

# DISTINCTLY WINKLEIGH



Working for Winkleigh



**Edition 33**

**Spring 2010**

Cover sponsored by  
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**The Journal of the Winkleigh Society**

# Changes

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## **The Winkleigh Society**

At the Winkleigh Society's recent - rather poorly attended - AGM, both Chairman Roger Smith and Treasurer Robin Coombes stood down from their positions. Their initiative was intended to highlight the need for new blood and new ideas to drive the Society forward. Vice-Chairman Peter Monkcom and the remaining committee members present indicated their willingness to continue. Peter Howard also volunteered to join the committee.

At a subsequent committee meeting, Peter Monkcom agreed to take on the Chairmanship, Wendy Mondy will continue as Secretary, and Alan Mulcahy will take on the role of Treasurer.

It has been suggested that the **www.WinkleighOnline.com** website be made more available to those organisations wishing to announce events organised in Winkleigh. This is now in hand and may even be operational by the time this issue of Distinctly Winkleigh is distributed.

Having mentioned distribution, we must extend our grateful thanks to the dedicated team that braves all sorts of weather to get Distinctly Winkleigh delivered across the Parish. They do a great job!

# **Alasdair Cameron**

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‘You are nearer to God’s heart in a garden than anywhere else on earth.’ An old saying but I’m not actually sure that it is true! Being in a garden gives us the opportunity to be creative with and appreciative of God’s work and that can indeed bring one closer to God — though it ‘s never an excuse not to find him in Church on a Sunday!

However, it is to a garden that we look at the beginning of April to see God at work. Maundy Thursday (April 1 this year) we recall how Jesus, having celebrated the Last Supper went with his friends to the Garden of Gethsemane in order to pray and where he was arrested. On Good Friday after dying on the cross his body was laid in a tomb and, on Easter Day, it was to this tomb in a garden that the disciples came and discovered that he had risen from the dead. It was also here that Mary Magdalene saw the risen Jesus but mistook him for the gardener. In the garden of the resurrection we do indeed get to the heart of God and his work and this is what Easter is all about. Come and share this joyful occasion on Easter Sunday when our Sung Eucharist will be at 9.30 a.m.

Before Easter Sunday is the week we call Holy Week and it is here that the story begins to unfold and there are services every day that week beginning on Palm Sunday (28th March). All the details for this week can be found in the Parish Bulletin available in Church and at the Post Office.

Talking of gardens, or more specifically flowers and daffodils in particular, we shall be having a service on Mothering Sunday (March 14th) at 9.30 a.m. The Sunday School children will be taking part as usual (as they do at the Crib Service on Christmas Eve) and there will be the blessing and giving of flowers to mothers of all ages. We shall not only give thanks for our own mothers but also for Mary the Mother of Jesus and our Mother the Church who nourishes us and gives us life through the teachings of Jesus and the Sacraments which he gave us. Do come and join us for that occasion as well.

And finally, though it will have started by the time you read this, our Lent course is running on a Thursday evening at 7.00 p.m. in Church where we shall be looking at the customs and ceremonies that Jesus would have known and which help us understand better the New Testament and his teachings.

## WINKLEIGH SOCIETY ANNUAL LECTURES 2010

### Rural Futures

#### Friday evenings

Community Centre, Castle Street

12<sup>th</sup> March, 7.30

**The Future for Rural Children**

Alan Dyer

19<sup>th</sup> March, 7.30

**Futures for Power Generation**

Robert Down

26<sup>th</sup> March, 7.30

**Lessons from Biospheres around the World**

Mike Moser

9<sup>th</sup> April, 7.30

**Where in Winkleigh? A co-operative project**

Maggie Watson

**Admission:- £2.00 for Members of Winkleigh Society**

**£4.00 each lecture for non-members (<18s free, £6.00 for couples)**

**Includes coffee/tea.**

## CHANGES TO THE WWW DIRECTORY

Please note the following changes/additions to the **WWW Directory**.

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#### **Methodist Chapel Castle Street**

Rev. Graham Warmington

Tel: 01837 83574

Email: [warmington49@btinternet.com](mailto:warmington49@btinternet.com) Web: [www.winkleighchapel.co.uk/](http://www.winkleighchapel.co.uk/)

The WWW directory is also available online at [www.winkleighonline.com](http://www.winkleighonline.com)

Just enter the service or name you are looking for and click on Search.

If you spot any inaccuracies or wish to make any additions or deletions, please let us know – Tel: 01837 680145 or by email: [am@distinctlywinkleigh.org.uk](mailto:am@distinctlywinkleigh.org.uk)

## Easter Lilies 2010

### All Saints Church Winkleigh – The Flower Arrangers

Each Easter we put lilies in the flower arrangements in the church in memory of loved ones. Their names are entered in the Book of Remembrance that will be displayed on the table beside the Screen pedestal.

We invite you to “buy a lily” this year in memory of “loved ones”. Envelopes for this purpose (with instructions) are placed in the church and also at CHANGES (by kind permission of Valerie Bissett). The closing date for orders will be Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2010..

We also invite you to come to All Saints Church in Winkleigh during Easter Week on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> April at 10.30 am for “Coffee and Cakes” with the Flower Ladies and to view the lilies in their displays.

Any queries, please phone **Jean Fletcher** (83450) or **Ruth Jones** (83268)

## COMMUNITY CENTRE

As from 1<sup>st</sup> February 2010, the hourly charges for using the Community Centre facilities have been increased as follows:

Main Hall:	£7.00
Small Room	£3.50
Kitchen	£3.50
Setting up	£2.00

To book any of the above, contact **Marion Humphries** on 01837 83486.



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## **Winkleigh Singers go from strength to strength and place to place!**

Singers from all over Devon meet every Monday evening in the Community Centre, come rain or shine, to share the sheer pleasure of singing under the expert direction of Roland Smith. Our programme is very varied and sometimes challenging, but is well received at the many venues that host our concerts.

There are three ways in which you can get involved in what we do:

1. We are currently looking for more singers in all parts (soprano, alto, tenor and bass). There is no audition, simply a three week trial.
2. Friends of Winkleigh Singers is a group of valuable supporters who help us both behind the scenes and with front of house duties at our concerts.
3. Come and listen to us sing!

This year begins with us singing a programme of Victorian music, including Stainer's glorious Crucifixion, in Torrington Church on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> March. We will be joined by professional soloists for what promises to be a splendid evening.

Without missing a beat we then move straight into rehearsals for the tour of 'Summer Song'. This concert will take us to Chulmleigh, Chittlehampton and Ilfracombe as part of the North Devon Festival. We are looking forward to singing a mixed programme of familiar and surprisingly neglected songs to enrich a summer evening.

Our Christmas Concert takes place in Winkleigh on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> December.

Tickets available from any member of the choir or see our website

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

We look forward to entertaining you!

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# “GATEWAY TO WINKLEIGH”

## **2 The Follies, Torrington Road**

**by Dr Geoffrey Parnell**

During a recent conversation with a local farmer I explained that I lived in a rather dilapidated looking house at the junction of Torrington Road and Barnstaple Street on the northern edge of our village. He said he knew exactly where I was located adding that he thought of the cottage as ‘the gateway to Winkleigh’. I smirked, but later thought that apart from being amusing the description of the location was accurate and something of a literary gem.

Over the last few years doubtless many passers-by have seen me up a ladder repairing cob, installing window, and more recently constructing a massive stone retaining wall that looks rather like a fortification at the rear of the property, but which, in fact, is intended to prevent the house from being flattened by landslide. On numerous occasions friendly villagers have asked me about the house and its history and one or two have suggested that I commit my observations to paper and offer it to *Distinctly Winkleigh*, so here it is.

### **The House and its Location**

The house lies at the junction of two ancient roads; Barnstaple Street leading into the Square and the centre of the village and Torrington Road (the ‘rat run’) which skirts the western margins of the settlement on its way south in the direction of Dartmoor (Fig. 1). The house is a simple structure of cob construction resting on an obligatory dwarf stone wall beneath a timber-framed roof composed of split branches and worm-eaten off-cuts which is, and has always been, thatched in one form or another.

At the Torrington Road end of the building stands a rather unprepossessing timber and partly corrugated iron clad, lean-to, extension. Believe it or not, this edifice is almost certainly original to the building and internally retains the remains of an old timber frame composed of trimmed tree trunks. The elevation against which the extension rests reveals exposed cob which has never been rendered because it was not exposed to the elements. The sockets and timber ends of an earlier roof can be seen below the extant corrugated roof.

An elderly couple who used to visit a grandmother in the house during the 1920s and 30s tell me that the corrugated iron was present then. This does not surprise me for the material was in common use from the middle of the nineteenth century; it was relatively inexpensive and had a long life expectancy. It was widely employed in the industrial buildings of Dartmoor and some of the surviving structures of the mining era include the corrugated iron in their listed building schedules. That said, there are clear indications that my outbuilding was boarded at an earlier date and I intend to refurbish the structure in that manner.

The young visitors to my house in the interwar years described their grandmother as a redoubtable old lady, always clad in a starched white apron and with the open fire in the little living room always on the go. She collected kindling for the fire in the field on the opposite side of the road and her lavatory was located in the outbuilding, which explains the otherwise puzzling presence of a small window and concrete floor located in the north-east corner.



## **The Dating of the House.**

According to the schedule of ancient monuments now maintained by English Heritage, the building is thought to date from the early eighteenth century. The listing of the building took place on the 21 February 1977 and was carried out without the benefit of access. The inclusion of both No. 2 and No.1 (on the opposite side of Barnstaple Street) was part of a remarkably early decision to protect some of the historic buildings of Winkleigh by the then Ancient Monuments Section of the Department of the Environment (formerly the Ministry of Public Buildings & Works). Few cob buildings had been awarded this protection until then and the operation demonstrates how enlightened the Inspectors of Ancient Monuments and Historic buildings were.

As a matter of interest I was employed by the Ancient Monuments Branch and was at the time of the listing recovering from directing a prolonged archaeological excavation on the lawns south of the White Tower, Tower of London. This was billed as a limited investigation in advance of the construction of a new Interpretation Centre and at the age of 24 I felt stretched to the limits. In the event we discovered, in addition to countless other things, the southern extremity of the c.200 A.D. Roman landward wall of *Londinium*; evidence for the addition of a riverside wall of c.270 A.D. (confirmed in another excavation later in 1977) and the dramatic discovery of an enormous stretch of replacement riverside dating from the final years of the fourth century and still the latest piece of Roman military engineering so far discovered in this country. As a result of these discoveries the construction work was delayed and the building had to be redesigned.

Returning to the matter of my property, with a review of the documentary evidence and some new archaeological evidence, I can now assert that the building was constructed as a smithy in about 1830. The topographical evidence is found in two surveys. The first concerns the monumental mapping of England and Wales that took place in the wake of triangulation. The triangulation of north Devon took place in 1795/96 with local triangulation taking place in the first years of the nineteenth century. The topographical survey of the Bideford area (which includes Okehampton in the south, Holsworthy in the west and South Molton in the east and Winkleigh, somewhere in between) was carried out during the years 1803 and 1807 at a scale of 2ins to a mile. These fantastic drawings were then conveyed to the Tower of London where they were reduced to a scale of 1in to the mile and then engraved; the publication of the finished items began to appear in October 1809. This remarkable achievement was orchestrated from the Office of Ordnance Drawing Room at the Tower of London, an establishment that was formally established in the great eastern annex to the White Tower in February 1716 and became the independent Ordnance Survey by Act of Parliament in 1841.

The survey of England and Wales was the envy of the western world. The drawings (the original survive in the British Library) were upgraded with contours (to replace the earlier hatching), the railways and new roads, later in the nineteenth century and it is not too dramatic to suggest that the original survey is the genesis of all those Ordnance maps that we have on our shelves at home and the dreaded navigation toys that some people have in their cars.

The year 2009 marked two hundred years since the first issuing of the Ordnance Survey maps and I suggested that the occasion should be marked with an exhibition at the Tower of London, where it all began. This was duly rejected in preference for yet another tedious celebration of the pathological reign of Henry VIII (accession 1509) and his sex life. It is very depressing that the real achievements of the nation seem to go unnoticed in

preference for media-friendly and properly researched subjects, but then what can you expect from uneducated commercial managers that are now running some of our great institutions like the Tower of London.

The Ordnance Survey of the Bideford region shows No. 1 The Follies, but not No. 2. The junction of Torrington Road and Barnstable Street, is, however, clearly labelled 'Folly'. Many local people still refer to this cross road as 'Folly Gate' and I have noticed that the field where the earlier inhabitant of my house collected her kindling is marked 'Folle' on later Ordnance maps. It is clear, therefore, that the name 'Follies' applied to the two extant houses at the junction carries an historical association dating back to at least the first decade of the nineteenth century. I should add that the previous owner changed the name of my house to the meaningless 'Cande Cottage' but with the enthusiastic support of Torrington District Council I reinstated the historic name.

The next important topographical piece of information is found in the Tithe Survey of Winkleigh carried out by the surveyors Irish & Parker in 1843. Once again we are gifted with a survey of England and Wales the likes of which had not been attempted since Domesday in the eleventh century. The purpose of this remarkable survey was to enable cash payment to be made to landlords, often the Church of England, instead of the medieval practice of having to provide goods and services. The costing exercise led eventually to the introduction of a proto Income Tax (which, I suppose, many of us can only lament), and it is no surprise that the original survey's drawings and schedules were handed over to the Public Record Office by the Inland Revenue.

The parish of Winkleigh features on two enormous plans with a property index linked (N. A. IR30/9/452) to a very detailed schedule providing information about ownership, dimensions, etc. When I visited the Public Record Office in Kew (now branded the trendy 'National Archives') I discovered that one of the two Winkleigh negatives had been stolen! Annoyingly, the "liberated" negative featured the village itself. Under normal circumstances the general public are not allowed to consult the originals, but the Reader on duty recognised me as someone who had played a responsible part in bringing two parts of the Domesday Book to the Tower to help celebrate the Millennium (these were brought to the Tower in an armoured vehicle with an armed escort in the middle of the night).

The 1843 schedule exhibited a multitude of entries arranged about the numbering on the drawings. I stood in disbelief when I realised that among these hundreds of entries No. 2 The Follies appeared as the first entry and No. 1 as the second. In the language of the Commissioners for England and Wales my property is described as 'Smithy 0.A, O.R, 2.P.' meaning a smithy with two Perches of land. The boundary of the property is exactly as it remains to this day. The site is attributed to a certain William Rowe, who also owned No. 1 The Follies, which is described as a 'House, Garden, &c' with eleven Perches. Again the layout of the property and grounds appears the same as today.

William Rowe was born in about 1813, the son of Richard Rowe and Elizabeth Pope who were married in Winkleigh on 17 June 1798. The Papes were an established local family with some social standing. The Rowe's were also long established in and around Winkleigh, and the William Rowe of the Hundred of North Tawton and Winkleigh that signed The Protestation Return of 1641, was almost certainly part of the line.

It seems likely that the plot of land on which William Rowe's smithy was built had formerly represented the north tip of a substantial parcel of land called the 'Great Meadow'. This stretched all the way south to the large house where the owner the

Reverend Henry Wright lived and which is now the residence of the illustrious Philippa and David Lausen. It would be rather convenient to suggest that Richard Rowe lived on one side of Barnstaple Street and carried out his work in the smithy on the other, however, until more information is forthcoming this suggestion cannot be proved.

From the above it is clear that the smithy must have been constructed between 1809 and 1843. This span can be reduced by some material that has been recovered from the cob fabric itself. When the conservation builders were stabilising and reconstructing the chimney stack several large pieces of stone ware were found embedded under the lintel of a blocked doorway. They showed fresh breaks and could only have found their way into the cob during manufacture. More of this pottery was found during the removal of some hideous cement repairs from the Barnstaple St. side of the house while part of a clay tobacco pipe, including the bowl, was found buried in the wall while I was installing a new kitchen window. I referred these meagre finds to some colleagues in the Society of Antiquaries, including the Secretary who is an acknowledged expert in the field of post-medieval pottery. I also waved the pieces in front of John Allen & co in the offices of Exeter Archaeology. All of them agreed that this was standard West Country Stone Ware and would not have been available before the 1820s; together with the pipe bowl the general feeling was that the date was more likely 1830 than 1820.

To be continued ...

**SO**  
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## WINKLEIGH WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

### Is there anybody out there?

I have written about the local events, some national events, various past events and the indomitable spirit of an all-female organisation that has lasted for **90 years**, but I begin to wonder a) if anyone reads this tremendous publication, Distinctly Winkleigh, or b) is no-one inquisitive enough to ask questions about the content.

There are several 'in-coming' families in this village, and I should think that everyone can find something to match their interests with such wide-ranging and diverse activities on offer. Most local people whose families have been here for generations are so accommodating and helpful, and together we all enjoy a wonderfully active community.

The WI programme for this year includes talks on Dartmoor Tales, Historic artefacts, Hartland Abbey, Hats and 'Covered wagons to Bicycles'. Demonstrations include making greetings cards and Christmas crackers, and outings to a Devon Manor House and Crediton Flower Festival are on offer. There is the Birthday lunch in March and a Christmas lunch in December, and there is the opportunity to attend Council meetings and Group meetings with special guests as speakers as well as joining any of the many activities and events organised by the Devon Federation. We help at Fair week and the Christmas Fair and provide teas at some Pre-school events.

However, we in the WI would love to see more members who can bring ideas and suggestions that would appeal to a wider audience, but this can only happen if you come along. So, what about taking up the challenge and come along to our meetings, let us know what you think, let us exchange ideas, let us ensure that this organisation will flourish for future generations.

We meet on the first Wednesday of the month in the back room of the Village Hall at 7.30pm, and you can come along as a visitor for only £1 for up to three months.

[Editor's Note: Surely this is a bargain price not to be missed!]

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## WINKLEIGH'S CARBON CLINIC

Following the Winkleigh Carbon Clinic held at the end of last October, the University of East Anglia have now produced their report evaluating Winkleigh's carbon footprint. The report is 55 pages long and therefore rather large and expensive to distribute. However, a copy will be made available at the Community Centre for those who have both interest in the results, and the patience to read through it!

One useful snippet from the report is the availability of FREE cavity and loft insulation for Torridge residents who qualify. The following table gives details.

Eligibility	Pricing
Age 70+	<b>FREE</b> cavity wall and loft insulation
In receipt of qualifying income related benefits	<b>FREE</b> cavity wall and loft insulation
Age 65 to 69 or less than £18,000 annual household income	<b>FREE</b> cavity wall and loft insulation
Aged under 60 or annual household income more than £18,000	£150 cavity wall insulation. If existing loft insulation is 60 – 100mm is £200. If existing loft insulation is 0 – 60mm cost is £170.

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## DOGGY DOO DOO'S - DO'S AND DON'TS

The Police acknowledge the pleasure that dogs can bring to people of all ages, but, as a result of recent calls to the Neighbourhood Beat Team, it has come to our notice that dog fouling is a rising source of concern to residents of our area.

Dog fouling is not simply an unacceptable nuisance; faecal material can carry disease and, in some cases, result in life-threatening illnesses. This is particularly true of the parasite *Toxicara Canis* (the roundworm Larvae). This is especially dangerous to young children. If it is transferred to skin mouth or eyes it can cause aches, pains, breathing problems and in extreme cases blindness.

One of our partner agencies, Torridge District Council, have made an order under the Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act 1996. The order means that it will be an offence if the person in charge of the dog - whether or not they are the owner - does not clean up immediately after their dog. Failure to comply is a criminal offence and may be dealt with by way of Fixed Penalty Notice or on conviction, a fine up to £1000.

Nearly all land to which the public has unhindered access is covered by the new Dogs (Fouling of Land) Order. Unless you have specifically established that the land is exempt and you have permission to walk there, you should clean up after your dog at all times. The law specifically states that it is not acceptable to claim that "I didn't know the dog had fouled" or "I didn't have a bag to put it in" or "I couldn't see a dog waste bin".

We have discussed our concerns with Carl Caswell, the Animal Welfare Officer at Torridge District Council. He is as eager as we are to reduce the impact of this issue on the community. He asks that any person who knows of someone that is letting their dogs mess in the area but not clearing up after it contact him on 01237 428855 or e-mail him at [carl.caswell@torridge.gov.uk](mailto:carl.caswell@torridge.gov.uk)

All we are asking dog owners is that you always carry enough bags with you when you walk your dog and clean up what it leaves behind. By any standards we feel this is a reasonable request. At the same time we are asking anyone who sees people failing to do this let us or Carl know so we can follow it up with advice, or if necessary enforcement.

On a lighter note if you would like advice on how to get your dog tagged, get a poop-scoop or find out more of Torridge District Councils new microchipping service then get in touch with Carl. You can of course always talk to any of us in your Police Neighbourhood Beat Team about your concerns through the normal channels or via our e-mail hub [Torrington@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Torrington@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk)

**PC Dick Rowlands – Torrington Rural Neighbourhood Beat Manager**

## Winkleigh Youth Club - Winter 2009/10

In common with most activities, the youth club has been hit by the atrocious winter weather and we lost two Wednesday nights immediately after Xmas, as well as some Saturday club activity. As I write it is not getting any warmer but the evening hours of daylight are showing slow signs of lengthening. Anyway, looking forward to brighter things ahead, I should carry on the report on our new volunteer, Jon. After settling in so well with us, has been looking for paid employment in youth work and hot off the press is the news that he has accepted a post with “Seize the Moment” the Hatherleigh-based arts and music group with whom we have enjoyed linking with for activities in the past. We are all hoping that this will lead to similar enterprises in the not too distant future. We are also given to believe his new duties will not impose too heavily on the time spent with us.

Anyway, looking to impending events for this year the first note for your diaries has to be the Easter Saturday (3<sup>rd</sup> April) “fun day” for all the family. This follows last year’s highly successful attempt, fronted again by Chanelle, who is working hard at the moment developing new ideas to go along with a rerun of some of last year’s fun and games. Amongst other things we are hoping to bring the “bouncy castle” along and the tuck shop will be offering the usual delicacies (as well as fantastic tea!), a barbeque is planned –weather permitting. This year we are also planning to involve the Bluecoat Children’s Centre in the days activities and are discussing ways of sharing funds from the events with them. I am sure many of you are aware just how valuable is their outreach involvement in our community, so by spending lots of

money you will be supporting two good causes, and having a good time - it’s a no-brainer!



Also on the agenda for the future are additional activities for “Saturday Club” including cookery projects (see photo) and the development of the mini-orchard, herb and fruit garden, mentioned at the end of the last report, for which we have now received funding from councillor David Lausen’s budget allocation – thank you David. Starting on

Wednesday nights very soon will be a dedicated crafts programme-more about that as we go on.

So to finish off then, don’t forget to watch out for posters on our events and we are still looking for any unwanted items that we can use in the kitchen or garden, particularly plant items as we move into Spring.

**Brian Holland 01837 83521.**

## Newsletter January 2010

**Wallingbrook & Winkleigh**  
Tel: 01769 580269 (Reception)

**[www.wallingbrook.co.uk](http://www.wallingbrook.co.uk)**

**Please note that calls to and from the Health Centre may be monitored or recorded**

### **Swine Flu Vaccination Programme**

Swine Flu continues to be a dominant topic. We are now vaccinating the at risk groups for Swine Flu and a further 1000 invitation letters have just been sent out. There are five groups eligible for the swine flu vaccine. These groups are:

**Group 1 - six months old to 65 years in seasonal flu risk group**

**Group 2 - pregnant women**

**Group 3 - household contacts of immunosuppressed individuals**

**Group 4 - over 65s in seasonal flu risk group**

**Group 5 - children aged between six months and five years**

These groups have been identified because they are at highest risk of severe illness should they contract the swine flu virus. All children over six months and under five years of age are now being offered the swine flu vaccine and letters will be sent to the parents of children in this group over the next few weeks.

Why is it a good idea to get my child vaccinated?

Even if your child is healthy, it is important to get them vaccinated against swine flu. The vaccination will help:

- protect your child against swine flu
- protect your family and other people who are close to your child as it is less likely they will pass on the virus
- protect your child against future waves of infection caused by the virus
- reduce the spread of the virus.

### **National Pandemic Flu Service**

Just a reminder that if you think you may have swine flu you should first visit the National Pandemic Flu Service website at [www.direct.gov.uk/pandemicflu](http://www.direct.gov.uk/pandemicflu). This website will be available 24 hours a day and is designed to identify the symptoms of swine flu and to provide authorisation to access antivirals.

Two telephone lines are also available, and will be open from 8am – midnight. People should call 0800 1 513 513 for information and 0800 1 513 100 for treatment. A textphone number is available on 0800 1 513 200. Only people with symptoms of swine flu should use the National Pandemic Flu Service.



## **Winkleigh Surgery**

The Winkleigh Surgery is now open from 8.30am to 12.00, Monday to Friday. On Mondays only, from 2.30pm to 5.00pm.

## **New Month of Birth Recall System**

With effect from the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2010 we are inviting patients to make their own appointment for a yearly review of all the medical conditions they have at one time during the month of their birthday.

The month before your birth month you will receive an invite in the post asking you to make your appointment, therefore you can choose the appointment most convenient to you.

***What do you need to do? Please telephone the Health Centre as soon as possible, the receptionist will book your appointment with a clinician.***

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to ask a member of staff.

## **10:10 Health**

This year Wallingbrook Health Group, along with thousands of individuals and organizations' from across the country are working together for a common goal. The idea is simple: we aim to achieve a 10% cut in the UK's carbon emissions in 2010. Cutting 10% in one year is a bold target, but for most of us it's an achievable one, and is in line with what scientists say we need right now. And by signing up to a 10% target we're not just supporting 10:10 - we're making it happen.

## **10:10 Health - Active Living**

Healthcare is not all about pills and operations; just keeping physically active has been shown to be an effective way to improve health. If you know anyone with cardiovascular disease, chest disease, diabetes, or anyone who is overweight or suffering from depression then Active Living will benefit their health.

Exercise has fewer side effects than pills and everyone can benefit - so in 2010 not only help others to get out of their cars and start walking, cycling, gardening, dancing...but do so yourself! Don't forget, though, to consult your GP before embarking on a new fitness regime.

For some ideas it is worth looking at the Change4Life website at [www.nhs.uk/change4life/](http://www.nhs.uk/change4life/)

**Andy Warren**  
**Practice Business Manager January 2010**

## District Councillor's Report

Let's hope that 2010 is a better year than 2009. The last year has been quite terrible with the parliamentary expenses scandal; dubious conduct of our politicians regarding Iraq and Afghanistan; and bankers living on another planet. Two recent reports clearly show how bad things are. Firstly, the latest Mori poll shows that there has been a further chronic loss of trust in Britain during the past year –

- Trust in politicians has fallen from 21% to only 13%;
- Trust in government from 24% to 16%; and
- Trust in businessmen from 30% to 25%.

Secondly, a study by professors Richard Wilkinson and Kate Pickett – “The Spirit Level” – found that among 21 developed market democracies, Britain does worst at child wellbeing and badly on teenage pregnancies, imprisonment, drug abuse, obesity, social mobility and mental illness. But all this is dwarfed for many in Devon with potholes that make our roads look like we are in the third world!

Whichever party wins power in the next five months would be wise to place the re-establishment of trust at the heart of its programme. The obsession with “targets”, inspections, micromanagement and surveillance has completely failed to improve public services, the performance of quangos or corporate life. Throughout the country there must somehow be a change to a “presumption of trust”. Our teachers, medics, police and social workers not only need to feel wanted but also trusted so that they can have pride in their professionalism once again.

Government needs to re-establish trust with communities of all shapes and sizes. Here in rural Devon I believe that elected community leaders must have a genuine input in decision making. Far greater weight must be given to the opinions of our town and parish councils regarding not only planning proposals but also decisions that affect everyday life, such as speeding restrictions and the priorities for affordable housing for local people. Wherever possible, communities should decide about possible developments. I certainly do not want to see indiscriminate building in the countryside, but our town and parish councils should be trusted to properly evaluate the merits for their communities of any possible development. To help reverse the democratic deficit, local authorities should play a far more active role in working with voluntary groups in communities to ensure that resource and funding opportunities are effectively utilised.

Even if the government somehow did make a genuine change to a “presumption of trust”, I fear that many from experience, cynicism or consumerist (self) values would still not want to engage with “the system”.

If we are seriously going to grasp the nettle of the loss of trust, we need to start with the young. Why not give every primary and secondary school a small amount of money to allocate to things that make their school and community a better place? I believe that they would generally make sensible decisions and this would not only enable our young people to see how people, politics and communities are essentially combined but would also show that everyone should, if at all possible, play a part.

**David Lausen - 01837 83209**

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

## ACE Archaeology Club

The final report for the Dartmoor Archaeology and Bracken project is progressing very well and hopefully will be published this year. So much depends on the completion of the post excavation analysis and there is so much to analyse! This has been helped along by some funding from the Dartmoor National Park and Devon County Historic Environment Service, to cover the cost of the petrology (mineral analysis of the pottery, to find out where the clay comes from) and Radiocarbon dating of the charcoal found by the pottery. I have had the delightful pleasure of drawing the flint tools, to do this you really have to look at how they have been worked and used; the process takes ages but is fascinating and makes one marvel at the skills of our ancestors.

In the future we are going to drop the “Dartmoor” from The Dartmoor Archaeology and Bracken project because, as Bracken grows everywhere, the name is a little restrictive. I mentioned in my last article that we were developing a methodology for landowners to use to assess bracken-infested monuments in their care. Dr Sandy Gerrard is in the process of doing this and ACE is going to try it out at Moistown, Pattiland Farm, Broadwoodkelly on July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>, as part of the Council for British Archaeology’s Festival (17<sup>th</sup> July to 1<sup>st</sup> August). There will be lots of other things going on at Moistown over the 3 days so watch out for details in the next issue.

During the next few months ACE will be carrying on with the earthwork survey at Moistown, visiting the possible battle site of Cynuit, recording the Church yard at South Tawton and having a guided walk on Dartmoor, so there is something for everyone!

If you want to know more about ACE, contact

**Janet Daynes** Tel; 01769 520326, email [ace@ACEarch.org.uk](mailto:ace@ACEarch.org.uk) or check out our website; [www.acearch.org.uk](http://www.acearch.org.uk)

## Winkleigh & District Garden Club – Programme for 2010

The club holds regular monthly meetings, normally in Winkleigh Village Hall and in addition we make a number of visits to places of interest, such as local gardens, during the Spring/Summer period. We also hold an annual summer event, the last two years have been BBQ's held in a members garden.

In addition to the 'topic' of the meeting such as a visiting speaker, meetings also include a raffle, tea/coffee and biscuits, giving time for members to socialise, and we encourage members to bring in plants to sell/swap. We also benefit from various group discount schemes on seed and plant purchases.

March 16 <sup>th</sup>	Club Meeting – Village Hall <b>7:15</b> Speaker – “The National Garden Scheme” Miranda Allhusen
April 20 <sup>th</sup>	Club Meeting – Village Hall <b>7:15</b> Speaker – “Restoration of Heligan Garden” – Colin Howlett
May 18 <sup>th</sup>	Club Meeting – Village Hall <b>7:15</b> Propagation Talk/Demonstration, Seedling & Plant Swap
June 1 <sup>st</sup>	Visit: Moon Farm, Monkokehampton. Smallholding of Steve & Lisa Atfield: <b>6:30pm</b>
June 15 <sup>th</sup>	Club Meeting – Village Hall <b>7:15</b> Speaker – “Mazzards, North Devon’s Special Cherries”
July 6 <sup>th</sup>	Visit – Hole Farm, Woolfardisworthy. Garden of Nigel Alford: <b>7pm</b>
Aug. 7 <sup>th</sup> (Sat)	Club Summer Social – <b>1pm</b>
Aug 17 <sup>th</sup>	Bat Talk & Walk – Helen Shaw. At Church Cottage Brushford: <b>7:30</b>
September 21 <sup>st</sup>	Club Meeting – Village Hall <b>7:15</b> Gardeners’ Market Evening
October 19 <sup>th</sup>	Club Meeting – Village Hall <b>7:15</b> Speaker – “Gardening in the Biosphere” – Tom & Jo Hynes
November 16 <sup>th</sup>	Club Meeting – Village Hall <b>7:15</b> AGM / Seed Order
December 21 <sup>st</sup>	Club Meeting – Village Hall <b>7:15</b> Club member speakers & Review of year

New members and visitors are always welcome to our meetings. A nominal charge of £1 is made towards club costs and includes refreshments.

For further information please contact our Chairman **Mr Ed Porter on 01805 804838**

## WINKLEIGH METHODIST CHAPEL

Although the snowy weather in January delayed the opening of the **Oasis Coffee Shop** in our Lower Schoolroom (the Oasis Room) for a couple of weeks, we have now been opened on Monday mornings (9am – 1.30pm) since the end of January and already we seem to be building a regular clientele of customers either for early morning coffee, mid-morning breaks or light lunches.

Every week, we serve home-made soup, cakes, pastries, toasted sandwiches, jacket potatoes, etc. We are very grateful to Fiona Marshall (and family) of Fiona's Farm Fayre for her/their early rises on Monday morning, to provide fresh cakes and other 'goodies' for the shop. Our aim is to serve fair-trade teas and coffees; and all profits from the venture are to be divided between funding for the future development of the premises and community projects both within the UK and the developing world. Our aim is also to provide an 'oasis' within the village where folks can gather in a relaxed, friendly atmosphere and enjoy good home-made food and coffee.

As well as our weekly Coffee Shop and Sunday services (5.30pm on the first Sunday\* of each month and 11am thereafter), we are holding our first **Hot Chocolate Night on Friday, 26<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm** in the Oasis Room. These will be monthly opportunities to have a bit of a sing, a bit of a natter, a bit of a chuckle and a bit of reflecting on a certain theme, with plenty of hot chocolate and other drinks available throughout. The Hot Chocolate Night on the 26<sup>th</sup> March will be on the theme of "**Does God exist?**". Please look at the relevant page on our Chapel website: <http://www.winkleighchapel.co.uk> for further details.

We are also hoping to hold our first **Messy Church Event** on Wednesday, 5th May at 5pm – details of this will be made available nearer the date, both on our website and by posters on the Chapel notice-board and elsewhere in the village. All of these events are open to all, and you will certainly be given a very warm welcome.

Rev Graham Warmington  
[warmington49@btinternet.com](mailto:warmington49@btinternet.com)

Please note \* that our 5.30pm service on the first Sunday of each month includes a bring-and-share tea.

## WINKLEIGH FAIR PRODUCE SHOW

Categories for this year's Produce show are as follows:

### Adult section—£1 per entry

#### Vegetable

1. Three beetroot
2. Lettuce- any variety
3. Five French beans
4. Five carrots- any variety
5. Five runner beans
6. Three courgettes
7. Five pods of peas
8. Five radishes
9. Five white potatoes
10. Three tomatoes with calyx

All produce to be gently washed and displayed on a white plate or black fabric

#### Fruit

1. Five strawberries
2. Three sticks of rhubarb
3. Five gooseberries
4. Ten raspberries
5. A collection of soft fruits-three varieties

All produce to be displayed on a white plate or black fabric

#### Flowers

1. Seven sweet peas in a plain vase
2. A single rose
3. A fern in a pot
4. A collection of flowers

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## House Scouts and Explore North Devon

House Scouts has been invited by the Winkleigh Fair committee to take part in the celebrations of the 750<sup>th</sup> Winkleigh Fair. We are really excited about this and have already had far too many ideas for this auspicious event, so hopefully we will come up with something really special. During the medieval period Winkleigh was a very important place, having two castles which is unique in Devon and very rare in the UK. It will be a fine opportunity to look back to the very first Fair and imagine what it would have been like to live in Winkleigh then.

I expect that many of you will have seen the Winkleigh Heroes website [www.winkleighheroes.co.uk](http://www.winkleighheroes.co.uk) by now. Robert Side and David Purnell have done a really good job and are adding to the website whenever new material comes in. They are still on the lookout for photos of the Winkleigh men who fought in WWI - they do not necessarily have to be in uniform, a family shot would do. Either get in touch with Robert or bring a photo into the Mini Market (every Wednesday 9.30 to 11.00 am at the Community Centre) where we can scan it there and then.

If you would like to see the Winkleigh archive but cannot get to the Mini Market, please get in touch as I am sure that we could arrange access for another time.

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

## Researching your Family History

Are you interested in researching your Family History and building a Family Tree, or have you already started and/or hit a 'brick wall', and/or want to meet like minded people to share advice & experiences?

I am proposing to hold regular meetings, probably monthly, the first two would be focussed on how to get started, recording information, and looking at what records are available with, and without, the use of a computer. The frequency, content and direction of further meetings would be agreed by group members although I was envisaging that they would be more of 'workshop' and self help sessions.

If you are interested please give me, Martin Hindry, a call on 01837-682990, or email [martin.hindry@hotmail.com](mailto:martin.hindry@hotmail.com).

## WINKLEIGH COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Winkleigh Primary School continues to go from strength to strength under the leadership of Jane Rivans and her very high-quality staff. As a comparatively new member of the governing body I find there is much about the school which I find exciting and forward looking. Winkleigh School is such a friendly place. There is a smile and a welcome from the children who greet their visitors with the courtesy and friendliness they themselves receive from a very caring staff, for whom nothing seems too much in the help and support that they all give to each child. Everyone is working very hard, there is a positive atmosphere of progress, the children enjoy the praise and encouragement they receive and for many the school day seems to pass all too quickly.

Jane, her staff and the governors were greatly encouraged to receive this letter soon after the start of this term from the Department for Children, Schools and Families:

*Dear Mrs Rivans*

*I am delighted to congratulate you on the excellent performance of your pupils as published recently in the 2009 Key Stage 2 Achievement and Attainment Tables. It is an enormous credit to your staff, governors and pupils for their hard work and dedication.*

*Your results show that you are amongst the top maintained schools showing sustained improvement in your test results over the period from 2006-2009.*

*This is a great achievement of which you and all at the school can be proud, and I send my very best wishes for continuing improvement in the year ahead.*

*Vernon Coaker*

There is, indeed, a great deal to be proud of, and talking to parents I know how much it is all appreciated. How much we all enjoyed the Christmas production at the end of last term! And how the happy smiles at the end of it all showed how much the children enjoyed it too! And just recently the school has announced a new programme of visits and outdoor activities - the Forest School, Youth Hostelling, visits into the community - so much that is good in broadening each child's understanding of life, themselves and the joys of friendship. It is indeed a privilege to be able to support the school in any way and to know that one is part of a team that is the very heart and soul of our village.

**A Governor**





## **Cookery Demonstrations 2010**

### **Thursday 8th April Junior Cookalong (Competition Winners only)**

To be run shortly in the Western Morning News  
A day for Children to learn and  
have fun cooking

---

### **Wednesday 13th October Game Special**

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## SPORTS CENTRE –WINTER 2009/10

Picking up from where we finished off in the Autumn report the longer days are beginning to show but as I write the warmer weather is being very reluctant to make an appearance. On an optimistic note it has to be said that despite the best efforts of some very adverse winter weather there has still been good levels of use of the new play area - some people will not be denied!

Moving on to report on individual groups the headline, once again, must go to the Winkleigh Warriors women's netball team. Having reported the arranging of the first competitive home fixture, it can now be recorded that the girls did themselves proud and won! Since then they have suffered, along with everyone else, when snow and ice interfered with Sunday training, but have been out on court just as soon as possible, in increased numbers, despite some pretty cold mornings. Now they and the tennis players are waiting on the court refurbishment which it is hoped will happen some time in March - this is weather dependant due to the curing process requirements for the surface. Once this has been completed the netball court will be marked to tournament standard and it will be possible to schedule league fixtures at home - more wins on the horizon? Indoors the short mat bowlers have had a busy winter but even they have had to call off some fixtures, where conditions have made travel too difficult. Snooker has probably suffered less, with many local members managing to get to the table, no matter what. Once there of course, with other activities called off, why not play more snooker?

The "Bluecoat" sessions mentioned last time have been going from strength to strength and if you have read the youth club report (if not, why not?) you will have seen the plans for Easter Saturday and hopes of helping them on the funding front - we do need the whole community on board for this so dig deep on the day and let's hope the weather will help out as well. On that day, by the way, we will be planning a cake stall so this is your chance to join in, all confectionary contributions gratefully received. If you feel you can help in any other way please come forward, let's get the spring/summer activities off in style and help out good causes at the same time.

To finish off let's give a quick mention to the bowlers, who will soon be getting mowers out and starting work on the green and of course the "Growers", who have been battling the elements for some weeks now and must be awaiting the coming season with huge anticipation after such a promising first year.

Looking forward to seeing you all during the months ahead, please feel free to comment on activities-preferably constructively!

**Brian Holland 01837 83521**

## Are you struggling with your mortgage?

The Mortgage Arrears Advice project is a service from Homemaker that has been set up in response to a growing national concern about the rise in home repossessions.

It offers free independent and confidential advice to anyone worried about paying their mortgage. The advisor will listen to your concerns, discuss your options, suggest other sources of support, and give you advice about such things as benefits and new government initiatives. You will also be sent a free Information Pack.

Phone 01392 686760 for free, independent advice

(or email [MAAP@homemakersw.org.uk](mailto:MAAP@homemakersw.org.uk))

Homemaker Southwest is a Devon-based charity working in partnership with local authorities for the benefit of residents.



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

Reg. Charity No. 1088596

## VILLAGE HALL

Winkleigh Village Hall is fully licensed in accordance with the Licensing Act 2003. This includes the sale and consumption of alcohol on the premises during an event, both live and recorded music, theatre, dance and exhibition of film (cinema).

Village Hall hire rates are as follows:

Main Hall	£7.00 per hour
Small Room	£3.50 per hour
Kitchen	£3.50 per hour
Kitchen (Tea/Coffee only)	£1.00 per hour
Setting up	£2.00 per hour
Music Performing Rights	£1.00 per session.
Alcoholic Drinks Licence	£15.00 per booking
Raffled Alcohol	£5.00 per booking

For information or bookings please phone **Marcia Butts** on 01837 83734 or **Alice Turner** on 01837 83484. We look forward to your support.

## WINKLEIGH CHRISTMAS LIGHTS AND MARKET

The weather stayed mainly dry, but cold for the Christmas Market and Lights switch on, which led to a huge turnout for the event. The Sunday School were a wonderful addition with their crib scene. The festive atmosphere was added to with carols sung around the Christmas tree by the Pre-School and Primary School after which background music was provided by The Winkleigh Singers. Father Christmas in his grotto was also a great success!

The Winkleigh Fair Committee would like to thank the Seven Stars, Kings Arms and Winkleigh Cider for providing mulled wine and hot cider and Margaret Bridgeman for her wonderful mince pies.

We look forward to seeing everyone on the 20<sup>th</sup> March at Race Night!

## LETS GO TO THE RACES

Fancy going to the races but don't want to get cold and wet? The Winkleigh Fair Committee has the answer. Come to our Race Night on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> March in the Village Hall. £5 per person in advance or £6.50 on the door will get you entry to our Members Enclosure, a glass of bubbly to start the evening, nibbles and a race card. Doors open at 7.30pm with the first race starting at 8pm. The bar will be open all evening. As well as the chance to bet and win on each race, you will also have the opportunity to become a horse owner for a race!

Please join us in your fanciest race clothes for Winkleigh's Race Night!

Tickets are available from the Post Office, The Mad Butcher of Winkleigh and D&S Supplies. Strictly over 18s only.

## CHURCH BELLS

Are you interested in learning an ancient art? Are you a lapsed bell ringer? Do you know the difference between method ringing and Devon call change ringing? Do you love to hear the bells ringing, but wonder what goes on in the tower?

Winkleigh has a superb peal of 8 bells which are rung regularly by a small team of local ringers. We would like to invite you to come along and learn how to ring or to join us if you are a ringer who has recently moved here.

On Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> April, from 10 -12, we are holding an 'open tower' morning so you can come along and see how the bells are rung and find out a bit more about ringing in general. There is no obligation to take up ringing – just come and see what goes on. Ringers do not have to be churchgoers and it doesn't cost anything to take part.

So come along and join us for a cup of tea or coffee, a biscuit and an insight into a fascinating and absorbing hobby.

Contact **Andrew and Sue Ware** – 01837 83526 or **Frank Pidgeon** – 01837 83327

## WCWG

Winkleigh Church Wives Group has met monthly for over 50 years. Our meetings are held on the second Monday of the month in the small room of the Village Hall at which we have a speaker, a raffle and light refreshments. Our meetings in **November, February and March** are held at **2.30pm.** and at **7.30pm.** for the rest of the year.

On a Saturday morning each autumn we have a pre-Christmas Sale, at which local crafts people are invited to rent stalls. A Grand Raffle, (which includes our very popular Christmas Hamper prizes), together with light refreshments, make the Sale a very enjoyable morning to which everyone is invited. A portion of the Sale proceeds is given to a local charity. Since 2004 we have given over £2,240 to causes including; Devon Air Ambulance, North Devon Hospice, The RNLI, Shelter Box, Macmillan Nursing Care and Winkleigh Parish Church Council.

From 2004 to 2008 we sang Christmas Carols round the village and the total money collected, £650, was distributed to the following children's charities; NSPCC, Children's Hospice SW, Farms for City Children and the Lampard School. In lieu of carolling in 2009 we held a raffle at our annual lunch in January 2010 which raised £96.

Every February the North Devon Hospice invite groups to take part in a sponsored "Knit-In" at which strips are knitted and later sewn into blankets. WCWG participated in 2006, 2007, and 2009 and with generous sponsorship raised a total of £4,920.22.

On **Monday 8th March 2010 at 2.30 pan, in the Village Hall** (main room) a representative from **SHELTER BOX** will be our speaker. In view of their recent activities in Haiti we think that this talk will be of general interest, so **EVERYONE** is invited. To estimate refreshments required, **please ring 01837 83450 if you wish to attend.**

**J.H.F.**

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## And finally . . . . .

And we thought we had seen the last of the snow . . . !! If there's just one reassuring thing about the weather, then it must be its refusal to be either boring or predictable. The Met Office will not be using the words "Barbecue" and "Summer" in juxtaposition this year!

This has been quite a busy edition, with new contributors appearing with interesting articles. We have even received an appreciative message via our website ([www.winkleighonline.com](http://www.winkleighonline.com)) from a lady who was raised in Winkleigh and is now living in Tasmania. If things carry on like this, we might have to increase the size of Distinctly Winkleigh - perhaps even consider producing it in colour. . . . But I'm jumping ahead of myself a little!

Don't let these words dissuade any reader from sending in an article for the next issue. We will always welcome new contributors, comments or criticisms (constructive, for preference!)

Please contact any member of the Newsletter Team – telephone numbers on the back page - or email to [articles@distinctlywinkleigh.org.uk](mailto:articles@distinctlywinkleigh.org.uk).

Dates to remember for getting articles in for the remaining issues of 2010:

<b>Summer Issue</b>	<b>Weds, 19th May</b>
<b>Autumn Issue</b>	<b>Weds, 18th August</b>
<b>Winter Issue</b>	<b>Weds, 17th November</b>

## **D&S SUPPLIES**

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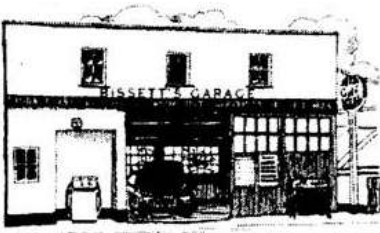


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## **WINKLEIGH SOCIETY COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

<b>Chairman</b>	<b>Peter Monkcom</b>	<b>01837 83452</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Alan Mulcahy</b>	<b>01837 680145016</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Wendy Mondy</b>	<b>01837 680022</b>
	<b>Janet Daynes</b>	<b>01769 520326</b>
	<b>Peter Howard</b>	<b>01837 83362</b>

The Society now has over 100 members. Membership costs £8 per person . This entitles you to vote at the Society meetings . If you would like more details, please contact Alan Mulcahy, our Membership Secretary, on 01837 680145.

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

## **NEWSLETTER TEAM**

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

Contributions to the newsletter can be received as follows:  
Articles are fine in printed form, but we can also accept PC disks or CDs in WORD format, or e-mail submissions .

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

The Newsletter team is always looking for new members, please come forward if you would like to help in any way.

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