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Whimble News



Feb/Mar 2000

What's on in Whimple

DATE	EVENT	VENUE	TIME
Feb 1	Over Sixties club (every Tues.)	Victory hall	2.30pm
Feb 1	Skittles (fortnightly Tues and Thurs)	Cricket Club	8 - 11pm
Feb 5	Talk - Life in the freezer Tickets from P.O.	Victory hall	7.30pm
Feb 6	Skittles (every Mon and Weds)	Cricket Club	8 - 11pm
Feb 8	W.I. (every 2nd Tues.)	Victory hall	7.30pm
Feb 9	Mothers Union (every 2nd Weds)	Victory hall	2.45pm
Feb 11	Bingo	Cricket Club	7.30pm
Feb 43	Junior cricket nets	Broadclyst Sports hall	3 - 5 pm
Feb 27	Junior cricket nets	Broadclyst Sports hall	3 - 5 pm
Mar 5	"Tziganarama" (European folk trio, tickets from P.O.)	Cricket Club	
Mar 8	Ash Weds Holy Communion	Church	10.30am
Mar 11	Royal British Legion Jumble Sale	Victory hall	3.00pm
Mar 13	Adult cricket nets	Broadclyst Sports hall	2 - 3 pm
April 2	Mothering Sunday	Church	11.00am

There is a Whimple diary held in the P.O. for events to be written in and checked to avoid double booking. These can then be put in this

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

The Whimple News Team

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Editorial

The News Team would like to wish you a happy and prosperous New Year. Our special Christmas edition was well received and we hope to repeat this in the future.

This edition includes a number of articles relating to the new Millennium and the celebrations at the turn of the year. Rob Camp gives a reminder of what for many of us is at the heart of 2000. It's also good to have articles on differing experiences which cross the generations - from Katie (who works at the Dome), Jon and Edith. I wonder what Whimple will be like in 2099?

Thanks for all the news and views submitted for this issue. Do keep them coming and let any team member have your thoughts on how Whimple News might improve.

Please could contributions for the April/May edition be left at the Post Office (or sent by e-mail to bob.scanlan@eclipse.co.uk) by 20th March.

With good wishes

Peter

From my Window in the Square by Edith Grout

As long as we have memories, yesterday remains
As long as we have hope, tomorrow awaits
As long as we have love and friendship,
TODAY IS BEAUTIFUL

It is my most sincere wish that all my friends and loved ones will have beautiful todays in the year 2000. We have heard so much about the Millenium and mostly not for the right reasons. So little has been said about the meaning of the anniversary we are celebrating - the birth of Christ, and yet that birth has changed the lives of millions of people in the whole wide world.

In Roman mythology, Janus was the god of doorways and passage ways. The patron of the beginning of each day, month and year. He is represented as two-faced looking both forward and back. The month of January was named after him as the first month of the year, a new beginning. One generation comes and another passes away. In the book of Revelation we read:- 'And I saw a new heaven and a new earth, a new Jerusalem. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end'.

We all love to celebrate birthdays, receive cards, presents which are tokens of love and friendship, so this year we are going to celebrate a most special birthday, the 2000 anniversary of the birth of Christ. I think that is of the most fundamental importance in our lives.

The wonder of the birth of Christ is the same yesterday, today and tomorrow. It is good news for the day whatever the date of the year. We cannot know what every day brings us. We avidly watch the weather forecast, but having seen it, we are not more advanced in our knowledge as it predicts every sort of combination of weather, sometimes the four seasons in one day.

Looking back at the eighty years of my rich life, I realise what tremendous changes have happened. I was born in the Swiss Alps when there were horse-drawn carriages in Summer and horsedrawn sledges in Winter. And now I read in the latest news that there are twenty-two million cars in Britain alone today. Just imagine what that means in the degree of pollution we are subjected to. The mind boggles.

Whimble Scout Lottery

The Scout lottery has now ceased and I would like to take this opportunity of thanking you for your support over many years, which has been a considerable benefit to the young people. We have been able to purchase equipment and other essential items to provide a challenging programme. We could not have done this without your help, thank you most sincerely. I am hoping to re-launch the lottery this year in a different format

John Spencer

Senior Citizens Party

Thanks to the ladies of the village and Whimble W.I. for the lovely party, held in the Victory Hall early in December. Thanks are due to the very many helpers who gave so much of their time and to the entertainer Mr Beard - "The Wag from Widecombe" - it was such a pleasure to see so many happy faces. The next party has been booked for Friday 1st December 2000.

Found

Found in Whimble Village Hall after the party on New Year's Eve, a black jumper with hood.

Ring 822811

Whimble Over 60's Club

Whimble over 60's club would like to say a big thank you to all who prepared food, donated prizes, organised and provided music for the party held at the cricket club on January 4th. Nearly 60 members were present for this very good afternoon. Whimble Over 60's Club

Thank you

Edith Grout would like to say a big thank you to Ann and Tony Miller for all their help and kindness after her very bad accident.



Whimble Primary School

We would like to thank everyone who has supported the PTFA during the last year. The money raised has been put to good use - a new LIBRARY, PLAYGROUND improvements, THEATRE ALIBI visited the school with a humorous production and also ADVENTURE CHALLENGE providing the children with intriguing challenges and various other in-school activities. The LOTTERY MONEY subsidises the school trips, which is another important aspect of the pupil's education.

We would like to wish you all a prosperous New Year and hope for your continual support! Many thanks once again.



Thank you

A very sincere thank you to all the kind neighbours and friends who visited me on my 90th birthday, I was very happy to see so many. I was touched by your very generous donations that meant £350.00 was sent to Exeter Leukaemia Fund.



Ottery St Mary Medical Trust

Thank you to everyone who bought Christmas goods, knitted clowns, quilted cushions and also to the donations in lieu. Many thanks to Barbara for her help. A cheque for £960.00 has been given to the medical trust.



Salvation Army Collection

The Salvation Army is truly grateful to you for giving so generously. The total collection for Ottery and Whimble was **£2,682.08.**

I also read the following passage in today's newspaper:-

'Agriculture is in crisis',

'The government has an unbeatable majority in the Commons',

'parents are fretting about large classes in school' and

'an English bowler has just taken a hat trick against Australia'

This picture of life in England is to be found in the latest edition of the government year book and depicts life NOT in 1999, but would you believe it IN THE YEAR 1900. One would almost think it is a description of our everyday life, except in the case of English victories in cricket. And this despite the enormous changes which have occurred since the year 1900 and it would suggest to me a timely reminder that some things never change. Illnesses have changed, life expectancy has changed, we have grown wealthier. Even our climate has changed. Sport has changed from the amateur status to professional. Our children are submitted and conditioned by relentless advertising. I ask myself if it is right that youngsters that have no purchasing powers are targeted so continually?

We may be a wealthier society, but are we happier and more contented? That is the great question? My hope is that the good news for the year 2000 to come is that we all enjoy friendship, love and above all peace, because these are the crucial and enduring qualities of life.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

WHIMBLE CRICKET CLUB

The Clubhouse continues to be 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. Please note a change in the booking procedures. All bookings should be lodged with Roger Smith on Whimble 822244.

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 Cricket Club take this opportunity to wish all players and supporters a Happy New Millennium.

NEWS FROM P.O. CORNER

Hi! - a very happy MM or Y2K to you all - wasn't the atmosphere great in the square on New Years' Eve.?

Now what's new at the P.O....

Postage prices to go up 3rd April; 2nd class stays at 19p up to 60gm

1st goes to 27p and everything else goes up between 4 & 9% (even postage to Europe which went up only recently); however, other than Europe, these are the first increases for some 4 years - I think that's what it said on my briefing.

Computer in the P.O. latest.. well we had a call and arranged a date for carpentry - then another cancelling and leaving next date "to be arranged"; we also had a call and arranged a date for electrical work on which men arrived.. they found we were grade II listed so ceased work, made telephone call and then disappeared leaving next date "to be arranged". So you can see that matters are progressing at an agreeable speed and we should be ready to roll by well you tell me. (It would be a good idea to film this progress and use it for a Hamlet advertisement!)

Incidentally I looked up the date on my own "computer" on 1.1.00 and it told me it was 2.1.00, but then I realised I had torn off two pages SO I was able to sort it out myself and not add to the vast expenditure used in the search for the Y2K bug!

Christmas - what I noticed this year for the first time was the stress endured by the majority of people on the run up to what should be a happy time; mothers of young children spending enormous amounts on their offspring due, it appeared, to pressure from their peers and from T.V. adverts aimed at the young; amounts that they could ill afford; -pressure caused by an inability to say no to the children and a fear that "our children might feel deprived" - pressure due only to love and wanting the best for their children. Also pressure on another age bracket - one lady kindly invited to spend the day with a family for the first time felt she had to get presents for her hosts and all their family as a thank you for their kindness - understandable - but pressure on time for selection and on limited funds; and we saw and heard of many other stress inducing incidents.

All the situations were due to kindness and love and all the feelings that should be present at that time of year but oh how sad there was so little relaxed enjoyment on the run up to the great day.

Cor - I am getting serious this year - perhaps I will leave thoughts on Whimble Park & Ride and Square pedestrianisation until next time - all the best.

MILLENNIUM DOME FIRST IMPRESSIONS

As some people may have heard I have been given a job at the Millennium Dome and I thought it would be a nice idea to write down my first impressions to tell Whimble more about it.

I have now seen it first hand, inside and out and I can tell you - it is amazing; firstly the size - overwhelming - the height of Big Ben and apparently the diameter would allow the Eiffel Tower to lie down inside; and it has the biggest roof in the world and can be seen from space - it is big!

Once inside you will be able to explore anything from inside the human body to a typical British seaside resort that has been completely made out of recycled objects...!, you will get a chance to spend virtual money (one million pounds), and also you will be able to see how you would look in 40 years time, as well as seeing what you would look like as the opposite gender.



More - much more - includes a Millennium Show, in the middle of the dome, which will be spectacular, and a film shown on the biggest cinema screen in the world!

Not only do you get all this for £20, which may seem a lot, but isn't. What you get is a show which will be more amazing than any in the West End, a film, and also up to 4 more attractions inside the Dome.

Unfortunately the critics in the media are determined to be negative about the Dome but now I have seen it I know that it is unique and I feel that everyone should get the chance to see this amazing attraction.

Guess what - first impression - I like it !! (and I have not been paid by the Millennium Experience to write this piece!)

Katie Silk (K.S.@ The M.D.)

WHIMPLE WEATHER

	1999	1998 (Comparison)
Rainfall	43.02 inches	42.84 inches
Rain fell on	173 days	177 days
Snow fell on	3 days	1 day
Gales/Strong winds	40 days	53 days
Thunder heard	15 days	8 days
Wettest month	September 8.34 inches	September 6.36 inches
Driest month	July 0.48 inch	February 0.56 inch
Wettest day	18th September 2.36 inches	30th September 2.16 inches
Hottest day	24th July	19th June 10th August
Coldest day	90 F 19th/20th December	86 F 3rd/4th February 5th December 21 st/22nd December
	- 23 F	- 26 F

Details were recorded in a garden in Whimple.

It must be emphasized that rainfall will vary over a short distance especially in heavy showery weather and the location of the rain gauge.

I have records covering 30 years. The average rainfall over those 30 years is 33.19 inches, therefore it is obvious from the above we have had two very wet years. Does this support the prediction of the Met Office of warmer, wetter years?

1999 produced some remarkable weather. Five months were below average rainfall and five were above. It was the second highest yearly rainfall in 30 years (the highest being 1974 at 45.40 inches). September was the second highest monthly rainfall in 30 years (the highest being January 1974 at 9.09 inches). December was the wettest December in 30 years at 7.24 inches.

I regret metrication hasn't reached this neck of the woods yet!!

Ken Burrows

Whimple P.C.C.

A Welcome letter from the Church to all newcomers to the village has been prepared and is now ready for delivery. Please, if you know of someone who has recently moved into your locality, would you kindly let the Rev.Feltham or any member of the P.C.C. know.

Following your kind support to the 'Old Parish Chest' you might be interested to know that this raised £900, half of which goes to the History Society and half to the Church.

We congratulate Andrew Turner and his mother, Cern, who made £79.50 on the sponsored cycle ride on behalf of the Devon Historic Churches Trust. Many thanks for your energetic venture, yet again. Will others from Whimple join them next September?

Mr Christopher Aplin donated a P.A.System in memory of his father John Aplin who died three years ago. John is remembered as a kind and loyal member of our Church. We are most grateful to his son for such a generous donation. We are indebted to Mr Albert Carder who has saved the Church several hundred pounds by wiring the building for this System. This is much appreciated.

By the time you read this, NewYear's Eve will be long, long gone. However, the Millennium and all its Christian meaning cannot be let go without the P.C.C. wishing you all peace, good health and contentment for the special year of 2000 and a new century.

D.F.



Congratulations to all those who helped make the Millennium celebrations here in Whimple such a great success.

To the church who gave the candles and key rings to every household, to those who donated the fireworks, and the bellringers who rang at midnight and as part of 'Ring 2000' at noon next day.

It was great to see so many people gathering in the square by candlelight to celebrate the New Millennium.

Perhaps we should do it again next year.

2000 VOICES

A MILLENIUM CELEBRATION IN SONG

COME AND SING

a chance to find your voice in the company of others
and join in the Wren Trust Millenium Celebration

Saturday 19th February

2.00pm to 4.30pm

Honiton Community College

Free

An afternoon of singing for all abilities, from the beginner to the very experienced singer, everyone will find a way to join in.

A friendly, supportive session led by

Paul Wilson, Wren Trusts Music Director

who will teach how to sing in a traditional style some of the best known folk songs in the English Language as well as some of the easier world music songs.

This is the first step to joining a 2000 voice choir for an afternoon of singing at the Plymouth Pavilions on July 16th 2000.

Also part of BBC Music Live in Plymouth on 29th May 2000

For further information contact Louise Barchard (01404 822008)

From Bramley Gardens

Between Christmas and New Year, a coffee morning was held in Bramley Gardens, to give a chance for the residents to get to know each other. Bramley Gardens has fifteen bungalows and two houses, all of which have had their first occupants within the past year

It was very interesting to learn in conversation that more than half the residents had lived fairly close to Whimble before moving in, which confirms the estate agents' blurb of "this much sought-after villaige"

Sixteen of us gathered, plus one or two very near neighbours, "grafted in" for the occasion, including the worthy editor of Whimble News. Ian Hardcastle came with his wife and brought a diagram of the site of Bramley Gardens when it was still home to the farm buildings of which he was manager This helped us understand why there are so many half bricks just under the surface of our gardens, and also the fertility of the gardens occupying the area to the rear of the erstwhile pig fattening houses

We didn't get round to voting on whether we are Bramleys or Bramley-ites or what, though one house is named "The Pippins" and another "Orchard View". But we did all agree that Whimble has given a warm welcome to new arrivals and is a community we enjoy becoming involved in.

As a result of our coffee morning, £58.50 was contributed and forwarded to the charity the Hospice of the South West, for terminally ill children. People took away with them a copy of the Millennium Gospel, similar to the one to be presented to each member of Whimble Primary School.

Goeff Gardner

ALPHA

Another course is running in the village this term.

For more information ring
822641

Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal 1999

The poppy appeal in Whimple raised the sum of £1094.66, made up as follows:

House to House Collection	-	£655.59
Church Collection	-	£169.29
Jumble Sale	-	£113.78
Branch Donation	-	£ 40.00
Poppy Wreaths	-	£ 46.00
Whist Drive	-	£ 5.00
Donations	-	£ 65.00

Thank you to everyone who supported us, especially the poppy sellers.

Thanks also to Mr J Shepherd who counted the money in the collecting tins, the Revd K Feltham for conducting the Remembrance Day service,

Mr M Northcott for carrying our standard, Lt Col Roberts for taking the parade and the Venture Scouts, Scouts, Cub Scouts, Beavers and leaders for attending the parade and service.



Whimple Youth Club

After a lot of thought, I have decided the time has come to give up the running of the Youth Club after 7 years.

I think most of you will agree that the club is quite an important organization in the village and therefore my one hope is that there is someone waiting to take over after the A.G.M. in April/May. New blood and new ideas are needed to deep this new younger, energetic generation occupied!

I would like to thank those people who have supported and helped me over the years, you have all been great. Could I say at this point though that in order for a new leader to succeed, he or she must have much more practical help and interest from parents and villagers alike.

A special thankyou to the youngsters past and present for making most Thursday evenings enjoyable and I only hope for your sakes that the club will continue.

If any one is interested please contact me on 822389 or call in any Thursday to see what chaos goes on!!

Before I finally bow out it has been suggested to me that I organize a coach trip to the 'Dome' for members and their families!! So please let me know if you think this is a good idea.

Liz Silk.

LOST!

Black and White Cat

7 months old with shaved patch

The Station House 822550 or

Vales Vetinary Clinic 823230



CINDERELLA

AT THE VICTORY HALL

XMAS 1999

From our raving reporter, the man in the back row with 16 pints of Teignworthy, a packet of crisps and untreatable pork scratchings

Xmas is not Xmas in Whimble unless you have the carols in The Square and the annual pantomime from the Whimbletons. It is the time of year that braver souls than me, dear reader, cast off their inhibitions and tread the boards of theatre-land for a couple of nights in front of their peers and fellow villagers. It is the time of year that apparent pillars of society cake their faces in make-up, throw on the best clothes that Oxfam (or the wardrobe at home) can offer, and perform lines that have been committed to memory over many evenings of hard toil

This year was to be no different. The thing that I always love about this village pantomime is the creativity and enthusiasm that Peter Bolwell puts into the script. Everything rhymes - well, it does on the script but sometimes the cast help it along a little (which is all part of the fun). Audience participation is mandatory, (oh no it isn't, oh yes it is!) and Alison Griffiths as the Story Teller walked amongst the audience at the start, to ensure that we understood our responsibilities. We were encouraged to test our cheering and booing skills, and gifts of great largesse were scattered amongst the audience as rewards for the best.

Maddy Colin did an excellent job as young Cinderella and displayed great stage confidence throughout the evening as the rest of the cast clung valiantly to what they remembered of the script. Ian Reynolds and Paul Colin gave of their best as the Ugly Sisters - such legs, such melodious voices, such public enjoyment at wearing ladies clothing!!! Julie Reynolds was a very effective Step-Mother to the Gruesome Twosome, wearing what appeared to be a rotating black and white wig to great effect.

As one of 'The Three Must-Get-Heres' Richard Styles gave us a song with audience participation, which was fun. He also proved to have tremendous skills in moving the fireplace, and took every opportunity to demonstrate it to us. Miles Leonard, as another 'Must-Get-Here', shared with us a French accent that was either based on the patois of the Central Massif, or somewhere north of the Thirsty Farmer. James Causley brought youth and vigour to the trio, and kept the average age down a little - which they badly needed.

"WE ARE SURVIVORS" (For those born before 1940)

We were born before television, before penicillin, polio shots, frozen foods, Xerox, plastic contact lenses, videos, frisbees and the pill. We were before radar, credit cards, split atoms, laser beams and ballpoint pens; before dishwashers, tumble driers, electric blankets, air conditioners drip-dry clothes and before man walked on the moon.

We got married first and then lived together (how quaint can you be?). We thought 'fast food' was what you ate in Lent, a 'Big Mac' was an oversized raincoat and 'crumpet' we had for tea. We existed before house husbands, computer dating, dual cars, and when a "meaningful relationship" meant getting along with cousins, and sheltered accommodation was where you waited for a bus.

We were before day care centres, group homes and disposable nappies. We never heard of FM radio, tape decks, electric typewriters, artificial hearts, word processors, yoghurt, of young men wearing earrings. For us 'time sharing' meant togetherness, a 'chip' was a piece of wood or fried potato, 'hardware' meant nuts and bolts and 'software' wasn't a word.

Before 1940 "Made in Japan" meant junk, the term 'making out' referred to how you did in your exams, and 'stud' was something that fastened a collar to a shirt and 'going all the way' meant staying on a double decker to the bus depot. Pizzas, McDonalds and instant coffee were unheard of. In our day, cigarette smoking was 'fashionable', grass was mown, 'coke' was kept in the coal house, a 'joint' was a piece of meat you ate on Sundays and 'pot' was something you cooked in. 'Rock music' was a fond mother's lullaby, 'Eldorado' was an ice cream, a 'gay person' was the life and soul of the party and nothing more, while 'aids' just meant beauty treatment or help for someone in trouble.

We were born before 1940 - must be a hardy bunch when you think of the way in which the world has changed and the adjustments we have had to make. No wonder we are so confused and there is a generation gap today

BUT - By the grace of God . . .

we have survived.

The Year 2000 - Why?

So all the parties are over, the fireworks have exploded, the Champagne corks popped and the sore heads recovered. What though were we celebrating?

The sole reason for all of the celebrations was to mark the year 2000. That is the beginning of the 2000th year from the birth of Jesus Christ.. But did Jesus Christ really exist and was Jesus Christ who he said that he was?

In answer to those questions just consider this:

He was born in an obscure village, the child of a peasant woman. He grew up in another obscure village where he worked in a carpenter's shop until he was thirty. He never wrote a book. He never held an office. He never had a family, or owned a house. He never went to college. He never visited a big city. He never travelled more than two hundred miles from the place where he was born. He did none of those things one usually associated with greatness. He had no credentials but himself.

He was only thirty-three when the tide of public opinion turned against him His friends ran away. One of them denied him. He was turned over to his enemies and went through the mockery of a trial. He was nailed to a cross between two thieves. While dying, his executioners gambled for his clothing, the only property he had on earth. When he was dead, he was laid in a borrowed grave through the pity of a friend.

Twenty centuries have come and gone, and today he is the central figure of the human race and the leader of mankind's progress. All the armies that have marched, all the navies that have ever sailed, all the Parliaments that have ever sat, all the kings that ever reigned put together have not affected the life on earth of mankind as powerfully as that one solitary life.

And as Napoleon Bonaparte said:

I know men, and I tell you that Jesus Christ is no mere man. Between him and every other person in the world there is no possible term of comparison. Alexander, Ceasar, Charlemagne and I founded empires, but on what did we rest the creation of our genius? Upon force. Jesus Christ founded his empire upon love and at this hour millions of men would die for him'

Sandra Cottey provided good support as Buttons, whilst Emma Palmer was the very competent Fairy Godmother and helped Cinderella on her way to the ball with some magic and the 3 mice (Beth Reynolds, Michelle Mallett and Joss Colin). Ella Reynolds played the cat, and gained our sympathy for the overall plan to consume at least one of the mice.

Jill Beaumont was Prince Charming, and if you consider the Ugly Sisters as one of the downsides of the pantomime, then the upside is that Jill has much better legs in hot pants. Jenny Sanders was a very competent Equerry to the Prince and attempted to keep the Prince on the straight and narrow.

The story was broken up by short scenes with James Beaumont as the Egg Thief getting the better of the village policemen, very ably played by Di Bowden. Di had a confident delivery, and a wonderful choice of uniform, complete with red socks and trousers at half mast!

It was disappointing that the dreaded flu had not only decimated the audience, but some of the cast. Nevertheless, the show went on and we all enjoyed the evening very much.

The band deserves a mention, as they valiantly fought to maintain an air of professionalism and sobriety in front of the stage (Judith Colin, Martin Patten, Tim Wood, Reg Porley and John Garland). The whole evening was good entertainment and it is great that we have such dedicated people, both on stage and back stage, who are prepared to be pointed at for the rest of the year. Well done and thank you!!!!!!!

Peter Bolwell would be delighted to receive offers from potential performers (anyone out there enjoy dressing up with a bunch of loonies?) or back stage helpers ; Peter can be contacted on 823209.

Go on.....you know it doesn't make sense, just do it!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Magic Carpet



Magic Carpet is an Exeter based charity who provides creative activities for people with special needs in and around Exeter. We currently run six regular arts and drama sessions for people with learning disabilities and during 1999 we ran sessions at the West of England School, a Family Centre, a secure unit for children, St Petrocks and for the 729 Club in Honiton. After talking to people we felt there may be a need for an art, drama or music group in the Whimple area.

To make a group practically and financially viable we would need to have about 18 regular members, although we may be able to begin with a few less people.

With your support we may be able to start a group which would offer creative and social opportunities for people with special needs in your area.

If you would like further information on Magic Carpet or if you or know someone who would benefit please contact us.

Robert Wynne on 01392 422938 or

Ken Stewart on 01404 823374.

The Fairmile Inn

Fairmile, Ottery St.Mary

Tel: 01404 812827

Senior Citizens

Roast Lunch
served every Thursday
between 12pm and 2pm
Roast and three veg. plus sweet - only £3.25
Coffee 50p

KARAOKE NIGHT

Saturday February 12th. and 26th.
Saturday March 11th and 15th

LIVE MUSIC or DISCO

Saturday February 19th
Saturday March 4th and 18th

QUIZ

Every Sunday - General Knowledge quiz
up to 4 players per team, start at 8.30pm
£1 per player - proceeds to East Devon Riding for the Disabled
This is an informal quiz for the family.

The Fairmile Inn

Fairmile
Tel: 01404 812827

WHIMPLE AND DISTRICT VILLAGE PRODUCE ASSOCIATION

The highlight of the winter months is always the AGM and last year was no exception! Once again it was standing room only for the AGM which was recently held at Sandfords. The successful events of the year were reported to the packed meeting and members heard how the year was more one of consolidation than taking giant steps forward. The Committee was re-elected for another year with those in post eager to serve again! We are always looking for new faces with fresh ideas so if there is anyone out there who would like to join our Committee they will be made more than welcome.

The first event of the year will be our Spring Coffee Evening and Plant Sale which will be on Friday 5th May in the Victory Hall at 7.30 pm. We hope to have a wide range of plants for sale together with other stalls so make a note of the date and don't buy too many plants too early!

After the disappointment of having to cancel last year's coach trip we have decided that this year, following the previous successful trip, the outing would be to Rosemoor Gardens which would be combined with the Dartington Glass Visitor Centre. As it was so popular last time, it is recommended that early booking is essential. The outing will again be on Father's Day, which this year is Sunday 18th June. Bookings can be made through Pauline Rogers (822318), so don't delay, book today!!

The main event of the year will of course be the Flower Show on Saturday 12th August. More details will be available in the next edition but for those of you who want to start planning ahead, do not hesitate to contact us for information! We are hoping to make this year's show a bumper show, so don't be afraid to have a go, after all, there are classes for everybody to take part in!

So, make a note of the dates of the above events and more details will follow through the year, and we hope to see as many of you as possible at them.

Paul Wilson,

Hon. Secretary.



One Amazing Night

Courtesy of 'The Western Morning News' (having won a competition), Liz, her parents and I found ourselves at The Bloomsbury Hotel in London, waiting for our coach to take us to Stratford Station and from there to the Millenium Dome for the New Years Eve opening celebrations. We arrived at the station, - TICKETS IN HAND, at 7.00pm in plenty of time to get to the Dome - or so we thought!



The Body Zone

Two hours later we were still shuffling around the station and it was not until 9.45pm that we arrived at what appeared to be the reason for the hold up - one security gate! This to cope with the 6,500 people who had been told that Stratford Tube Station was their gateway to the Dome!

Tired and fed up we arrive only to be told no food or drink was available as we must make our way to our seats for the show. A potential riot (well almost) was defused by friendly, enthusiastic, helpful staff and before long the opening bars of Jupiter from the Planets by Holst, started the show. A variety of music, ranging from The Corrs to Handel led us through to midnight when the Queen carried out the official opening. A spectacular display of carnival and aerial ballet then ensued which was breathtaking and had everyone on their feet and all too quickly 12.45 came and the show ended.

Champagne, food and music was then available in abundance and it was not until 1.45am that we started to make our way back to the hotel.

It was billed as one amazing night and perhaps one unforgettable night would have been more apt, but the Dome itself and the show did deserve the accolade of amazing. Our first sight of it brightly lit in the night sky was overwhelming.

It was worth the wait.

Jon Silk

Whimble Primary School

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Co-opted School Governor Vacancy

If you are from the local community and interested in being closely involved in Whimble School's successful future, please contact Michael Sanders - 822860, or Alyson Smith - 822584. They're waiting for your call.

There will be an opportunity for an open discussion with the Chair of Governors and the Headteacher (date to be arranged)

6th
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ry to 14th April 2000
Half term - 21st to 25th February 2000
Non-pupil day - 21st January 2000

SUMMER TERM 2000
2nd May to 21st July 2000
Half term - 29th May to 2nd Jun

WHIMBLE W.I.

Our first meeting of the Millennium was held on January 11th when Mr. Lashbrook talked us through his slides of old Postcards of Exeter and the surrounding area. This was quite an insight to those of us who only know the bustling City and constant traffic!

Liz Norris once again volunteered to run a Patchwork day at the Village Hall and eight members came and thoroughly enjoyed the productive day.

The Millennium meal was held on 25th January (perhaps we should have called it a Burns Supper!) and an enjoyable evening was had by all despite the bitter weather. The Competition winners for the year were announced and the prizes would have been presented had we had them !!
Congratulations to Rachel Owen and Gill Munslow.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 8th February when during our social time we will have a Bring and Buy to raise funds for our 80th Birthday party which we will be holding on 12th May at Whimble Cricket Club.

Organisations in Whimble

Whimble Parish Council

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

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 Pre-School & Toddler Group

Chair: Mrs. Sarah Griffin Hillcroft, Church Rd. Tel: 823021
New admissions: Mrs.Sue Solf 1,Hillside, Talaton 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.

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