

DISTINCTLY WINKLEIGH



Working for Winkleigh



Edition 55

Autumn 2015

Cover sponsored by

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The Journal of the Winkleigh Society

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PRESERVATION of RURAL DEVON GROUP

Since the last edition of Distinctly Winkleigh the planning appeal for the wind turbine at Bryony Hill Farm has been turned down. This follows similar results at Combe Farm and Hawkdown Farm. One of the main reasons for each of these applications being rejected was the level of public objection which was overwhelming. We, the members of the group above, would like to thank all of you who sent letters of objection to the planning officers, you did a tremendous job and in the end, because of you, the result was very favourable.

We would also like to thank the local parish councils at Winkleigh, Iddesleigh, Broadwoodkelly and Dolton for their hard work and considered opinions on these applications.

Now that the Government has realised that wind turbines are not the answer to our future supply of energy and has removed the subsidies it is likely that we will not see any more massive turbines on the horizons around Winkleigh.

Thank you again for your support, hopefully we can sit back and relax now.

John Beresford

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‘We’re getting a new vicar!’ Well, no you aren’t! But you will see a new face in a ‘dog collar’. Not an entirely new face it has to be said because he has been around here for some while but not with a clerical collar. I’m talking about Clive Jobbins, one of our Lay Readers who is to be ordained Deacon in Exeter Cathedral on Sunday 13th September. A Deacon is the first of the three orders of ordained ministry in the Church of England, the other two being priest and bishop. On finishing a course of training a man is first ordained by a Bishop as a Deacon and then, usually a year later, is ordained priest, again by a Bishop — only Bishops can do this.

As a Deacon, Clive will be able to take funerals, lead certain other services, take communion to the sick and housebound and be involved in pastoral visiting. He will have to wait until he is ordained priest before he can celebrate the Eucharist, take weddings, give blessings or hear Confessions. After his ordination he will take up his role as an assistant curate working with me as he ‘learns the ropes’ and continues some studying. But he will not be a new ‘vicar’. A Vicar is someone who holds a particular position within the life of the Church — a vicar is a priest but not all priests are vicars! Some are hospital chaplains for example, or are involved in the training of other priests. It can all seem a bit complicated but the important thing is that Clive will begin a new form of ministry within the Church and 13th September will be a special occasion for him and for us.

Looking further ahead we have another celebration coming up on October 4th and that is Harvest Festival with a Sung Eucharist at the later time of 11.00 a.m. followed by Lunch in the Village Hall. The service is open to all but if you plan to join us for lunch you will need a ticket. The Sunday School children will be taking part in the service. Winkleigh School will also be having their Harvest Festival in Church — the date, at the time of writing, is not yet fixed but will probably be on Friday 2nd.

Those of you who came to the concert given by the Bondleigh Barn Band last Autumn in the Village Hall may remember how good that evening was. Well, we have organised another concert for Friday 30th October — posters will be out nearer the time with all details. Two days later we will celebrate the feast of All Saints and then on Monday 2nd November we keep All Souls when we pray for all who have died. If you have names of anyone you would like remembered on that day, please let me know.

WINKLEIGH CHURCH WIVES GROUP

In June, we once again held our AGM.

We had a very busy year covering many different speakers and events.

The biggest event was our Annual Autumn Fair held in Nov. raising over £500 which enabled us to make a donation to Okehampton Dartmoor rescue. We will be having our Autumn Fair this year on Nov 14th and the designated charity is to be the North Devon Hospice to include the Children Hospice.

We have a varied programme for the 2015/2016 year.

We have the return of a Magistrate who will take us one more step along the way of the work of the Magistrates Court. This time we will hear all about how a decision is made regarding the sentence given for any crime.

We will have an afternoon of craft work with Bobbie Farrington, the work of the Ambulance Trains in WW1 as well as the Mayor of Crediton, Mr. Frank Letch who will talk about the Charity

“Feet First” Frank has lived most of his life with no arms and makes use of his feet to accomplish most tasks. This will be an open meeting so if you would be interested to hear Frank you are welcome to join us on that afternoon. (Monday March 14th 2016)

Mrs. Pam Soby will be one of our speakers talking to us about the Stories and History behind some of our Nursery Rhymes.

We still continue to hold our meetings at 2.30pm on the second Monday of the month, in the rear room of the village hall.

We look forward to any visitors who would like to join us for the afternoon. We do not have any membership fee – we only make a small charge for the refreshments.

Janet Magor Secretary Church Wives Group.

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Central and Local Government cutbacks and their effects on Winkleigh

This article is not written with any prejudice towards any political party but meant to inform you of the effects of government cutbacks and what we need to be aware of if we want to keep our village as inviting as it has always been.

You will no doubt have noticed that D.C.C. highways division is now only cutting the bare visibility splays on all the road junctions and verges which will now only be done twice a year, but what does this mean for Winkleigh and Hollocombe?

The entrance to the village from all directions no longer looks inviting and some of the Winkleigh signs are hidden beneath overgrown grass meaning the seats on some approach roads can no longer be seen or used. Also we have weeds growing alongside properties, boundary walls and pavements and sadly these will no longer be done by the highways authority.

If the Parish Council takes on this work it would mean a huge rise in the local council parish rates as these changes are only the tip of an iceberg of things to come. So what can we as a community do to help ourselves?

Throughout this magazine in the past you will have read articles on many villagers making a difference not for reward but for pride and concern in seeing their corner of England look right. Take, for example, the seat in Hatherleigh road maintained by Mr Malcolm Passmore, the flower boxes replanted each year by local volunteers and the hedge banks leading into Sunny-view. Perhaps it is now time for us all to follow these residents' examples.

The Parish council have set up a group to take on some tidying, cutting, sign cleaning and enhancement work but we really do need your help. Please, if you could look at your own property areas and approach roads and feel you are fit and able enough to help out in order to enhance your estate, street or road, we would love you to help out - and please do not worry about the liability aspect of being sued, common sense and safety awareness is all you need, apart from the all-important time of course.

Please be assured we are **not** asking you to do the whole of your area or street just your own adjoining boundary areas, if however you are elderly or would like to help but are unable and have no one else to help you, please contact a member of the Parish Council in confidence and we will try and assist you.

Once again this article has been written to inform you of the difficulties faced by your Parish council and to enable the residents of Winkleigh to maintain the standards we have all long enjoyed and encourage everyone to be proud of their achievements, and without it costing everyone in the parish more in rates.


Winkleigh P.C Tidy Group.

Community Centre

One job this month, a large one for the Geriatric Builders, was the replacement of an old Cast Iron manhole cover in the car park. A vehicle had run on to it, and the lid failed, No damage was caused to the vehicle, but the lid was broken. Now, imagine trying to get a replacement! "Cor, you haven't still got one of those, have you?" And of course, it was Imperial not Metric, in other words a complete new unit was required, involving the removal of old mortar and chipping out. Then bedding the new frame in and later adding the tarmac topping. That achieved, the surplus tarmac was used for the good of the community.

Now that the cooler days are just around the corner, please remember that if you open the windows in the main hall, close them properly before your departure.

Measurements have been taken in preparation for the revamped kitchen and quotes will soon be sought.



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WINKLEIGH FAIR

Thank you to all who supported the Fair this year. We like to try and put on events for all the age groups in the village but cannot do a lot of the traditional things like races, etc. (Red Tape, I'm afraid). We hope that we have made up for it with new things to entertain you all.

We had a few "Oops" in the programme, so apologies to Fiona's Farm Shop and thank you for the Fabulous Draw prize.

Also to Changes Hair Salon for the wrong phone number (actually 01837 83004)

And Little Red Hen, phone number is **01837** 682688.

SCARECROW TRAIL

Children, please help out with making scarecrows in the holidays as we are having a scarecrow trail from August 30th until September 6th. All scarecrows to be named clearly and can be displayed free of charge.

To select your favourite scarecrow, pick up a £1 Trail form from the Post Office from 31st August and visit all the scarecrows on the trail. Forms should be returned, either at the Post Office or to any Fair Committee member by 12 noon on September 6th. There will be a cash prize for the winning scarecrow, and a prize draw for the winning Trail Form!

Produce & Craft Show on Sunday 6th September at the Community Centre. Drop off items between 11am and Noon. 20p per item. Judging will take place from Noon to 1pm.

Dog Show - At the Community Centre from 12 to 2pm on Sunday 6th Sept. £1.00 per class. Refreshments available. Look out for more information on flyers or telephone any Fair Committee member.

Watch out for **Halloween** flyers - family fun to be had!

Don't forget our very own **Santa's Grotto and Market** in December – more information to follow.

Winkleigh Fair's **Annual General Meeting** will be held at 7.30pm on October 13th in the small room of the Village Hall.

Once again, thank you Winkleigh for all your help and support.

Deanne **01837 83431**
Clare **01837 83299**
Sian **01837 682820**

A Big “Thank You” to the People of Winkleigh

Nearly two years ago Derek suffered a stroke and was taken to North Devon District Hospital. Six weeks later, while he was still recovering, I was taken very ill and spent four and a half weeks in Exeter Hospital.

From the start our friend and many other kind people in Winkleigh were there for us both, providing food for Derek and transport to allow him to visit me in hospital.

Since then I have had three more “stays” in hospital – totalling nearly four months. Hopefully, now, I have had my last operation.

Due to the kindness of so many Winkleigh people there was always transport for Derek and also meals delivered to him.

You do not realize until something like this happens how kind and helpful people can be, in our case particularly the people of Winkleigh.

How do we thank you all? It seems such a small thing to say for so much help, kindness, prayers and compassion shown by so many.

Thank you again and God bless you all.

Margaret and Derek Miller



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Winkleigh & District Garden Club

Do you have a garden or an allotment? If so, Winkleigh & District Garden Club have a programme of speakers who will provide answers with respect to many gardening issues and much more; The Club also has a Quiz team who are doing extremely well and won the cup in Torrington a few weeks ago so if you would like to join or support the team please contact Jeanne Nightingale nandjngale@hotmail.co.uk

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:

5th September “Japan and Its Gardens” Jon Webster, Curator of Rosemoor Garden

20th October “The Four Seasons of Dartmoor” Paul Rendall

17th November AGM and cheese and wine

15th December Christmas Social 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.

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

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Beavers are so thankful!!!

It looked bleak for Winkleigh beavers as one of our leaders was leaving at the end of the term and due to scouting rules we need 3 leaders plus the warranted leader. Our prayer was answered by two fantastic women, Louise and Vanessa. Their Beaver names are Bubbles and Tic Tac and we have already had our planning meeting so it is all go for the next term. If you would like your boy or girl to join us then ring **Pat** on 01837 83487.

The Beaver Scouts of Winkleigh are a satellite section of the 1st Dolton Scout Group. We have cub and scout sections which are thriving but we are short of leaders. Our cubs meet on Thursday between 6pm and 8pm in the summer but 6pm to 7.30pm in the winter. Our Scouts meet on Wednesday 7pm till 9pm in the summer and 7pm till 8.30pm in the winter. Please think about helping and, if you are interested, then please ring **Carol** on 01837 83949.

The Scouts are raising money so they can go to London to visit the Houses of Parliament, so on Saturday the 19th of September they are having a Wine and Wisdom in Dolton Village Hall. Doors open at 7pm and the event starts at 7.30pm. It is £5 per person with tables of 6 and a light supper. So come along and help the scouts raise money for their visit and you never know, one of them might be so inspired to become a future prime minister! For information or tickets please ring **Carol** on the above number.



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A CONVERSATION WITH GEORGE JARVIS

George Jarvis remembers with a chuckle how his mother, newly widowed with nine children, replied to a suggestion that perhaps some of her youngest could go to Australia on the Migrant Scheme : ‘If I can’t look after them, no-one else will.’

One of three brothers with six sisters; George was raised near Tinkers Post.

Related and connected to so many Winkleigh families and with his grandfather, Edward James Jarvis, who was killed at the Battle of Loos in 1915, commemorated on The Winkleigh War Memorial, George is man and boy a proud Winkleigh resident.

He and his two brothers would push a wheelbarrow from Tinker’s Post to Arty Wonnacott’s coal-yard which was in Queen Street and wheel it back, and woe betide if they spilled any on the way back home.

George loved roaming the fields and woods, bird-nesting and ferreting for rabbits.

Back then the fields were full of men, rather than machines, working the fields. The hedges were very high to give shade and shelter to the many sheep, pigs, cows, calves and horses.

Everyone knew everyone, children roamed everywhere; but any misdeeds would get back to mother who with her ‘flippy stick’ kept them all in line.

George remembers her with pride: plucking poultry, picking potatoes, helping with the harvest.

The family attended Stable Green Chapel. All of the children were given poems to learn by heart and recite from the pulpit. And the reward?

The annual outing to Ilfracombe.

Aged 5 he started at Hollocombe School. All the children were taught by Mrs Miller in one large room. Their dinners were delivered in special containers and their playground was next to the Church. Later he attended Winkleigh School and remembers how well they got on with the evacuees.

During the war George, his brothers and friends were fascinated by The Airfield; it’s lengthy construction and, when operational, observing the landings and take-offs.

Americans, Canadians, Poles and Norwegians were everywhere. They were friendly and enlivening for everyone. George remembers going to The Airfield Cinema for free film shows and being given sweets and chocolates.

There were air-raid shelters around the village although George does not remember using them. The blackout, he does. With the airfield, Winkleigh was important and, although their lighting was candles and oil-lamps, the blackout was strictly enforced.

Land Army girls replaced many of the farm-workers who were called up and later refugees or displaced people were housed on the airfield and many of them worked on the farms: 'Damn good workers' said George.

Two of his sisters were to marry two of the men from the D.P. camp.

Too young to go to the regular dances at the Village Hall, he recalls sitting on the steps and listening to the band music and seeing his sisters there with their stocking seams drawn on their legs.

Aged fifteen he left Chulmleigh School one Friday and was due to start work the following Monday. Unfortunately he broke his leg, playing football on Sunday. His boss, though, was very understanding and agreed to hold the job open for him.

George drove tractors, ploughed, spread manure and did all sorts of agricultural work.

Later, working for a local slaughter house, George chuckled at what they did without protective clothing, ear-muffs, steel-capped boots and rules about lifting.

George loved driving the refrigerated lorries around Devon. Driving over Dartmoor to Plymouth was such a pleasure; empty roads wonderful views and with no headaches over parking.

He also did a long stint at the saw-mills on Winkleigh Airfield; again, learning on the job. The big band-saws were very dangerous and you had to keep alert.

Later, when doing building work, he fell off a roof and fractured his spine and broke his ankle.

A long-time resident at Southernhay, George recalls how desperately new houses were needed in the village. Several of his family came to live on this post-war estate, including George and his wife Pam, who sadly died several years ago.

And George's abiding memory of Winkleigh?

'The skill and craft of a farm-labourer casting a hedge and the beauty and the freedom of the woods and fields of Winkleigh and Hollocombe.'

Penny Griffiths.

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THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION WINKLEIGH BRANCH 2015

2015 has been a year of anniversaries. An anniversary lost amongst those of great national importance was the 90th of the formation of Winkleigh Branch of the British Legion in 1925, which coincidentally was the year the Royal Charter was granted.

The Royal British Legion (RBL) aims to provide welfare, comradeship, representation and Remembrance for the Armed Forces Community, their spouses and dependants.

During recent years Winkleigh Branch has been involved in a number of activities covered by the aims of RBL, particularly remembrance.

In 1995 Torridge District Council erected a Memorial Stone together with an historical plaque on a plot of ground (near D and S store) gifted to them by Mr. Ron Cottey a RBL member and ex-paratrooper. The Memorial is a tribute to those airmen and supporting staff who had served on Winkleigh Airfield during WW2.

The Branch took on responsibility for organising a Remembrance Service commemorating 30 airmen who had died whilst operating from Winkleigh. As 28 of the 30 fatalities were members of the Royal Canadian Air Force, the Canadian High Commission in London authorised a RCAF Officer serving in UK to take part in the Service and lay a wreath. This is now a welcome addition to the annual Airfield Service which is held on the morning of the Saturday before Remembrance Sunday.

The Branch appealed for assistance to provide flags of the nations who served on the airfield during the war. Torridge District Council provided most of the funds to purchase the flagpoles and flags and in 2015 also refurbished the historical plaque. Mr Steve Leahy of D and S Supplies dug the post holes and erects the flags each year prior to the Service. (After the service he and his wife Shirley kindly serve light refreshments to those attending in the D & S Supplies store)

The village Remembrance Service commemorating the fallen of both World Wars is held in Church on the afternoon of Remembrance Sunday and is followed by refreshments in the Village Hall, provided by the Winkleigh RBL Women's Section. As a sign of remembrance and respect, the Branch Standard is carried by our Standard Bearer, Mr Frank Pigeon, at Village and County-wide Remembrance Services and also at funerals of ex servicemen of the village. Frank also maintains the Village Memorial Cross in the churchyard in a clean and tidy condition.

Mr Robert Side, a member of the Branch, has undertaken an in-depth research of all World War I casualties from the village and immediate surrounding areas. The results of his investigations can be seen on the Website "Winkleigh Heroes".

Whilst on holidays abroad Mr Side has visited graves and monuments of the village's WW1 casualties and laid tributes in remembrance. He organised a battlefield tour of those WW1 cemeteries in Belgium and France where memorials of Winkleigh casualties are displayed. During the tour a poppy wreath was laid on behalf of Winkleigh casualties at the Public Service of Remembrance which is held every day beneath the Menin Gate in Ypres.

For many years, with the kind permission of the Landlord, Winkleigh Branch has held its monthly meetings in the premises of The Kings Arms Inn. These meetings are held at 7.30pm on the second Monday of each month - except August and December (to allow for holidays).

An aging population and moves away from the village have severely reduced the strength of Winkleigh Branch to a level where there are insufficient volunteer members to fill official Management appointments and closure is a possibility.

Membership of the RBL is open to all those interested in the aims of welfare, comradeship and remembrance and are prepared to pay the £20 annual membership fee. Previous membership of the armed forces is not essential.

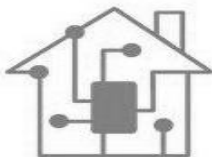
If you are interested in joining us please contact **Major Ron Fletcher** 01837 83450

A Big Thank You.

Thank you for all the support people gave me to help raise £351 for the Nepal Earth Quake. The raffle of the Coffee Maker was won by a couple from Broadwoodkelly and I think all those who came to the Strawberry Tea enjoyed all the cakes etc which of course all had strawberries in. It was a shame that the heavens opened but this did not stop the eating and chattering. My daughter hoped to visit Nepal to see the orphanage that she had worked in but she will be working in the refugee camps on the Thai/Burmese border instead. She hopes to take a quick visit to Nepal later on.

Once again thank you for all your support.

Pat Cunningham



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THE INCOMPLEAT ANGLER (3)

Another excerpt from Ed and Sherrie Collinson's Journal of our travels around Australia in a converted school bus.

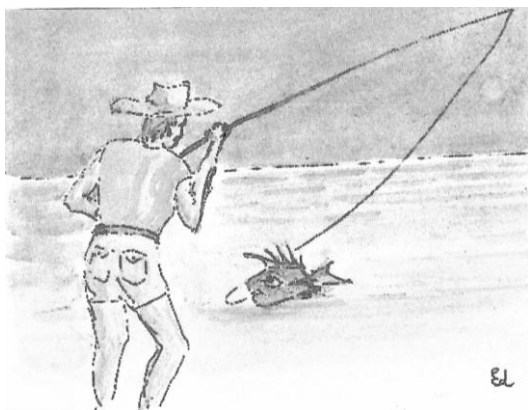
In Queensland and around Darwin and the 'Top End' I had not been keen to swim from the beaches. Even beaches deemed safe often had notices to say that estuarine crocodiles are 'sometimes present'. Call me faint hearted but I had no desire to swim in waters where estuarine crocodiles are 'sometimes present'.

Apart from the crocs there was also the risk of being stung by a box jellyfish, this can cause death within a few minutes unless treated promptly with vinegar. Each stretch of beach had a large bottle for first aid use. It had seemed ominous to me that none of these bottles were full. Strange really that Aussies should excel at water sports isn't it?

Now we were on the beautiful Cape Keraudren on the west coast. In the mornings we snorkelled before breakfast, once in the company of a pair of large turtles. At regular intervals they poked their weary old man heads out of the water to draw deep sighing breaths and studied us carefully.

But after a few days we were running out of supplies. I was beginning to develop a theory that a great shoal of fish was swimming, anticlockwise, and just ahead of us, around the coast of Australia. Wherever I cast my line folk would come up and tell me that loads of fish were being caught yesterday — or last week. Never, it seemed, on the day that I fished!

At the Cape however, renowned for queenfish, trevally and salmon, I felt my luck might be changing at last. I got a bite and reeled in excitedly. Through the surf and onto the beach slithered the most disgusting looking fish I have ever seen. Green, spiny and blowing itself up threateningly, it looked as if it would have been more at home in a lake near Chernobyl.



This seemed to be some sort of puffer fish. If it was a puffer fish then it was probably poisonous, or at least, part of it was. The Japanese prize the parts that aren't poisonous as a delicacy. I don't know which parts are poisonous and which parts are edible but it seems that a lot of Japanese don't know either. Many people die in Japan, apparently, shortly after their puffer fish dinner.

I had already made my mind up that I wasn't going to eat anything that I hadn't seen on the fish counter at our local Tesco store. I had never seen anything like this nightmarish mutation before and I certainly wasn't going to eat it! Not even part of it. I pondered how to go about disengaging the hook.

The fish looked up at me and I'm sure it sneered. Contemptuously it spat the hook out and slithered back into the water. With mixed feelings I watched my first decent sized trophy escape. Mainly I felt relief.

Winkleigh Village Hall

Date for your diary...

Ladies Fashion show by abstract in Okehampton.

Friday 2nd October 7.30pm start (doors open at 7pm)

Bar (corkage will apply if you bring your own).

Nibbles will be provided.

Advanced tickets £5 will be available from the 1st of September from Committee members or by contacting Marcia on 01837 83734 or Alice on 01837 83484 , Tickets will be £6 if you pay on the door.

Remember to keep your ticket as it will entitle you to a discount at Abstract in Okehampton in the week following the fashion show!

We are hoping to combine this with a ladies pamper evening with "Body shop at home" so look out for posters nearer the time as will as our facebook page!

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For further information or to arrange an introductory lesson

Please ring Mrs Philippa J Lewis STAT

Telephone 01769 520647

VILLAGE DESIGN STATEMENT – The Story So Far

See Pauline Warner's article DW Summer 2015 pg. 12.

In order to update our village Design statement a group of residents from Westcots Drive have walked, talked, photographed and sketched this neighbourhood and how it relates to the village and the landscape. Barry Jenkins, Angie Coombes, Ann Balcombe, Deanne Whittaker, Pixie Maynard along with Pauline Warner and Penny Griffiths met several times to look at ;

Views in and views out, layout, building materials, connectivity, strong natural boundaries, trees, utilities, communal spaces and meeting points. These were marked and annotated on an A1 map. Later, photographs were added.



The Thursday Art Club very kindly responded to our request to sketch vistas of Westcots and submitted some lovely line drawings to add to our montage. Comments were gathered on our walks and also when our work was shown at:

Wednesday market.

Saturday market.

Annual Parish meeting.

Winkleigh Fair Tuesday at the Sports Centre.

In Pixie Maynard's article 'A Sunny Stroll around Westcots Drive,' in the last Distinctly Winkleigh, she eloquently demonstrates the attachment the residents have for their neighbourhood, and urges those who do not know it to walk around and appreciate the gardens and the pride taken in the place.



'Glimpse the church tower, the occasional view of thatch, rolling hills and ancient wooded areas to the West on the footpath route to Broadwoodkelly. Don't just dismiss it as yet another 'required' new development in the Winkleigh Plan.'

We are looking at the positive and learning design points that we can include in our existing design guidelines; but also at missed opportunities.

The team working to action The Winkleigh Community Plan has encouraged this as a priority. We are talking to Betty Boundy, District Councillor and the Conservation Officer at Torridge. We are reporting back to Winkleigh Parish Council in September. The Winkleigh Society is also kept informed.



A community without a ratified Village Design Statement has no weighting when it comes to influencing design that reflects and enhances the distinctiveness of

Winkleigh.

We will put up our montage display in The Community Centre. Ideas, observations welcome.

As you will see there is also a wish list for enhancements e.g. a notice board. As Angie Coombes observed, this is a separate issue that could be achieved by either actions of residents or consultation with W.P.C or personal energy and philanthropy. Our brief is to look at and report on Design. However it would be great if it inspires other community projects.

Next step is to create montages for Elms Meadow and King's Meadow. They have their own distinctive dimensions and sense of place.

We already have three willing Elms Meadow residents. Please contact Penny or Pauline if you would like to be involved.

Penny Griffiths. 01837 83407.

WINKLEIGH SHORT MAT BOWLING CLUB

The Club has had mixed success in the Summer League but will end up with some silverware. All matches have been booked for the forthcoming season and the Club will be fielding sixteen teams in five different leagues.

In September we are having a Pairs Tournament with players coming from all over the West Country they all love coming to Winkleigh to play. Not sure if it is the bowling or the cooked lunch we serve up.

November sees Club members playing to win the Royal British Legion Cup to become the Club Champion. It sounds very serious but it is in fact a very relaxed enjoyable day.

You do not have to play in matches to be a bowler. Our social roll-ups on Monday and Friday afternoon are well attended and you would be very welcome, no experience necessary Give me a call 0183783853 and I will fill you in on the details. Jan Ovenden

Winkleigh Sports Centre

Hire of the Sports Centre

Did you know that Winkleigh residents could now hire the hall for only £10.00 per hour?

Since the last edition of Distinctly Winkleigh a number of improvements have been made to the Sports Centre. The hall and meeting room have been painted, a hot water dispenser has been installed in the kitchen and repairs have been made to equipment in the children's playground.

Children's Parties

You can now book your child's birthday party at the Sports Centre on a Saturday or Sunday for only £25.00!! This includes up to 4 hours use of the hall, and the use of the outdoor green at the rear of the hall, if required.

Car Boot Sales

The Sports Centre along with the Village Hall and Community Centre has been working throughout the summer months to bring Car Boot Sales to Winkleigh village. Thank you to all the sellers and buyers who have taken the trouble to support us.

However, the last Car Boot Sale of 2015, planned for Sunday 13th September, has been cancelled.

Scrap Metal Collection

Thank you to everyone that donated metal for our collection. We raised £74.40 towards the Nepal Disaster Fund. This amount was well below our expectations but was due to the price of scrap metal falling dramatically during the last 12 months.

Antiques and Collectors Fair (held in the hall) on Sunday 12th July

The Antiques and Collectors Fair was a great success thanks to the efforts of Melanie and Graham James. Unfortunately, the weather was awful. This limited the numbers of car boot sellers that turned up, but Melanie squeezed the ones who made the effort into the hall. The buyers turned up in force throughout the morning and early afternoon and a great many people enjoyed the range of articles on display as well as the bacon baps, burgers, sausages and ice creams.

WANTED!!

Where are all the netball players in Winkleigh? Currently, we do not have a resident netball team at the Sports Centre. The Centre has an all weather-floodlit surface suitable for tennis, five-a-side football and netball.

We would love to increase the use of this facility. If you would like to start-up a local netball team or bring along a team to use our facility then please contact **John Spilstead** on 01805 603394 or email: winkleighsportscentre@gmail.com

Forthcoming Events

AUGUST - TRACTOR RALLY on Sunday 30th August

Winkleigh Youth Club is holding a Tractor Run on Sunday 30th August to raise funds for the Youth Club. It departs at 10:30am from the Sports Centre., so if anyone is interested they can come along and see these fine machines before they leave. They will be driving through the village and on to Dolton, returning to the Sports Hall for refreshments.

The costs are £13 per tractor; this includes a lunch of cold meat salad and dessert. Extra lunches are £8.50.

Please contact **James Anstey** on 01769 520396 for an entry form.

Clubs & Sports at the Centre

Junior Tennis Coaching - 5 to 11 years

We have a great junior tennis coach in Lewie Parker, who runs the junior tennis club every Sunday morning from 9:30 until 10:30am. If it is wet, the children train in the hall. We need more children to attend these fun sessions to keep Lewie at the club. Please just bring your children along, its only £2.50 per session. This must be the best value tennis coaching in Devon. **Lewie** can be contacted on 07972 171330 for further information.

Ladies Exercise Class

Leighe Hall runs a ladies exercise class every Tuesday evenings from 7:30pm until 8:30pm and would welcome new members. Contact **Leighe** on 01837 83061 for further information or just come along on a Tuesday evening (please bring a drink and towel/mat).

Short Mat Bowling Club

The bowling club meets twice a week on Monday and Friday afternoons from 2:00pm until 4:30pm for roll-ups. For further information please contact **Jan Ovenden** 01837 83853.

Snooker Club

For information on the snooker club please contact **Peter Anstey** 01769 520396

Tennis Club

For court access or to join the tennis club please contact **Bill Dean** 01837 82168.

Saturday Club – Aged 3 onwards

We would welcome new members at Saturday Club this runs from 10:00am until 12:30pm. we would also like to see any older members that we haven't seen for some time. For more information contact either **Brian Holland** on 01837 83521 or the **Woodison** family on 01363 82799.

Winkleigh in the First World War

The Education of the war generation

The 1902 Education Act

In continuation of a series of articles to commemorate the anniversary of the First World War, we look at the education of the Winkleigh children who were destined for the conflict, some to die, some to be wounded, and many to survive.

Most of the generation were fortunate that the 1902 Education Act would change schooling in this country forever, removing from the School Board most of its powers over the original Winkleigh School, which were now handed to the Devon County Council. At first, however, the changes would hardly be noticed in Winkleigh or Hollocombe, where all the usual staffing and management problems continued as normal. On the 29th September 1903 the Devon County Council finally took over from the Winkleigh School Board, with the Board members now renamed 'Managers', and with greatly reduced powers. The Headmaster, Mr. Dupere, was given a welcome bonus of £3.6.8 (to save it being passed to the County Authority), the school properties were handed over to the County Council, and with the control of the school no longer in the hands of the local worthies a whole era was at an end.

The attendances improved up to 103 on a roll of 130. Dupere certainly brought fresh ideas. He began system of marking early pupils in red, late in black. Red marks throughout the week qualified for leaving at 4.0 o'clock on Friday afternoon. In the first week 11 girls and 16 boys had their names displayed on a board of honour. By Feb 1901 34 children were obtaining 'early marks'. By March it was 39 and attendances among the waverers greatly improved. Some 52 children, however, well over a third of the roll, were still more or less permanently non-attending. Most of these parents attended a special meeting to which they were summoned, following which there was marginal improvement. Attendance cards were initiated as a further incentive to the children which qualified for special rewards. In the first week 85 children were neither absent nor late. Names of defaulters were written on a special board: the 'black list'. On 7th March 1902 to celebrate the opening of the school year, illuminated certificates were presented to 9 girls and 2 boys as a reward for being 'never absent, never late' the whole previous year. A special mention was made of Nellie Brook who missed her certificate by being one minute late on a single day! Of the two boys, Christian Miller was the son of Josiah Miller, farmer of Grey's Bridge. He was only 5 years old and must have been immensely proud of his achievement. He had an exotic war, serving in the Imperial Camel Corps which he joined with his older brother Leonard in Australia, far from the green hills of North Devon. The other was Percy Mitchell, then aged 7, son of the blacksmith at Westacotts. This was a family who gave as much as any to the war, but all survived. Percy served in the 6th Battalion of the Devons, but sadly he died in October 1921 aged 29, as a result of his experiences. William, aged 24 in 1914 joined the Royal Engineers.

Richard George, a year younger, enlisted immediately into the Royal Navy and served on HMS Warspite, a 'Dreadnought', following his first posting to HMS Carnarvon. Of the two youngest boys, Henry joined his brother Percy in the 6th Battalion Devons, and Arthur the Royal Army Service Corps. No other family in Winkleigh could equal this record, of which the village was, I am sure, justifiably very proud.

Attendances continued to have its ups and downs - by December 1902 Mr. Dupere was still writing: 'Attendance in this District exists only in name.' The new Education Act of 1902 could not be implemented immediately by Devon County Council but when it was, improvement was rapid. In 1903 perfect attendance was rewarded with certificates to 17 girls and 5 boys. These were Christian and Leonard Miller (of future Camel Corps fame), Percy Mitchell again and his brother William, and Albert Stapleton (who died training in 1914, Winkleigh's second casualty). As an added example to others, and no doubt a great source of pride and excitement, these 22 children were photographed and a copy was displayed in the school. The new County Authority included a regular oversight by the County Attendance Officer, who controlled a number of attendance officers. The effect on Winkleigh was quite magical and, for the first time in the history of the school, the Headmaster could at last count on a virtual 100% attendance of his pupils. The 'war generation' were indeed fortunate that the 1902 reforms came just in time to afford these children a much improved educational experience to those that had gone before. The Attendance hierarchy assisted too with reporting to the County on the physical state of the building, commanding the Managers (the remnant of the old School Board) to put things right. Suddenly the surface of the playground was repaired, a new supply of coat pegs graced the entrance lobby, broken desks were thrown out and replaced, and supplies ordered were actually delivered. Everyone's morale rose accordingly, and at last Winkleigh could have a school of which it could be proud. Even the annual summer intake of gypsy children could benefit. The log records in 1909: *'There was a good attendance including 3 children of the gypsies camping in the parish. These gipsy children are very ignorant but they have been very regular in coming to the school and have behaved remarkably well.'* Only the outbreak of war in August 1914, which threw the village into turmoil, disturbed the even tenor of life at the school.

The children destined to be those on whom would fall the burdens of the First World War were for the most part attending the school at the time of the great change brought by the 1902 Education Act. We are fortunate that Mr. Dupere was careful to record the names of the children, among them on April 25th 1900 William Bissett, aged 5. His father, William, was the groom and gardener at Winkleigh Court with an only child and living in a 4 room cottage on the estate. Young William would serve in the Royal Engineers. On his return from the war he took a great interest in the life of Winkleigh and is mentioned in the Parish records as contributing 2/6d towards the new church bells fund. Percy Beardon, son of the Hollacombe wheelwright, and who had been at Hollocombe school,

moved down to Winkleigh as a 13 year old to move into a higher Standard having taken and passed the Standard 4 exam. He was to serve in the Royal Artillery, with a tragic death by drowning in October 1918. He stayed at Winkleigh School for a year before taking his first job as a 'servant', probably with the horses, on William Cowle's farm at Wood Terrill. In May 1900 Ernest Western arrived, aged 13. A year later he was looking after the cattle working for John Shepland on Ward Farm. Ernest was a farmer's son at Staple Green Farm, and the family had moved into Winkleigh from Ashreigney. He served in the 1st North Devon Yeomanry in Gallipoli with his friend Frederick William Davey who was killed there on 8th November 1915. In May Albert Mitchell aged 5, joined the school. The son of the carpenter in Park Place, he was to serve in the Devons. Claude Francis was only 4 when he first came to school in 1900. He stayed at school a long time, leaving over age at 16 in 1912 to work for the Post Office. He was 18 in 1914 and served in the navy on 'HMS Griffin'. His brother Cecil also left school over age at 15, was 17 in 1914 and served later in the Devons. Claude and Cecil were the sons of Henry Francis, carpenter and joiner in Castle Street. A widower, the children were cared for by his sister-in-law who had come up from St. Mellion in Cornwall.

The generation of 18 year olds in 1914 was born in 1896 and would have started school aged five in 1901, taught by Mrs. Tipper, under the Mastership of Mr. Dupere. Those older would have known both Mr. and Mrs. Tipper. Herbert Lugg, for example, 35 in 1914, and destined to die in Mesopotamia, was the oldest Winkleigh casualty. Born in 1879 he would have first started in the infants' class in 1884. It is fascinating to know more of the day to day details of what it must have been like to have attended Winkleigh School in those days, and how the lives of these children developed. School life, of course, was closely entwined with home. A hundred years ago the social classes were generally divided between the gentry, living in Higher Town, the Square, and Barnstaple Street, with the artisan classes living below the church in Church Hill and the Exeter road, and the labouring class in Lowertown. However, all but the gentry class of children were brought together in the school and some of the more rigid barriers between them must have begun to fade. All were subjected to the same rules, the same curriculum and the same treatment whether their fathers were the masters or the labourers, the shopkeepers or the artisans.

Blessed by the heroic efforts of three outstanding Headmasters, first Mr. Tipper and Mr. Dupere, and then after a rather more dismal two years from 1904-6, Mr. John Lane (1906-1922) we can conclude that the Winkleigh generation of 'war children' received as good an education as any that could be supplied by the State, certainly for those parents who could see the benefits. When war came, we can see that the education of the masses of the nation's young men enabled their government to persuade the very best to enlist immediately for 'king and country'. This was certainly the case in Winkleigh. Others, and of course those reaching military age during the war, were conscripted from 1916 onwards. We can be confident that the bonds this exceptional generation of young men, bound

together in the close proximity of the village where social distinctions, if they mattered at all to them, mattered not too much, and which enabled them to preserve their sense of humour, comradeship such as could never be experienced in any other way of life or death and a toleration for the bumbles, the absurdities and the tyrannies that their war service would impose upon them.

Robert Side

Youth Club

The good news is the Archery, run by Tim and Alison, is a huge success, and they have discovered some hidden talent in the youth of Winkleigh. The bad news is we have lost our Football Coach, so if there is anybody who could come along between 7 and 9 on Wednesday evenings and play football with the boys and girls, please ring **Rosemary** on 01769 520396. We hope to install lighting over the old Bowling Green soon to enable us to use this area during the winter.

Junior Snooker

When we first started the Youth Snooker Night as an off shoot of the Youth Club, young people who wanted to progress in the game of snooker were allowed to come on a Tuesday evening and be coached by Anthony Tanner. Since that time we have had 51 young people learning how to play Snooker. We also hoped we could encourage young girls to play, and to our great pleasure we had two girls playing in the final of the singles tournament. Sapphire Rae joined the Winkleigh Junior Club in 2012 and soon won some minor trophies, and this year won the main singles title for the third year running, frequently against older members. Her opponent this year was Katerina Beer in the best of 3, Sapphire winning 2-1, one frame being a black ball finish.

The junior section is every Tuesday from 6.30 – 9.00 pm.

Exmoor Charity Walk

Apart from last year I have taken the Youth Club along to Ivan Huxtable's Charity Walks over Exmoor. These are brilliantly organised and marshalled walks. The distance this year will be about 10 miles and the Charities being sponsored are the North Devon Hospital and the North Devon Hospice. I wonder whether we could get a group up from Winkleigh to participate in this wonderful day. The date of the walk is the 27th September, departing from Hawkridge on Exmoor about 10.00 am. The walk finishes at a farm, where, if you wanted to, you could purchase a bowl of stew and dumplings for £5. I can send you the registration forms if you are interested. Please come along and show that Winkleigh can make a difference. **Mike Wilson** Telephone No.01769 520605.

SIMON de WINKLEIGH RIDES TO THE RESCUE



*Winkleigh children rallied to the appeal from **Simon de Winkleigh** to hunt the dragon that was once again terrorising the village. The noise from Winkleigh Fair had roused him.*

*He wasn't down the well in the Kings Arms, but **Anti Bacterial**, the Winkleigh washerwoman at the pump, raged that he had burnt her knickers.*

Hot on the trail, and with the help from the mysterious wizard, who drank a magic potion and before their very eyes, grew from two to six foot, they arrived at the Ring 'O Bells site.

*Too late! The drunken barmaid, **Paula Pint**, pointed out the smoking ruins of her beloved pub.*

*Swords were needed against such a formidable enemy; so they headed for the blacksmiths forge in Queen Street. **Ann Vill** handed out swords for slaying the dragon and tongs for pulling out dragon's teeth.*

***Sister Penguin** and **Friar Gary Baldy** cowering in the porch of the old alms house signalled to the intrepid questers that the dragon had passed that way.*

*Lurking at the church door the **Hooded Monk** handed out sweets to fortify the children on their dangerous quest.*

*Another of the dragon's victims who had been transmogrified into **Griselda** the **Gargoyle** mesmerised the dragon hunters as they crossed the churchyard.*

*In Church Lane **Jen Drake** handed out dragon poo to mask the scent of the hunters.*

Thus fortified, the fearless defenders of Winkleigh, entered Court Castle, which, Tardis-like, astonished all by its height, expanse and historical mystery.

*The mysterious cloaked figure who had stalked them as they walked the medieval streets of Winkleigh suddenly whipped off her cloak, to be revealed as their fairy godmother **Fair Enough**.*

With swords raised, clutching dragon poo, sucking sweets and chanting spells the children tracked down and found the dragon in his den at the top of the mound.

And there, we hope, he will remain safely slumbering until the next Winkleigh Fair.

Thanks to the superb, inventive, imaginative work of the Winkleigh Fair Committee and their team of actors.

*Billy, Clare and Deanne were too busy performing in the processional play to take photos themselves but would love to see any that were taken during the 'Dragon Hunt'. Please post on the **Winkleigh Fair FaceBook page**.*

Thank you.

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WINKLEIGH COMMUNITY PLAN UPDATE

The 52-page **Winkleigh Community Plan** was published in October 2014 and, courtesy of '*Distinctly Winkleigh*', a 12-page Summary was delivered to every household in the parish. There are 29 proposed actions in the Plan. Many are now 'in progress' or have been 'achieved'. The following is an update:

- ✓ **ACTION 2** - Tree planting at the Sports Centre - **ACHIEVED**
- ✓ **ACTION 3** - Explore green corridors, wildlife networks (greening issues) – **IN PROGRESS**
- ✓ **ACTION 3 & 17** - Input on Planning applications (design and/or environment) – **ACHIEVED/ONGOING**
- ✓ **ACTION 6** - Updating of Village Design Statement – **IN PROGRESS**
- ✓ **ACTION 7** - A waste bin at Berners Cross layby - **ACHIEVED**
- ✓ **ACTION 12** - Expanded recycling at D.&S. Supplies - **ACHIEVED**
- ✓ **ACTION 14** - Engage with Torridge District Council (TDC) re: Airfield development – **PART ACHIEVED /ONGOING**
- ✓ **ACTION 15** – Business-themed promotion via Winkleigh Society – **IN PROGRESS**
- ✓ **ACTION 16** - Lobbying for faster Broadband – **ACHIEVED**
- ✓ **ACTION 18** - Undertaking a Housing Needs Survey - **ACHIEVED**
- ✓ **ACTION 19** - Representations to TDC on Local Plan - **ACHIEVED**
- ✓ **ACTION 21** - Collaboration between community buildings (install new Notice Board) - **ACHIEVED**
- ✓ **ACTION 23** - Meeting with Devon County Council re: traffic concerns – **IN PROGRESS**
- ✓ **ACTION 28** - Continued representation on Wallingbrook Patient Group – **ACHIEVED**
- ✓ **ACTION 29** - Updated 'Emergency Advice' published – **ACHIEVED**

It is hoped to publish and distribute a full update to the Action Plan in late 2015.

Full details of the **Winkleigh Community Plan** can be found on our webpage: <http://www.winkleighplan.co.uk>



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**WINKLEIGH PARISH COUNCIL
NOTICE OF CASUAL VACANCY**

Notice is hereby given that there are currently 3 vacancies among the members of the Parish Council. Any person willing to fill a vacancy should apply to the Clerk in writing. The applicant's name must appear on the current register of the Voters List or the applicant should, during the whole of the twelve months preceding the relevant date, have resided in or within three miles of the parish or the applicant's only place of work during the whole of the twelve months preceding the relevant date is in the parish.

The applicant must not be debarred from standing as a Councillor.

PUBLIC elections cannot be held until the year 2019 but for the interim period the present sitting Councillors may co-opt to fill the vacancy.

Melanie Borrett, Clerk 01837 89095
Winkleighpc1@btconnect.com

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It was 1999. I was thoroughly enjoying my Millennium project, collecting offerings from my cousins about their childhoods, schooling, training, careers and family lives. I was filling in earlier days, with family trees, and the history of my Dad and his siblings and their family, between the two World Wars, in their country home at Chaldon, Surrey. I intended to desk-top publish the little booklet, and make enough copies for all the cousins, my sister and myself.

Derrick announced that he'd thought of a Millennium project, too. He planned to scrub out all the nettles, rushes, brambles and Hemlock Water Dropwort that now lived in the space that used to be the orchard when the Dallyn family lived at Herdwick. He'd clear the ground, rotovate it, till it to grass again, and once that was achieved we'd go to a nearby Garden Centre and choose ourselves some fruit trees. He'd resurrect the orchard, for the new century. What a brilliant idea! Much more useful than mine. May I help? Of course I could.

It was November. The nettles were dying off nicely. The dropwort had dried months ago. A bonfire could soon be started with them as tinder, but the rushes and brambles were going to be more of a problem. There were so many of them, and they were so green. By working at them consistently, day after day, we would gradually clear the site sufficiently for the rotovator to work the soil, he planned.

It took the whole winter. Every dry day we worked on the orchard. Derrick had a theory about brambles. If you cut every branch, just where it emerges from the earth, with as much red root as you can get, then the plant will not regrow. Yes. It may sound improbable, if you know the intractable nature of the bramble, but it certainly worked for us. We had a bonfire going every day. As we worked we burned the weeds. And so on - - - and on - - - and on.

At last he was satisfied with the clearance, and brought down his tractor with the rotovator attached. He worked and worked the soil to get the tilth he wanted. He had a small bag of seed, left over from the most recent reseeded of a pasture. He'd kept it in the dry, so was hopeful that it would germinate well. At last the day came when all the conditions were right.

"Today's the day. We'll till the orchard!"

"How will we do it?" I knew his seeder had broken down irreversibly, and been dumped.

"We'll do it the old fashioned way! We'll each have a bag over our shoulders and broadcast the seed by hand. We'll walk to and fro, covering every square yard in strips."

So that's how we did it.

"One for the rook, one for the crow,

"One to rot, and one to grow."

I can't remember the exact date, but it was the day of the Queen Mother's funeral, a day early in April 2000. a fine sunshiny afternoon.

"Will she be peeved we're not gazing at the TV?"

"She won't know anything about it, will she? If she thinks anything about it at all, she'll be glad we're doing something for New Life!"

So we walked up and down, me on my patch, him on his, rhythmically throwing out our handfuls of seeds in a scattering motion. It didn't take long. Then he attached his old set of harrows to the tractor, and drove up and down to 'cover' the seeds. I've always been very doubtful about harrowing, but on a field it is rather different from garden sowing. He always assured me that it is the best way to keep the birds from eating too many of the seeds.

While he harrowed I was told to collect electric fence posts, baler cord, and as many shiny metal objects as I could find to cover the area with scare crow shiny or noisy deterrents. It was not a pretty sight, but it did the job. Spring of the year, and good conditions. Soon there was the exciting day when a faint mist of green shoots could be seen, gradually thickening and growing the reseeded area we had been imagining.

"We'll need some new machinery for cutting this grass. I like the idea of a ride-on mower. I've finished with all those years of silaging and hay-making. A little mower for this little area will suit me fine!"

It was May, I believe, when we went to Crediton Garden Centre, and chose our trees. Some ornamental — a winter cherry, a dark-leaved crab apple, and a "Golden Hornet" to help with setting the fruit, we were advised. But the real fruit trees were our most important purchase for many years. We chose a greengage, a Conference pear (we should have had two!), an eating cherry. Then the apples, the most important of all - a Fortune, two Sunsets and a Bramley Cooker. Planting them was hard, but the proper result of our previous hard work. We planted them in two curves, following the shape of the area. They looked marvellous. And do today.

We've watched the new orchard grow, and become productive. I'm so very pleased that we did it! It's a wonderful memory, and constantly to be celebrated as the years go on. Now, after 15 years, we have a good supply of eaters and cookers for our family and friends. Our Millennium Resurrection!

Winkleigh Friday Evening Duplicate Bridge

7.30pm (prompt) Start

Whether you are 9 or 90 (and many people play well into their 90s) Bridge is a fun, sociable and stimulating game, easy to learn and providing an ongoing challenge as one gets better. It's a competitive game - but most importantly it's fun.



Friday night sees a group meet to play a variety of forms of this “addictive” game (Individuals, Teams or Duplicate with the emphasis being on the latter) and have an enjoyable evening. Membership is simply by coming along for a full evening of entertainment. (No membership fee, just room hire contribution and personal drinks)

Most people play Modern Acol, but all systems and standards are welcome - just explain what you're playing. Questions are welcomed so don't feel shy or intimidated, an enjoyable evening is the top priority, one never stops learning, and mistakes are made by all – a glass of wine often helps!

Bridge is a partnership game, but if you don't have a partner don't worry - we can soon find you someone to partner for the evening; partnering different people can be as good as playing with the same person - so single or partnered all welcome!

Always wanted to learn? Now's your chance (age unimportant, this is a young person's game too). Beginner, Revision and Improver classes are available to help you get started or build up your confidence and develop your play. Learn as a family if you don't mind the kids beating you!!!

Contact us on 682775, 83526 or 680103 for more details – venue may vary so give us a call to check, or drop an email to jonathan.taylor62@tiscali.co.uk

WINKLEIGH PARISH COUNCIL DEFIBRILLATOR TRAINING/REFRESHER SESSION

Winkleigh Parish Council are holding a training/refresher session on how to operate the Parish Defibrillator.

This session is free to all members of the parish and will be held on Thursday 8th October 2015 at 7.30pm in Winkleigh Community Centre, concluding by 9.00pm and provided by Justin Sharples, Assistant Community Responder Officer, S.W.A.S.

Melanie Borrett, Clerk. 01837 89095

Winkleighpc1@btconnect.com

SINGING SUNBEAMS

As I write this we are having the month of August off from Singing Sunbeams because of holidays. The time flies by and we will then be starting on our fourth year of singing and making music. Thanks as always to the folk of Stable Green Chapel who finance the whole project and give us so much support and encouragement.

We had a great Summer Party at the Chapel back in June where Singing Sunbeams and Stable Green members all joined for an afternoon of singing, games, stories and food.

We are already thinking about our Christmas Party – SORRY!!- but do get the date in your diary Sunday 13th December 3.00 at Stable Green.

Next Singing Sunbeams session is Wednesday 9th September 10.30 in the small room of the Village Hall. All 0 – 3 year olds very welcome for a short time of music making and singing followed by snacks and drinks for all. There is no charge so come along, you are most welcome. If you want to know more give me a call - **Jan Ovenden** 01837 83853

TALKING ABOUT CHRISTMAS – sorry again!

STABLE GREEN CAROLS IN THE BARN SATURDAY 19th DECEMBER 6.30 at BEECHLEE

The big family event not to be missed. Get the date in your diary and look out for the posters around the village.



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WHATS GOING ON AT WINKLEIGH METHODIST CHURCH

Holiday club was a huge success again this year - you possibly saw some of our secret agents around the village. Thankyou to Bridget & Kevin for organising and to all their many helpers.

The Unity Gospel Choir came and sang to us during Winkleigh Fair week and approximately £200 was given to the Nepal Disaster fund and a donation to the Fair Committee.

As we speak a lot of our young people along with Kevin & Bridget are at Soul Survivor a Christian festival at the Bath & West showground, enjoying themselves hopefully. A little nearer to home at Bow we have the Bush conference from Friday 28th – Sunday 30th August, there is a website for more info if this edition comes out in time.

In September we are having Church on the beach for the first time. We will be off to Woolacombe for this with a bring your own picnic lunch all happening on Sunday the 6th, if you would like to come along speak to a member. The following weekend is our Harvest celebrations including a flower festival, no doubt you will see posters around the village. Also in September we are starting “House Group” an evening to look at the Bible in more depth, the first one is on Thursday 17th at a house to be confirmed.

October sees the arrival of “SPACE” a new evening for children from year 5 up. The evening will be split in 2, with the younger ages, year 5 & 6 meeting at 7.00pm ‘til 8.15pm then years 7 and up from 8.30pm ‘til 10pm. The first one will be on Friday 9th October and will be on the 2nd and 4th Friday of every month during term time.

In November, following the success of our summer sale we will be having an autumn sale. Saturday 7th from 10 – 12 to coincide with the farmers market. Bacon rolls will be served throughout the morning.

As always, more information about all of what we do at Church is posted on facebook nearer the actual event date.

Keep up to date on Facebook @WINKLEIGH METHODIST CHAPEL.

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.

Collective Heating Oil Purchase

If you use heating oil, do you spend time ringing around the oil companies or do you just pay whatever price you are asked? Prices fluctuate but are generally lower in the summer, and highest in December. Collective oil purchasing groups can save you time and money. Most groups charge an annual membership fee which is offset by the lower fuel cost per litre.

Here are two groups which operate the Winkleigh and Hollocombe area:

Witheridge Oil Purchase Energy Collective (WOPEC):

The first six (6) months membership is FREE. Then £15 per annum, payable in advance. Minimum order is for 500 litres. 'Mini' tanker deliveries are normally available and deliveries once per month can be arranged. Boiler servicing and chimney sweeping services are also available. Additional information at <http://www.wopec.net> or by telephone on 01884 861186.

Oil Fuel Poverty Solutions (OFPS):

Works with rural charities (including *Devon Communities Together*) to address fuel poverty through collective buying. One of the largest oil collectives in the country. Operates a PAYGO scheme where you can pay monthly to spread the cost. Annual membership is £24.

Additional information at <http://ofps.org.uk> or 'phone on 01993 225011.

Action Plan item no. 11 of the **Winkleigh Community Plan** encouraged the investigation of collective purchasing schemes for oil and propane. An article on the current collective purchase agreement for Liquid Propane Gas (LPG) with Flogas Limited was published in the November 2014 edition of '*Distinctly Winkleigh*.'

For more information on the **Winkleigh Community Plan**, go to <http://www.winkleighplan.co.uk>

The small print: The Community Plan Action Group (CPAG) provides the above for information purposes only. It does not endorse or recommend any of the organizations mentioned. Always use due diligence.

Winkleigh Article No. 13 – Community Plan Update – August 2015



FLOWER FESTIVAL

'Praise God for the Harvest, Farm and of Field'
12th, 13th & 14th September

Saturday:	Sunday:
10 am Exhibition opens	11 am Harvest Festival celebration with
10 - 12 Bacon rolls served	David Worden followed by bring-and-share lunch
12 - 2 Ploughman's lunches	2 onwards Tea, coffee & homemade biscuits
2 - 5 Cream teas	6.30 pm Exeter Male Voice Praise Choir
	followed by a supper
	Monday:
	11 - 2 Oasis Café Exhibition open until 5 pm

For more information, please contact Daisy Bray on 01837 83458
All proceeds for our building refurbishments

ACE archaeology club update August 2015

We did our bit for the Council of British Archaeology's Festival of archaeology, for the 6th year. We are part of The Festival of Archaeology and Old Technology at Pattiland Farm near Winkleigh, www.old-tech-festival.co.uk. If you missed it this year make a date for next year, 23rd or 24th July 2016. We had a good time and for the first time we were able to give people the opportunity to try their hand at excavating. We had all ages having a go and they enjoyed it.



The next generation of archaeologists?



Our new tent!

Our August ACE day was a trip to Cornwall. We visited Bodmin Moor, specifically the Cheesewring and The Hurlers on one of the worst days in August.



Any views were lost in the rain and mist and we had to cut the day short. But the sun did make a bit of an effort later so the BBQ at mbers house went ahead.

We start digging again on the 22nd August and our open day is the 5th September 11.00 am to 4.00pm. Do come and visit, we would love to see you. www.acearch.org.uk for details.

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YOUR SPECIAL WINKLEIGH RECYCLING FACILITY

LATEST NEWS

It is always good to know that Winkleigh is doing that extra bit for our environment now and in the future for our children and grandchildren. At D & S Supplies, we have collected over 2.7 tonnes of plastics, cardboard and textiles in the past year that may have otherwise gone into landfill. Well done!

Sadly, whilst all this fantastic effort was going on we also had to cope with the results of some very unpleasant use, or rather abuse, of your facility. We have had to deal with bags of dog poo, dirty nappies, duvets and bags and bags of thawing frozen food - none of which are catered for by your facility. We know this is by the minority, but this recycling facility is entirely run by volunteers who have to deal with such unpleasant waste. It could potentially be the reason why this community-run facility closes down.

To try and improve on this situation, we will be trying to locate the facility nearer the village where it can be supervised more closely. We would be grateful to hear your ideas on how we could encourage more respect for all your effort on behalf of the environment and prevent further abuse.

One thing that is certain is that it has to be relocated - but we will keep you posted in plenty of time on alternative arrangements, as soon as we have been able to identify a site and organise it.

Helpful suggestions to: Wendy (01837 680022) Marie-Claude (01837 680145) or Kim (01769 520595)

Winkleigh Community Recycling Group

Buffet/Concert at the Community Centre

If music be the food of love . . . then the **Bondleigh Barn Band** did a great job in entertaining us during and after our Buffet Lunch on July 14th at the Community Centre. We thank them very much as this was a voluntary performance and of course, in view of the date, it had a distinctly French flavour.

The occasion was great fun and our guests enjoyed the venue, the atmosphere and the food. However, we must not forget that without the group of volunteers that cook, serve, decorate with flowers and smile, none of this would be possible.

On this occasion, the proceeds of the event were shared between the Fair Committee and our Community Centre.

MUDDY SHOES



The first walk of a newly-formed walking group 'Muddy Shoes' will be on Saturday September 6th. We will meet at Higher Hollocombe at 10.30 am and walk the Hollocombe Circle.

Interested? Please turn up ready for a rough, muddy walk. If you intend bringing a dog it must be kept on a short lead.

For more information ring **83407**.

We are not affiliated to any organisation, but it is interesting to note that 'The Ramblers' a walking charity have started a 'Big Path-watch' Campaign to encourage walkers to report any problems with footpaths.

The charity has created an app where walkers can mark on a map the problems they may encounter on each route. They will then use this information to protect and repair public rights of way in the U.K.

For more information about the Big Pathwatch visit:-

<http://www.ramblers.org.uk/bigpathwatch>.



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THE WINKLEIGH SINGERS

The Winkleigh Singers have just launched their programme for Autumn 2015 through to the Spring of next year.

Come and sing with the Winkleigh Singers!

Following their summer break the choir will open its doors for a FREE Open Rehearsal on Monday 7th September 7.30pm. All welcome. The music for the evening will be well known to the choir, so there'll be plenty of help and guidance and no pressure! Free refreshments at the break. Finishes at 9.30pm. Venue: Christian Fellowship Building, Umberleigh, on the A377 opposite the Rising Sun pub.

Please phone 01363 83515 or e-mail info@winkleighsingers.org.uk if you plan to join us so we can be sure of having enough music to go round.

Choir Day Saturday 3rd October

12 noon Recital as part of Singfest - Swimbridge 2015 at Swimbridge Parish Church. Duration about an hour.

7.00pm Concert at West Anstey Village Hall *

Duration about 90 minutes plus interval

Programme at these above two events will include not-so-serious madrigals and folk songs along with some classic motets and anthems.

19th December 2015 7.30pm *

Our ever popular Traditional Christmas Concert at Winkleigh Church. Advent & Christmas treats from Handel's Messiah and plenty of well-known carols for all to sing!

Messiah

Last but not least, we will be celebrating the 275th anniversary of Handel's Messiah. This will be a complete performance when the choir will be joined by the orchestra of Devon Baroque and professional soloists Hannah Reynolds, Fiona Mackay, Nicholas Hawker and Charles Murray.

St Peter's Church, Barnstaple, 12th March 2016 at 7.00pm. Tickets now available from choir members and our website.

"...it was an exceptional pleasure to hear a complete Messiah given by a first rate professional orchestra, a fine team of young soloists and a gifted amateur chamber choir" Seen and Heard International review.

Details of all our events and on-line tickets at www.winkleighsingers.org.uk

* Licensed cash bar for wine and soft drinks before concert and during interval.

And finally

In this, my penultimate issue as editor, I'm pleased to announce that two people have come forward to keep Distinctly Winkleigh going in 2016!

To help them get your articles and adverts, please send these in future to articles@distinctlywinkleigh.co.uk and the website will automatically pass them on to the right person(s). Whilst they are "learning the ropes" I shall, of course, be available to answer any problems they might encounter.

The deadline for the next (my last) issue is Sunday November 15th but please feel free to send in your articles earlier – it does help with planning article placement!

It is just conceivable that we might get our summer to fit in between the Autumn and Winter issues – it's certainly been a cool one up to now. So don't put your barbecues in winter storage just yet!

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Chairman	Ralph Northcott	01837 83610
Vice Chairman	Philip Griffiths	01837 83407
Treasurer	Alan Mulcahy	01837 680145
Committee Members	Margaret Miller	01837 83398
	Peter Howard	01837 83610
	Alan Jacobs	01837 83895
	Stephen Leahy	01837 83599
	Peter Monkcom	01837 83452
	Charles Stapleton	01837 83109

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
WORD format files on CD, Memory Stick, 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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