

DISTINCTLY WINKLEIGH



Working for Winkleigh



Edition 29

Spring 2009

Cover sponsored by
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The Journal of the Winkleigh Society

Winkleigh Live Music

Tuesday March 3rd

Tom McConville

Tom McConville – the Newcastle fiddle Player – is one of the leading fiddle players of our time . A virtuoso musician and excellent singer, his rich and warm voice makes his interpretation of traditional and contemporary songs greatly admired by audiences around the world.

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COMMUNITY CENTRE REPORT

Many readers will already know that Devon County Council (DCC) have agreed to transfer the ownership of the Community Centre to the Parish.

It will be a freehold transfer at 'nil' value. Thus no purchase money is now required (initially costed at £160,000) but of course considerable accrued maintenance and renovation costs will need to be addressed and funded over a period of several years. Between now and the end of 2009 several actions need to be undertaken and accomplished prior to final possession:

- The creation of a non-commercial legal structure in order to manage the Centre
- A condition survey followed by the authorship of a building improvement programme set against a time-frame and money
- The examination and set-up of a community ownership scheme should the former be favourable
- The establishment of an agreed transfer timetable between DCC and ourselves
- Increase our fund raising abilities and effort

By March 2009 the present Community Centre management committee is confident that full 'ownership' will be a reality.

After a five year campaign we will have regained control of a listed building originally designed, funded and used as village school. It is a core asset in the centre of the village and has been in use continuously since 1876.

I hope readers of 'Distinctly Winkleigh' will be delighted by this news and continue to support the Community Centre as well as they have done in the past.

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Unlike last year, I have some weddings booked for 2009 and even one for 2010. Weddings can be very expensive, though they don't have to be, and part of the expense involves fees payable to the Church. Relative to the cost of everything else these are actually quite small and, in case you didn't know, do not go into the 'Vicar's pocket'! The fees for wedding and indeed funerals are split two ways. Part of the fee is sent to the Diocese of Exeter and goes into the fund which pays the stipends of parish priests. The other part goes to the Church Council to help maintain the Church so that it is there for the next wedding.

That part of the fee which is paid to the Church Council is very important. Just to keep the Church building running costs around £500 per week. And that money comes from the collections, donations and fund raising, with a small amount from investments – and just as everyone else has to watch their finances at present - so do we. Some people think that Winkleigh Church is rich – not true! The building and land around are very valuable but of course can't be sold.

In a non-financial sense though, the Church is very rich indeed – priceless in fact. It has a rich heritage and tradition. It has two thousand years of Christianity behind it; it has the story of Jesus Christ and the Gospel record of his life, death and resurrection; it has the secret to being fully human, of living life to the full, of true happiness, of how to care for the earth and the promise of life beyond the grave.

That priceless story is about to unfold again as we approach what is the most important week of the whole year – the week which leads us from Palm Sunday (April 5th), through to Easter Day. It is the story of a man, the Son of God, whose integrity was such that he was prepared to die for the truth and in order that you and I might have the gift of eternal life (life after death) by rising again on Easter Day.

The whole of that week, which we call Holy Week, is like a drama whose parts are played out each day until we reach the great finale on Holy Saturday night (the night before Easter Day) when we celebrate Jesus' rising from the dead, a celebration that spills over into Easter Day itself.

In a world which puts its faith in money and material things (the failure of which is all around us) here is a different way that will not fail; that has stood the test of time and will continue to do so. If you want to see that story unfold then come and join us for this Divine Drama and be part of a story that really will change the world.

The service times are as follows. Palm Sunday (April 5th) 9.30 a.m., Maundy Thursday (April 9th) 7.30 p.m., Good Friday (April 10th) 10.00 a.m., Holy Saturday (April 11th) 8.30 p.m., Easter Sunday (April 12th) 9.30 a.m.

Full details will be in the Parish Bulletin available in Church or the Post Office from 29th March.

The Winkleigh Church Flower Arrangers - Easter Lilies

We ran the Christmas Raffle to raise money to help meet the costs of purchasing the flowers for our floral arrangements in the church during the year. We would like to thank you for the excellent support we received. The winner of the Christmas Hamper was Mrs Fowler from Broadwoodkelly.

Each Easter we put lilies in the flower arrangements in the church in memory of loved ones. Their names are entered in the Commemoration Book that will be displayed on the table beside the screen.

We invite you to “buy a lily” this year in memory of “loved ones”. Envelopes for this purpose will be available in the church and also at the hairdressers CHANGES (by kind permission of Valerie Bissett), and also from any of the Flower Ladies. The envelope boxes and details will be in place by Tuesday, 3rd March and the closing date will be Tuesday 31st March.

We also invite you to come to All Saints Church in Winkleigh during Easter Week at 10.30 am on Tuesday 14th April for “Coffee and Cakes” with the Flower Ladies and to view the lilies in the displays.

Winkleigh Pre-school...40 years on we need you!

Following our fortieth anniversary celebrations last October the pre-school continues to go from strength to strength with numbers growing and a potentially very exciting period ahead.

We currently have in excess of thirty children booked into places at the ever popular two year old introductory sessions and the ‘baby boom’ of the last twelve months would indicate that numbers are unlikely to drop in the near future.

As publicised in the North Devon Journal shortly before Christmas we have been short-listed to receive funding from Devon County Council. This funding would be used to build a new purpose built centre to meet our growing needs, talks are now in progress as to how this money could be best spent, if we were to receive it, to support the needs of the staff and children to provide the best learning environment possible.

Now we come to how you can help. The pre-school is a charity which is run by our dedicated team of very hardworking staff and a management committee of volunteers independently of Devon County Council, without a committee we are unable to operate. We are sad to be losing several of our committee at the forthcoming AGM and wish those members well as they and their children move on through their education. At our AGM on 21st April we will be looking for new members to join the committee and keep this vital village service running for the benefit of all our children. We meet once a month and organise several

fundraising events a year as well as dealing with the day to day business management of the setting. If you feel you can dedicate your experience and time to this group then we welcome your attendance at the AGM, please also feel free to speak to any member of the existing committee or our Chair Becky Parker.

Winkleigh and the Future of the Airfield - Latest

The old Airfield site could offer a real opportunity for the community of Winkleigh and beyond - not just for employment but other uses as well. There has been little development or improvement of the site over the past 10 years. The Torridge Local Plan guides the planning authority decisions about the kind of development permissible; the existing ('Adopted') Plan limits development to a few types only; and it is not clear what kind of influence in the past Parish Councils had on this existing Plan. It runs out in the next year or so.

The existing Local Plan said that a specific plan (known as a Site Development Brief) for the Airfield was needed. But nothing was done about this until two years ago when SWRDA and Torridge DC agreed to work with the community to produce one. Winkleigh Parish Council has two representatives on the Steering Group for this.

Last year the planning consultants, who are advising on this, consulted the community about the broader needs of Winkleigh. The Steering Group again met last week (17 February) and the advisers are now working on about 6 alternative ways of using the Airfield site. These will be put to us as a community in the next couple of months. Look out for the notices about this around the village, and including those on www.winkleighonline.com

Two important aims are:

1. How can the site be made more attractive to a wider range of employers, so that more local people could get better jobs without the need to travel out of Winkleigh.
2. How can there be improved opportunities for local people to enjoy parts of the site for leisure purposes.

If you want to know more, you can contact me.

Peter Stutt

Vice-Chairman, Winkleigh Parish Council

Tel: 01837 83283

Email: peter.stutt@theoldmalthouse.plus.com

A TRIBUTE TO MARJORIE AGNES WHITE

1910 — 2008

Marjorie's parents were both schoolteachers in S.E. London. They married in 1906, and Marjorie, their second daughter, was born in 1910. We have a lovely photo of the family of four taken at the beginning of World War 1. The two little girls had big floppy ribbons in their hair. Their Father was wearing his army uniform. He served in the Cheshire Regiment.

Marjorie grew up in a one parent family, as her Father died soon after the Armistice. The family of three women were very close and loving. Marjorie left school at 15 and worked, at first, as a clerk in the Royal London Insurance company. She enrolled for evening classes in Shorthand and Typing as she was ambitious. Once she had gained good speeds in office skills she earned more, first with Hoare's Brewery, and later at Goodlass Wall's Paint Company in Langham Place.

In 1932 she became engaged to Denis White, Printer, of King's Road, Chelsea. They married in June 1933. The next year Shirley Enid was born, followed in 1937 by Judith. When war was declared the children were sent to live with relations in the country to avoid the dangers and terrors of the bombing.

Marjorie used her secretarial skills to help keep the Printing firm going throughout the war. Several nights a week she served on the Fire-Watching Rota, so that she could alert the emergency services when incendiary bombs had started fires in their locality. In 1941 her husband was called up, and served the rest of the War in the Fleet Air Arm. She was only able to see her daughters for the occasional weekend. Towards the end of the war the two girls rejoined her in London. At last the family was reunited in 1946 when Denis was demobbed.

During these postwar years Marjorie taught her daughters that the family that prays together stays together. She also taught them that good cooking, prepared with love, and eaten around the table, seasoned with conversation, is at the heart of family life. She taught them to make pastry, Yorkshire Pudding, white sauce, beef casserole, and so much more.

The late 40s and early 50s were still years of austerity and rationing. Marjorie made all the children's clothes. We remember her sitting at the treadle sewing machine and stitching late into the night, as well as knitting.

Paddy Date came to live with Marjorie and her family at this time, while she was studying at Chelsea School of Art. She became another member of our family. She even flew from California in order to be with us in mourning. Incidentally Marjorie made her first air flight to visit Paddy in California when she was 80, if you please!

The family's great adventure started in 1959, when Denis and Marjorie pulled out of the Printing firm, and decided to buy a farm in Devon. They farmed near Holsworthy for 4 years, then bought Herdwick, where the family has lived happily ever since.

Marjorie worshipped in Winkleigh church, joined the W.I. and acted in the pantomimes that were put on during her early years in the community. The warmth of her personality and her beautiful smile have been a delight to her family and many friends throughout her life. Until very recently she has enjoyed exceptional good health. She has delighted in the exploits of her daughters, grandchildren and great grand-children. Her life spanned almost a century. We remember her with joy.

Play more tennis this year!

Winkleigh Tennis Club has 2 tennis courts with floodlights, and has its own kitchen facilities and tennis room within the Winkleigh Sports Centre. The club warmly welcomes new members - and previous members who would like to renew. Members also receive a discount on membership to the snooker and pool club within the sports centre. We are keeping our annual subs to a very reasonable rate: £25 adults, £15 juniors.

We will be organising a number of social events this summer, including a Barbecue. Club members will be welcome on Thursday evenings and Sunday mornings to play tennis and to socialise. All levels of ability, from the novice to 'pretty useful', will be welcome.

On Saturday mornings throughout the year, our experienced coach Janine Hearn coaches juniors. She is also willing to help adults brush up their skills, or teach novice players from scratch.

Please contact **Paul Vincent** (secretary) for more information. Phone 01837 82857 or email pv@eclipse.co.uk

SUDOKU

Fill in each 3 x 3 grid so that each row and column contains all the numbers 1 to 9.

Solution on Page 26

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CHANGES TO WWW DIRECTORY

Winkleigh Fair Committee

New Chairman is Sara Grimwood – 01837 83155

Heating Equipment Cookers & Stoves

South West Woodburning Centre is now renamed as
RANGEMOORS 01837 83333

Please amend your copy of the WWW Directory accordingly.

If any reader spots an entry that needs changing, please telephone the change to Alan Mulcahy on 01837 680145, or email the details to the articles email address on the back page of this issue.



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SPORTS CENTRE-FRESH BLOOD WANTED!

At the recent A.G.M. and subsequent committee meeting there was some discussion on the current standing of the Sports Centre in relation to the changes which have been occurring over the last year or so.

It was generally agreed that there was a need for the existing constitution to be looked at in some detail with a view to bringing it more in line with the needs of today. To that end it was generally agreed that it would be beneficial to appeal to the community in general, but particularly to those who may have moved into the village more recently, to come forward and play an active part in the set up. There is a particular need for input from persons with secretarial, or other committee position, related experience or aspirations to help in the development of the constitutional requirements for the future. So there you are - if you are reading this and looking for community involvement, whether or not you are already aware of sports centre activities, this is your big chance!

With regard to ongoing happenings, the news is mixed. There have been some delays in the processing of the allotment plans and a need to re-submit the funding application but I believe that this has now been dealt with and a degree of optimism prevails - fingers crossed, this is going to go forward! The netball group have had differing fortunes during the winter due of course to the abominable weather, which seems to have been particularly bad on Sunday mornings, but after taking a break over the Xmas period a number of hardy souls are continuing to brave the elements and things can only now start to get better. If you are interested in joining this group I know they would be pleased to see you - Sunday mornings 10 o'clock to run off that hangover from Saturday night!

Now of course is the time of year to start looking forward to the summer and in particular the great summer game - cricket. I hope that those intent on bringing the game back to the village will be making plans in the near future. If anyone has any other new ideas they will, I am sure, be warmly received.

The current core activities in the centre have all enjoyed a good winter, despite the weather, with snooker, short mat bowls and the youth club all reporting increased interest.

In finishing it should be mentioned that at the time you are reading this report, or very soon after, the final stages will be being put in place on the play area re-development, this after a long period of intense activity from the youth club - if anybody wants to say thank you I know that they will never turn down cash donations, which can be put to good use!

Brian Holland - 01837 83521

Correspondence Address: 45 Elms Meadow, Winkleigh, Devon, EX19 8JU
Tel. 01837 83521 Email: briwy@hotmail.co.uk

‘Strictly Come Winkleigh’

A TV Documentary Series & Book

A unique project headed by local writer and television presenter David Freeman is set to put Winkleigh firmly on the map and he needs your help.

The History of Winkleigh and its people is a remarkable one and quite unique. From its ancient roots shrouded in time, through its flourishing medieval years to Britain’s struggles in a more modern era, the ‘Winkleigh Hundred’ not surprisingly, has yielded up its finest sons and daughters in times of crisis.

None more so than its decorated heroes from both world wars, with one who won the nation’s highest accolade, the Victoria Cross. There were clearly many more, though so many remain unsung heroes whose stories have never been told.

Big hearted Winkleigh also opened its doors and hearts to many young and bemused evacuees during World War II and foreign nationals too. They were frightened refugees from many different parts of a devastated Europe who had lost everything. Many of them remember the village with great love and affection. Indeed some stayed and made their lives here.

As history records, the role of the airfield and its squadrons to the war effort and beyond is incalculable and some of its stories truly amazing. But David would like to know more. In building a true story of Winkleigh and its life and times, you may be able to help by providing information, stories or photographs?

If you remember those fabled years, or have an association or factual story to tell, perhaps associations with the RAF base and the wartime years, or have Winkleigh family who have served their King and Country in any theatre or service, be it the Indian Campaign or Boer war, through to the Great Wars of 1914 - 1918 & 1939 - 45. Maybe the Falklands, the Middle East, Afghanistan or even Iraq. David would like to hear from you.

If you have Internet access, a fascinating and extensive new web site adapted from his research and telling the story of Winkleigh, its people and the Airfield, has been put together with additional photos by local photographer Jackie Freeman and is being added to daily.

It can be found easily by simply searching for ‘Strictly Come Winkleigh’ on the internet. If you can help, please drop David a line or just give the Newsletter team a call.

The number is on the back of this newsletter.

Fings ain't wot they used to be

On Saturday, May 16th 2009, Winkleigh Village Hall Committee is proud to present Chris Batters and his one-man show "Fings ain't wot they used to be".

Chris will take you on an entertaining trip down memory lane to recall the 1960's, 60's and 70's reminding you of radio, TV, fashion and many other subjects of the period.

More details to follow

Winkleigh Short mat Bowling Club

The season is now in full swing with teams out playing matches throughout the week, both afternoon and evening. The club now has 12 teams playing in various leagues and so far the results are promising but there is a way to go yet!

We hosted Intercounty matches between Devon and Cornwall Premier and A teams. Each time the sports centre was full of very skilled bowlers. Members from our Club supplied and cooked a hot meal for 60 people each day along with bacon rolls and drinks and cakes which were very well received. Well done to the catering team. Congratulations to Devon who were successful in the matches.

We have had two of our Club days - The Royal British Legion Cup and the Club Singles. All Club members were eligible to enter and the days saw some excellent bowling, all games drawn at random. The final of the British Legion will be played between Dave Brown and Eddy Tranter. The men's singles finalists are Eddie Ahier and Bill Brook and the ladies, Eileen Tranter and Jan Ovenden. These games will be played before our A.G.M. on April 21st. Good luck to you all. We still look forward to our pairs day next month.

At the end of March our third Tournament will take place with teams from all over the County entering for the Flue and Chimney Specialists Trophy. We are very grateful to Gareth Down of Rangemoors Ltd. for their continued support of this event.

The afternoon roll ups on Mondays and Fridays 2.00 until 4.00 continue to be well supported but there is still room for you, so give me a call 01837 83853 and I can fill you in on the details.

Hope to see you soon.

Jan Ovenden

Club Secretary.

In common with many activities the Youth Club has been affected by the adverse weather conditions over the winter period but we have kept going and, as I write, we are seeing the first signs of improvement as the days begin to draw out. This year for the first time in our history (5½ years) we closed for two weeks over the Xmas period due to club nights coinciding with Xmas and New Years eves.

Once again it is my happy duty to welcome on board our band of volunteers two new additions - Debbie is the mother of one of our members who let it slip that she needed something to do - well we can't let a chance like that go! The other newcomer is Chanelle, the older sister of an existing member, who has just celebrated her 16th birthday and will therefore become a member of the "V" team. Both Debbie and Chanelle have settled in well and are more than proving their worth in bringing forward new ideas and initiatives. One of the new developments, which is currently causing us all some excitement, is the introduction of the "Saturday Club" which will be an extension of our activities into the week-end, but with a difference in that we hope to encourage parental involvement - thus encouraging the whole family to join in and try their hand at table tennis, air hockey, board games etc. Cookery has also been suggested and I am sure there will be many more ideas as we progress. This is being launched as a joint enterprise with the Tennis Club who already hold junior coaching sessions on Saturday mornings. It is early days yet but we have applied for funding to provide a range of indoor and outdoor equipment and this would appear to be a much better alternative to Saturday mornings than the supermarket!

The other significant development on the youth front is that there is a major re-structuring of the local youth network underway. We are still assessing the full implications for our club so it would be wise to defer further detail until a later date. Suffice to say for now that we are keeping our fingers crossed regarding the effects on our funding and the nature of any "back-up" services which have previously been provided from Chulmleigh.

Perhaps, before finishing, I should give a brief mention to the youth snooker group which continues to meet on Tuesday evenings. Their numbers have increased over the winter period and they are close to maximum capacity on most nights. If anyone would like further information on this, the Saturday Club or any of our activities please get in touch.

Brian Holland 01837 83521
Mike Wilson 01769 520605
Amy Bailey 01837 83212

Correspondence Address: 45 Elms Meadow, Winkleigh, Devon, EX1 9 8JU
Tel. 01837 83521 Email: briwyc@hotmail.co.uk

POLICE INFORMATION - MARCH 2009

With the credit crunch a lot of people are feeling the pinch and we are concerned that this may push criminals into the rural areas seeking to steal your property. We have noted a small increase in the number of rural thefts and rural burglaries across the North Devon area. This includes thefts from rural communities, isolated farms, farm buildings, rural outbuildings and workshops.

Obviously we are keen to act on this quickly and perhaps establish the Winkleigh area as an example of a proactive community geared up to resist any rise in crime involving theft. We have already been working with the Parish Council and Highways to secure improvements to the lighting in the village very few other villages will be able to boast. We have also made a commitment to be accessible to your community and you can come and see us at the Weekly Mini Market in the Community Centre every Wednesday morning between about 9:45 and 10:45.

Clearly we will need your help in this. One of the best ways we can do this is to ensure that your locality of neighbours and friends are all looking out for each other. Small groups of isolated rural houses can be clustered and set up as Neighbourhood Watches. All farms can join FARM WATCH in their own right. It is even easier in the village. Have a word with your neighbours and perhaps get into a group of about a dozen households and decide who is going to be your contact to the police. Let us know and we will set you up as a NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH Group. You can put up street signs to deter thieves and each household will get up to date messages on crimes in the area and possible offenders to look out for.

We fully intend to follow up this drive to create new Neighbourhood Watch Groups with written material, and maybe crime prevention presentations. This scheme is free and so easy to set up so please make the effort to take us up on this opportunity to make Winkleigh an example to other villages in the area as to what can be done. If you want advice about Neighbourhood Watch or want to set one up get in touch or call the Winkleigh NHW area Co-ordinator John BOWERS on 01837 83585.

The following advice is given in the hope that readers will take these issues seriously in our area and we can all work together to reduce the opportunity for thieves to operate.

- If you can, fit an alarm: this is still one of the most effective methods of deterring a potential thief. You could also consider fitting simple battery systems to your sheds.
- Try to secure or immobilise garden equipment when not in use. Place it in a locked shed or chain it up. Always keep tools and smaller machinery locked away.
- Where possible use British Standard locks, locking bars and security padlocks.

- Record the name, serial and model numbers of property, photograph valuables and keep these records handy.
- Mark your property. Engrave, security mark or paint your property with your postcode followed by the first two letters of your address.
- See the **‘MARK IT, REGISTER IT, KEEP IT’** campaign on the Police Website or ask for an information pack by contacting us.
- We can also give you **‘TOO LATE’** cards to display in your windows to tell potential offenders that you have taken security measures and marked your property.
- Perhaps you could install some security lighting, or even home CCTV, around gardens, yards or entrances. Most DIY outlets now sell cheap and effective kits.
- Join your local **‘FARM WATCH’** or **‘NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH’** scheme, display the signs and get notifications of local crimes and suspicious persons or vehicles operating in your area, direct from the police.
- Encourage employees, family, friends and visitors to be security conscious.

The above points are just the basics but the Devon and Cornwall Website (www.devon-cornwall.police.uk) has more information in greater detail. We also have dedicated Crime Prevention Officers who can provide detailed information to homes or businesses or you can contact us to get further advice.

Another very important message that we must get across to readers is that to catch the criminals involved in these types of crimes we need information concerning suspicious activity and suspicious or criminal behaviour you notice or are aware of. Make sure that detail is taken of make, model, colour and registration numbers of vehicles and identifying features of suspicious persons. This allows us to follow up your reports with confidential enquiries. I don't think we can stress to you enough how important this information would be to us in the fight against rural crime in your area.

Thank you for your help,
PC 3569 Dick Rowlands.

PC 3569 Dick Rowlands:
PCSO 30335 Melissa Baker:
PCSO 30096 Sandra Brown:
Telephone: 08452 777444
NHW Enquiries: 01805 625806

13569@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk
30335@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk
30096@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk

(Ask for a message for call back)

(Message service available)

Wallingbrook Health Centre

Newsletter February 2009

Tel: 01769 580269 (Reception) Tel: 01769 581249 (Admin)

Tel: 01769 581131 (Dispensary) Tel: 01769 581045 (Fax)

www.wallingbrook.co.uk

Please note that calls to and from the Health Centre may be monitored or recorded



Not Able To Attend An Appointment? PLEASE let us know.

During the week of 19 to 23 January a total of over 5 hours of appointments with our clinicians were wasted due to patients not turning up for their appointments and not contacting the surgery in advance to cancel/change the appointment.

This has 3 major effects:-

An increase in the waiting time for appointments

Frustration for both staff and patients

A waste of resources

Whilst we understand that sometimes unforeseen circumstances may prevent you from attending an appointment it is very important to let the surgery know. This will enable us to reallocate appointments to others.

Attachment of Doctors to Wallingbrook

Wallingbrook is designated as a Training Practice in liaison with the Peninsula Medical School and under the supervision of Dr Ian Guildford you may, from time to time, see Junior Doctors who are experiencing General Practice as part of their training. Currently we are hosting Dr Mary Pedley who is normally based at North Devon District Hospital.

Suspect a stroke? Act FAST and call 999

- **What are the symptoms of stroke?**
- To help people recognize the symptoms of stroke quickly, The Stroke Association has funded research into FAST - the Face Arm Speech Test - which is used by paramedics to diagnose stroke prior to a person being admitted to hospital. By diagnosing the possibility of stroke before reaching hospital, it is possible for appropriate referral to a stroke unit to be made as quickly as possible.
- **What is FAST?**
- FAST requires an assessment of three specific symptoms of stroke.
- **F**acial weakness - can the person smile? Has their mouth or eye drooped?
- **A**rm weakness - can the person raise both arms?
- **S**peech problems - can the person speak clearly and understand what you say?
- **T**ime to call **999**

Devon Air Ambulance

From time to time it is necessary for the Air Ambulance to land in our car park here at Wallingbrook if this happens we need to clear the car park very quickly. On one recent occasion this was impossible as a vehicle had been left in the car park while the owner was not attending the Health Centre. This thoughtless action caused the Air Ambulance to have to divert to the golf course and caused an unnecessary delay for the patient concerned.

To clarify **the car park is solely for the use of staff and patients attending the surgery** and we reserve the right to clamp or tow away any unauthorised vehicles – your assistance in this respect is essential.

Chlamydia Trachomatis

Have you ever heard of it? - Most people haven't and yet it's the commonest sexually transmitted disease in the UK and its **VERY COMMON**. The number of cases in Devon is increasing dramatically and the highest rates are among sexually active people under 25 one in 10 of whom is infected.

Most people infected have no symptoms and yet, untreated, it can lead to serious infection and infertility. The treatment is very simple – one dose of an antibiotic.

As a practice we have joined the **NATIONAL CHLAMYDIA SCREENING PROGRAMME** for under 25s. We offer free testing involving a urine sample for men and a self taken swab for women with results sent direct to the patient by text. Just collect a pack from the MOT bay in the Wallingbrook Dispensary.

EVERYONE should check they are Chlamydia free before any new sexual relationship. Don't pass Chlamydia around, its not good news. Over 25s should make an appointment with a practice nurse or attend a GU clinic for screening.

Recording of Telephone Calls

Please note that calls to and from the Surgery may be monitored or recorded for quality and training purposes.

Art On Prescription - Update

The first Art On Prescription groups both at Wallingbrook and Winkleigh have been very successful and new groups will be set up shortly. This is an art project which supports people aged 16 and over who are experiencing mild to moderate depression, stress, or anxiety.

Dr Anne Brown is leading the project for Wallingbrook and she would be delighted to discuss the scheme with anyone who is interested.

February Snow!! – a big thank you

We would like to thank the Amber Foundation for helping to clear our car park and paths during the recent snow. This was very much appreciated.

Andy Warren

Practice Business Manager

The Winkleigh Biosphere Lectures

January saw the delivery of the first two lectures in the series sponsored by the Winkleigh Society and the North Devon UNESCO Biosphere Reserve.

On a cold Friday night 30 people managed to get to the Community Centre to hear Andy Bell, who is the Coordinator for the Biosphere Reserve explain what it was all about aided by an exhibition showing the extent of the designated area, which includes all that region that drains to the Taw and the Torridge. This is the first Biosphere Reserve in the UK to be fully recognised by UNESCO with the new rules that take the concept far beyond the confines of a small Nature Reserve (such as Braunton Burrows, the core zone of the North Devon Reserve). So we are now among the elite group of over 500 world class reserves all over the world – and we are particularly twinned with one on the coast of Kenya. They are intended as living laboratories for sustainable development. Unlike some other designations the organisation has only the power of persuasion, with no statutory powers at all to ‘enforce’ sustainable living and therefore relies heavily on the participation of all. Although a Biosphere Reserve has the starting point of the conservation of fauna and flora, this is seen to be only one of the facets of its concern which includes matters as far apart as energy use, tourism, health and education. We depend on the land surface, most of it farmed, not only for the production of food and timber, but for water filtration, nutrient cycling, carbon sequestration, recreation, healing and education.

The objectives of the Reserve include some very challenging targets, including:- to reverse the decline in biodiversity; to conserve our best landscapes; to use our natural resources wisely; to tackle climate change; and to develop and strengthen a robust economy for the entire Biosphere Reserve. That should keep us busy – but Andy kept making the point that we are all part of the Biosphere Reserve; it is a designation that we can both be proud of, and also use to help control our futures.

The following week was the turn of Paul van der Linden, from the Hadley Centre for Climate Change in the Met Office, drawing an audience enlarged by the members of the Biosphere Partnership who had their quarterly meeting in the Village Hall during the afternoon. Paul reminded us that he was ‘just’ a scientific civil servant; it was his job to analyse data not comment on government policies. But those data are shocking enough. The distinction between weather and climate was important as one cold winter in the tiny fraction of the earth’s surface represented by the UK has little impact on global figures. For me the most obvious graph was the one that pointed out that all the warmest ten years since records began have been since 1997. Even 2008 comes in as, globally, the tenth warmest on record. Moving to the reasons for climate change, there is of course plenty of evidence of major climate changes in the past, but what gives the scientists confidence that much of the present change is due to human-induced

emissions is that their models work. The models are run back into the past and then compared with actual climate, and the models predict very well; so they will predict the future also provided of course that the scenarios are correct. So we were shown a whole variety of scenarios, from making a serious effort to reduce emissions, to others with little significant change in our current profligacy. Many of these are predictions with which we are all too familiar, but I noted that the rainfall predictions are a great deal less certain than the temperature ones. Crop yields for western Europe may well increase significantly, but the situation in Africa would be dire indeed. One slide, of one possible scenario for future English landscapes, caused some wry amusement among a Winkleigh audience as it was dominated by elephant grass! After this presentation anyone still thinking that climate change was not happening would have to be in the same league as the Flat Earth Society.

Unfortunately the 3rd lecture in the series had to be cancelled due to snow (Winkleigh's revenge after a lecture about global warming). This has caused some rescheduling of the remaining lectures as follows:

6 th Mar. 7.30	Migratory Fish	Roger Smith
13 th Mar. 7.30	Landscape for All	Peter Howard
20 th Mar. 7.30	Farming in a changing world	Paul Cottingham
27 th Mar. 7.30	Dartmoor and the Biosphere	Ian Mercer

A further meeting to discuss ways forward for this community will be held later.

Admission:- Free for Members of Winkleigh Society
£3.00 each lecture for non-members

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Explore North Devon and House Scouts

House Scouts have been very busy at the Mini Market in the Community Centre on Wednesday mornings (9.00 to 10.30 am), as well as the wonderful local contributions to the archive we have had quite a few folk in from further afield, enquiring after their Winkleigh forebears for the family tree.

Thanks to our new volunteers who have been scanning images and documents that have been brought in by Winkleigh folk and learning how to get them onto the computer, you will be able to see what has been brought in fairly soon. Meanwhile our long standing volunteers have been digitizing the Census and Tithe apportionment list and carrying out historical research into how the village and Church have grown and developed over the centuries. At some point during the year we hope to have an exhibition of the volunteer's hard work.

From when we first thought of the House Scouts project, the Museum of Barnstaple and North Devon and the North Devon Record Office have been very supportive, offering help, advice and training in all aspects of our project. With House Scouts joining the Explore North Devon project (www.explorenorthdevon.org.uk), we are able to offer even more training, which is free to all volunteers.

One of these sessions, to be held in the North Devon Records Office, will focus on how to discover the history of your house by looking at the written records and documentary evidence available and surveying the fabric of the building itself. Tim Wormleighton the Principal Archivist at the NDRO will give an introduction to the types of records available with North Devon Record Office. I am then to give a talk on how to conduct a building survey ending with a practical session. This is on the 16th March 10.30 am to 1pm (tea / coffee provided). If you would like to come to this session or join the project in any other way please do get in touch.

Tel 01769 520326 or email ace@ACEarch.org.uk

Janet Daynes

Winkleigh Singers

Welcome to the world of the Winkleigh Singers - a lot has happened since we last went to print 6 months ago when we promised much and fulfilled most, fell short on a little, learned some lessons, but in the bigger picture we hope we continued to delight our existing followers and friends and entice some new listeners.

So....where were we when we last left you? About to take part in what was to be a fabulous production of "Dream of Gerontius" in Exeter. We did, it was a success. Christmas came and went in a flash, and we are now busily engaged in a 25th anniversary year.

Our ladies are now rigged out as "women in black", the gentlemen have not yet shown an inclination for radical change of "schmutter", but all are united in being raring to go for a challenging and very rewarding first programme of 2009.

Saturday 28th March in Torrington Church brings a marvellous treat simply entitled "The English Anthem".

Join us at 7.30 that evening to hear us going through "a capella" paces for an informed journey through time from early C15 to the present day with a selection of - yes you've guessed - English anthems, from the well known and loved, such as John Tavener's "Song for Athene" and Parry's "I Was Glad", to programme items which may currently come less easily to the mind of the listener. We are privileged to be joined by Andrew Daldorph who will demonstrate his expertise at the Willis Organ.

Tickets £12, concessional free entry to accompanied under 16s.

At this point an apology is owed to some of our dedicated friends - we had promised a C.D. for Christmas 2008 and it didn't happen - at least, not last year. If we move on swiftly from "gremlins in the machinery", we are able to assure all that we did learn lessons, and the C.D. is now very much back on the agenda for release Christmas 2009.

Summer will delight in the form of Rossini's Petite Messe Solonelle.

July 4th, traditionally a day of joy and celebration for our transatlantic allies, will bring elation and music to those Devonians (& anyone else for that matter) who want to make the trip to Barnstaple - listeners will be left wanting to sing all the way home. This is one of the most joyful musical experiences imaginable for both listener and chorister, and this performance will be led by soloists of considerable prestige.

Autumn brings the possibility of another gig in Exeter, yet to be confirmed. And before we know it, winter is upon us again (surely not more snow?) with the traditional Christmas concert at Winkleigh on December 19th.

The proposed 2010 tour in Normandy, bringing the tradition of English choral music to France, has taken further steps towards becoming a reality as we contact "twins" (geographically speaking) on the other side of la Manche - there may be opportunities for non-members to travel with the choir. Watch this space - exciting times.

District Councillor's Report

Like in many organisations, the start of the year is an odd time. Virtually everything closed down over Christmas but then suddenly everyone is running around trying to respond to another initiative from central government. It reminds me a bit of Corporal Jones in Dad's Army with his "Don't panic – don't panic!"

The government's "initiative" to create unitary government in Devon has stalled. Earlier this month, Hazel Blears, the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, announced that she has now given the Boundary Committee another seven months to make its final report. The way that the "initiative" has been conducted has been incompetent and half-baked. Hopefully it will soon get finally kicked into touch.

Torridge's share of the Council Tax

Over the past few weeks, a considerable amount of our time has been taken up by endeavouring to determine Torridge's share of the overall council tax (which is around 10%). At the time of writing, this has still not been agreed. With most businesses struggling with the recession and many household budgets under pressure from loss of earnings, higher interest charges or less interest for savers, it is vital that we keep the council tax as low as possible. However, it is also important that we don't allow cut backs to be used as an excuse for not improving services. It is a delicate balancing act between looking at priorities, unavoidable costs, proposals to improve services, and searching for areas to make savings. Thankfully we now have no more sizeable commitments to consultants that the previous council engaged. I hope that other bodies, such as Devon County Council and the Police, also do everything they can to cut costs at this very difficult time.

Torridge at Winkleigh's Mini-Mart and Coffee Morning

Winkleigh has had a Mini-Mart and Coffee Morning from 9 to 11 every Wednesday morning for a number of years. Since last autumn, Torridge has taken a stall once a month to enable people from in and around Winkleigh to come along to discuss issues and to seek help and advice. So if you would like to discuss issues or get information – for example on rubbish collection, planning advice, housing, benefits or the council tax – please pop along. Torridge's will be at the following -

February 26th

March 25th

April 22nd

Councillor Community Grant Scheme of £2,000

Last year, Torridge launched the Councillor Community Grant Scheme. Each councillor at TDC has a budget of £2,000 to enable projects that meet local needs to quickly get off the ground. Grant money is for one-off capital expenditure or revenue items but the money cannot be used for retrospective funding. Any group – other than the parish council – based within the ward can apply.

It has taken a little time to get going but a number of groups are now working on bids. Although the pot of money that I can access is relatively small, it should also open up other match funding for groups. If you have any projects that you feel might be eligible, please get in touch, as there is money available!

David Lausen

01837 83209 www.davidlausen.org.uk

ACE Archaeology Club

Dartmoor National Park has had to cut archaeological funding this year and they have told us that they cannot currently guarantee finding the money we need to excavate at Teigncombe. If money should become available they have indicated that they would like to start supporting the post-excavation work. ACE cannot afford to go ahead with the excavation without this funding so we have had to cancel this year. I have had a quick look around at alternative funding streams, there is plenty of it out there but time is against us, as we would not know if an application had been successful until a week or two before the dig!

This situation has made our director, Dr Sandy Gerrard reassess the project; he has concluded that although the planned trench through a lynchet would add more information to the project, he has got enough for now to finish the report for phase I. The lynchet could be excavated later if necessary.

We have not made alternative plans for the two weeks in August taken up by the dig but we have plenty of other activities on the go. There are plans for more sessions of; experimental archaeology, surveying the Post medieval farmstead at Moistown near Broadwoodkelly and a talk on bones in archaeology.

If you are interested joining these ACE activities, please do get in touch. Please be aware that because of our financial situation, non-ACE members will now have to pay £5.00 per day attending these events to help cover the costs of insurance etc. Our membership does not cost the earth, only £10.00 single and £15.00 family per year, so why not join!

If you want to know more about ACE, contact **Janet Daynes** Tel; 01769 520326 or email ace@ACEarch.org.uk

Winkleigh & District Garden Club – Programme for 2009

March 2 nd	Committee Meeting – Kings Arms 6:30
March 17 th	Club Meeting – Village Hall 7:15 Speaker – The Devon Garden Trust
April 21 st	Club Meeting – Village Hall 7:15 Speaker – “Autumn & Winter Colour” – Barry Starling
May 19 th	Club Meeting – Village Hall 7:15 Question Time with Guest Panel
May	Visit – “The Chine” - Garden of Barry Starling: Drewsteignton
June 16 th	Club Meeting – Village Hall 7:15 Speaker – “Wildflowers of the West Country” – Paul Rendall
June	Visit – Lower Ashmoor Farm, Rose Ash: Tour & Cream Tea
July 21 st	Visit – Garden Cottage Plant Centre & Vineyard, Coldridge: Talk, Tour & Cream Tea
August	Club Social / BBQ
September 15 th	Club Meeting – Village Hall 7:15 Gardeners’ Market Evening
October 20 th	Club Meeting – Village Hall 7:15 Speaker – “Garden Birds” – Peter Howard
November 17 th	Club Meeting – Village Hall 7:15 AGM / Seed Order
December 15 th	Club Meeting – Village Hall 7:15 Christmas Social Evening

For further information contact our Chairman **Ed Porter** on 01805 – 804838



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6	5	9	7	4	3	8	1	2
1	3	7	6	2	8	5	9	4
8	7	3	4	1	9	2	6	5
5	1	6	2	8	7	9	4	3
4	9	2	5	3	6	1	7	8

And finally

Now that we have said goodbye to the wintry weather, let's hope that March (if it comes in like a lion, it will go out like a lamb) doesn't do too much damage to us as it passes.

We wish all our readers a very Happy Easter.

Our next issue is due to reach you in early June 2009, so please get any articles, adverts, letters, criticisms, to us by **Friday 22nd May 2009**.

Contact details can be found on the back page.

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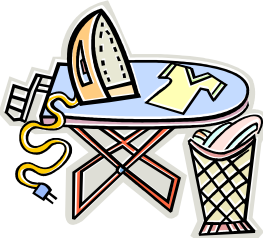
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	Gillian Holman	01837 680089
	Chrissie Cole	01837 680025
	Janet Daynes	01769 520326
	Philip Griffiths	01837 83407
	Alan Mulcahy	01837 680145

The Society consists of approximately 95 members . Membership costs £5 for a couple or £3 concession for a single person . This entitles you to vote at the Society meetings . If you would like more details, please contact Robin Coombes, our Membership Secretary, on 01837 680016.

Further information about the Society and what is going on in Winkleigh can be accessed online at: <http://www.winkleighonline.com>

NEWSLETTER TEAM

Peter Monkcom	01837 83452
Tim Rhodes	01837 83229
Alan Mulcahy	01837 680145

Contributions to the newsletter can be received as follows:
Articles are fine in printed form, but we can also accept PC disks or CDs in
WORD format, or e-mail submissions .

Newsletter team e-mail: articles@distinctlywinkleigh.org.uk

Postal submissions: 8 Old Barn Close, Winkleigh, EX19 8JX
or Smythen Hill Cottage, Hollocombe, EX18 7QD

The Newsletter is always looking for new members, please come forward if you
would like to help in any way.

All information correct at the time of going to press . The views expressed in
submitted articles and letters are not necessarily the view of the production team or
the Winkleigh Society

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