas cards.

Clerk: "What denomination?"

Woman: "Oh, good heavens! Well, give me 50 Baptist and 50 Catholic."

Why are Christmas trees like bad knitters?

[They both drop their needles.]

Why is Christmas just like a day at the office ?

[You do all the work and the fat guy with the suit gets all the credit.]

What do you get if you cross an apple with a Christmas Tree?

[A pineapple.]

What did the guest sing at the Eskimo Christmas Party?

[Freeze a jolly good fellow...]

What did Adam say on the day before Christmas?

[It's Christmas, Eve!]

If athletes get athletes foot, what do astronauts get?

[Missiletoe!]

Just before Christmas, there was an honest politician, a kind lawyer and Santa Claus travelling in a lift of a very posh hotel. Just before the doors opened they all noticed a £50 note lying on the floor. Which one picked it up??

[Santa of course, the other two don't exist!]

What do you have in December that you don't have in any other month?

[The letter 'D'!]

Why does Santa have 3 gardens?

[So he can ho-ho-ho.]

Why was Santa's little helper depressed?

[Because he had low elf esteem.]

What do you get when you cross a snowman with a vampire?

[Frostbite.]

What if it had been three Wise Women instead of three Wise Men?

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Feeding the needy of Whimple

Gentle reader,

In my last editorial, which I know the village pores over word by word, you will have read that I had a rush of blood (and generosity) to the head, announcing a competition related to the wonderful History Society calendar for 2014. I said that Margaret Burrough appeared four times, and there was one other good person with four appearances – who was it? Our quadruple star is Rachel Owen, and the lucky winner, selected from the enormous number of entries, is Mike Boyd. Mike used to live in The Withey, but moved to Nottinghamshire some time ago, and keeps in touch via the Whimple News.

Mike was delighted to win the prize of four cakes from the Sanders Emporium/Village Shop. Mike asked me to distribute the four cakes to 'needy' cases in the village, who he identified. So it was with great pride one day last week that I walked around the village delivering Mike's largesse. The lucky recipients were Jim Creasy, John Discombe, Arthur Iball and George Begent. I am not sure who had the most fun out of that – me or the lucky four. Only in Whimple!

Ed H

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Margaret Burrough	822257
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Whimble Scout Group	
<i>Group Scout Leader (and Marquee Booking):</i> Alex Spry	822844
Whimble Book Group	
Katy Howard	823038

The Whimble News Team

Editor

Ed Hitchcock 823194

Production

Bob Scanlan 822262
 bob.scanlan@eclipse.co.uk
 Sally Wilde 823246

Delivery, Advertising and Community Diary

Ed Hitchcock 823194
 edhitch@btinternet.com

Treasurer

Miles Leonard 822415



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Tiverton Centre
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*Join us for a Friendly Drink, Bar Snack or
an A La Carte Meal*

Bookings are Advisable

Tel: 01404 822350