

DISTINCTLY WINKLEIGH



Working for Winkleigh



Edition 58

Summer2016

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The Journal of the Winkleigh Society

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WHY WINKLEIGH?

No people are uninteresting, but some are more interesting than others. It's the same with villages.

Villages, like people, tend to be more fascinating when they're just off the beaten track, and allow the world to rush by in ignorance of the delights within. Winkleigh, Chulmleigh, North Tawton, and Dolton have this attraction, and they all have meeting places for chats and the exchange of news.

Sometimes, when I return home from afar it seems as if I cross an ever-open and welcoming drawbridge leading to Winkleigh - one of six possibilities! I feel comfortable.

It must be the people - not just the people who can trace their roots here for generations, or those whose parents came from Poland, the Ukraine and Lithuania, and even Yorkshire, to help us during WWII but also those who, for whatever reason, have chosen to come here recently and are putting down their own roots.

A couple of years ago the BBC came here and gave the village, and a couple of estate agents, a great boost. People of all ages came and settled. More houses are planned. This has created a wonderful age balance between young often professional people with children and energy, and older people with life-experiences to offer the melting pot. The Parish Council has a lowering age profile, and (at the time of writing) room for 4 more Councillors to co-opt. The Fair Committee has also profited from a younger profile.

It can take some time to walk to The Stores and back from anywhere. It's always fun and interesting. Sometimes it's about starting school, or physiotherapy for an aching joint. Sometimes it's pure gossip, but never spiteful. There are a couple of people who are compelled to moan for Devon. We all know who they are, and it doesn't matter. Some people just need to walk and talk and make us all feel better for sharing a few moments together.

The point of this scrawl is ask you for a few words - why you came here and why you've stayed.

It would be fun and perhaps touch a chord with a neighbour. We could find the happiest resident of Winkleigh! Right now it's me, because I had my arm twisted to write the above, but I would be even happier to pass the baton to you and share your story.

JIM MARSHALL

12 Southernhay, Winkleigh, Devon EX19 8JH

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[We would really like some of you to 'take up Jim's baton'! – Editors]

Parish Church Notes

Although I'm writing this on a sunny day I wouldn't say that it is a day for sunbathing! It's still not very warm and the past few mornings have begun with a frost. Only today someone remarked that perhaps Spring has finally arrived – even though a little later than normal.

But here I am writing for the Summer Edition of Distinctly Winkleigh. Whatever the weather might be over the next few months you can be sure that there is a lot going on in the village. Winkleigh Fair will not be far away when you read this and nor will the Church Fete and Tea and Fair Sunday.

The Church Fete (2.30 p.m. Saturday 9th July) promises to be a good occasion with some excellent prizes lined up for the Duck Dinner Draw – the dinner being the star prize as it has been for many years. There will be the usual mix of stalls plus a couple of extras and of course the famous fete tea – the best value tea (probably) in Devon.

The following day is Fair Sunday when we crown the Fair King and Queen. But before we do we have the traditional 'Egg and Flower' service in Church beginning at 3.00 p.m. (Sunday 10th July). So just a reminder of why 'Egg and Flower'. It has been a custom to bring those items to Church on Fair Sunday and for them to be given to the sick and housebound. Children and adults are invited to bring eggs and flowers to Church where they will be collected up and distributed. This is our way of showing our care for those who perhaps can't get out very much but are part of our village community.

On the Tuesday morning of Fair Week there will be coffee and cakes served in Church to give you an opportunity to view the flower arrangements prepared especially for Fair Week.

We are very pleased to say that we have a newly formed fund raising group and we hope to put on various events of interest to different groups of people during the course of the year. For example, we hope to have an art exhibition in Church in September which will include a Songs of Praise on the Sunday so please look out for details nearer the time.

Of course we hope to raise funds through these events for maintaining the Church here in Winkleigh, but also to bring the community together in different ways to celebrate our life together and showcase some of the hidden talent here in this village. Please come and join us.

Fr. Peter Norman

Think You Could Be A Parish Councillor ... ?

Do you often wonder why “they” don’t tackle the issues you feel need addressing? Well, now “you” have a chance ...

If you have an interest in working for the community, don’t mind reading emails, are able to attend monthly Council meetings, participate in one or two working groups and enjoy investigating things like; grants, parish finance, planning or litter bins, then you could make a valuable contribution to our Winkleigh & Hollocombe communities as a Councillor.

For more information on what is involved please contact Mel Borrett, our Parish Clerk on 01837 89095 or email winkleighpc1@btconnect.com.

You could also look at the Winkleigh Parish Council website at <http://winkleighpc.org.uk>

Gail Flockhart - Chair, Winkleigh Parish Council

Winkleigh Parish Council Notice Of Casual Vacancies

Notice is hereby given that **4 co-option vacancies** have occurred among the members of the Parish Council. Any person willing to fill a vacancy should apply to the Clerk in writing or email. Any person wishing to apply to become a member must meet at least one of the qualifications set out below in order to be eligible for co-option and must not be disqualified under Section 80 of the Local Government Act 1972.

- The applicant must be registered as a local government elector for the parish;
or
- The applicant should, during the whole of the twelve months preceding the date of co-option occupied as owner or tenant, land or other premises in the parish; or
- The applicant’s principal or only place of work during those twelve months has been in the parish; or
- Have during the whole of twelve months resided in the parish or within 3 miles of it.

PUBLIC elections cannot be held until the year 2020 but for the interim period the present sitting COUNCILLORS MAY CO-OPT to fill the vacancies.

Melanie Borrett

Winkleigh Parish Clerk, Lower Itton, Spreyton, Devon, EX17 5BB

Tel 01837 89095;

Email winkleighpc1@btconnect.com

Winkleigh Parish Council Grants and Donations Process 2016-17


Winkleigh Parish Council sets aside a sum of money each year to donate to good causes in the parish as either a grant or a donation. The sum allocated by the Parish is part of the annual precept the Parish Council collects from the electorate and is available for distribution from 1 April each year.

The Parish Council is governed by rules set out in the Local Government Act 1972 (section 137) which states the money must be spent on purposes for the direct benefit of the parish and be commensurate with the expenditure incurred, for example, spending a large amount for the benefit of only one or two people is not acceptable.

Grant application packs can be obtained from the Parish Clerk, closing date for all applications is 16th September 2016.

All successful applicants will be notified in November 2016 with payment being made from April 2017.

Winkleigh Parish Council, **Melanie Borrett**, Parish Clerk, Lower Itton, Spreyton
EX17 5BB 01837 89095, winkleighpc1@btconnect.com, winkleighpc.org.uk



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The Queen's 90th Birthday Tea Party

Winkleigh Parish Council hosted a celebration bring & share picnic tea in the Village Hall, which was decked out in red, white and blue, appropriately on St. George's Day. The Marvellous Event-ures Bear, Theodore, entertained the children; Alice Turner and Simon Hodgson manned the tea-urns and organised the whole event. Before departing, all those present posed for a group photograph in front of the stage and sang a rousing chorus of "Happy Birthday Your Majesty".



Penny Griffiths

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Explore North Devon

Some years ago, the www.explorenorthdevon.org website was closed due to the cut-backs in funding of local government. The website carried extensive entries submitted by Janet Daynes and Gordon Fisher from the archives they have been laboriously accumulating over many years, and it is encouraging to find that the information has not been lost, but is still available in a slightly different form via the eHive website. The web address is <https://ehive.com/account/4595>.

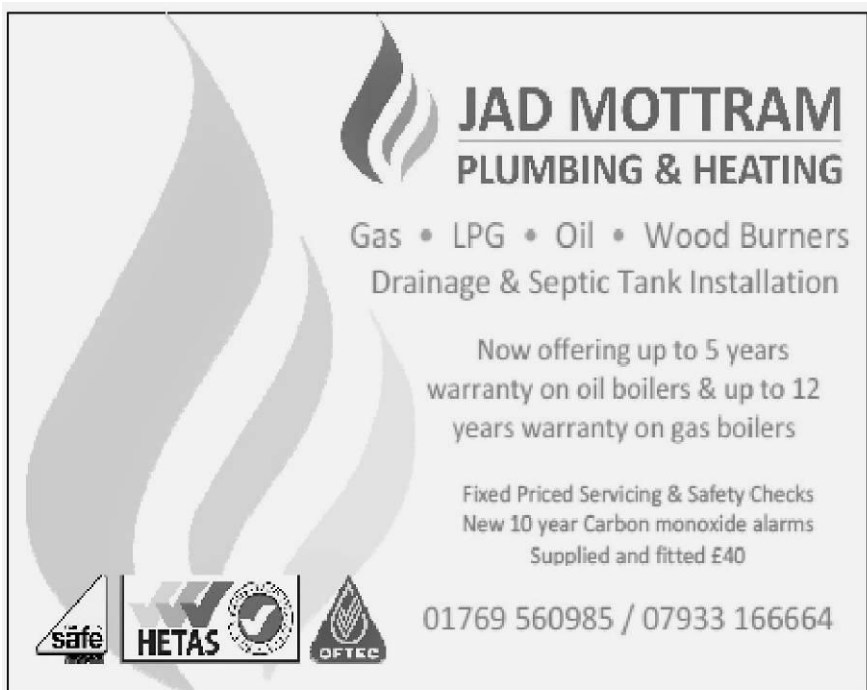
It carries the following photographic collections submitted by Winkleigh House Scouts and ACE Archaeology Club:

Old Postcards from Winkleigh
Winkleigh Airfield
Winkleigh Fair
Winkleigh North Devon on Disk
Winkleigh War Memorial

Sam Inch's Cider
Wild Flowers of Hollocombe
Winkleigh in Old Photographs
Winkleigh Millennium Photographs

The new website is not quite as easy to use as the original one, but at least the collections can again be viewed via the Internet. Just follow the instructions, enter the name of a collection in the Search Box and click on Search.

Alan Mulcahy






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Winkleigh Parish Council Public Consultation: A Proposal to limit the use of Torrington Road and Townsend Hill as a Short Cut and Reduce Speed past the School.

History:

The 2005 Community Plan identified the use of Torrington Road and Townsend Hill as a short cut by *non-local* traffic to be of major concern to parishioners. Following extensive discussions with Devon County Council, a plan to install speed cushions along with essential lighting was accepted by the Winkleigh Parish Council on 8th December 2010, but funding for the £47,000 cost could not be found due to the then financial crisis.

In 2013, during the compilation of the new Community Plan, it was found that 65% of respondents again thought that traffic issues, especially on this route, were a problem.

The community have indicated a wish to see this problem addressed, so to ensure any action does not just remain a ‘pipe dream’, positive engagement is needed. It is hoped the Council will therefore be able to move forward with something to benefit the community, both now and for the future.

Remedial Options:

A Senior Traffic Engineer from DCC Highways Dept. was consulted by WPC and the possibility of closing the route at some point was investigated. None of the three options of closure considered and listed here were thought to be likely to produce the required result, either due to safety reasons or because of the inconvenient effect it would have on local drivers.

- a. Permanent “no entry” closure to southbound traffic at Townsend Cross as far as Old Barn Close from where two way traffic would recommence.*
- b. Timed “no entry” closure from 7:30 – 9:30 am, again at Townsend Cross as above.*
- c. “No entry” closure just south of Zukis car park on Torrington Road.*

The best and only practical solution reverts back to the original 2010 plan of introducing physical traffic calming measures along the length of Townsend Hill. The plans are available online at winkleighpc.org.uk but consist of elongated, raised cushions within a ‘pinch-point’ allowing only one car to pass through at a time. Priority of traffic flow would be given to uphill traffic going north.

Funding:

This current traffic-calming proposal is estimated by DCC to cost £30,000. The Parish Council will endeavour to source this money from community grants if the scheme gets the go-ahead.

Consultation:

Winkleigh Parish Council wish to reach all parishioners affected by this proposal and to this end, details of the proposal will be distributed through the following outlets:

- a. On line at winkleighpc.org.uk where a schematic drawing is also available*
- b. Via the local Distinctly Winkleigh May publication (no drawing)*
- c. Notice boards (drawing available)*
- d. Via request to the Parish Clerk for a hard copy or email copy*

Time Period for Consultation Process.

The period allowed for the consultation process is one month starting from **1st June to 30th June 2016.**

Feedback:

Due to the technical process of elimination with DDC Highways, as detailed above, this is the **only** traffic calming option available for consideration.

Winkleigh Parish Council needs to know if you are in favour of this proposal for traffic calming on Townsend Hill or if you feel we should abandon the traffic calming proposal once and for all.

You can submit your comments via:

- a. Information desks at Winkleigh markets as listed below
- b. Evening and weekend information outlets at the Community Centre or Village Hall as listed below
- c. Email the Parish Clerk at winkleighpcl@btconnect.com
- d. Write to the Parish Clerk Melanie Borrett, Lower Itton, Spreyton EX17 5BB

Dates & Venues:

- **Sat June 4th Village Hall 10 – 12noon**
- **Wed June 8th Community Centre 9 – 11am**
- **Sat June 11th Community Centre 10 – 12noon.**
- **Tues June 14th Village Hall 7.30 – 9.30pm.**
- **Sat June 18th Community Centre 10 – 12noon.**
- **Thurs June 23rd Village Hall 7.30 – 9.30pm.**
- **Wed June 29th Community Centre 7.30 – 9.30pm.**

Decision:

The Winkleigh Parish Council will make the final decision on the traffic calming proposal, taking into account the results of the consultation process. It is hoped that this decision will be made at the July WPC meeting. It should be noted that if WPC decides to implement the plan it will still be dependent on the ability to raise the funding to do it.

Winkleigh Parish Council.

Out of sight...but not out of mind



Do you ever pause to think where your rubbish goes, when you put it in your black sack? You are the last person in the chain before it goes into the refuse lorry and is buried at landfill sites, such as the one near Torrington. No-one from the Council sorts your black sack landfill waste after they collect it. That plastic bottle in your rubbish bin will take

around 450 years to decompose in the ground. More importantly the materials and energy which went into its production are lost forever...so think before you chuck! Batteries, small electrical items, plastic bottles (tops removed) and aerosol cans can all go into your Green Box.

Many items you no longer want have some use for another person, even if they are old or broken. Put up a card on a notice-board or post on 'Winkleigh!' or 'Chulmleigh Free' Facebook pages. Freecycle or Freegle are good websites, too.

Winkleigh Community Recycling Group, which ran the plastics recycling, are now lobbying our council, Torridge, to expand the recyclable items collected from our doorstep. We have heard that there is a Waste Review in progress – so expect some improvements soon. In particular we would like them to take yoghurt pots, margarine tubs and plastic trays. The Green Boxes are collected and sent to Coastal Recycling at Exeter to a modern Materials Reclamation Facility. They are sorted on a conveyor belt and only a small residue goes into landfill.

There is an excellent short video on Youtube which shows the process:
www.youtube.com/watch?v=BKzNjn6baZ4

Kim Melhuish (contact via Facebook)

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Winkleigh Fair 2016

The last year has flown by and we find ourselves just weeks away from Fair Week. Whilst planning the week's events we decided to keep some of the old time favourites but have tried to think of a few different ones. We hope everyone finds something for them and that Fair Saturday brings out the young and old, to share once again in the wonderful community feel that it always creates.

The Scarecrows are back!! Entries to be in by 1st July and on display by 9am 4th July. Trails available 4th July, and due back by 10am 16th July. Winners announced during Fair Saturday.

Blooming Winkleigh – Large Garden, Small Garden, Hanging Basket/Container and Children's Unusual Container. Entries in by Thursday 7th July.

2017 Programme Cover – all Primary School aged children are invited to design the programme cover for next year's Fair Week. To be handed into Howes Estates by 10am 16th July.

Saturday 9th July

Clay Shoot – Sports Field 1pm – 5pm. Last year we saw lots of people who had never held a gun before come along 'to have a go'. To give people that opportunity was fantastic and the highlight of the day. At the same we had those who 'used to shoot' and enjoyed showing off!! Due to the success of this event we aim to keep it the same and encourage more people to come along and have a go.

Quiz – Village Hall 7.30pm. Everyone enjoys a quiz!!!

Sunday 10th July

Fair Opening – The Square from 2.15pm. We have invited The Tarka Pipe Band back to play as the well is dressed and to accompany everyone to the church, clutching their eggs and flowers. *'After the service we shall take a few moments to remember that this is the hundredth anniversary of the Battle of the Somme, the bloodiest campaign of the First War, with almost 60,000 British casualties in one day. The pipes will play a lament and we shall lay flowers at the Commonwealth War Graves in the churchyard'*

Joseph Whittick and Anna Crome will be crowned Fair King and Queen.

Car Treasure Hunt – 4pm from The Kings Arms. Always good fun and a great event that all the family can enjoy

Tuesday 12th July

Dog Show – Community Centre 6pm. Another firm favourite, refreshments will be available

Wednesday 13th July

Vintage Vehicle and Classic Car Gathering – The Square 7pm. The last three years has seen the square taken over by tractors, buses, cars and bikes. This year we are hoping for even more!! Therefore we have officially closed the Square and South Street from 6pm – 9pm.

Thursday 14th July

Sponsored Knit – Wright and Proper 2-3pm. Bring your DK wool, some size 9 needles and help raise money for Breast Cancer Now and Winkleigh Fair.

Following on from the success of last year's amazing dragon hunting quest, Thursday evening promises to bring yet another fantastic interactive event kindly organised by Marvellous Event-ures and friends.

Friday 15th July

Whist Drive – Village Hall 7.30pm

Saturday 16th July

Fair Saturday will start at 12 midday and end at approx. 11pm. We don't want to say too much at the moment as I'm sure you can appreciate we are still working out timings and confirming bookings.

We can confirm that there will be kids' entertainment, circus skills, trapeze, juggling, bouncy castle, face painting, music, games, food, drink and lots and lots of laughter.

We are happy to confirm that due to the reaction they caused last year STILLYANO will be back!!!!!!!

More information will be in the programme which will be delivered end of June. Any questions please call **Sian** on 682820 or **Clare** on 83299

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For those of you on Facebook don't forget to join our page 'Winkleigh Fair' for all the up to date information

We look forward to seeing you all during the week and on Fair Saturday

Sadly we have to announce that several members of the Committee plan on stepping down at the AGM in October.

We are sure that people have seen how much fun we have during Fair Week and at the events during the year. It may be hard work at times, but it is always worthwhile.

We hope that what we have achieved will encourage people to stand up, bring some fresh ideas and join the Committee, to ensure the amazing tradition of Winkleigh Fair carries on.

Sian Thurlow

Sports Centre

We are still looking for a Secretary to help run the Centre. We need someone who wants to get involved in Winkleigh and advance the Sports Centre activities. We have some great plans and with help; we could continue to improve the facilities. Dave Woollacott has taken on the day to day chores, thus reducing the time needed for the Secretary.

Muga

I am now applying for a grant to build an all-weather sports area in place of the bowling green. This can be used by many of the sporting groups in Winkleigh. If you think your group could use this facility or you would like to get involved in the grant application please ring **Mike Wilson** on 01769 520605.

Children's Parties – only £25 at the weekend

These have proved extremely popular throughout the summer months. A number of parents have organised “Football” games on the old bowling green as part of their party and the children have loved these events. If you are still thinking of having a Birthday or Christmas Party in 2016 then contact **Dave Woollacott** on 01837 83684.

Ladies Exercise Class

Leighe Hall has been unable to run the Ladies Exercise Class. Would anybody be interested in forming a group to use this slot now available at the Hall. The class could be between 7 pm and 9 pm on a Tuesday evening. Please ring **Mike Wilson** on 01769 520605.

Play Area

Dave Woollacott is keeping an eye on this area. If you see any problems please ring **Mike Wilson** on 01769 520605.

Youth Club

We are very short of helpers so if anybody is interested could you please ring **Mike Wilson** on 01769 520605.

Archery – Youth Club: Tim and Alison are having an extended holiday this year but will be back to start the archery at the beginning of July. Look out for the notice.

We still have all the other sports available so please come along on Wednesday night between 7 pm and 9 pm.

Saturday Club – Aged 3 onwards

We would welcome new members at the Saturday Club which runs from 10.00 am until 12.30 am and would like to see any older members that we haven't seen for some time. For more information please contact **Brian Holland** on 01837 83521.

Tennis Club

The Tennis Club are looking for new members. As we have now repaired the floodlights you can play at any time.

Junior Tennis Coaching – 5 – 11 years

We have a very good junior tennis coach, Lewie Parker, who runs the Junior Tennis Club every Sunday morning from 9.30 am to 10.30 am. If it is wet still come along as the children train in the Hall. We need children to attend these sessions to keep Lewie at the Club, so please bring your child/children along or contact **Lewie** on 07972171330. You can also contact **Bill Dean** on 01837 82168.

If anyone is interested in any of the following sports activities you can contact the people listed below:-

Snooker – **Peter Anstey** 01769 520396.

Short Mat Bowls – **Jan Overden** 01837 83853.

Winkleigh Short Mat Bowling Club

The Club has been celebrating a very successful season. Winkleigh teams won the North Devon & North Cornwall evening league, the Mid Devon Star League and the Merton Charity League. Teams also did well in afternoon leagues finishing runners up of North Devon and Merton.

At Club level Lorraine Axtell won the ladies singles and Bill Brook the mens. The pairs trophy was won by Derek Beech and Dave Brown.

Our Flue and Chimney Specialists Tournament was won for the first time by a team from Wonford who have entered every year. As always many thanks to Andrew Baker of Rangemoors for their support and sponsorship of this event.

As well as our competitive teams we meet every Monday and Friday afternoon for roll ups, a relaxed and social time for all ages and abilities. You would be very welcome.

For more details please contact: Club Secretary **Jan Ovenden** 0183783853

Bacon Roll Time!

Well if we thought last year's total was amazing what do we think of this year's?

Absolutely awesome that what it is and that is what you people of Winkleigh are. - You are all awesome.

The 13th Bacon Roll Time Again! was a really enjoyable time: The Old Smithy was full to the rafters with folk drinking coffee, eating bacon rolls and having a jolly good natter. This year we raised the incredible total of £855 and every penny goes to Cancer Research UK.

I just do not know how to say thank you, this means so much to us as a family and to my dear friends without whom the morning couldn't happen.

So THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU

You are wonderful people living in a wonderful village.

Jan Ovenden

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What's Going On At Winkleigh Methodist Church

A whopping £285.00p was raised for the Devon Air Ambulance during our evening of Carol singing around the village. We were very well received and had numerous encouraging comments about our decorated tractor and the lovely atmosphere that was created. We had quite a following of village residents which added to the fun of the evening. Thank you to ALL who donated, we will definitely be around again this year.

Our children and their leaders are going to be busy over the next few months. The first Sunday in June at 5.30pm which is also our bring and share teatime service the children will be leading us with a special celebration time. Then on Friday 24th June a lot of them will be going to Stowford Camp for the weekend, the most exciting weekend of the year. This is a camping event but is also available with day passes for those not wishing to stay overnight. The weekend is led by young people for young people. "SPACE" will have plenty of information for those wishing to join in the fun. And then on the 4th – 6th August Kevin & Bridget will be running our annual holiday club with a Pirate theme. Booking essential. Details on facebook nearer the time. Then just to finish them all off they will be going to Soul Survivor during August, late nights, early mornings, definitely a teenage event.

Winkleigh Fair has given us an opportunity to invite Mr Alan Libby and Free Signal to join us in the Village Hall on Monday 11th July at 7.30pm for an evening of contemporary Christian music entertainment. Refreshments of tea and cupcakes will be on sale.

The upper room in the chapel has now been completed as our Youth room. The room is now in weekly use either with "SPACE" our Sunday school or our new junior church youth group who all love using it.

Oasis continues to run on a Monday from 11 – 2 for a hot 2-course lunch for £6.95p. Roast beef, shepherds pie, steak & kidney pie, sweet & sour pork are just a few of the meals that we serve, all with a yummy homemade pudding.

Everyone is welcome to join us for any of the above events. As previously said Oasis runs weekly, "SPACE" on the 2nd and 4th Friday of each month of term time.

All worship times and preachers are on our notice board outside of the chapel along with any other special events that we may have on, also,

Keep up to date on Facebook @**WINKLEIGH METHODIST CHAPEL**.

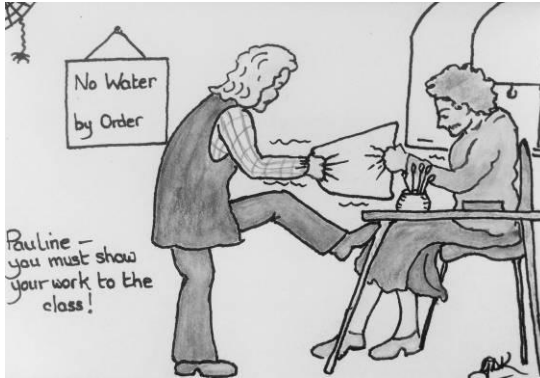
For more information about church life or prayer requests contact any of the people below or any other church member and we will be do our best to help you.

Alan and Fiona Marshall 01837 83809.

Daisy Bray 01837 83458. **Pam Down** 01837 83674.

Rev Nigel Coke-Woods 01837 810591.

Art Club



By Glenda Kirby (Winkleigh Art Club)

The Art Club meets in Winkleigh Community Centre on Thursday from 10am until 2pm

Come and join us, we use different media with lots of tea and coffee to help our artistic flow. It doesn't matter if you haven't drawn before come along and have a go.

Contact **Helena** 07791002075 or just pop in

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Lives in A Landscape - David Woollacott

David was a Postman in Winkleigh for 35 years. “They wouldn’t let me shoot the pigeons in Trafalgar Square”, joked David when asked why he left London, where he worked as a pastry chef at The Mayfair Hotel in the sixties. After a short spell as an HGV driver back in Devon, David became a postman.

Winkleigh having a sorting office has always been a considerable source of employment for local people. In David’s time his round went from 240 drops to over 400. Now a resident at Kings Meadow, the first of the new estates to be built in the village in the late nineties, David with his encyclopaedic knowledge of the village is witness to many changes as the village has grown.

David recalled when the site was being levelled and thinks it was over-engineered. “The building firm was from the South East and they struggled with the West Country weather, the heavy soil and when they hit granite they had to get in special drilling equipment”.

Raised at Sunny View, he remembers with great affection his childhood on ‘The old hospital site’ as old Winkleigh always call it. “Where the green is now, was crowded with Nissen Huts, where the service men from the aerodrome received medical care”. When these were demolished the desolate site became the ideal position for the village bonfire night site. “The whole village came, but we kids organised it all. Collecting and scavenging wood, rubbish, old tyres, it all went on. Everyone brought their own fireworks, we kids had made a guy and wheeled it round in a barrow yelling ‘Penny for the Guy’. ‘Teddies’ was baked in the ashes - it was one great village party. Next day it was still smoking”.

Later George Stapleton and Mr Bridgman, who lived there, tilled the centre to create the central green. They kept it mown and over the years the residents planted trees. One was for Gwen Woollacott, David’s mother, to mark her many years of service running the brownies.

David’s father was a slaughter-man who was very distressed having to shoot so many bullocks in the foot and mouth outbreak in the sixties. A huge pit was dug down Townsends Hill at Westcott’s site to bury the slaughtered cattle.

“My father used to regularly walk the village footpaths as did Sid Davey”, he recalls. David expressed surprise that there is not a map up in the village somewhere to show where the walks are and the many wells. Recalling his postie days as a good life that kept you fit: “I was only ever bitten once” he laughs. He recalls with affection those early morning starts at the sorting office working with Neville Heard, etc. and the camaraderie they shared. A photo of this time features on the front cover of the 1997 Winkleigh Book.



From the Winkleigh Book

Penny Griffiths

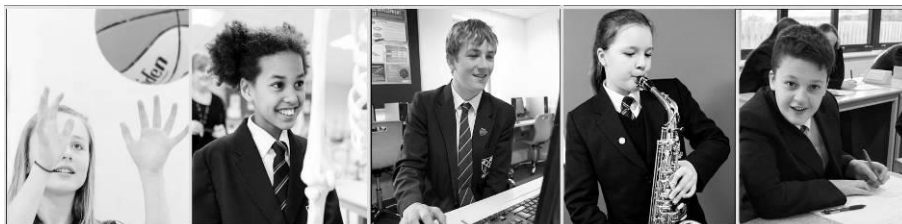
The Queen - An Anecdote

I have spent my life (so far!) working boats and barges throughout the rivers and canals of Britain and the Continent from Macclesfield to Marseilles - sometimes with freight, sometimes with people. Freight doesn't require courtesy, patience and understanding. People arrive with an infinite range of demands, but are usually more interesting than lumps of house-coal!

I have never understood why or how, but water is the great healing element. European Royalty and politicians have become addicted to travelling at the speed of childhood whilst shedding the problems of State. Billionaires' PAs curse every time the Boss takes a boating holiday and returns to the Office full of plans that squeeze everyone's energy dry. Oscar winners can always be trusted with tiller or wheel and revel in the therapeutic anonymity. Prince Charles zig-zagged a bit whilst launching a charity boat in London, but enjoyed himself greatly!

Far and away the most inspiring to carry are people of all ages who come with a multitude of problems - social, physical, and other disabilities. To witness the empathy between the Shire horses and such people is truly touching, and a privilege to observe. All this takes place as we float on a cushion of silence whilst the still waters run deep beneath us.

A few years ago my then crew, Rosie, and I took a boatload of stroke victims for a traditional Northern Day Out on the River Weaver in Cheshire. Food, friends and frolics! The scenic backdrop is stunning. As we waited for the coach to take them back



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to their care home, one lady, Elizabeth, told me that the worst part of having suffered a stroke was that she could hardly read or write. She was born on the same day as the Queen in 1926 and for many years they had exchanged birthday cards and the Queen had suggested a more familiar term of address. 'May it Please Your Majesty' seemed a touch too formal!

I promised 'my' Elizabeth that I would drop a line to the Queen to put her in the picture - and I wouldn't even put a stamp on the letter! My Elizabeth chuckled, and a couple of days later I received a 'Thankyou' from an equerry on the Queen's behalf.

End of story? Oh No! A couple of weeks later the manageress of the care home rang me in Devon to say that the Queen had popped in unannounced on her way to Liverpool and had brought a bunch of flowers for Elizabeth. The receptionist would not allow 'the lady in the car' to come in! The chauffeur, possibly used to such occasions, showed a £10 note and said "It's her on the right!"

Everyone in the lounge was dumbfounded when the Queen greeted Elizabeth, shook hands with everyone and presented the flowers! The staff have dined out on the tale ever since, and local media and the boat's owner missed a great photo opportunity! I would have given almost anything to have witnessed the event!

I enjoy telling Republicans about that particular little kindness and the humanity of our own special 'Girl-next-Door'.

JIM MARSHALL

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Improve Your Wellbeing - 'Be A CLANGER'

The 'Five Ways to Wellbeing' arose as part of the National Foresight Campaign which developed a set of recommendations for action. These are based on evidence from over 400 scientists worldwide of what actions people can take that are strongly associated with improved mental health and wellbeing. Wallingbrook have been promoting this under the acronym CLANG and hopes this help everyone to incorporate the 5 ways into their daily lives.

C onnect	With people around you. Develop connections that enrich your life.
L earn	Try something new. Revive an old interest. Challenge yourself.
A ctive	Go for a walk or run. Step outside. Play a game. Have fun.
N otice	Be curious. Open your eyes to the world around you. Savour the moment.
G ive	Do something nice for a friend or stranger. Volunteer. Join a community group. Thank someone. Smile.

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All Saints Church 'Flower Ladies'

Thank you to everyone who purchased a lily in memory of a "loved one". The total collected was £506.00 which was used to purchase the lilies, which decorated the church for Easter. A good number of people attended the coffee morning to view the lily displays. We are planning a refreshing new idea for 'Winkleigh Fair' floral displays which we hope all will enjoy viewing at our coffee morning due to be held on Tuesday morning of fair week.

We are always looking for any new ladies to join our friendly group, please contact either **Marcia Butt (01837 83734)** or **Linda Millership (01837 680040)** - no experience necessary.

Okehampton Choral Society – Summer Concert

Okehampton Choral Society will present its summer concert, Music for A Summer Evening, on Saturday, 2nd July, 2016 at 7.30 pm in Fairplace Church, Okehampton, with a wide ranging choice of programme to include folksong and folklore as well as music from the theatre. In short, expect an evening of light entertainment with the odd surprise thrown in. We hope you will make a note of the date in your diary and we look forward to you joining us.

Tickets, price £5, will be available from Beanfeast in the Victoria Arcade in Okehampton from Tuesday, 7th June, or from **Peter Howard (tel. no. 01837 83362)**.

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Winkleigh Village Hall
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First Saturday of the month



Refreshments sold in
aid of local charities
and organisations

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 on the local league. If you would like to join or support the team please contact Jeanne Nightingale nandjngale@hotmail.co.uk or phone 01837-83288

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:

In February we have two talks one on 'Keeping chickens' and the other on 'How to win Gold at Chelsea'

In March it our Quiz night thank you to all our members for their support it was a great evening rounded off by Winkleigh winning the trophy – well done team.

17 th May	Lewis Cottage, Spreyton Ex17 5AA – time to be agreed if you are interested in coming please contact Jeanne
21 st June	High Garden & Nursery, Chiverstone Lane Kenton EX6 6NJ Chris & Sharon Britton - visit, talk and tea if you are interested in attending please contact Jeanne
19 th July	Butterflies and Moths - Jennifer Evans from Butterfly Conservation
20 th September	Green Houses – in-house expertise
18 th October	Permaculture Jenny Haines
15 th November	AGM and Christmas Party
December	Christmas lunch – date and venue to be agreed

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 £12.00 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

ACE Archaeology Club.

We have just finished our first dig of the season at Moistown and for a change, the weather was kind to us, apart from the Bank Holiday Monday of course.

We uncovered the remains of a hearth, which may help us orientate other parts of the house. Of course there were more cobbles. We have started opening an extension to the trench next to the hearth trench and that will be ready for anyone who wants to have a go at digging, which in this case really means trowelling, at the Festival of Archaeology in July; for more information on this event please have a look at <http://www.step-back-in-time.co.uk/>



Our shield making event in April went really well and we were joined by some Iron Age re-enactors who will also be at the festival, putting the shields to the test.

In June we are venturing into Cornwall to The Blue Hills Tin Mining Centre at St Agnes. Non- members are welcome to join us.

At the end of August we start our main period of two weeks of excavation at Moistown. There will be an Open Day on the 27th August with tea and cake so do come along and have a look, we would love to see you.



If you would like any more information on anything we do please contact me at mail@ericaonline.plus.com. Unfortunately our website is still having problems so not yet available.

Erica Williamson ACE Archaeology Club Secretary

Winkleigh Community Centre

Well! At long last, it has happened.

The Community Centre was closed recently for some major work. It was necessary to shut the place rather than to try to work around our regular users – good old ‘elf n safety’. The work included the installation of a wheelchair ramp from the kitchen area to the Main Hall, a complete new kitchen, including two new cookers as well as a fridge; new non-slip floor-covering for the kitchen, toilets and the tiled area of the Main Hall. Some other tasks were involved. As this edition closes for the deadline, work still continues, but the Centre is back in business again. The job meant long hours for the handful of volunteer staff as well as Contractors being called in for specialist work. We hope that you like the new look.

Time now to retire to a quiet, dark room.

A busy summer season now beckons in much better conditions.

Step Back in Time

Welcome from the *Step Back in Time* crew!

Everyone agreed that last year was the best *Step Back in Time* show yet, with an incredible mix and something for all ages. The weather was kind to us, the sun shone most of the time and the ground was dry, perfect conditions despite a shower of rain before we started on Sunday, which had us biting our fingernails in case it rained all day!

The stationary engines, horticultural machines and historic vehicles looked fantastic at the entrance to the show; the Arena was always busy with re-enactments and historic vehicles, making it an interesting venue throughout the day. It was lovely to see the families sitting on their picnic blankets around the arena enjoying the show!

The Living History encampment was, as always, spectacular and realistic and it was nice to see a lot of visitors having a chat to the re-enactors, finding out more about how our ancestors lived from Iron Age to Medieval times. They were busy throughout the weekend and there didn't seem to be a minute go by without a battle being staged in the Arena, or children having a go at mock fights! We were serenaded by the "Harpies of Havoc" and as usual the Duke of York bar was popular in the hot weather!

It was nice to see the Hog Roast being so popular, they sold out each day, and the Milkshake stand was great for the kids as well as the big kids!

ACE Archaeology over at Moistown had a busy weekend demonstrating archaeological techniques and this year visitors were encouraged to join in and *Have-A-Go*.

Wasn't the *Have-A-Go* Axe-Throwing a brilliant way to help get out all those pent up frustrations?! You won't see that every day! The *Have-A-Go* Archery was well received and the Amazing Camera Obscura had to be seen to be believed. Kids just loved the old TV programs and computer games. There was a good number of trade stands, so we could all have a little retail therapy and the food & drink stands provided much needed refreshment.

We hope to see you on the 23rd & 24th of July 2016 at Pattiland Farm, Broadwood-Kelly, nr Winkleigh EX19 8ED.

Admission is £5, under 16's are free. Gates open at 11am.

If you want to book an exhibit, trade stand or boot fair pitch, then please use the booking form on **www.step-back-in-time.co.uk**

Village Hall

In the last edition of Distinctly Winkleigh we reported that we have had a grant to fit audio visual equipment and this has now been done. On 2nd July we will be having a launch evening to show people what is available and how it all works. This will be of interest to groups who want to show films and give computer-based presentations. There is DVD and Blu-ray capability. Posters giving details will be out soon.

Concern has been expressed about possible asbestos under the stage. An asbestos survey has been carried out and has reported that there is no asbestos in the Village Hall.

Andrew Ware

Winkleigh Womens Institute

We have had a busy year so far with talks by Sherrie Marshall on Village Lunchboxes, handicrafts in February, Cathy Norton gave us a most interesting talk on the Body Shop in March.

We also celebrated our 89th Birthday with a lunch at the New Inn, Roborough.

April was flower arranging with Jean and Claire. Nobody was free to go to the Spring Council in Torquay unfortunately; this is always a very interesting day.

May was our AGM and Resolutions Meeting. This year we have two resolutions to put forward, as I am sure you are all aware WI Resolutions are often followed up by pressure on the government of the day to implement them! Keep Briton Tidy for example.

This year we had to choose for or against:

Resolution 1:

We call upon HM Government and the NHS to provide facilities to enable careers to stay with people with Alzheimer's disease and dementia that have been admitted to Hospital.

Resolution 2

The WI calls on all supermarkets to sign up to a voluntary agreement to avoid food waste, thereby passing surplus food onto Charities and helping them address the issue of increasing food poverty in the UK.

On a lighter note, at last night's Taw Valley Group Meeting, Winkleigh won the Competition, so we have the Cup for the year. We may be small but we can still compete!

Why not come and join us. Meeting and Program details are displayed around the village and also on the Village Website.



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Winkleigh School - News

The busiest term of the year, the summer term, is now well underway at school. While having to complete the Standard Assessment Tests (SATs) in Year 6, the class is also looking at the Tudors. Areas being studied include the Reformation, Henry VIII and his six wives, The Spanish Armada and medicine. The children are certainly finding a contrast to modern life from this area of learning.

Year 5 children are very excited to be given the opportunity to learn how to surf at Bude as part of their topic, which will bring in the important role of the RNLI who are due to visit soon. The very popular Year 5 restaurant evening, which generates funds for the Enterprise scheme in Year 6 next year, is being planned, with the research for this being provided by a trip to Pizza Express. The children will study how to run a successful restaurant session which parents will see the benefit of on the night!

World War 1 is the area of learning in Year 4 where the children have been undertaking time travel right back to 1914. The role of women has been looked at, recruitment posters to increase the involvement of women have been designed and the trench systems have been studied. The assassination of Arch Duke Franz Ferdinand has been a hot topic covering a variety of curriculum areas.

The dance festival in June is being eagerly awaited by children in Year 3 and practicing will soon begin so that they can give a good performance on the day. The residential trip to Rock and Rapids was organised and much enjoyed by everyone. All areas of the curriculum are being covered by the Stone Age topic, including art, literacy and design and technology.

Years 1 and 2, the latter also completing their SATs, are working closely together on their topic of Holiday, each class taking different areas of the same topic. Growing and cooking are being undertaken and the redesigning of the Key Stage 1 garden is being carefully planned along with some exciting trips to the Aquarium and to Bondleigh for the popular summer walk.

The Foundation Stage, now operating on two sites in order to accommodate a surge in numbers are also working very closely together, on the topic of life cycles this half-term and the beach next half-term. A very successful trip to Rosemoor has already happened, when the children took part in the 'rainbow colours' workshop, looking carefully at the wide spectrum of colours provided by the late spring flowers. The classrooms have been full of tadpoles, frogs, caterpillars and butterflies, all showing the children some magical and amazing aspects of nature. Trips to Trethorne, for nursery, and the beach, for reception will go ahead later in June and July.

Sports Day, class assemblies, trips and visitors will all take place and then it will be time to turn attention to the new school year in September.

Winkleigh School – Childrens Work

These two pieces of work, sent to us from the School, are both by Alex Welsh.

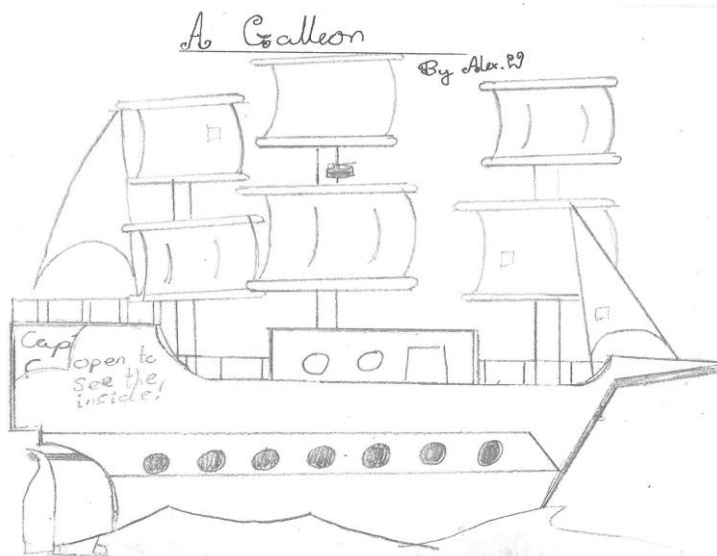
Sir Francis Drake

Francis Drake was only ten when he went to sea. On one of his voyages the ship's cat fell in the sea and he dived in after it. So it was no surprise that when he grew up; on his 27th trip, he became captain of his ship.

On another trip he ankoreed in Mexico, which was in the hands of the Spanish. They appeared to be very kind but at dawn, tried to rob them. Drake and his men fought bravely, but were soon forced to retreat.

One time Drake and his crew found Spanish soldiers at Panama. They battled fiercely ~~and~~ and despite thier first encounter, were victorious. Drake climbed a nearby tree to look over the sea and decided to go on an exploration. He traveled far and wide but was chased away by local tribes. When he retueneel the Queen told him to rob the Spanish. Again, they left victorious.

As while afterwards Drake was informed that the Spanish Armada was approaching and to come quick. The Spanish were tall and slow but the English were low and fast. They sunk many ships and held fictory over the Spanish. They were rewarded greatly by the Queen, who told them that thier story would be told for centuries after.



Friends of Winkleigh School

For those of you who don't know us, the Friends of Winkleigh School (FoWS) is a fundraising group, made up of local people, which works to raise money for Winkleigh Primary School. The money we raise goes directly to assisting the learning experience of the children at the school.

We make an annual contribution for each class in the school to subsidise some of the school trips. Without this, the trips would either cost more per pupil or would not be possible. Some of the more major items we have funded in the past include:

- new laptops for ICT lessons
- pantomime performances and workshops in school
- new books for the library
- climbing wall at the school
- i-pads for learning

Our project to create an enclosed learning area in the school has now been completed. The FoWS team undertook the task of draining and filling in the old pond with rubble and then laying a new paved surface. The children now have a beautiful internal courtyard which can be used for a variety of purposes. FoWS funded the venture and raised 25% of the overall cost by asking parents to "sponsor" a slab. A plaque is in place as a memento to recognize those contributions. We would also like to express our gratitude to South West Fixings, A&S Paving and The Company of Landscapers who all contributed towards the project with either materials or equipment.

A big “thank you” goes especially to Mark Bridgman for his expertise and efforts in making the renovation possible and to the FoWS team who helped shift tons of rubble, sand, cement and slabs through the school in somewhat inclement weather! We hope that the pupils of the school enjoy this new area in the coming summer months.

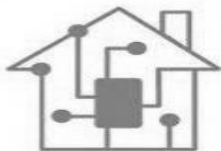
Some dates for your diary:

- Spring school disco next Friday 20th May 4pm-6pm. Cost £1 per child with snacks available. Parents do not need to stay as the FoWS team will be on hand to supervise.
- Summer end of term school disco Friday 15th July (fair week) 4pm–6pm (outside if the weather is good).
- Bacon roll morning for local businesses. Feel like treating your staff to a warm bacon or egg roll? Or would your staff like the opportunity to buy one from us for their mid-morning break? We will be delivering them on the morning of 24th June (timing flexible) but between 8:30am and 1:00pm. Order forms are going out w/c 6th June and will be collected the week after – any business that would like an order form, please phone Tim on 83229 or ask at the school.
- FoWS has been invited to run the barbeque on Winkleigh Fair Saturday from 1pm. We are hoping to have a few fun, unique games alongside the barbeque: “Fruit Machine”, “Yucky Dip”, “Balloon Pop” and “Putt Challenge” (dependent on space and weather).
- FoWS is also hoping to make use of the Sports Centre this year to run the annual fireworks event, following the cancellation last year. The date will be confirmed in the next edition of Distinctly Winkleigh.

Lastly, FoWS would like to thank Anna Bridgman for years of stoic service in her role as Treasurer. She has been the driving force behind the team for a long time and will be greatly missed. We are pleased to welcome on board our new Treasurer, Liz Jones. Thanks to everyone who has supported us over the past year.

If you would like to find out more about FoWS, please ask at the school or phone Tim Rhodes (Chairperson) on 83229. Maybe you would like to join the committee or just assist us at some of our events; we would welcome your support.

With thanks from the **Friends of Winkleigh School**



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Later-life and affordable housing in Winkleigh

Progress in developing a Community Land Trust

This is a brief account of where we've got to in the development of a community land trust for Winkleigh.

Governments abandoned any role in providing the capital for housing when Mrs Thatcher imagined a property-owning democracy "for all"; and houses were sold to the tenants, removing the existing properties from the stock of housing for rent. The present government is pushing this further again in new legislation on the right to buy. Community Land Trusts (CLTs) have emerged as one of the few ways of increasing the stock of genuinely affordable housing. The so-called obligation on developers to build a percentage of affordable houses has all too often produced buildings that are of a poor standard.

Between 2007 and 2010 I had been invited to attend three regional conferences which brought together working groups from many communities in the South West and beyond who were at various stages in developing community affordable housing. We exchanged experience and visited several such developments in Cornwall and Devon at various stages of completion, including the extensive one at High Bickington.

Community Land Trusts rely on at least some fundamental features to keep the costs down:

1. A donation of or discounted price for land. This follows a long tradition in this country of public-spirited generosity.
2. A group of volunteers prepared to entrepreneur, plan and manage each building project; and to set up a body to manage and administer the housing.
3. Community Land Trusts enable much better control over design, - both for needs of residents and local distinctiveness in keeping with the village.

Winkleigh housing needs

The survey carried out for the community-based Parish Plan by the local authority found that there was a need for eight new affordable households for local people. Such surveys do not always reach everybody looking for affordable housing but are a good starting point.

Later-life housing

National trends, reinforced by local statistics, identify a second type of need: housing designed for people in later-life. This need will unquestionably increase, as greater numbers of people live longer; and NHS costs mean more people will be encouraged to live as independently as possible.

There are national standards for this but many houses in Winkleigh were built before these were introduced. There are also great strides being made in using technology to make independent living easier.

Progress in Winkleigh

Obviously a primary need for any CLT is land. This is not easy! David Lausen (then our District Councillor) and I had been exploring possibilities for this, when an unexpected opportunity arose when the land occupied by the old Preschool on Castle

Street was put up for disposal by Devon County Council. With very little time, in great haste, we formed a small group to start a CLT applied and received grants for training and expert advice. We met with an adviser from the University of Salford, began to find out a great deal more about what we were letting ourselves in for and made an offer to the County for the land. Although we had between us many years of experience in business and some in commissioning building projects, we did not have a background in land purchase for development and - because of the very short timescale,- very little opportunity to learn about and explore possibilities for fundraising. So simultaneously, we were negotiating with the County, (and hoping that they would look favourably on our bid because it was for a community need!); looking into various funding sources including a social enterprise bank, the funding system for Parish Councils, for which we needed to start discussions with an understandably cautious Parish Council; seeking the support of senior levels in the County Social Services who would have an interest in the later-life aspect of the development, engaging the pro-bono help of a firm of architects and a building contractor with relevant experience, to advise on the practicality and order of costs on the site, while also learning from the CLT advisers about the nitty-gritty of managing a CLT and discussing the legal arrangements for setting up a community land trust with specialist solicitors.

The most difficult issue of all turned out to be the price of the land. None of our advisers could say with any certainty what kind of risk we were taking by making an offer for the land at a specific figure: land prices were still being affected, too a much greater extent than now by the fall-out from the financial crisis. In the end it turned out that we had offered only about half of the figure that the County obtained from a commercial developer. The land has still not been developed but has been offered for sale again with planning permission for 2 and a half times the purchase price! We have learned a lot. As David Brown, who lead the community land trust development in High Bickington, said at one of the national conferences I attended, "This is not for the faint-hearted". We continue to look out for opportunities and one possibility is to work with developers to take over their obligation to produce a percentage of affordable housing.

Peter Stutt

A few memories from my years teaching at Winkleigh School

I first started teaching at Winkleigh School in 1966. The Victorian building was in the middle of the village and consisted of four classes. Mr Francis was the headmaster and taught the top juniors, Mr Pym, the deputy-head, taught the lower juniors and Mrs Heggadon and I the two infant classes. I'm sure some of you will remember all of us.

The children then came mainly from an agricultural background and their speech much more localised. Wembworthy and Iddesleigh Schools had closed and the children who were bussed in arrived on the school bus to Chulmleigh around 8.30 am and were picked up about 4.30 pm which meant that some of them didn't see their homes in daylight, except at weekends, during the winter months.

Winkleigh was a very friendly place and the school a good place to work.

The classrooms were heated by old fashioned stoves which refused to burn when there was no wind in the winter. Times and both schools and education have changed over the years since then.

Some of my memories include stopping lessons to look out of the window when the Hunt met in the village square, school trips to Shipload Bay and Molland Common where at least one child always had to be fished out of the sea or the river and dried off. These tended to be the highlights of the day, remembered with glee not least by the victim. Other school trips were to the Buckfast Butterfly Farm and Buckfast Abbey.

I wonder if any of you remember PE lessons in the village hall or learning to swim in the school swimming pool in Mr Pym's garden and later in the school playground. The water was never very warm and we waited until it reached 50 degrees before the infants were allowed in. This pool moved with us to the new school.

When the new school was built it presented us with a new set of challenges, in the first year the roof leaked and the heating system broke down at least once a week. Everyone appreciated the playing field where there was room to run around and kick footballs, although there was nowhere for ball games against the walls.

Besides the usual school curriculum we had our special days. Do you remember the school celebrating Armada Year in 1988 when we had Elizabethan music being played in the corridor during the day and Mr Friend dressed in Tudor costume? Perhaps some of you remember the Infant Music Festival and hosting it and going off to other village schools to take part.

I remember the day the Infants received a mystery parcel. We spent the morning measuring, weighing and trying to guess what it contained. Finally when we opened it we found it was full of daffodil bulbs which we spent the afternoon planting on the banks round the Infant playground. We had to wait for them to make an appearance and bloom and it was great fun when they finished blooming and we had to deadhead them.

These are just a few of my memories during my years at Winkleigh School. There are plenty more, too many for me to write about now and I haven't even mentioned Mrs King who was our Classroom Assistant and looked after us all so well for so many years.



Joan Childs

Brictric of Winkleigh and Queen Matilda

‘Hell hath no fury like a woman scorned’.....

Earl Brictric of Winkleigh will have brooded on these words as he languished in the dungeons of Winchester.

Brictric, ‘the golden-haired one’, so captivated Princess Matilda when he visited her father’s court in Flanders in 1052, that she defied tradition and protocol and proposed to him, but he rejected her!

Little did he know that that in 1066 she would become Queen of England?

When asked by her husband, William the Conqueror, what lands she wanted in England, Matilda replied; ‘All that Brictric owns’.

Well, anyway, all his became hers and he died incarcerated in Winchester.

Perhaps this partly explains why Winkleigh was so important with its two castles and the only Royal Park recorded in Devon in The Domesday Book.

The Winkleigh Pageant, ‘Painting Pictures with People’ performed in 1997, drew on historical records and imagination to portray the struggles the Winkleigh peasants would have suffered when William’s cruel forest laws were enforced by Sir Roger de Keynes.

Penny Griffiths

Sir Roger de Keynes



From the time of William the Conqueror, great men have held sway over the Manor of Winkleigh - guarding its royal park for the monarch and the tenants-in-chief.

The Wise Woman

And leaving us to starve! Hold sway indeed - what 'ee talking about - what about us peasants who worked your manor - we needed to hunt in that park to stay alive.



We were all poachers and forced into it by the Normans and you didn't catch us all.

PAST REAL ~ PAST IMAGINED....

Pop-up Museum Day

Please bring along your Stories, Memories & Treasures of Winkleigh to share with others and learn about past times in Winkleigh

17th September – All Day – Winkleigh Community Centre

Refreshments will be available

Organised by The Winkleigh Society

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googlemail.com](mailto:ewknight1991@googlemail.com)

Contact: 07875973278
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The Winkleigh Singers

The Winkleigh Singers were delighted to be involved in the successful Winkleigh Music Day. We all enjoyed the spirit in the village and it was satisfying to give a well-attended music workshop in the afternoon and a short concert recital in the evening. Musical Director Roland Smith adds: *"It was great to see so many at the workshop – a full house! What I meant to say at the end was that the afternoon counted as one rehearsal towards our three week trial session before joining the choir"*.

We are now working towards a performance of Purcell's Fairy Queen, a semi-opera based on A Midsummer Night's Dream to mark the anniversary of Shakespeare's death. This will be performed on Monday 27th June at 8pm in Umberleigh Village Hall. Tickets and more information are available through the website www.winkleighsingers.org.uk or phone 01363 884446, or at the door.



We are back in Winkleigh for our Christmas Concert in Winkleigh Parish Church, Saturday 17th December, when we look forward again to bringing to the village our enthusiasm for singing.

The Winkleigh Singers.
www.winkleighsingers.org.uk

Winkleigh Parish Paths

We are fortunate to have some beautiful countryside in the Winkleigh and Hollocombe area, and with the onset of warmer weather in Spring, it is a delight to explore. We want to encourage people, visitors and locals alike, to walk the public rights of ways. To that end we are looking for people who are keen to join us in checking and maintaining the 12 miles of paths within the Parish, as part of the Parish Paths Partnership with Devon County Council. Winkleigh Parish Council is also planning to produce a Winkleigh Walks brochure, and we will be looking for people to test out the walks before publication. Do please get in touch, even if you can offer limited time to help, and we will keep you in touch with future developments.

Contact **Alan Jacobs**: ajrjacobs@live.co.uk or 01837 83895.

Number Puzzle

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

Solution on page 60

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Chulmleigh Tennis Club has become an LTA Tennismark Club. This is a Sport England approved accreditation that recognizes clubs as safe, welcoming and inclusive.

Our new season starts on 1 April with an Open Tournament on 3 April from 10am to which all are invited. Entry is £2 a player for non-members and refreshments will be available. New members can join on the day!

Coaching begins on Wednesday 13 April for all ages. Beginners, called minis, use a special red, orange or green ball and we have a new Mini session at 4pm for children aged from 4 years old. For adults who haven't picked up a tennis racket for years, we have a Rusty Racket session at 7pm!

Thanks to all who supported our Wine Tasting on 26 February, which raised over £200.

For full details contact **01769 580819** or **chulmleightenniscub@hotmail.co.uk**

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Winkleigh Music Festival

Under the auspices of Winkleigh Fair, a Music Festival was held on 9th April, under the strict understanding that we would not call it Winstock. In fact we were very happy to accept this restriction, because we were planning something quite different from the many other music festivals. Our purpose was not to give a platform to the very best musical turns we could afford, but to showcase as many local amateur performers as possible. Having two halls next to each other was a great help.

The day started with a peal from the tower and a bell-ringers workshop and, like most of the other groups, they acquired new members who had always wondered



about bell ringing but not so far made it up the tower. All afternoon were other workshops, with the singers in the Community Centre, followed by the scrapers, puffers and blowers. Both of these were bursting out of their halls with forty plus members. Winkleigh Morris were busy in the Village Hall, followed by another workshop for children.



The evening saw a concert by two choirs (Winkleigh Singers and Ploughcapella) in the Hall, with one lady rushing across the road from singing Alto to pick up her double bass to join the Bondleigh Barn Band, and immediately afterwards playing the violin to lead the Petrovian Orchestra with the South Molton Singers in a selection from *Patience*. The

Hollocombe Music Club's various groups then interspersed with dancing in the *ceilidh*, and with other soloists. Ed and Sherrie's comic turn, Tansy and James's jazz and Alan and Jenny's ragtime led to Mozart with a quartet. All roads lead to Mozart.

Clearly we did a lot of things wrong: probably the wrong time of year, and would be better in term-time to allow the schools to participate; we discovered that quarts do not go into pint-pots without overspill; we need better ticketing arrangements - but we broke even and the Fair did not expect to make a profit. On the plus side, we

have had many comments from performers who had a splendid time meeting others and clearly a great many people (at least 200) had a good time. Many players had never visited Winkleigh before. Clearly music is alive and well in this part of Devon.

Of course there are too many people to thank by name, all the performers of course and especially the conductors and leaders. To those who rallied round to help organise most particularly Paul Cherrett. And thanks too to all those providing refreshments, the Village Hall committee for the bar, the Hollocombe Art Group, and the Breast Cancer Now fundraising group for an astonishing range of cake. The band at the Seven Stars provided a suitably crowded end to the evening.

Are there amateur groups we missed out? Please let us know.

Peter Howard

Peterjhoward27@gmail.com

Winkleigh Church Wives Group

The Wives Group continues to have a thriving membership and a full programme of Monthly Meetings.

We looked forward to our meeting in March when Mr. Frank Letch was due to come along and speak to the group about the charity “Feet First“ We were not disappointed, Frank himself was born without arms, only having a stump for his left arm, but from an early age learnt to use his feet in place of arms. He was able to demonstrate this by picking up some dropped coins and returning them to the person who had dropped her purse sending small coins over the floor.

In April we learnt about the History behind our Nursery Rhymes. Pam Soby was able to enlighten us to the back ground to many of our traditional rhymes, mostly having either a Political or Religious background.

In May we will be learning about the history and meaning behind a “Posy of Flowers”

We end our year in June by holding a service in Church, followed by a meeting back in the Village Hall where we hope to finalise details for our Coach outing in August, and the forthcoming programme for 2016 / 2017.

All our meetings take place on the second Monday of the month at 2.30pm in the small rear room of the Village Hall

We re-start in September and welcome any visitors who would like to join us at any of our meetings.

Janet Magor (sec)

01837 83799

Winkleigh Church Fundraising Events

As a prominent feature in the Winkleigh landscape, the Church is a fine example of the architecture of previous centuries and has to be maintained as such in an age of increasing costs. Many families in Winkleigh have used the Church on those important occasions such as baptisms, marriages and funerals, and many visitors to the area take time to look in the Church and frequently comment on aspects of architecture, decoration and monuments. To make sure the costs directed by the diocese are maintained, a fundraising group is setting up a programme of events which includes the existing significant annual occasions, but also some additional features that will be prominently advertised around the village.

The Church Fete on **9 July** will have the very popular teas served in the Village Hall from **2pm** with the traditional Duck Draw (for which tickets are now available) being made at **4.30pm**.

Also from 2pm there will be a range of stalls in the Community Centre throughout the afternoon. These include the Church Wives wonderful array of cakes; the popular Tombola; an interesting White Elephant stall; an opportunity to restock your Larder; Books (in good condition), Stationery & Vinyl stall; a revised 'Re-loved' Clothing section with items in good condition; a return of the Garden Stall with plants, vegetables, books and tools; and, at the request of children from the Sunday School, some 'Guessing games' (sweets in a jar, weight of the cake, bricks in a Lego model) and posy selling, with, at their request, the proceeds going to a children's charity. Everyone is welcome, we look forward to seeing you there.

From **10 – 11 September** there will be an Art Exhibition in the Church and local artists are invited to submit their paintings. Application forms are available from Sylvia Smith (83132) and Margery Howard (83362) and the entry fee is £1 per picture or item. The opening of the exhibition will be on the Saturday evening and refreshments will be available. On the Sunday evening of the exhibition there will be a 'Songs of Praise' when representatives from all local groups will be invited to select a hymn of their choice.

The Autumn Edition of Distinctly Winkleigh will have details of events through the later months of the year, including a Poetry & Pies Supper, celebrating the 400th Anniversary of Shakespeare's death.

The Fundraising Group wish to congratulate the Flower Arrangers for their spectacular display in the Church over Easter.

Submitted by **Margery Howard**

Winkleigh Parish Council

Chair's Annual Report - 2015/2016

Firstly, thank you to all residents who have supported the Council, attended meetings or contributed to the smooth running of the parish over the last year – your involvement is much appreciated.

Winkleigh Parish Council (WPC) election in May 2015 was uncontested (like many councils), so the 4 candidates standing were all duly elected, but we still had 7 Councillor seats to fill. Since then, the Council has had a turbulent time regards membership. However, through co-option, the tide has turned and we now have 7 Cllrs with just 4 seats to fill!

Being a Parish Councillor (an unpaid role) means representing your community and getting the best for your parish by delivering effective local governance and, where possible, improvements. The role involves attending monthly Council meetings, dealing with emails, research, reporting and an interest in issues such as; planning, finance, policy, personnel, the environment, housing, etc. The benefit of having active Councillors is we can achieve more and work more effectively for the community. Members drawn from a cross-section of society with diverse backgrounds, make for an inclusive Council, so please enquire if you can commit your time and energy to help the community!

Your Council's workload continues to increase as central Gov't and our local authority, Torridge District Council (TDC), devolve responsibility *and cost* for local services. Wider austerity is increasingly evident too in services and infrastructure, as seen in the pressure on our hospitals and state of rural roads.

FINANCE: Winkleigh receives funding from TDC advising how much is needed to run the parish; this amount is stated on your Council Tax bill as the 'Precept'. Inevitably the precept reflects costs and whilst WPC wish to maintain decent services and deliver improvements, it balances this with keeping the precept reasonable. During the financial year to 31/3/16, WPC were only £79 over budget against its forecasts; WPC received £23,260 with £22,177 expenditure.

Grant Applications for 2015/16 were paid in April 2015 totalling **£1,575.00** for:

- **£400.00** Sports Centre - play equipment for Sure Start & young people
- **£250.00** Okehampton Transport Group - ring & ride bus and voluntary cars
- **£500.00** Winkleigh Youth Club - £250 Muga & £250 Archery Equipment
- **£100.00** Citizens Advice Bureau - recruitment and training of volunteers
- **£250.00** Winkleigh Fair – towards Christmas lights
- **£75.00** Royal British Legion - Wreath

Grants Applications for 2016/17 were paid immediately in Oct 2015, due to surplus funds held in ‘Reserves’ (the precept demand could have risen if ‘Reserves’ not used). Grants of **£1,750.00** were allocated as follows:

- Release of monies awarded 2014 - see above* (£250 Muga/£250 Archery)
- **£250.00** Citizens Advice Bureau
- **£500.00** Winkleigh War Memorial Recreational Ground
- **£500.00** Youth Club Winkleigh Methodist £500
- **£200.00** Northern Devon Food-bank Christmas Fund 2015
- **£300.00** Okehampton & District Community Transport Group

Costs & Compliance: Approximately half of our expenditure was staff costs. The Clerk is contracted for 12 hours/week and is our ‘Responsible Finance Officer’ with responsibility for WPC’s financial matters, providing legal advice, managing WPC business, including the cemetery and cemetery bungalow. Other expenditure includes cemetery, bungalow and parish asset maintenance, street cleaning, etc. WPC legally had to comply with requirements of the *Transparency Code* effective 1st July 2015, receiving a DCC grant of £377.88 towards this. WPC adopted a *Freedom of Information* policy and registered under the *Data Protection Act*. WPC are reviewing their Financial Regulations and Standing Orders in light of current guidelines. **A full/detailed Financial Report and analysis is available from the Clerk or online.**

PLANNING: Over the last year WPC received 41 planning consultations, 10 relating to ‘*Prior Notification for Change of Use of an Agricultural Building to a Dwelling*’, supporting the conversion of barns into homes. As identified in the Community Action Plan, a ‘*Village Design Statement*’ (VDS) was produced following public engagement and work by Pauline Warner and Penny Griffiths WPC now have guidelines and a set of best practice ‘*Design Principles*’. The VDS was approved by WPC (Feb 2016) and is now with TDC for review. (Image is detail of village illustration by Brian Percival (incomplete), part of the Action Plan, VDS project).



HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS: Winkleigh's allocation through the Local Plan was set by TDC at 55 new homes. However, in Feb 2016, WPC hosted a '*Pre-Application Community Engagement*' presentation by Greenslade Taylor Hunt (GTH), for a development of 23 dwellings on land off Eggesford Road, to include a proportion of affordable homes. The site is within Winkleigh's Development Boundary, so a '*presumption in favour of sustainable development*' will prevail. WPC objected in principle, due to inadequate access, emphasising the VDS 'Design Principles'. GTH responded they, "*... will digest the Council's comments and those of the public and see what can be done to alleviate the concerns raised*". The Eggesford Road site did not come forward earlier and therefore was not included in the Local Plan consultations, so this development (if approved) will be in addition to the 55 allocated. This makes an expected total of around 78 new homes for Winkleigh in future. WPC will work hard to ensure the right types of housing are built to meet local need.

TDC & LOCAL PLAN: There have been several further, late consultations by TDC on the Local Plan, including a 'Wind Energy Development Public Consultation', where WPC supported *designated* areas for wind energy via Neighbourhood Plans only - against TDC's preferred policy for development across the region. Over 90% of respondents objected to the policy. Voting on Policy DM11B: Wind Energy Development will be held in May. The Local Plan is scheduled for adoption shortly, with ratification by the Secretary of State, due in early 2017.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Assets: During the financial year, WPC carried out inspections with maintenance/replacement costs of £845. This consists of £500 contingency towards replacing the bus shelter on Exeter Road and £345 for: bench repairs in Square, bin by bus shelter Exeter Road re-stabilised (awaiting completion), slabs at Ring O'Bells replaced (awaiting completion), a larger refuse bin at Folly Cottage (awaiting TDC), backing renewed in notice board, new dog bins for Winkleigh Woods and Shute Lane purchased, replacement filing cabinets for Clerk.

Bungalow: The parish bungalow has been the subject of some debate by the Council over the last year. As our largest asset, a market valuation and full structural survey was commissioned by the Council in order to fully consider ongoing maintenance, meeting legal regulations, income and future sustainability. The survey report contains a number of recommendations and suggests a valuation of £150k for the bungalow as it stands, or between £200k-£250k as a redevelopment plot. The bungalow is currently rented to a local family and last year WPC received £5,179.00 in rental income, with £1,418.00 expenditure on insurance, maintenance and other costs. As the bungalow is a major asset owned by the parish, a public meeting will be called *specifically* to address issues raised and will be advertised in due course.

Cemetery Grounds: These continue to be kept in good condition by our maintenance contractor, Andrew Ware. Spring has arrived and he will be busy mowing and trimming, so any help from the public in keeping flowers/vases on the headstones would be appreciated. Fees have risen this year (still below average) and are available on request along with new Terms & Conditions. (Info Cllrs Pearce & Hodgson)

Emergency Plan: WPC produced 'Emergency Advice' in 2015, in light of new guidelines this is due for review May 2016. (Cllr Kane)

Working & Tidy Group: Work will soon start to transform Shute Lane for better public access and, in conjunction with Elms Meadow Management Cttee, it is hoped to extend a path from the estate to Shute Lane to facilitate easier access for residents to the village - a path from Westcotts is also being investigated. Further, thanks to a number of homeowners and a new ground-maintenance contract, verges should be substantially tidier than in the past. WPC have also signed a Parish Paths (P3) Agreement, so in partnership with DCC and village volunteers, public paths will be kept in a good state of repair. Finally, WPC received a grant to create a new Parish Walks Leaflet, enabling more of the public to identify and enjoy our local, beautiful countryside. (Info/image of Shute Lane, Cllr Jacobs).



Community Plan & Plan Review:

The Community Plan Action Group (CPAG) acts as a catalyst to promote/implement

recommendations of the Community Plan and find solutions to local issues. The **Action Plan** has 29 initiatives to improve parish life. During the year, two such initiatives concerned: **Action No. 6 - A Village Design Statement (VDS)**, which sought to, *'Update work identifying features of value in the built environment (and) update earlier 1998 work on a Village Design Statement'*. The VDS complies with National Planning Policy and follows collaboration with the community; the VDS defines the scope and characteristics of development, recommending development that respects distinctive natural/architectural characteristics of the area - a rural, not

an urban, environment. Action No. 23 - Transport and Traffic, seeks to work with DCC to identify options on traffic concerns. One concern being traffic flow whereby a new signage scheme has been implemented. A public consultation on traffic calming for Townsend Hill will be announced in DW and around the parish shortly. CPAG continues to support initiatives eg tree planting, recycling, etc. For more information. - see Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/WinkleighParishPlan> or access the website at: www.winkleighplan.co.uk. (Info **Collin Gibson**)

COMMUNITY BUILDINGS/FACILITIES

- **Community Centre**: The main issue for trustees has been time available from volunteers for planning of maintenance/improvements. The key project at present is re-laying the tiled flooring and fitting a new kitchen, making an attractive venue for community and social events. The CC is entirely funded by the very modest hourly rates charged and valiant efforts of the few who constantly raise money or the occasional, much appreciated, donation. Very many thanks to all who contribute to this community asset, *"Never were so many users so indebted to so few volunteers."* (Info from Peter Stutt)
- **Village Hall**: The VH hosts various functions/classes; live events, theatre badminton, yoga and gardening club, to name a few. The main piece of news is that the VH received a grant to install an audio-visual system: a projector, large screen, lectern with speaker system etc. Work is now complete and all is operational with Broadband also now available. So the Village Hall will be an excellent venue for lectures, including AV presentations including online material - useful for Council Meetings perhaps! (Info from Chair of VHC, Andrew Ware)
- **Sports Centre**: Facilities include; indoor bowls, snooker, tennis, football etc and is great for youngsters. The SC lost their Secretary, John Spilstead, so the role is now advertised. The 'Three Halls' meetings chaired by Alan Jacobs, were the main project, including the Car Boot Sales launch. Whilst not commercially successful, these did create a good community atmosphere, with people popping in for a cuppa and bacon rolls. A grant from WPC was used to renovate play equipment outside. Generally the Sports Hall is running very well with recent expenditure on renovating lights on the Tennis Courts. The SC hope to progress with a project on the old bowling green in future. (Info from Mike Wilson)

REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS

TAAG: Cllr Jacobs and myself have found the quarterly Torrington Area Advisory Group forums useful for gathering up-to-date info on activities at TDC/DCC and to bring forward community concerns; eg potholes on Chulmleigh Road!

Wallingbrook Patient Participation Group (WPPG): Early last year WPPG held Healthy Living Events and North Tawton was transferred to the Bow Practice; Wallingbrook Health Group (WHG) Practice Manager, Karen Acott, was appointed Chair of 'Devon Health' and Lucy Harris to the post of 'Operations Manager'. End

of last year, NHS England proposed closure of the Okement Surgery, now imminent. WHG now has been restructured and Winkleigh Surgery is now open 5 days a week, Mon-Fri 8.30am-6pm, closed 1pm-2pm; there will be an additional GP and nursing clinic. Same-day appt's are available 5 days/week (Chulmleigh), but there may be long delays. (Info Anne Balcomb, Vice Chair & WPC Rep).

Pre-School & Primary School: The new Foundation Unit has been working well over the last two terms. Due to the popularity of the school's ever growing pre-school, and the up and coming 30 hours free childcare for 3 year olds, from Sept 2016 the school will expand their accommodation - operating the Foundation Stage from the school site, the cabin and pod. There is continued success for the The Two Moors Learning Partnership, a collaboration with Head Teachers in other local schools, to drive up standards. This year's focus has been on site visits, with the Head of Kings Nympton School impressed by the progress of children at Winkleigh Primary. (Info Cllr Kane)

Defibrillator: Winkleigh's defibrillator is sited in the Square beside the Kings Arms. More training is scheduled for June/July, which will be organised through the Ambulance Trust, so look out for notices if you are interested. Once again, thanks to Andrew Ware, who has kindly agreed to act as our Co-ordinator for this.

FAIR COMMITTEE

Winkleigh Fair Week (July 2015): Events held every day meant a busy week for the Committee and volunteers. The Car Treasure Hunt saw folk taking over Broadwood-Kelly; the Community Evening was very wet but die-hard supporters were still there! The Vintage Vehicle Gathering was again a huge success; the highlight of the week was definitely when around 150 children and adults turned up to 'The Quest' to find 'The Winkleigh Fire Dragon'. The Whist Drive gave people something different and Fair Saturday brought the sun, lots of games and laughter and a great community feel.



Christmas Fair & Lights (Dec 2015): Santa's Grotto was the highlight for every child (and adult) who came to see. A huge number of people were there to witness the new LED bulbs lit up for the first time and those alongside the new tree lights made sure the square was looking festive.

Other Fair Committee Events: The film days/nights, Halloween spooky walk and many other events put on throughout the year, have been well-attended and without these extra fund-raising events, the Committee would not have been able to fund the lights etc. The Winkleigh Fair Committee are very small group, who try to put events on throughout the year to entertain Winkleigh. A huge thank you to the Committee and all involved, for continuing to keep long-standing community tradition alive. (Info/photo Sian Thurlow/Deanne Whittaker)

PROJECTS & ROUND UP

On 23rd April 2016, WPC hosted a celebratory 'bring and share' tea-party in the Village Hall to commemorate the Queen's 90th Birthday. As mentioned, WPC are working on NEW PROJECTS, including; a P3 Partnership Scheme for accessible public footpaths; a public consultation on Traffic Calming for Townsend Hill; ratification of the Village Design Statement by TDC, and; working with developers on new Housing Development Schemes like the Eggesford Road site.

Our Parish Clerk and RFO, Mel Borrett, has successfully completed a full year's service. WPC thank her for undertaking the role with competence and integrity and hope she continues to enjoy the varied workload and ongoing challenges. The Council website www.winkleighpc.org.uk has also been improved by our Clerk, giving public access to all important parish documents.

Finally, thank you to all who make Winkleigh special; our weekly Weds Mini Market and monthly Sat Market, our schools, clubs, organisations, churches, chapels and numerous individuals who contribute in myriad ways. Social media now also contributes to our sense of community, making it more connected via eg Winkleigh Fair and Winkleigh! on Facebook.

Our District and Parish Councillors should also be recognised for their commitment and work to making Winkleigh function well, and function better. Let's hope Winkleigh has a great summer and successful year. For further info on anything in this report, please contact Mel Borrett, Winkleigh Parish Clerk/RFO, tel: 01837 89095 or email: winkleighpc1@btconnect.com.

Cllr Gail Flockhart (Chair)
Winkleigh Parish Council, May 2016

Winkleigh Breast Cancer Now (BCN) Fundraising

We were highly delighted with the response to our Sponsored Bunting-Making event and are very grateful to those who took on the challenge of making the bunting and all those of you who very kindly sponsored us. The amount raised with sponsorship came to an amazing £782 and, as a number of people agreed to Gift Aid their donation, there will be a further amount added at the headquarters of the Charity. So, many, many thanks to you all, it was a brilliant effort.

Our launch at the Winkleigh Music Festival on 9 April was also very well supported and we thank the Fair Committee who underwrote the event and the Music Festival organisers who very kindly agreed to us promoting the BCN in Winkleigh. We have been amazed at the generosity of local people and also at the number of families who are directly or indirectly affected by this dreadful form of cancer and were delighted to send off another £700+ to the charity. We are also very conscious of the other forms of cancer for which events in the village are staged on a regular basis, raising large sums of money. All research to isolate the genes responsible and reduce the suffering and number of deaths is well worth funding.

Future BCN events include the occasional stall at the monthly Saturday Market in the Village Hall and we are booked to do the coffee at the Market on 8 August. On Fair Saturday 16 July there will be 'Teas in the Garden' at the home of Kate and Philip de Louvois. The bunting will be used to lead the way from the Village Square and there will be scrumptious home-made cakes and cream teas available (plus the opportunity to have a well-earned rest from the many exciting activities put on by the Fair Committee). Pat Cunnington has very kindly offered to have one of her delicious Strawberry & Cream teas at her home on 8 July. There will be posters advertising these dates nearer the time.

Finally, our indomitable leader, Kate is to do her amazing Pink Pilgrimage on Croagh Patrick, the holy mountain that is a traditional site for pilgrimages in Ireland. Her web-site is www.justgiving.com/Kate-de-Louvois if you would like to read about her journey or perhaps sponsor her.

We hope to publicise events scheduled for later in the year in Distinctly Winkleigh, so:

WATCH THIS SPACE!



Airfield Garage Winkleigh
Servicing, Repairs & Classic Car Restorations
Andrew Brewer
Owner
Seckington Cross
Winkleigh
01837 682678

Muddy Shoes



For our first walk of 2016, from Higher Hollocombe to Kershaw Bridge on the River Taw (near Bridge Reeve), we followed the Hollocombe Water.

There were seven of us, and we had an enjoyable time chatting as we strolled along - admiring the bluebells and primroses in the woods.

The whole walk was away from roads and traffic, passing through Horry Mill, Pensford and Copy Lake. The rest of the time we were truly 'away from it all'. We found the paths well-marked, and our only obstacle was a fallen tree, which people seemed to enjoy crawling through! We followed many deer prints, but the only animals we came across were two delightful, portly Vietnamese pot-bellied pigs



We are planning further walks in other directions around Winkleigh over the coming

months. If you would like to join us on an occasional walk along local rights of way, please contact **Penny on 83407** or **Kim J Melhuish** via Facebook.

No previous experience is necessary – walks will vary in length



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Winkleigh Morris

THE ORIGINS OF MORRIS DANCING are uncertain. While it may have roots in pagan fertility rites or druidic customs, a Moorish connection is more likely, from the time when the moors occupied Spain. Written references to 'Morris' date from the 1400s and by the end of the 16th century 'Morys' or 'Moresco' dancing was well established in many parts of the country. In the early 20th century morris dancing was rescued from almost certain oblivion largely by the research and teaching of Cecil Sharp and Mary Neal. Today there are over 700 active groups or 'sides' in the UK.



WINKLEIGH MORRIS was formed in 1990.

We are a mixed side of about 20 dancers and musicians. On most Tuesday evenings from May to September we can be seen performing a variety of dances in the Border and Cotswold styles around the villages in the heart of Devon, followed by a music and song session in the

local pub. We also perform a rapper sword dance from the North-east of England. We support local charities and social events and take part in festivals and Morris Weekends all over the country. We have visited Sark, Eire, France, Holland and Germany. From October to April, we practise in Winkleigh Community Centre from 8 – 10pm. New members, with or without experience of dancing or playing for Morris, are very welcome to join in and have fun. Winkleigh Morris is a member of the Morris Federation. During the winter we relax in one of our two village pubs – The Kings Arms and the Seven Stars – after we have finished the practice session.

SQUIRE	John Golightly 01805 938213
BAGPERSON	Averil Stacey 01271 831461
FOREMAN	Colin Andrews 01363 877216

www.winkleighmorris.org.uk



WINKEILIDH BAND: contact Colin for a lively band and caller



WINKLEIGH MORRIS 2016 DANCE PROGRAMME

APRIL

Sat	23	all day	JMO Day of Dance	York
Sun	24	2.00 pm	Kings Arms	North Duffield (Yorks)

MAY

Sun	1	1.30 pm	Globe Inn	Beaford
		3.00 pm	Seven Stars	Winkleigh
Thu	5	7.30 pm	Bell Inn	Chittlehampton (+ Borderline)
Tue	10	8.00 pm	White Hart	Bow
Tue	17	8.00 pm	Laurels	Petrockstow
Tue	24	8.00 pm	Golden Lion	High Bickington
Sat	28	day	Bude Folk Festival	
Tue	31	8.00 pm	Grove Inn	Kings Nympton

JUNE

Tue	7	8.00 pm	Torrige Inn	Taddipport (Torrington)
Tue	14	8.00 pm	Tom Copley Tavern	Spreyton
Sun	18	afternoon	Lustleigh	
Tue	21	8.00 pm	New Inn	Roborough
Sat	25	11.30 am	Witheridge	
Tue	28	8.00 pm	Duke of York	Iddesleigh (+ Cogs & Wheels)

JULY

Sat	2	pm	Coldridge Fete	
Thu	7	8.00 pm	Maltscoop	Lapford. (Lapford Revel)
Tue	12	8.00 pm	Tors Hotel	Belstone
Tue	19	8.00 pm	Bell Inn	Monkleigh
Tue	26	8.00 pm	Red Lion	Exbourne

AUGUST

Tue	2	7.30 pm	Esplanade	Sidmouth (Folk Week)
Tue	9	8.00 pm	Ram's Head	Dolton
Tue	16	8.00 pm	New Inn	Sampford Courtenay
Tue	23	8.00 pm	Green Dragon	Northlew
Tue	30	7.45 pm	London Inn	Morchard Bishop

SEPTEMBER

Tue	6	7.45 pm	Tally Ho	Hatherleigh
9th - 12th			Guernsey	Guernsey of Bells & Broomsticks
Tue	27	8.00	Community Centre	Winkleigh. First practice night.

DECEMBER

Boxing day	midday	The Duke of York	Iddesleigh
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As we perform in the open air we are subject to the vagaries of the weather. This programme is correct at the time of printing, but there may be subsequent changes. Therefore, if you are travelling any distance to see us dance, please call one of the numbers overleaf to check.

Follow us - Support us - Join us

Winter practice season : October to April
Tuesdays, 8 pm - 10 pm
Winkleigh Community Centre

An Arts & Crafts Mystery in Devon (part 2)

Since the article in the magazine of the Winter 2015 (Edition 56) I have been pursuing the history of Sgraffito in Devon Churches and in particular the Grade 1 listed building of All Saints in Winkleigh.

It seems that Henry Cole, Director of the V & A Museum in London had seen examples of Sgraffito on the Continent, mainly in Germany and Italy. Enthusiastic to introduce this form of architectural decoration into London in 1870, he persuaded an artist, L. Moody, to decorate the east wall of the Science School building (now the Henry Cole Wing) in Exhibition Road. The wall was not visible to the general public. Mr. Moody and four students from the National Art Training School covered the whole wall in Sgraffito work with Renaissance type motifs and decoration. It remains today under the dust and grime of London. It was deemed successful enough for the artist and his students to carry out work on other buildings in London: one example is the National Training School of Music (1825) later to become the Royal College of Organists, which is, still today, in good condition. The whole building is covered in motifs, decoration and putti in Sgraffito. It is now a private residence.



Royal College of Organists

At the same time another enthusiast, from Devon, a Reverend WT Radford (member of the Exeter Diocesan Architectural Society) realised he could use the method to decorate the plain white walls of churches in Devon, in an economical way. Rev. Radford was the incumbent of the church at Down St. Mary, 8 miles east of Winkleigh. The Reverend had 3 cottages rebuilt in his village in 1870. Some Sgraffito banding was made on the exterior walls of two of them.

The Reverend Radford was a friend of George Henry Pinckard, benefactor of the restoration at All Saints in Winkleigh, who was now living in Chiddingfold, Surrey. The work for Winkleigh church restoration (1871-73) was given to Richard Gould of Barnstaple (1840-81). His son, John Ford Gould was given the task, among others, of decorating the interior walls of the church. It is believed he was advised on this by the Rev. Radford. So was the decoration on the Down St Mary cottages a test run for the Winkleigh Sgraffito? All this helps to explain the reason why Winkleigh Church has this very large amount of Sgraffito on its walls.

It is harder to find written evidence on the direct influence that the Arts & Crafts has on the patterns and symbols. Except to say that the Arts & Crafts Movement was not unknown at its early stage in the Barnstaple area. John Ford Gould lived and worked in Barnstaple and North Devon and sometimes in London during the 1860's

& 1870's. He must have had some knowledge of the growth of the Movement. He would have known about the Arts & Crafts furniture makers Shapland & Petter locally. Also Charles Brannam, the local potter who used the Sgraffito method on his large pots, with decorations of nature and flora.



Lauder's home in Barnstaple

were available, such as Pugin's 'Floriated Ornament' and Owen Jones's 'Grammar of Ornament'.

All this, I feel sure, John Ford Gould would be familiar with and it had some influence on his designs in All Saints, Winkleigh.

Having visited all the churches with restorations by John F Gould I have found no other Sgraffito, except for a very small amount, well hidden, in Down St Mary church. He did some work there in 1874-79. Sadly John Ford Gould died at the early age of 41 in 1881. We, luckily, have a permanent reminder of his work in Winkleigh.

I can only conclude, now, that the influence of the Arts & Crafts in All Saints Winkleigh has come from North Devon. The only other fine example of colourful Sgraffito I have found in Devon is in 'St John the Baptist' Church in the pretty village of Colaton Raleigh in East Devon, north of Sidmouth. Well worth a visit.

Alexander Lauder, a local architect and art potter, who gave art lessons during the 1860's in Barnstaple. He taught a young Letharby and articted him to his architectural practice as an apprentice. Lauder's art pottery became well known for his highly glazed colourful pottery depicting scenes of flora and animals. In later life he built himself an Arts & Crafts house in Barnstaple (1890's) in red brick and terracotta, with Tudor chimneys and statutes guarding the entrance porch. On the interior walls he decorated with scenes of 'Midsummer Nights Dream' in Sgraffito.

Ruskin and Morris had published their treatises on Arts & Crafts before 1871. Regular publications of 'The Builder' & 'Building News' were in circulation from before 1857. Fine pattern books



Colaton Raleigh Church

Submitted by **John Flower**

Examples of Sgraffito in Winkleigh Church.



1

1. Banding mixed with repeated patterns of 5 in the Lady Chapel (coloured blue).



2

2. Banding running around south wall of the Nave (coloured terracotta).



3

3. Banding running around the north wall of the North aisle (coloured terracotta).



4

4. Banding intertwined with other designs around the chancel (coloured blue).

5. See note for 1.

6,7,8 & 9. Floral designs on the walls between the arches (coloured terracotta)



6



7



8



9

The cost of the Sgraffito in Winkleigh was invoiced at £53 (today £2500 approx)



5

Sgraffito from the Italian for scratch.

Thank You from 1st Dolton Scout Group

1st Dolton Scout Group would like to say a big thank you to Jenny and Matt of the Lymington Arms and Parsonage B&B for their kind donation of £50. The Scout Group looks forward to using these funds for activities over the coming months.

1st Dolton Scout Group is always very grateful for donations from local businesses, please contact Lenka on 01837 83121 if you would like to make a contribution to our funds. Typical activities that we offer include visits to local climbing walls, trampolining, cinema visits, as well as outdoor survival and camping trips in North Devon. Many thanks for your support.

Nadine (Scout Group Committee)

Hollocombe Music Club

Hollocombe Music Club organises regular live music events at venues in Winkleigh featuring top quality musicians from across Devon.

The next two events will be held in the Community Centre starting at 7:30pm on:

Friday 10th June

Friday 8th July.

All events are open to everyone and a donation of at least £5 per head is welcomed to help cover the cost of hiring the visiting artists as well as the venue.

There is more information on these events and the others in this year's programme at: <http://hollocombemusicclub.org.uk/furtherahead.php>

We hope to see you there!

Trevor Melhuish

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Winkleigh Beavers



Beavers are so looking forward to getting out of the hall and into the fresh air. We have already had our first walk. We went on a spot the spring flower and a scavenger hunt. I did say please could Beavers not pick Celandine flowers as they could cause itching and guess what they picked, the Celandines!!!

We have had lots of visitors over the winter and in the last few weeks we have been visited by the Bondleigh Band / Morris Dancers / Penny and Anita. They have shared their interests with us and the more a child experiences the greater their knowledge. In future weeks we will be taking part in an adventure evening, a bush craft session, climbing, archery, treasure trail, bell ringing and so much more. We will also be having our sleepover and this year we hope the cubs will join us. If you would like to share your hobbies or interests with the beavers then please get in touch with me. Some of us renewed our promise at the Saint George's Day service at Dolton Parish Church, even our two new Beavers had a go. It is a good idea to remember what we should be doing.

The Beaver promise is:

*I promise to do my best,
To be kind and helpful
and to love God or our World.*

Remember the Winkleigh Beavers are a satellite section of the 1st Dolton Scout Group, which consists of beavers, cubs and scouts and most of the children come from Winkleigh or go to Winkleigh School. Cubs and scouts spend the summer on Chapel Farm just outside of Dolton. What memories they will have and so will I especially on a beautiful quiet sunny evening with Dartmoor in the background but maybe the nights when we are trying to light firers in the pouring rain, are not so nice. I helped at my eldest son's cub pack in the early 80's and then I got talked into opening a beavers colony in 1987, so this July I am hanging up my cub woggle, although I will stay with the Beavers for another few years.

So if anyone would like to become a cub leader or helper then get in touch with me. The time spent with the cubs is full of surprises and great fun and I am sure the cubs have taught me more than I have taught them, I have always been useless at knots!!

SO COME ON - JOIN IN THE FUN AND HELP US. WE NEED YOU.

In September we will have vacancies in the Beavers so if your child is between 5 1/2 and 8 years of age then get in touch with me on 01837 83487.

Pat Cunningham [Ahmeek]

What's On: June - September 2016

We have tried to include most of the events mentioned in this issue. Regular monthly events have not been included. If you would like us to include other events in future editions please send details to articles@distinctlywinkleigh.co.uk.

Sat 4 th June – Wed 29 th June	Public Consultation Period – Village Hall / Community Centre meetings. Details on p.10
Sun 5 th June at 05:30pm	Bring & Share Teatime Service – Methodist Church – p.16
Fri 10 th June 0730pm	Hollocombe Music Club – Community Centre – p.57
Tues 21 st June	Gardening Club Visit to High Garden & Nursery – p.23
Fri 24 th June – morning	FoWS Bacon Rolls for Local Businesses – p.30
Fri 24 th June - weekend	Stowford Camp – Methodist Church – p.16
Mon 27 th June at 07:30pm	Winkleigh Singers Concert – Umberleigh Village Hall - see p. 36
June	ACE visit to The Blue Hill Tin Mining Centre – p.24
Sat 2 nd July at 07:30 pm	Okehampton Choral Society Concert – see p.22
June – Sept – various dates	Winkleigh Morris Events – details on p.53
Sat 2 nd July - Evening	Village Hall – Projection System Launch Event – p.25
Fri 8 th July at 07:30pm	Hollocombe Music Club – Community Centre – p.57
Sat 9 th July from 2:00pm	Church Fete – Village Hall & Community Ctr – see p.41
Sat 9th July – Sat 16 th July	Winkleigh Fair Week – for details see pp. 12 & 13
Mon 11 th July at 07:30pm	Contemporary Christian Music – Village Hall – p.16
Fri 15 th July – 4pm-6pm	FoWS Summer Disco (outside?) – p.30
Sat 16 th July from 1.00pm	Winkleigh Fair Saturday – FoWS Barbeque – p.30
Tues 19 th July	Gardening Club – Butterflies & Moths – p.23
23 rd & 24 th July – gate open at 11:00am	Step Back in Time, Pattiland Farm, Broadwood-Kelly, near Winkleigh EX19 8ED – p.25
Thurs 4 th Aug – Sat 6 th Aug	Annual Holiday Club – Methodist Church – p.16
Fr1 12 th Aug	Final Deadline for Distinctly Winkleigh Articles & Advertisements for the Autumn Edition
Sat 27 th Aug	ACE – Moistown Open Day – p.24
10th-11th Sept	Art Exhibition – Parish Church – see p.41
20 th Sept	Gardening Club Greenhouses – in-house expertise – p.23

Please note that dates and details are correct at time of going to press.

New Era for Winkleigh's Post Office

By the Post Office's former owners Jan Bissinger and Sue McLaney

As many of you will now know, the Post Office changed hands and the new owner Tony Bayley took over on the 1st of March 2016. We would like to take this opportunity to wish Tony every success as he takes the Post Office into 2016 and beyond. Tony will soon become part of the fabric of village life and as familiar a figure as we have been.

We would like to convey our gratitude for all the kind messages and cards and gifts that have been given to us as we departed the Post Office. It has been a real pleasure for us to be able to serve the village. It has also been a joy to get to know so many of the wonderful people who live and work here and who make Winkleigh such a lovely place to live. We have made many friends and now we are retired we are seeing folk out and about in the village and many people have noted with surprise that we do indeed have legs!

On the subject of legs, we would also like to thank everyone for their kindness and good will when Sue broke hers in December. It was a tricky time and meant that the queues in the final week before Xmas were extra slow and we thank everyone again for their patience and understanding. This also includes for the time we needed to be closed at lunch times during January.

Pleased to report that as we write [23 March 2016 - Editors] Sue is on the mend now and we are looking forward to a holiday in the USA in April and May. When this article appears in DW, chances are we will still be Stateside but starting to think of our return journey back to Winkleigh.

Let us hope for one of Winkleigh's lovely summers; we know it can be done!

Our very best wishes to everyone,

Jan and Sue

Solutions

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And finally

Well the Spring Edition wasn't just beginner's luck, as a bumper Summer Edition is now here. The front cover again features another drawing submitted by Lynn Giles. Thanks once again Lynn! And thanks also to all our many contributors.

As promised last time, we have also included a "What's On" list giving details of events in and around Winkleigh in June, July & August in this edition. Please let us know if you think it is useful or not. If you have an event you would like to include in future editions, just give us the basic information and we will try to include it.

You may have noticed that we have revised the content of the back cover to show the deadlines for articles and adverts in the four editions each year. The actual date for the Autumn Edition is **Friday 12th August** for articles and **Friday 5th August** for advertisements.

We have also had a suggestion that it might be a good idea to include brief snippets of news, as some people often cannot always keep up with what is going on, especially the 'hatches', 'matches' and 'dispatches'! Of course we would need to verify that all such information is absolutely correct before publishing it. Please let us know if you think it would be worth trying out this idea, or indeed anything else.

It only remains for us to hope that the coming summer months are fine and dry, especially for all the events planned in Winkleigh Fair week!

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Winkleigh Society membership is open freely to all Winkleigh residents. This entitles you to vote at the Society meetings. Further information about the Society and what is going on in Winkleigh can be accessed online at: <http://www.winkleighonline.com>

DISTINCTLY WINKLEIGH – JOINT EDITORS

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PUBLICATION INFORMATION

The newsletter is published quarterly at the end of February, May, August and November and distributed to households in Winkleigh Parish areas by a dedicated team.

Articles (including reports, notices, drawings, photos, and letters) of interest to the local community are always welcomed. The **deadline for articles to be submitted for each edition is the second Friday of the publication month.** Contributions should be emailed to articles@distinctlywinkleigh.co.uk, or sent to one of the addresses above.

Advertisements from local businesses are also always welcomed. The **deadline for advertisements to be submitted for each edition is the first Friday of the publication month.** Contributions should be emailed to adverts@distinctlywinkleigh.co.uk, or sent to one of the addresses above

The advertising rates, which are also on the DistinctlyWinkleigh website, are as follows:

	Quarter Page	Half Page	Full Page
1 edition	£12.50	£25.00	£50.00
2 editions	£25.00	£50.00	£100.00
3 editions	£37.50	£75.00	£150.00
4 editions	£50.00	£100.00	£200.00

Contributions to the newsletter can be received in printed form as well as CD, memory stick, or email attachments in WORD, PDF & JPEG file formats,.

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

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