

DISTINCTLY WINKLEIGH



Working for Winkleigh



Edition 52

Winter 2014

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?

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Community Centre Notes

Attempts are now in hand to try to make the centre a little warmer for the winter season. Observant hall users will have already noticed that replacement ceiling tiles have been fitted to replace all of the discoloured ones. That task now been completed, hopefully we have tackled the source of water ingress as well – time will tell.

Various specialists have assessed the windows in the main hall. Quotes have been obtained and an order has now been placed. Panes of glass have been ordered to replace various areas where Perspex has been fitted over the years, the Perspex has now become opaque and looks awful, a number of cracked panes will be replaced as part of the same job. New secondary glazing has also been ordered. This will be fitted to the mullions and will be made of safety glass inside a strong frame. Some will be sliding units to allow for ventilation, whilst others will be in solid pieces. This work will be starting in the New Year. This allows time to carry out remedial work to the existing window frames. Some need to have numerous paint layers removed in order to allow the opening windows to close properly.

Once these tasks have been completed, a further review of heating will take place – there is no point in putting in better heating if the heat goes straight out of the windows! Meanwhile if users have to open the windows, please ensure that they are closed properly after the session. Can I please also put out a call for assistance on Monday mornings to assist carrying out the preparation work.

Phil Tarry, 01837 83836

<h1>D&S Supplies</h1> <p>01837 83366 www.dandssupplies.co.uk The Old Airfield, Winkleigh Devon, EX19 8EZ</p>		
<i>The store that offers you more</i>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gift Sets • Toys • Wrapping Paper • Christmas Cards • Baubles • Tinsel and Lights • Stocking Fillers • Socks • Gloves • Hats • Scarves • Hankies and Slippers • Wellington Boots • Waterproof Jackets & Trousers • Quilts • Pillow Sheet Sets <p>A Happy Christmas to all residents and readers</p>		
<p><u>Fresh Cut Christmas Trees Available From The 30th November</u></p>	<p>Open 9-5 Mon-Fri, Sat 9-4pm Sun 10-3pm</p> <p>Christmas Opening Hours Dec 25th, 26th, 27th: Closed Dec 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st: 10-3 Jan 1st: CLOSED</p>	
<p>On site café serving good food. Disabled friendly and Free parking</p>		

I shall end these notes with a reminder that details of all our services can be found in the *Parish Bulletin*. This can be found, free of charge, at the back of the Church and in the Post Office. But before I get to the end there is something else in the *Parish Bulletin* that I'd like to draw your attention to. You may not have noticed it but on the inside of the front cover is a section entitled 'Helpful Information'. It tells you there what to do if you are thinking of getting married or wanting to have your baby baptised. It also tells you that I am available to visit the sick, wherever possible, at home or in hospital regardless of whether they go to Church or not. Obviously I can only do this if the person concerned would like me to and if someone tells me that they are sick. (Some people think I am telepathic and will know without being told — sadly this is not the case). Of course, some people don't want to see a priest or, if they belong to another Church their own priest or minister would normally visit.

The *Parish Bulletin* will also tell you that those who cannot attend Church anymore because they are housebound or are temporarily unable to get out because of sickness can receive Holy Communion in their own homes or in hospital. Anointing with holy oil is also available for the sick and for the dying. All these things are part of the traditional ministry of the Church and are available on request — so please don't be afraid to ask.

In the December *Parish Bulletin* will be some extra 'Helpful Information' namely the times of our Christmas Services and other events some of which I'm including here.

Friday 12th at 2.00 p.m. Winkleigh School will be having their Christmas service in Church and on Saturday 20th at 7.30 p.m. there will be the traditional Christmas Concert (including Carols for you to sing) by the Winkleigh Singers.

Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services are as follows.

Christmas Eve 5.00 p.m. Crib Service with a real donkey and starting with candlelight

11.45 p.m. Midnight Mass

Christmas Day 9.30 a.m. Christmas Eucharist

All of these services will of course include traditional Christmas Carols. You are welcome at any or all of these celebrations and we look forward to sharing with you in celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ — which is what Christmas is all about.

And as I said at the beginning, details of all our services can be found in the *Parish Bulletin*.

Winkleigh Church Flower Ladies

We will be having a stall at the Community Centre market on **Wed. Dec.10th & 17th** when there will be following:-

Wed. 10th Dec. - A good selection of Christmas decorations and baubles will be available, also a Christmas draw consisting of a Christmas Hamper, and two other draw prizes to be won. Draw tickets will be available.

Wed. 17th Dec - A selection of Christmas table floral arrangements. A large Christmas Hamper and draw will be won.

The draw to take place at **10.45am**

Draw tickets £1.00. per strip

'Please come along and support us'

HOLLOCOMBE MUSIC CLUB

Hollocombe Music Club organises live music events in Winkleigh every other month. Our next event on December 5th promises to be a jam-packed evening of first-class musical entertainment provided by some of the best musicians in the area. More info on our website: hollocombemusicclub.org.uk

Looking further ahead, you'll also find details on the website of our forthcoming event in April when we will have the amazing Louise Parker with us. Definitely one for the diary!

To find out about all forthcoming events, please add yourself to our mailing list by using the form on our website at: <http://hollocombemusicclub.org.uk>



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Winkleigh

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Winkleigh Society Chairman's Report

This time last year I was able to report that we were still in existence, still doing some useful things, but could not pretend to have made a great leap forward. This year we have some very real progress. This is largely due to the efforts of Alan Mulcahy and Distinctly Winkleigh in raising sufficient revenue, not only to pay for the magazine but have a bit left over for other things.

First the website is now running as we would wish. This has taken time, not least because everyone we asked to fix it immediately “left the planet”. This time the Commonwealth has come to our aid and we can now even print the Winkleigh timetable, as well as having it on line. A website is, of course, only as good as the information that people put into it, and those people include you. We hear complaints of events clashing with each other, but unless those events are flagged up on the website then clashes will continue. Please contact Ralph Northcott or Alan Mulcahy if you are not sure how to do that. The website itself can be found at www.winkleighonline.com

The Winkleigh Calendar for 2015 is already in the shops and selling well. The photographs are superb, and all thanks to Alan Jacobs and Peter Monkcom for putting it together, and all the other photographers. I particularly like the cow and the laundry. We listened to those who did not want all the local dates in big letters because you send calendars to the family in far-flung parts, but the dates are still there inside the front cover. Meanwhile, please remember that we shall need another set of photos next year which are relevant to the area and to the season.

The Directory is now in every house in the parish, and thanks to Margaret Miller and Alan Mulcahy for that. Of course, it is out of date before it is even published That is the nature of these things, but we keep the website updated with new and changed details, provided we are told of them.

Next time you are at the Sports Hall and it isn't raining, take a look round the back. The Green Group have been busy planting, and the raised area which was the site of the spoil from the building of the Hall, has now got a copse growing on it, fenced off from livestock. There is a long way to go, and plenty to do, and those of you who want to do something that does not involve slaving over a computer, please contact Philippa Lausen, Catherine Knight or Kim Melhuish to offer your services.

The Winkleigh Community Plan expresses concern about our three community buildings, and the apparent lack of coordination between them, and suggested that the Winkleigh Society might address this. Before the Plan is even printed, we can report real movement in that area, and Alan Jacobs has chaired several meetings between the chairs of the Village Hall, the Community Centre and the Sports Hall, which has already resulted in a new Information board for all three venues on the side of the Post Office. There are even rumours of joint events in the future.

And now for something new. We are starting to put together a leaflet both for visitors and locals directing people to local products. Although we clearly have visitors in mind, I am sure there are many local people who don't know all our local food producers and craftspeople. At present this led by a small group of ten enterprises, including cider and wine makers, metalworkers, sausage producers, florists and we shall produce a simple leaflet to advertise both the products and the outlets. How far this can go in the future is up to the entrepreneurs themselves, but our immediate thanks go to Frank Ward of Gfive Design for offering to help design and produce. Any enquiries please to me on 01837 83362.

The latest bit of work is for a Newcomers' Pack. Apparently we can easily get to know who is moving into the village and we hope it will not be a mammoth task to put through the door some of the basics of Winkleigh life, not least a directory, calendar and lists of councillors and events.

But finally a plea. Our committee members appear to be growing older each year. We do need new people, either on the committee or simply being prepared to assist. Please contact any member of the committee, and if you arrive not only offering some time but also a new project, then you will be even more welcome. Winkleigh Society exists to be an enabling organisation. If you want to do something for village communal life, we exist to help.

Peter Howard

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**For a free quote or just friendly advice call John on
01837 83080 or 07768 164696**

Plastic Recycling

Thank you to all those who have continued to support this venture. In the last 6 months, PWS has made 20 collections and has taken away over 1 tonne of plastics, textiles and cardboard, much of which might otherwise have ended up in landfill sites. PWS has generally been happy with the items left at the site, but has reminded us that all items must be **clean** and any textiles must be **re-wearable/reusable**. There have been recent instances where soiled items have been left. **This sort of article is totally unacceptable**. PWS may withdraw the textile bin should unacceptable items continue to be left.

Please do not leave drinks cartons, as they are made of a mixture of materials and cannot be mixed in with the plastics. These cartons can all be recycled at the main council recycling centres. An excellent up-dated guide has been produced by TDC listing where items which we cannot collect, can be recycled. It is available on the TDC website. <http://www.torridge.gov.uk/recycling>

Thanks for your support from the Community Recycling team!

Winkleigh Memory Cafe

1st Wednesday of each month - Community Centre 2-4pm

Please come along to our small friendly Memory Café. We always have a cup of tea and a chat, but sometimes there are also special events. So far we have had sessions including a relaxing massage, how to use an iPad and a poetry reading session. In the next few months we will be finding out how to make a Living History book, and will be looking forward to visits from 'Pets as Therapy' and the organisers of the 'See Hear' bus. We also normally have a health professional with us for part of the session, who can offer help and advice.

If you would like more information or help with transport, then please see

Marie-Claude at the mini-market, or ring

Claire 01837 83014 or **Philippa** 01837 83209

Hope you can join us

WINKLEIGH PARISH COUNCIL

Dog Waste: Winkleigh Parish Council has received several complaints about dog fouling, as a result of irresponsible dog owners not picking up after their dogs. This is **UNACCEPTABLE, ANTI-SOCIAL and ILLEGAL**. There are numerous bins - funded out of your Council Tax – located around the parish. Posters are being put up to remind 'forgetful' dog-owners of their responsibility and to alert the community that this can be reported to the Dog Warden anonymously.



The Parish Council takes this issue **VERY SERIOUSLY** and urges those seeing offenders, to contact the **HOTLINE** to report the offence. WPC can also advise TDC of any areas of particular concern and request an **Enforcement Officer visit; they can issue £75 ON-THE-SPOT FINES**. So, watch out and pick up after your dog – someone may be watching and report you!

To report an offence call the TDC **HOTLINE on 01237 428810**. Alternatively, forms are available from the Village Stores.

AED/Defibrillator: Having secured funding from TDC via the Town and Parish Grant Scheme in partnership with Ashreigney PC, and following a public training event held on 12th June, WPC are pleased to announce an AED (automated external defibrillator) is now fully installed and operational.



The device is located beside the Kings Arms, Parish Notice Board and red 'phone box in the Square. The AED is for use when someone suffers a heart attack; there are instructions inside, so even if you have never used one before, by following the guidelines, you could potentially help save someone's life. Cllrs Ware and Bowers act as Co-ordinators, ensuring the device is kept maintained.

Anyone interested in attending an annual training session, please contact the Parish Clerk (on 83981) or Cllr Ware (on 83526).

Winkleigh Parish Council
Article 06 for DW from WPC Oct 2014

AN EXAMPLE FOR ALL

Faith, hope and charity abound at FIONA'S FARM SHOP, Winkleigh in Mid Devon (take the road towards Torrington and fork right where signposted for Hollocombe) which is perhaps not surprising as she is the leading light in the Methodist community of Winkleigh. John Wesley would be proud of her and her customers are enthusiastic about the place she founded with her family at age 25, some ten years ago, providing coffee, lunch and tea with home produced items to take away. Fiona never misses the invitation to go the extra mile and the shop provides comfortable seating for about 12 or so. The farm shop shines like a beacon in a wilderness for travellers and locals alike. An extended rail has now been provided to help the halt and the lane from car park to shop.

In the centre of the village stands THE SHOP AT THE END OF THE UNIVERSE (a.k.a. the Bakery Stores) where lively and ever helpful girls wait to serve you. Couple this with the sub post office where the post mistress and her staff of one are ready to conduct post office business on the pavement come rain or shine (like the village shop) for anyone finding difficulty in making it into the post office and you may understand why this is such a happy and contented village. It may also explain why houses here and hereabouts are only rarely on the market. Men, women and children of Winkleigh are only too ready to help others. I have often been approached by children and asked 'Can I help you Sir?'

Why is there so much discontent and crime in wealthier and allegedly more advanced areas of England? Very recently I met two girls in Winkleigh in their mid-twenties, one of whom had never visited London and had no wish to do so whilst the other had never been on a train. Neither felt deprived, nor were they. One feels that John Wesley would be proud of the example which Fiona and mid Devon generally offer. This is Christianity in action.

How does one explain this phenomenon? Its origins are modest aspiration, concern for others and accepting things as they are rather than the stark ambition for illusory so-called 'improvements'. Fiona will continue to be inspired by Faith, Hope and Charity in 2015.

Perhaps the United Nations should be invited to send a delegation to Winkleigh to investigate how things are done there and thereabouts with a view to employing the knowledge gained to promote world peace and harmony? Such knowledge and its implementation is needed today as never before.

The advert for Fiona's Farm Shop appearing in this issue was devised by Emma Daniels, a highly skilled and as delightful a Graphics Designer as you are ever likely to meet. I predict a great future for her.

Stanley Best, Barrister.



*Your Local Family
Run Independent
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Darren & Vickie Howes would like to
invite & welcome you all to visit us in
our new premises:

**“The Old Bank Hall, High Street,
Winkleigh”**

from Monday 1st December 2014

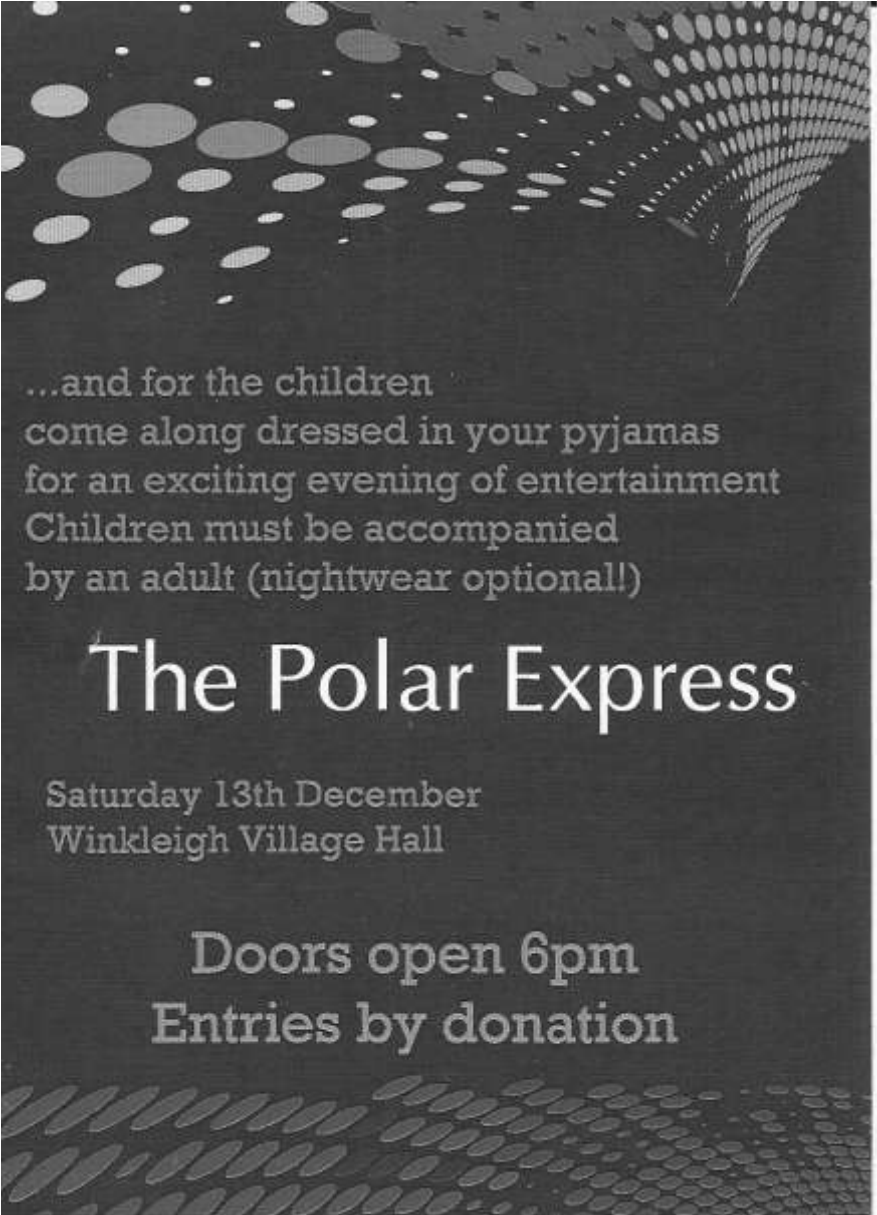
We would like to thank all of the
residents of Winkleigh and
surrounding areas for their continued
support

**Wishing you all a very Merry
Christmas and a prosperous 2015**

T: 01837 83393

E: info@howesestates.co.uk

www.howesestates.co.uk



...and for the children
come along dressed in your pyjamas
for an exciting evening of entertainment
Children must be accompanied
by an adult (nightwear optional!)

The Polar Express

Saturday 13th December
Winkleigh Village Hall

Doors open 6pm
Entries by donation

BEAVERS – Can you Help?

The Beavers are going great and we would like to help them gain their science badge and the Understanding Disabilities Badge. If you know simple science experiments or you can give the beavers a talk on any disability we would love to hear from you. We would love to borrow a wheelchair for one of our meetings, Also if you have a hobby and would like to share your knowledge then please get in touch with **Pat** on 01837 83487.

A BIG THANK YOU to Winkleigh Parish Council for a grant that will help us buy new camping equipment. With this grant our youngsters are looking forward to next spring to enjoy an outdoor sleepover.

Beavers meet on a Tuesday between 5pm and 6.15pm and if your child would like to give us a try, then ring Pat on the above telephone number.

Fiona's

Farm Shop & Tea Room

Call to book a table or just pop in for a drink & a chat







- Coffee, lunch and tea with Delicious home-made cakes and Devon ice cream.
- Fantastic home-cooked lunch time specialities.
- Home-grown seasonal veg.



- Home-reared free range meat, sausages & bacon.
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- And "Ooh!" choc bars.

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LOCAL HEROES

Sydney Simmons gave Okehampton its park.

William Rock gifted his land and home for a park and museum in Barnstaple.

And Malcolm Passmore has given a bench to Winkleigh.

Walk along Hatherleigh road past Kingsley Plastics and there it is. A wooden bench looking South over the landscape towards Dartmoor. Malcolm has slabbed it beneath, ensuring the seat is stable. A prize-winning gardener, Malcolm plants out and tends the flower-trough alongside the seat.

The local farmer, whose hedge the bench overlooks, keeps the hedge trimmed and Malcolm regularly strims the area. Malcolm and his wife, Dorothy, are delighted that so many walkers use and appreciate the bench and how many conversations it sparks.

Time, effort, thought and imagination about how to enhance our local environment, is regularly exhibited by the residents of Winkleigh. And it's the small details that make all the difference, like Winkleigh's flower boxes that meet and greet all travellers as they/we enter the village.

The flower troughs were the brain-child of Peggy Osman. When she was chair of Winkleigh Fair Committee in 2005, there was a joint purpose; to enhance the village environment and involve the Youth Club.

Originally Constant Lopushok made up flower-box kits and youth club members assembled and planted them. These did well, but when the boxes eventually collapsed, a re-think was needed.

Jim McGinley, known for his woodworking skills, was approached and he kindly made up the latest boxes.

'Adopt-a-Box' scheme was suggested by Joan Stutt; Marian Humphries, Graham & Brenda Gale, Dorothy & Malcolm Passmore, Gillian Holman & Ivor, Peggy Osman, Joan Stutt and Betty Fisher have all participated in the scheme. New recruits are always welcome: please contact Joan Stutt.

These are just two examples of philanthropy, good citizenship, village stewardship, call it what you like; but it all contributes to the general good.

Please write in and nominate your local heroes. There are many in Winkleigh. Let's hear their stories.

In particular, can anyone tell us who was the benefactor who gifted Winkleigh the land for the playing fields in the 1950's 'For the health and recreation of the people of Winkleigh?'

Penny Griffiths. (member of Winkleigh Green Group).



Malcolm Passmore, enjoying the view from the bench he donated.

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SUDOKU

Each row, each column and each 3 x 3 block must contain all the numbers from 1 to 9.

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Solution on Page 45

WINKLEIGH CALENDAR

The Winkleigh Calendar for 2015, with many original pictures of Winkleigh and the surrounding countryside, is now available at The Bakery Stores, Fiona's Farm Shop, The King's Arms, D & S, and Winkleigh Cider Shop.

It can also be found at the Oasis Café on Mondays and at the Mini-Market in the Community Centre on Wednesday mornings.

It is priced at £4, including an envelope for posting to far places!

Business Opportunity & Premises in Winkleigh

Are you currently working out of your garage, shed or from home in cramped conditions and need to separate your business from home life?

Maybe you are looking to start a business or expand into a larger unit. We would like to hear from you as we are currently drawing up plans for live/work units also small/medium business/commercial units, freehold or leasehold, and need to determine demand and interest.

In the recent Community Plan for Winkleigh, 8% of respondents showed an interest in starting a business in Winkleigh and there was overwhelming support for future development of the Airfield, so if you have a business and need premises or wish to discuss your ideas further, please e-mail dartmoor2014@googlemail.com to find out more with no obligation.

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STABLE GREEN METHODIST CHAPEL
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FRIDAY 19th DECEMBER
6.30pm
Beechlea Barn,
Berners Cross, Winkleigh

Refreshments will follow

Free entry - wrap up warm

For further details contact:
Jane 01837680128 Dave 0183783853

WINKLEIGH SPORTS CENTRE

To encourage more Winkleigh residents to hire the Sports Centre we have reduced the hire costs for local residents. All children's parties, at weekends, are a fixed price of just £25.00. This gives you access to the hall, kitchen and outside green.

All the clubs mentioned below play at the Winkleigh Sports Centre and are continually looking for new members. If you are interested, just give them a call. If you would like to start a new club or hire the hall then contact John Spilstead on 01805 603394 or email him at winkleighsportscentre@gmail.com

SHORT MAT BOWLING CLUB

Social roll-ups on Monday and Friday afternoons 2.00pm till 4.30pm, plus we compete in many local and county leagues.

For more information contact Jan Ovenden: 01837 83853

TENNIS CLUB

Two all weather courts with floodlighting, available 24 hours per day. Club night on Monday. New members welcome. Junior tennis coaching on Sunday morning.

Contact: Catherine Knight (Chair): 01837 83205 cathpknight@gmail.com

FOOTBALL CLUB

Training on Tuesday evenings. League matches on Saturdays.

For more information contact Jim Sampson Tel: 01837 82361

SNOOKER CLUB

Open daily from 09.00 till 23.00. Members can play for pleasure on 2 full size tables and/or join our team in the snooker league.

For further information contact: email winkleighsnookerclub@gmail.com

YOUTH CLUB

Wednesday evening from 7 00pm till 9 00pm.

For further information contact Rosemary Anstey 01769 520396

JUNIOR YOUTH CLUB

Saturday morning 10 00am till 12 30

For more information contact Brian Holland 01837 83521

TABLE TENNIS CLUB

New members wanted for start-up club, all ages welcome.

For information contact Mike Wilson 01769 520605

THE INCOMPLEAT ANGLER

A few years ago my wife and I bought an old converted school bus and drove around and across the middle of Australia. I kept a journal of our 12000 mile adventure. Here is an extract.

At Carnarvon, on the West Australian coast, I settled myself on the end of the creaking hot jetty and organised my angling odds and ends around me so that everything would be to hand when I started to land specimen fish. A large and rather optimistic looking gull landed a few feet away. It surveyed my preparations carefully with its head cocked to one side, and waited.

A small aboriginal boy 'G'dayed' me then sat and watched for a while as I untangled my line.

"D'yuh think I could borrow a hook mistah" He gave me a winning, snotty-nosed smile, then added "and a few weights?"

I nodded to my tackle box, "Help yourself. What's the fishing like?"

"Oh, whiting, snookies, a lot of shiddies about too." He selected a hook and a couple of weights, thanked me and moved along the jetty a way. The gull flip-flopped after him, perhaps sensing a more reliable provider.

I baited up, cast my line and settled back against the heat warped piles. A succession of small aboriginal boys turned up to 'borrow' from my fishing gear.

I reeled in a small spiny fish that puffed up threateningly, "What's this" I asked one of the boys who was checking out my range of floats, presumably with the intention of asking if he might borrow one.

"Oh, that's a shiddie mate. Mind them spines they're poison."



I disengaged the hook carefully and nudged the fish back over the edge of the jetty with the edge of my boot, re-baited and settled down again. A few minutes later I got another bite and reeled in a small flattish fish. It grunted as I removed the hook. "What's this?" I enquired of a small boy who had just asked if he could borrow my knife to cut up some of my bait.

"Oh, yeah, that's a shiddie mate."

I found this a bit confusing. Apart from their size my catches looked quite dissimilar. This one, even to my untrained eye, was surely a completely different species from the last one. In fact I thought the first one might have been a puffer fish.

I said, "So this is a shiddie?" to the knife borrowing boy.

"Yup. That's a shiddie." He confirmed.

"So what was the fish I caught just now? The small spiny one?" "Yup. Shiddie mate. Same as this'n"

"So they're both called shiddies then?" I waited for his nod. "Why's that then?"

He looked up from his task of dissecting my bait, (I assumed he was shortly going to ask if he could borrow some,) "They're called shiddies", he explained patiently, "Cus they taste like shid."

Ed Collinson



CHULMLEIGH COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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CHULMLEIGH
ACADEMY TRUST



LPG SUPPLY - FLOGAS

Many Winkleigh residents rely upon Liquid Petroleum Gas (LPG) for their domestic energy needs. It's expensive and, at times, supplies can be problematic.

Following a 2009 exposé of local pricing differences on the BBC TV Programme '*Don't Get Done, Get Dom,*' a group of residents from the developments at Kings Meadow and Westcots, ably led by Janet Hobbs, has been negotiating community prices for LPG with **Flogas Britain Ltd.** Janet has now passed on the task (Many thanks, Janet!) to a new group comprising Collin Gibson, Luke Goddard and Robin Coombes.

Following a recent meeting with the Regional Sales Manager of **Flogas**, a new two year price agreement has been negotiated. Effective **January 1, 2015**, the price of LPG will be **41.0 pence per litre**, plus VAT, (a reduction of 2.0 pence per litre!) fixed for twelve (12) months. Any price increase in the second 12 months will not exceed 2.5 pence plus VAT in any six (6) month period. There's also a clause allowing for renegotiation after 12 months if market prices are clearly trending down. The daily standing charge remains the same.

Residents currently using **Flogas** as their supplier – it appears to be over 160 local households – should receive new contracts from them in the near future. Other area residents who use bulk LPG for domestic energy can also benefit from the agreement. They should contact **Flogas** direct.

Collin Gibson (Kings Meadow) 01837-680172

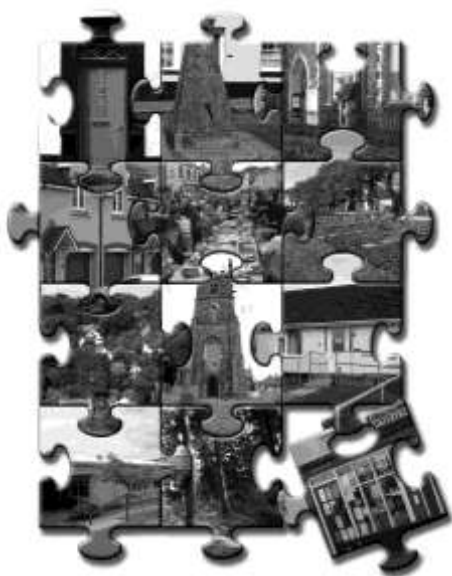
Luke Goddard (Westcots) 01837-680161

Robin Coombes (Westcots) 01837-680016



WINKLEIGH COMMUNITY PLAN – UPDATE

A 12-page **Summary** of the **Winkleigh Community Plan** was distributed in August to all households in the Parish with the autumn edition of '*Distinctly Winkleigh*'.



The **Full Plan**, comprising a 52-page wide-ranging analysis and exploration of local issues related to the environment, resources, economy, housing, community, transport, traffic and public services, has now been published and is available, on request, at the Post Office in Winkleigh. The **Full Plan** will also be available in local community facilities for general reference, or you can visit the website and download at: www.winkleighplan.co.uk

The **Full Plan** represents a community-led vision of what residents want to see in and around the Parish over the next ten years. It will be circulated to key decision makers in local, regional and national government and industry with a view to informing and guiding future decisions impacting the local area.

The Community-Led Planning Group, who developed and prepared the Community Plan, hope all residents will consider the issues raised and get involved in the proposed action plans, with a view to ensuring Winkleigh remains a viable and thriving place to live and work.

Winkleigh Article No. 11 – Community Plan Update – Nov 2014

THE GREAT WAR

Somewhere in Flanders, October 5th 1917.

My dear friends,

The Vicar has asked me to write you a few lines which it gives me great happiness to do, for home and friends and old associations never seem so dear as when one is far away in the turmoil of war.

I am with the Artillery and will try and give you a rough idea of the sort of work one has out here. I have a number of batteries to look after, which may vary from a dozen upwards, according to circumstances.

The actual guns are in forward positions and the "rest billets" some little way behind them, the men working in shifts.



Services are usually arranged in rest billets when the men are off duty, and, of course, one visits them in their gun positions as well. The services out here are in strange contrast to those you are accustomed to. They have to be held in the open air usually, for there is no building to have them in, nothing but dug outs or tiny huts, for you must bear in mind that the actual battle area does not only consist of the front trenches but extends several miles behind the lines, in fact as far back as the Hun shells can reach. And in this area a perpetual artillery duel is going on day and night, so all buildings are in ruins and nearly everyone lives in a dug-out. So the services have to be of a "rough and ready" sort. Thirty or forty men as a rule make up a "congregation" of a battery, and they stand around in a semi circle, and the old familiar hymns are sung unaccompanied, except by the constant boom of the guns. After the general service one has a Celebration of the Holy Communion if possible. I had one the other day, when the Altar was a tin box lying in a field, and the men knelt in an old shell hole. Yet these services have a wonderful reality and earnestness that is beautiful, and those who live day and night in the shadow of death feel their need of God in a way they cannot or do not when at home. I know that many of you are remembering me and my comrades in your prayers; and, believe me, we value them enormously and they lift us through as nothing else can.

With affectionate remembrances to all my friends in Winkleigh.

DESMOND B. OTTLEY.

Published in the Winkleigh Church Magazine by the Rev Henry Frank Nesbitt.

New Auction “Pops-Up” in the village

Most of you will have seen television programmes like “Bargain Hunt” and “Flog It”, well now you can experience the excitement of buying at auction a bit closer to home.

A New business, The Auction Room, has already held two successful auctions at the village hall and also, most recently, an evening sale in Umlerleigh.

With everything from household items to antiques you never know what will end up going under the hammer. Items already auctioned include a vintage motorcycle, a prison door and a large solitaire diamond ring!

The “pop-up” business has been set-up by Winkleigh couple, Graham and Melanie James, who moved to the village almost 5 years ago.

Melanie said: “The idea of a pop-up auction is that we have a flexible approach and can hold our sales in a variety of venues and at different times.

“We have been overwhelmed with the response that we have had so far – the village hall has been packed and we have had some super items to auction.

“It’s been great to see so many local people attend – many who have never been to an auction before.”

The Auction Room will be holding their **next sale at Winkleigh Village Hall on Saturday 13th December**. The hall will be open for viewing from 9am with the sale starting at 10am. Why not pop a long and see if you can find a more unusual present for that person who is notoriously difficult to buy for?

Free entry and homemade refreshments will be available.



STABLE GREEN METHODIST CHAPEL

The people of Stable Green are busy preparing for **CAROLS IN THE BARN**

To be held on Friday 19th December at 6.30 at Beechlea, Berners Cross, Winkleigh.

Make sure you don't miss this magical event when the Christmas Story will be brought to life with total audience participation, moving effects and live sheep and donkey.

This is a real family occasion and suitable for all ages and we invite you to dress the part. Shepherd, King, Angel, donkey or sheep all welcome. But do make sure you wrap up warm.

There will be refreshments afterwards and a retiring collection for a local charity.

We look forward to seeing you all for this special event

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Russ 07701 097824



Winkleigh Yuletide Fayre

Saturday 6th
December
1pm-5pm
Castle Street



Stalls

Hot refreshments

Santa's Grotto

Best dressed elf

*Decorated window
competition*

Hatherleigh Ukelele

Bashers

Light switch on!

Timetable Of Events

*Step through the magical wardrobe and
visit Father Christmas and his elves*

(Community Centre 1pm till 4.30pm)

*Festive food and gifts at our Christmas market in the
two halls 1pm till 5pm*

Hot food and refreshments available all afternoon

*Best dressed elf competition judged by Father Christmas followed
by Christmas parade to the square*

(5pm Community Centre car park)

*Decorated Christmas window competition to win a
hamper (entries in Post Office by 4th Dec)*

Live entertainment from the

Hatherleigh Ukelele Bashers from 5pm in the square

Best decorated Window and elf winner to be announced

Grand Finale light switch on

Best decorated Christmas Window competition.

Free to enter, just pop a note with your name and address into the box in the post office by the 4th Dec.

You could win a lovely Christmas Hamper. Winner to be announced at the big lights switch on.

Best Dressed Elf competition.

Join us after the Yuletide Fayre in your finest Elf costume. There will be a special prize for one very lucky Elf.

Santa's Grotto proved to be a huge success last year, and is promising to be bigger and better this year. The grotto will be closing at 4.30, so to avoid disappointment **PLEASE** do allow plenty of time for your visit.

We shall meet in the Community Centre car park at 5pm ready to parade with **Father Christmas** up to the Square for the **Big Lights Switch-On**.

WINKLEIGH CHURCH WIVES GROUP

In August the Wives group were able to enjoy their coach outing to Ottery St. Mary Garden Centre and then on to Sidmouth for the afternoon. We were able to enjoy some summer weather, being inside when we had a few Summer showers!

At our first meeting in Sept. we began the year with a short service in church followed by a meeting in the village hall. We were able to discuss details for our forthcoming Autumn Fair, which will have taken place on Sat. Nov. 15th. We hope to be able to make a donation to Dartmoor Mountain rescue in the near future. To be able to learn more about the Dartmoor Rescue, at our Oct. meeting we invited along two of the members of Dartmoor rescue Team to give us more details about the work of the team. We were able to learn how from the beginnings in 1969, with just 3 members the team now consists of 50 volunteers covering many aspects of rescue, members having to be trained in many skills, one skill was Swift Water Rescue, a very useful skill when on Dartmoor. It was a most interesting and informative afternoon.

At our meeting in Nov. we had a visit from See. Hear who are able to offer us help with any hearing or eyesight problems we have. This was a most informative afternoon finding out what help is available, from Tinted glasses, which will help with the glare of oncoming cars, the glasses are able to be worn over your own glasses to help with using a computer and other I.T. problems. So if you see the van in the Village Square, (3rd Thurs every 2 months) you might like to pay them a visit.

For our meeting in Dec. we will be having a social afternoon, having a chat and eating some Christmas goodies. If you would like to join us you would be most welcome at 2.30pm in the village hall.

In the New Year we have a varied programme. In Feb. we will be hearing all about

“My Life as a Shepherd.” with Stuart Dowe from Quicke's Farm in Newton St. Cyres. In March we have Sarah Chester, from R.H.S. Rosemoor, coming along to talk to us. Her talk will be entitled “Autumn into Winter” Followed in April by one of our members telling us all about her life when she lived in France.

If anyone would like to join us on any of these occasions you are be most welcome.

We do not have a joining fee and only charge a nominal amount for a cup of tea.

We look forward to visitors joining us at any of our meetings.

Janet Magor (sec) 01837 83799.

SINGING SUNBEAMS

What a great time we have at Singing Sunbeams each month. A good singsong with instruments to get the lungs working, a good march with The Grand Old Duke of York to keep the legs going and then a sociable chatter with the lovely families who come along.

We meet each second Wednesday of the month in the small room of the Village Hall and all 0 – 3 year olds are welcome, no previous experience necessary!

It is now coming up to a very exciting time for all children and we are busy making plans. There is to be a Singing Sunbeams party on Sunday 14th December at Stable Green Chapel for all our Sunbeams, their brothers and sisters, their Mums and Dads and grandparents.

Stable Green “Carols in the Barn” is on Friday 19th December 6.30 at Beechlea. All our Sunbeams are welcome to come dressed as a Nativity character and again to bring all their family to this special occasion.

If you need any further information about any of these events please contact:
Jan 01837 83853 or **Liz** 01837 83654

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Christmas Wreath Making @ The Workshop

Make your own Christmas wreath & spend 2 hours in the workshop £25 including tuition, materials, homemade mince pies & coffee/mulled wine!

3rd Dec & 9th Dec 12.30-2.30pm 4th Dec & 11th Dec 7.30-9.30pm

Come & see The Workshop @ Park House (opp corner to Mid Devon Motors)

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Winkleigh and District Garden Club

Do you have a garden or an allotment? If so, do you want to find out more about 'Gardening on Clay' and many other aspects relating to making the most of your plot? This year Winkleigh & District Garden Club have a programme of speakers who will provide answers with respect to these subjects and much more; including matters relating to growing and tending grasses, gardening on clay, a trip to a significant and well known garden and a visit to a winery. The club meets in the evening of the third Tuesday in the month in Winkleigh Village Hall and normally start at 7.15pm. We have the following meetings:

18th Nov A.G.M. and cheese and wine please come and make your views known and enjoy a very sociable evening

16th Dec Christmas Party with a quiz - hope to see you all

Should you be interested in all/any of these subjects, then why not become a member of W&DGC or at least come along as either a member or a visitor on the third Tuesday in each month and see what we have to offer. 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.

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The cost is £10.00 per year (commencing in January) and 20p for a cup of tea/coffee and biscuit per meeting. As a visitor you would pay £1.00 per meeting which also includes the cost of a cup of tea/coffee and a biscuit.

We hope that we have whetted your appetite and roused your interest in a very active WDGC.

For further information contact our Chairman Mr Ed Porter on 01805 804838 or Beverley Cook, cookbeverley@hotmail.co.uk

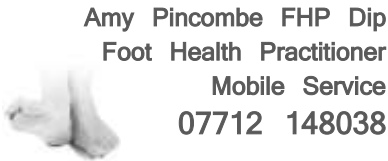
YOUTH CLUB

On Sunday 24th August the Youth Club held their first Tractor Rally. All the tractors gathered about 11am and then set off through Roborough, Beaford to Warren Farm and along the river bank and returned through Dolton. A meal was provided at the Sports Centre and the kitchen was well run by Rose Anstey, after which everybody who attended this event expressed their hope we would do this again next year.

The Youth Club is going from strength to strength and is looking forward to the Christmas Party on the 17th December.

Table Tennis

It has been decided to try to start playing table tennis on a Wednesday night as there is plenty of capacity in the Hall during Youth Club evenings with most of the members out on the Tennis Courts. If you would like the opportunity to play please ring **Mike Wilson** on 01769 520605.



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(North Devon Journal review, Christmas 2013)

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with traditional carols
for everybody to sing

All Saints Church, Winkleigh
Sat 20th Dec 2014 7.30pm

Wine & Soft Drinks available from 7pm and during the interval
Complimentary Mince Pies at the interval

Tickets **£10** Accompanied under 16s **FREE**

Available from choir members, on-line from www.winkleighsingers.org.uk or by post
from: Winkleigh Singers Tickets, 4 Pitt Court, Nymet Rowland, Crediton, Devon EX17 6AN
(cheques payable to: The Winkleigh Singers). Please enclose SAE

**making
music**

Winkleigh Snooker Club

Continuing with our aim of keeping our facilities upto date we have recently had our two tables re-covered. This work was done by a respected engineer who often affiliates at snooker tournaments around the country. The result is that now we have two fine tables ready for the new season. The old cloths whilst 'past their sell by date' for snooker purposes, have or will be recycled. Our local Winkleigh Primary School has used one of the cloths to cover some of their tables and we hope that the other cloth will be used in a similar way.

We will not be taking part in the local snooker league this year but by popular demand we will run another 'in house' competition. A pairs competition is scheduled for a super Sunday in December, the finalists to get some individual trophies and the winners to have their names inscribed on an appropriate cup or trophy.

It is true to say that we have had a good year with increased membership and, more to the point, an increase use of our facilities. The juniors also continue to attract a steady stream of youngsters to their Tuesday night sessions, many of which attend our local schools. Whilst we are talking of juniors, we must make a special mention of Sarah Woodison. Sarah has been with the juniors for about seven years, winning many trophies during that period. She now has 'come of age' and becomes eligible for senior membership. We wish her well and having seen her play, I think us 'older generation' will be complacent at our peril.

As ever, if anyone is interested to come and play snooker as a leisure activity or something more serious, then contact me or any of the committee.

Seasonal best wishes.

Dave Ferguson 01837 83660



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District Councillor's Report

Over the past four years I have written in 'Distinctly Winkleigh ' and other media about how central government's "austerity" policies have been impacting local authorities.

You may have seen a piece in the North Devon Journal in October ("TDC decides against option to cut 72 jobs") accompanied by a picture of Torridge District Council staff lobbying outside Bideford Town Hall, before an extraordinary meeting of the Full Council. The events leading up to this meeting were quite surreal and I can assure you that I am not making it up!

In the spring it was decided to appoint consultants (iESE) to help TDC develop new ways of working, which are needed particularly due to continual central government cut-backs (£2.2 million from now to 2017). Initially everything went well and the consultants came up with some interesting ideas to enable joined-up responses to customers and to work with other councils. We were also introduced to how West Devon and South Hams were restructuring with many services being combined and how Eastbourne Borough Council had been transformed from a council in special measures.

At the end of August the pace began to quicken and the consultants presented a plan to make around £1.2 million savings by new ways of working and working closer with West Devon and South Hams (WDSH). Based mainly on power point presentations Communities and Resources Committee and Overview and Scrutiny Committee gave - at best - an amber light (I am not on either committee and was not there) stating words to the effect, "it sounds interesting show us more." The consultants and WDSH then went into overdrive producing a recommended option to merge TDC into a new model. At this point many of us woke up to what might be happening and asked for the complete model showing cost assumptions and how the model would impact reserves. Some TDC staff and councillors also did research on what had been happening with WDSH. In summary, we found -

1. The new model would cost TDC around £3.7 million, mainly in redundancies, pensions and IT investment;
2. Not only would TDC reserves be wiped out, but TDC would also have to borrow to make up the shortfall;
3. Minutes of West Devon committee meetings on West Devon's own website, show that West Devon councillors were being sold a restructuring model being in the main funded by TDC; and
4. WDSH had already set up an organisation based in Totnes (registered at Companies House as "Servaco") with a new Chief Executive and Company Secretary already appointed!!!

Thankfully common sense prevailed and every councillor (bar one, who abstained) voted not to join WDSH. Hopefully, we can now put this experience behind us and get on with developing our own “Transformation Programme”. We all know that by local authorities more effectively working together services can be improved and savings made. For Torridge, in the medium term – possibly after the next election in May – I hope that more constructive work with North Devon District Council will develop to exploit synergies between the two councils and other organisations. Maybe we have all learnt something from our recent 'you cannot make it up' experience?

David Lausen

WINKLEIGH FAIR QUIZ

You are invited to a **QUIZ NIGHT** at the Kings Arms on Sunday 25th January 2015 at 7.30.

PICK YOUR OWN
CHRISTMAS TREE

**AT CHULMLEIGH
HILL PLANTATION**

John Cockram
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Fri 5th, Sat 6th & Sun 7th December
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ACE Archaeology Club

We have had another good year although it didn't get off to a great start as we had to cancel a few days due the rather wet weather, remember that?



In March we sensibly did something indoors, we had a session on flint knapping, making tools from flints as people would have done in the Stone Age. We did this under the expert instruction of flint knapper Anthony Whitlock. See the picture of the rather good attempt of one of our members. Luckily there were very few injuries, sharp stuff flint!

While April was still little damp and chilly some of us ventured out to Fingle Mill on the Castle Drogo estate to have a look at the remains of the mill and try to work out what sort of mill it was and what buildings might have been standing before it was destroyed by fire in the 1890s. One of our members is doing some research on the mill for the National Trust and the visit was useful.



On the same day we also visited Cranbrook and Wooston Castles; Iron Age hill forts overlooking the Teign Valley.

August saw us walking on Kit Hill in Cornwall. For those who don't know it Kit Hill has a wealth of archaeology dating from the Bronze Age to recent times. It also has fabulous views.

In July we took part in the Council for British Archaeology festival - an annual event that runs for a fortnight in July. We do our bit under the auspices of the Festival of Archaeology and Old Technology at Pattiland Farm near Winkleigh.

The highlight of our year was The Dig. This was our second year excavating at Moistown near Winkleigh. It is the site of a possible medieval house. This year we continued to uncover a lovely cobbled floor and retrieved lots of pottery. The pottery has still to be dated but seems to cover a period from early medieval to Victorian.



These activities are just a sample of what we do. Next year we hope to do some more pottery-making, creating shields using willow, do some more work on a database of roundhouses on Dartmoor and we will again be taking part in the CBA Festival and digging for the third year at Moistown.

Have a look at www.acearch.org.uk or our FaceBook page for more details on what we do and how to contact us if you are interested in joining us.

Erica Williamson



The 1st Dolton Scout Group needs a treasurer.

You do not need to be in scouting but we do need someone who is willing to give up a small chunk of their time to be our treasurer. In helping us leaders you will be helping all Beavers, Cubs and Scouts keep their sections going.

We need you!!!!

If you can help then please get in touch with **Carol on**
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WHATS GOING ON AT WINKLEIGH METHODIST CHURCH

We're getting a little excited here at the chapel at the prospect of the 2nd stage of our refurbishment programme about to start soon after Christmas. A disabled toilet, a new kitchen and the upstairs room be will made into a multipurpose room, otherwise known as the "youngsters" room, which they think they are decorating, we'll see.

Hopefully before too long you will see a new bench somewhere in the village which we purchased and gifted to the community in Memory of Mrs Betty George, a very dear, loyal and long standing member of our Church and known by many in the village.

You may be interested to know that we have a very nice second hand clothes and bric a brac stall which is available during Oasis times, 11.00am – 2.00pm, Monday mornings or at the Wednesday Winkleigh mini market 9.15 – 10.45.

Christmas will soon be upon us, again. Being one of the biggest festivals in the Christian calendar we obviously have quite a lot going on to celebrate it. Oasis have their Christmas lunch on Monday 15th December, if you would like to be there speak to Fiona. This will be our last lunch before Christmas. We will be back on Monday 12th January. In the evening our Youth Alpha group will be partying, no doubt with some nibbles and a noise free evening – not!! On Sunday 21st December we will be having a Crib service at 11.00am led by our minister Rev Nigel Coke-Woods and our Sunday school children. Christmas morning we will meet at 10.30am for a short family service led by some of our young people. Sunday 28th December there will be NO SERVICE. Keep your eyes and ears open for us Carol Singing, a possibility this year. A Messy Church disco will be held early in the New Year, which we will post on facebook when a date has been arranged.

Monday 15th December – Oasis Christmas meal & Youth Alpha Christmas party.

Sunday 21st December – Crib service at 11.00am.

Christmas Day – Short Family service at 10.30am.

Sunday 28th December – No service.

Sunday 4th January – tea-time service at 5.30pm.

Keep up to date on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/WinkleighChapel>.

For more information about church life or prayer requests contact any of the people below or any other church member and we will be do our best to help you.

Alan and Fiona Marshall 01837 83809. **Daisy Bray** 01837 83458.

Rev Nigel Coke-Woods 01837 810591.

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Friends of Winkleigh School

The efforts of the “Friends” group continue relentlessly now that School has entered into another academic year and Christmas is once again on the, not too distant, horizon. The last report mentioned the many attempts that have been made to organise a “Race Night” and the difficulties encountered in finding a suitable date. Well we got there! The night is booked for Saturday 29th November and posters are on display as I write, but I am reliably informed, that the event will have happened before you read this article!

The big evening of the year which took place at the Sports Centre on 8th November was of course “Fireworks Night” and once again I can report a hugely spectacular and well attended event, despite the weather. A well stocked bar, BBQ and tuck shop ensured that a sociable evening could be enjoyed by all when the display was finished. A big add-on that was particularly enjoyed by the younger attendees this year was the use of the “green” at the rear of the main building. The weather did relent enough for the full moon to show itself and provide enough light for natural “play” to be enjoyed by many in that area. I believe that the Winkleigh community in general will be pleased to be aware that the current committee at the Centre, many of whom are new in post, are currently working on plans for development of play facilities in this area. At the time of writing the finances for the evening have not been finalised.

The “Friends” A G M took place on 16th October at 8.00 pm in the School and although attendance numbers were disappointing some new supporters for the future were present. The Chair, Tim Rhodes, presented a summary of events from the last year and the Treasurer, Anna Bridgman, summarised accounts for the financial year. In the past year the School has benefitted to the tune of approximately £4,500 in donations from FOWS. This has given support to specific requests including ipads, laptops and the climbing wall. £200 per class went to support School trips. Events run during the year raised approximately £2,600 and the balance standing in the account at the close of the year is around £3,000.

At the meeting which followed the A G M mention was made of the 100 club, which has now entered a new year and doubled by joining up with the Pre-School which is now a part of the foundation unit in the primary set up. Year 6 pupils are planning to run a New Year disco as part of an enterprise business event management scheme and FOWS have suggested running a stall at this and other events. There was some discussion over the possibility of FOWS having a separate newsletter on perhaps another day in the week to give more publicity, and this will be taken up with School Admin. A quiz night in the New Year was suggested, to be discussed with Toni at the Kings Arms. There was brief mention at the meeting of the current standing of “easyfundraising”, the website which, since its introduction, has now raised more than £500 but is felt could get more

support. The number shown as registered supporting on the website is in the twenties and there must be more parents who are perhaps unaware of how it works. It is known that some of the supporters do not have any connection with the School but are showing their “goodwill” in supporting the cause. It really is not difficult to register, through the link in the School website or directly at www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/fowinkleigh. Then you don't even have to leave the computer screen to be benefitting the School when you do your on-line shopping!

So this report will be concluded with a big thank you to all those in the community who continue to support our cause and the offer of a welcome to those who may join in the future. There will be meetings and a heavy schedule ahead, so fresh faces are always good to see.

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

CAROLS AND STORIES AT THE 7 STARS

Adrian will be holding a Carols and Stories session at the
Seven Stars at 7.30 on December 17th.

Followed by Mulled Wine and Mince Pies,
courtesy of the Seven Stars.

**There will be a collection in aid of the
Devon Air Ambulance**



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Mobile Library Schedule - 2015

Friday

Jan 30	May 22	Sep 11
Feb 27	Jun 19	Oct 9
Mar 27	Jul 17	Nov 6
Apr 24	Aug 14	Dec 4

Village	Stop	Arrive	Depart
North Tawton	Square	09:45	11:15
Winkleigh	Square	11:35	12:35
Winkleigh	Four Seasons Village	12:45	13:05
Bondleigh	Old School	13:55	14:15
Broadwoodkelly	Telephone Kiosk	14:30	14:50
Iddesleigh	Duke of York	15:15	15:35
Dolton	Ram's Head Inn	15:50	16:10

Thursday

Jan 15	May 7	Sep 24
Feb 12	Jun 4	Oct 22
Mar 12	Jul 2, 30	Nov 19
Apr 9	Aug 27	Dec 17

Village	Stop	Arrive	Depart
Burrington	Parish Hall/School	09:45	10:30
Ashreigney	The Square	10:45	11:05
Riddlecombe	Telephone Box	11:25	12:10
Hollocombe	Old Church	12:25	12:45
Wembworthy	Church	14:00	14:20
Coldridge	Square	14:45	15:30
Chawleigh	Telephone Kiosk	15:50	16:30

Sudoku Solution – and a little story

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

Two 90 year old men, Mike and Joe, have been friends all of their lives.

When it's clear that Joe is dying, Mike visits him every day. One day Mike says, "Joe, we both loved football all our lives, and we played on Saturdays together for so many years. Please do me one favour, when you get to Heaven, somehow you must let me know if there's football there."

Joe looks up at Mike from his death bed," Mike, you've been my best friend for many years. If it's at all possible, I'll do this favour for you.

Shortly after that, Joe passes on.

At midnight a couple of nights later, Mike is awakened from a sound sleep by a blinding flash of white light and a voice calling out to him, "Mike - Mike."

"Who is it? asks Mike sitting up suddenly. "Who is it?"

"Mike - it's me, Joe."

"You're not Joe. Joe just died."

"I'm telling you, it's me, Joe," insists the voice."

"Joe! Where are you?"

"In heaven", replies Joe. "I have some really good news and a little bad news."

"Tell me the good news first," says Mike.

"The good news," Joe says," is that there's football in heaven. Better yet, all of our old friends who died before us are here, too. Better than that, we're all young again. Better still, it's always spring time and it never rains or snows. And best of all, we can play football all we want, and we never get tired."

That's fantastic," says Mike. "It's beyond my wildest dreams! So what's the bad news?"

"You're in the team for this Saturday."

And finally

After a pretty good summer and autumn weather-wise, we now have to brace ourselves for what could be a very windy winter. The hope is that we will not see the sort of damage that was done both on the coast and inland last year.

Whatever the weather brings, it will soon be time for Winkleigh's Yuletide Fayre, and I'm sure that the Fair Committee will put on another good show for us.

The Sports Centre has a new Committee and Officers, with lots of ideas to expand the use of this important village facility.

The Village Hall has started running auctions, so folks looking for something to take to Sotheby's, or at least to the Antiques Road Show, have a chance of finding a bargain!

The Community Centre will be installing secondary glazing in the main hall very soon, and this should improve the comfort factor.

February 16th is the closing date for articles and/or adverts for the Spring Issue of Distinctly Winkleigh – but you don't have to wait until the last moment to send your articles in!

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

A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

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WINKLEIGH SOCIETY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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Vice Chairman	Ralph Northcott	01837 83610
Secretary	David Lausen	01837 83209
Treasurer	Alan Mulcahy	01837 680145
Minutes Secretary	Philippa Lausen	01837 83209
Committee Members	Margaret Miller	01837 83398
	Peter Monkcom	01837 83452
	Alan Jacobs	01837 83895

Winkleigh Society membership is open freely to all Winkleigh residents. 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

Peter Monkcom	01837 83452
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.co.uk
Or alan.mulcahy@tiscali.co.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

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