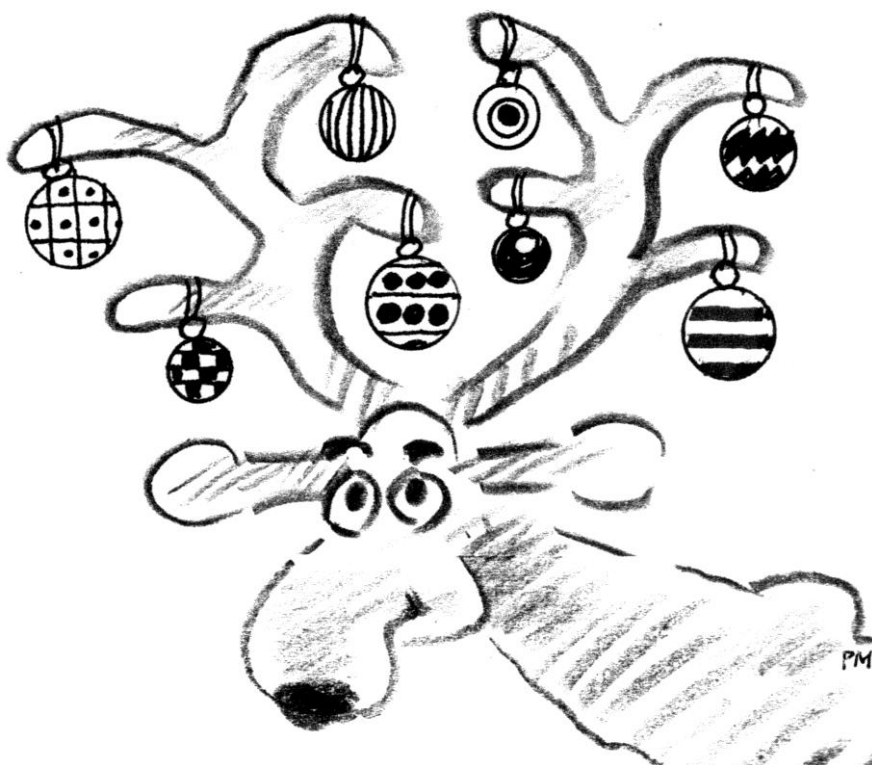


# DISTINCTLY WINKLEIGH



Working for Winkleigh



**Edition 40**

**Winter 2011**

Cover sponsored by  
Ian Shacklock, MTF Training, Moortown Farm, Winkleigh. 01837 83325

---

**The Journal of the Winkleigh Society**

## Clotworthy House

### **Family or friends coming to visit?**

Clotworthy House offers quality 4\* Silver Award bed and breakfast accommodation in a friendly, comfortable and welcoming family guest house. All rooms are en-suite with free standing baths or double shower. Open all year round.

## **Clotworthy House Bed & Breakfast**

**Torrington Road, Winkleigh, Devon EX19 8HR**

**Telephone Susan or John Short: 01837 83709**

Email: [enquiries@clotworthyhouse.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@clotworthyhouse.co.uk)

Web: [www.clotworthyhouse.co.uk](http://www.clotworthyhouse.co.uk)



## **A Local and Exciting Estate Agent Serving Winkleigh!**

**Call us on: 01837 83393**

**Visit us at: [www.howesestates.co.uk](http://www.howesestates.co.uk)**

**Email us at: [vickie@howesestates.co.uk](mailto:vickie@howesestates.co.uk)**

**Call us today for a FREE valuation**

## **Winkleigh Society News**

Fancy Winkleigh being chosen as the best place for families to live. I was very struck by a comment that someone called Lee submitted to the Daily Mail's website: 'I agree with 99% of the facts that led to Winkleigh being chosen, except for the suggestion about £37,000 being the average wage. If anyone in Winkleigh earns £20,000 they think that they are in the money.'

Like Lee, most of us are proud to live in such a lovely part of the country, and because of this pride the Winkleigh Society has been very pleased to have been able to promote the village over the past few months with its "Welcome to Winkleigh" leaflets for visitors to the area and more recently with its "Celebrating Winkleigh" calendar. We are very grateful to our sponsors who have enabled both projects to take place, and also for the local photographers for their permission to use their pictures that have brought the calendar to life.

I have already been asked whether we will be repeating the exercise next year. Just in case we do, please bear us in mind if you take any pictures of the village area over the course of the next twelve months.

The calendars are on sale at Londis stores, D & S Supplies, Fiona's Farm Shop and the Oasis Coffee Shop, or direct from myself. A real bargain at £4.50 for an A3-sized full colour calendar!

**Graham Warmington**  
**01837 83574**

**Winkleigh Society members: don't forget the A.G.M. on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December at 7.30pm in the Community Centre.**

### **D&S SUPPLIES**

#### *Discount Store*

**The Old Airfield, Winkleigh**

**TEL: 01837 83366**

The place you can get: Compost, Planters, DIY goods, Tools, Car accessories, Pet foods, Footwear, Waterproof clothing, Cleaning products, Household goods, Toasters, Kettles, Irons, Baking dishes, Electrical sockets, switches & cable. Gift sets, Stationery and Toys, Quilt sets, Bedding & pillows. Knitting wool patterns & needles, Watch Batteries,  
It's all on your Door Step, it's

#### **D&S Supplies**

**We now have an online shop – [www.dandssupplies.co.uk](http://www.dandssupplies.co.uk)**

D&S your Local Store with local staff and a Warm Welcome to All,  
(disabled friendly) and level parking

**Open Mon-Sat 9-5pm, Sun 10-4pm**

I was given the following by our Reader, Adrian Magor, and which I have put in our Parish Bulletin. The source is unknown but it is a Christmas version of the well known passage on love written by St. Paul (and often used at weddings) in his first letter to the Church at Corinth back in the first century. (Our Parish Bulletin, by the way, is published every month and is available free of charge in Church and in the Post Office)

“If I decorate my house perfectly with plaid bows, strands of twinkling lights and shiny balls, but do not show love to my family, I’m just another decorator.

If I slave away in the kitchen, baking dozens of Christmas cookies, preparing gourmet meals and arranging a beautifully adorned table at mealtime, but do not show love to my family, I’m just another cook.

If I work at the soup kitchen, carol in the nursing home and give all that I have to charity, but do not show love to my family, it profits me nothing.

If I trim the spruce with shimmering angels and crocheted snowflakes, attend a myriad of holiday parties and sing in the choir’s cantata but do not focus on Christ, I have missed the point.

Love stops the cooking to hug the child. Love sets aside the decorating to kiss the husband. Love is kind, though harried and tired. Love doesn’t envy another’s home that has coordinated Christmas china and table linens.

Love doesn’t yell at the kids to get out of the way, but is thankful they are there to be in the way. Love doesn’t give only to those who are able to give in return but rejoices in giving to those who can’t.

Love bears all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails. Video games will break, pearl necklaces will be lost, golf clubs will rust, but giving the gift of love will endure.”

So, if you want to celebrate the gift of love from God in the birth of Jesus then come along and share with us in our Christmas services, bring friends and family too, all are welcome. We shall of course be singing all the traditional Christmas Carols from Christmas Eve right the way through the Christmas season (the twelve days of Christmas).

Saturday 24th December 5.00 p.m. Our popular Crib Service for children of all ages in which we tell the Christmas story and sing our Carols with the help of our Sunday School children. (The collection goes to the work of the Children’s Society)

11.45 p.m. Midnight Mass with Carols

Sunday 25th December 9.30 a.m. Sung Christmas Eucharist with Carols

Also, Winkleigh Primary School will be having their Christmas Carol Service in Church (time to be confirmed) on Friday 16th December (you don’t have to have school age children to come!). Saturday 10th December at 7.30 p.m. in Church, there will be the Winkleigh Singers Christmas Concert (with audience participation!).

## OUR COMMUNITY CENTRE

Since the meeting of users and supporters in July, we have been very much more occupied than expected with the process of rehabilitating the Centre building, and in particular with the insulation and heating plans.

The different suppliers (understandably) and the independent adviser's report all differ between one another with regard to some important aspects of what they recommend. The cheapest option is not the most environmentally responsible option. The most economic heating systems for 'full-time' occupation are not necessarily so for 'part-time use' like ours. How much we should pay for environmentally responsible technology if it is not offset by savings is also far from straightforward. Paying up front to obtain reduced energy costs with hard won capital which will not be recouped for 10 or more years in some cases has to be set against other uses for our capital.

As a result we are not yet in position to complete the other arrangements for an AGM, as originally hoped on 19 October. We are still well within the legal requirement (18 months) and we will let you know as soon as we have a new date in mind.

On the good news front Beverley Cook is well on the way with sorting out our data base; she will be contacting everyone on this list shortly to make sure that the data we have is up to date and complete.

Phil Tarry, who has extensive experience with another volunteer organization (which runs a railway!) has begun work on the work plan that will enable us to take up the offers from volunteers in an orderly sequence. As soon as we have this underway we plan to hold an open day for volunteers,

As reported elsewhere, we have now repaired the major gutter leak which had damaged the decoration in the Small Room, added a second sink as well as further progress with kitchen lining. We are now starting to plan the disabled access alterations.

Do feel free to ask or raise any matters with us directly in the interim.

Peter Stutt  
Chair, Winkleigh Community Assets Trust,  
The Old Malt House,  
EX19 8HN  
Tel: 0044[0]1837 83 283

## **WINKLEIGH WOMEN'S INSTITUTE**

I am sure we are not the only subscribers to Distinctly Winkleigh who wonder if anyone reads the articles. We have set challenges, given details of treats available in our programme, displayed the poster for each month's meeting (in the small display board between Londis and the Estate Agency) but we have never had any response.

Perhaps you have ideas of what you would like to do or see or hear about? Then why not contact us with those ideas and we will try to set something up for you – within reason!

Already our programme is available for next year and includes a 'not to be missed' talk and demonstration by John West of Cottage Garden & Café fame; an hilarious account of the difficulties and prejudices a DCC female engineer had to face in her job after she qualified; a local author discussing what is involved in writing a book; and various 'hands-on' activities and visits. You will find there is much, much more than making jam and sewing, truly beneficial skills though they are, and an active Devon Federation provides countless opportunities for members to take part in a wide range of exciting events.

So, here is another challenge. Why not come along to one of our meetings held in the Back Room of the Village Hall on the first Wednesday in the month, and see for yourself or to give us your ideas? You can come as a visitor for only £1 to cover your refreshments.

**We look forward to seeing you**

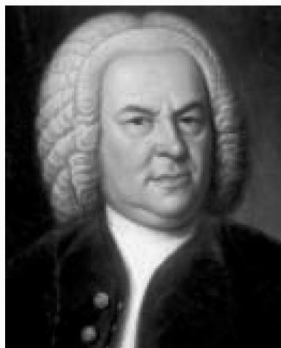
## **THE WINKLEIGH SINGERS**

The Winkleigh Singers would like to invite you to join us for our ever popular Traditional Christmas Concert at 7.30pm on 10th December at Winkleigh Parish Church. The main work will be Bach's Christmas Magnificat, an original and rarely performed version with four additional "Christmas" motets. A very exciting pinnacle of the choral repertoire in celebration of Christmas, and a good selection of traditional carols for all to sing. The organist will be Andrew Downton (as last year). Young people (including some of those who took part in our workshop) will also be taking part.

Details can be found on our website or by telephone on 01363 83922. Tickets are available on-line at [www.winkleighsingers.org.uk](http://www.winkleighsingers.org.uk) (follow the "concerts" link) or by post from Winkleigh Singers Tickets, 4 Pitt Court, Nymet Rowland, Crediton, Devon EX17 6AN (please enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope).

# *The Traditional Christmas Concert*

**J S Bach**



**TRADITIONAL CAROLS FOR ALL TO SING!**



**THE WINKLEIGH SINGERS**  
with Andrew Downton, organ  
directed by Roland Smith

**ALL SAINTS PARISH CHURCH,  
WINKLEIGH**

**SATURDAY 10th DECEMBER 2011 at 7.30pm**

Tickets £8.00, accompanied under 16s FREE  
available from Choir Members, by post from Winkleigh Singers Tickets, 4 Pitt Court, Nymet Rowland,  
Credition, Devon EX17 6AN – cheques payable to The Winkleigh Singers,  
or on line at [www.winkleighsingers.org.uk](http://www.winkleighsingers.org.uk) – most debit and credit cards accepted.

Wine and soft drinks available from 7.00pm and during the interval.  
Complimentary Mince Pies at the interval.  
ADVANCE BOOKING RECOMMENDED



## **Allotment report Winter 2011**

I'm sorry your Autumn report wasn't published in the last Distinctly Winkleigh, for some reason it disappeared into the ether between my computer and Alan's. That means you are to have a double this time so I will try to keep it brief.

We held the AGM at the end of September, John Colgrave remains as chairman, Douglas Penny is vice chairman, having taken over from Ray Jones, and Ivor Koffler remains as Treasurer. Sheila Stone was appointed secretary. The chairman reported that after much discussion with the Sports Centre committee members and Devon Highways it was agreed that we could use the upper entrance to the site if we inset the gate to allow cars to be pulled off the road while opening the gate. This should make life a lot easier for us all when bringing stuff to the allotments; thank you John for all you persistent hard work on this.

We had a break-in during September, fortunately nothing was stolen as far as we were able to ascertain but several of the sheds were vandalised with locks and windows broken. One must suppose that as nothing was taken it was simply malicious damage with no purpose, a pity when we all work hard to keep the site looking neat and tidy.

As I write the allotments are being put to bed for the winter. The last of the summer vegetables are being, or have been harvested, cooked and eaten, frozen for winter meals or made into various jams and pickles. It is really quite sad seeing the site so empty but many of the growers will be planning their plot for next year and of course such crops as cabbages and kale and onions continue through the winter and some vegetables are planted now for early harvests. Our problem is that we always seem to have a glut of beans and kale, fortunately both freeze well and the bean chutney is good. How to use an excess of kale remains a mystery, so ideas are very welcome! Sheila and Derek had been offered loads of horse manure for use of all allotment holders, gratefully received and now being spread. Happily well matured and not too smelly.

### **Recipes for winter:-**

#### **Butternut Squash Soup**

1 kilo or a generous 2lb of butternut squash, peeled and de-seeded.

500 grams or 1 lb of good floury potatoes.

2 large onions.

2 cloves of garlic.

1 litre or 2 pints of vegetable stock.

2 teaspoons of turmeric. (optional but it makes the colour richer and adds depth to the flavour)

Sour cream, yoghurt or crème fraîche.

Basil leaves.



Pre-cook the potatoes until floury, cool and mash. Do not add butter or anything else at this stage. Heat 1 tablespoon of olive or sunflower oil, Chop the onions and garlic and fry gently. Add the diced squash and fry gently until slightly translucent. Add stock and bring to the boil, simmer until the squash is really soft then mash or put through a food processor. Add the mashed potatoes and stir in the turmeric and salt and pepper to taste, remove from heat. Bring back to a gentle simmer and then add the cream, yoghurt or crème fraiche.

Ladle into bowls and top with a sprinkling of chopped basil leaves.

This recipe can be used with almost any squash but looks particularly good with butternut because of the lovely colour. Potatoes can be substituted with sweet potatoes which changes the flavour and gives a stronger colour.

### **Courgette cake**

2 large courgettes, cooked in their skins and mashed.

180 grms or 6 ozs plain flour.

Large teaspoon of baking powder or ½ & ½ bicarb and cream of tartar.

120 grms or 4 ozs caster sugar.

Pinch of salt.

1 large egg, beaten.

Milk to mix.

A handful of diced almonds can be added but are not essential.

This is an incredibly simple recipe which works well with mashed banana or with a tablespoon of coarse cut marmalade, though with the latter reduce sugar to 3 ozs.

Pre-heat oven to about 160c and prepare a 1lb loaf tin. Mix all the dry ingredients together then add the courgette and mix well. Add the beaten egg and fold in, then add enough milk to give a softish dropping consistency. Turn into the loaf tin and bake for about 30 minutes. Check it is cooked through with a skewer and turn out to cool. Lovely just as it is or buttered.

### **Pumpkin Pie**

One short-crust flan case. I confess I sometimes cheat and buy Waitrose ready-made one!

1½ cups of pumpkin flesh , deseeded.

2 medium eggs.

180 grms or 6 ozs demerara sugar.

Pinch of ground ginger.

Pinch of cinnamon.

Juice and grated peel of 1 large lemon.

3 tablespoons of cream or full fat yoghurt.

3 tablespoon of milk if needed.

Bake the flan case blind for about 10/15 minutes, allow to cool. De-seed the pumpkin and chop roughly, mash it finely in a food processor or blender and mix with the beaten egg yolks, brown sugar, cream, lemon juice, cinnamon and ginger, add milk if needed to soften. Whisk the egg whites and fold into the mixture. Spoon into the flan case and bake in a fairly hot oven (about 180) for 10/15 minutes, turn down the heat to 150 and cook for a further 20/25 minutes. It may be necessary to cover lightly to prevent over browning.

It is years since I made this pie but it was a favourite at Halloween when my kids were growing up.

### **(or Roast Pumpkin other squashes)**

Peel and de-seed the pumpkin, cut into strips about 1 inch by 2 inches, pre-heat oil in a roasting tin in a hot oven. Toss in the strips of pumpkin and bake for about 35 minutes. Drain in kitchen paper and sprinkle with salt and pepper to serve.

Pumpkin is a wonderful addition to a minestrone or other vegetable soup. When I lived in Malta in the days of my misspent youth my mother used it as a thickener in soups and stews. Because it is fairly bland but a wonderful colour it adapts well to either sweet or savoury dishes.

### **Curly Kale with chilli & poached egg**

This is quite a nice light supper dish.

Wash well (muck gets into the curly edges), cut away the tough end of the stalk and chop up the leaf and the tender part of the stalk. Steam over boiling water until tender. Drain thoroughly. While that is cooking lightly toast a handful of sesame or pumpkin seeds and stir into the cooked kale, stir in a spoonful of chilli jam. Cover and keep hot while poaching one egg per serving. Plate up the kale with a dent in the middle of the serving and sit a poached egg in the middle. Nice topped with a hollandaise sauce or just a knob of butter.

### **Beetroot Jelly**

This recipe was sent in by a member of the allotment group. I haven't tried it but guess it could be used to accompany meats.

Cook, peel and mash 2 lbs or 1 kilo of beetroot.

Melt a pack of blackcurrant jelly in ½ pint of malt vinegar and add 2 tablespoons of sugar. Add the mashed beetroot to the jelly and mix well. Pour into hot, sterilised jars and seal. Once open keep refrigerated.

### **Beetroot Au Gratin**

Ivor found this one on the internet, so our thanks to whoever submitted it.

Approx 500 grms or 1 lb of beetroot.

100 mls double cream or cream substitute.

100 grms Gruyere or emental cheese, grated.

Pre-heat oven to 200c, gas 6.

Cook the beetroot whole until tender, approx 40 minutes. Leave to cool.

Peel and slice.

Grease baking dish and layer sliced beetroot. Pour over the cream and top with grated cheese. Grill or bake until golden. Delicious.

### **Chraime (beetroot and horseradish relish)**

This is an old Jewish recipe and makes an interesting change from horseradish sauce.

Grate a piece of horseradish (about 2 to 3 inches) or buy ready prepared grated horseradish, much easier as it makes peeling onions look like a dry eyed job. Cook, peel and cool beetroot in a ratio about three times the quantity of horseradish. Mix together and add olive oil and a splash of wine vinegar or lemon juice to taste, add a little salt. Store in sealed jars and keep refrigerated.

Delicious with roast beef or cooked meats.

### **Marrow & Ginger Jam (from Lin)**

Three lbs marrow, prepared weight  
One lb cooking apples, prepared weight  
Two ozs root ginger  
Juice of two lemons  
Three lbs jam sugar

Peel and de-seed marrow and cut into cubes, do the same with the apple. Cook together gently without added liquid until tender. If started off on a very low heat the marrow and apple will produce enough of their own juice to cook. Add the lemon juice, bruise the ginger and add to the pan with mashed fruit, now add the sugar on a low heat, stirring until dissolved. Bring to the boil for approx thirty minutes, stir occasionally to prevent sticking. Pot into sterile jars and cover immediately.

### **Marrow and Orange Breakfast Jam**

Prepare as for Marrow and ginger jam but omit the ginger, instead add the grated rind and juice of two large oranges.

### **Marrow and Courgette Chutney**

One large marrow, approx 1 kg. or 2lbs  
Courgettes, approx 500 grms or 1 lb.  
One large onion  
One large cooking apple  
250 grms, ½ lb raisins  
One tablespoon of mustard seeds  
125 grms, ¼ lb golden granulated sugar  
One pint malt vinegar  
One tablespoon of salt

Peel and de-seed marrow and apple, chop both, peel and chop courgette. Slice onion thinly. Put all ingredients into a large saucepan bring slowly to the boil and then simmer until it thickens. Pot in sterile jars and seal.

Like all chutneys and pickles this should be kept for at least three weeks before eating.

## WINKLEIGH FAIR DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2011 – 2012

<b>Call My Bluff Wine Tasting Evening</b>	<b>10 December 2011</b>
<b>Christmas Lights Switch On &amp; Christmas Market</b>	<b>11 December 2011</b>
<b>Barn Dance</b>	<b>11 February 2012</b>
<b>Auction of Promises</b>	<b>7 April 2012</b>
<b>750<sup>th</sup> Winkleigh Fair Week</b>	<b>8 – 14 July 2012</b>

### Barnstaple signs Dan Lee



Barnstaple have signed back-row forward Dan Lee from Plymouth Albion.

Barum are a little depleted in the back row at the moment, with Harry Elliot claimed by work issues and brother Jack Elliot ruled out by injury.

England Under-18 prospect Lee has been involved in Albion's first XV squads over the World Cup, but now the club's Canadian contingent have returned he is being squeezed for game-time.

Kevin Squire, Barum's director of rugby, said a loan move benefits all parties. "Dan wants game time, Albion want him match fit and we need someone at No.8," he said.

"He is a north Devon lad from Winkleigh who has been involved with our Academy in the past, and it makes sense for him to hook up with us for a week or two."

Barum recently beat Cullompton 22-21, making the last four of the Devon Senior Cup. Collumpton led 21-10 at half-time, but a try from Dan helped Barum to win.

**Note from editor:** Apologies to Dan for having put the wrong photo in the Autumn Issue. This time we have the correct photo!

## WINKLEIGH RETHINKLY

Winkleigh's 'mixed food plastic' recycling is going from strength to strength, with collections now fortnightly from the community centre rather than monthly. Peninsula Waste Savers, the North Tawton company taking the plastic, have kindly provided two crates to hold dumpy bags, sited behind the gate at the downhill end of the community centre.

You can put CLEAN (please!) food plastic (marg tubs, yoghurt pots, bottles, meat trays, biscuit trays etc) there any time – or bring it to the Wednesday market when the collection is due (usually signed on the community centre noticeboard). Clothes hangers and clean plant pots are also accepted on collection day.

And we can now take some plastic bags – or rather **most bags/plastic film** but not supermarket carrier bags and not plastic with foil in it (eg many crisp packets). Again, it must be CLEAN please, otherwise it's just dirty rubbish. So stretch wrap from multipacks is OK, shrink wrap is OK, polythene bags (the stuff junk mail comes in!) is OK etc. It goes in a bin in the corner though, not the dumpy bags.

Most plastic items can in fact be recycled. But as you might expect, the facilities available to do it are governed by money.

Most kerbside council-backed recycling schemes – including the Torridge green boxes - take only a limited range of higher value plastics that don't need to be sorted before they can be reprocessed. This maximises the value of the recycled materials.

Luckily Devon County Council keenly promote recycling, and all their household recycling sites accept a much wider range of household plastics. These are baled up, sent on for sorting, and eventually distributed to re-processers. Doing this doesn't generate much income because of the cost of sorting, but it reduces landfill considerably.

Peninsula Waste Savers is the company that takes, bales, and sends on the plastic from Okehampton Recycling site (and others). And they are collecting our community recycling efforts for free. Because they take the whole mixture of plastics, rather than just the valuable types, there is a real likelihood that they don't even break even with the costs of collection. It helps if we keep a reasonable ratio of valuable plastics (drinks bottles, milk bottles etc) in our community collection. As we get better organised, it would also help this local business if we could collect other higher value materials – for example metal cans. So listen out for more developments.

Finally, HUGE THANKS for supporting this effort and bothering to recycle your plastics!

Philippa, Marie Claude, Maggie & Wendy

## Winkleigh Outdoor Bowling Club

It is with great sadness that we announce the closure of Winkleigh Outdoor Bowling Club as from 31<sup>st</sup> December 2011.

Once a thriving club of over fifty bowlers, membership has dwindled until it became impossible to raise teams for competitions and friendly matches.

There has been an outdoor bowling club in various locations in the village for about 100 years, and moved to its present site at the Memorial Playing Fields in 1962. With the closure of the club another part of Winkleigh's history will be gone forever.

Should anyone have any queries please telephone:

**Pete Johnson**      01837 83144



*Ladies & Gents hair salon  
Winkleigh*

*Wishing all our Customers a Very Happy Christmas & New Year.*

*Now Stockists of Macadamia Natural Oil Products  
"Discover the Secret to Healthy Hair"*

*OPEN TUESDAY to SATURDAY*

*FOR ALL YOUR HAIR DRESSING REQUIREMENTS*

*TELEPHONE FOR APPOINTMENTS ON*

*Exeter Road  
Winkleigh  
Devon, EX19 8HW*

**01837 83004**



Having moved to our new purpose-built eco-pod,  
Winkleigh Pre-School has spaces for  
new children in sessions from NOW!



If you would like your child/ren (aged 2-5) to join a setting  
which has been rated OUTSTANDING IN ALL  
AREAS by Ofsted, please contact us to discuss your  
options with our friendly staff team.

Call: 01837 680007 or

Email: [winkleighpreschool@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:winkleighpreschool@yahoo.co.uk)



Ofsted Reg no: EY420485

Registered Charity no:1044652



## WINKLEIGH SPORTS CENTRE

The skies were lit up over the sports centre on 4<sup>th</sup> November when “Friends of Winkleigh School” held their second firework night after a very popular and successful event last year. This year the firework display was even more spectacular and the event was attended by a huge number of people, despite the weather conditions which, much the same as a year ago, were dreadful. Spirits were not dampened however and the success of the night will no doubt be accentuated when the financial returns are fully counted. This had not been completed at the time of writing but it is expected to be in the region of £500 plus some £240 in sponsorship.



### LOTTERY FUNDED

The second notable success story for the centre in this period has been the granting of lottery funding for the installation of a solar electric system, thus the appearance with this report of the “Awards for All” lottery logo which we proudly display for funding and advertising purposes. The installation was carried out by “Energy my Way”, their regional director Steve Watkinson having lived in the village for a number of years before his move to Whiddon Down.

We cannot of course get away with having only good news stories so it has to be reported in this issue that a part of the play area at the centre has had to be taken out of use due to failure to meet insurance inspection requirements. We are now, once again starting the process of looking for funding to replace, this time, the swing units and in the current financial climate we cannot be sure how long this will take. We are hoping to make progress over the winter period when the equipment will be less in demand. There is also a more minor problem with the “zip wire” which it is hoped can be fixed in the near future

With regard to the fortunes of the various centre user groups, once again the news on the future of the outdoor bowling is not good and their continuation next year is in severe doubt- as in the last report I am taking the opportunity to appeal to anyone reading who may be looking for a new activity or perhaps would like to return, please do get in touch - the club would particularly welcome younger members.

The tennis club has enjoyed better fortunes with a stable membership and successful Saturday morning youth coaching sessions. The snooker club is also progressing steadily except to mention that, after a good start to league competition last season, they are now having to play at a more severe handicap level and results so far have not been anything to talk about, so I won't! Short mat bowling is just getting into the main part of the season and looking forward to a busy few months.



Which brings us along to netball, who usually occupy an earlier part of my reports, well this time the late news is sent in by Jenny so I will leave it in her format;

“The Warriors continue to improve and are enjoying regular coaching from Clare Aldridge which has made a big difference to their tactical game. They gave the top of the league a run for their money and are hoping to win a few more matches before the end of the season. They have come a long way since the early days and the girls would like to thank Brian for almost breaking his back painting the lines on the court in the very beginning. The girls would also like to say a big thank you to Barry for continuing to sponsor them”

To close I would like to mention the community garden which is showing some late colour but will soon need a tidy up before winter sets in. If there is anyone reading who would like to get involved in the garden I would be very pleased to hear - it is an ideal project for anyone who perhaps has not the time for full-on commitment to an allotment but would just like to “dabble” as time permits.

Any enquiries regarding happenings at the centre or any of the clubs, or any new ideas please come forward.

Many thanks. **Brian Holland 01837 83521 (briwyc@hotmail.co.uk)**



**KJ BROMELL** EST 1979

The advertisement features a collage of images showcasing various home improvement services: a large PVCu window and door installation on a house, a modern kitchen with wooden cabinets and a tiled backsplash, a bathroom with a white sink, toilet, and shower, a glass balustrade on a roof, a conservatory, and a small wooden shed. Below the images, the company's services and contact information are listed.

PVCu WINDOWS & DOORS    CONSERVATORIES    KITCHENS & BATHROOMS    GLASS BALUSTRADES    BUILDING SUPPLIES

Kings Hill Industrial Estate, Bude. EX23 8QN    [www.kjbromell.co.uk](http://www.kjbromell.co.uk)    FREEPHONE 08000439765

At this time of the year, having recently gathered once again in the Church, around our Cross and at our memorial on the old airfield, it is good to pause for a moment and think of the lives and the sacrifices made both by the Winkleigh men and those who came to the village from other parts of the UK, from Canada and from Poland, to give their all in the two wars that ensured we might live in freedom. The names on our Memorial Cross are there for always, but as the years pass and the generations move on, it is almost impossible for many to make a real connection with them, certainly with those who served now nearly one hundred years ago. Our Winkleigh branch of the British Legion, together with many helpers and contributors from Winkleigh and the surrounding area are putting this difficulty right. By using the web site [www.winkleighheroes.co.uk](http://www.winkleighheroes.co.uk), linked to the Winkleigh website itself, it is now possible to read the story of each one of these brave men. Their enlistment, service, regiments and corps and indeed the circumstances of their deaths are now enshrined for all to read.

There are graves where they lie and memorials where they are commemorated far from home which, in the words of Rupert Brooke are 'forever England'. Many, but not all, lie in France and Belgium. Three men, Privates Frederick William Davey, Thomas Knight and Frank Turner, all died in Mesopotamia - modern Iraq - fighting the Turks. Those memorials are of course inaccessible. Yeoman Frederick Davey is buried in Gallipoli. I have already visited his grave and the photographs are on the site. But this year Jolanta and I decided that while we were in France we would visit and pay our respects, representing the Winkleigh Branch of the British Legion, to nine more of our men who lie or who are commemorated in the relatively few miles that comprised the British lines in the area from Loos, across Vimy Ridge and the Somme and then down to our junction with the French lines at Chauny.

Private Thomas Harris of the 9<sup>th</sup> Battalion Devons had been severely wounded in May 1917 and having been passed down the line finally arrived at the base hospital on the coast at Le Tréport, where our tour began. By a stroke of luck we found ourselves in a small hotel built on the very site of the Canadian hospital that had cared for Thomas: evergreens in the gardens had been cut to resemble the bell tents in which the service personnel and nurses lived. The manager was only too keen to talk about the memories that are still preserved in the town and to give us pamphlets and photos of the period for our use on the web-site. The sun came out on the following morning as we visited the cemetery, and laid poppies on Thomas' grave. It was poignant, too, to see there a group of headstones commemorating a number of the nurses and sisters who had died in the hospital.

We then headed towards Arras, first to the village of Fillièvres 44 km to the west of the city, to find the grave of Percy Molland of the Royal Engineers Signals, who had been employed from 1915 onwards at the base headquarters of Field Marshall Haig developing the vast network of signals communications that

connected every Division, Brigade and unit to Corps and Army headquarters. Percy had a promising career in post-office telephonic communications ahead of him when his life was cut short by the Spanish 'flu epidemic and he died at exactly 11.00 am on 11<sup>th</sup> November 1918. The date and time was so remarkable that the card recording his death at the Fillièvres Casualty Clearing Station was specially marked by the clerk in charge of the hospital records and survives to this day.

After this excellent start we headed south-east to Aubigny to visit Ernest Manley who had been conscripted into the Tyneside Irish, another 1917 casualty, and who died of wounds in the battle of Arras in support of the Canadians who took Vimy Ridge. The cemetery at Aubigny is remarkable in that, being the site of a Casualty Clearing Station, the officers here are buried in a plot separate from the men, as if they are on parade, quite contrary to the normal war-graves policy. Then we moved on to the Vis-en-Artois memorial on the main Arras to Cambrai road where George Cole of the Somerset Light Infantry is commemorated, one of the half-million or so British soldiers who have no known grave. George had first enlisted in the Devons but had been transferred and died in September 1918 in the final push that ended the war.

Day 3 of the tour began with a battlefield visit to the area of Ecoust and Bullecourt, two villages that once stood as outposts guarding the formidable German Hindenburg Line. It was at Ecoust that Thomas Harris was wounded. Private Walter Heard of the 9<sup>th</sup> Battalion Devons, who we honoured later that day, died at Ecoust, as did 2<sup>nd</sup>/Lt. Laurence Johnson of the 8<sup>th</sup> Devons who was killed in June 1917 while on a wiring party at night in front of the trenches at Bullecourt. Both are commemorated on the beautiful Arras Memorial, a vast open construction in the centre of Arras. On day 4 we spent time in the town, visiting the mediaeval tunnels under the city that were enlarged before the battle in order to shelter thousands of Canadians who emerged right on top of the Germans to follow up the mine explosions that guaranteed a victory in the battle.

On day 5 we explored the 1917 battle of Cambrai where Louis Davey of the 88<sup>th</sup> Machine Gun Company is commemorated on the Cambrai Memorial that is situated on the straight Roman road that runs from Bapaume to Cambrai. We followed Louis' trail from the back area through to the front line at the lock gates across the Canal du Nord at Marcoing, the bridge at Masnières and the railway embankment where the machine guns held the line for 48 hours. Moving back into 'rest' Louis was called on to take food and ammunition up to the line. It was a journey from which he never returned.

It was now time on day 6 to move into the area of the 1916 Battle of the Somme, and to visit the grave of Sgt. Horner of the 8<sup>th</sup> Devons, a very well known and greatly liked member of the Winkleigh community who lost his life instructing nervous and only semi-trained recruits who had just joined the regiment prior to July 1<sup>st</sup> 1916, in the practice of throwing the new Mills bombs that had just begun to be issued in France. There are several instances of

instructors losing their lives in teaching others to handle these dangerous weapons and many gave their lives to save others: Sgt Horner was wounded in the abdomen and died a few days later in the Casualty Clearing Station at Neuville - a place that was soon to be flooded by the thousands of wounded who were to pass through once the battle had begun. In June 1916 all was still very quiet and Sgt. Horner's name has the distinction of being mentioned in the hospital war diary, a very unusual occurrence.

From Albert we headed further south to the point where the British lines joined up with the French, thus forming the continuous line of trenches that ran from the Belgian coast to the Swiss border. We were now in the area south of the great German attack of March 1918 that so nearly won them the war and finally forced the so-called allies, British, French and now American, to finally consolidate their joint forces under the supreme direction of Maréchal Foch. Albert Buzzacott had been in this very quiet part of the line at Barisis when the storm broke and the remnants of his regiment, together with every available man from their French neighbours, fought shoulder to shoulder to hold up the German advance. He died with many of his comrades and together they are buried at Chauny Communal Cemetery. It was a fitting and symbolic place to end the tour. The cemetery is a lovely garden with areas marked out for British, French and German graves and many of those buried here fell in the same battle, on the same days. We planted crosses for Albert and four of his friends who died with him, as well as for one Frenchman and one German, both of whom died on the same day. They lie, all comrades together. It was a coincidence that we found, in that same cemetery the grave of one of my own Side family who had died in the same battle.

It was time to head for our home in the Vendée and we gave ourselves the luxury of an overnight stop, albeit in a camp site - the first that was possible in the very indifferent weather we had encountered. On the way, to conclude the war itself, we visited the site where the Armistice was signed, the railway carriage in the forest of Compiègne. The actual carriage was burnt on the orders of Adolf Hitler after being displayed in triumph in Berlin in 1940, but an exact replica was constructed by the French after 1945 and the site includes a museum dedicated to the event.

The photos, the documents, the stories of these men are a minute part of the history of those cataclysmic events that have shaped the world ever since the terrible days of 1914-1918. They are as well a very important part of the history of our village, one that must never be, and never will be forgotten. The bravery, the suffering, the deaths, of all the men who left Winkleigh to fight in the Great War represented, as in all parts of our country, the best there were. Many returned home, some wounded, all changed for the rest of their lives.

**Winkleigh is proud of them and Winkleigh remembers.**

## **CHRISTMAS WITH WINKLEIGH FAIR!**

The Winkleigh Fair Committee is hosting a weekend of Christmas events!

On Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> December we are holding a Call My Bluff Wine Tasting evening in the Village Hall. Come along and pit your wits against local wine drinkers in teams of up to 6 people! Tickets are £6 per person including the wine tasting. There will be a separate bar and nibbles available. The evening starts at 7.30pm. Tickets are available from the Post Office, D&S and The Mad Butcher.

On Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> December, Winkleigh Fair Committee invites you to the annual Christmas lights switch on in the village square. Following on from previous year's successes, we will be holding a Christmas Market in the village square from 3pm. Come along and do your Christmas shopping from stalls selling local produce and locally produced crafts. There will also be soup, mince pies, mulled wine and cider punch to keep you warm!

The Oasis Coffee Bar in the Methodist Chapel will be open for free hot soup and hot drinks. Contributions for charity will be gratefully received.

The Christmas lights will be switched on at about 4.30pm with Father Christmas handing out sweets to the children and there will be singing around the Christmas tree

If you live in the village, why not join in the Christmas decorations competition. Prizes will be given for the Best Decorated Christmas Window, Best Decorated Christmas House and the Best Decorated Christmas Street. Judging for all categories will take place on Thursday 8th December. Please ensure that your entry form is put in the box in the Post Office by 5pm on Wednesday 7th December.

We hope you can join us for the start of Winkleigh's Christmas celebrations.

# **W.D. CARNE**

## **WINKLEIGH**

Established over 50 years

### **FUNERALS and CREMATIONS**

*Personal Attention Day and Night*

Tel: (01837) 83387

## WINKLEIGH YOUNG FARMERS – of Yesteryear





Left to Right: Derek Miller, Colin Thorne, Frank Pigeon, Roger Hill, Nick Hill, Clive Brook, Cyril Heggadon and Matt Jones.

# THE COLDRIDGE PAINTERS

## Meeting at Coldridge Village Hall, starting January 2012

I am looking to form a group of like-minded people where individual help will be stressed more than formal instruction. The aim of the group is to enjoy painting with good company and just relax and let your hair down!! There will be morning and evening sessions if sufficient numbers show interest.

**The Coldridge Painters** will be meeting at the Village Hall starting in January. The cost will depend on the number of members wishing to attend. A guide-price would be approximately £5 per session. The more that come the cheaper it gets—so tell your friends! There will be a maximum of 10 members per session. Paints and brushes and other equipment will be available at minimal cost should they be required. Apart from using the media of your choice in which to paint, should you wish, I can also teach the art of decorative folk painting – a stylized way of painting – through which, by using specific brush strokes, fears of painting can be conquered. This is an ideal way of learning how to paint, before progressing, with confidence, into other media. For Folk painting, members will be using free flowing acrylics, which will allow brushes to be loaded with **more than** one colour at a time. Many flowers in our garden can be painted using folk painting techniques. Step-by-step instructions will be given. For members who are not happy with drawing, fear not – patterns can be provided. There will also be Folk Painting styles from other countries.

**Acrylic Painting** The group will be advised on acrylic paints and brushes, and shown how to use them on different surfaces, eg. paper, wood, etc.

**Water Colour** For those wishing to use water-colour, and are beginners, I can give guidance and advice. The more experienced, will also be given guidance, although their advice will also be welcome, as input from members is invaluable.

For information call Jean Perrin (Payne)\* on 01363 83546 or e-mail [tolecottage@waitrose.com](mailto:tolecottage@waitrose.com)

\*Jean is the author of the book, ‘Decorative Folk Painting’, and has worked as a demonstrator for major art companies and has taught Adult Education. Now retired, she is happy to give her time and pass on her skills to others.

## “GREEN DRINKS”

A number of people have been meeting up once a month to swap ideas and have a drink together. We also have a message board which you can find on [www.winkleighlinks.posterous.com](http://www.winkleighlinks.posterous.com), where dates and venues and other events are posted. We welcome all who are interested in environmental issues in the broadest sense. We have no political affiliation, no committee, no membership fee – just a network of people who meet for a sociable drink.

Contact **Kim Melhuish** on: 01769 520595 (or [kjmweb@ssmail.co.uk](mailto:kjmweb@ssmail.co.uk)).



## House Scouts

Whilst sorting through some papers given to me by Roy Cooper, I discovered some photographs of WWI soldiers from Winkleigh, there is no record of who they are but hopefully Robert Side and David Purnell, who are compiling the Winkleigh Heroes website will be able to identify them from their uniforms. When the photographs get scanned they can then be added to the Winkleigh archive and the Winkleigh Heroes website; [www.winkleighheroes.co.uk](http://www.winkleighheroes.co.uk)

This website must be invaluable to those researching their family tree, another useful website where all the Winkleigh censuses can be found is; [www.acearch.org.uk](http://www.acearch.org.uk)

You can view the digital and physical archive on the first Wednesday every month at the mini market between 9.00 and 10.30 am.

If you have anything for the archive or would like to help out with the House Scouts project, please do get in touch with **Janet Daynes** on; 01769 520326 or [ace@acearch.org.uk](mailto:ace@acearch.org.uk)

### **Diane Murphy M.B.S.R H.A.R**

#### **REFLEXOLOGIST**

Reflexology is a safe and natural holistic therapy. It relieves stress, is deeply relaxing and balances the mind, body and spirit. It boosts the immune system, eliminates toxins and stimulates the body's own healing mechanism

Some areas that can benefit from Reflexology are;  
Sinus - Migraines: Digestive disorders - IBS: Hormonal Imbalance:  
Stress and Anxiety: Panic Attacks: Neck - Shoulder and Back conditions; Circulation and Respiratory System conditions

For more information or an appointment please tel:

**01769 520880 or 07923 001182**

Or email [diane-murphy\\_reflexology@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:diane-murphy_reflexology@hotmail.co.uk)

**Member of the British School of Reflexology  
Member of the Holistic Association of Reflexologists**

## **DARK DEEDS IN DEEPEST DEVON**

On the 15th July 1970 armed police officers from Plymouth raided the Beaford House Hotel in Beaford, Winkleigh, Devon. The officers arrested a Mr Ronald Dark (or 'Darke') and his partner Barbara Hepburn who were using the alias of Mr & Mrs Prill. The hotel proprietors at this time were Lewis Walter WICKETT and Evelyn Phyllis WICKETT.

Mr Dark - who was a known accomplice of "Britain's most-wanted criminal" gunman John McVicar - had been the leader of a gang who carried out a prolific armed robbery in the City of London earlier that year. The robbery netted almost £240,000 - a record at the time - which today equates to almost £2.5 million. As a consequence the robbery made headline news in the National Press.

I have now established from my research at the National Archives that Mr Dark and Miss Hepburn (again using the alias of Mr & Mrs Prill) purchased EDGERLEY HOUSE, a remote farmhouse in Lapford, Crediton, Devon via an intermediary using proceeds from the robbery. The vendors were a farmer and his wife - Edwin John ELLICOTT and Patricia May ELLICOTT.

The London robbery was considered to be of such national significance that the Metropolitan Police commissioned the RAF to undertake a mock exercise above Edgerley House to gather photographic intelligence prior to Dark's arrest. When Police raided Edgerley House, after Dark had been arrested at the Beaford House Hotel, they found a highly tuned white Mini Cooper 'S' motor car parked in a garage - a car which is now owned by myself.

Following his arrest, Ronald Dark was subsequently tried at The Old Bailey and on the 5th November 1970 was sentenced to 18 years imprisonment for armed robbery. Barbara Hepburn was also tried at The Old Bailey and on the 4th February 1971 was sentenced to 2 years imprisonment.

I would very much like to hear from anyone who has recollections of the above events. I can be contacted either by telephone on 07766 251850 or via email on [mfp@btinternet.com](mailto:mfp@btinternet.com).

**Marshal Peters**

### **Details of people and places linked to the arrest of Ronald Dark in 1970.**

1. On the 9<sup>th</sup> February 1970 an armed robbery was carried out in the City of London which netted £240,000 which today equates to almost £2.5 million.
2. RONALD DARK and his partner BARBARA HEPBURN (using the alias MR & MRS PRILL) purchased EDGERLEY HOUSE, LAPFORD, CREDITON, EX17 6AH on the 8<sup>th</sup> June 1970.

3. The original owners of Edgerley House were PATRICIA MAY ELLICOTT and EDWIN JOHN ELLICOTT of 1 BIRCH COTTAGE, EAST LEIGH, COLDRIDGE, CREDITON EX17 6BG.
4. Prior to purchasing Edgerley House Ronald Dark & Barbara Hepburn (using the alias 'Prill') stayed at BARRITSHAYES, COLYTON EX24 6DU between the 17<sup>th</sup> March 1970 and 18<sup>th</sup> April 1970.
5. Barritshayes was owned by GEORGE WILLIAM JAMES MILLER and ADA ELIZABETH MILLER of BONEHAYNE FARM, COLYTON EX24 6SG.
6. Ronald Dark was arrested at the BEAFORD HOUSE HOTEL, Beaford, Winkleigh EX13 8AB on the 15<sup>th</sup> July 1970 in connection with the London robbery carried out in February of that year.
7. Ronald Dark was arrested by D.I. JOHN BISSETT of Devon & Cornwall Constabulary.
8. The owners of the Beaford House Hotel at the time were EVELYN PHYLLIS WICKETT and LEWIS WALTER WICKETT.
9. Whilst resident at Edgerley House Ronald Dark used a white Mini Cooper 'S' motor car. Following Dark's arrest the car was photographed at Edgerley House on the 16<sup>th</sup> July 1970 by D.C. FREDERICK JOHN HURN of Devon & Cornwall Constabulary.
10. During Dark's trial at The Old Bailey the prosecution produced a statement from TERENCE VICTOR ROBERTS of 3 BRIDGE COTTAGES, LAPFORD, CREDITON EX17 6QS. Mr Roberts had served petrol to Dark as he worked at LAPFORD CROSS GARAGE.
11. Ronald Dark was tried at The Old Bailey and on the 5th November 1970 was sentenced to 18 years imprisonment for armed robbery

At the time there was a local rumour that a hoard had been buried in a wood; that two marked trees mapped the spot. However, the trees were felled and the markers unknowingly carted away.

Police reaction : "This is largely speculation"

Editor's Note: The author has provided a copy of press coverage of this story, plus photos of "Mr & Mrs Prill" and of the getaway car.

---

## WINKLEIGH METHODIST CHURCH

Christmas is always the most exciting part of the Christian calendar - and despite the efforts to turn it into a Winter festival, the message of the coming of the Christ-child is still at the core of the festivities - a fact that is celebrated in the churches and chapels up and down the nation and across the world throughout December and into January - the period of Advent, Christmas and Epiphany.

Winkleigh Methodist Church will be celebrating the season in various ways. As well as our usual Sunday services at 11am, we will be giving away free home-made soup on the occasion of the Christmas lights switch on, both in our Oasis Room and also in the Square itself. During the following week, we shall be hosting two Messy Church events: on the Tuesday (13<sup>th</sup>) will be our regular bi-monthly Messy Church, with a Christmas theme; but we are also hosting a special Pre-School Messy Church on the Thursday (15<sup>th</sup>). Both events will begin in the Community Centre at 5pm, and will continue in the Chapel. 'Messy Church', originally an Anglican initiative, is now recognised as an ecumenical expression of church, for families to come together, participate in craft activities, share in a short 'user-friendly' time of family worship and enjoy a meal together. Whether you belong to any church, or no church, you and your family are very welcome to join us either at one of our bimonthly sessions on the second Tuesday in the month or at one of our special events, which happen on a Saturday in the alternative month - such as our post-Christmas party on the 14<sup>th</sup> January. Details can be found on our website or direct from myself.

Also in December [7<sup>th</sup>], a ladies pamper/spa day is being arranged. Cost (inc. two course meal) = £35. Contact Fiona Marshall [83382] for further details.

Our "Carols by Candlelight" service will be on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> December at 6.30pm. This will be preceded by a buffet tea in the chapel. Christmas Day will be a short celebration at 10.30am.

Over the course of the next few months, we hope to be in the position of removing most of the pews in the chapel to enable the building to be used in a much more flexible way both with regard to our worship services and also with respect to other events, including the commencement of the monthly film club which is hoped to begin in the new year.

We are a prayer-based gathering of folk, and if you feel that you would appreciate someone to either pray with you or pray for you, then please do not hesitate to contact us. Your request for prayers would be received both sympathetically and confidentially.

**Graham Warmington**

01837 83574 or 07759725227

[Warmington49@btinternet.com](mailto:Warmington49@btinternet.com)



### **Christmas Special Cookery Demonstration**

Tuesday 6th December

Book your place for some mouth watering cooking ideas for  
Christmas & Boxing day! £15 to include lunch

### **Stove & Cooker Offers!**

Get ready for the cold winter nights and visit our showroom  
for great offers on stoves and cookers.

We also sell cookware, flues and chimneys, stove  
and cooker spares.



**Tel 01837 83333 [www.rangemoors.co.uk](http://www.rangemoors.co.uk)**

**The Airfield, Torrington Road, Winkleigh, Devon EX19 8HR**

## District Councillor's Report

Recently the Coalition has published the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), which has certainly caused a rumpus with its central claim that thousands of pages of red tape have put a serious brake on economic growth and what is needed now is “presumption in favour of sustainable development.” Led by Simon Jenkins of the National Trust and with support of many papers – such as the Daily Telegraph’s “Hands Off Our Land” Campaign – battle lines are being drawn and we are being asked whose side we are on in the Planning Civil War.

I find myself in an odd position. On the one hand I find some of the arguments being put forward by the Coalition to be far too in favour of developers, and I suspect that the British Property Federation has in effect drafted its own NPPF for the hapless minister, Eric Pickles. On the other hand I have seen numerous examples where rules and regulations have stopped development which – with a bit of goodwill from planners – could have enhanced the environment, the economy and the quality of people’s lives. For example, I have found the restrictions on farms to be ridiculous when it has been okay to build for holiday letting but not for a son or daughter who would be working on the farm.

There is one area, though, which I hope will be encouraged by the NPPF and the “Jekyll and Hyde” Localism Bill and that is the provision of affordable housing for local people. Here in Devon where the average price of a home is more than 10 times the average annual income many local people are excluded from living in the place of their birth and upbringing. I believe that the present trend where many villages are part dormitory and part retirement home must be reversed with a more vibrant mix.

The government hopes that community-led planning is the key to getting more rural affordable housing, and its reforms include: –

The ability for communities to draw up Neighbourhood Development Plans (NDP). NDPs will allow people to come together within their parish to say where they think houses should be built and what they should look like (it must however be in conformity with the Local Plan or Local Development Framework);

The Community Right to Build gives groups of local people the ability to bring forward small developments; and

The encouragement of cross-subsidy sites (for example Clinton Estates recently gained approval from Torridge for homes on three sites – two sites subsidising affordable homes on a third site in Merton).

All over the country there are excellent examples of how relatively small well-designed rural housing schemes are making a big difference in regenerating villages and in improving people's lives. It is a tragedy that, while the situation is now better understood and there are many excellent schemes underway, we are in such a difficult financial climate. I fear that some projects will not see the light of day and others will be poorly designed due to cost cutting.

**David Lausen** - 01837 83209

[www.davidlausen.org.uk](http://www.davidlausen.org.uk)

## ACE Archaeology Club

ACE have just held their 16<sup>th</sup> AGM, about 50% of the membership attended which I think is pretty good for any organisation. After the business was over there was a lively debate on all things archaeological, our on-going projects and new ideas for the future. In the afternoon there were presentations given by three of our members, the subjects were; The archaeology of the Orkney and Shetland islands, The use of X-rays in archaeology and Dowsing as a geophysical tool. We had hoped to get an outside speaker for the afternoon but everyone we asked was booked up that day, I am rather glad it worked out that way as we were able to show off our own talent!

The Earthwork survey at Moistown is about done, in March next spring we are setting up a grid for a dowsing survey, to be followed by Earth Resistance survey. Depending on the results of all the surveys, and if all permissions are in place, later in the year we hope to excavate a small part of this area.

Plans for next year's Festival of Archaeology and Old Technology at Pattiland Farm are well under way, there will be a lot more details in the next issue of DW, but don't forget to put the 21<sup>st</sup> July in your diary. Giles Warham is looking for some musicians to entertain us through the day and into the evening, so if you are a wandering minstrel, or want to know more about the festival, please get in touch with him at [giles@pattilandfarm.com](mailto:giles@pattilandfarm.com)

The Archaeology and Bracken Project; much work has been done on the Bracken Assessment manual, with several changes being made after the two Pattiland pits dug earlier in the year. The manual was field tested this September during an excavation at Bosiliack, in Cornwall, where 10 bracken assessment pits were dug. It was a really useful exercise to see if it made sense to people, from the director to the volunteers, it was eye opening. We are going to have to make more changes to the manual with a lot more information, even simple things (to us) like how to measure bracken rhizomes! I am looking forward to when we get the results from Bosiliack and comparing them with our work here.

If you would like to know more about ACE have a look at our website [www.acearch.org.uk](http://www.acearch.org.uk) or contact **Janet Daynes** at [ace@acearch.org.uk](mailto:ace@acearch.org.uk) or on 01769 520326

## Winkleigh & District Garden Club

We have a great 2012 programme which consists of monthly meetings with a range of speakers and a number of visits.

The club meets in the evening of the third Tuesday in the month in Winkleigh Village Hall and normally start at 7.15pm.

Meetings: 17 January the speaker is a member of the Garden Club, 21 February Forest Gardening, 20 March Growing Alpines in the Garden by John Sanders

In addition to the 'topic' of the meeting, such as a visiting speaker, meetings also include a raffle, tea/coffee and biscuits, giving time for members to socialise, and we encourage members to bring in plants to sell/swap.

New members and visitors are always welcome to our meetings and under 16's can join the club without a membership fee. A nominal charge of £1 per meeting is made to visitors which is put towards the cost of the meeting and includes refreshments.

For further information contact our Chairman Mr Ed Porter on 01805 – 804838 or Beverley Cook

E-mail [cookbeverley@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:cookbeverley@hotmail.co.uk)

### Need Help In The Garden?

**RHS Qualified, Experienced Gardener**

All Aspects of Garden Maintenance

Planting Ideas

Year Round Reliable Service

Call Maxine on 01837 680039 or 07815 309023



### "Needle and Thread"

For *all* your sewing needs

*\*Curtains/Blinds/Furnishings\**

*\*Wedding Dresses and attire\**

*\*Alterations/Repairs\**

No job too small and sensible prices

Contact Caroline for a quote/discuss  
requirements

Telephone 01769 520730 or 07912546999

Email [caroline65cor@o2email.co.uk](mailto:caroline65cor@o2email.co.uk)





## **Winkleigh Youth Club**

I must let you know about a great day that was had by members of the Youth Club on the 15th October. We were fortunate to join other youth groups in North Devon for a day at Skern Lodge.

For those who don't know what Skern Lodge is, it is an adventure centre situated near Appledore. The day started with the fitting of wet suits for the morning activities which involved canoeing or raft building. We were very successful with the canoeing but the raft we constructed - although it looked the best on land - lasted only ten seconds when launched, so thank goodness for the wet suits and life jackets.

After lunch all the youngsters were involved in an assault course incorporating 10 metre poles with the object of climbing the pole and then standing on the top. I was amazed to see that all of our Winkleigh Group managed this task. The photographs taken will be on the notice board at the Sports Centre.

Our next event will be our Christmas Party on the 21st December. After our very successful Halloween Party we hope to keep up the standard for this event. If you wish to help in any way please ring:

**Mike Wilson** on 01769 520605.

## **LOCALLY BARN-REARED AND OVEN-READY CHRISTMAS, TURKEYS, CHICKENS & GESE**



**MICHAEL WESTERN - MIDDLECOTT FARM  
BROADWOODKELLY Tel: 01837 83381  
LOCAL DELIVERY AVAILABLE**

## Don't dump it!

We can all save resources and money by reusing items we no longer need. At a time when many are feeling the pinch, why not clear out the loft/garage/cupboard and pass things on to people who can use them?

Some ideas to get you started:

Try a small ad in the Post Office – sell it on and make a few pounds.

Donate good items to charity or the bric-a-brac stall at Mini-Market.

Use the website [freecycle.org](http://freecycle.org) – offer items or get something you need for FREE. Our local group is Bideford – if lots of people in Winkleigh start using it, it will make it more effective for us – avoiding long journeys to collect items.

Finally look out for Swap Shops and Jumble Sales in Winkleigh next Spring. Anyone want to join in planning them?

Contact **Kim Melhuish** on: 01769 520595 (or [kjmweb@ssmail.co.uk](mailto:kjmweb@ssmail.co.uk)).

## ANAGRAMS – WITH A TWIST!

These anagrams look easy, don't they! Can any reader think of others in the same vein? If so, please send them to [articles@distinctlywinkleigh.org.uk](mailto:articles@distinctlywinkleigh.org.uk)

PRESBYTERIAN	=	BEST IN PRAYER	SLOT MACHINES	=	CASH LOST IN ME
ASTRONOMER	=	MOON STARER	ANIMOSITY	=	IS NO AMITY
DESPERATION	=	A ROPE ENDS IT	ELECTION RESULTS	=	LIES - LET'S RECOUNT
THE EYES	=	THEY SEE	SNOOZE ALARMS	=	ALAS! NO MORE Z'S
GEORGE BUSH	=	HE BUGS GORE	A DECIMAL POINT	=	I'M A DOT IN PLACE
THE MORSE CODE	=	HERE COME DOTS	THE EARTHQUAKES	=	THAT QUEER SHAKE
DORMITORY	=	DIRTY ROOM	ELEVEN PLUS TWO	=	TWELVE PLUS ONE
			MOTHER-IN-LAW	=	WOMAN HITLER

### Chittlehamholt Nursery

*Our new season Roses, Fruit bushes, Fruit & Ornamental Trees and Hedging should arrive in November. We will also be supplying Xmas Wreaths and Norway Spruce Xmas Trees.*

**Winter opening times:** Monday, Thursday & Saturday closed. Open: Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, and Sunday 10am to 4pm. We can also be visited at South Molton Pannier Market on most Thursdays & Saturdays till 1pm.

**Note:** The Nursery will be closed, and we will not be at the Market, between Monday 19<sup>th</sup> December and Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2012.

Jean & Martin can be reached on:

**Nursery – 07766323769, House – 01837 682990**

**Email: [chittlehamholt.nursery@hotmail.com](mailto:chittlehamholt.nursery@hotmail.com)**

**Wishing all our Customers a Happy Xmas & New Year**

## **CHURCH FETE DRAW**

Winkleigh Parochial Church Council would like to thank all the generous businesses and individuals who donated prizes for the ever-successful draw in the summer. As always there is a risk of leaving someone out, and if we do so we apologise, but the following businesses deserve particular mention and thanks, especially in these hard times. Winkleigh Pine for the exceptionally generous donation of a beautiful chest of drawers, D & S., West Ridge Vets, Mid Devon Motors, Lymington Arms, Changes, James the fishmonger, Winkleigh Cider, Londis, Kings Arms, Rangemoors, Barry the Mad Butcher and Simon and Sonia Hodgson for the 'Duck Dinner' which gets more impressive every year. Thanks also to everyone who bought tickets and congratulations to all the lucky winners.

A new book, Devon's Fifty Best Churches, by Todd Gray of Exeter University, includes Winkleigh Church and the Winkleigh section was highlighted in a recent Western Morning News article. There are over 600 churches in Devon, so this shows we have something exceptional here. We hope to have a lecture by Dr. Gray about the Church and some of the historical characters associated with it, when warmer weather returns next year. Watch this space to glean more history of our wonderful village and Church.

### **SOUTHWEST FIXINGS LTD**

**BEECHLEA, WINKLEIGH, DEVON, EX19 8DH**

**Tel: 01837 83492 Fax: 01837 680088**

**Email: [swfixings@gmail.com](mailto:swfixings@gmail.com)**

*For all your Fixing needs call in and see what we stock...  
From Small Veneer Pins to 6" Nails, Small Wood Screws to 250mm  
Timber Tex Screws, 4mm Bolts to 300mm Holding Down Bolts,  
Silicones and Glues, Grinding and Cutting Discs, Garden Latches to  
32" Gate Hangers. We are also stockists of Estate Stock Fencing of  
Mild Steel and High Tensile Wire plus we have  
Wooden Stakes and Posts.*

*Opening Hours 8am-5pm Monday – Friday and 10am – 11am on  
Saturdays – Closed Sundays*

***Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to You!!***

## Barnstaple Poverty Action Group (BPAG)

BPAG offer help to individuals and families who are in crisis and are in need of emergency help and support across North Devon, Torridge and West Devon. **Abi Mandeville specifically works across Torridge with people who are rough sleeping or homeless, to support them and help improve their situation. The help provided can be as simple as providing a sleeping bag, through to referring an individual to other agencies for support or helping arrange housing.**

**Abi also requests your help; she needs to hear if you think there is anyone rough sleeping in your area, so that she can assist them, or alternatively if there is any way in which you think you could help with BPAG. If any group or individual wishes to have a chat, or receive more information about Abi's role, or that of BPAG please do not hesitate to contact her so that a meeting can be arranged.**

BPAG also offers the Gateway service at the Parish Rooms, Barnstaple, on Tuesdays. The Salvation Army, Ilfracombe, on Fridays and The Parish rooms, Westward Ho! on Mondays. The Project allows individuals access to a hot meal. They can also access support and advice on a wide range of issues such as benefits and accommodation, together with clothing and bedding etc.

**Abi Mandeville**

Tel: 07814 524935 email: [a.mandeville@bpag-encompass.org.uk](mailto:a.mandeville@bpag-encompass.org.uk)



**Stable Green Methodist Chapel**

invite you to their.....

### **CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE IN THE BARN**



**and will take place on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> December at 6pm**

**at Beechlea, Berners Cross, Winkleigh**



**Join us to hear the real Christmas story being told, and to sing our favourite Christmas carols. Mince pies, sausage rolls, tea & coffee will follow.**

**Free entry! All welcome...but wrap up warm!!**

***For more details contact Liz 01837 83916 or Jane 01837 680128***



**Removals - Local and European**

**Self Drive Van Hire**

**Free Estimates**

**Full Packing Service**

**Man & Van Hire**

**Packing Materials**

**Office and Commercial**

**House Clearance**

**Antique Handling**

**Self Store & Caravan Storage**

Cherrywood Park Business Centre Langtree TORRINGTON Devon EX38 8LQ

t: 01805 601122 f: 0844 414 5817

e: [info@coppsremovals.co.uk](mailto:info@coppsremovals.co.uk) w: [www.coppsremovals.co.uk](http://www.coppsremovals.co.uk)

## And finally . . . . .

It seems like yesterday when we were putting together the last Winter Issue! Where does the time go to?

Winkleigh had its “Warhol-predicted” 15 minutes of fame back in September, when TV crews descended on us pointing cameras and microphones at any unwary Winkleighite. It was certainly nice to know that our school managed to get such a wonderful Ofsted rating, but many thought the media attention focussed on us was a mite OTT. Still, as some sage once said, “There is no such thing as bad publicity”!

The “Indian Summer” finally happened, giving us some very welcome fine days in October and Early November. The Met Office even managed to get some forecasts right! Doubtless we will pay for it during the winter.

The closing date for the Spring Issue is Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February. Please try to submit your articles/adverts before that date.

Meanwhile, the editorial team takes the opportunity to wish all our readers

*A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year*

### **WINKLEIGH POST OFFICE**

~ Not just a Post Office! ~

Large range of Greetings Cards

Gift wrap & Tags

Toys & Stationery

Photocopying Scanning & Fax service

Laminating & Document Binding

Laundry & Dry Cleaning

Travel Money

Car Tax

Mobile topups & electric key charging

Free to use Cash Machine

Open 9-5.30 Mon-Fri

9-1pm Sat

**01837 83427**

### **JOHN COCKRAM CHRISTMAS TREES**



FRESHLY CUT

Norway Spruce  
Nordman Fir  
Fraser Fir

**PICK YOUR OWN TREE**  
**AT CHULMLEIGH HILL PLANTATION**

**Sat 3<sup>rd</sup> & Sun 4<sup>th</sup> December**  
**Sat 10<sup>th</sup> & Sun 11<sup>th</sup> December**  
**Sat 17<sup>th</sup> & Sun 18<sup>th</sup> December**  
**- 9.30am to 3.30pm -**

**Peninnis, CHAWLEIGH**  
**Tel: 01769 580129 or 07724 079733**  
**[johncockram@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:johncockram@hotmail.co.uk)**

Member of  
The British Christmas Tree Growers Association



**John Short**  
**Professional Interior**  
**& Exterior Decorating**

***Tel: Winkleigh 01837 83709***

*Clotworthy House  
Torrington Road  
Winkleigh Devon*

**BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND !**

**Anthony Johnson Building and Plumbing Services**

**Interior and Exterior Decorating, Renovations  
Repairs and Modernization, Kitchens and Bathrooms fitted  
Floor and Wall Tiling, Roofing  
References available on request**

**Returning to local area so book up now for your requirements**

**Tel. Home: 01789 297003    Mob: 07545 056229**



**MIKE WILSON**

**17<sup>th</sup> EDITION BS7671 QUALIFIED**

**ALL ELECTRICAL WORK  
CARRIED OUT**

**NAPIT 5-YEAR GUARANTEE ON ALL WORKS**

**Telephone 01769 520605  
Meadow View, Bush Corner, Ashreigney, EX18 7NE**

## **WINKLEIGH SOCIETY COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

<b>Chairman</b>	<b>Graham Warmington</b>	<b>01837 83574</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Alan Mulcahy</b>	<b>01837 680145</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Pat Cunnington</b>	<b>01837 83487</b>
	<b>Janet Daynes</b>	<b>01769 520326</b>

The Society now has over 100 members. Membership costs £4 per person . This entitles you to vote at the Society meetings . If you would like more details, please contact Alan Mulcahy, our Membership Secretary, on 01837 680145.

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

## **NEWSLETTER TEAM**

<b>Peter Monkcom</b>	<b>01837 83452</b>
<b>Tim Rhodes</b>	<b>01837 83229</b>
<b>Alan Mulcahy</b>	<b>01837 680145</b>

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](mailto:articles@distinctlywinkleigh.org.uk)  
Postal submissions: 8 Old Barn Close, Winkleigh, EX19 8JX  
or Smythen Hill Cottage, Hollocombe, EX18 7QD

The Newsletter team 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

HEDGEROW PRINT, CREDITON, DEVON EX17 1ES: 01363 777595