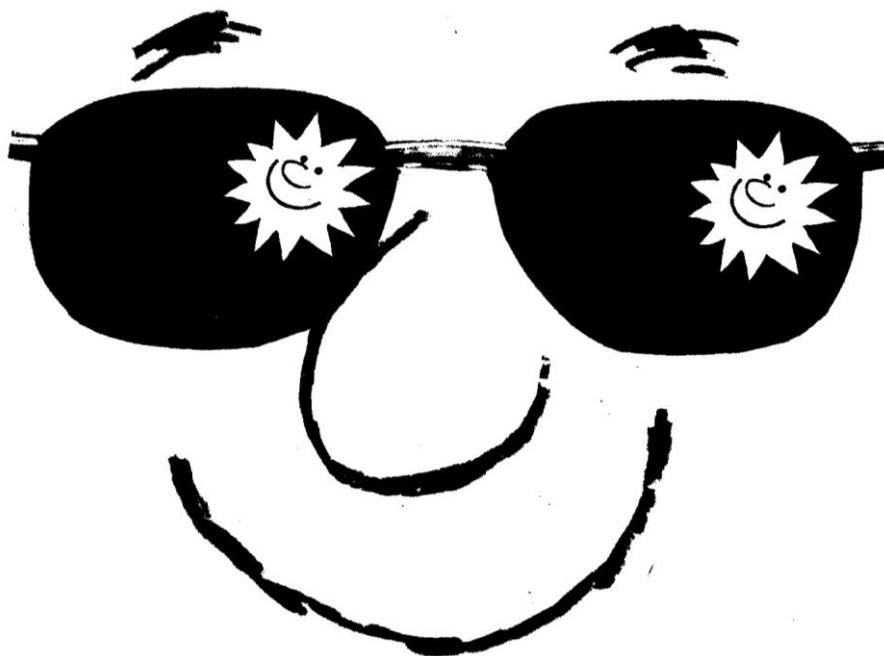


DISTINCTLY WINKLEIGH



Working for Winkleigh



Edition 50

Summer 2014

Cover sponsored by

Ian Shacklock, MTF Training, Moortown Farm, Winkleigh. 01837 83325

The Journal of the Winkleigh Society

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Winkleigh Society News

Does your project need some funding over the next five years and fits one of these categories?

- Farming - diversification and increasing productivity
- Forestry increasing productivity
- Micro business support
- Rural tourism
- Rural services
- Cultural and heritage activities

Keep your eye on the **LEADER Programme** website
www.northdevonplus.com/what-we-do/Leader4.aspx

The staff are there to help you to a successful outcome, because there is paperwork of course. Payments are made very promptly, but this is after the project is completed not before. Inevitably, some match funding is required, but this can come from any source, public or private, except from another EU programme. Grants usually run from £1,000 to £100,000.

The Winkleigh Society is happy to help with support and sometimes expertise, and sometimes simply to provide a bank account. Possibly too we could act as an umbrella, because often it is much easier to deal with one broad 'Winkleigh Development' application than dealing with lots of separate ones.

Peter Howard

Chair of Winkleigh Society and LEADER 4 Committee member

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Open 9-5 Mon-Fri, 9-4 Sat and 10-3 Sun

Weddings and Funerals are services associated with a Parish Church but if you have been closely involved with either you will know that both involve a fee. Baptism (or Christening), however, is free although we always encourage people to make a donation! Some people imagine that I get the fee — not true! Once upon a time the Vicar or Rector had the fees as part of his income but not anymore. So I could take a wedding every Saturday of the year but be no better off financially than if I do only one. Where then does the fee go? Part of it goes to the Church Council to help with the maintenance of the Church — after all if we didn't maintain it, it wouldn't be there to be used. The other part goes to the Diocese in Exeter into the pot of money which pays all the clergy.

Of course it takes more than a few funerals and a couple of weddings to run our Church and many people give very generously towards it. But we do have to raise money in other ways too — so once again the Church Fete and Tea will take place in July — on July 12th at 2.30 p.m. in the Community Centre with tea in the Village Hall.

The next day is Fair Sunday and the Fair Sunday service will take place at 3.00 p.m. All organisations are warmly invited to join the procession for what has traditionally been called the 'Egg and Flower' service. Why 'egg and flower'? Because it has been a custom to bring those items to Church on Fair Sunday and for them to be given to the sick and housebound. Children and adults are invited to bring eggs and flowers to Church where they will be collected up and distributed.

So please come along to the Fete and to the Fair Sunday service — a busy weekend but a good start to Fair Week as we keep these important village traditions alive.

And finally, we have had a lot of problems with inconsiderate dog owners who don't clear up after their dogs in the Churchyard making it very unpleasant for people visiting graves or cutting the grass. We have therefore decided that all dogs must be kept on a lead in the Churchyard and must not be allowed on the grass. We do regret having to do this and have put off doing so for some time but the inconsiderateness of some makes it necessary.

WINKLEIGH 'SPEED WATCH'

Speed Watch is a programme developed by **Devon and Cornwall Police** in response to complaints from local communities about motorists speeding in built-up areas.

The **Speed Watch** programme aims to engage and educate drivers rather than just issue fines and summonses. Using a staged warning system, first-time offenders receive education and warnings; persistent offenders can expect further police action and even a court appearance.

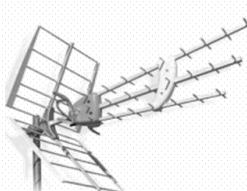
In Winkleigh, **Speed Watch** runs under the control of our Police Community Support Officer (PCSO), Sandra Brown. Working with teams of local volunteers, details of speeding vehicles on busy area pre-identified, risk assessed roads are monitored and recorded, usually for a period of one hour.

Until now, two principal locations have been monitored: **Townsend Hill**, in the area around the Primary school, and **the A3124**, around the Sports centre; both locations identified in the recent parish questionnaire as of major concern to residents. Additional locations may be added to the list in the near future.

The most recent Winkleigh **Speed Watch** was on Thursday, April 24, 2014. Between 16:45 and 17:45 a total of 23 (22.5%) of the 102 vehicles monitored were found to be exceeding the posted 30 mph limit on the section of Townsend Hill just south of Exeter Road. The fastest recorded speed? 50 mph – that's 60% above the limit! Slow down, please!

Watch for further information on this and other **Devon and Cornwall Police** community awareness programmes. Most of all, remember to **Watch your Speed!**

www.devon-cornwall.police.uk/Traffic/SpeedWatch



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01837 83089

This should have been listed as **Self Catering Accommodation** and **not B&B**

Public Buildings for Hire

Sports Centre - Bookings contact is now John Spilstead 01805 603394

WINKLEIGH SPORTS CENTRE

The Sports Centre has a new team of executive officers and representatives from all the clubs to organize the day-to-day running of the building and its associated amenities. We hope to continue the good work of the previous committee and increase the use of the facilities for sport and recreation, as well as to improve the maintenance of the building.

Chairman – Mike Wilson Secretary – John Spilstead

Treasurer – Steve Watkinson

To hire the hall please contact John Spilstead on 01805 603394 or email him on winkleighsportscentre@gmail.com.

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

Monthly Plastic Recycling - Important changes

New Recycling Facility at D&S

Steve and Shirley Leahy from D&S Supplies, have kindly offered their car park, to house recycling bins, which can be accessed during their opening hours. From June 12th it will be possible to drop off plastics, cardboard, paper and textiles into the bins, which will all be clearly labelled. The bins will be regularly emptied by PWS, who have been supporting our community venture for the last 3 years.

- Please make sure that all items are **clean. Plastics,(especially those which contained food) should be rinsed out and textiles (clothes, bed linen and blankets, not duvets) should be clean and reusable.**
- Please make sure that you place the items in the bins, so that they cannot blow around.
- This is not a council run site, it is a community facility overseen by volunteers. Over the last few years, we have saved over 4 tonnes of waste from going to landfill sites, so please continue with your support, so that we can make this new venture work.
- Maybe pop into D&S to buy something.

Any queries to Marie-Claude (mini-market), Philippa Lausen, 01837 83209, Kim Melhuish, kjmweb@ssmail.co.uk or Wendy Mondy 01837 680022

** This recycling collection point is completely separate from South Molton Recycling. Please continue to support the kerbside collection as well**



Winkleigh Market

10am till 12pm

**first Saturday of the month
in the village hall**

**Fruit/veg, cheeses, pies, cakes,
preserves, gifts, soaps, crafts, cards
and much more!!
Refreshments served.**

THE WINKLEIGH SINGERS



FIRST WORLD WAR CENTENARY COMMEMORATION CONCERT

with The Four Seasons String Ensemble, leader
Lindsay Braga, and John Marston, organ.

Saturday 28th June at 7.30pm

St Michael and All Angels, Torrington

Marking the Centenary of the Assassination of
Archduke Franz Ferdinand and his wife Sophie, the
Duchess of Hohenberg – the event which precipitated
the First World War.

Saturday 26th July at 7.30pm

St Peter's Church, Ilfracombe

Supporting the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

Advance booking for both concerts will open in mid-May via the choir's website
www.winkleighsingers.org.uk or by post from Winkleigh Singers Tickets, 4 Pitt
Court, Nymet Rowland, Crediton EX17 6AN

Vacancies

The choir also has current vacancies for tenors and basses and would be very
pleased to hear from singers who enjoy the challenge of singing quality music to
a high standard. Contact with the choir may be made by either of the above
routes.

Airfield Garage Winkleigh

Servicing, Repairs & Classic Car Restorations



Andrew Brewer

Owner

Seckington Cross
Winkleigh

01837 682678

10% discount with this advert

THE LIVINGSTONE TRUST

Have you ever thought of adopting an orphan? Hundreds of children in Uganda, Malawi, Philippines, Thailand and India are desperate for a little help to kick-start their lives. In Uganda and Malawi there are many AIDS orphans. These countries cannot afford the expensive Anti-Retroviral drugs and as a consequence parents with AIDS just die. Grandmothers are left literally holding the baby. Except often there are five or six of them, the Grandmas can't cope and the children are left to fend for themselves, scavenging and dying.

These are the children the Livingstone Trust houses, feeds and educates

Karen children from Burma who have escaped a civil war cross the border into Thailand where they are not especially welcome and they have no status.

The Livingstone Trust offers them shelter, food and the chance of an education.

In the Philippines contraception is frowned upon, consequently families are too large and the parents can't feed all the children. Everyone has seen picture of children scavenging on the garbage heaps of Manila.

These are the children the Livingstone Trust takes into their care.

In India the situation is similar, street children are shown love and care possibly for the first time in their lives, with the Livingstone Trust.

The Livingstone Trust is a unique charity, every £1 that you give goes to the person you are trying to help. All costs, from administration fees to travel, are borne by volunteers.

For £15.00 a month a child can be sponsored, the money goes towards housing, food and books for school. If you feel you could help, overleaf is a direct debit form you may wish to sign.

Alternatively, any amount of money would help. The charity is Devon-based and we are always looking for volunteers to travel out to these countries to offer help. No matter what your skill base, be it from building to teaching or from nursing to farming, you would be welcome. If you are looking for a gap year or less, consider the Livingstone Trust. Accommodation will be found for you and basic food provided. Give it a thought, you may find it uplifting.

If you would like more information please ring:

Peter Burniston 01837 83044

Or the **Rev Cozens** in Barnstable on: 01271 321210

Suffer not the little children

Website: www.davidlivingstone-int-ltd.com

Standing Order Form

TO: Bank (Your bank)

Branch Name: Sort Code/...../...../

Please pay to the credit of David Livingstone International Ltd, Account No: 00144088

At The Royal Bank of Scotland, Charing Cross, Glasgow, G2 2ND. Sort Code: [83-54-60]

The sum of..... pounds pence (*amount in words*) (£)

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Name on my Account

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WHEN COMPLETED, SIGNED AND DATED, PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO:

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DAVID LIVINGSTONE INTERNATIONAL LTD is a registered charity. Ref no: SCO10894

THE 11th BACON ROLL TIME

For the 11th time The Old Smithy was crowded with the wonderful people of Winkleigh drinking coffee, eating bacon rolls and having a good natter. As always I am amazed at the support you give me and I am thrilled to report that this year we made £630 for Cancer Research.

This takes the total raised over the eleven years to well over £5,000 and we now know the difference this money is making. The press this week has said how the survival rate for cancer has increased in the last decade and more and more treatments are available to sufferers. I cannot thank you all enough for your support, my friends who help and all of you for coming. I was quite overwhelmed. Can we do better next year? We will certainly give it a go! Watch out for the posters and come along.

Thank you

Jan

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Nicola Brewer Dip.s.a.c

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Head, Neck and Shoulder Massage, Ideal stress relief.

Reflexology, this treatment can revitalise and re-balance the whole body!

Luxury Hot Stone Massage, For deep relaxation, a true treat for the whole body.

Hopi Ear Candles, This is an ancient therapy which is a form of energy healing that has the added benefit of helping with many ear, nose and head conditions, this treatment is very relaxing

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Available for bookings at Changes Hairdressers Winkleigh, but I am also a Mobile Therapist so I can visit you in your own home if you prefer, please call to discuss. I am fully qualified and insured to carry out all of the above treatments.

Gift Vouchers Available

Telephone – 07955 873344

Welcome to Winkleigh Fair 2014

Back in the Square!

Saturday 12th July - 19th July

We are a brand new committee who have never attempted something like this before, so please forgive us if any mistakes are made.

We are happy to be back in the square this year and hope that fun is had by all ages, with events happening throughout the week. Look out for the programmes!

Introducing the new committee

Chairman - Alan Jacobs

Vice Chair - Deanne Whittaker

Treasurer - Peter Howard

Secretary - Clare Leahy

Members - Suzy Garland, Paul (Billy) Baker, Kirsty Miller,
Sian Thurlow and Ian Rule

As you can see we are a very small committee so any help during events is greatly appreciated

We have been asked many times since taking over, during fundraising, 'So where does our money actually go?'

Short answer is, it enables us to put on the events during Fair Week and goes towards the Christmas Lights. This includes insurances, licences, road closures, entertainment.....the list is endless!

See you all in Fair Week!!

THE NEW DROP IN CENTRE

Learn Makaton - not just a sign language for the early years but for those adults who have difficulty with speech.

Swap Books - love reading?. No charge if you have a book to swap, see what we can offer.

Need to update your C.V.- friendly advice on work interview techniques and work applications.

Enjoy Crafts - such as tapestry, cross-stitch, crochet or knitting. Learn or just enjoy being with others while you work your latest project.

We are in the small room of the Community Centre on Tuesdays, May 27th, June 24th, July 29th, and August 26th from 9.30 – 11.30am.

Phone **Margaret** on 01837 83660 for more information.



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For a free initial no obligation consultation please call Colin on:

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or email: cjwbookkeeping@gmail.com

WINKLEIGH COMMUNITY PLAN – UPDATE

- The initial draft of a **NEW Community Plan** has now been completed. It was submitted to Parish Council for review and comment on 23rd April 2014.
- The plan is based on input provided by residents through a questionnaire delivered to all households in May 2013 and ‘Open Day’ information sessions held in September 2012 and November 2013.
- The plan attempts to outline a common vision for achieving a resilient and sustainable community.
- The plan contents focus on issues such as the natural environment and resources, the local economy, future housing and development, and transport and traffic.
- Further opportunity for public input and comment will be provided when we release the draft Community Plan and an Action Plan during an **Open Day** on **Saturday 7th June 2014**. Watch for further details.
- You will also be able to view the draft plan as well as an Executive Summary on our Community Plan website.
- Do you have photographs of the local area that might be included in the plan? We’d love to hear from you. A small prize will be offered for any photograph used. Contact us through our website.
- Keep up to date on progress through articles in **Distinctly Winkleigh**, by using our Facebook page [**WinkleighParishPlan**] or the website. Complete our on-line **Comments form** if you have any feedback.

www.winkleighplan.co.uk

WINKLEIGH YOUTH CLUB

The Winkleigh Youth Club has been running now for over 10 years. I have been told this has never been achieved before in this area. The Club has been very lucky to have had so many people who have given their time up to help run the Club. There are too many to mention them all but I must mention Malcolm Passmore who helped start the Club, followed by his wife Dot who ran the Tuck Shop for many years. The mantle has been taken over by the Anstey family who are doing a great job creating a place for the youth to go to on a Wednesday night. When we started the Youth Club we managed to obtain two volunteers, Tony Tanner and Brian Holland to run the snooker section. Tony then progressed to form the Junior Snooker Club and continues to coach the young members.

This year four of the original youths have returned (now young men) to play snooker - thus ensuring the future of the Snooker Club. Tony continues to coach on Tuesday evenings and has, at the moment, some fabulous girl players. Brian progressed out of the snooker room to be a main player at the Youth Club and is still running the very successful Saturday Club.

Scrap metal collection



Sports Centre Car park
Saturday 5th/Sunday 6th July 2014

10am - 5pm

Take this opportunity to have a clear out

Suitable items

washing machines,
dish washers, bikes/tools
cutlery,
copper, brass, aluminium,
small farm machinery

Please NO

fridges/freezers, microwaves or gas bottles



Organised by Winkleigh Community Recycling Group

All proceeds to local community projects

Any queries please to Philippa Lausen, 01837 83209

WINKLEIGH PARISH COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT 2013/2014

OVERVIEW: The year has been lived, as the Chinese say, in ‘interesting times’: the Government’s National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) has been implemented, consultation on the joint Torridge and North Devon Local Plan has almost concluded, NHS reforms are challenging rural healthcare and an ongoing programme of ‘Tough Choices’ are hitting County and District Council budgets. Winkleigh has seen the withdrawal of the CAB, a reduction in the mobile library and community buildings under pressure to be viable. However, Winkleigh are a resilient bunch; living on top of a hill we survived the floods and storms, when other rural parishes were less fortunate. WPC have produced ‘Emergency Advice’ with valuable information and contacts for the local community, to be issued shortly (see Parish Notice Boards). On the home-front, although some organisations are struggling for volunteers, the village has an active core of dedicated citizens working tirelessly to make the village a great place to live, by litter-picking, tree-planting, preparing community lunches, running coffee mornings as well as a monthly ‘Memory Café’ (an excellent initiative helping people to understand more about living with dementia and memory loss) and a plastics-recycling project. Winkleigh Society have issued a brand new local directory and held a series of successful ‘Winkleigh Lectures’ covering topics including ‘Birds in Mid Devon (Citizen Science)’. Along with all the clubs and groups that meet regularly, these activities help make village life thrive.

LOCAL PLAN: Following consultations on TDC’s Local Plan Parts 1 (strategy) and 2 (urban areas), Part 3 relating to the Rural Areas was issued. The Rural Areas are to accommodate 2,200 new homes and as a designated Local Centre, Winkleigh were given a 10% allocation for new housing (55 dwellings) during this cycle. Despite WPC providing ‘robust justification’ for a more modest growth rate of 5% (27 dwellings) – to reflect the community’s preference for small-scale development, the exponential growth of the village and pressure on infrastructure (eg schools, healthcare, etc) - TDC have not responded. The preferred site for housing is the field north of the village (beside the A3124 and Kings Meadow), between the cemetery bungalow and Castle Mound.

The Local Plan for Winkleigh also includes provision for a village car park, a small area of community woodland, a crossing to the Sports Centre, a greater emphasis on local character and heritage and adequate provision of affordable housing. So, following an address by John Scott of the Community Council of Devon (CCD), WPC commissioned a ‘Housing Needs Survey’ (June 2014), to help provide evidence of need for affordable housing.

As well as the NPPF’s general ‘presumption in favour of sustainable development’, the new TDC Local Plan for Winkleigh provides greater flexibility

for commercial development on Winkleigh Airfield, stating; “Winkleigh Airfield forms a recognised longer term focal point for rural employment development opportunities in the central southern locality of the plan area that will complement Winkleigh’s role as a local centre”. This now permits both existing and new businesses to develop and extends the permitted classes of use (to B1, B2 and B8). In collaboration with Airfield businesses and TDC, WPC have agreed to produce an ‘Appendix’ to the Airfield Site Development Brief to ensure a workable brief for commercial development.

Several letters have been sent to TDC expressing concern over Local Plan consultation deadlines and a lack of feedback throughout the process - we still await a reply ...

PLANNING: In October 2013, guest speaker David Green, TDC’s Planning Manager, addressed WPC over our concerns with planning and enforcement, reassuring the Council that things were ‘getting there’ - the backlog of enforcement cases and organisation of the department, were being dealt with. Kate Little, TDC’s Head of Planning, has recently issued advice that only 21 days are to be permitted for local consultations on planning applications as TDC are under pressure to process applications within strict timescales, or risk them being determined centrally by the Inspectorate. This means many town and parish Councils may not get a chance to respond as they meet too infrequently and could impact WPC’s ability to give local representation, so is to be reviewed.

As well as a healthy flow of general planning applications, the Council are receiving increasing numbers of wind turbine proposals. These are often complex as well as controversial, possibly requiring site visits (applicants), off-site visits (neighbours), engagement events and public meetings (as with MiGrid and Bryony Hill), so careful consideration of proposals is important but time-consuming. The Public Meeting in respect of the Bryony Hill application (Jan 2014) was very well attended and received, with representation from neighbouring parish councils, CPRE, the developer and applicant. Information gathered helped inform the Council’s decision. However, recommendations of WPC or TDC can be over-ruled on appeal and as the Government tries to meet carbon reduction targets and Torridge tries to accommodate these through wind and solar proposals, Winkleigh will likely see more applications and developments for renewable schemes.

TORRINGTON AREA ADVISORY GROUP (TAAG): This quarterly gathering for local Councillors provides a platform to raise local concerns and hear speakers on important issues; John Hart, leader of DCC gave an address last year on budget cuts across public sector services. However, the recent North Devon ‘Rural Seminar’, reported on by our District Councillor, might be a more productive forum for the future.

BUNGALOW: The Parish Council are unusual in owning a property, but the bungalow (located opposite the Sports Centre) has undergone extensive adaptation and now provides a comfortable home for a local family and an

income for the parish. The future of the bungalow has been considered at length by the Council, which has a responsibility to ensure its long-term viability, e.g. to meet modern housing standards. However, this year the bungalow has seen an extensive programme of renovations, including; completion of a roof extension, work to install external insulation (currently in progress), a 'French' drain created at the front of the bungalow to help with damp, removal of the old water tower and addressing issues with the dry-air system. The Council hopes that once completed, the works will provide an enhanced standard of accommodation for the tenants and the foreseeable future.

ASSETS: The Council conducted an asset inspection last summer resulting in benches being repaired or refurbished, so many now look pristine! The parish has also been offered a new bench by Winkleigh Methodist Chapel providing another place to sit and admire the wonderful vistas of Winkleigh! The PC conducted a Grit Bin audit too and have now ordered several new bins to meet specific need in high-risk areas. This year Winkleigh joined Ashreigney in TDC's TAP Fund initiative, which distributes £1.10 per elector for collaborative projects, resulting in the purchase of a defibrillator and training. Once installed, the defibrillator will be located near the red phone-box outside the Kings Arms.

COMMUNITY PLAN: A Community Questionnaire was distributed to every household in the parish last May and information was analysed and presented at an Open Day in November. A ten-year draft Community Plan has now been produced and issued to the Council for review and will be available for public consultation shortly. Views on housing, business development, the environment, community, youth, services and facilities will provide a strategic vision and help us target action or funding where needed in future. The Plan and Action Plan should be published at the end of this summer and a copy distributed to every household in the parish. Thanks to all who completed their Questionnaire or provided feedback, to DW who have helped with promotion and distributed Questionnaires and to volunteers on the Community Led Plan Group (CLPG) who have put in so much work, researching, processing, promoting, drafting and editing!

BROADBAND: Installation of a (fibre-optic) High Speed Broadband connection is scheduled to begin around September 2014. This is great news for Winkleigh, as people are increasingly using ICT for business, social networking, banking, shopping, homework, streaming films, etc. However, not everyone in the parish will benefit - access will depend on your connection to the exchange; areas outside the village are less likely to receive HSB.

HIGHWAYS AND TRAFFIC: The Community Plan Questionnaire highlighted many concerns over traffic; mainly speeding, parking and weight of traffic. Although the PC have been in liaison with Councillor Andy Boyd (County Council & Highways) regarding traffic-calming along the 'rat run' from Zuki's past the school (costed at £47k ten years ago), budget cuts mean Winkleigh is a low priority. Potholes, raised ironworks, damaged or abandoned signage and ruts

along lanes have also been an issue. So in light of concerns, WPC have written to Highways inviting them to review the traffic situation and offer advice on a way forward - we await a reply.

FINANCE:

PRECEPT (2013/14): The Parish Council authorised a precept request for 2014/15 of £14,631 (only slightly higher than the previous year); many thanks to our Finance Group for presenting a clear budget, report and recommendation.

GRANTS & DONATIONS (2014): This year WPC only received two grant applications; one missed the deadline and £50 was allocated to the Scouts. WPC advertise for applications May-July each year in Notice Boards and Distinctly Winkleigh. Application forms can be obtained from WPC and need to be returned by 15th September 2014 to be agreed for the PC's precept in November. The Council also made a donation of £250 to the Okehampton & District Community Transport Group, who provide a valuable service to residents of Winkleigh.

PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP (PPG) - WALLINGBROOK HEALTH GROUP: There is considerable pressure on rural healthcare, however, our Rep on the Winkleigh PPG meets with WHG on a monthly basis for updates, to provide patient feedback and lobby for improved services. The main issues for Winkleigh are; appointment availability, the adequacy of premises (eg premises are 'not fit for purpose') and parking at Southernhay. However, concerns over access to Chulmleigh surgery if unable to drive, lack of ancillary services (eg physio) and ability to see your preferred GP at Winkleigh, are also a problem. WHG acknowledge the difficulties, but have no imminent plans for improvement. WPC wrote to WHG (March 2014) asking for input on the long-term future of Winkleigh branch surgery - we await a reply.

COMMUNITY ISSUES:

WINKLEIGH FAIR WEEK (JULY 2013): Winkleigh Fair re-invented itself last summer after the challenge of finding a new Committee. Since then, a nucleus of determined individuals organised a scaled-down but more intimate event, which included; the ever-popular vintage vehicle rally in the Square, the crowning of the Fair King and Queen, an arts and crafts exhibition, a sacred concert at the Methodist Chapel, a market on Saturday with local produce and crafts and 'Melosa' at the Village Hall. The magnificent 7-strong committee is now full-steam ahead for the 2014 Fair, which starts 13th July! The Council give their whole-hearted support and thanks to everyone who gave up their time and energy, especially Alan Jacobs, for keeping 751 years of tradition alive - we wish them continued success.

CHRISTMAS FAIR & LIGHTS (DECEMBER 2013): There was a festive gathering of attendees to Castle Street last Christmas and a variety of street traders offering tempting produce; a Christmas tree was donated to the village and father Christmas rode up Castle Street on a husky-driven dog-sled into the Square

to switch the Christmas lights on; mulled cider and wine was flowing (hiccup) and was kindly provided free of charge by the two village pubs! Distinctly Winkleigh and Winkleigh Fair continue to be the ranked most highly by Winkleigh folk. Special thanks to Alan Mulcahy who collates and edits DW every quarter!

MARKETS: Thanks to those who run and support the Weds morning Mini Market in the Community Centre and the monthly Saturday Market 1st Saturday of the month in the Village Hall, coinciding with the plastics collection.

YOUTH: Youth organisations in Winkleigh include; Youth Club, Saturday Club, Beavers and junior Snooker Club, many of which use the Sports Hall, although Winkleigh School also runs after-school clubs. WPC wish all continued success.

SCHOOL: The Primary School has now become a Co-operative Trust Foundation as part of "The Two Moors Learning Partnership" in collaboration with four other schools. The most recent OFSTED inspection rated it as "*good*" with some outstanding features identified. Winkleigh pre-school was recently recorded by OFSTED as "*outstanding*". The Bluecoat Children's Centre, the Torrington-based "Sure Start", operate an outreach on Thursdays at the Sports Centre throughout the year.

REMEMBRANCE: Many on the PC and in the village will remember John Turner, who passed away in March this year. John was a Parish Councillor for 56 years and, for such an incredible record, received a long-service award and was presented with a certificate by the Devon Association for Local Councils. His dedication to the village and presence at Council meetings will be sadly missed. Our thoughts go to the family, especially his grand-daughter Alice, who is a serving Councillor on WPC.

COUNCIL ELECTIONS: Unfortunately several Councillors left the Council, so after a healthy field of candidates running in June 2013, Councillors Ware and Mondy were co-opted and seem to have settled in well! Elections for a brand new Council for the next 4-year term will be held in May 2015. If you would like information on being a Councillor, please contact the Parish Clerk (83981).

THANKS GO TO:

Our District Councillor, David Lausen, who has supported PC meetings and represented the community's grumbles to TDC.

Our Parish Clerk, Nicki Bullen, who ensures our meetings are properly convened and handles a heavy workload with unflappable aplomb!

To PCSO Sandra Brown and PCSO Melissa Baker, who provide monthly reports on village crimes (displayed on the PC Notice Boards); PCSO Brown is also in charge of Winkleigh Community Speed Watch Team, who operate a traffic-calming initiative with locally-trained volunteers monitoring problem areas; eg the A3214 by the Sports Centre and Townsend Hill (sites for monitoring are selected following complaints received by police).

Thanks to our diligent Neighbourhood Watch team which has a strong presence in Winkleigh, helping us all feel safer. Please contact John Bowers (83585) if interested in joining.

To our street cleaner, Frankie, who continues to win fans for keeping the village immaculate!

To the Fair Committee, Distinctly Winkleigh, Youth Club, Pre-School, Winkleigh Society, those who fill the flower boxes and the numerous societies, clubs and individuals who carry out random acts of kindness or do little things that just make a difference - your help makes Winkleigh a thriving village and are appreciated!

AND FINALLY: Thanks to all Councillors for their continued commitment and contributions, including work on:

- Asset Inspection/Maintenance - Cllrs Gledhill & Flockhart
- Cemetery Grounds and Bungalow - Cllrs Turner, Hodgson, Griffiths, Knight
- Community Centre - Cllr Stutt
- Community Plan - Cllrs Griffiths, Bowers, Stutt, Flockhart
- Emergency Plan & Grit Bin Audit - Cllr Griffiths
- Finance Group - Cllrs Stutt, Gledhill, Turner, Mondy
- Housing Needs Survey & Broadband - Cllr Mondy
- Local Plan - All Councillors contributing to TDC consultation
- Playing Fields/Sports Centre - Cllr Knight
- PPG - Cllr Sansom
- TAAG - Cllrs Bowers & Flockhart
- TAP Funding - Cllrs Ware & Knight
- Village Hall - Cllr Turner
- Working/Tidy Group - Cllr Knight

WPC meetings usually take place on the 4th Wednesday of every month and are advertised in the PC Notice Boards; the public have two opportunities to address the Council during the meeting. We welcome your input on village issues, so please come along and get involved.

HAVE A GREAT SUMMER AND A WONDERFUL YEAR!

Gail Flockhart

Chair, Winkleigh Parish Council (April 2014)

ACE Archaeology Club

Back in March, the flint knapping session run by Antony Whitlock was excellent, so I am told. I could not attend because of a nasty chest infection, so I am hoping that he might visit ACE again. He is hoping to give a knapping demonstration at the Festival of Old Technology and Archaeology at Pattiland Farm in July, but this has not been confirmed yet.

The weather was very kind to us for the ACE day in April. We explored Fingle Mill and its leat in the morning and, after lunch, two of the three nearby Iron Age hillforts; Cranbrook and Wooston Castles. It was a most interesting day, giving us all plenty of food for thought.

May also was dry (if not a little sunny!) for a dowsing survey at Moistown. I mentioned in the last issue of DW that, rather than walls, this time we were trying to find the extent of the cobbled area that we found in one of the trenches at last year's dig. It was a successful day, we got an area dowsed, pegged and surveyed, with time to spare.

The June and July ACE days will be taken up with preparation for our part in the Festival of Old Technology and Archaeology (on the 19th and 20th July). This year ACE will be displaying the results of last year's dig at Moistown (there will be guided tours of the site), also there will be a display of Felt making - come and have a go. We hope to have the bread oven fired up too, for us and the re-enactors to use.

Plans are well under way for this year's dig at Moistown which is to be held a little earlier this year, from the 23rd of August to the 7th of September. I don't suppose that it will make any difference to the weather, it is bound to rain but it will be slightly warmer rain and the evenings will be a bit lighter too! We are hoping to have our open day on the Saturday 6th of September, 11.00am to 4.00pm, (check our website for details), so do come along and see what we have found.

If you would like to know more about ACE, please do get in touch. Our website can be found at www.acearch.org.uk (we are also on Facebook) or contact Janet Daynes at ace@acearch.org.uk or on 01769 520326



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AFFORDABLE HOUSING PLEASE HELP PROVE WINKLEIGH'S NEED

You will have received with this latest edition of DW a survey. This is designed to identify housing needs for our community over the coming 5 years.

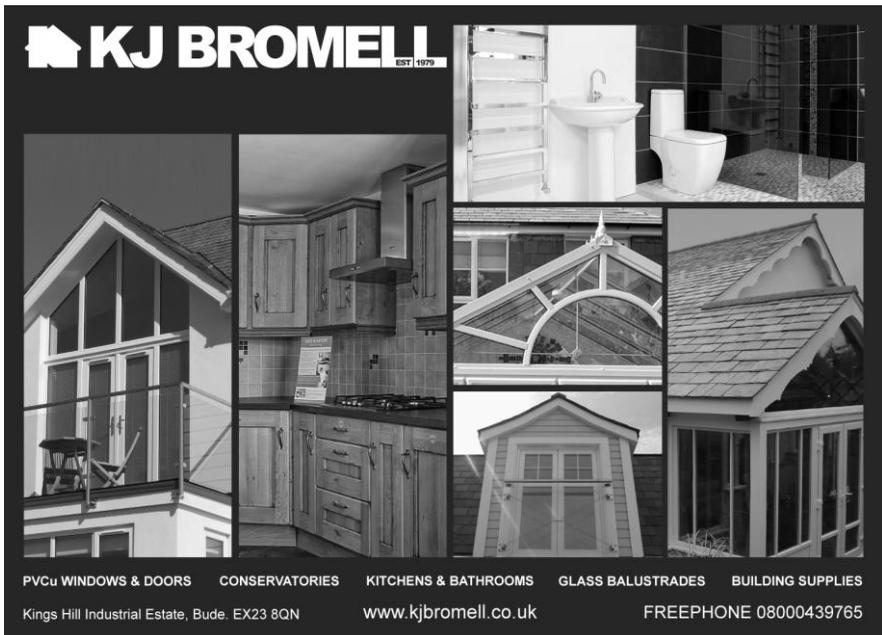
As a result of information from the Community Led Local Plan, which has been analysed over the last months, the need for an official Housing Needs Survey (HNS) has been identified from those of you who kindly completed your forms.

However, under the new Torridge & North Devon Local Plan, Winkleigh is to provide 55 new dwellings during this cycle, which will mainly consist of market housing. So, if you think you may have a specific housing need, **please, please** find time to complete the enclosed survey. The more that do, the greater the credibility of the results and the greater justification we have for negotiating with Torridge District Council to provide **the type of social or affordable housing the community really needs.**

Your help will be so very much appreciated. It is also very appropriate to sincerely thank all the distributors who will be delivering this survey, without them this survey could not take place.

SO, THANK YOU ALL!

Cllr Wendy Mondy



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NO DOGS (without prior agreement)**



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Broadwoodkelly
Nr. Winkleigh
EX19 8ED

The Duke of York's
FREE BUS TIMES
Saturday & Sunday

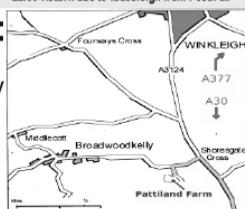
BUS Departures from Iddesleigh and Winkleigh.

- 10.20 Leaves Duke of York, Iddesleigh
- 10.45 Leaves stop by Mid Devon Motors, Winkleigh
- 11.00 Arrives at the Old Technology Festival
- 15.30 Leaves the Festival and returns to Winkleigh

BUS Departures from North Tawton.

- 11.30 Leaves the Clock Tower, North Tawton
- 11.45 Arrives at the Old Technology Festival
- 16.15 Leaves the Festival returns to North Tawton

22.00 Return bus to Iddesleigh from Festival.



CBA
Council for British
Archaeology
www.britarch.ac.uk



Archaeology for all

Tel: 07456 944710

The Old Technology & Archaeology Festival
www.old-tech-festival.co.uk

Wallingbrook Patient Participation Group's 2014 Healthy Living Week is from 1st-7th June.

Local clubs and groups are throwing open their doors to invite YOU to try something new! FREE taster sessions or special offers. Whether young or old, energetic or more sedate, there is something to suit all ages and abilities, from football to short mat bowls, a parent and toddler session or a memory café for seniors.

A full programme will be available at the end of May from Wallingbrook Health Centre and Winkleigh Surgery. It will include badminton, cricket, golf, judo, keep fit, running, table tennis, tennis and walking. New this year is fitsteps, a dance-based exercise class for those who like to push themselves! Come along and try a new activity during the week and see what suits you. All locally based, so minimal transport needed. 'Together we can make a healthier community'.

Maggie Samuel

Wallingbrook Health Group Patient Participation Group

 <p>Amy Pincombe FHP Dip Foot Health Practitioner Mobile Service 07712 148038</p> <h1>Caring for your feet</h1> <ul style="list-style-type: none">•Corns•Callus•Cracked Heels•Fungal infections•Ingrown toe nails•Manicures & pedicures•Verrucae	  <p>UK and European Removals and Storage</p> <p>Storage and Selfstore</p> <p>Office and Commercial</p> <p>Piano Moving and Storage</p> <p>We buy & sell 2nd hand furniture</p> <p>Full or Part Packing Service</p> <p>Carpet Cleaning Service</p> <p>www.coppsremovals.co.uk Cherrywood Business Park, Langtree, Torrington, N Devon, EX38 8LQ Email: gary@coppsremovals.co.uk Phone: 01805 601122 Mobile: 07787587410</p>
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Winkleigh and District Garden Club

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

20 th May	2.30pm Visit to Penny Jones' Asiatic Primula Nursery near Holsworthy
17 th June	"Gardening on Clay" Neil Lovsey
22nd July	Summer Visit to Knightshayes, Tiverton
16 th Sept	"A Tour of Japan and it's Gardens" Jon Webster, Curator of Rosemoor
21 st Oct	Topic to be confirmed Barry Philips
18 th Nov	A.G.M. and cheese and wine
16 th Dec	Christmas Party

Should you be interested in all/any of these subjects, then why not become a member

of W&DGC or at least come along as either a member or a visitor on the third Tuesday in each month and see what we have to offer. In addition to the 'topic' of the meeting, such as a visiting speaker, meetings also include a raffle, tea/coffee and biscuits, giving time for members to socialise, and we encourage members to bring in plants to sell/swap.

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

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

For further information contact our Chairman Mr Ed Porter on 01805 804838 or Beverley Cook,

cookbeverley@hotmail.co.uk or 01837 682840

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WINKLEIGH PARISH COUNCIL

Invitation to apply for grants/donations – 2014

Winkleigh Parish Council invites applications for grants and donations from local organisations for 2015/16

All applicants must complete an application form from the Parish Council and submit this with a copy of the organisations accounts and any other documentation to support the request. All applicants must have a valid bank account for their organisation.

All applications to be submitted **no later than 15th September 2014** to the Parish Council either via e-mail at winkleighpc1@btinternet.com. or at the following address:

Bridgette Anderson ITEC FHT

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01769 561023 07581 513416

Winkleigh Parish Council
c/o Mrs N Bullen
The Bungalow
Hatherleigh Road
Winkleigh
Devon
EX19 8AP

Please contact Mrs Bullen via the e-mail address or telephoning 01837 83981 to request your application form.

Please note the Parish Council is under no obligation to award all or any of your application and a requirement of any successful application will be a receipt from your organisation as to how the money was spent. This is to ensure that money collected from Winkleigh tax payers is safeguarded and spent appropriately.

BEAVERS

We are really enjoying ourselves and the Beavers have worked hard towards gaining many badges. There are badges that Beavers can gain by working together under the guidance from the leaders and some badges are gained working under their own initiative and in their own time, although evidence has to be shown to gain these badges. Badges can cover many subjects, such as swimming, music, pet care, space, science, and sports. What we hope as leaders, is that beavers gain their six challenge badges before they move on to cubs. By doing this they are awarded the Chief Scouts Bronze Award. At this moment in time we are working towards their global challenge badge, their promise challenge badge and they have nearly finished gaining their First Aid Badge. Their First Aid Badge means they will be able to recognize some potential accidents, keep airways open and be able to treat minor cuts, grazes and bruises - not bad for 6 to 8 year olds.

In this coming term we hope to learn the Country Code, recognize and name Spring flowers, take part in archery, climbing walls and climbing using a rope. We will visit Meeth Nature Reserve with a guide, build a fire, visit Rosemoor and hike around Belstone. We have just started planning our sleepover for September.

At the beginning of June it is "Scouts in the Community Week" and the Beavers are planting pots and hanging baskets to brighten up the village, if you are interested and would like to display their efforts please get in touch on 01837 83487. No cost but watering will be down to you!

As in every organization we are always looking for help whether this be potential leaders or occasional helpers. Leaders and occasional helpers [these are people who do not have to attend every week] will be required as in any child related group to be police checked. From experience I know that it would be easier to sit at home every Tuesday between 5 and 6.15pm instead of running a Beaver Colony but my life would not contain the joy, the adventure, the fun, the laughter, the learning and the knowledge that I am sharing some of my life experience with today's children. It is worth all the ups and downs and at the same time it keeps me young!! So come along to see if you would like to help. If you would like to know more, whether wanting your child to join us or to help, then ring **Pat** on 01837 83487.

WINKLEIGH SHORT MAT BOWLING CLUB

Another season has finished in the life of the Club but already we are playing again in the Summer League. Our Teams had many successes with more silverware to take to the engravers. We have been delighted to welcome many new members who have made great progress and are already an asset to the Club.

The eighth Flue and Chimney Specialists Tournament took place at the end of March. As always, a very enjoyable day with bowlers from all over Devon coming to Winkleigh. The Club is very grateful to Andrew Baker of Rangemoors for their continuing support and sponsorship of this event.

The Club would love you to give Short Mat Bowling a try. Just come along to the Sports Centre any Monday or Friday afternoon you will find a warm welcome.

If you want any more info please call me **Jan** 0183783853

GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Congratulations to Margaret and Derek Miller on reaching their 50th Wedding Anniversary. We wish them many more years of good health and happiness.



TEN ACRES VINEYARD

New vintage tastings every weekend!!

Summer opening 10am - 8pm Thurs - Tuesday

www.tenacresvineyardcamping.co.uk or (01837) 83892

WINKLEIGH METHODIST CHURCH

I'm guessing that by the time we all get to read this issue of DW we will be winging our way towards June, half way through the year, Summertime, yeeesss!

Most of our regular events continue throughout the summer with the exception of Bible study and Youth Alpha which both take a break for the long summer evenings. Oasis cafe, prayer & planning, Sunday worship and Sunday school carry on weekly. Other summer specials are planned to suit all ages.

In July, Kevin and our young people will be going to Stowford Camp as leaders of a very fun-packed weekend for children 10 years and up. In August they will be off again to Soul Survivor at Shepton Mallet with a group of 32 young people to join with 12,000 others at another festival. August also sees a more local camp called "Bush" going on at Bow over the bank holiday weekend. Several people from our church will be attending this and so for this reason there will be no service at Winkleigh that weekend, but people are welcome to join us at Bush.

On 29th June we are having a cream tea and walk at Eggesford forest, dogs on leads only as this will be a family event.

July 14th we are having a "Big Sing" as part of Winkleigh Fair week led by Free Signal, a local worship group, this will be at 7.30pm.

During the summer holidays there will be a Children's holiday club after the success of last year's - as with the cream tea walk we will give more details nearer the time.

Oasis is open Monday mornings from 11.00am – 2.00pm. 2-course lunch £6.95p.

Sunday worship is at 11.00am, coffee from 10.40. Every first Sunday worship is at 5.30pm and includes a bring & share tea.

Prayer meetings are monthly.

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

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

Rev Nigel Coke-Woods 01837 810591.

Winkleigh Village Hall

Kitchen improvements continue with the installation of a new slip-proof floor covering. Plans are underway to replace the existing hatch to the committee room with lighter, easy opening doors.

The quiz held on the 8th of March raised £337 profit, so many thanks to all who came alone and supported us.

March the 11th saw the committee suffer a loss when our longstanding Chairman John Turner passed away. John had been on the village hall committee for over 58 years and his knowledge of all thing village hall related will be greatly missed.

Date for your diary:

As promised here are further details for the Okehampton Choral Society Summer Concert that is being held in the Village Hall on Monday 23rd of June 2014.

7:30pm start with doors open from 7pm.

Entry is £5 per person

Profits are being split 50/50 between Okehampton Choral Society and Winkleigh Village Hall.

It promises to be a enjoyable evening so please join us if you can.

Posters will be up nearer the date or visit our facebook page: Winkleigh Village Hall (<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Winkleigh-Village-Hall/157796907612822>)

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District Councillor's Report

In an age of austerity, I am not surprised by the obsession with welfare and “welfare dependency”. But where is the anger for the real scandal of corporate welfare? **(WARNING: TAXPAYERS MAY FIND THE FOLLOWING SHOCKING)-**

- Over the past few years government outsourcing has grown considerably. The government now offers around £20 billion a year in contracts to deliver public services. However, after recent scandals, including allegations of fraud at G4S and Serco in a tagging contract, and A4E, which runs welfare-to-work programmes, the government set up a review. Bill Crothers, the Cabinet Office chief procurement officer, admitted that oversight of private firms “needs to improve considerably” and that it “traditionally spends relatively little time managing a contract once it's let.” However, the government then stated that the big outsourcing companies would continue to get business as “there is a lot of profit to be had” and argued that firms “want to end bad practices as much as we do.” (G4S and Serco have recently returned £180 million for their tagging frauds; so that's okay then?).
- The really big numbers, though, are 'achieved' by PFIs and bank bailouts. The Private Finance Initiative – where construction and maintenance of hospitals, schools, roads etc. are contracted out to private firms – was invented in the early 1990s. Last year it was forecast that 725 PFI contracts for public facilities in the UK, with a total capital value of £54 billion, will cost the Exchequer more than £300 billion by the time they are paid off. A 'something for nothing' culture? The amount of financial support provided to the banks by the state has been calculated by the National Audit Office as –
 - £1029 billion in the form of guarantees; and
 - £133 billion in cash outlays!

Yet in spite of RBS being owned by the UK taxpayer and making a loss of £8 billion in 2013, RBS is still paying out £576 million in bonuses.

- It's tough at the top of the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA). Here the top 15 FCA employees have 'personal service contracts'. This enables them to avoid income tax of 40% and 45% and only pay corporation tax of 20%, and avoid National Insurance contributions. The brazen HR director of FCA would only comment, “We are fully aware of the tax issues surrounding personal service companies.”
- The nuclear industry likes to deal in billions. In December, the chairman of the consortium, Nuclear Management Partners (NMP), which runs the clean-up at Sellafield had to apologise, “We are humbled and truly sorry for any of those events which have cost British taxpayers money.” This followed the publication of a redacted report by auditing firm KPMG (obtained through a Freedom of Information request), which was highly

critical of NMP on a range of issues, including performance targets, project management and the “inappropriate” way that it seconded staff – at an average £300k per person per year – from its global network to work in Cumbria. The clean-up bill is now expected to be more than £70 billion at Sellafield but bonuses will not be affected. NMP expenses, though, are not always in millions. Last year a NMP executive when moving house put in a £714 bill for a “cat in a taxi.”

- However, woe-betide any whistleblowing. In 2010/11, Osita Mba, a lawyer working for HMRC found that his boss, David Hartnett, was having 'sweetheart' sessions with Goldman Sachs, which allowed the bank to avoid between £10 to 20 million in interest payments on national insurance contributions. Mr Mba thought this was wrong and did what the rulebook advised. Under the Public Interest Disclosure Act 1998 he wrote privately to the National Audit Office and to the relevant committee of parliament. When HMRC found out about this, it went after Mr Mba. Using the anti-terrorist Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act, HMRC had his belongings, emails and phone calls searched. Mr Mba lost his job but Goldman Sachs is in the clear. In a recent judgement it was stated, “Mr Hartnett was wrong to take into account the potential embarrassment of the Chancellor of the Exchequer if Goldman Sachs were to withdraw from the tax code. HMRC accepts that was an irrelevant consideration and should not have featured in his decision making.” Mr Hartnett – reputed to have been the most 'wined and dined' civil servant in Britain – retired from HMRC in 2012 and has become a consultant to Deloitte, whose clients include Starbucks and Vodafone (which just happen to have benefited from Hartnett/HMRC 'sweetheart' deals). You cannot make it up.

The trouble is that they are all in it together!

PS – 86% increase for owners of Grouse Moors - no sooner had I finished writing the above when the government announced that it would raise the subsidy that it provides for grouse moors from £30 per hectare to £56. Is there no end to its largess?

David Lausen 01837 83209 dlausen@toucansurf.com

DOWLAND COUNTRY FAIR & DOG SHOW

**SUNDAY 15th JUNE 2014 11AM - 5PM @ FURZE PARK CROSS
NR WINKLEIGH EX19 8PQ**

Entry: £4 adults, £1 children, under 5s free

Preparations are well ahead for the annual Dowland Country Fair. Every year people from all over the South West join us, last year attracting over 2,000 visitors, which is absolutely incredible as we are only a small show. So to show our appreciation we try to put on the very best schedule of exhibits for all the family.

This year we are very fortunate to see the return of the World War II planes, providing a spectacular Fly-past featuring five World War II Austers.

George Mudge will be doing Sheep Shearing demonstrations the old fashioned way using hand shears.

North Devon Falconers with over 60 years experience will be flying Peregrines, Harris Hawks, High Bred Falcons and Owls. All these beautiful birds have the power to capture our attention.

We are pleased to welcome Running Deer to our show this year they will be providing workshops and demonstrations in Green Wood Working, Bush craft and Camp Crafts, along with their Shire Horse Trelawney.

Our entertainment stage this year will include, the Unity Gospel Choir, Hatherleigh Silver Band,

The Ukulele Bashers, Cameron Mills, College Swing Band and School choirs.

As usual we start the day with Lurcher simulated coursing. Book in from 9am for 9-30am start

Lurcher, Terrier, Family Dog and Ferret Shows plus Buckham Fair best Rescue Qualifier

Keep checking our website for more information -
www.dowlandcountryfair.org.uk Tel: 01805 804347

A great place to spend the day

Donations from this event will be given to the Children's Hospice South West and other local organisations

WINKLEIGH MEMORY CAFÉ

WINKLEIGH COMMUNITY CENTRE (SMALL ROOM)

The café is for people affected by memory loss and their families to meet informally in a relaxed atmosphere.

Health and Social care staff are often on hand to provide information and to offer support.

**Drop in between
2 - 4pm**

**First Wednesday
every month**



Chat

Laugh

Reminisce

Make new
friends

Special
events

Dates 2014-2015

2nd April

7th May

4th June

2nd July

6th August

3rd September

1st October

5th November

3rd December

7th January

4th February

4th March

Come along for a cup of tea and a chat and you will be welcomed by our volunteers.

If you would like more information or you require a lift to the café,
contact either Philippa 01837 83209 or Claire on 01837 83014

Supported by TorrAGE Neighbourhood Links and the Winkleigh Society

Community Centre

After a lay off for a couple of months, due to other commitments, the team have been back in full swing with the restoration.

In the main store, with much appreciated help from Ken Judge, a new storage platform has been built, so that some of the lesser used equipment can be stored and hopefully prevent accidental damage. It gave a brief period to review property left in the Centre.

After the winter rains, another point of water ingress was located and, hopefully, eliminated. It is a constant battle.

Rubbing down and spot repainting has occurred in the small and main hall. I must remind users not to stick sellotape (other products are available) or similar things on the walls, they tend to peel the paint off. Low impact masking tape is better. Also there is no need for footprints on the walls. It was good to see that the Gable end wall in the main hall has stood up to the winter rains, after the application of a special spray to the outside.

Work continues on Monday mornings.



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SINGING SUNBEAMS

Singing Sunbeams continues to have great fun in the Village Hall on the second Wednesday of each month at 10.30

It is a delight to see the youngest members of our Community developing and enjoying the instruments and singing. Many have come as new-borns and are now sitting and banging the drums or marching around with The Grand Old Duke of York!

The April meeting saw us joining with the Methodist Chapel - they entertained the older brothers and sisters while we sang. We then joined to hear Kevin tell the Easter Story followed by an Easter egg hunt - great fun was had by all.

Singing Sunbeams is for all 0 to 3 year olds - just come along on the second Wednesday. There is no charge and we are very grateful to Stable Green Chapel who fund this venture for us.

If you need any more info just call **Liz** 01837 83916 or **Jan** 01837 83853



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WINKLEIGH WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Fantastic News! Winkleigh WI has won a Bursary to Denman

But what is Denman I hear you ask? Well, Denman (previously known as Denman College) is the WI's Training Venue for education, crafts, skills and art which was established in 1948 according to the aims and objectives of the Guild of Learners which were (and I quote): *'To regain the practice of home handicrafts with a view of restoring traditional English workmanship and to assist in bringing the best instruction in handicrafts within the reach of villages'*.

But let me take you back to the very beginning.

Although the Women's Institute was first formed, in Canada, in 1897, it wasn't until 1915 that we had our first British WI (YES THE WI MOVEMENT IS 100 YEARS OLD NEXT YEAR!) and now there are 6,600 WIs with approximately 214,000 members spread throughout England, Wales, The Channel Islands and The Isle of Man. (Scotland and Northern Ireland have separate organisations).

The WIs are grouped into 70 County and Island Federations and together they make up the National Federation with its headquarters in London. It is the largest voluntary organisation for women and is educational, social, non-party political, non-sectarian and (as previously mentioned) has its own adult education centre at Denman in Oxfordshire. The WI (whose income principally comes from annual subscriptions, supplemented by profits from its trading company) has close international links through its affiliation to the Associated Country Women of the World (ACWW) with millions of women, worldwide.

What is the background of the WI?

The first 'Women's Institute' was formed in Stoney Creek, Ontario, Canada, by Adelaide Hoodless in 1897 - as an offshoot of the Farmer's Institute. Adelaide Hoodless's youngest boy had died at the age of fourteen months from an intestinal infection caused by drinking contaminated milk and for the rest of her life Adelaide campaigned for domestic science to be taught in schools and colleges.

She lectured on the subject all over Ontario with the prime aim of improving the overall understanding of domestic economy - particularly for women who lived isolated lives in rural homesteads.

The first meeting of the Women's Institute took place at the home of Janet Lee and she was elected as one of the first Committee Members. Over the next few years she visited other Farmer's Institutes to encourage the formation of more WIs and in the early 1900s, Mrs Madge Watt from British Columbia brought the idea of the Women's Institute to Britain.

With the declaration of war in 1914 (and knowing that supplies of food was going to be a particular problem in UK) Madge Watt convinced the Government that the concept of a Woman's Institute was something that could help to revitalise the

countryside in Britain and they quickly asked her to set up a similar organisation in the UK.

During her life Mrs Watt formed well over 300 WIs including (at the invitation from Queen Mary) one at Sandringham.

So much for the background....

On 11th September 1915 the first WI in Britain was formed at:

Llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogerychwyrndrobwlllantysiliogogoch - (commonly referred to as Llanfair PG) in Anglesey. Dolton and Dowland were also formed in 1915 and became one of first WIs in Devon – if not the first!

During the First World War, the WI encouraged countrywomen to get involved in growing and preserving food in order to help the War effort in addition, that is, to preparing meals, looking after the calves, the pigs, the hens, the ducks and the geese etc. - so not much has changed has it?!

In the summer of 1916, the first ever WI market was held by the Criccieth Woman's Institute in Wales.

By 1917, a total of 137 Institutes had been formed and members of the Woman's Institute took part in the Hyde Park Exhibition. It was also in this year that all of the Institutes in Sussex decided that they would like to meet together and so the first Federation was formed. This led to the formation of the National Federation of Women's Institutes (NFWI) when the rules were adopted and an Executive Committee was established. Lady Denman was voted Chairman and Alice Williams was appointed Honorary Secretary and Treasurer and this new organisation attracted members from the Lady of the Manor, to her housemaid and cook, from the local shop keeper to the wife of the farm labourer.

Once the war was over, Women's Institutes began to concentrate on planning programmes of activities suitable for their members. Women, of course, had now received the vote (well at least those over 30 had) and the NFWI was anxious to encourage them to become active citizens. Indeed, at the 1920 Annual General Meeting (AGM), a resolution was carried urging WI members to stand for Parish and District councils and especially for committees that dealt with health and housing. Yet another urged more emphasis on public health education.

By now, interest in music was growing. Many WIs formed their own choirs and the NFWI brought out the first Women's Institute Song Book - a collection of songs particularly suitable for singing at monthly meetings. In 1923 the first WI choral competition for choirs was held in East Sussex and in that year, Chulmleigh WI was formed.

At the 1924 AGM (held in Queens Hall, London) Sir Walford Davies (a famous British composer and Master of the Kings Music) made a special arrangement of Sir Hubert Parry's setting of Jerusalem and he, personally, conducted the singing at that Meeting. Later the NFWI ran a competition for an '*Institute Song*' and it was unanimously agreed that this should be Jerusalem and by singing this 'song'

the WI is marking its links with the wider women's movement, and its commitment to *'improving the conditions of rural life'*

On the 8th March 1927 the Winkleigh WI was formed.

Ashreigney's WI was also formed in the same year and by 1928 the WI had become firmly established in the countryside with a total of 4244 WIs. There was always a light hearted feel to activities with members taking part in some very ambitious pageants and plays, music festivals and organising country dancing.

In 1934 Chawleigh WI was formed and in 1937, the 21st AGM passed a Resolution against the destruction of wild flowers – but, it wasn't until 1975 that it was finally passed by Government!!

In 1938 Lapford WI held their first meeting.

When war seemed inevitable, the NFWI had to decide what role it would play and Lady Denman was appointed Director of the Women's Land Army. A section of this Land Army were the "Rat Catchers". They were quite a formidable force and their numbers included one of our Winkleigh Members (Marion Short).

The NFWI also felt that it was very important to maintain the Institute meetings as normally as possible during the Second World War and the WIs became an important link with the Armed Forces, forged by the donation of an Ambulance.

The WI also played an important role in caring for evacuees and was invited by the Ministry of Agriculture to organise a *Co-operative Fruit Preservation Scheme*. To achieve this objective the NFWI, having bought £1,400 worth of sugar, then distributed it round the Federations who in turn sent it out to those WIs prepared to take part in the scheme. Between 1940 and 1945 over 5,300 tons of fruit was preserved; making use of nearly 12 million pounds of fruit which might otherwise have been wasted. This was the war work for which WI members became renowned - and the '*jam*' image has stuck ever since!

In 1946 the First Combined Arts Festival was opened by HM the Queen and in that same year the Channel Islands WI opened followed two years later by the formation of the Isle of Man Federation.

Highlights of the next decade included:

- 1950 - AGM Resolution urging the Government to ensure that hospitals made allowances for parents to visit children;
- 1951 - as part of the Festival of Britain, members designed the WI house which was built at the Ideal Home Exhibition in Olympia. This house was intended for a working family – and even had a porch outside the back door to leave muddy boots;
- 1953 - Princess Elizabeth attended her first WI Meeting as our new Queen and meanwhile the WIs interest in Home Handicrafts continued;
- 1958 - Denman College put on its first Flower Show and Constance Spry was invited to judge the competition. The show was an overwhelming

success with more than 4,000 WI members attending and entries coming from 44 counties.

The WI's Golden Jubilee in 1965 was celebrated in great style with, amongst other celebrations, a garden party at Buckingham Palace to which the Queen invited her fellow members – and my Mother in Law (Mrs Vera Tricker from the Rustington WI) was one of the lucky Presidents who was chosen to attend!).

New teaching buildings at Denman College were opened by HM the Queen Mother in 1970 and by 1974 there were a total of 9,309 WIs - the greatest number of WIs ever recorded. A year later, the National Federation was awarded their own Coat of Arms.

During the late eighties and nineties, the subjects of the resolutions debated at the Annual Meetings continued to reflect women's concerns for current issues and during this period, the NFWI became a charitable company limited by guarantee.

Another successful WI/Rotary venture was the Aqua Box Collection. This was similar to the Tsunami Appeal and was intended to help areas hit by disasters by providing them with a box filled with everyday necessities such as toiletries and sewing essentials etc. The box was ingeniously designed so that it could be used as water container (complete with tap) after it had been emptied. Winkleigh WI held many fund raising events and were able to supply one complete box for the appeal.

The WI history of campaigning

The WI has a long history of campaigning on a wide range of issues that matter to women and their communities and our campaigns are as diverse as our members. The history of the WI in campaigns tells a story of millions of women, often ahead of their time, committed to working in partnership to change the world for the better and over the years, the WI has passed many Resolutions and here are just some:

- equal pay for equal work;
- an anti-litter campaign - which eventually led to the formation of Keep Britain Tidy;
- no smoking in public places (this was in 1964!);
- the introduction of breast screening clinics – this resulted in the government introducing a number of mobile screening clinics followed by a national screening programme for all women aged 50 – 64, the first of its kind in the EU;
- the need for public facing information campaigns on HIV and AIDs;
- raising awareness on the nature and extent of violence against women;
- the plight of the honeybee;
- the preservation of ancient buildings;
- stricter control of drugs etc.;
- asking for improved water supplies in villages;
- more stringent control about the use of toxic sprays;

- concern about the dangers of radiation and experimental nuclear testing;
- raising concern about the availability of habit forming drugs to children and young people;
- a national policy for reclamation, re-use and recycling of waste (and this 40 years ago!!);
- doorstep milk deliveries;
- single sex wards in hospitals;
- closure of village schools;
- artificially produced human embryos;
- child abuse;
- heavier sentences for rapists;
- making regeneration of Brownfield sites a priority;
- concern about genetically modified food;
- concern about the continuing decline of our high streets and the damaging effect this has on local communities;
- the need to employ more Midwives;
- the closure of Local Libraries.

Many of these resolutions have been passed by the Government and have now become law and we are hopeful that this year's WI Resolution (i.e. the need for more voluntary Organ Donations) will be treated in a similar manner.

So, what is the situation today?

From a humble beginning in 1897 the Federated Women's Institute of Canada now has 1,257 branches distributed throughout 10 provinces with 18,000 members.

In Britain there are still about 6600 Individual WIs and over 214,000 members – thereby proving that women can continue to make a difference in this high-tech and fast-moving decade!!

More locally, Winkleigh WI meet on the first Wednesday of every month (except for August) in the Small Room at the back of the Village Hall at 7.30pm - please see the village notice boards for details. Why not come and join us as a visitor or a new member?

For further details please contact Claire Tricker either by phone (01837 83285) or by e-mail (claire@herne.org.uk).

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Friends of Winkleigh School

Fundraising efforts continue relentlessly by the “Friends” group on behalf of the Primary School and since the last report there have been meetings on 20th March and 1st May to progress plans for events in the year. In between meetings the “Casino Night” took place in the “Stars” and those attending were treated to a true Las Vegas/Monte Carlo experience, without having to leave the village. Money not spent on travel to those other venues was spent on “trying your luck” without anyone going really broke (I am informed). Numbers were down a little on expectations due mainly to the date clashing with an event in the K.A. Nevertheless the night raised £83.70 towards the funds.

A “Bacon Roll” morning on 23rd May, always popular and involving lots of work by the volunteers, can expect to be rewarded with good financial returns. A “Summer Spectacular” event at the School is set for 14th June, at which there will be a BBQ and entertainment is expected to include skittles, teachers in a cage, paddling pool with ducks on hooks, stocks, a bale maze, cow pat lottery (with two of the group being a cow), face painting and at this point ideas are still being invited to add to the fun. A “Town Crier” is expected to make an appearance.

The annual “School’s out” disco is set for 18th July and the School staff will run the event and manage behaviour, whilst Tim (FOWS Chair) will run the disco and other volunteers will run a tuck shop. No doubt there will be some fancy footwork on display on the dance floor that night!

Fireworks night has been confirmed at the Sports Centre for Saturday 8th November, this is a night not to be missed and sponsorship letters, to aid funding for this, will be sent out by the School.

The “easyfundraising” website continues to make quarterly contributions to funds and the total raised now is heading for the £500 mark, since inception. If you are not yet aware of this great fundraising initiative the please access the School website where a link is provided and you are on the way to providing much needed additional funding whenever you do your on-line shopping. You will also find ideas of benefit to yourself- go on, have a look!

Requests from the School recently agreed for funding include £1,000 towards the climbing wall, plus up to £1,000 extra depending on monies raised in forthcoming events. Information on a “Lego” proposal is awaited and £100 has been agreed for KS2 waterproofs.

As usual, the final message is a big thank you to all in the community who support the efforts of the group in putting this additional much needed contribution into providing for School activities and in particular our shops, pubs and other businesses who are always so supportive. The next meeting is on 5th June in the Stars so, if you have read this report before then and have anything to input, please don’t hesitate to make contact.

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

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Winkleigh Community Recycling Group

And finally

Plenty of Fairs in and around Winkleigh!

On June 15th there's Dowland Fair – always well run and well attended.

It is good to see that Winkleigh now has a full Fair Committee and that things are well in hand for the Summer Fair. Let's hope the weather co-operates for Winkleigh's Fair, so that it can be enjoyed while keeping dry. If its standard is as high as that of the 2013 Christmas Fair, then it will be well worth attending.

Then the Festival of Old Technology and Archaeology, at Pattiland Farm, Broadwoodkelly, on July 19th & 20th, with lots to see and do.

The Sports Centre also has a new team in the saddle. We wish them well in their aim to raise the Centre's image.

Articles for our Autumn issue are always welcome. They could be about your club or organisation, your hobby, or it could be a short story. Whatever it is, it will need to reach us by Sunday, 18th August to ensure its inclusion.

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Treasurer	Alan Mulcahy	01837 680145
Minutes Secretary	Philippa Lausen	01837 83209
Committee Members	Margaret Miller	01837 83398
	Peter Monkcom	01837 83452
	Alan Jacobs	01837 83895

Winkleigh Society membership is open freely to all Winkleigh residents. This entitles you to vote at the Society meetings. If you would like more details, please contact Alan Mulcahy, our Membership Secretary, on 01837 680145.

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

NEWSLETTER TEAM

Peter Monkcom	01837 83452
Alan Mulcahy	01837 680145

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

Newsletter team e-mail: articles@distinctlywinkleigh.co.uk
Or alan.mulcahy@tiscali.co.uk

Postal submissions: 8 Old Barn Close, Winkleigh, EX19 8JX
or Smythen Hill Cottage, Hollocombe, EX18 7QD

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

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

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