

DISTINCTLY WINKLEIGH



Working for Winkleigh



Edition 70

Summer 2019

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The Winkleigh Society Quarterly Journal

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THE SCARECROWS ARE BACK!



Responding to popular demand **THE SCARECROW TRAIL** is back this year.

HOW TO ENTER:

It is free to display your own scarecrow. You need to write your name, address and scarecrow's name on a piece of paper and place it in the 'scarecrow box' in **The Post Office by Wednesday 3rd July.** (*Not the Royal Mail box!*).

Your scarecrow will need to be on display with its name clearly visible by **Sunday 7th July.**

Scarecrow Trail maps will be available from **The Bakery Stores** from **Monday 8th July.**

Then - walk, spot and mark the scarecrows you find on your map. Hand it in to **The Bakery Stores** or any member of **Winkleigh Society Committee** (*their names are on the outside back cover*).

Don't forget to vote for your favourite scarecrow!

There will be a prize for the one with the most votes.

All completed trails will be entered into a draw for a mystery prize.

This event is kindly being **sponsored & organised** by **The Winkleigh Society.**



TEN ACRES VINEYARD



If you are happy to donate your scarecrow to them to scare the birds off their grapes, please tick the box on your entry form.

Winkleigh Society Chair's Report - April 2019

We had a terrific response to this year's AGM. The format was "cafe-style" with local cheeses and a jug of Sam's Cider, as well as a bottle of Ten Acres apple juice on each table.

It was a pro-active meeting with a range of interesting displays: past copies of Distinctly Winkleigh, a full display of the **Hedge Survey** on A3 cards, **Footpath Map** and **James Ravilious** photos of Winkleigh Fair. We asked those present to mark their preferences for purchase of a few of the pictures (see below).



Internationally renowned artist **Andrew Sinclair** assisted by **Diane Coates** gave an illustrated presentation of his work at the **Sculpture School**. His latest commission a memorial to **The Duke of Wellington's Regiment** is to be unveiled at Halifax next month. The sculpture is 12 ft. tall and weighs 1.5 tonnes. The audience was thoroughly absorbed by the range and complexity of his work.

Katrina Brookes from **Young Farmers Club** told us about their wide range of activities. **Kim Melhuish** also spoke about the work of the **Green Group**.

County Councillor **Andrew Saywell** took over as Chair while the committee was re-elected, with the addition of **Sue Dally** from Hollocombe.

Andrew also paid us the compliment that he knows of no other such organisation on his patch that promotes civic aspects of village life.



REVIEW OF THE YEAR & FUTURE PLANS:

Photo/Art Exhibition and Children's Art Competition was held during Winkleigh Fair week. **This year we have pledged to organise a Scarecrow Trail for Fair Week.**

Beaford Archive Presentation and Exhibition was our flagship event. The outcome was that we will buy, frame & hang four Ravilious photographs in the Community Centre.

Visit to North Devon Heritage Centre (Barnstaple) where we saw archive documents (both Parish & Church) relating to Winkleigh, some dating back to the 1600's. (www.swheritage.org.uk/devon-archives/visit/north-devon-records-office)

OUTCOME: We have pledged £50 for each of the next 3 years to support this invaluable archive. As a result we have been invited to attend their Open Day event in June. Interested? Please contact a WS committee member.

Airfield Memorial Service. Winkleigh Society helped organize this event in November. The Service attracted 85 people, despite the atrocious weather. We made a concerted effort to invite all the new businesses on the Airfield, aware that many changes are happening there. This inclusivity is vital, as our treasurer and advertising 'supremo' **Alan Mulcahy** is working towards updating the On Line & Print versions of the business directory (www.winkleighonline.com/PDF/InfDir.pdf)

Future Project: We hope to erect a permanent flagpole at the Airfield Memorial site and have contacted Torridge District Council for guidance.

Hedge Survey for the Neighbourhood Plan: conducted by **Sue Dally** and **Kim Melhuish**, assisted Devon Wildlife Trust, on behalf of WPC & NP Group. The findings for Shute Lane are printed on page 7. All of the hedges surveyed can be seen on: *Winkleigh Hedgerow Assessment no: 18/3372.01- D.W. consultants.*

Distinctly Winkleigh (the quarterly journal of the Winkleigh Society): Our editor **Godfrey Rhodes** gave a brief explanation of the various steps in producing **Distinctly Winkleigh**, from eliciting stories and articles to putting everything together and popping it through your letter box courtesy of our faithful posties, for whom we held a Thank-You Tea at Fiona's in November.

Godfrey Rhodes and **Rachel Goldsworthy** also manned a stall at **Suzie's Saturday Market at the Village Hall** in February and the Winkleigh Society Committee ran the café.

Margaret Miller proposed a vote of thanks for **Godfrey's** exceptional work & dedication. Distinctly Winkleigh is the foundation stone of The Winkleigh Society and funds our activities.

Business Forum: Along with the revised Directory our goal for the next year will be to set up a local business forum day.

Penny Griffiths April 2019

Bacon Roll Time 2019

BACON ROLL TIME	
2004	£ 225
2005	£ 235
2006	£ 270
2007	£ 295
2008	£ 330
2009	£ 450
2010	£ 450
2011	£ 440
2012	£ 500
2013	£ 560
2014	£ 630
2015	£ 830
2016	£ 835
2017	£1100
2018	£1250
2019	£1275

Bacon Roll Time 2019 has happened and what a resounding success thanks to the support of all you wonderful Winkleigh people.

Dave and I love welcoming you all into our home and hearing the buzz of chatter and laughter. **Your support and generosity is overwhelming and the total raised this year for Cancer Research UK is a staggering £1275.** This really will make a difference. We hear more and more of the research and the breakthroughs that are being made which are helping so many cancer sufferers.

Our very grateful thanks to friends who give their time to help make this event happen and to all of you who support us in so many ways.

Watch out for the posters of Bacon Roll Time 2020 and we can do it all again!

Jan Ounden

Wednesday Cancer Research Coffee Morning

Every Wednesday a loyal band meets for coffee in the Community Centre during the weekly mini market. Local news and happenings are mulled over and we enjoy a coffee and biscuits with donations into a pot that all go to Cancer Research UK. Last month we had a visit from Ros Fry a local representative of Cancer Research UK. Ros was visiting all the groups in her area that raised funds. Ros gave us a little chat and pointed out the **six things that increase our risks of getting cancer.**

- 1 **smoking**
- 2 **obesity**
- 3 **diet**
- 4 **unprotected sun**
- 5 **alcohol excess**
- 6 **lack of exercise.**

It gave us all a lot to think about!

Do come along - all are very welcome every Wednesday from 9.30 to 10.30.

3 Results

The results of the hedgerow assessment are summarised in Table 3.1. Please see DWG Drawing No 18/372.01-01 presented in Appendix 3 for location of surveyed hedgerows.

Hedge number & total length	20m section	Woody species present	Additional woody species present	Associated features of note	Hedgerow classed as an 'important hedge'
1 130m (W Shute Lane)	1	Holly, ash, beech, guelder rose, blackthorn, hawthorn, sycamore	Soft shield-fern, hart's-tongue fern, Herb Robert, primrose, navelwort, dog's mercury, wood anemone, yellow archangel.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ancient track dissected by bypass. Residential gardens adjacent northern section Hedge is situated upon a bank. The hedge includes gaps exceeding 10% of its length. A parallel hedge within 15 metres of the hedgerow Likely to support dormice 	Yes
	2	Hazel, sessile oak, elm, ash, beech			
2 130m (E Shute Lane)	1	Sessile oak, sycamore, holly, blackthorn, ash, hawthorn, beech	Soft shield-fern, hart's-tongue fern, dog's mercury, common polypody, primroses, Lords-and-ladies, honeysuckle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ancient track dissected by bypass. Residential gardens adjacent northern section Hedge is situated upon a bank. The hedge includes gaps exceeding 10% of its length. A parallel hedge within 15 metres of the hedgerow Likely to support dormice 	Yes
	2	Sessile oak, silver birch, elm, hawthorn, holly, hazel, willow sp.,			
3 90m	1	Hazel, sycamore, hawthorn, goat willow, holly, sessile oak	Honeysuckle, scaly male-fern, soft shield-fern, Lords-and-ladies, Herb Robert	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hedge is situated upon a bank. The hedge does not include gaps exceeding 10% of its length. Situated adjacent newly built residential housing Likely to support dormice 	Yes

Report 18/372.01 Winkleigh Hedgerow Assessment

Winkleigh War Memorial Custodianship

Churchyard of the Church of All Saints, Winkleigh, Devon
Awarded Listed Building Status - List Entry Number: 1462755



Winkleigh Parish Councillors are keen to become custodians of the Winkleigh War Memorial in the Churchyard if the current owner/custodian cannot be located, to ensure that the Memorial is cared for and maintained for the benefit of the Parish.

We have determined that the memorial was raised within the churchyard of the Church of All Saints in Winkleigh as a permanent testament to the sacrifice made by 24 members of the local community who lost their lives in the First World War. The memorial was designed and made by Herbert Read of St Sidwell's Art Works, Exeter, and the costs were met by public subscription, with a total of £215 having been collected by May 1920. Winkleigh War Memorial was unveiled on 13 January 1921 by Colonel Alexander, a member of the War Memorial

Committee, and dedicated by Reverend Edmonds. The names of six local men who died during the Second World War were added later.



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War memorials were primarily erected by local communities and therefore custodianship of war memorials varies as they were generally erected through public subscription by communities and the issue of 'ownership' was inappropriate. As such a local war memorial may have no one looking after it, or those responsible for it may have limited funds which means they cannot adequately cover either maintenance or repairs.

As the majority of war memorials were created by public subscription through committees formed for their commissioning (and usually dissolved after completion), the ownership can only be established if a formal transfer of responsibility occurred after the war memorial's dedication/creation.

If a formal transfer of ownership at any point in the war memorial's history cannot be established, then the War Memorials (Local Authorities' Powers) Act of 1923 and subsequent amendments enables local councils to carry out work to war memorials within their area whether they officially 'own' them or not.

If you can add any history or background to the ownership of the Memorial or you have any comments regarding Winkleigh Parish Council 'adopting' custodianship of the Memorial, please contact the Parish Clerk on Winkleighpc1@btconnect.com or 01837 89095.

Also please get in touch if you would like to join the Parish Council 'email contact' list to keep abreast of WPC activities.



CHULMLEIGH COLLEGE

Year 5 Taster Day

Wednesday 3rd July 2019 9am - 2.45pm

**To book a place please register online
at: www.chulmleigh.devon.sch.uk
Registration closes on Friday 7th June**

We are delighted to invite Year 5 pupils to join us for a day at the College, where they will experience a variety of lessons and get a taste of life at secondary school.
We look forward to meeting you!



www.chulmleigh.devon.sch.uk 01769 580215 @ChulmleighAT
admin@chulmleigh.devon.sch.uk @ChulmleighAcademy

Tribute to Richard Holberry

We met Richard shortly after we came to live in Winkleigh nearly 22 years ago and we bonded immediately, for we shared many interests with him.

He loved and had a great knowledge of classical music, especially opera. He was very good at spotting an up-and-coming musician and would forecast that the person would be well known in a year or so. He was always right. He loved the theatre and enjoyed drama and musicals. He would visit his friends in London several times a year and would always see a show or play in the West End. He also loved art and we would go up to London at least once a year to an exhibition, his favourite place being the Queen's Gallery at Buckingham Palace.

He had a great interest in books: paintings, novels, and biographies. When Emma Nicholson lived in the village she asked him to catalogue their library. He was in his element. He also enjoyed dancing and when he went to a wedding or anniversary, he would, apparently, be on the floor for a large part of the evening.

He was very good company and we never had a party without him. He was a great supporter of **Young Musicians Support**, which raises funds to help talented young people in this part of Devon, who could not afford music lessons and/or instruments. He didn't want them to be held back because of lack of funds and wanted to see them pursue their love of music. It was because of this interest that his much loved adopted family, the Underhills at Beaford, chose the charity for the collection at his funeral.

Richard was unique, very eccentric, exasperating at times, lovable, a good friend, interested in everything, kind, always helpful, very amusing, and we miss him so much.

Pat and Michael Downward

Okehampton Choral Society Summer Concerts

Dates for your diaries: Monday 24th June at 7:30 pm in Hatherleigh Methodist Church and Saturday 29th June at 7:30 pm at Fairplace Church, Okehampton

*Okehampton Choral Society will be performing two concerts this summer featuring **Captain Noah and his Floating Zoo**, a cantata in popular style by Michael Flanders & Joseph Horowitz and a variety of lighter pieces to make you laugh, smile and sigh in equal measure.*

Tickets are available from The Salar Gallery (20 Bridge St Hatherleigh) or Fairplace Church Shop (17 The Arcade Okehampton). Cost £8 (£4 students). Also available from choir members or on the door.

Torridge District Councillor Simon Newton MBE



It was a tremendous privilege and honour for me to be elected as your councillor on **Torridge District Council** and I look forward to being your representative for the next four years. As far as I am concerned the party politics of the last few weeks are now behind us and I will do my best to represent everyone in the Winkleigh and Ashreigney parishes, irrespective of how they voted (or not!).

My wife Lucie and I live just outside the ward boundary at Langham on the river Torridge – close enough to have a good feel for the area but far enough away not to be peddling any personal agendas! We moved here nearly 10 years ago after I had completed a 36-year career in the Army, when we restored Meadowland Farm and have since established a B&B and smallholding producing lamb and pork for the table. I also occasionally lead walks in the South West for American visitors as well as having a part-time consultancy appointment in the defence sector. Locally I have been a member of St Edmund's Dolton PCC as well as helping with a couple of charities.

I will be a regular attender at Parish Council meetings but I am also keen to meet different interest groups throughout the communities. My style is always to encourage co-operation and compromise rather than the confrontation and hostility that divides communities and achieves little. I will be working closely with our County Councillor Andrew Saywell as well as our two Parish Councils and I very much look forward to meeting and getting to know those who do not already know me.

You can contact me on 07943 830220 or Email: councillor.newton@torridge.gov.uk

Simon Newton

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Winkleigh Parish Council - Chair's Annual Report -2018/19

Finance:

Successful grant applications for the 2018/19 financial year were paid in April 2018 as follows:

C.A.B - £250 towards volunteer advisers including training.

O.D.C.T.G - £400 towards continuation of their current services including the Ring and Ride bus service, voluntary car service and wheelchair accessible transport.

Other donations made during 2018/19 were: £75 to the Royal British Legion for a wreath to commemorate Remembrance Day.

The Parish Council were within budget last year and the increase in precept this year is to fund the Village Hall and Sports Centre grant applications for the benefit of the community otherwise we would have had a minimal increase in the budget simply to cover annual cost increases.

Neighbourhood Development Plan:

The group have been working hard behind the scenes to develop the draft Neighbourhood Plan for Winkleigh; there will be a public consultation period which will be advertised on the Parish Council Website and on our Facebook page. Thanks to all those who are part of the group for their work on behalf of the Parish.

The Neighbourhood development plan should, hopefully, be going to TDC for final consultation and then a referendum later in 2019; if at least 51% of those who vote say 'yes' Winkleigh will be able to formally adopt the plan, which will then be a statutory planning document.

Council Vacancies:

There are vacancies on the Parish Council which we will hopefully be able to fill by Co-option. Being a Councillor is not just about attending meetings, there is plenty that goes on behind the scenes, for example, asset inspections including the cemetery and Bungalow, various training courses and conferences on a wide range of topics, the work and tidy group are often out and about helping to keep footpaths tidy and help improve the appearance of the village. So if you or someone you know might be interested in joining the council please contact the Clerk, Melanie Bickell by email winkleighpc1@btconnect.com or phone on 01837 89095.

The Council's "Email Me" list:

For those of you who were not aware the council has an "email me" list to which the clerk sends out information that might be of use or interest to parishioners i.e. Council minutes, agendas, road works notices etc. for more information or to sign up to this list please email winkleighpc1@btconnect.com.

Projects that have been undertaken this year:

This year has seen the completion of the new bus shelter on Exeter Road; thank you to all those who played a part in this, from supply of materials to those tasked with demolition of the old structure and the building of the new shelter.

Many of you may have seen the display which was up in the 3 Halls noticeboard on the side of the shop back in November to commemorate 100 years since WWI; this is a display which the Council hope to be able to put up each year.

Looking forward to 2019-20:

The Council is looking forward to an increase in powers which we will have access to once the Clerk has completed her CiLCA qualification; the additional staff costs this year have been as a result of the time that she has spent on completing the various modules in the course and creating the new policies needed to ensure that the council is meeting its legal obligations.

This year the Council is hoping to achieve the installation of new gateway signage for the Parish in order to celebrate our history and maybe encourage drivers to slow down.

The Parish Council is looking at adopting the Winkleigh War Memorial, this will enable us to ensure that it is kept in good condition for generations to come.

Finally:

Thanks are due to TDC/DCC for the Community Together Funds/TAP fund which has run in recent years, the Parish Council have been lucky to receive contributions towards the costs of the defibrillator (twice), replacement of the Village Hall fire-door as well as the footpath booklet, which give details of several walks in and around the Parish.

I would like to extend my thanks to Betty Boundy for her service as our district Cllr, to District Cllr David Hurley who has filled in for Betty when her health would not permit her to represent the ward and to County Cllr Andrew Saywell for all his hard work.

I would also like to thank all those who have served as Cllrs during this last year for the time and effort that they put into council business.

Thank you to all the parishioners who attend meetings, are our eyes and ears providing feedback on local matters, as well as those who help support activities and groups within the Parish in whatever way they can.

Special votes of thanks must go to our Clerk, Melanie Bickell for all the hard work that she puts in behind the scenes to allow the council to function effectively and for us as Cllrs to be able to do our jobs and last but not least to Cllr Sue Ware who is stepping down at the end of this term of office for her help and support as Vice Chair this last year.

Cllr Alice Turner (Chair)
Winkleigh Parish Council - April 2019

The Winkleigh Singers

The choir excelled themselves at their Spring Concert in Great Torrington with a performance of Poulenc's Gloria. The audience were enthralled by the singing, the wonderful soprano voice of Donna-Marie Broomfield and the thrilling organ accompaniment and solo played by David Davies.

Practices are now in full swing for a **Summer Concert to be held in UMBERLEIGH Village Hall on Monday 24th June at 8 pm.** This is a light-hearted performance of Purcell's semi opera 'King Arthur' which will be a perfect setting for a summer's evening: tales of battles, love, drunken haymakers, with patriotic songs and some of the finest tunes of the English Baroque; guaranteed to entertain you!

Tickets are £8 for adults, £2 for accompanied children under 16, and are available through choir members, via the website www.winkleighsingers.org.uk or at the door. In the interval the bar will be selling drinks which can be enjoyed on the lawn outside.

DIARY DATES: There will be an **Open Rehearsal on Monday 2nd September** at 7.30 pm in UMBERLEIGH Christian Fellowship Church on the A377, the Winkleigh Singers practice venue. Tenors and basses to join the choir will be particularly welcome! Please contact us via the website or a choir member if you would like to come along for an informal trial.

The **Christmas Concert will be held in Winkleigh Parish Church on Saturday 14th December and in Chittlehampton on Sunday 15th December.** The choir will be performing the first part of Handel's Messiah, an uplifting start to the Christmas week followed by carols for choir and audience.

We look forward to you joining us as audience or singers later in the year.



The Winkleigh Singers

Registered Charity Number 117121



Qixx

Winkleigh

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Parish Church News

The days are getting longer and whilst it still seems a bit chilly, there is the promise of summer just around the corner (hopefully!). We've had a busy time in church recently with Holy Week and Easter, a wonderful time to come together and remember Jesus' triumph over death on the cross and to rejoice on Easter Day at his resurrection. It's been great to see so many people come through our doors over the last few months, for our church coffee morning and for our Holy Week and Easter Services. The church flower ladies did us proud with the display of Easter Lilies, I know many of you have joined us for refreshments to admire them and gave lilies in remembrance of loved ones.

I finally managed to get up onto the roof of the church tower the other week, after a climb up many, many steep and narrow steps, I was rewarded with the most stunning views of Winkleigh and the surrounding area. It was amazing to see the village around the church and I was left wondering how the view would have looked 50, 100 or even several hundred years ago. What struck me was that however much the scene surrounding the church had altered, the church itself had stood the test of time, stood as a faithful Christian witness through changing times and major world events. All Saints has also been a solid presence in the life of this village and its inhabitants, a place to mark the passage of time and the major events of life. To celebrate new life in baptism, to join together couples in marriage and to mourn lives at funerals. A place where God's blessing and presence is felt on life's journey. And we are still here to do that today.

The joy of the Church of England's parish system means that All Saints is not just there for those who attend regular Sunday services, contribute financially or give of their time and talents. Rather it is there for everyone in Winkleigh, it is not just our church but your church. Every single person in the village belongs to the church, is entitled to be baptised there, married there and to have their funeral held there. This is true whether you are a frequent church attender, a once a year visitor or have never stepped inside. We are here to help you mark the big events in life in the context of the Christian faith. To seek God's blessing and to speak the truth of His love for all, through all the changing scenes of life. We are here to help you explore the Christian faith, to ask questions or to simply be a place of quiet prayer and reflection on the craziness of the world.

If you would like to talk about baptism for yourself, or a child, to think about getting married in church, renew your wedding vows or start to make plans for your funeral do give me a call to arrange a chat. If you've always wondered what the church looks like, come and have a look inside, a wander around or simply sit in the silence, the doors are open every day. Come and join us on a Sunday morning at 9:30 am, details of the services can be found on the church doors.

Above all, think of All Saints not as our church but your church.

*Helen King (01837 83710)
revhelenking@outlook.com*

Find us on Facebook 'Winkleigh Mission Community'

Dates:

Ascension Day service – 7 pm Thursday 30th May
Joint Mission Community Eucharist – 4 pm Sunday 30th June
Poetry and Pies -Friday 19th July 7 pm

All Saints Church Flower Ladies



Many thanks to all who purchased a lily for a loved one this Easter. There was an amazing response – and again the church looked wonderful.

For the first time on the Tuesday after Easter the church was open from 10.30 – 4.30 pm with coffee & cake & afternoon cream teas. The weather was good and many visitors came to view the arrangements. Many thanks to Peter Howard for playing the organ during the morning. The monies raised will go towards the flower fund.

Our next scheduled event will be during Winkleigh 'Fair Week' when the arrangements will be of Summer Colours, with morning coffee/cakes on Tuesday 16th July 2019 from 10.30 am until 12 noon.

Also for the second year running the church will be open on Wednesday evening 17th July 2019 between 6 pm and 8 pm when light refreshments will be available to all visitors.

Marcia Butt & Linda Millership

Airfield Garage Car Show

Saturday June 8th from 10 am till 2 pm

Free to enter and open to everyone, so please come along.

Uncle and Ozzy's will be providing food; Sam's ciders will be available.

Anyone wishing to show their vehicle (modern, classic or vintage) will need to book a space so contact me nicky@airfieldgarage.com

We will be asking for donations on the day to be split 50/50 between

Winkleigh Primary School and Winkleigh Fair.

Restore to its Former Glory

The editor's email giving the deadline date for DW arrives as the flames roar out of the great nave of Notre Dame de Paris and immediate promises are made to restore it 'to its former glory'. Having spent much of my life with heritage questions like this, I have heard this phrase many times before. It is never simple, and even at Notre Dame, where the state of the stonework appears to allow restoration, there were soon phrases such as 'even more beautiful' and a competition proposed for a redesigned spire.

Before moving to Winkleigh I was involved with Poltimore House, a ruined country mansion east of Exeter. The original house was Tudor with large additions in the 17th century (including the plastered Saloon described as the finest room in the South West by Pevsner), further growth in Victorian days, a large ball-room in 1904. After occupation by two schools it became a hospital in the 1950's. Which 'former glory' should we take as the real one? We thought we should demolish the 1904 ball-room which was virtually demolished already, and restore the original rooms to their Tudor origin. On taking a group around the house by torchlight, I asked if anyone could guess the purpose of this room. A voice piped up, 'Yes, this is the operating theatre, and must surely be the only one left in the country with intact terrazzo walls and floor.' He was a medical historian, so another date was added to the 'former glory'.

Civil War enthusiasts would come to re-enact the signing of the Peace treaty in the Saloon, but the wonderful plasterwork post-dated that historic event. Do we strip out the plaster-work? Thieves had already mostly removed the decorations, but some had been rescued by an eagle-eyed Irish Garda who stopped one container load going off to architectural salvage firms in the US. The trees just outside were originally planted by James Veitch in the 1820's and were the first Chile Pines in England, every seedling of which was now rare. Do we cut them down for 'authenticity'? Oh yes, and what about the five species of bat in the attics?

Is there sufficient old fabric remaining to make this a repair job or is it restoration, renovation, or rebuilding? Do you restore using authentic materials? Is that quarry still open? Can you get oak beams of that length? If there is sculpture do you make a new one, or do you make one as weathered as the current one? Pristine mediaeval sculpture on a mediaeval church can look distinctly odd. Do you only use authentic 16th century tools, or do you allow power saws? Is there anybody with the skills to make those particular timber joints?

The local tourist organisation may take the view that this doesn't matter as long as it looks old, not the genuine patina of age. The roof would be better and less fire risk in modern materials perhaps. Architects usually demand 'authenticity' and for many other people too it needs to be 'the real thing' not a plastic copy. We certainly were interested in replacing that ball room with a modern art gallery, but not a pastiche of the old.

There are options other than 'restoration'. One is simply to leave the building as a ruin; many important buildings are in ruins, notably mediaeval abbeys such as Fountains, castles, or places kept as memorials as Charles Church in Plymouth. In New York the twin towers have not been rebuilt. In Poltimore village, the locals were by no means united in wanting a restoration. They would lose their free park in which to walk their dogs. In any case there was not a lot of love for the family that had ruled their lives for centuries. One other group who welcomed the idea of a ruin was the film-makers. There are plenty of superb old mansions, often in the care of the National Trust, for costume dramas. But when they need a ruin to 'stand in for' the Reichstag at the end of World War 2 then Poltimore was very useful. I still treasure the photos of Russian tanks outside the windows.

These are all questions for a building with no current function, owner or users. There are so many stakeholders, apart from the locals and the film makers. Tourists seem always to be interested in the family of the house, not the architecture. People are interested in people. Some of those visitors have special connections, making them 'insiders', and at Poltimore we had many who had been treated at the hospital or born there. Others had been at the boys' school during the War or the girls' school in the 1930s. Some of them were very elderly, quite wealthy, and sensible. Trustees would bear in mind their ability to leave legacies, so their views were interesting. Our 'friends of Poltimore' were aghast at the idea that it might be carefully restored, but private and closed. For them it was a hobby.

The restorers of Notre Dame have my sympathy, adding all the issues of the congregation and the church let alone the cultural significance in such a building. In one English cathedral the roof bosses were being restored when the expert pointed out that there should be seven shades of blue in the angels' eyes. She was told that no-one could possibly see that from floor-level, but she pointed out that God could see. Yet another stakeholder. And I do hope they do not forget that the purpose of a church building is to act as a sound box for the organist..... yet another.

Peter Howard

*Changes*

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Letter to the Editor - A Celebration Year!



2019 is a year of celebrations for us starting with March 22nd when we had our **Golden Wedding Anniversary**. We were married in All Saints Church Winkleigh by the Reverend Peter Lamb at 12 noon followed by a reception in the Village Hall.

To celebrate we had a high tea for family and friends complete with a ukulele band. It was a lovely afternoon and instead of presents we had a box for donations for **The North Devon Hospice** and **£330.00 was kindly given for our charity**. We would like to thank everyone for their donations, cards and best wishes.

This month (May) it is the turn of brother Stanley and his wife Glen when it will be their **Diamond Anniversary**.

Last but not least in September it will be the **Silver Wedding Anniversary** of our eldest daughter Isobel and her husband Steve. They were married in our lovely church as well, by the Reverend Peter Norman at 11.00 am (his second in the village). It was an early time for the marriage as the reception was held in a hotel at Torquay.

Happy days - *Sid and Marcia Butt*

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D & S Supplies - The End of an Era

D & S was started back in 1988 operating from a small unit at the rear of Surf Bay Leisure by Steve, Shirley and her brother Derek and his wife Elaine. I still worked full time at Vital Pet Products but worked every weekend at D & S and Shirley worked 25 hours at the local school, so we employed sister Alison to fill-in the additional hours.

When our site was sold we had to look for new premises and luckily a new unit was being built at the other end of the airfield by Ron Cottey and Michael Thorne to divide into units. With little choice we took the plunge to lease the unit to run as a husband and wife venture, with the aim of creating an in-store cafe which led to the decision to employ more staff.

We had at that time 3 daughters Tracey, Kay and Gemma; it was hard work with the commitment and juggling our family life, so I gave up the job at Vital and worked at the business full time. With the new move we also employed Sue to run the cafe. Around this time our eldest daughter Tracey had a serious car accident so Shirley had to give up her school job to be a carer for our daughter, as well as running the shop.

Then in 1998, on a break clause in our lease, we decided to purchase the freehold and extend the building thus making it possible to employ Alison, Lydia, and Ryan along with many local students who worked weekends and school holidays.



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Following untold security problems with people trying to get into our building before opening hours and being ram-raided which was the last straw, we applied for permission for a bungalow to live on-site, which finally stopped the problems.

We both averaged 70-hours a week keeping the business running 7 days a week for a total of just over 28 wonderful years, when we felt the need to slow down.

We did not want to just walk away, yet the location proved difficult for selling the property, along with the long hours, so we decided to lease it instead.

We were so pleased it was going to be taken on by local people offering the same services, yet two and a half years later the doors have closed: a sad day for both of us and the village as a whole.

Over the years we had built up great friendships with our customers and their families throughout the area and have seen many changes in the retail business along with the loss of local banks and services. I think we all agree it is a fast changing world and not always for the better, but we must embrace change. Without the support of so many customers and staff we would never have been able to go on for so long. We miss you all but will keep up contact and continue to enjoy village life, as well as supporting the Airfield Memorial Day, as we hold a lot of airfield memorabilia.

As for D & S we will try to find new owners but if that is not possible, divide it into smaller units with the aim of encouraging more businesses into the parish.

Shirley & Steve Leahy.

Local WI Events

Ashreigney WI meet on the first Tuesday of the month at Ashreigney Village Hall, at 7.15 pm; next meeting is on 4th June.

North Tawton WI meet on the first Wednesday afternoon in the Rugby Club Building at 2 pm; their next meeting is on 5th June.

Claire Tricker

Jenny Rock

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Winkleigh Football Club – Thank you

Winkleigh Football Club has been very active these last few months and has seen big changes in the running of its affairs. Not everyone likes changes, but things needed to be done to save the club from extinction.

After a tough transition period, there has been improvement and everything seems to be getting better. This would not have been possible, without the continuous hard work of a few people within the club.

The Winkleigh FC Committee and everyone involved, would like to take this opportunity and express their gratitude and thanks:

First of all to **Torridge District Councillor Betty Boundy and Devon County Councillor Andrew Saywell as well as the Parish Council**; thanks to these people the club was able to obtain help in the form of grants, which were key to the improvement of the premises, the football pitch and equipment needed for the team. Thanks also go to **Mr. Lee Govier** for the home and away kits provided for this season.

In a massive step forward, Winkleigh FC now has a closer relationship with the **Sports Centre Committee**; both are working together to provide better facilities for the whole local community.

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The club would also like to thank the two local pubs: **The Seven Stars and The Kings Arms** for their ongoing support throughout the season, the people that donated prizes for the Christmas Draw and those who are participating in the monthly **50 club lottery**.

We would also like to thank **Mr. John Clark** for clearing all the rubbish around the club-house and the area surrounding the pitch.

Last but not least special thanks from everyone go to **Mr. Jim Sampson** for his long service to the club and for keeping it going for all these years.

**STOP PRESS: Winkleigh Football Club
Family Fun Day on Saturday 1st June**

Winkleigh War Memorial Recreational Field Fund (incorporating The Sports Centre)

For those of us involved with the Fund Facilities and the Sports Centre it is, and always will be, something of a curate's egg. Meaning that there is always reason to be optimistic, inspired and happy while at the same time the exact opposite exists on a daily basis.

On the positive side you will see from another article in this publication that the **allotment users are celebrating ten years on the recreational field**. The Trustees are delighted that this has proven to be such a successful endeavour. The allotment users also play an important part in the committee meetings and their input is always valued. In addition to this they are always ready to lend a hand to help when it is required. Many of them have spent time clearing the garden area as part of our spring clean programme. This sets such a good example to other users of the facilities so perhaps others may be able to follow their lead. **No offer of help is ever refused so please let Mike know on 07703 962927 if you are willing to help in any way.**

It has been an eventful season for the **Snooker Club** this year with some good success along the way. **Both A and B teams performed with credit in the Okehampton Snooker League**. But all involved in the club are looking for higher finishes next year.

There has been silverware this season as Adrian Browning won a singles trophy. A doubles trophy for the club came from the winning pair of Adrian Browning & Adrian Goodgroves. The Winkleigh A team reached the final of the team cup and we will inform you about how that went.

The club is always looking for new members & so if you are interested in joining please contact Adrian on adisiphone82@hotmail.co.uk

Plans are also in place for this year's cricket match between our local pubs. Last year's event was a great day all round and so you will be interested to see that Sunday 28th July has been pencilled in for the next game. The start will be 2.30 pm so look out for more information closer to the event date.



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To continue the theme of positivity the **Kings Arms Aunt Sally** team hosted a game against a team from North Molton on Bank Holiday Monday. It was a really pleasing event for us with all participants enjoying both the contest and the after match BBQ & pizzas. The weather was kind to the teams and it even attracted a small number of mainly confused spectators. It is a very easy game to understand so they soon got into the spirit of it.

Could we please remind any users of the outdoor play area that the toilet block is in use. While this facility is not likely to win a place in the ‘toilet of the year competition’ it is functional. It isn’t generally an issue for users to use the indoor toilets when the building is in use although when the hall is being used it is much better to use the outdoor toilets.

We are still looking for an adult to assist at the Youth Club. This long standing Club is literally on the verge of closing. Some of the volunteer helpers are no longer able to contribute as they once did. **So the Club is looking for somebody over the age of 18 who could come along on a Wednesday night to help with outdoor game activity.** Copious amounts of tea can be made available to that one person out there who could make such a big difference to the Youth Club.

At the time of writing the committee of “Fitness for Winkleigh” (F4W) were still awaiting information about their grant applications for a fitness suite. The Football Club are also still waiting for the required planning permission to erect a safety fence behind the goal close to the car park.

A sincere thank you to those of you who are willing and able to support all of our work in the community. Without this support an asset, that some think is very important to Winkleigh, may be lost.

Tom Radcliffe (Secretary of the Sports Centre Committee, F4W & Trustee)

Winkleigh Short Mat Bowling Club

The Club has had a fairly successful season and several trophies are on their way to the engravers. The summer season will be starting soon as we play all year round. Our “roll ups” are on a Monday and Friday afternoon when we can practise our skills.

At the end of March we ran the thirteenth Flue and Chimney Specialists Trophy. This year it was won by a team from Pancrasweek with Wonford coming second. We are very grateful to Andrew Baker from Rangemoors for their continued support of this event.

New members are always welcome at the club, no experience necessary. Just pop along any Monday or Friday afternoon to the Sports Centre 2 pm or give me a ring.

Jan Ovenden - 01837 83853

Winkleigh Neighbourhood Watch

As you all know our intention is to keep you up to date with the crime figures in Winkleigh; these are posted monthly in various places around the village. We have noticed that there has been a significant reduction in actual crimes over the last few months. From January to April: 15 crimes reported and 34 logged calls. Let us hope that it continues to be low for the rest of 2019.

Our Neighbourhood Watch alert system continues to advise us of crimes and fraudulent activities in Devon. Do take care when answering phones, using social media and any other types of modern electronic items. Never give away your bank details to strangers over the phone. Hacking of bank accounts and of Social Media (e.g. Facebook etc.) recently seems to be an even more common occurrence.

WINKLEIGH NEEDS YOU

Now something different this quarter: we all know that potholes are a problem and Devon Highways want people to report them. It is simple to do. If you have access to a smartphone or computer just Google **REPORT a POTHOLE**, find the Devon website and follow the instructions. Hopefully if enough of us report the potholes DCC Highways will get fed up with having to keep returning to the village and cover all the potholes in one go, or maybe even resurface the roads.



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Next, everyone should be aware that DCC are not clearing growing weeds etc. from gutters. The growth in some gutters prevents rain water from entering drains and causes large puddles; these can then cover potholes and will prevent drivers seeing and avoiding them. Wouldn't it be nice if we all cleared the gutter outside our property and disposed of the weeds in our green bins? - Just a thought.

Again we urge you all to carry on being neighbourly and vigilant. Please report any suspicious activity to the police on either 101 (for non-life threatening or non-urgent incidents) or 999 (for urgent incidents and ones where a response is required ASAP) this will depend on the severity of the incident.

"KEEP 'EM PEELED"

Vintage Flea Market returns in Fair Celebrations!

We are delighted to announce that, for the fifth year running, we will be holding a **Vintage Flea Market on Sunday 14th July**, to help kick off the Fair Week celebrations. This popular annual event will see the **Sports Centre** packed with a variety of interesting stalls to browse, including antiques, vintage and retro, collectables, handmade and homemade items, plus local produce. The café will be serving bacon rolls, pasties and homemade cakes and drinks and if weather permits there will be a seating area outside on the Bowling Green. **The event will run between 10 am and 2 pm**, finishing in time to catch the official Fair Week opening ceremony in the square. **Admission is free....pop in and see what you can find!**



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Our Devon County Councillor Writes



First, I would like to congratulate Simon Newton on his election as Winkleigh's new District Councillor. I am sure he will do a great job representing Winkleigh on Torridge District Council and I am looking forward to working with him on the many issues where there is a crossover between the District and County Councils. My commiserations also to the unsuccessful candidates.

One of the main issues I have been following closely in the village is the proposed development in the field next to the Cemetery. Devon County Council are not the planning authority for this development, however County Highways will be consulted on any application that is submitted.

I know that many residents were concerned by the initial plans that were presented, and the proposed access location to the development. However, at the recent Annual Parish Meeting the Developer indicated a willingness to change the access, so we will have to wait and see what new proposals they come up with.

On a different subject, and one I know that is often on residents' minds – highways – readers may be interested to know that the Torrington Rural division has been selected to trial different ways of working when designing schemes and allocating which roads should be repaired. I know at times it can sometimes seem mystifying why a certain road is selected for repairs while a nearby one in a worse condition is not. It is early days and once I have more details I will inform readers, but the idea behind the pilot is to have closer cooperation and working together with Parishes and Communities to identify the roads that need the most attention. I look forward to seeing how this pilot develops. At the very least, I am really pleased that this important pilot has been chosen to take place in our part of the County, rather than South or East Devon!

There are several schemes in the system for Winkleigh and I know many residents would like to see improvements to the roads here. I will certainly be using the opportunity of this pilot to further press the case for getting the roads within the village itself repaired. There are plans to patch Torrington Road this year and I hope I can get more work done within the village as well.

However, while it can sometimes seem that all the County Council is responsible for is its roads, I can assure readers that the County Council does a huge amount of work, sometimes not always seen, to look after the old, the young and the vulnerable.

Devon is a big county, with around 800,000 residents. There are over 105,000 young people in the 360+ Devon Schools, and over 22,000 of these young people have some sort of School Transport. Nearly 9,000 of these young people are being supported in some way by DCC staff and this must and will continue.

The Council’s Adult Services Department is currently looking after 19,000 adults and over the last 12 months over 24,000 clients have received either an Assessment or a service within the Adult Care Service. Again, DCC will continue to support these people.

Finally, given the uncertain national picture, the Council has strengthened its Emergency Teams and its Trading Standards service and will work closely with other partners and local authorities throughout Devon and the wider South West.

As ever, if I can provide any assistance on a County Council issue please do not hesitate to contact me.

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or email andrew.saywell@devon.gov.uk

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News from Winkleigh Fair

Believe it or not, Winkleigh Fair is once again on our doorstep and there is much activity happening by its Committee and helpers to make sure that there will be something for everyone during the week.

Firstly let me confirm the dates – **Winkleigh Fair Official Opening** always happens on the second Sunday of July but, because of the way the calendar falls this year this will not be until **Sunday 14th July** and this is when the King and Queen will be crowned and the Fair formally opened. Fair Saturday will therefore be on **Saturday 20th July**.

Before I go into any detail about the Fair let me first welcome our new Committee members:

- Joyce Maddocks
- Charlie Taylor-St Ruth
- Vicky Taylor-St Ruth

... together with our new helpers, Tegwen and Duncan McIntyre.

Already we are seeing the fruits of the hard work they are all putting into fund-raising events and to the preparation for the Fair itself.

Also I am pleased to announce the formation of the **Fair Young Committee** comprising at the moment of Tom Whittick, George Bridgman and Lewis Moore. They have some great ideas and thoughts which sometimes us “oldies” might not think about or consider. **Youngsters like this are the future of the Fair so it is really important to include them and to tap their knowledge about, and wishes of, the younger generation of the village.** Welcome to each of you and we look forward to working with you in the months and years ahead.

I am delighted to say that we have had two highly successful cinema evenings so far this year – **“Mamma Mia – Here We Go Again”** and **“Bohemian Rhapsody”**, both of which drew large audiences in the Village Hall. Thanks to this wonderful support we were able to raise, across the two evenings, over £700, all of which will go towards the Fair week.

On **8th June there is a Car Show on the field near to Airfield Garage** on the north side of town. This has been organised by the Garage and we are so pleased to learn that part of the proceeds on the day will be donated to Winkleigh Fair. Huge thanks to Andy and his team at Airfield Garage.

By the time that the DW reaches you we will have had another movie event, a matinee performance of **“Mary Poppins Returns”** on 18th May. We have also rescheduled **“Stan & Ollie”** to be screened in the Village Hall during the Fair on **Thursday 18th July**.

The Fair programme is in production and should be dropping through your letterboxes in June. However, I am able to give you a preview of our plans for a full week of events, ***all subject to confirmation of both events and timings in the programme.***

Saturday 13th

All Saints Church Bazaar and Fete in the Community Centre plus afternoon tea in the Village Hall opposite.

Winkleigh Fair Quiz Evening in the Village Hall. Start getting your teams together for this extremely popular evening.

Sunday 14th July

Antiques Fair and Boot Sale sponsored by *The Auction Room* at Winkleigh Sports Centre. Anyone interested in a pitch should contact Graham or Mel on 01837 83098
Official opening of Winkleigh Fair. Children of the village are invited to come along and dress the well with flowers.

“Flower and Egg” Fair Service, All Saints Church. Children are invited to bring along gifts of flowers and eggs which will be distributed appropriately to village residents. This is a lovely service and we ask that as many of you as possible attend to gift your flowers and eggs.

This will be followed by the ***Blessing of the Well in The Square and the Official Opening.*** See details in the programme about who will have the honour of carrying out this duty, but I can reveal that this year’s King and Queen will be ***Archie Bridgman and Penny Garland.*** (It’s good to see that Harry and Meghan have named their baby after our Fair King – what an honour!!)

Mad Hatters Tea Party at Winkleigh Sports Centre will follow the Fair Opening. It would be so good to see children (and adults if they want to!) dress up in the theme of Alice in Wonderland. Bring along your picnics to share.

Tuesday 16th July

All Saints Church Coffee Morning

Wednesday 17th July

Viewing of the All Saints Church Flower Ladies floral arrangements inside All Saints Church.

Vintage Vehicle evening in The Square. Bring along all of your vintage, Classic and interesting vehicles to this always popular event. There will be the normal BBQ with those wonderful burgers and sausages provided by the Mad Butcher. Event sponsored by the Mad Butcher of Winkleigh and by Mid-Devon Motors.

After the vehicle show, the ***Seven Stars pub will be holding an Open Mike night*** for anyone who wishes to ply their skills and talents.

Thursday 18th July

Cinema Evening in the Village Hall – “*Stan and Ollie*”. Refreshments and pay-bar will be available together with scrummy Ben & Jerry’s ice cream.

Friday 19th July

A new, but most welcome, addition to Winkleigh Fair week – **Poetry and Pie evening All Saints Church**. This will be a most entertaining evening when you can come along to read out your favourite poems and prose. Poems can reflect all sorts of topics and emotions – love, hate, anger, peace, war, countryside, sea, music, animals, revenge – the list is both eclectic and endless. All sorts of pies, cakes and drinks will be available with all proceeds going to All Saints Church.

For those of you who prefer more upbeat (and louder!) entertainment, then the rock and blues band **The Bail Jumpers, hailing from Exeter, will be playing at the Seven Stars Pub.**

Saturday 20th July

Fair Day and Outdoor Market – Full details will be in the programme, but a brilliant day is planned with something for everyone.

Clay pigeon fun shoot – Winkleigh Sports Centre

Winkleigh Fair evening concert in The Square - we welcome the return to Winkleigh of **STILLYANO**, an amazing originals and covers rock band who last played at Winkleigh Fair in 2016.

Normal road closures and parking restrictions will apply on Sunday 14th, Wednesday 17th and Saturday 20th July. These will be published well in advance of the event, but we thank everyone in advance for their help and co-operation.

ALSO.....Responding to popular demand I can also announce that **THE SCARECROW TRAIL** is back this year. The Fair is delighted to welcome this event back into the Fair schedule and hugely thankful to **Winkleigh Society** who will be sponsoring and organising the event. This will be great fun so get your thinking caps on to decide how you will make your scarecrow. *Think outside the box!*

There will be a prize for the owner of the scarecrow with the most votes. Also all completed trails will be entered into a draw for a mystery prize. (*Details on page 3*)

Full details as to how you can enter and display a scarecrow, obtaining maps to find them all, and voting for your favourite will be in the Fair programme.

So, lots of things being planned and prepared. We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the various events.

Enjoy the remainder of the Spring and let’s hope for a warm and sunny summer.

Tony Aston
Treasurer Winkleigh Fair
tonyaston1953@gmail.com

Devon Wildlife Trust

Culm Grassland Natural Flood Management Project



This four year project across North Devon is helping us to understand, communicate and increase the benefits for flood risk and wildlife that Culm grasslands bring to North Devon's communities.

A large proportion of the UK's nationally important Culm grasslands are found in the Torridge, Taw, Tamar and Exe river catchments. Despite significant conservation efforts, Culm grassland is still under threat, and the habitat is fragmented across a landscape where farming continues to intensify. However, understanding is increasing about the benefits of Culm grassland to society, for wildlife, water management, carbon storage and more.

About the project

The Culm Grassland Natural Flood Management Project is led by Devon Wildlife Trust (DWT), supported and funded by the Environment Agency (EA), Devon County Council (DCC) and the European Union through the Interreg 2 Seas Triple C Project. Delivery is supported by a partnership of EA, DCC, University of Exeter and Natural England. The project started in October 2016 and runs to September 2020.

Project aims

1. Learn more about how Culm grassland can help to hold and release water in catchments
2. Increase everyone's understanding about the value of Culm grassland
3. Work with landowners to protect, restore and re-create Culm grassland sites across North Devon
4. Share our learning with others across the South West, UK and Europe

Project progress

Since the start of the project our advisors have made over 550 farm visits, offering advice to landowners of 150 separate holdings. DWT can provide the following services for owners of Culm grassland:

- Habitat management advice;
- Assistance with Countryside Stewardship applications (both Mid-Tier and Higher Tier);
- Soft rush topping / weed wiping on Culm grassland;
- Assistance with swaling purple moor-grass dominated Culm grassland;
- We have a small capital grant budget to assist with fencing, installing troughs or clearing scrub;
- Our volunteer group can assist with scrub clearance and species surveys.

To date the project team has helped bring over 300 ha of Culm grassland under positive management and created 57 ha of new species-rich grassland. Overall the project has had a direct positive influence on around 30 km of river. We have held eight training events to raise awareness and understanding of various aspects of Culm grassland management and wildlife value.

Our PhD student, Nicola, has also been busy. Over the summer she installed 55 dipwells across 11 fields to monitor water storage potential of different grassland types. Recently she has been using a rainfall simulator to increase understanding of how Culm grassland reacts to heavy rainfall events (something we're familiar with here in Devon!), and how this response differs in intensively managed pastures.

Get involved!

Are you interested in managing Culm Grassland or re-creating species rich wet grassland on your land? Would you like to know more about any aspect of the Culm Grassland project, either informally or on a training day? Would you be interested in volunteering to help manage and restore this valuable habitat?

Then get in touch! Email tparsons@devonwildlifetrust.org or ssmallwood@devonwildlifetrust.org or call 01409 221823.

We look forward to hearing from you.



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Fiona's Farm Fayre

- A Real Family Farming Endeavour

What a versatile and Community-serving business this is! Located just on the outskirts of the village at Higher Punchardon, Winkleigh EX19 8DJ on the road leading towards Bridge Reeve, is Fiona's Farm Fayre which is both a fine place to sit and enjoy home-made, home-grown fresh food and also a shop to buy fresh food, mostly from the farm itself or local seasonal produce.

The whole idea started over 18 years ago because Fiona likes to cook. It all began with an honesty box, and the farm became known as a place where you could buy vegetables that had been growing that morning and a sumptuous selection of home-made cakes, pies and pasties.

Fourteen years ago, it became apparent that this family farm concern needed a bigger outlet, and the Farm Fayre Shop and Cafe Restaurant building was erected along with parking facilities made available for both shoppers and diners. Three years ago the kitchen area was extended to cater for the ever growing demand. The whole family runs the farm, the shop and the cafe restaurant all together.

Fiona is justifiably proud of the whole endeavour and its ethos of providing home reared produce. "Increasingly, and quite rightly, people like to know where their food comes from, how their meat is produced, the conditions in which animals for meat are kept and treated; we have maximum traceability" she explains. "We are a Christian family with principles and values borne from our faith. We simply provide food for other people that is produced and prepared with the high standards and integrity which we enjoy ourselves."

Indeed, the farm itself is reminiscent of the traditional farms we used to know, with cattle, sheep and pigs, sheep dogs, even sometimes Barn owls (NOT on the menu!!) within sight of the windows. Native British cattle, mainly Hereford/Devon X and Aberdeen Angus and about 60 sheep graze the farm's own land, rented ground and Devon Wildlife Trust land. This farm food outlet is producing the highest quality traditional food in the way that countless farms used to before the days of mass

production and supermarkets, and of course, as many customers have told me time and time again, **YOU CAN TASTE THE DIFFERENCE!**



On the first Saturday of each month Fiona's is also open for dining in the evening. Booking beforehand is essential as, when we visited in April for the purposes of this report, every table

was full. The clientele was unanimous in their praise for the food which was borne out by the fact that every plate had been cleared completely. Customers come to Fiona's from local and surrounding areas to enjoy the calm evening ambience, pleasant company and good food. A couple of guys told me they love the evening menu, but that they also are weekly regulars for breakfast, which they wanted to thoroughly recommend, "You can't beat a full Farm breakfast here" I was told.



Indeed, daytimes, quite apart from breakfast and luncheon, you can't beat Fiona's proper home-made Devon cream tea either, or the sumptuous chocolate Easter cake that was sitting so enticingly on the counter. The shop and dining area is light and airy, spotlessly clean and inviting. Local neighbours popped in for a quick chat and a huge cauliflower, someone else arrived to collect a pre-ordered fresh seasonal Vegetable box, and a family member reported in on some farm issues and mentioned the cows (Tim knows them all by name, each year they

have a theme for the naming of cattle). Customers can order meat fresh, but generally the meat is fast frozen.

Fiona's produce is also available on their stall at the Winkleigh Market on the first Saturday morning of the month in the Village Hall and weekly at the Wednesday morning mini-market and coffee morning in the Community Centre. This is a great opportunity to buy local freshly baked breads and rolls and Fiona's cakes and savouries as well as fresh veggies in season. Fiona also runs the weekly Oasis Cafe, held in the Methodist Chapel from 11 am until 2 pm (lunches from 12.30 pm) for which she provides and cooks the food. This is open to all and is a set menu providing a lovely cooked meal in a warm and pleasant atmosphere. We attended the last Monday Oasis on 29th April, but from May, please note the day has now changed to



Wednesdays.

There's a group of friends who eat and dine there regularly, but when we visited, there were also some who had not been before, and again the consensus was that the food is first class and the testament was every plate was completely cleared. The meal of the day is £5.50, with dessert



£7.50, and with tea or coffee £8.50. (Prices correct at time of going to press). The Rota for volunteers to help to run this weekly lunch for the community, is mainly but not necessarily, members of the Methodist Chapel and I have been asked to mention that if anyone would like to volunteer to help, even perhaps on a relief basis, they would be most welcome. These volunteers serve and

wash up, also deliver meals to those in the village who are unable to get to the cafe. On the day we visited, there were 4 delivery meals.

Fiona's Farm Fayre is open Monday to Friday 10 am until 5 pm and Saturdays 10 am until 2 pm. Please ring to book for Seasonal Veg boxes, Saturday Monthly Dining Evenings, large parties, special dietary requirements, events catering or private buffets.



Tel No: 01837 83382 Email: fionasfarmshop@gmail.com

<https://www.facebook.com/FionasFarmShop>

Rachel Goldsworthy with Photos by Greg Goldsworthy

<p>www.ashridge-court.co.uk 01837 352025 info@ashridge-court.co.uk</p>		
<p>The Ashridge Great Barn</p> <p>Nestled in a private valley, the Ashridge Great Barn offers a large flexible space with inbuilt facilities for a event with proper rustic style</p> <p>Keep an eye on the website or follow us on social media @ashridgecourtfarm for information on Community Events and Pop-up Restaurants</p> <p>Get in touch to book for Weddings, Parties and Other Events</p>	<p>Ashridge Court Farm</p> <p>Grass-fed Beef Boxes Large or Small Mixed Cuts Requests Accommodated Where Practical</p> <p>Free Range Christmas Goose</p> <p>Seasoned Hardwood Logs</p> <p>Coppice Products Pole Sticks and Bean Poles</p> <p>Sawn Wood Products</p>	
 <p>Credit: Watercolour Woodshed</p>		

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What's Going On at Winkleigh Methodist Church?

Our Easter Holiday Club, 'Wreck it Ralph does Easter' was very successful with about 50 children joining the fun! Many had attended before so it was encouraging they were happy to return. A big 'thank you' to the leaders, the volunteer helpers and to everyone who came along!

As you know, we are really pleased to be working closely with All Saints, Winkleigh. The recent joint Lent Groups were well attended with a good mix of people from various local Anglican and Methodist churches. The introductory 'Pancake and Beetle Drive' evening was attended by lots of people from several churches. The young, and not quite as young, all enjoyed the pancakes and the competitive Beetle Drive – it was a busy yet fun evening! Thank you to Revd Helen King, Revd Liz Singleton & Vicki Brown for delivering the sessions and for everyone who came along and supported them.



Sunday, 9 June 2019 (Pentecost)

Bring & Share picnic at Fiona's Farm Shop:

All Saints and the Methodist Church will hold their individual services then join together for the picnic celebration from 12.30 pm – 3 pm.

Everyone is welcome to join either of our services followed by the picnic.



Looking ahead Sunday 22 Sept 2019

We will be celebrating Harvest with a new event, **HarFest!**

There will be lots going on, including an afternoon service in the barn at the home of the Roberts & Marshall Families. More detail will follow 😊

Food Bank: A reminder that donations for the food bank based at Okehampton can be dropped into the Methodist Church (open for Sunday services as listed below and also open on **Wednesdays** for Oasis from 11 am – 2 pm).

Our regular activities continue

Sunday worship begins at 11 am with coffee served from 10.40 am. Sunday School and SOW for teenagers runs at the same time. Every first Sunday in the month we

meet at 5.30 pm (café church) or 6.30 pm (Recharge, youth focus) instead of 11 am and have an informal time of worship and bring-and-share food. Please see our notice board for more detail.

SPACE Youth Club runs on the second and fourth Friday of every month: Years 5 & 6 from 7 to 8.15 pm and Year 7 upwards from 8.15 to 10 pm - £1 entry fee and a tuck shop available for anyone wanting to buy a snack.



Oasis Café Winkleigh Methodist Church now held on Wednesdays (instead of Mondays) with a home-cooked two-course lunch being served at 12.30 pm (coffee, lighter lunches or cakes also available). All ages welcome – please pop in.

All worship times and preachers are on our notice board outside the chapel along with any other special events. If you are on Facebook, you will be able to keep up to date with what's happening at our Youth Club on the **SPACE** page.

For more detail about church life or prayer requests please 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 / Pam Down 01837 83674



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Youth and the Neighbourhood Plan

The Neighbourhood Plan Group recently sought the opinions and attitudes of the younger members of our community towards a range of issues that impact their daily life both in, and around, the village of Winkleigh.

They did this through a multi-page questionnaire distributed to students at the **Winkleigh Primary School and the Chulmleigh Academy**. Completion of the questionnaire was voluntary. A total of 90 young people, aged between 9 and 17 years, took the time to consider and reply to the survey. An encouraging response rate that represents around half (50%) of the youth demographic of the Parish. By so doing, our younger community members have provided valuable insight into their 'likes' and 'dislikes.' How Winkleigh is viewed by many of its youngest residents.

I was asked by the members of the Group to assist with the compilation and presentation of the questionnaire results and to attempt to provide some statistical analysis and interpretation. This I have recently done. The Neighbourhood Plan Group will no doubt be considering and releasing the full findings at some point in the Neighbourhood Plan process. However, at this stage. I have been asked to provide residents with some general comment and reaction.

There are two clear themes that emerge from the results of the survey:

1. Younger members of the community very much share similar concerns and attitudes as do their parents and other residents towards many local issues and challenges – traffic, speeding, parking, safety, movement, access to retail, recreational and social services, were all subjects frequently mentioned in comments and observations.
2. Local availability and access to (and the lack of) recreational and leisure activities that focus exclusively, or primarily, on the young, heavily influenced younger people's attitudes and views towards daily life in and around the community.

These are but broad interpretations. As is often remarked, 'the young are our future.' The young people of Winkleigh have clear views on their community. They want to see it thrive. As the intent of the questionnaire was to obtain a perspective on their thoughts and attitudes, thereby helping guide and inform the content of the upcoming Neighbourhood Plan, I am sure the feedback will be well-reviewed and considered.

Thanks to all who participated.

Collin Gibson

Okehampton & District Community Transport Group

Okehampton & District Community Transport Group has been serving the local community for 29 years. We provide transport for the frail, elderly, disabled and rurally isolated. All services are door to door.

Our **Ring and Ride Bus Service** runs from Winkleigh into Okehampton every Tuesday for shopping, the current fare is £5 return. If you wish to travel then you need to ring the office by no later than 12 noon on Monday. We also run a **Voluntary Car Scheme** for transport to healthcare appointments, this is charged at 50 pence per mile from your home to destination and return plus a £2 booking/admin fee.

We have **two wheelchair-accessible vehicles** based in Okehampton, which are used for both healthcare and social journeys; these are charged at 65 pence per mile from our base plus the £2 booking/admin fee. We also have a **15-seat community minibus**, available for group trips, which we use for weekend and weekday trips to various locations, with suggestions welcome.

Please contact us on 01837 55000 for more information or go to <http://www.odctg.co.uk/>. We can also send you a Welcome Pack with lots more information and register you to use our services.

Sue Wonnacott, Co-ordinator



Okehampton District Community Transport Group

OKEHAMPTON

Ring & Ride and Community Car Service



OKEHAMPTON Community Car Service
The Community Car Scheme complements the Ring & Ride service and provides for more individual one-off journeys for the purpose of social visits, hospital visiting, doctors, dentists and chiropody appointments etc. Transport is provided by volunteer drivers using their own vehicles.

Simply dial 01837 55000
Service available at any time subject to driver availability.
Please give 48 hours notice
Opening Hours
8.30am - 4.00pm Mon-Fri

Fares and payment
Passengers are charged mileage @ 50p per mile
There is a minimum charge of £3.50 for journeys of 7 miles or less.
A booking fee of £2 is payable for all except minimum charge journeys.

3 6 7 seat wheelchair accessible vehicle
Available for both hospital appointments and trips to places of interest, please ring for further information.
Wheelchair accessible transport is charged at 65p per mile from our Okehampton base.

Consultation Notice – 10th June to 29th July 2019

Winkleigh Neighbourhood Plan

Regulation 14 - Public Consultation Notice

In accordance with Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012, Part 5, 14(a)-(c), **notice is given that a formal pre-submission public consultation on the Draft Winkleigh Neighbourhood Plan will start at 9 am on Monday 10th June 2019 ending 5 pm on Monday 29th July 2019.**

About the Plan

The Winkleigh Neighbourhood Plan has been created through listening to the views of residents and businesses and it has evolved to help deliver the local community's aspirations and requirements for the future up to 2031. The Plan will provide a means of guiding, promoting and enabling balanced sustainable change and growth within its designated area.

Winkleigh Parish Council invites comments on the Draft Plan. All responses received will be considered by the Neighbourhood Plan Group and the Parish Council to produce a revised version of the Plan which will then be submitted to the Local Planning Authority for examination by an independent examiner.

Viewing the Draft Plan and Commenting on it

The draft Neighbourhood Plan with the accompanying draft Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), together with other evidence based documents and comments form can be found on the Parish Councils Website www.winkleighpc.org.uk

Paper copies of the draft plan and SEA may be viewed at Winkleigh Post Office, Doctors Surgery, Vets, Shop, Community Centre, Village Hall, and Sports Centre. Comments forms will also be available at these venues.

You may also comment on the plan by completing the online survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/KVK5QM9>

All comments will be publicly available and identifiable by name and organisation (where applicable).

All comments must be received by 5 pm on the 29th July 2019.

Winkleigh Parish Council
01837 89095
Winkleighpc1@btconnect.com

The Airfield Garage Car Show

June 8th 10am to 2pm

Have a car or a bike that you love to show off?

Bring it along and do just that. Whether it is an old classic, vintage or brand new, come along and enjoy a gathering with other like minded people. We'd love to see you.



Watercolour Painting Classes, Broadwoodkelly Village Hall - 20th & 26th June

These morning classes will mostly concentrate on sketching and painting outdoors. **Local artist Celia Olsson** will give you tips on what to take for a day out painting, show you various methods of sketching, how to quickly sketch the essentials of a scene when you have very little time and how to turn sketches into full paintings. There will be opportunities to sketch outside, with one full session at a location nearby (weather permitting). - **£12.50 per session.**

To book or for more details please contact Celia on 01837 82 796 or
celia.olsson.art@gmail.com

Britannia Sailing Trust

Airfield Garage, Seckington Cross

Since our last contribution to Distinctly Winkleigh work has continued on Britannia, and much progress has been made, thanks to all our loyal volunteers.



1. Original nails from bilge stringers



2. Refastening the bilge stringers

We have now removed nearly all the interior fittings allowing access to the hull and frames. Two very large planks of wood that are called the bilge stringers, which run fore and aft half way between the keel and the deck, have now been refastened – a job that has not been done since she was built in 1915, so it was very important to be able to complete that task. Some of the nails that came out were very tired! (*Pictures 1 and 2*).

We completed a complicated process of taking the lines off her – a procedure that will enable calculations to be done for weight and balance, helping to ensure that she is ballasted correctly and is stable when sailing. This process took about 6 weeks to complete as precise and frequent measurements needed to be taken. The next stage is to use these measurements to draw up plans showing longitudinal and cross sections of the hull. When Britannia was built in 1915 there were no plans – the traditional boat builders of the time used to make a wooden half model and then loft out the ship from that – amazing expertise and skill.

The latest task has been to remove all the covering board which is the section of timber that connects the deck to the hull, with the stanchions (technical name for the top section of the frames that extend above the deck), at deck level. This is complicated and back to front in boatbuilding terms, but it has to be done as the edge of the new



deck was laid incorrectly, which meant that it leaked, causing further issues with timbers underneath. In order to address this we have recut the deck where it meets the covering board, and patterns have now been made for a new margin, or spirkitting, to accommodate the new deck edge. Any shipwrights or boat builders reading this will know that this is back to front construction, but we have to do it this way to save laying a whole new deck, which would be costly in time and money, but also wasteful as the rest of the deck is good and made of good quality timber. Pictures 3 and 4 (*Left*) show this process and the patterns.

Enough of technicalities!



We were delighted to host a visit in March from the **Iddesleigh Farmers Group**. About 25 people came to see around the boat and listen to Sam's stories about her and why we are doing it. We are very happy to do this again for anyone, individuals or groups, if they are interested in our project. **Britannia is a unique piece of Britain's Maritime Heritage and deserves to be saved in her own right, and to go back to sea.** This restoration should ensure that, with regular and correct maintenance, she will last for another hundred years. **But the reason that we are spending our retirement doing this is because of our concerns about Climate Change and Pollution.**

When we renewed our relationship with Britannia in 2013, we set up the **Britannia Sailing Trust**, with the objectives of a) restoring her, b) teaching people the skills of shipwrighting and traditional sailing, and c) using her to campaign about pollution of the seas. This is now a hot topic, - rightly so, and it is more important than ever that we achieve our goal of getting her seaworthy again as quickly as possible. Time is running out – teaching young folk to sail a large boat using just wind power might be essential when we have to stop using fossil fuels!



Funds are short and we could do with more help in lots of different ways. We held a very enjoyable event in Winkleigh Village Hall at the end of April, **where a wonderful group of singers and musicians from Exmoor, called the Acorns,** came to do a fundraising concert for us. Everyone who came enjoyed the night and we are hoping to bring them back again

before too long. **We raised just over £500** so were very pleased with the result.

Thanks need to go to Chris and John for running the bar, Lenice, Duncan, Kay and Tony Aston of Granton S'pies for providing the delicious food, Ann for running the raffle and minding the door, Alan for his gorgeous donations to the raffle, and everyone who helped us to decorate the hall and clear up afterwards. And of course, we are REALLY grateful to the Acorns, who sang for us for nothing and were fabulous, no other word for it! So good, and so professional.

And lastly we have an amazing coincidence to reveal. We sold Britannia after owning her for 23 years, in 1996, and until we came across her in 2013 in Brixham, we had no knowledge of her. But we discovered a few weeks ago that a very good friend of two members of the Acorns is a sailor too, and it turns out that he lives in North Devon. So one evening, whilst they were chatting in the pub, Tony and Meg were talking about the gig they were planning to do for us, and showed John our leaflet, and he realised that she was the very same ship that he had skippered for the new owners between 1996 and 2002 when they sold her! He came to visit us and I guess was a bit shocked at the state of her, but he loves her too and shared some good memories of his time sailing her. She is gradually drawing to her all the people that care about her – hopefully we will do her proud!

If you are interested in helping in any way, or just want to come and see us, please phone Vicki or Sam on 01837 682 895.

Our website is www.britanniasailingtrust.org and Facebook is www.facebook.com/britanniasailingtrust

The Acorns have a Facebook page too, - look them up, they're great!

www.facebook.com/Acornsthegroup

Winkleigh Football club
Fun Day
Saturday 1st June 2.p.m

Winkleigh f.c v Winkleigh Legends
kick off 3.p.m

Barbecue
Bar
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Fun For All The Family
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Great Afternoon All Welcome



VINTAGE FLEA



SUNDAY 14TH JULY 10AM-2PM
WINKLEIGH SPORTS CENTRE

Open Letter - Thank you

First I would like thank those who voted for me. I did not expect 98 votes being a newcomer to Devon and being Labour as well, so thank you all very much. More importantly I would like to thank those I spoke to when campaigning. Everywhere, I was met with interested and interesting people, who wanted to hear what I had to say and share their views on Brexit. No one was rude or unpleasant and the weather was clement too!

I was rather sorry that Brexit came up so often in a local election, because I felt that my contribution to the community and my hard work on the Parish Council was somewhat overshadowed by national politics and concerns.

As expected I have not been elected but will continue to serve you on the Parish Council. Party Politics doesn't really feature in local council work and many people suggested that I would have had more of chance if I had stood as an independent. This was not an option for me as Chair of the Local Party and a life-long socialist. As I said on my election material; being a socialist is about how I live my life, conduct my affairs and not how I vote every four years!

Once again thank you, if you voted for me and my thanks to all the lovely open-minded and open-hearted people I met on the campaign trail.

Angela Findlay

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The Winkleigh Singers present
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A concert performance of the semi
 opera by John Dryden, set to music by
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*Entertaining tales of battles, love, good and evil
 spirits, drunken innymakers, with patriotic songs and
 some of the finest tunes of the English Baroque!*

Monday 24th June 2019 at 8.00pm
Umberleigh Village Hall

With instrumental group.
 Narrated by Gwyn Thatcher.
 Directed by Roland Smith.

Tickets: £8.00, accompanied under
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 Available from choir members
www.winkleighsingers.org.uk
 or on the door



making music

The Winkleigh Singers is a registered charity number 1071416
 1400, Moorhouse, Exmouth, Devon

Winkleigh YFC

We have had a busy spring time with several young farmers' events, making the most of the sunshine.

We held our **tractor run on the 7th April to raise money for our chosen charities; MIND and Farms for City Children. We had around 35 Tractors and raised £342.** We started in Burrington and went on a 30 mile drive to end in Burrington for cottage pie and puddings. Thanks to all who supported us and waved on the way around!



On the **14th April, we completed our charity cycle and run. 10 members took part.** At the moment the sponsorship money hasn't all been collected and counted but we are hoping we raised a good sum for charity.



That same week, we held our annual Easter Disco, which was very successful and will mean we can give generously to our charities.

We also had a handful of members go to SWA in Weston Super Mare for the weekend.

Current events

- **Our big breakfast at Nethercott House, Iddesleigh on the 11th May from 10 am.**

As always for more information please speak to Ashleigh Chambers on 07949886480 or look at our Facebook page.

Katrina Brook



Winkleigh Wives Group

We began the year with our annual Sunday Lunch at Libbaton Golf Club, where we once again enjoyed good company and good food. As a result of the raffle at this event **the Wives Group were able to donate £61 to Farms for City Children.**

At our meeting in March we had a very enjoyable afternoon learning all about the art of making Hats & Fascinators. We are very grateful for Rachael Dunn, a Winkleigh resident, for coming along to our meeting and talking us through the process of hat making, from the raw material to shaping and decorating the finished article. We were also able to try on a few of her creations.

In March we were able to pay a visit to the Mardi Gras in Brazil, courtesy of Claire & Ray Tricker. At our May meeting we will be learning all about the craft of making cards.

June brings us full circle for the year, a service in Church before meeting in the Village Hall for our AGM. After a break, our meetings will begin again in September when we hope to have some more interesting speakers and events.

Our meetings are held on the second Monday of the month at 2.30 pm in the small rear room of the Village Hall and everyone is welcome.

Janet Magor



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ACE Archaeology Club



We are now focusing on our Moistown excavation; advertising for diggers and other helpers at the dig; our Director is busy getting last year's Interim Report ready and that will be on the website as soon as it is finished.

Please check our website for all details of the dig dates and our other activities. You will also be able to have a look at a couple of our past Newsletters: <https://acearchaeologyclub.wordpress.com/>.

Between now and the dig we have a couple of archaeological themed walks on Dartmoor. If you can't manage any of those do come to our **Moistown Dig Open Day on the 10th August 2019 from 11.00 am to 4.00 pm**, tea, coffee and cake available.

For more information please contact Erica on surica47@gmail.com

Letter to the Editor – 'HERE: Uncovering North Devon'



I wanted to let your readers know about the **'HERE: Uncovering North Devon'** exhibition being held at **The Burton at Bideford from now (4th May) until 22nd June, between 10 am and 4 pm**. The exhibition is based on material from the Beaford Archives and features never-before-seen photographs taken by **James Ravilious and Roger Deakins**, dating back to 1890. In addition you can listen to **Oral Histories recounted by local people, including some from Winkleigh**. Well worth a visit!

Margaret Miller

Letter to the Editor – Our Village Hall



I came to the Village Hall to support the Table-Top Sale held on 15th February to raise funds for redecorating the hall. I was extremely disappointed with the low turnout of locals to support it. There are about 1800 people in our community, so why are you not supporting our Village Hall?

It is a registered charity being kept alive and kicking with a wonderful group of people / volunteers, who look after it for everyone to use and enjoy!

We need lots of newcomers including children to support it to help keep it going for many years to come.

SO USE IT OR LOSE IT!!

Everyone need to come together like a family to support the people who run it.

Name supplied to Editor

Winkleigh Biodiversity Group

This year a group of keen volunteers has continued to manage the **Biodiversity Area at Winkleigh Memorial Recreation Fields**, in order to provide a diverse habitat for wildlife and to develop a pleasant outdoor space for local people to enjoy. You can find it next to the Tennis Courts.

The first trees were planted in December 2012 with a second planting in 2014. Some of these trees have now grown into young saplings. The white-flowering Wild Cherry, Whitebeam, Hawthorn and Rowan provide nectar for pollinating insects and later on, berries in the autumn - food for birds and small mammals.

The grass path within the Spiral Maze has been cut by Tim Roberts of Punchardon Farm, Winkleigh. This allows flowering plants such as Lady's Smock (or "Cuckoo Flower") and Knapweed ("Hardheads") to thrive. The nettles provide food for Red Admiral, Peacock and Tortoiseshell caterpillars. The grasses are food-plants for caterpillars of the Meadow Brown, Skipper and Ringlet butterfly, which are abundant there each July.

In April 2018, we planted some Alder Buckthorn bushes, which are the primary food-plant for the yellow Brimstone butterfly, and we are hoping to establish a colony there.

In November and March this year we have planted a further 100 trees from the Woodland Trust, as part of the Centenary Woods, within the existing spiral



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Contact farmers Olivia & Henry
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hedgerow. This brings us to a total of 350 trees planted on site, with 15 species of native trees.

We continue to send in records to the Devon Biodiversity Records Centre (<http://www.dbrc.org.uk/>), including butterfly species, wild flowers, insects and birds.


We are also encouraging people to take part in the Devon Bat Survey – most of Winkleigh is now covered, but if you live outside the village, why not arrange to have a bat detector located in your garden for 3 nights (before October): see <http://devonbatproject.org/devon-bat-survey/>

We also occasionally meet for a social evening drink or visit someone's farm or garden. We call that **“Green Drinks”**. If you would like to join in with any of our activities, we don't charge a membership fee, and everyone is welcome.



Contact *Kim J Melhuish* (via Facebook or Gmail).

For photos and updates visit our web-page:
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1st Dolton & Winkleigh Cub Scouts



The Cubs have planned their own programme this half term and on the 14th March, they chose to do their Communicator Badge. A requirement of this was to write an article for a newsletter about something you've done in Cubs; here are some of their (un-edited!) comments:

"I enjoyed making pancakes, making choco-cakes in mugs, the cubs talent show and many, many more things♡"

Anya, aged 10 from Winkleigh

"We made cake and lots of yummy food that you could make as well. You can do lots of fun things and you eat. Cubs is really fun, you should join."

Heather, aged 10 from Winkleigh

"I burnt my hand on a phrieing [frying] pan making pancakes but my pancake was nice. I had marshmelos and cream and choclet chips."

Joe, aged 8 from Dolton

"On World Book Day at Cubs I enjoyed making pancakes. I made two and had a good time. On my first I had lemon juise and squirry cream."

Gabe, 'Newspaper Critic' aged 9, Winkleigh

"Last week we made pancakes and they were lovley. There were loads of sauces mmmh. We made it by hand and they tasted great."

Ruairi, aged 8 from Dolton

"I enjoyed making the pancakes. I also enjoyed going to the sleepover and the Christmas party. I loved playing the guitar in the Cub concert. I loved making the pancakes. I especially loved flipping the pancakes."

Imogen, aged 8 from Winkleigh

Submitted by Akela

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Tree Planting In Sunny View

As many of you lovely people of Winkleigh will know, I was diagnosed with terminal Ovarian Cancer just over 5 years ago and given 3–6 months to live. Somehow, I have managed to survive and have undergone a tough regime of chemotherapy and various other procedures over this time. We have, as a community, raised funds for the North Devon Chemo Unit, The Seamoor Unit, which is now up and running thanks to public donations, and no doubt we will all know someone who will benefit from the amazing care they give.

I have now been told that there is no more the hospital can do for me and I am off all treatment and under North Devon Hospice, together with the lovely team at Winkleigh and Chulmleigh Surgeries.

It was due to this news that I decided I wanted to leave something from myself to Winkleigh. I have already spoken to the Fair Committee and will be leaving a donation for more Christmas Lights for the Square. I definitely think the Square can take some more fairy lights! I have also, after gaining permission from all concerned, planted a tree in Sunny View, the great place where I live. It is an ornamental plum, which will be a beautiful colour but will shed no fruit, so no picking up required by the neighbours (I don't want to leave them with any work!). My wonderful neighbours John and Debbie Scarlett assisted me with sourcing the tree. Big thank you to Don Creber who dug the hole and Darren Saunders who planted and staked the tree. When it arrived Margaret and Michael Bridgman and Debbie Scarlett kindly joined me for the planting. It felt very special for me to know that I have left something beautiful here which will grace Sunny View for years to come, and perhaps I will be remembered!



I have adored living here for nearly 7 years now. It is a kind and thoughtful community, full of the most wonderful and genuine people and I am truly blessed with all my neighbours. I have truly felt cared for and happier than I have been living anywhere else!

I have always said living here has felt like 'coming home'. Funnily enough, I have in recent years been completing my family tree on my mother's side and it now appears as I get back to the 1700's and 1800's my ancestors actually did come from the South West but more interesting from around here, Ashreigney, North Tawton, Barnstaple and maybe if I keep looking I will find someone who lived in Winkleigh! So maybe I really have 'come home' ...

Patricia (Trish) Murtagh

Winkleigh Growers

.....**celebrate their Tenth Anniversary this month.** We honour members of the Playing Field Committee who were responsible for setting up the allotments; it required a lot of commitment and hard work. Holders began enthusiastically in May 2009 – but with no water on site. And no sooner had our new sheds been built than a fierce southerly gale tipped many of them over!

Life improved for holders once the bore-hole had been drilled and we could turn on the taps! Once we were up and running John Colgrave took the helm, equipment was secured and improvements made. In more recent years leadership has resided in a committee, working collaboratively with Pam Berry our excellent secretary. In our ten years we have had two excellent allotment “groundsmen” – firstly Ray Jones, and now Alan Turner – who have kept and keep the whole site in good order. We have a lot of grass!

In many places allotments are like gold dust, and people can wait years to obtain one. Here, so far, availability of plots and demand for them have balanced out. At present all the allotments are being cultivated, and holders are evenly divided between women and men. **New holders are made welcome and new friendships are formed.**

We may leave the field sometimes with aching limbs and backs, but the joy and pleasure of working in a lovely setting, and growing our own tasty produce, makes all the effort worthwhile. We are a people who like to have their hands in the soil! Of course we grumble when the weather doesn't suit and when seeds sown don't produce anything! But on the whole overall it's a privilege being holders, and contributes to a very real sense of well-being.

John Williams

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Winkleigh Parish Council

Grants and Donations Process 2019-20

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 is part of the annual precept the Parish Council collects from the electorate and is available for distribution from 1st May 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, or downloaded from the Parish Council website using the following link [WPC Grant application 2019](#)

The closing date for all applications is 13th September 2019

All successful applicants will be notified in November 2019 with payment being made from 1st May 2020.

Melanie Bickell, Parish Clerk, Lower Itton, Spreyton EX17 5BB or 01837 89095, winkleighpc1@btconnect.com, winkleighpc.org.uk (and also if you would like to join the Parish Council 'email contact' list to keep abreast of WPC activities.)

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TDC supporting Homeowners with Essential Repairs



TDC are taking the opportunity to remind homeowners across the district about their loan scheme to enable homeowners to fund essential home repairs. The scheme has been developed to keep people warm, safe, dry in their homes.

A variety of works can be considered under the scheme such as roof and thatch repairs, boiler and other heating system replacements or installation, replacing rotten or draughty windows, structural repairs or electrical or plumbing work to name but a few. The scheme has been set up to enable eligible

homeowners to choose their own contractor and a variety of loan products are available to suit individual needs and means.

The scheme is delivered through Wessex Resolutions CIC, a not-for-profit, Responsible Finance provider in close partnership with the council. The partnership has been running for nearly ten years across Devon and has helped a huge variety of homeowners. A recent Devon client said "For all my adult life I have not had central heating and, now I'm getting a bit older, it would be nice to feel warm in the winter."

Through providing loans, the council are ensuring that funds for homeowners are

sustainable meaning that every repayment goes back into the council pot to lend to home owners in the future. A loan funded by the council can help spread the cost of home repairs but let you enjoy the benefit right away.

For more information, call Wessex Resolutions direct on 01823 461099, visit www.wrcic.org.uk or email enquiries@wrcic.org.uk.

NOTE THAT Loans have a fixed interest rate and typical 4.2% APR and are subject to status. Missing future payments could affect your credit rating and ability to obtain credit in the future. Wessex Resolutions CIC may insist on loans being protected at the Land Registry by a Title Restriction.

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Jennie's Challenge for her 80th Birthday

With my 80th Birthday approaching in September 2019 – despite the fact that I still only feel 37 (ha ha !!), I decided that I would like to do a Challenge and thought that a **Swimathon in aid of Devon Air Ambulance** would be just the thing that I could do at my ripe old age!

Although I go swimming twice a week at Simmons Park in Okehampton to keep fit, I needed to put in extra training to swim the **64 lengths (1 mile) without stopping** – and all the staff at Simmons Park have been so encouraging to me.

During the last few months I have asked all friends, family and anyone else to sponsor me and **I can now report that I DID the Swim on Tuesday 19th March 2019 in the time of 1 hour 27 minutes and have raised £1,069.20 for Devon Air Ambulance.**



My lovely husband, Alan, was saved by Devon Air Ambulance in 2004 when he had a flying accident and without them he would not be alive, so, for us, we are totally indebted to them – and, who knows, anyone reading this might well need their help in the future.

I would like to say a huge, massive **THANK YOU** to everyone in Winkleigh, Wembworthy, Monkokehampton, Hatherleigh, Okehampton and surrounding areas who supported and encouraged me along the way. I am really SO appreciative of their generosity.

Jennifer Gill (from Winkleigh on the border with Monkokehampton)

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Solution on page 62

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Solution on page 62

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What's On Diary – 2019

Please send details of your events to articles@distinctlywinkleigh.co.uk

Please also note that regularly occurring events are not usually listed here

Updates can be found at www.winkleighonline.com/Diary.pdf

May	
4 th May to 22 nd June	'HERE: Uncovering North Devon' exhibition by Beaford Archives in The Burton at Bideford
11 th May to 9 th June	Celia Olsson - Art Display at RHS Rosemoor
30 th at 7 pm	Ascension Day Service – All Saints Church
June	
1 st starting at 2 pm	Winkleigh Football Club Fun Day
4 th at 7.15 pm	Ashreigney WI – Ashreigney Village Hall
5 th – 2 – 4 pm	Forget-Me-Not-Friends - Community Centre
5 th at 2 pm	North Tawton WI – North Tawton Rugby Club
8 th from 10 am till 2 pm	Airfield Garage Car Show, Seckington Cross
9 th – all day	Open Farm Sunday - Join us at Down Farm to learn about vegetable farming. This is a nationwide event! See www.down-farm.com
10 th until 5 pm on 29 th July	Neighbourhood Plan Public Consultation period
13 th – 9.30 – 11 am	Forget-Me-Not-Friends Advice Surgery - Community Centre
20 th & 26 th (morning)	Celia Olsson Watercolour painting classes, Broadwoodkelly Village Hall
19 th - 9.30 – 11 am	Forget-Me-Not-Friends - Community Centre
24 th at 7:30 pm	Okehampton Choral Society Summer Concert at Hatherleigh Methodist Church
24 th at 8 pm	Winkleigh Singers Summer Concert at Umberleigh Village Hall
29 th at 7:30 pm	Okehampton Choral Society Summer Concert at Fairplace Church, Okehampton
30 th at 4 pm	Joint Mission Community Eucharist in All Saints Church

July	
3 rd – 2 – 4 pm	Forget-Me-Not-Friends - Community Centre
3 rd to 8 th (<i>details - page 3</i>)	Scarecrows entry by 3 rd ; on display by 7 th Scarecrow Trail maps available on 8 th Walk the Trail in Fair Week
10 th – 9.30 – 11 am	Forget-Me-Not-Friends Advice Surgery - Community Centre
13 th to 20 th	Winkleigh Fair Week (<i>details in Programme</i>)
13 th afternoon evening	Church Bazaar and Fete – Community Centre Winkleigh Fair Quiz Evening – Village Hall
14 th 10 am – starting	Vintage Flea market in Sports Centre Winkleigh Fair Opening – Church & Square Mad Hatters Tea Party – Sports Centre
16 th from 10.30 to noon & 17 th from 6 pm to 8 pm	Flower Viewing and refreshments in All Saints Church
17 th – 2 – 4 pm	Forget-Me-Not-Friends - Community Centre
17 th evening	Vintage Vehicle evening – The Square Open Mike Night – Seven Stars
18 th evening	Film Evening “Stan & Ollie” – Village Hall
19 th at 7 pm	Poetry & Pies in All Saints Church
20 th	Fair Day and Outdoor Market – The Square Clay Pigeon Shoot – Sports Centre
28 th at 2.30 pm (<i>date TBC</i>)	Cricket Match between Seven Stars & Kings Arms
August	
10 th from 11 am – 4 pm	ACE Moisetown Dig Open Day
September	
2 nd at 7.30 pm	Winkleigh Singers Open Rehearsal in Umberleigh Christian Fellowship Church on the A377
December	
14 th (evening)	Winkleigh Singers Christmas Concert in Winkleigh Parish Church

All dates & details are believed to be correct at the time of going to press.

And Finally

Despite many uncertainties in the wider world, a look through this edition of Distinctly Winkleigh should reassure you that village life continues regardless. Indeed the number and variety of events and activities that are going on in the village and local area, in particular during Fair Week is really quite impressive. Now we just need the weather to warm up and the sun to shine over the next few weeks to provide the icing on the cake.

Of course, all these events and activities don't just happen. They take significant effort to arrange so the organisers all need your support and encouragement. **Even if you are not sure if it's for you, do go along; you may be pleasantly surprised and also meet people you know as well as some that you don't.**

This time we have a photo of Fiona's Farm Shop and Café on the cover taken by Greg Goldsworthy to complement an article about the many facets of their business.

Do keep sending us your articles and adverts; also please let us know if you have any queries, comments or criticisms! Our contact details are on the outer back cover.

The deadline for contributions to the next Edition of Distinctly Winkleigh is
NOON on Friday 9th August for both articles advertisements.

Also publication / distribution is planned for the last weekend in August; publicity of any events taking place before then should not be treated as future.

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DISTINCTLY WINKLEIGH - PUBLICATION INFORMATION

This newsletter is published quarterly by **The Winkleigh Society** at the **end of February, May, August and November** and is distributed free to households and businesses in the Parish. The views expressed in submitted material are not necessarily those of the newsletter team or The Winkleigh Society.

All readers are most welcome to send in Articles (or reports, letters, drawings, etc.).

Articles may be subject to editing, primarily for space or layout reasons.

Articles can be emailed to *articles@distinctlywinkleigh.co.uk*, or sent to the Editor.

Advertisements from businesses in the local area should be emailed to *adverts@distinctlywinkleigh.co.uk*, or sent to the Editor

The deadline for articles & adverts is NOON on the second Friday of each publication month.

ADVERTISING RATES

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2 editions	£25.00	£50.00	£100.00
3 editions	£37.50	£75.00	£150.00
4 editions	£50.00	£100.00	£200.00

All contributions to the newsletter can be accepted in printed form, CD, memory stick, or as email attachments in WORD, PDF, PNG or JPEG file formats.

EDITOR

Godfrey Rhodes, 32 Westcots Drive, Winkleigh EX19 8JP - Tel: **01837 682982**

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	Rachel Goldsworthy	Sue Dally

Winkleigh Society membership is open to all Winkleigh parish residents, who are welcome to attend and vote at Society meetings. Further information about the Society and what is going on in Winkleigh can be accessed online at: <http://www.winkleighonline.com>

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