

Whimple News



See page 29

Feb/March 2015



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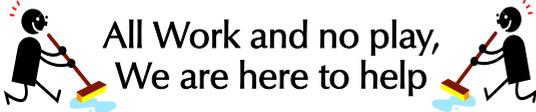
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What's On in Whimble

February

- 13th Front Row Club – Victory Hall 7.00pm for 7.30pm. 'Brief Encounter'.
- 19th The Whimbletons 'Robin Hood' at the Victory Hall 7.30pm. Details page 9.
- 20th The Whimbletons 'Robin Hood' at the Victory Hall 7.30pm. Details page 9.
- 21st The Whimbletons 'Robin Hood' at the Victory Hall 2.00pm. Details page 9.
- 21st The Whimbletons 'Robin Hood' at the Victory Hall 7.30pm. Details page 9.
- 27th Whimble History Society Talk at the Victory Hall. 7.30pm - Robert Hesketh and 'Devon Castles'.
- 28th Soup and Sarnie at the Victory Hall 12.00noon to 1.30pm. Details page 22.

March

- 14th Front Row Club – Victory Hall 7.00pm for 7.30pm.
- 20th Whimble History Society AGM Victory Hall 7.30pm followed by a talk on 'Steam Engine Whimble' by John Smith.
- 25th Whimble Church Fete Planning Meeting 7.00pm in the Church – details page 23.
- 28th Soup and Sarnie at the Victory Hall 12.00 noon to 1.30pm. Details page 22

April

- 11th Front Row Club – Victory Hall 7.00pm for 7.30pm.
- 18th Villages in Action present Alaw Trio at the Victory Hall – Details page 14.
- 18th Whimble School Choir 7.00pm St Mary's Church – Details page 19.
- 24th Whimble History Society Talk at the Victory Hall 7.30pm 'The medieval cathedral in Exeter' with Conrad Donaldson.

May

- 2nd VPA coach trip to Marwood Hill gardens – Details page 25.
- 9th VPA Spring Coffee Morning and Plant Sale - Victory Hall – Details page 25
- 9th Front Row Club – Victory Hall 7.00pm for 7.30pm.

June

- 13th Whimble Church Fete 2.30pm – more details to follow.
- 13th Front Row Club – Victory Hall 7.00pm for 7.30pm.

July

- 5th-12th Village Week – Details pages 30 and 31.
- 11th Village Day – Details page 30.

August

- 8th VPA Annual Flower Show Victory Hall – Details page 25.

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Ed the Ed

A belated happy New Year to all our readers – 2015 is now well and truly rolling along and soon those of us with Whimble calendars will be moving away from the picture of the Stores team to a picture of the News team – both pictures are very useful for scaring away door-to-door salespeople or aggressive dogs!

I am still adding what I think is some value on Wednesday and Friday afternoons in the shop and having great fun! You get such a broad mix of people during the afternoon, as they come in to buy a wide variety of groceries. Sometimes we are able to help with the guilt trip of gazing at the fine selection of cakes by explaining that, for one day only, all cakes are, in fact, calorie free! That normally does the trick. We have recently had some lovely kale and purple sprouting broccoli which were delicious, and flew off the shelves.

I was a little bemused at Wassailing when a couple of young children recognised me from the shop, and shouted out 'Sweetie Man!' meaning I am the person who sells them their sweets. However, if I was a parent, I would have been a little worried! This week, a young man announced that I was 'a cricket bat' which is a first for me.

I was disappointed to see that someone had stolen the large white 20 mph signs that were painted in the road in the Square – there will be a two week amnesty for whoever took them, to return them and nothing will be said. I bet it was the Over 60s Club again after a frantic night out.

At the time of writing, I was saddened to learn of the passing of Richard Webber, a much loved villager who did so much for Whimble. He had been the Chairman of the History Society and latterly the President, amongst a number of different roles in the village. For the last couple of years he had suffered from poor health but I will remember him in happier times. He always had a twinkle in his eye, and was good company, and a regular member of the Lunch Club that used to meet up at the Fountain every Saturday. In the next News we will include a fuller obituary for Richard. Our thoughts are with Mary and the family.

If you would like to contribute to our wonderful magazine, then please either leave your article at the PO with Jim and Alison, or send it direct to Bob Scanlan on bob.scanlan@eclipse.co.uk by Monday 9th March.

Thanks!

Ed H

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



Whimpe Post Office News

We would like to wish everyone a very Happy New Year and thank you for your support throughout the past year.

~~~~~

## News from Johnsons' the Cleaners

Our dry cleaners have changed our delivery and collection dates and they will now be every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. i.e. items sent on a Tuesday will be returned on the Thursday, and so forth, still a very quick turnaround. We are happy to give you a quote for curtains, now that spring is just around the corner!

~~~~~

Our lottery sales continue to grow and we were very happy to pay out on some large wins just after Christmas. There will be some special promotions in the next few months including a 'Mega Friday' EuroMillion which will happen on the last Friday of each month when there will be a guaranteed 10 UK Millionaires – how nice it would be to have one of them in Whimpe !!!!

~~~~~

Royal Mail have extended the special offer on a second class small parcel rate meaning you can send a reasonable sized parcel up to two kilos for just £2.80 – so get those items on e-bay and take advantage of this really good deal.

~~~~~

Thanking you for your continued support.

Jim and Alison

The Children's Society Cake Stall

I would like to thank everyone who supported the stall by providing such delicious cakes and also those of you who purchased them. Your help was hugely appreciated. The sum of £133 was added to the collection taken at the Christingle service. Thank you.

Jane Clements

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Closure of Ottery Minor Injuries Unit

Until recently our nearest Minor Injuries Unit was at Ottery St. Mary Hospital.

This was our first port of call for injuries such as cuts, grazes, minor falls, animal bites, small burns, bruising, sprains, foreign bodies, minor bumps and the like

The Ottery St. Mary Minor Injuries Unit has now closed.

The nearest Minor Injuries Unit is now at Honiton Hospital.

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Update from the Parish Council

Currently, all Councils operate within tight financial constraints which means we need to find innovative ways of delivering services. The tough decisions being taken by both East Devon District Council (EDDC) and Devon County Council (DCC) to ensure they balance their budgets has meant that they have withdrawn or reduced many services. Whimble Parish Council has always been keen to provide support to our residents/parishioners and tried to cushion the loss. Each year we offer grants to worthy village organisations e.g. support for the Whimble News, new equipment for the Front Row Club and money towards the Queen's Diamond Jubilee mugs given to the children from the school. We have provided dog poo bins around the village for several years when additional bins were not forthcoming. This is a costly service but one we feel benefits us all and keeps our roads free from dog mess. If you see an irresponsible dog owner failing to clear up after their dog, take a photo as evidence and report it as the dog warden (01395 517455) will prosecute.

The Parish Council wants to share our plan for the village for the coming year. Our priority is to reduce the risk of flooding by keeping water off the road and in the ditches or drains. To be able to do this we are proposing to increase the precept. We plan to employ someone to provide street cleaning and general maintenance. DCC used to send a lengthsman twice a year for eight days in total to keep trouble spots free of vegetation and dig out critical ditches. Whilst this service was much appreciated, in recent times these workers have been redeployed to conduct storm damage repairs to the road network across the county. Even with this investment we need your help to keep drain grills free of leaves, twigs and other detritus, particularly when bad weather is forecast. It is the responsibility of landowners to make sure their hedges are cut, their ditches are clean and vegetation is cut back to allow free flow of water.

Over the past few years we have been working hard to deliver the Parish Plan objectives and we have achieved over 90% e.g. providing courses in IT training in conjunction with the primary school. This also includes the building of seven affordable homes in the last two years. This is an amazing feat when public money is limited. We are grateful to the EDDC housing team, the housing associations and builders who have made it possible. We are keen to now start work on the next version (Neighbourhood Plan).

We always need your help and support to keep the village tidy and clean and we greatly value you being the local eyes and ears to report problems. All faulty road surfaces, street lights, road signs etc can be registered on the DCC website:

<https://new.devon.gov.uk/roadsandtransport/report-a-problem/>

We are going to enter The 'Best Kept Village in Devon' competition, which we won in 2013, but sadly lost in 2014 mainly due to some irresponsible dog owners not cleaning up their pets' poos, combined with litter in general. Please help us win this competition this year and don't forget that potential property owners delight in the opportunity of living in 'The Best Kept Village in Devon' - which is Whimble!

Whimble Villages in Action

What a fantastic night of music we had from Sean Lakeman & Kathryn Roberts in November. I was expecting the music to be amazing but Kathryn entertained us with some brilliant, witty stories.

The next Villages in Action performance will be provided by Alaw Trio in the Village Hall on Sat 18th April. The band unites the talents of 3 exceptional



musicians whose subtle interplay is a joy to watch. They take their audiences on a musical journey, and at the heart of their set is a passion for the old tunes of Wales.

I saw the 3 band members perform in Clyst Hydon last year as part of a larger band - "Jamie Smith's Mabon" – and they were brilliant.

Tickets will be on sale from the Post Office from mid Feb.

Alaw's website is <http://www.alaw-band.com>

For more information on Villages in Action events go to <http://villagesinaction.co.uk> and find out about all the local Villages in Action events planned from Feb to May.

The Latest News From Your Local Pre-School



WHIMPLE
Pre-School
& Toddler Group

New Starters...

We have 4 new children that have started at preschool this term which takes our numbers to 21. Monday morning is our busiest session but there are still a few spaces left and plenty of spaces for the other days.

Christmas...

We had a lovely couple weeks before Christmas. We took all the children on a minibus to Cotley Farm to see the reindeer and the animals. They did a treasure hunt and had lots of fun exploring the barns and singing Christmas songs by the nativity scene. The children performed their nativity play to their families which they did very well. We also had a special visit from Father Christmas on the last day of term after our party.

New Term...

This term we are finding out about space and engaging in lots of imaginary play and exploration around this.

Thank You...

We would like to thank everyone who supports preschool through fundraising events. We hope to be able to buy some resources for the garden this year to make an outdoor play kitchen and music area, most of which will be done from recycled materials.

Information...

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

Please visit our website -

www.whimplepreschool.com for more information and to find out what we have been up to!

Dates to Remember...

Baby & Toddler Group
Every Wednesday
2-3.30pm, in Pre-School Room
(term time only)

Half Term
February 16th - 20th



www.whimplepreschool.com

Greetings from Peter Bowden

New Year always brings the promise of new beginnings and often more besides. This year offers the chance for you to elect an MP or District Councillor in May and affirm your wish as to who will best represent your view and hopes for the future. May 2015 offers an intriguing mix of local and national politics to choose from - although there are some of you who will openly insist we are all the same!!



I say “we” because I have been selected by the Conservatives to stand as a District Candidate in the Whimble and Talaton ward; an opportunity I had always hoped would come my way. For the past 8 years I have represented Broadclyst; a Ward that has changed almost beyond recognition as Pinhoe/Westclyst, Cranbrook and now Mosshayne and the Blackhorse areas have been earmarked for development. It is time for a new team to take the reins and I am delighted that two excellent candidates have been selected to represent the Conservatives in the two seat ward of Broadclyst. This has allowed me the opportunity to do what I have always wanted to do and represent the people who made Ann and me so welcome when we first moved to Whimble in 1998.

I was persuaded first to join Whimble Parish Council in 1999 and then invited to stand in Broadclyst for the District seat which I have held since 2007. I was subsequently elected in 2009 as the County Candidate for Broadclyst and Whimble Division (a position I will continue to hold until 2017). This means that I have always kept my close links with Whimble and Talaton and have done all I could to help anyone who asked for my time. If elected I will be free to represent your concerns directly and immediately (until then it would be unlawful for me to act in some matters in someone else’s ward) and to repay you for the kindness and regard that you have always shown to me.

With best wishes to you all

Peter

Web: www.peterbowden.org.uk County: peter.bowden@devon.gov.uk

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WHIMPLE SCOUTS FUNDRAISING

We need to raise funds for more repair work to the Scout Hut and would be grateful if you could pass us your unwanted empty aluminium and drinks cans.

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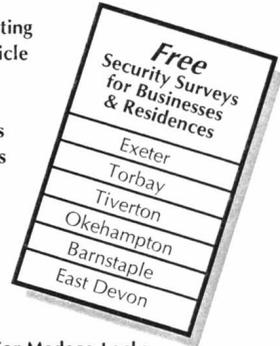
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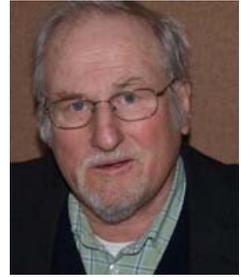
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District Councillor's Report



Well, 'Happy New Year' to all my readers in Talaton and Whimple. I trust that you are looking forward to the challenges of 2015 as I am. I do not have much to report this time as over the Christmas period there has not been much going on at the Council. However, below are a couple of items that have caught my attention and have pertinence to our doings in the ward.

Beavers Breeding on the Otter

In January the Devon Wild Life Trust (DWT) announced that beavers have been living on the river Otter for some time. A breeding pair with young were filmed in 2014 south of Ottery with evidence of activity from Honiton to Budleigh. The DWT are speculating that at least nine individual animals are involved although no one knows how they got into the river in the first place. At the meeting the DWT announced that the Government proposes to capture the animals and remove them from the natural environment. In reply the DWT proposes a long term plan to monitor the animals in the wild to ascertain what their impact will be upon the natural environment. Preliminary findings suggest that the activities of the beavers are beneficial to wild life in the areas where they are active with increases in the health of the river as well as increases in some other species of wildlife.

Have any of you ever seen a beaver? I haven't. The trust had a stuffed one on display and they are far larger than I ever imagined. They are about the size of a middle sized dog where I had thought they were the size of an otter. For more information go to the DWT website www.devonwildlifetrust.org/devons-wild-beavers-appeal.

Status of Local Hospital Provision in East Devon

In January I attended an inaugural meeting held for the various stakeholders groups involved with the five local hospitals in East Devon. These stakeholders will be meeting regularly (bi-monthly) with the head of locality commissioning for the new Devon Clinical Commissioning Group (Tamara Powderley) to consider further operating options for the local hospitals in the future. Local GPs will also be attending these meetings and therefore contribute their knowledge and experience.

The aim of the meeting was to set the terms of reference of the group. This was achieved after considerable discussion about the anxieties of the various individual stake holder groups with regard to the hospitals that they represented. For example in Ottery, although the local population is expected to grow by 25 per cent, there has been no corresponding increase in provision in the hospital facilities. Issues that have been raised to be dealt with in future meetings include; what will a community be offered if a hospital is closed? What are local needs - status quo or change? Is there sufficient capacity to satisfy all safe levels of staffing? Should we be lobbying government to consider the persistent underfunding of the NHS, Care Provision in Devon, transport and finances and integration of local and RD&E service provision?

Martin Gammell

SOUP'N'SARNIE

Soup'n'Sarnie was started by John Discombe in January 2006 and takes place at the Whimble Victory Hall. The aim was to have a monthly social event, open to all. Four home made soups were offered, together with bacon or sausage sandwiches. At least one soup would be vegetarian and all are now made with gluten free stock cubes. Fresh bread is obtained from the Whimble Shop.

Soup'n'Sarnie is held on the last Saturday of the month, except in August. The timing of the event in February depends on when the Panto is held. In July a Summer Special is held, with different ploughman's lunches. The Christmas Special has provided a choice of four hot meals.

The event is not a soup kitchen! Nor is it for one group in the community. It is for everyone. Please come and join us between 12.00noon and 1.30pm on Saturday 28th February 2015.

Maria Wallis

Whimble Victory Hall

Enjoy fresh home-made soups and delicious hot bacon or sausage sandwiches cooked and served by your friendly Soup'n'Sarnie Team



Join us for lunch
on Saturday 28th February
and Saturday 28th March
from 12.00noon to 1.30pm

WHIMPLE CHURCH FETE

to be held on

Saturday, 13th June 2015 at 2.30 pm



**A PLANNING MEETING WILL BE HELD ON
WEDNESDAY, 25th MARCH 2015
7.00 PM
ST MARY'S CHURCH, WHIMPLE**

Parishioners of St Mary's Church and residents of Whimple are cordially invited to attend a Church Fete Planning Meeting on **Wednesday, 25th March 2015 at 7.00pm** in the Church.

We welcome past and new volunteers. If you would like to help in any way but are unable to attend the meeting, please let us know. We raised a lot of money for the Church last year and thanks to the good weather, attendance and hard working volunteers, it was a great success.

Look forward to seeing you,

With thanks,

Mike and Tamara Snell

Co-ordinators Tel: 822565

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WHIMPLE AND DISTRICT VILLAGE PRODUCE ASSOCIATION

Our Annual General Meeting was held on Monday 12th January 2015 and it was good to see yet another full house for the meeting. The reports reflected on another good year for the VPA with all the events being well supported and very much enjoyed by all who attended. The membership continues to grow and we are very grateful to Myrtle Dockings for getting everyone to join. The events throughout the year were very well supported particularly the plant sale in May and of course the annual Flower Show in August for which we were very grateful to Sherril Olive for all the hard work she put in to organise it. We are looking forward to the usual mix of events during the year so hopefully it will be another very successful year!

As mentioned in the last edition of The News we are planning a coach trip to Marwood Hill Gardens on Saturday 2nd May. This magical and very special 20 acre private garden with three lakes is set in a valley tucked away in North Devon, only four miles from Barnstaple. Created by Dr. Jimmy Smart VMH in the late 1950's the gardens are a wonderful haven in which to relax and enjoy the impressive collection of plants, shrubs and trees and also to be able to experience the views and peaceful atmosphere. The view across the valley from the Garden Tea Room is spectacular, the food served is delicious and the Plant Sales area is sure to tempt you with a variety of unusual plants. This is a joint venture with the Ottery St. Mary Garden Club so, if you haven't booked your tickets yet, you need to get in touch with Doreen Staddon very quickly. She can be contacted by email on doreenstaddon@btinternet.com or by telephone on 01404 823594 leaving your name, number of places required and a contact number. The cost will be £13.00 for Members and £14.00 for non members. At the time of writing, there weren't too many seats left!

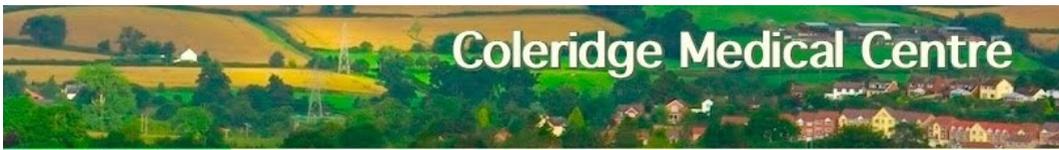
Our Annual Spring Coffee Morning and Plant Sale will be on Saturday 9th May in the Village Hall. This has been a great success in recent years and we will be looking for the same success this year. Hopefully, we will be able to provide a wide range of plants but if there any specific plants you would like us to grow, please let us know and we will see what we can do!

In June we are hoping to stage another Open Gardens weekend where some ten to twelve gardens will be available for people to look round. Although we have a number of gardens on our list, if anyone else has an interesting garden they wouldn't mind people exploring then please let us know. More information will follow in the next edition. We are also looking to run a visit to Rosemoor Gardens in June to see the magnificent roses and this again will be a joint venture with the Otter St. Mary Club. This is likely to be on Sunday 21st June. There will be more information in the next edition.

Our annual Flower Show will be on the second Saturday in August, and this will be Saturday 8th August 2015. We hope to have the schedules out by the plant sale in May, but they will also be available from the website as soon we have finalised all the classes.

We look forward to seeing you at all these events as well as any others we can arrange during the year. All these details are on the VPA website: www.whimplevpa.org.uk

Paul Wilson, Hon. Secretary.



CHANGES TO THE WAY WE LOOK AFTER YOU

Over the past few years we have been subject to a number of retirements and changes to our GP team. We know this has a significant impact, not only on the practice team, but also on our patients. We are particularly aware of those of you who have had to re register a number of times with new doctors.

We have been discussing ways to make sure we continue to provide a safe service to you and better manage changes to our doctor team so that patients are less affected. We would like to take this opportunity to describe a new way of working which will be implemented from 1st February 2015.

Our practice is committed to patient-centred care, to provide a high quality medical service and make sure every patient has a named GP who oversees their care. We also have a duty of care to ensure that an individual doctor's workload is sustainable.

From February 2015 all GPs will:

- consult with patients (face to face, telephone and visits).
- make referrals to and action letters back from other healthcare providers including hospitals.
- request, follow up and action results for tests and investigations
- follow up and manage on going conditions

In addition GP Partners, that is Drs Chris Dille, Simon Kerr, Kate Gurney, Matt King, Nigel de Sousa and Emma Stuart will:

- divide 16,000+ patients between them on a ratio dependent on the number of sessions they work
- oversee the care of patients on their list and delegate on-going care and consultations to non partner GPs
- also be responsible for medication reviews, carrying out quality and safety audits including prescribing and quality and outcomes framework.
- carry out non clinical work and other management functions

What does this mean for you?

In the past we have asked you to see your own GP. From February 2015 you will be asked who is dealing with your problem. If it is a new problem you will be asked to see your registered doctor or one of the other GPs.

This model allows for:

- an increase/decrease in GPs and GP Partners.
- a direct line of care management to be followed even if a GP partner does not do the consultation.



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A request to those who bought one of the Poppies in The Moat.



WHIMPLE HISTORY SOCIETY

To give everyone a chance to see a poppy, the History Society would like to have it's very own *Blood Swept Lands and Seas of Red* installation at The Heritage Centre.

If you bought a poppy and would be willing to lend it to us for the opening of the Heritage Centre between April and November this year, we would like to hear from you.

Contact info@whimble.org or Sue Ayres on 01404 823082 for more information.

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A SUMMER DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

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VILLAGE DAY and FUN RUN

SATURDAY 11th JULY

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Think of those lovely balmy days of summer
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Two opportunities to raise funds for you or your organisation.

Village Day on the Parish Field Saturday 11th July.



This year's Village Day is going to be bigger than ever.

Would you or your organisation like to be a part of it and have a stall, sell anything or host a game? – whatever you like.

If so please contact Sue Draycott on 822969.

Are there any youngsters (12 years +) out there who would like to host a 20p or 50p game? We have the ideas and offer support – you run it and earn some pocket money. Contact Sue Ayres 823082.

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WASSAIL 2015

Thank you to Gill for opening the New Fountain early so that the Wassailers could lubricate their singing voices ready for the arduous demands of the Wassail Song throughout the evening. Roger Smith and I were totally amazed at the huge turnout for the Wassail this year – we don't know what caused it, but it was wonderful to see so many people turning up to support this fun village event. Perhaps it helped that the 17th fell on a Saturday? Personally, I think that the photograph and some supporting words in the December issue of Devon Life, of yours truly, acted as a major attraction. We think that we had 250-300 people with us, on what proved to be a dry but not overly-cold evening, thank goodness. Wellies were the order of the day again, especially in the two 'proper' orchards that we visit. We were delighted to have Jim Causley lead the team of musicians, who I christened 'Jim and the Jimettes'. Thanks for their efforts during the evening tour of the orchards and at the 'jam' session held later in the Cricket Club. Hopefully we managed to boost the Cricket Club finances with our celebrations. Thank you to the bar team and to the food team who worked so hard during the mad rush part of the evening! It was the first Wassail that I have been to where the queue to get into the Cricket Club stretched outside and across the patio area in front.

Thanks to Ian and Ann Hardcastle, Margaret Burrough and Jim and Mary Chard for letting us use their trees for our ceremonies, and to the good people who heated up the Wassail Cup for our consumption. We had an excellent Wassail Prince and Princess in Sam Walsh and Annabel Courtney (of the famous local apple-growing Courtneys family – whose cider and other products are for sale in your very own village shop!). Ray Horn did a superb job in the Woodhayes orchard with a couple of fine bonfires which provided both light and welcome warmth as the evening became colder.

Hopefully our valiant efforts will give us an excellent crop of apples this year – thank you Whimble and see you next year.

Ed H

WARTs (Whimble Against Rising Tariffs).

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Whimble Scouts



Explorer Scouts are now busy preparing for Ten Tors again and the Scouts have been busy as ever over the last term with a 'shooting' camp on Dartmoor. This was hosted at a proper range, at which all the lads had a great weekend and learnt a great deal; not just how to aim & fire at targets, but also the safety side which is paramount.

Their County Soap Box Derby/Go-Kart challenge in October at Watcombe campsite was still, I think, the highlight for last term.....our Scouts entered three excellent homemade karts. One resurrected from an ancient hand built machine kindly donated some time ago by The Macintosh family, formerly of Slewtun Orchard, the other two 'new builds'.

All three and their riders survived the heats and got into the finals, with a few repairs to carts and a few tipped up out-riders, but thankfully no injuries!! Sadly though, the finals never took place due to an accident involving a Scout from Bideford. This required ambulance assistance.....at which point it was decided - best to call it a day.....plus, the fallen rider had blocked the course and could not be moved before the paramedics arrived!

Cub Scouts have restarted with thanks due to Jamie Winter, our new Akela. A healthy pack of 15 or so are looking forward to the warmer months now where we hope they can begin to experience more of the 'great outdoors'!

Beaver Scouts are as strong as ever.....many thanks to Stan, Fiona and Sarah for their continued support in their roles as 'Fox', 'Hawk' and 'Badger'.

As far as hut maintenance goes, you may have seen Stan and Sarah on the scaffold out the front replacing the gable end fascia boards and replacing external woodwork on the porch. Many thanks to them both!

Our long standing groundsman, Steve Bellamy, continues to cut the grass each season without any prompting, for which I am also really grateful. Thanks Steve!

Currently we are now in need of two extra section helpers/assistant leaders, mainly within the Scout section.....so if you want to join the teamgive me a shout!

On a personal note I had intended to stand down as Group Scout Leader (GSL) at Christmas as my involvement at Caddihoe campsite as Head Warden increases. To date no replacement has materialised so I will continue until at least March/ April. This role is more an overseer/manager of the group (adults and young people) and whilst a GSL is normally appointed from within the group, there is nothing wrong with recruiting 'new blood' from outside the movement.....

.....so if anyone is keen to 'steer the ship', again, get in touch! Full training will be given!

That's all for now folkz!

Alex Spry Group Scout Leader, Whimble Scout Group 822844 or 07792 712121

The Hospiscare Coffee Morning appears to have become an annual event and has again proved to be a wonderful success. A huge 'thank you' to Whimble for the enthusiasm and support which resulted in a superb profit of £920.

A letter has been received from the chairman of the local fundraising group, who has paid tribute to the hard work necessary to bring about such an excellent result. So 'Thank you' to everyone who helped and who came along to give their support. It could not possibly happen without you and your help which is so willingly given.

Rosemarie Burrows

Coming soon:

On Friday 13th February there will be a coffee morning at the Feoffees room. Free entry. Raffle, homemade cakes, books and 'Magpie' up-cycled crafts.

On Saturday February 28th there will be a Wayfarer's Lunch at the Royal British Legion West Hill, 12.00 for 12.30pm. A delicious home-cooked meal, with a choice of three main courses and lots of scrumptious puddings. Tickets £9.00 each available, in advance only, from Margery Whittington 813606; Jill Chave 813460; Jill White 814366 and the Ottery Hospiscare shop.

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New Year's Eve 2014

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Best wishes for 2015 from all of us at the shop. It was lovely to see so many people over the Christmas period and we were very grateful for your custom and the help of our friends over the busy period.

We have started to make some changes and we are gradually moving things to where we want them to be. We are trying to make things easier and more spacious but this means moving things so we apologise for any inconvenience this causes.

Over the next few weeks there will be visits from the Post Office and surveys but we haven't been given a date for when the changeover will take place. We still expect this to be April/May time.

Please feel comfortable to report any faulty goods – we get the occasional supply of poor quality produce and although we have every confidence in our suppliers things sometimes slip through. We and our suppliers are always prepared to replace or reimburse you if things aren't up to standard and we would rather be told of any problems to ensure they can be avoided in the future.

Please also feel free to ask if we can get any supplies you would like to see. This includes any magazines that we don't currently stock as we can obtain most titles.

Jenny and Mark

822316



Shop Local

SHORT MAT BOWLS

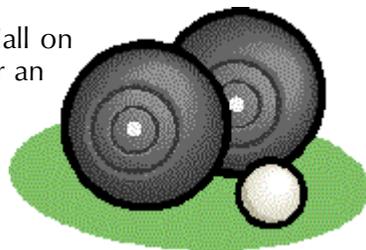
We are a small group who meet in the Victory Hall on Wednesday evenings from 7.00 pm to 9.30 pm for an enjoyable game of Short Mat Bowls.

No experience is necessary and bowls can be provided.

Come along for a fun evening with friends.

Contact David Rastall on 822486

or just come along and play.



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The Front Row Club

Friday 13th February

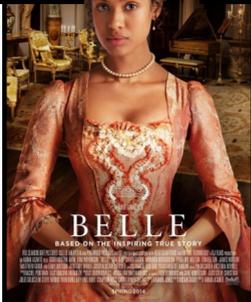
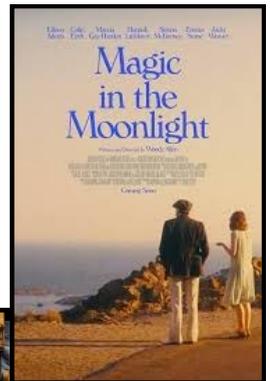
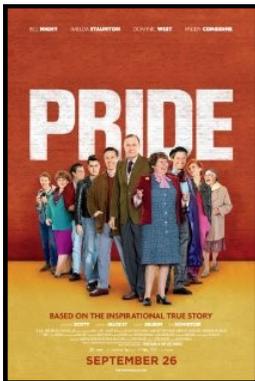
(earlier than usual due to the village panto)

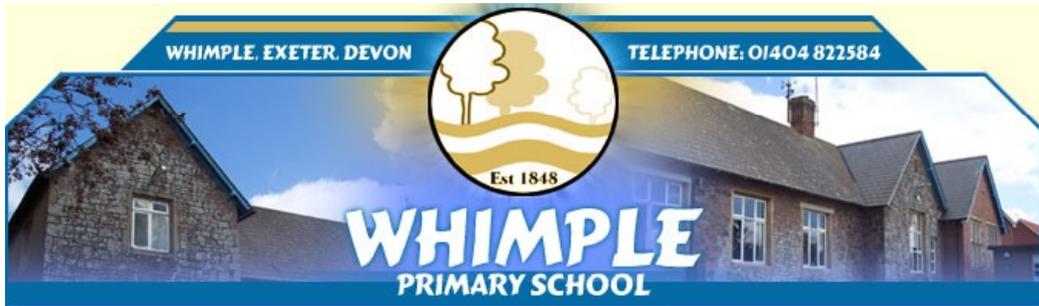
7.00pm for 7.30pm in the Victory Hall



Brief Encounter

Coming Soon





Christmas seems so far away now but just to say that both our Christmas Carol Service and Nativity play were a great success and enjoyed by both participants and audience alike. The children also had a great time at the Christmas fair and a huge selection of festive hats were produced for wearing at the Christmas dinner. Many thanks to all those people who helped in any way to put these events together to make them such a success.

All classes have started new topics this term and Class 4 have been lucky enough to have already participated in an Egyptian workshop – if you want to learn more about mummification just ask one of them and they will fill you in on all the gory details! For the younger children of the school it is the term of traditional stories – looking at the old versions and the many variations that have been produced since.

Carole Shilston

Mummification workshop

On Friday 16th of January Mr Brown's class did a Mummification workshop with a man called Rob. He works with Exeter Museum and brought some wonderful things with him.

We looked at some Ancient Egyptian artefacts including a real piece of papyrus. The hardest part was to put broken pottery back together with masking tape.

We did a play in front of the school, Charley was the mummy and we all had different jobs to play.

By Ned and Rhys



This was our social pyramid... Robin was the pharaoh!



George's Marvellous Medicine

Following on from our workshop reported in the last Whimble News, class 3 went to the Northcott theatre to watch Georges Marvellous Medicine. Some parts of the play were different from the book. In the book granny's medicine is at 11 o'clock but in the play granny's medicine was at 1 o'clock. Anyway we had a good time.

By Adam, Tegan and Lewis (YEAR 3)

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Thoreau



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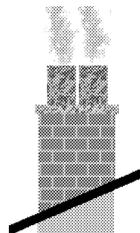
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Keeping our pets slim to keep them healthy

Just like people, dogs and cats can quickly put on unwanted pounds, especially as they get older and exercise less. In fact, a staggering 45% of all dogs and 40% of all cats in the UK are overweight or obese and most owners don't realise it, until they take their pets to the vet for another reason.

Overweight pets are likely to develop related health problems, such as diabetes, breathing and/or mobility problems, arthritis, heart disease, cancer and even behavioural problems.

It can be difficult to regulate your pet's weight, especially if your pet is particularly greedy, doesn't enjoy exercise or is a fussy eater who will only eat human food!

As responsible pet owners we must feed and exercise our pets in a way that keeps them healthy. With a healthy, balanced diet and plenty of regular exercise, there should be no reason to worry about weight related health problems.

Cats are trickier to monitor as when at home they tend to do a lot of sleeping and when they are out we don't know what or where they are eating! Avoiding 'adlib' feeding and encouraging your cat to play, will help keep unwanted pounds off.

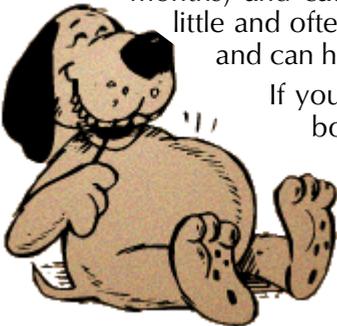
When choosing the right diet for your pet, take into consideration the breed, age and the amount of exercise they do. Some breeds are more prone to weight gain (Labradors, Retrievers and a few of the oriental cat breeds) so it is important to choose a food suited to them. If your dog is classified as a 'working breed' they don't necessarily need to be fed a working dog food, (unless they are actually working!) Food for working dogs has higher calorie content and could lead to unwanted weight gain.

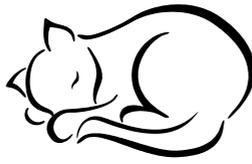
Most food packaging will give you a rough guide to how much your pet should be fed per day. If your pet gets too light or too heavy, adjust accordingly within the recommended daily amount.

Vets recommend that most dogs are fed twice (or three times daily if younger than six months) and cats are fed three to four times daily. Eating smaller meals little and often (just like us!) will help keep the metabolism ticking over and can help keep their weight under control.

If you have any worries or concerns about your pets weight—book a FREE weight management appointment with the nurse, we are happy to assess your pets weight, diet and exercise and help you get back them on track .

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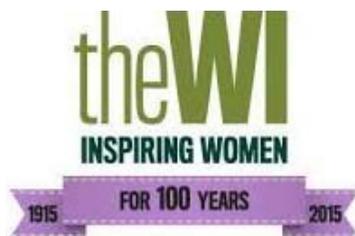
Since our last report the accent has been on social activity. There was a very happy informal lunch at the Talaton Inn - and we look forward to another such gathering in the not too distant future. The December meeting incorporated the annual Christmas party and a good evening was enjoyed by one and all.

Other activities have included taking part in the county skittles competition and Whimble has now reached the third round.

We are looking forward to a varied programme for 2015 and at the first meeting of the year Reuben Ayres gave a very interesting talk on 'The Cholera Epidemic in Exeter in 1832'.

We continue to miss President Pam and wish her a full and speedy recovery.

Whimble WI continues to flourish and if you would like to attend a meeting just contact **Pam Scanlan** on 822262 or **Ann Bowden** on 823450.



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Churches 4 All

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WHIMPLE CHURCH

www.whimplechurch.org

It doesn't seem that long since Christmas but already we are looking forward to Easter. Ash Wednesday is on 18th February and we will be holding a Service of Penitence and Healing at 7.00pm at St Andrew's Church in Clyst Hydon. Lent is a special time for prayer. This year we are running a special course for Lent as well as our regular Lent Lunches held in Clyst Hydon and Talaton.

We have also got a number of other special services planned for Mothers Day on 15th March and over the Easter period. Full details of these will be in The Link. Following the success of our activity morning at Christmas there will be an Easter Activity morning on Saturday 4th April in the Victory Hall.

There will be a Coffee and Cake morning in church on 7th February for the Flower fund and also to welcome new flower arrangers. All are welcome.

Further ahead the annual Church Fete will be on Saturday 13th June. This is always a popular event and helps raise funds for the upkeep of our lovely church. If you are able to help with this years event, there will be a planning meeting in the Church on 25th March at 7.00pm.

Mission Community Lent Course 2015

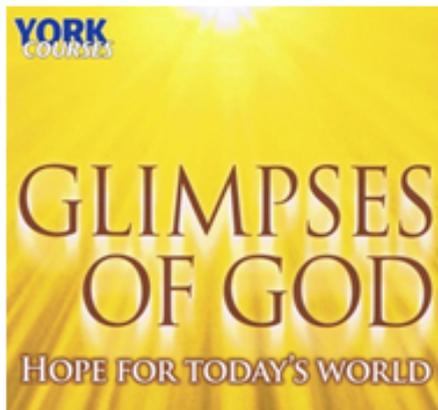
What? 'Glimpses of God'

Where? Talaton Parish Hall

When? Five consecutive Tuesdays commencing 24th February 2015

Time? 7.30pm until 9pm

Cost? Free!



*More details in the February issue of The Link
but get the dates in your diaries now!*



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Do you, or would you like to sing?

Tale Valley Choir

is starting on

Wednesday 4th February, 7.30 – 9.00pm

Talaton Church

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Christmas Concert Review

Ottery St. Mary Choral Society usually set themselves a challenging and varied programme for their Christmas concert and this year was no exception. The central piece was the charming *Mass in D major* by Dvořák, performed beautifully by the choir under their conductor Malcolm Matthews.



Built around this were some delightful carols sung with enthusiasm and considerable skill. These were clearly much enjoyed by the audience. Particular favourites were '*Christ is the Morning Star*' by John Rutter and '*The Virgin Mary had a Baby Boy*' arranged by Burton. Choir, orchestra and organ were adept at coping with the mixed rhythms and irregular bar beats which make these settings so catchy. The capacity audience was able to stand and sing many of the old-time favourite carols accompanied by the orchestra and organ. The orchestra, led by Sarah Greinig, also played Haydn's charming *Symphony No 50*.

It was a most successful and enjoyable evening for all, rounded off with mince pies and a glass of wine. People gave very generously to the retiring collection which raised over £300 for *Hospiscare*.

Spring Concert -Date for your diary

Ottery's annual Spring Concert will be held on **Saturday 28h March** in the beautiful Parish Church with its wonderful acoustics.

This year the society will be performing Bach's oratorio *St Matthew Passion* written in 1727 for solo voices, double choir and orchestra. This was composed for the single purpose of presenting the Passion story in music at Good Friday services. The words of the Gospel are set to music and interspersed with magnificent chorales and arias. The Society will be joined by professional soloists Héloïse West, Louise Mott, Leslie Baker and David Fouracre.

St Matthew Passion is widely regarded as one of the masterpieces of classical sacred music and we hope you will take this opportunity of experiencing it close to home. Comments from musicians in the audience at last year's concert included: "We had not expected such professionalism and such a polished and vibrant performance from a 'local' choir and were quite blown away by it".

Tickets (which include a glass of wine after the concert) are available in March from *Tourist Information* in Broad Street, Ottery St. Mary (telephone 01404 (813964 or from Society members. Adults £10.50 - Children£4.50.

A retiring collection will be taken for *Hospiscare*.

For more information regarding OSMCS please contact:

osmcs@hotmail.co.uk or **Annie Bassett** - Chairman - 823331

www.otterystmarychoral.org

I Can't Remember

By Anonymous

Just a line to say I'm living and I'm not among the dead,
Though I'm getting more forgetful and mixed up in my head

I got used to my arthritis, to my dentures I'm resigned,
I can manage my bifocals, but how I miss my mind

For sometimes I can't remember when I stand at the foot of the stairs,
If I must go up for something or have I just come down from there?

And before the fridge so often, my poor mind is filled with doubt,
Have I just put food away, or have I come to take some out?

And there's a time when it is dark with my nightcap on my head,
I don't know if I'm retiring, or just getting out of bed

So, if it's my turn to write you there's no need for getting sore,
I may think I have written and don't want to be a bore

So, remember that I love you and wish that you were near,
But now it's nearly mail time, so I must say goodbye, dear

There I stand beside the post box with a face so very red,
Instead of sending you my letter I opened it instead.

Whimble Parish Council (whimbleparishcouncil@gmail.com)	
<i>Chairman:</i> John Griffiths	823480
<i>Clerk:</i> Gerri Turner,	823385
St. Mary's Church	
<i>Parish Priest:</i> Chris Martin	822427
<i>Impact Cell:</i> Helen Bowker	823193
Devon County Councillor (www.peterbowden.org.uk)	
Peter Bowden	823450
East Devon Councillor	
Martin Gammell	823535
Whimble Primary School (admin@whimble-primary.devon.sch.uk)	
<i>Headteacher:</i> Mrs. S. Jessop	822584
<i>Chair of Governors:</i> Maria Wallis	823992
Whimble History Society	
<i>Chairman:</i> David Rastall	822486
<i>Secretary:</i> Roger Smith	822244
Whimble Mothers Union	
Margaret Burroughs	822257
Whimble Pre-School & Toddler Group (whimblepreschool.weebly.com)	
<i>Chair:</i> Cathy Culshaw	822363
<i>Playleader:</i> Jo Sibley	822183
<i>Toddlers:</i> Linden Best	822595
Whimble Womens Institute	
<i>President:</i> Pam Scanlan	822262
<i>Secretary:</i> Ann Bowden	823450
Whimble Over Sixties Club	
<i>Chairman:</i> Arthur Iball	822905
<i>Secretary:</i> Beryl Iball	822905
Whimble Recreation Trust	
<i>Knowle Cross Sports Ground:</i> Roger Smith	822244
Whimble Village Produce Association.	
<i>Vice Chairman,</i> Paul Wilson	822744
Whimble Football Club	
<i>Chairman:</i> Ian Stephenson <i>Secretary:</i> Julian Johnson	822639
Whimble Tennis Club	
<i>Secretary:</i> Roddy Bridge	822057
<i>Treasurer:</i> Adrian Rushworth	823276
Whimble Cricket Club	
<i>Booking Secretary:</i> Jonathon Silk	822389
Whimble Victory Hall	
<i>Chair:</i> Maria Wallis	823992
<i>Secretary:</i> Dennis Calver	823660
<i>Booking Sec:</i> Ali Tierney	822724
Whimbletons	
Ed Hitchcock	823194
Wasters of Whimble	
Jenny Sanders	823015
Alison Betts	823967
St. Mary's Bellringers	
<i>Captain:</i> Roger Algate	822480
Whimble Scout Group	
<i>Group Scout Leader (and Marquee Booking):</i> Alex Spry	822844
Whimble Book Group	
Tanya Mooney	823325

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