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*Whimble, Devon.*

*Tel: 01404 822350*

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Special Menus available for Large Parties

Lounge, Bar & Beer Garden

Join us for a Friendly Drink,  
Bar Snack or A La Carte Meal

Bookings are advisable  
Especially at Week-ends

A Traditional Olde Freehouse Village Inn

# *Whimble News*

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**Nov/Dec 1999**

# What's on in Whimble

<u>Event</u>	<u>Venue</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>
<b>Church Services</b>			
Advent Carol Service	Church	Sun.Nov.28th	6.30pm
Christingle Service (no 11am Service this day)	Church	Sun.Dec.12th	3.00pm
Carol Service	Church	Sun.Dec.19th	6.30pm
Midnight Service	Church	Fri. Dec.24th	11.30pm
Family Service	Church	Sat.Dec.25th	11.00am
Benefice Service	Whimble Church	Sun.Dec.26th	11.00am
15 min. Service and Dedication of Millennium Stone	Church	Sat. Jan.1st	12.Noon

## Events

Womens Institute AGM	Victory Hall	Tue.Nov.9th	7.30pm
Himalayan Slide Show and Social Evening	Cricket Club	Fri.Nov.12th	7.30pm
Bingo	Cricket Club	Fri.Nov.19th	7.30pm
Sareveena concert	Church	Sat.Nov.27th	7.30pm
Over 65's Party	Victory Hall	Fri. Dec.3rd	7.00pm
Pork Bingo	Victory Hall	Sat.Dec.4th	8.00pm
School Christmas Fayre	Victory Hall	Fri. Dec.10th	2.00pm
Christmas Bingo	Cricket Club	Fri. Dec.10th	7.30pm
Cinderella Pantomime	Victory Hall	Wed.Dec.29th	8.00pm
Cinderella Pantomime	Victory Hall	Thur.Dec.30th.	8.00pm

## Library van

<u>Arrive</u>	<u>Depart</u>	<u>Frequency</u>
Chard Avenue	10.10 10.30	every Friday
Dince Hill Close	9.45 10.05	fortnightly
West View Close	9.45 10.00	fortnightly
Willow View Caravan Park	11.45 11.55	fortnightly
Strete Raleigh House	12.00 12.10	fortnightly
Hand & Pen	12.15 12.30	fortnightly

## The Whimble News Team

Peter Smith 822828

Production  
Bob Scanlan 822262  
Vicky Stewart 823374  
Vivienne Leonard 822415

Delivery  
Nicky Hitchcock 823194  
Sue Wilson 822641

Advertising  
Miles Leonard 822415

Jill Wilson 823339

Community diary  
Sue Wilson 822641  
Ed Hitchcock 823194

Organisation reports  
Judith Kemp 823043  
Adrienne Hughes 823043

Treasurer  
Miles Leonard 822415

Kathy MacLaughlin 822096

## From the Editor

I hope you enjoy reading this issue of Whimble News and that you find the 'Whats on in Whimble' page helpful in keeping track of the many events in our village. I've only lived in Whimble for a short time but very much appreciate being here.

Only a few weeks to Christmas and the year 2000! The News team plan to produce a special (short) issue in the middle of December so you have the latest information about what's on around the turn of the year. It will be good to celebrate our history and also to look forward with hope to the future. Please could you let us have anything you would like to include by the end of November - via Gordon at the Post Office or direct to Bob Scanlan on 822262 .

Our next main issue will cover February/March 2000. We need lots of differing items and would very much welcome your contribution via the Post Office, or by e-mail direct to Bob ([bob.scanlan@eclipse.co.uk](mailto:bob.scanlan@eclipse.co.uk)) by 17th January.

With good wishes

Peter Smith

## The Parish Paths Partnership

On Friday 22 October, nearly a dozen British Trust for Conservation Volunteers (BCTV) arrived in Whimple for a Hedge Laying Weekend'. The hedge bordering the footpath which leads from Elizabeth Close to The Green was steeped' for most of it's length using traditional tools and methods.

The numbers of BTCV volunteers were swelled by others from the village. Comments made by passers-by were most complimentary and full of encouragement.

A week or so before, a group of young farmers began an ongoing project to improve drainage in the area of Bogmoor Lane. BTCV were also involved and had hoped to begin hedge laying in the area but heavy rain overnight on Saturday and Sunday, followed by continuous rain on Sunday morning, prevented further work.

The Parish Paths Partnership (known as P3) is a partnership of local people, Parish and District councils, and local and national businesses. It exists to provide funds to maintain 'rights of way' throughout the country. Volunteers are always needed for local projects and no special skills are necessary.

If you would like to become involved. - please call the Parish Co-ordinator - (Cllr) Peter Bowden on 823450 .

# OVER 65s PARTY

**3rd December 1999**

## \* THIS IS YOUR INVITATION \*

The Ladies of Whimple Village invite the Villagers of Whimple over 65 years of age (before 27th.November 1999) to a Christmas Party at the Victory Hall, Whimple on Friday 3rd December 1999 at 7.00pm for 7.30pm.

Please complete the slip below, cut it out and return it to Lucy Smith by Saturday 27th November.

To: Mrs. Lucy Smith  
2 Clarence Villas,  
The Square,  
Whimple.

I/We will be attending the Over 65's Christmas Party on  
Friday 3rd.December

Name(s)\_\_\_\_\_

Address\_\_\_\_\_

I/We will require transport: Yes/No



Thank you to Liz Silk, Ann Bowden and the Youth Club members who gave up a day of their half term holiday to re-decorate the toilets in the Victory Hall.

There is still more work to do - so any further offers of help would be very welcome.

Pam Scanlan  
822262

### answers to the Transport Quiz

A 50   B 120   C Rail enquiries D 10yrs E 7  
F 1.2   G 71   H 5,000   I Road   J 3 times

How did you do?

Give yourself one point for each correct answer.

1-3 O.K.   4-6 Good   7-10 Great-you are Travelwise

### An apology!

I must say sorry to both Daphne Rastall and John Shepherd for a mistake I made in the last issue of Whimble News.

The eagle eyed among you may have noticed I got it wrong on the 'Organisations' page. I suspect that Daphne Rastall was not too put out to be the representative of the History Society - but I am not so sure how John felt on becoming the contact for the Mothers' Union!

My apologies go to both of you.

Bob Scanlan

Any items to be offered for sale or wanted - in Whimble News, please let Gordon have details at the Post Office

Roll up - Roll up  
For the Whimbletons Pantomime  
This years spectacular performance is

# CINDERELLA



*Performed by the usual multi-talented group!*

At 8.00pm

On Wednesday 29th December and  
Thursday 30th December 1999

(That period twixt Christmas and New Year when it all goes flat!)

## Whimble Victory Hall

Tickets available soon

Watch out for the posters

Forget Exeter, Plymouth or even the West End.....

Its all happening on your doorstep!

## Whimble Bellringers

## Annual Pork Bingo

will take place

on Saturday 4th December in the Victory Hall

starting at 8 pm

Come and join in the fun!

## From my Window in the Square

Edith Grout

The north wind blows  
and we shall have snow  
and what will poor robin do then?  
Poor thing  
He'll sit in a barn  
to keep himself warm  
and hide his head under his wing  
Poor thing  
(From Songs for a Nursery 1805)

The daylight dwindles fast now that the Summer is nearly over. The dead leaves tumble from the trees and make a golden carpet on the green grass. Some of the leaves are swept across The Square by a leaf-picking wind. In the early hours the redbreast haunts the garden hedges and when the sun breaks through its bright plumage shines. The robin has such intelligent ways and is always on the alert. Sometimes he becomes quite quarrelsome with his fellow robins who may encroach on to his territory. The defence of territory is the Robin's life and the main reason for his plaintive song which is heard all year around, except for a brief period in July. In the late Summer when the young birds have put on their adult plumage there is a great deal of disputing of territories as borders are established.

In 1961, the Council for Bird Preservation were set the task of choosing Britains national bird. After a lengthy correspondence in the personal column of The Times, they chose the Robin, that chest puffing individualist whose tameness is a tribute to the English character. On the Continent, robins are shy birds keeping to deep woodlands, but strange enough in England, in my garden, the robin is bold enough to dog my footsteps. He becomes quite cheeky and daring when I fork in the flowerbeds digging up the occasional worm. He also likes to sit on my spare fork handle and observe what I am going to do next. A dear little presence. At this time of the year his song is a clear short warble and is always the first that one hears in the morning.

As we are approaching December fast and Christmas cards are displayed

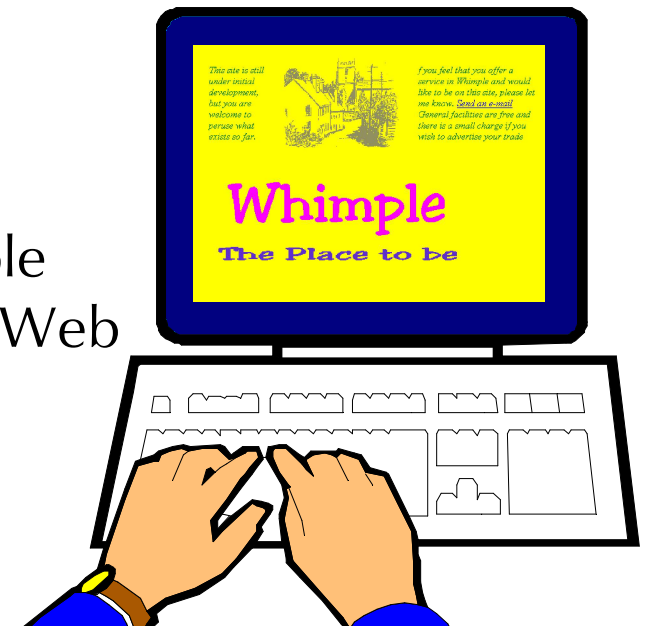
## Leslie Carter

For the last twenty-seven years, Mr. Leslie Carter has served the Royal British Legion with great faithfulness by organising Whist Drives regularly and thus raising a great amount of money for that worthwhile cause.

After all those years of service and dedication, Lesley Carter has decided to retire. We would just like to express our admiration for such a public-spirited effort over so many years.

Our very best wishes in his retirement, although he is still very active with the Over Sixties Club.

## Whimble on the Web



Whimble now has its own website

[www.whimble.swest.co.uk](http://www.whimble.swest.co.uk)

Take a look and see what you think

# The Transport Quiz

**DEVON  
TRAVELWISE®**

Here are some interesting facts about travel and transport. Test your knowledge to see how TravelWise you are.

- A. In the next 25 years, by how much is road traffic forecast to increase?  
☐ 50%                      ☐ 25%                      ☐ 5%
- B. How many cars per second pass Exeter on the M5 in the height of summer?  
☐ 40 cars per min.                      ☐ 60 cars per min.                      ☐ 120 cars per min.
- C. What is 0345 48 4950?  
☐ Number of cars in UK    ☐ Rail enquiries 'phone number    ☐ Population of Manchester
- D. Regular cyclists enjoy a level of fitness equivalent to that of individuals \_\_\_\_\_!  
☐ 2 yrs younger                      ☐ 6 yrs younger                      ☐ 10 yrs younger
- E. Lack of physical activity is a health risk for how many men?  
☐ 3 out of 10                      ☐ 4 out of 10                      ☐ 7 out of 10
- F. What is the average number of people in each car travelling to work?  
☐ 1.2                      ☐ 1.9                      ☐ 2.1
- G. What percentage of road trips are under five miles?  
☐ 29%                      ☐ 53%                      ☐ 71%
- H. Air pollution from road transport is linked with how many deaths per year in the U.K.?  
☐ 50                      ☐ 500                      ☐ more than 5,000
- I. Global Warming is a concern for our children's future and us. What is the fastest growing source of the gases that produces this effect?  
☐ Power Generation                      ☐ Road Transport                      ☐ Industry
- J. If you drive an "average" family car for 10,000 miles in one year at a constant 30mph, is the total weight of your exhaust gas emissions equal to  
☐ one tenth of the weight of your car?  
☐ one half of the weight of your car?  
☐ three times the weight of your car?

..... answers are on the pin-up board towards the back of this magazine

in the shops, I always marvel at the number of them featuring the robin redbreast. There are also a great number of legends attached to the robin especially Christmas stories. One legend tells us that it is unwise to say something unkind about farm and domestic animals or birds around Christmastide because it is believed that robins understand human language until midnight on Christmas Eve when the sounding of bells announcing the birth of Christ dispel this power.

As robins are my favourite birds legends about them appeal to me, especially the one which decrees that it is very lucky indeed to have robin fly into your home during Christmas. Prosperity and good fortune are foretold to those who see a robin before midday on Christmas Day. In remote country areas it was most unlucky to kill a robin who is considered a sacred bird. Another legend tells how the robin got his red breast feathers.

The first version tells that the robin took pity on Jesus on The Cross and tried to pluck the thorns from his crown. In doing so he wounded himself, but Jesus blessed him and said that his previously brown feathers would forever after be bright red and he would be known as Bird of God. A similar story is attributed to the Holly, which is supposed to have its red berries through blood from Christ's wound dripping on to the white berries of the holly tree growing near the cross. In some parts of Europe it is still known as Christ's thorn.

In my garden, the robin loves to sit on the holly tree and eat its red berries. There are usually none left for my Christmas decorations. If you see a little robin, bob, bob, bobbing along in your garden I am sure that, if it is not too cold, you will dig up a worm or two for his Christmas dinner.



DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL

If you want more information on the TravelWise campaign, please contact Lesley Smith, TravelWise Promotions Officer, Devon County Council on 01392 382089 or e-mail: [lcsmith@devon-cc.gov.uk](mailto:lcsmith@devon-cc.gov.uk)

## SARVEENA

**On Saturday 27th November at 7.30pm Sarveena, the South West's only flute and harp duo will be performing at St Marys Church.**

The flute and harp are two of mankind's oldest instruments. Today they still charm us with their evocative and haunting sounds, making the music of a lyrical world still alive in our hearts. The name **Sarveena** is derived from the Sanskrit for harp and flute and reflects the group's interest in world music. **Sarveena's repertoire includes folk songs, classical pieces and contemporary compositions and music from other cultures.**

**Sarveena** are *Brigitte Norland and Emma Graham.*

*Brigitte Norland* studied at the Guildhall School of Music. Since leaving London she has concentrated on her flute playing, participating in master classes, teaching and performing in the South West.

*Emma Graham* is **Sarveena's** harpist and has been performing since taking it up ten years ago. She graduated from Exeter University in 1992 and won a scholarship to study in Trinity College, where she also won the UK Harp Association's 1993 award.

Tickets are £3.50 adults, £2.50 concessions, £2.00 under 16s and £9.00 family (2 adults and 2 children or 1 adult and 3 children)

**Available from Whimble Post Office  
or from Louise Barchard (01404 822008)**

## Ottery St Mary Choral Society

presents

*Together with a programme of  
Supporting festive music*

**in The Parish Church at Ottery St Mary  
on Saturday 4th December 1999 at 7.30pm**

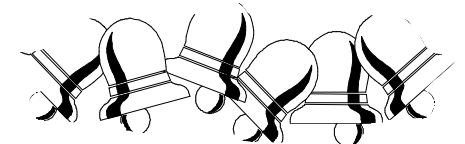
CONDUCTOR: MALCOLM MATTHEWS

Admission by Programme:

Centre Aisle £6.00, Side Aisle £4.00

**Programmes available from Choir Members,  
from Chairman: John Neal, Tel: 01404 813686,  
or at the door**

## Bellringing



Have you ever thought of trying to ring the church bells?

It's not as easy as you might think, but learning a new skill can be fun!

A church bell can weigh as much as a small family car - and it could be you in control on the end of the rope

Whimble Ringers are looking for new members - so if you would like to have a go at this ancient art - speak to our Captain Judith Canniford (822873) or come along one Monday evening at 8.00pm on our practice night.

## Whimble Village Song

John Shepherd, John Shepherd, d'ye recall  
All along, down along, out along lee  
How our place by the white pool has grown in no time at all?

*With Structure Plans, Dormitory Towns, Gas Pow'd  
Wotsits, Sky Parks, Bovis Homes, Knapp.....and detrunking the A 30 an all*

For years what we did was set by the seasons  
All along, down along, out along lee  
Sowing and reaping, just enough to survive were the reasons  
*Chorus*

The world got much smaller when they built the railway  
All along, down along, out along lee  
We had brickworks and slaughter houses and Mister Whiteway  
*Chorus*

They're all done with now and workers have to travel afar  
All along, down along, out along lee  
Horse carts and goods wagons all gone - we've all got a car!  
*Chorus*

But when the winds rising, and the rain batters our panes  
All along, down along, out along lee  
We hear echoes of past happenings and many old names  
*Chorus*

Thomas Le Drawer, Constable Potter, and Muffin the Mule  
All along, down along, out along lee  
Flash floods, Gymkhanas, and wassailing at Rull  
*Chorus*

John Shepherd, John Shepherd, as we give one century the sack  
All along, down along, out along lee  
We know we can't halt progress, but sometimes its good to look back

Andy Bratt 1999

## NEWS FROM P.O. CORNER.

Well here we go again - another November and another Christmas around the corner - I know how much you all look forward to it so may I be the first --Happy Christmas!

You will be glad to hear that we have had another 'site survey' re: computer installation -and the latest firm date we have had for "go" is - not before April - so in four weeks it has gone back 2 months; at this rate well you can guess when we will be at 'go'! By the way, how can you take anything seriously that has a word like 'gigaflop' in its terminology? (It means one billion calculations per second - and appears to be something creditable).

Now to more useful info on last dates for posting:

Letters etc to U.K. - 1st class 21st Dec. 2nd class 18th Dec  
to Europe 13th Dec. Rest of world 6th Dec.

Parcelforce to U.K. 17th Dec; to Europe 14th Dec; to elsewhere various.

Postage of all letters to Europe increased on 25th October and is now 34p up to 20gms, (instead of 30p) and other weights also up e.g. what was 44p is now 48p etc. If you come across a new stamp with no monetary value just an 'E' printed on it can be used on anything in place of 34p stamp (e.g. Europe less than 20gms).

The use of bank facilities for Lloyds/TSB customers is increasing as people find it works exactly as it would in the bank and we welcome you all, and of course Co-op and Girobank customers - we are glad you find the service as convenient as we hoped.

We believe that the Coleridge Medical Centre will no longer take telephone calls for repeat prescriptions (which is a pain) but will take Faxes - so - bring your repeat note in to us and we will fax it for you at a special 'prescription only' price of 25p.

I hear that our holiday replacement chappy sorted a few of you out. He told me what a friendly village Whimble was, and how much he enjoyed his time here - I believe he managed to hide his feelings quite successfully so as not to invite you to take liberties!

Finally -our elder son went on holiday recently and brought us back a jar of Cretan honey - the label on which reads "...Cretans welcomed their visitors and blessed weedings (sic) with a traditional mix of walnuts and honey." so perhaps it is the ideal present for you gardeners!

Bye for now from G.O. @ P.O. - usual email address

## The Old Parish Chest Whimple Church

13th to 16th October

The last time I went to see the production of this play, staged by Whimple History Society and Whimple Church, I was most impressed and thought that one could not really improve it in any way. How wrong I was! What I saw on Saturday, was indeed a spectacular 'Son et Lumiere' spectacle of the highest quality. The miming, the sound effect and lighting were quite remarkable.

As the wife of the General Manager of Browns Hotel in London, it was my task as a hostess to invite our guests to go to the Opera and Ballet at Covent Garden, West End shows, Concerts, Wimbledon and Twickenham and have seen many superb productions. I must say that what I saw on Saturday night was of the highest calibre of a West End Production. Congratulations to John Shepherd who has spent years in research, script and sound recording. All those who took part were so very well cast. The contrast between the spectacular lighting and the humble candle holders was very subtle indeed.

In 1993 I was given the task of going through every item in the Parish Chest, a big tin trunk, Some items dated back to 1700s. With the tremendous help of Lee McIntyre, a young computer buff, we put hundreds of historical files and documents on computer disc. We did it on Saturday mornings over a period of six months. I must say we really enjoyed the work which subsequently gave me a greater insight in to the history of Whimple village. I would also mention here that the Reverend Harold Tucker who was our Rector when we came here started collecting cuttings for the village and Parish chest. We used to get far more mentions in the Newspapers than we do now. It would be a good idea to have a correspondent feeding news as so many other villages have.

Edith Grout

## The very first 'Millennium Bug'

We have heard a lot about the 'Millennium bug' (known as 'Y2K') that threatens to cause chaos to computers throughout the world after midnight on December 31st. Imagine how it may have seemed 2000 years ago at the start of the first millennium.

The following was translated from a Latin scroll dated 2BC:

Dear Cassius:

Are you still working on the 'YzeroK' problem? This change from BC to AD is giving us a lot of headaches and we haven't much time left. I don't know how people will cope with working the wrong way around. Having been working happily downwards forever, now we have to start thinking upwards. You would think that someone would have thought of it earlier and not left it to us to sort it all out at this last minute.

Surely we will not have to throw out all our hardware and start again? The parchment company Macrohard will make yet another fortune out of this I suppose.

The moneylenders are paranoid of course! They have been told that all usury rates will invert and they will have to pay their clients to take out loans. Its an ill wind ..... As for myself, I just can't see the sand in an hourglass flowing upwards.

We have heard that there are three wise men in the East who have been working on the problem, but unfortunately they won't arrive until its all over.

I have heard that there are plans to stable all horses at midnight at the turn of the year as there are fears that they will stop and try to run backwards, causing immense damage to chariots and possible loss of life. Some say the world will cease to exist at the moment of transition.

Anyway, we are still continuing to work on this blasted 'YzeroK' problem. I will send a parchment to you if anything further develops. If you have any ideas please let me know,

Plutonium

## CRICKET CLUB

The Clubhouse is open from 8:00 p.m. for skittle matches every Monday and Wednesday, and every other week on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Everyone is welcome to use the facilities on these nights.

Social membership of the Club remains at £1 and entitles a member to use the bar throughout the year. All new members would be most welcome.

The normal monthly bingo session will take place on Friday 19th November and the Christmas bingo will be held on Friday 10th December. Eyes down at 7:30 p.m.

## The Woodbury "Would-be's"

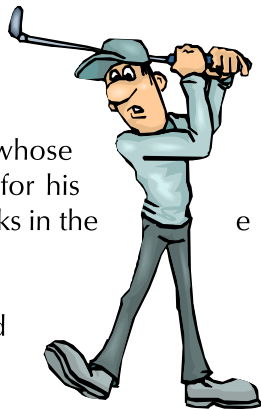
On 30 September a team of committed golfers (and their faithful caddies) represented the New Fountain Inn at a charity golf event in aid of the local multiple sclerosis therapy centre.

The whole day was a huge success, with in excess of £3000 raised by all those who took part.

In particular, we would like to thank Paul and Gill whose generosity paid for the day, and to John Barnes for his personal support of the event (and a round of drinks in the evening).

Well done to Woodbury Golf Club as well and whoever sorted out the weather !!

Same again next year??



## THE OLD PARISH CHEST.

There were only 20 spare seats for the total performances throughout the week. This exceeded my expectations, as did the acclaim with which the Show was received. Some of the comments are shown here:

"I sang in Whimble Choir for many years and took the Stained Glass Windows for granted. To have them explained in such detail with the light behind them was moving for me".

"The rebuilding of the Church was made fittingly dramatic by the removal, during the performance, of the very realistic scenery which depicted the old building".

"The most moving part for me was when the Cross behind the Altar was illuminated internally whilst surrounded by the colourful spectrum of sparkling light".

"The music fitted the action perfectly, enhancing the effect of the dramatisation".

"The hymn tunes played on the chimes was made all the more realistic by the sounds of the mechanism".

"The poignancy of War in Whimble was realistically portrayed by the frightening sound of the two enemy aircraft and machine gun fire".

"The history of our village brought to life made me feel I wanted to know more and I wished I had found Whimble a lot sooner".

"The lighting effects were absolutely spectacular".

"The Sound of the organ being re-tuned and then the demonstration of this beautiful instrument was enthralling".

"Not knowing what to expect, I found the combination of wonderful lighting, brilliant choice of music, colourful costumes and realistic performances by all the cast ranked this as a great credit to all participants and ten times better than I expected from a village production".

These unsolicited comments speak for themselves and I am grateful to all those who participated in 'The Old Parish Chest'. Without the teamwork the reaction would have been totally different and I thank you all for your tremendous efforts.

John Shepherd.



# Whimble P.C.C.

A second estimate is being sought for repairs to the church clock and for a winding system. We have half the money required from kind donations at two funerals and are exploring the possibility of grants for such work.

We are very aware of some uneven surfaces in the floor of the Church and want this attended to as soon as possible. However, a problem has arisen over finding suitable stone - but we will persist.

The P.C.C. voted at its last meeting in favour of making the temporary display area into a permanent feature. At the same time plans are being put into operation to construct a storage cupboard at the other rear end of the Church. The idea will be to utilise wood from the removed pews.

The question of the Mission of our Church has been mooted from time to time. P.C.C. meetings tend to get overloaded with administrative work and practicalities and it is felt that there is little time to dwell on the spiritual side of the Church -sadly. So a special meeting is being held and will be devoted entirely to the subject of our Church's Mission - where we are going, what do we want to do for our congregation and village and why? These are some of the questions we hope to answer.

The P.C.C. wishes to congratulate all those involved in the production of 'The Old Parish Chest. This really was quite splendid. Our sincere thanks are extended to John Shepherd for all his Research, Scriptwriting and magnificent Music, to Barry Roach for the Scenery Design and Construction, to Ian Roberts for the Lighting Effects and, of course, to all the players in this production.

D.F.

## WHIMPLE AND DISTRICT VILLAGE PRODUCE ASSOCIATION

By now everyone will have come down to earth after the heady excitement of the flower show and no doubt you are all sitting back enjoying the rewards of a successful year in the garden!

We will be holding our A.G.M. sometime in November and hopefully we will attract some new faces to our Committee. So, if you feel you have something to offer, either come along or speak to Andy Bratt or myself.

After the disappointment of having to cancel this year's coach trip we will be looking to find another attraction to take its place next year. So if any of our members have any suggestions please let us know. We will be arranging our Winter and Spring coffee evenings, so watch out for the dates in the next edition of the News.

Paul Wilson,  
Hon. Secretary.



### Flower arranging

Would you like to improve your flower arranging skills? Morwen Fletcher will be running evening classes at 'Floral Enchantments' on the old A30 starting in November and is planning a special Christmas workshop in December.


If you are interested then you can contact Morwen on 822049



## Christmas and New Millennium opening

Although it still seems too early to start thinking about the holiday season we thought it would be helpful to make a note of those places whose opening times we know here. Perhaps anyone else could let me know of their plans for that period to go in our special issue before Christmas.

Bob Scanlan Albecq, The Green, Whimble  
Tel: 822262 or bob.scanlan@eclipse.co.uk



**New Fountain** - normal  
apart from closing at 19:00 on Friday 31/12

**Corner Inn Stores** -  
closed 25/12  
9-12 on 26/12  
9-12 on 1/1 if papers are printed  
08:00 - 13:00 2/1 (Sun)  
other days normal 08:00 - 19:30

**Post Office**  
close at 12:30 24/12  
closed 27/28  
open as normal 29/30  
closed 31/1/3  
open as normal 4/1

**Whimble Surgery** (normally Mon/Weds/Fri)  
open 24/12 (Fri)  
closed 27/12 (Mon)  
open 29/12 (Weds)  
closed 31/12 (Fri)  
closed 3/1 (Mon)

**Ottery Surgery**  
open 24/12  
09:00 - 10:00 27/12 (Mon) Urgent cases only  
09:00 - 10:00 28/12 (Tues) Urgent cases only  
29/30 normal (but be warned it will be busy)  
09:00 - 10:00 31/12 (Fri) Urgent cases only  
09:00 - 10:00 3/1 (Mon) Urgent cases only  
4/1...back to normal

## WHIMPLE PRIMARY SCHOOL PTFA

Our Pre Millennium Bash is on Friday 26th. November at the Victory Hall. There will be dancing to Phoenix and it will be a Champagne Extravaganza and a Fiesta of Fun. Please come and join us. Tickets are £5.00 each and are available from the school or from me .

We are trying to get together a selection of 'Story Sacks' for the School - if you are interested in any arts or crafts and would like something to do during the dark evenings please contact me.

BOOKS - we are always in need of new books. It would be very much appreciated if you would kindly donate a Book Token any denomination £1.00 - £100.00 will do! These are available from any Book Shop - either let me have it or give it directly to the school.

BALLOON RACE - Many villagers supported our balloon race and we are pleased to say that 30 of the 400 balloons released were returned from various locations in the Dartmoor/Plymouth area. The winning ticket went as far as St. Mellion, Cornwall and belongs to a pupil, Kim Allbrighton. Congratulations Kim.

A date for the diary - 10th December - School Christmas Fayre 2pm at the Victory Hall.

Everyone is welcome to the PTFA Meetings - please come along. Dates and times will be on the notice board in the playground.

Many Thanks

Sarah Evans

Tel. No. 822664.

# THE MILLENNIUM



Whimple church's plans for the Millennium are nearly complete. David Rastall and Raymond Burrough attended the special service in Crediton to collect our Millennium Yew, which was grown from a tree over 2000 years old. This will be planted in the churchyard next spring.

Early in December our Christmas card, which will be delivered to every house in the parish, will be accompanied by a Millennium candle and a special Whimple commemorative medallion/key fob. These gifts from Whimple Church are to mark the 2,000th anniversary of the birth of Jesus Christ. If anyone would like to purchase additional ones they will be available for £1 each. Details of where they can be obtained will be in the church magazine and will be displayed in church.

The candles come with the words of the Millennium Resolution. These have been composed by the 'Millennium Group of Churches Together in England' so that they can be used with integrity not only by Christians, but also by members of other faiths, and by people with no faith. Its simple message is this:-

## **The Millennium Resolution**

**Let there be  
respect for the earth  
peace for its people  
love in our lives  
delight in the good  
forgiveness for past wrongs  
and from now on a new start.**

We have suggested that everyone who wants to might gather in The Square just before midnight on New Year's Eve so that the Millennium moment can be celebrated as a community. Hopefully the bells will be rung, as they will at noon on Saturday 1st January, for a short inter-denominational service to celebrate the birth of Christ, to give thanks for the second Millennium and to seek a blessing on the third Millennium. After the service the church will be open to anyone who would like a light lunch of soup and a roll.

On Sunday 2nd January there will be a Family Service at 11am based on the form of service to be used throughout the country that day. At that time we hope to unveil Whimple's Millennium Stone, inscribed with the words of the Resolution, to permanently commemorate this moment in history.

## Whimple Womens Institute

After the business part of our meeting of the 14th September there was the chance for all the members to enjoy a purely social evening and to tuck into the delicious food that everyone had brought.

Our entertainment was provided by six members reading poetry, some of which was very tongue-in-cheek. The quiz which followed proved to be entertaining, but taxed our brains as the answer was in £.s.d.

The coffee morning and craft exhibition took place in the Village Hall on Saturday the 18th September. The craft items were as diverse as they were prolific and included: needlepoint, sugarcraft, painting, patchwork, knitting, crochet and wood carving. Many delightful comments were made about the quality of the craft items and the talent of our ladies in the village. As usual the draw and cake stall proved to be very popular and the total sum raised will be put towards our millennium project which is to provide 30 new chairs for the committee room at the village hall.

Our October meeting was thoroughly enjoyable with Mr Hartnell showing us some wonderful slides of 'Our Countryside'. We started at Wool and travelled through the country l a n e s stopping at Tyneham, Morton, Abbotsbury, Dalwood and Lydford Gorge. Along the way we saw some wonderful butterflies and birds - a really memorable tour!

The next meeting will be the Annual General Meeting on 9th November at 7:30pm in the village hall, so do come along to choose your committee!

The following document was leaked to us by Audrey Oliver  
- who wishes to remain anonymous.

## Euro Edict

The European Union commissioners have announced that agreement has been reached to adopt English rather than German as the preferred language for European communications.

As part of the negotiations the British Government conceded that English spelling had some room for improvement and has accepted a five year phased plan for what will be known as Euro-English.

In the first year, 'S' will be used instead of the soft 'c'. Certainly sivil servants will reseive this news with joy. Also, the hard 'c' will be replaced with 'k'. Not only will this klear up konfusion, but keyboards kan be kondensed.

There wil be growing publik enthusiasm in the sekond year when' the troublesome 'ph' will be replaced by 'f'. This will make the spelling of fotografy fysikally foolproof.

In the third year, publik akseptanse of the new spelling kan be expekted to reach the stage where more komplikated changes are possible. Goverments will enkourage the removal of double letters, which have always ben a deterrent to akurate speling. Also, al wil agre that the horrible mes of silent 'e's in the lanuag is disgrasful so they would go.

By the fourth year peopl wil be reseptiv to steps such as replasing 'th' by 'z' and 'w' by 'V'.

During zis fifs yer, ve vil have a reli sensibl riten styl. Zer vi be no mor trubls or difikultis and evrivun vil find it ezi tu understand ech ozer. Ze Euro drem vil finali kum tru.

it couldn't really happen.....or could it?

## THE FESTIVAL OF CHRISTINGLE -CHRIST IS LIGHT

Edith Grout

It is strange how certain customs which were lost in the mist of time are suddenly revived and take on a new importance in the festivities of Advent leading up to the solemn celebration of Christmas. This charming custom has been brought back in recent years and it is most enchanting to watch children walking in a procession in church, carrying their oranges, topped by a lit candle surrounded by nuts. Their faces are lit up and their eyes shine sweetly.

In the 14th century, in Northern Europe, the festival of Christingle which means Christ is Light, was well favoured by the Church. In ancient times the Christingle itself consisted of a bright red apple, (today it is represented by an orange). The round form of the fruit symbolises the circular shape of the earth. On top of it is a lit candle which embodies the light of the world and around the candle the nuts and small fruit represent the fruit of the earth. A red ribbon encircles the middle of the apple and symbolises the blood of Christ.

Since its revival in England this festival takes place on the last Sunday before Christmas and each child present in church will be given a true Christingle which will be lit with great ceremony whilst a carol is sung. For me this orange and lit candle represents the warmth of our family circle, the happy get-together and yet the oranges conjure up visions of far-away places, Palestine, Israel, Nazareth and the little town of Bethlehem where Christ our Saviour was born.

# Organisations in Whimble

## **Whimble Parish Council**

Chairman: Sara Randall Johnson  
822524  
Clerk: Mr K. Larcombe, Council Office - Torno  
823385

Tel:

Tel

Chairman: Mr. A. Bratt, Rockwell, Talaton Tel 822437

## **Whimble and Broadclyst Young Farmers' Club**

Mr. R. J. Burrough, Gateshayes Farm Tel 822257

## **Whimble Youth Club**

Leader: Mrs. Liz Silk Tel 822389

## **Whimble Football Club**

Chairman: B. Weeks, Briar Cottage, Church Road Tel 822674

## **Whimble Tennis Club**

Secretary: T. A. Lang Tel 822512  
Treasurer: J. Hughes Tel 822659

## **Whimble Cricket Club**

Mr. R.J.Smith Tel 822244

## **Whimble Victory Hall Management Committee**

Secretary: Cathy Bartlett-Horwood, 57 Grove Road Tel 822965  
Booking Sec: Mrs. P. Weeks, Briar Cottage, Church Rd. Tel 822674

## **Whimble Post Office**

Gordon & Heather Owen Tel 822359

## **Whimble Pantomime Group**

Peter Bolwell Tel 823209

## **Whimble News**

Peter Smith Tel: 822828

## **Whimble Scout Group**

Group Scout Leader : John Spencer Tel 822788  
Scout Leader: Adam Bird Tel 813923  
Cub Scout Leader : Rachel Hutt 01395 267846  
Beaver Scout Leader Valerie Bond Tel 822473  
Marquee Booking Sec : Mrs. Mary McConnell Tel 822729

## **Royal British Legion**, Branch and Womens Section.

Chairman: Mrs. F. Pratt, Sandfords Tel 822451

## **St. Mary's Church**

Contact: Rev. Keith Feltham, Grove Rd Tel 822521

## **Devon County Councillor**

Mr. R. Giles, 14 Winters Lane, OSM. Ex11 1AR Tel 813387

## **Whimble County Primary School**

Headteacher: Mrs. D. Brice Tel 822584

## **Whimble History Society**

Mr. R.J.Shepherd Tel 822076

## **Whimble Mothers Union**

Mrs. D. Rastall, Killigarth, Church Road Tel 822486

## **Whimble Playgroup**

Chair: Tiffany Harling Tel; 823021  
Toddler Group contact: Jenny Sanders, Ova Yonda Tel: 823015

## **Whimble Womens Institute**

Secretary: Mrs. Rosemarie Burrows, Higher Slewton Tel 822422

## **Whimble Over Sixties Club**

Mrs. Lin Carder, 18 Dince Hill Close Tel 822538

## **Whimble Recreation Trust**

Knowle Cross Sports Ground. Mr P. Garraff, Luppit Tel 891206

## **Whimble Village Produce Association.**