

DISTINCTLY WINKLEIGH



Working for Winkleigh



Edition 63

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Autumn 2017

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

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Winkleigh Parish Council Notice Of Casual Vacancies

Notice is hereby given that a co-option vacancy has occurred among the members of the Parish Council. Any person willing to fill this vacancy should apply to the Clerk in writing or email.

Any person wishing to apply to become a member must meet at least one of the qualifications set out below in order to be eligible for co-option and must not be disqualified under Section 80 of the Local Government Act 1972.

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

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

Melanie Borrett
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New Times at Winkleigh Parish Church

Tuesday 8th August was a memorable day for me. Before a large congregation, Bishop Sarah, Bishop of Crediton, licensed me as your Interim Minister for a year. (I believe this was the first time that a woman had officiated in the building). It means that I will be your 'vicar' but only until a new permanent vicar is appointed. Let me explain. At the moment, Winkleigh Parish (i.e. the ancient ecclesiastical parish rather than the civil parish) is linked with the parishes of Ashreigney, Broadwoodkelly and Brushford. The Bishop tells us that under a new vicar our group of parishes will need to take in additional local parishes. The details of the new structure haven't yet been worked out.

Meanwhile, I have been asked to look after the spiritual needs of the parishes in the short term, and to introduce a pattern of services in each church in anticipation of the new structure. This is necessary because, while three of the churches have been used to a service of Holy Communion every Sunday, that cannot continue when there are more parishes with services to be covered. So we need to ask, 'what will be the pattern of services in the future'? One option would be to have a service of Holy Communion as the only service, but not every Sunday, leaving some Sundays without a service.

There is a better way. All the church councils (except Brushford which is tiny) have asked for a service every Sunday. In the course of a month some services are Holy Communion led by me, whilst the others are Morning Prayer led by trained local people.

With this system in place, worship will continue every Sunday, at 9.30am in Winkleigh. By the time the new grouping of parishes is in place and a new vicar appointed, our four village churches will be accustomed to this way of offering worship and the vicar will find it that much easier to organise his or her coverage of services.

In the space of about three months the new pattern is already becoming established. Those who lead Morning Prayer, though initially nervous, have grown in confidence, encouraged by their congregations. I have urged these worship leaders to choose the kind of service with which they are comfortable, and to introduce some of their own material into the format. This allows them to work to their strengths, whilst also bringing imagination and variety to these services. I have been delighted at the way they have risen to the challenge, and by the way their work has been received, and I pray that we may all grow in faith and hope and love as a result.

It is easy to imagine gloomily that fewer clergy means that Christian ministry to local communities is increasingly spread thin. This need not be the case, and I take note of groups of rural parishes where local congregations with increased responsibility have experienced growth both in numbers and in faith. I believe that we are already seeing signs of new enthusiasm and energy in our four churches; and new people are already joining us on Sundays.

It's a privilege for me to be asked to lead this transition. I'm convinced that we are laying the foundations for a new way of being Church which will both be sustainable and also appealing to the wider community. Working together with our Methodist friends in Winkleigh as I hope we will be able to do, will mean that the Christian presence in the village is strengthened, thereby bringing a unified spiritual impact on the life of the whole community.

Finally, a word about myself. My wife and I retired to Ashreigney almost four years ago. I was ordained 40 years ago and have worked in London, Oxford, Southern Africa, Leeds and Norwich. I have come out of retirement to work half-time to assist with the transition in our parishes. I have been delighted at the response. I enjoy visiting people and look forward to getting to know Winkleigh people – life-long residents and new arrivals alike. Do please invite me. People have welcomed me with such warmth, which suggests that a very large number of Winkleigh people, inside and outside the church, want to see us succeed. Do come and join us at 9.30am on Sunday mornings!

Graham Smith
01769 520824 or gsmith@uwclub.net

All Saints Church - Harvest Lunch

Yes, it can seem “a long, long while from May to September,” to quote the words of Kurt Weill’s haunting ‘September Song’. But where did our summer go? Did we even have one?

So, here we are at the autumn edition of ‘Distinctly Winkleigh.’ Time to plan for the 2017 All Saints Church **Harvest Service** and **Harvest Lunch**. A long-time village tradition (centuries probably!), till recently it was a Harvest Supper. But as the “days grow short when you reach September,” a few years ago it became a Harvest Lunch.

Please mark **Sunday, October 1** on the calendar. The Harvest Service in the church at **11:00 a.m.**, followed by the Harvest Lunch and produce auction in the Village Hall at **12:30 p.m.** As before, the lunch will be coordinated by Monica Cowle and Queenie Pidgeon, two splendid local ladies with eighty years combined experience in organising village events!! Ticket prices are £11, as last year. Available from Monica (-83863) or Queenie (-83327).

This year, the traditional produce auction will be led by our interim Minister, the Very Rev. Graham Smith. Money from the church collection and the auction will go to ‘Farming God’s Way,’ a charity supporting long-term, sustainable farming practices in Thika, a particularly arid part of Kenya. A long way from the challenges facing the Winkleigh farming community but a clear link with our agricultural heritage.

And remember to support the important role played by the children of Winkleigh Primary School. It’s their donations of produce at the school harvest celebration the preceding Friday (details to be confirmed) that are central to the lunch auction.

Please join us.

Winkleigh W.I.

Following Winkleigh WI's visit to the Crediton Flower Festival in June, our President (Claire Tricker) set off from Torrington (at 6.30 am!) to attend the AGM at the Echo Arena in Liverpool and this is her summary of her trip to give you an idea of how the WI works.

Using a very efficient, tried and tested system run by our Federation in Exeter, coaches from different parts of Devon all met up at Junction 27 on the M5 and then travelled, in convoy, to the Meeting.

We sailed along quite well with comfort stops until just north of Birmingham where we came to an abrupt stop! There had been an accident further up on the M6 and so we turned off and went via a meandering cross-country route that eventually led us through the Mersey Tunnel until we reached our selected Hotel. Slight hold-up here. Two coaches from Devon and one from Northumberland and although it was now 3.30pm, our rooms were still not ready! There was much milling about in the Lobby and hijacking of seats in the Restaurant until we finally got our keys. Only two lifts and I was on the 8th floor – which was an interesting journey with frequent stops and once even returning to a previous floor! The evening was a very relaxed affair with ample opportunity to meet up with friends and acquaintances from different WIs from all over UK.

The Womens Institute's Annual General Meeting itself is a wonderful event to attend and with 4,300 members and guests present, you would be correct in assuming that these have to be, and are, highly organised and well managed events! The morning's session started with the singing of Jerusalem and a welcome from the Mayor of Liverpool, (Joe Anderson) who commented on it being a nice sunny day – but with a gale nearly blowing everyone off their feet as we queued to enter the Arena, we felt that this was a bit of an overstatement. However, he said he was an avid supporter of the WI and amongst other interesting facts about his city and told us that years ago Liverpool was the second largest city in the British Empire and now has more female councillors than any other city in UK.

Then it was down to the actual Business of the Meeting.

The National Federation Chair, Janice Langley, welcomed everyone and explained that this was her last meeting and then told us of some of her highlights over the last four years. Unsurprising, one of them was at The Centenary Meeting at the Royal Albert Hall when she had the privilege of meeting HM The Queen and other members of the Royal Family. During her time Membership increased from 212,000 in 2013, to 225,085 today and 498 new WIs started. '*The Inspiring Women Working Together*' conferences helped narrow the gap between the NFWI Board and the Membership and Janice warned that the WI's charitable status depended on Groups remembering that the role of educating women was paramount.



The Honorary Treasurer, Julia Roberts, reported that the finances had improved and it had been a successful year. (Full details are available on the WI website).

The First Resolution, “*Alleviating loneliness*”, having been proposed and seconded, was then followed by a presentation by an Expert Speaker (Dr Natalie Weldon) who provided us with all the essential background. Numerous points of view were expressed from the floor and then a vote was taken. Every delegate had been given different coloured cards with which to vote ‘For’ or ‘Against’, and in this case the motion was carried by 4334 against 1919.

The morning’s Guest Speaker was Jo Farley who was the lady who invented “*Green and Blacks Organic Chocolate*” and which proved to be a very interesting story. Jo and her husband Craig Sams set up Green and Blacks in the early Nineties hoping to “*change the world, one square of chocolate at a time*”. They certainly did that, by becoming the world’s first wholly organic chocolate brand and pioneering the concept of ethical trading with local suppliers from some of the poorest countries. Indeed, their chocolate, using cacao from farmers in Central America, was the first-ever product to carry the Fairtrade mark in the UK, and over the years trading with these communities had helped them build new homes, schools and healthcare systems. The budget is controlled by the women of the villages!

The chocolate was called ‘*Maya Gold (Fairtrade)*’ and was strongly supported by the WI, Oxfam, Christian Aide and Tesco’s enabling 80% of village children in these countries to go to secondary School. In 2005 Cadburys bought Green & Blacks Fairtrade. The secret of her success? “*You have to be prepared to work harder than ever you thought possible, try to do good while you’re doing business, and bring a sense of humour to your work because at times you’ll need it. Luck is what you have left over when you’ve given 100%*”.

With that thought echoing in our minds, we then stopped for Lunch.

In the afternoon, Janice handed out awards for competitions held throughout the year and then it was back to business with the second resolution. This one was entitled ‘*End Plastic Soup!*’

Continued on next page...



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Microplastic fibres are shed from synthetic clothing with every wash and are the main contributors to contamination of the oceans and the proposal was for '*Government and Industry to research and develop innovative solutions to this problem in order to stop the accumulation of microplastic fibres in our oceans.*' The expert speaker was Dr Natalie Welden, Research Associate at the Open University, who described her research into the impact of microplastic fibres on the langoustine (which are closely related to the lobster, although are more the size of a large prawn) in the Clyde Sea and where she had found that large balls of the tangled fibres filled one-third of their stomachs. During the debate, many members expressed the need for urgency in tackling this hidden problem. They stressed the role of individuals in changing their own behaviour and the power of all our voices combined in making the case for action from both Government and Industry. The vote was carried by 6132 against 157.

The afternoon speaker was Susie Dent a regular lexicographer from '*Countdown*' and '*Dictionary Corner*' who provided us with a fascinating speech on the origins of words, insisting that English is a fast-moving - but most magnificent - language. She said we are often passionate about the words we use but have to accept language evolution. Text messaging accounts for many new words added to the dictionary each year for example 'hangy' (being bad-tempered or irritable as a result of hunger). Susie added that she had been interested in words since the age of five.

The final event was a band called '*The Retros*' who played lots of hits from the sixties including numbers from the Beatles, Freddie and the Dreamers, the Searchers and many more. This had many of us standing up and dancing and some people were even in the aisles!

The new Board of Trustees were introduced and Janice was thanked for all her hard work during her time in office. The National Anthem was then sung with gusto and it was then time for all of us to depart.

Lots of coaches were systematically filing past the Arena and having been called for our particular one, we all settled down for a long journey home. Unfortunately owing to part of the Motorway being closed south of Bristol and a long diversion causing drivers to be out of time, we had to stop at Taunton for new drivers and, of course, a stop at Junction 27 to change coaches. I finally arrived home at 12.45am, tired, but in the knowledge that the WI AGM is not only a very interesting event to be part of but one that has many of its Resolutions accepted by the Government and brought into Law.

Concerning our own Meetings. We meet once a month and have a wide range of Speakers and/or Events. For example, our Winkleigh Ladies met at the Presidents house for our Garden Meeting which consisted of Croquet on the Lawn and Tea. We were lucky enough to have one of the WI Advisers joining us **and** it was also a sunny dry day!

August being the holiday month we do not meet, but on September 6th there will be a Presentation with pictures of a Trip to the Mardi Gras (i.e. the renowned New Orleans Jazz Festival) and some other Ports of call in that area. This talk will be given by Claire and Ray Tricker, 2.30pm in the usual place in the small room at the

Village Hall, everyone welcome! In October Mrs Barbara Thorne will be talking about her trip to Peru.

There will also be a Flower Demonstration at Sandford Parish Hall on the 14 September run by Crediton Flower Club. The Demonstrator will be Sarah Pepper and the title is "*Autumn Mellow*" and the cost of entrance is £10 (payable at the door) to include light refreshments.

And on that note, I think that is enough WI news for now and time to enjoy the rest of the summer.

Claire Tricker (President/Secretary)

Winkleigh Church Flower Ladies

It was the most wonderful warm sunny afternoon when we held our summer solstice "Cream Team". It was very well attended and the main aim was to hold it outside, but the warm temperatures during the afternoon made everyone retreat to the inside of the church. The craft stall created by Bobbie Farrington was also well responded and raised an additional £82.00 to help boosted our flower fund.

Winkleigh Fair floral displays this year represented the "four seasons". The coffee and cake morning held on Tuesday 11th July was not so good weather wise, but well received by those attended and raised £131.00 which also added to our flower fund.

Thank you to everyone that came along to either event to support our group of flower ladies.

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The Opening of the Ashridge Great Barn, North Tawton

The Ashridge Great Barn is a medieval grain barn located just outside of North Tawton. In 2012 the Richards family bought the Ashridge Court Farm Estate and the barn was chosen as the location for a family wedding reception. Built from wood and stone from the estate, as well as clay from the hill it nestles into, the barn is a impressive monument to the rich history of this secluded valley.

Now restored to its former glory, with added facilities and a car park, the barn has a new lease of life as a rustic events and wedding venue. We envision the barn as a community asset with the capacity to hold workshops, concerts and exhibitions as well as host parties, weddings or the event of your choice!

We are holding an open evening on the 20th of September and would like to invite you all to attend between 5 – 9 pm to come and soak up the atmosphere in our stunning surroundings.

Find Ashridge Court Farm on Facebook or visit our website at www.ashridge-court.co.uk

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Winkleigh Singers

The Winkleigh Singers had a good start to 2017 with a magical performance of Mozart's Requiem with fine soloists and Andrew Millington (retired organist Exeter Cathedral) accompanying on the organ.

A concert in July to raise funds for the restoration of the 150 year old organ at Broadwoodkelly church brought locals and villagers, and a dog, into the lovely church on a fine summer's evening. Music from early secular to modern fun was enjoyed by the audience and the choir. A total of £385.00 was raised for the organ restoration fund.

On Monday September 4th, they are holding an Open Rehearsal at their practice venue in Umberleigh at 7.30pm at the Christian Fellowship Hall (on A377 opposite the Rising Sun). All singing parts are welcome (especially tenors!) and music, and tea and coffee are provided. Look at the website for details and please advise them, if possible, if you want to come. www.winkleighsingers.org.uk

On Saturday 11th November The Winkleigh Singers will be joining The Artavian Singers and Vocal Accord in a concert "Monteverdi and Modern". This exciting programme will take place in Barnstaple. Please look out for posters and leaflets.

The Christmas Concert this year will break with tradition and will be held in the Village Hall, which is much easier to heat, on Sunday evening 17th December at 7.30pm. As well as a wonderful selection of traditional carols for you all to join in singing we will be performing Britten's very popular and enjoyable Ceremony of Carols which will be accompanied on the harp by Elizabeth-Jane Baldry. The Winkleigh Singers encourage families to join us at all our concerts by offering free admission to accompanied under 16s.

Their Spring Concert next year on 21st April in Torrington church will be a programme of celebratory music by Handel, Mozart and Haydn. The choir will be joined by soprano soloist Donna-Marie Broomfield and former Sheffield Cathedral organist David Read.

Bookmark our website www.winkleighsingers.org.uk for full details of all our events.

Registered Charity Number 1171218



Winkleigh Morris Dancers

Winkleigh Morris begin their winter practice season at the Community Centre on Tuesday, 3rd October, at 8 pm. The first night is always a 'taster' session in which we invite anyone who would like to have a go at morris dancing - or playing for morris - to come along and try it out. New dancers and musicians are welcome at any time to join us at our regular Tuesday evening practice session, from October to the end of April, but starting early in the Autumn is recommended, as the focus is then particularly on the repertoire for new and less experienced dancers.

This year we are also trying some extra 'taster' sessions at other locations, to spread the net beyond Winkleigh. We will be at the Rugby Club, North Tawton on Thursday, 21st September, Lapford Victory Hall on Friday 22nd September, the Old Schools, Hatherleigh on Tuesday 26th September and the Castle (1646) Community Centre, Torrington, on Thursday 28th September, all from 7.45 for 8pm start.

We are a very sociable mixed group who have been performing a mixture of Cotswold and Border Morris dances since 1990. We also include a spectacular rapper sword dance in our repertoire. During the summer we dance each week at towns and villages in the Winkleigh area and usually visit some other parts of the country as guests of other groups.

For further details, see our website www.winkleighmorris.org.uk or contact Colin on 01363 877216 or Averil on 01271 831461

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NEW PERSPECTIVES

The much-anticipated launch of Hidden Histories of rural North Devon: Opening up the Beaford Archive, a vibrant and unique three-year project for the people of North Devon.



South Molton Town Hall, 11am-2pm, Saturday 2nd September

Photographic displays
Talks from local speakers
Complimentary refreshments
Find out about opportunities to get involved
**A first look at never-before-seen photographs
from the Beaford Archive!**

Come and join this FREE event to celebrate your local heritage!



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Unseen Images From The Beaford Archive

Locals and visitors alike are invited to attend free events – which we are calling **NEW PERSPECTIVES** - across the region to celebrate the launch of **HIDDEN HISTORIES OF RURAL NORTH DEVON: OPENING UP THE BEAFORD ARCHIVE**, a vibrant and unique three-year project for the people of North Devon, funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund.

Formerly unseen images from the Archive collections will be on display, shedding new light on our local heritage, and allowing attendees to have a first glimpse at a small sample of the 3000 plus contact sheets that will be published online later this year. We look forward to learning more about these and hearing about your knowledge and experience of the familiar places and faces captured on film.

Members of the Hidden Histories team will be on hand to share information about the volunteering opportunities available and what to expect in the forthcoming months and years of the project. An Oral Historian will be in attendance and looking for people interested in becoming trained in oral history techniques, to help support in the ongoing collection of stories and memories.

There will be featured talks from local speakers connected to the project, with experts discussing history, environment, and photography.

There will be free refreshments provided throughout at all venues, and all events are ‘drop-in’ so no pre-booking is needed.

Following the brilliant local response at events in High Bickington, Mortehoe, Dolton, Hatherleigh, Bideford, and Chulmleigh – we have two remaining events:
South Molton Town Hall – Saturday 2nd September, 11am – 2pm
The Plough Art Centre, Torrington – Sunday 17th September, 2pm – 5pm

Hidden Histories of rural north Devon: Opening up the Beaford Archive has been further supported by the Paul Hamlyn Foundation, Elmgrant Trust, Fullabrook CIC, Leader 5 Torridge and North Devon, and the North Devon Coast Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

For more information, please contact Beaford Arts at archive@beaford-arts.org.uk or 01769 572573

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NEW PERSPECTIVES

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The Gallery at The Plough Arts Centre, Sunday 17th September, 2-5pm

Photographic displays
Talks from local speakers
Complimentary refreshments
Find out about opportunities to get involved
**A first look at never-before-seen photographs
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Winkleigh Society – Update.

We are pleased to announce the launch of our writing competition for children. It is a first venture for The Winkleigh Society, but there are budding authors out there (we hope) and, as our primary purpose, as a society, is to highlight Winkleigh's History and distinctiveness we are hoping to involve children in our village stories. Basing it on our most precious archaeological find: the bronze seal of Thomas Barrat. We hope someone can solve this 400 year old mystery.

He was the longest serving Arch Deacon of Exeter Cathedral from 1562-1633. He was rich and powerful. His intricately crafted bronze seal, with a pierced handle on the reverse, was his badge of office. It would be impressed on hot sealing wax on his official church scrolls. It is a mystery how such a prestigious, precious artefact that signified his status, came to be lost in a garden in Winkleigh.

Sixty three years in office, during the reigns of Elizabeth 1 and James I, Thomas Barrat had a remarkably long career in the church undergoing turbulent and controversial changes.

The Curator of Exeter Museum thinks this seal was lost during James 1's reign. Both The King and Thomas Barrat wrote books about witchcraft and sorcery.

Full details about the competition rules are on pages 22 and 23

Thanks to local authors, Shirley Cowling, Dave Watkins and Dan Bazeley for agreeing to be judges and to Mrs Dent (finder of the seal) for agreeing to announce the winners and present the prizes on December 2nd at the Saturday market.

Winning stories or extracts from will be published in future editions of Distinctly Winkleigh. All of them will be collated into an anthology. *Cont. next page*



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Other Winkleigh Society News:

Winkleigh History/Mystery Trail in Winkleigh Fair Week: (Map on Page 21)

18 different characters were positioned around the Winkleigh trail to answer questions and hand out tokens to the children.

It was quite a route march including Sunny View, Southernhay, Elms Meadow and Westcots as well as the conservation heart of the village. (In the map I have included Winkeigh Woods, but that really was a step too far).

From *Margaret Bridgman*, on The Old Hospital Site, recalling her mother's (Marian Short) experiences as a Land Girl rat catcher, to *David Trenaman* explaining the turbulent History of The Village Hall, to the village gossips (*Barbara Jenkins* and *June Western*) dispensing drinks and *Deanne Whittacker* reprising her role as anti-bacterial, the washer-woman at Westcots Drive, the walkers were kept entertained, exercised and informed.

Collin Gibson helped them unravel the story of the plaque set in the wall at the entrance to Kings Meadow estate.

Guess the age of the oak tree at Southernhay – it is younger than a lot of people thought, *Philip Griffiths*: take the short cut through to Elms Meadow (thanks to the campaign by Brian Holland) and learn from the archaeologist *Rosemary Simmons* at Elms Meadow about the bronze-age finds there in 1990.

Alan Jacobs led the walkers up Shute Lane (the ancient track-way between the strip fields) and past *Iain Biddlestone*'s display of medieval finds unearthed under his garage site 2 years ago.

In the churchyard a gruesome wolfshhead, set the scene for local author, *Dave Watkins*, to terrify the wits out of the unsuspecting pilgrims.

At The Ring 0'Bells site in South Street, *Andrew Ware* and *Terry Davey* regaled their audience with the dramatic tale when the pub burnt down in 1967. Both born and raised in the village were able to answer many more questions.

Mrs Dent sat outside her house bedecked with the 17th century bonze medallion.



There was an Oscar performances from *Joyce Brock*, dressed as Wee Willie Winkle, at the bottom of Clifford's way on Southernhay, regaling walkers with Clifford's 15 year battle to get the short cut built.

At The Forge End, *Malcolm Passmore*, recalled the days when a local blacksmith hammered out his living there. Joyce later went up to The

Sacred Concert wearing her costume and still clutching her teddy and candle.

Making our way to Court Castle *Stephen and Shirley Leahy* recalled how Rose cottage was demolished by the Americans for easier access to the Airfield (cutting off The Bailey from The Mound) and the significance of The Airfield Memorial. Finishing at Court Castle, courtesy of, *Mr and Mrs Kimber* who welcomed all with refreshments and invited the more intrepid to climb the mound and see The Folly. This, was a revelation to many of the walkers and emphasised the continuing mystery of so much of our village's History.

P.S. Contrary to consternation about the 'stolen plaque' on the commemorative bench, in honour of Betty George at Old Chapel Gardens: Neighbourhood Watch can relax. It was Fiona Marshall who did it; in order to add Marian Short's name to it, as both Betty and Marian worked tirelessly in tandem to keep the chapel going. We thoroughly enjoyed staging this for Winkleigh Fair. Congratulations to all on the Winkleigh Fair committee for their sterling efforts, imagination and unstinting energy in pulling off a great week.

Flying the Flag for Winkleigh:

County Councillor Andrew Saywell has expressed an interest and has offered advice on new signage for Winkleigh and possibly some funding towards it.

Meanwhile we thought we would brainstorm some possibilities for Winkleigh and Hollocombe that flag up our History/distinctiveness.

Any suggestions/ideas gratefully received. We do need some ideas/images for Hollocombe. Ultimately it is up to The Parish Council, but (they are a bit busy) and on the suggestion of councillor Saywell it is a good idea to get the ball rolling by work-shopping ideas.

Councillor Pearce has worked on an idea for a village logo for Winkleigh including images of two castles and Bartholomew Gidley's coat of arms. There again Gidley was from Hollocombe so that could spark a lively debate.

Perhaps in the next edition we will launch a competition for a village logo/crest/emblem.

Neighbourhood Plan:

Councillor Sue Taylor, who is on the N.P. group came to one of the Wednesday mini-markets to talk to some of us in The Winkleigh Society about delivering the Neighbourhood Plan questionnaires to all households and businesses in The Parish. Several of the Distinctly Winkleigh postmen were also there and we discussed the distribution and collection of the questionnaires.

It is a good talking shop there for village issues as are The Monthly Saturday markets. At the previous July market, at The Neighbourhood Pan stall, we invited children to write their comments about walking and cycling around the village, particularly their journeys to school. Prioritising pedestrians, which enriches street life, improves health and promotes public spaces is a key part of The Neighbourhood Plan.

Step Back In Time:

The Winkleigh Society was all set to run a mini pop-up museum on the Saturday of that weekend. Steven Leahy with his impressive airfield archive and Wendy Oxborough with some of her extensive Hollocombe History displays.

Unfortunately, because of atrocious weather on the Friday, Saturday was cancelled. It did go ahead on Sunday though. We will try again next year as this is such an important archaeological and History event.

Next committee meeting:

Wednesday 6th September 7:30pm Community Centre.

Penny Griffiths & Margaret Miller.

04.08.2017.

FLYING THE FLAG

WINKLEIGH
ANCIENT
HILL VILLAGE

WINKLEIGH
A FAIR
SINCE 1262

WINKLEIGH
TWO CASTLE
MOUNDS
1 AIRFIELD

WINKLEIGH
IN
THE NORTH
DEVON
BIOSPHERE

WINKLEIGH
FIRST NORMAN
HUNTING
PARK

FOR WINKLEIGH

The Winkleigh Society Short Story Competition for Children

This bronze seal belonged to Thomas Barret. It was dug up in 1990 by Mrs Dent who lives in the Square, near the church and between two castle mounds.

Why was it there? Lost? Hidden? Stolen?

Thomas Barret wrote a book about witchcraft in 1598.

He was Archdeacon at Exeter Cathedral from 1584- 1633.



The bronze seal was lost in the early years of the reign of King James I.

Winkleigh is a long horse-ride from Exeter.

Use your imagination and write a story

JUDGING PANEL

Three published local authors –

DAN BEAZLEY
SHIRLEY COWLING
DAVE WATKINS



PRIZES

CATEGORY 1: Up to 11 years old (Primary)

1st PRIZE - £30 2nd PRIZE - £20
Minimum words 300 - Maximum 1,000

CATEGORY 2: Up to 16 years old (Secondary)

1st PRIZE - £30 2nd PRIZE - £20
Minimum words 500 - Maximum 2,000

Entries: by email to the editors of Distinctly Winkleigh

competition@distinctlywinkleigh.co.uk

OR by POST: to MARGARET MILLER

5 Park Place, Eggesford Road, Winkleigh EX19 8JN

Include forename & surname, age, telephone number and the title of your story. Competitors' names and telephone numbers will be removed from submissions and a number allocated before being passed to the Judging Panel to ensure anonymity.

LAST DATE FOR SUBMISSION OCTOBER 31ST

Winners to be announced at the Christmas Market. Saturday December 2nd.

JUDGES DECISION IS FINAL

Judges of the Winkleigh Society's Children's Writing Competition.

DANIEL BEAZLEY.

Daniel Beazley has been writing since 1996 and deals mainly in Fantasy and Science Fiction. He has a number of short stories that have been published in anthologies and collections, and has published two novels that are available on Amazon. Daniel also runs an online competition website for short stories called Remastered Words.

SHIRLEY COWLING.

Free-lance journalism has always provided me with work though "The Farmers Weekly" and the knitting magazines "Machine Knitting Monthly" and "Machine Knitting World". In 2015 my illustrated story of the little hares "Growing up in Danger" was published by Lazarus Press.

DAVID WATKINS.

David Watkins has written three novels: The Original's Return, The Original's Retribution and The Devil's Inn. Both 'Originals' books are set in a thinly disguised Winkleigh (called Huntleigh in the novels), whilst the action of The Devil's Inn revolves around The Warren House Inn on Dartmoor. All three books are well reviewed on Amazon, with average ratings in excess of 4.4*. David has also published several short stories in online magazines.

Letter of Thanks from Jean & Ron Fletcher.

9 Kings Meadow Drive
August 2017.

Dear Friends and Acquaintances of Jean and Ron Fletcher,

Thank you all so much for your concern, sympathy and assistance to us both during the past weeks following our respective surgical operations.

Your cards, letters, phone calls, flowers, meals, offers of lifts were all very welcome indeed and helped to keep up our spirits at what is not a particularly merry time of convalescence.

Our younger son, Andrew, flew in from France as our "carer" to assist with the mundane tasks we are unable to physically cope with and he will return to his home in mid August.

We are grateful for the "Winkleigh Caring Society" which comes in to operation when the need arises.

Our heartfelt thanks to you all.

Regards,

Jean and Ron

Winkleigh Y.F.C



As I sit and write this update, looking out of the window at the rain, it's hard to believe it is actually summer. As usual, it is causing many harvest hold ups! Never the less, the year is rolling by and it will soon be autumn and the start of the new YFC year. This will mean new officers stepping in to their roles and kick starting in to a fresh year!

Due to the majority of our members being involved in farming in some way, the last few months have been a little quieter with less events arranged.

However, we have still entered our cubicle in to the County Show, coming a respectable 12th out of around 35 cubicles!

In June a few of the lads, took a tractor and implement to Farms for City Children at Iddesleigh for Open Farm Sunday. A great day was had by all and it was lovely to have been asked to help out on the day.

We've also recently had our group rally, this year hosted by Buckland Brewer club. A number of members attended the day, entering a range of classes, with many winning a prize or two. Overall we came 5th. Well done to all who attended and took part.

As I've already mentioned, September brings the new YFC year, we usually hold a new members meeting around this time (although new members are always welcomed whatever time of year) so look out for more information.

We will also soon be starting to gather ideas and painting the carnival float for another year. Look out for us at the local carnivals in the autumn.

For more information, please look at our Facebook page 'Winkleigh YFC' or contact our secretary Tim Laarveld – 07910074836

Katrina Brook

 gilbertstephens

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Spirituality and the Sacred – What it Means Within the History of Britain – (Part 2)

Some of the devotional parallels are remarkable in Christianity; Churches grew into diverse types and sizes from the early Saxon period onwards. If you looked at an old church (figures 10 and 11 will be found in Edition 64) without any previous knowledge of Christian spirituality, surrounded by its burial ground, its crypts beneath, its memorials and didactic art on the walls, possibly still with some of its original wooden Saxon church remains somewhere underneath, then replaced by a single-aisled Norman stone church, widened and enlarged by chantry chapels, nave and side aisles, sanctuary and porticos during the medieval period, along with continuous rebuilds of the tower, it would resemble nothing more than a great architectural mausoleum to the dead (Palmer 2002:21). The fact that it was also a site of great spirituality--of baptisms, marriages, burials, prayers and intercession, liturgy and litany, tears, joy, healing, and sacred space would be a spirituality and lived out faith invisible to an ignorant outsider.

Yet this is how one should view the spirituality of our predecessors—the long barrows, stone circles and other prehistoric sites. For though we have only some of the jig-saw pieces from the archaeological record that tell us of the ritual and sacredness that was practised, it nevertheless occurred within the theology, mythic, and communal behaviour of the day as attested by the extant architecture (*ibid*). In fact Palmer suggests the graveyard-cum-parish church is arguably the reincarnated long barrow (2002:36).

As we see in figures 4, 5 and 6, one layer of the sacred was invariably laid or superimposed upon another, often in an attempt, as at Knowlton (figures 5 and 7) to expunge or, in a sense, even exorcise the demons of pagan spirituality from a previous religion.



Figure 4 (left) shows the 5000 year old Neolithic stones and burial chamber at Stanton Drew (though it never contained a body) and the parish church both testifying to the superimposition of one spirituality upon another in the endless search for the sacred (Palmer 2002:43).

Figure 5 (next page) similarly shows sacred layers. This mound where the Archaeologist author worked is a 3200BC Bronze Age burial mound with megalith at Knowlton near Bournemouth, which contained at its east side



95 Anglo-Saxon east west Christian burials dated approximately 600 AD which were clearly positioned respectfully in the mound, and to the north of it the now derelict Knowlton church, itself set into an Early Neolithic causewayed enclosure. In a sense the Anglo-Saxon Christians had religiously re-spiritualised a previously Neolithic area, one layer of the sacred upon another (Jobbins 2007).



Figure 6 (left) shows layers of sacred Britain at Bath, Somerset, where beneath the Roman Baths is a sacred Iron Age site and above both stands Bath Abbey, an Anglo-Saxon foundation (Palmer 2002:235).

In Figure 7 (below) the map indicates the position of religious monuments. Early Neolithic causewayed enclosures and long barrows were then replaced by the major Late Neolithic ‘henge’ monuments, like Avebury and Stonehenge, as sacred and economic community centres (Renfrew 2002:190).



West Kennet was sealed up around 3200 BC, as were the remainder, like some redundant church, its purpose no longer being achieved, but they had been magnificent architecture for their time with the materials available consisting of thousands of man hours of community construction (Palmer 2002:24). This may well have had something to do with the strain on delicate ecosystems, the transition from grassland to intensive agriculture over long periods, crop failure simply exhausting the land, and an increase in warfare revealing a collapse of the settled workable life with its benign gods (*ibid*). Palmer suggests that this ecological

bankruptcy was the first crisis of faith (and so spirituality) as rites and ritual were perceived to fail, people and the fields losing their protection raising the question whether they had failed their ancestors and gods? Or more disturbingly, had their gods failed them? So upland settlements and lowland tombs were abandoned (*ibid*) He argues that this failure of faith was the beginning of agnosticism, and it would be some time before the worship of gods and the veneration of ancestors and the architecture of anything like long barrow community centres emerged again.

Clive Jobbins

[Editors' note: This article is to be concluded in the next edition. Details of all references cited are available on request]

FORGET - ME - NOT FRIENDS

WINKLEIGH COMMUNITY CENTRE

Everyone is welcome, especially people affected by memory loss and their carers. We provide tea and a friendly atmosphere for those wishing to socialize for an hour or two each month.

Our special events have included speakers from the See-Hear Centre, Pets As Therapy, Devon Air Ambulance. We have held Poetry sessions, Floral Arrangement, Massage and Aroma Therapy, Movement to Music and other interesting presentations, as well as a visit to Rosemoor.

Advice surgery every second Wednesday of the month, 9.15-11.15, starting from October.



**Drop in between
2 – 4pm**

**First & third
Wednesday
every month**



Chat

Laugh

Reminisce

Make new
friends

Special
events

Dates 2017 - 2018

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Oct 4 th	&	18 th
Nov 1 st	&	15 th
Dec 6 th	&	20 th
Jan 3 rd	&	17 th
Feb 7 th	&	21 st
Mar 7 th	&	21 st
Apr 4 th	&	18 th
May 2 nd	&	16 th
Jun 6 th	&	20 th
July 4 th	&	18 th
Aug 1 st	&	15 th

If you would like more information or you require a lift to the centre, contact Trish patriciab@torrage.org.uk 01237 420130 or Marie-Claude on 01837 680145



Winkleigh Parish Council Grants and Donations Process 2017-18

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

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

Grant application packs can be obtained from the Parish Clerk, closing date for all applications is 15th September 2017.

All successful applicants will be notified in November 2017 with payment being made from April 2018.

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

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“Forget-Me-Not Friends” Café

The “Forget-me-not friends” Café is very happy to announce that the Big Lottery is funding us for the next 12 months.

Our aim remains the same: to enable and encourage people living with dementia (or awaiting diagnosis) as well as their Carers. Because we live in an isolated village, we wish to extend our activities to surrounding rural areas. We are now going to double our group sessions to the first and third Wednesday of each month. This will of course help us to widen the range of activities we offer.

We have had speakers from various charities like: Pets As Therapy, See/Hear Centre, Devon Air Ambulance. We have shared events on Aroma Therapy, Hand Massage, Floral arrangements and alternative Christmas trees, Poetry, Movement to music which always proves popular and is fun for all. We also invited Waitrose to explore the taste and texture of fruit - and some of their exotic cousins! A session on Family History and village reminiscence, Life of Seals around the British Isles, the role of first World War ambulance trains and visits to Rosemoor.

We are looking forward to: Singing to waken memories, Art session, Christmas Carols, Massage for relaxation, more Movement to Music and exploring the creation of artistic knitting... and more.

In addition, we are developing an 'information hub' which will be run by Trish Burke, who will provide support/guidance around adult health and social care issues. The information hub will operate alongside a weekly mini-market which is held in the Community Centre. This will be the second Wednesday of each month from October 2017



The poster for Winkleigh Market features a circular collage of various fruits and vegetables at the top. Below this, the text reads: 'Winkleigh Market', 'Locally sourced and produced fruit and veg, cheese, sausages, cakes and bakes, honey and preserves, plants and cut flowers, soaps, crafts, gifts and much more...', 'Winkleigh Village Hall', '10am till 12noon', 'First Saturday of the month'. At the bottom left are small icons of a pig, a sheep, a cow, and a chicken. At the bottom right, it says 'Refreshments sold in aid of local charities and organisations'.

After introducing twice monthly meetings from September, we are looking at recruiting a few more volunteers irrespective of age, gender or creed. We shall also ensure that our group is inclusive and avoid “cliquey” behaviour. Our aim is to build confidence and feeling of support and acceptance within our group. We shall be able to offer training to our volunteers so they can better understand the role they are able to play in the community, ensuring that Patients and Carers alike receive the support and friendship they deserve.

And we offer laughter, tea and cake!

Winkleigh Neighbourhood Watch

In the last Distinctly Winkleigh we advised you that we intended to hold a Public Neighbourhood Watch meeting on 14th June in the Community Centre. We had a very interesting talk by a representative from the Police and Crime Commissioner's office outlining their intentions for this year. In attendance were many Neighbourhood Watch coordinators and members of the Committee and Forum. Unfortunately there were **only 6** interested members of the public in attendance (one person from Eggesford), this was very disappointing.

As always if you are interested in joining the Neighbourhood Watch, please contact the Area Co-Ordinator Mr John Bowers (01837 83585) for enrolment information. We urge you all to carry on being neighbourly and vigilant. Please report any suspicious activity to the police on either 101 (for non-life threatening or non-urgent incidents) or 999 (for urgent incidents and ones where a response is required ASAP) this will depend on the severity of the incident.

“KEEP ‘EM PEELED”

SPEEDWATCH

Speeding around the village remains a problem; we have appeared 5 times in the last few weeks and recorded another **50** offending motorists. As we only operate at one site for one hour at a time we cannot record what happens for the rest of the day, sometimes that week. **Is this enough?** I am advised that other options for controlling speeding traffic will be discussed soon but in the meantime we are appealing for any other interested persons who wish to help the Speedwatch team to contact either myself Mr. Barry Jenkins (01837 682909) or Mr. John Bowers (01837 83585). Please be advised that any person who is interested will have to agree to become a Police Support Volunteer and go through its vetting procedure.

It is nice to know that some people are happy to see us around, some people pass us and say well done. One man stopped to say thank you for trying to keep his granddaughter safe. It appears that she goes to the village school and they are worried about speeding on Townsend Hill.

Please remember that the penalties for speeding have recently changed considerably, fines and points are much higher than they were.

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What's Going On At Winkleigh Methodist Church?

Well done to the Winkleigh Fair Committee for all the amazing events they organised and for all their hard work. As part of Winkleigh Fair week, Winkleigh Methodist held a concert on the Monday evening. We were pleased to welcome back Response, a group from Exeter connected to the Salvation Army. We all had a great evening, enjoying their many and varied musical talents and also their informal banter. Thank you to everyone who came along and joined in and for those who provided and bought the cakes. Donations from the evening totalled £235 which has been given to Prostate Cancer UK.

We would like to welcome The Very Rev'd Graham Smith, the Interim Priest in Charge for the Parishes of Winkleigh, Ashreigney, Broodwoodkelly and Brushford. Members of Winkleigh Methodist have met Graham, attended his welcoming service, and we look forward to working together ecumenically.

Summer is always a busy time for our Church with our young people and families attending various camps. In between camps, we enjoyed a 'Church on the Beach day' at Westward Ho! Some of the braver among us actually went for a bracing swim. Others were seen building in the sand using a full-sized shovel! The rest of us tested how well the windbreaks worked (they were quite effective and it was quite a test!). The day included a short time of worship followed



by a game in the park and, of course, fish and chips! The two summer holiday club activity days were again fully booked and a huge success with 64 children attending each day. You may have seen some of the children in the square speaking with the mysterious 'woman at the well' and listening to her story. Thanks to Bridget & Kevin Down and the team for all their hard work in making these days happen!



On Sunday 6th August we celebrated the 'Grand Finale' event where we thanked Kevin Down for everything he has achieved during his time as Youth Worker in our Circuit. This was kindly hosted by the Roberts and Marshall families. There was something for everyone including zorb football, bouncy castles, a cream tea, a BBQ, a time of worship and a disco!



On behalf of all the young people and families across the Circuit, we would like to say a huge ‘thank you’ to Kevin for his boundless enthusiasm and the tireless work and dedication he has given in this role for nine and a half years. Kevin has a gift of bringing young people together and encouraging and supporting them in a practical, hands-on way. Many of the people he has disciplined along the way have now taken on leadership roles

themselves. Much of his work has gone on behind the scenes; Kevin has a wonderful way of getting alongside people and building relationships. He will be



hugely missed in his role as Youth Worker but will still be around and will continue to support this work as it is just part of who he is! We will welcome the newly appointed, full time, Circuit Youth Worker, Jonathan Schnarr, who is known by many of the young people and families due to his work with Connect and in various local schools and communities.

Our Minister, Nigel Coke-Woods, based at Hatherleigh, will be leaving to start his new post at Malvern in September. We thank him for his time with us and for putting up with our sometimes ‘unusual’ ideas and ways of doing things! We send our best wishes to him and his wife, Sylvia as they settle into a new area and begin to meet new people.

Methodist Ministers are rather thin on the ground and the Circuit has not been able to appoint a replacement for Nigel. It was decided instead to adopt a different structure for the next few years. We welcome Angela Banfield to the post of Circuit Lay Assistant. We are very pleased that Bridget Down and Sarah Balsdon have been appointed to the Circuit Family Worker post (job share). The new appointees will work with the Circuit Leadership Team to assist Liz Singleton, our Superintendent Minister, who is based in Okehampton.

The seasons are whizzing by and we will soon be celebrating Harvest! This year, we are delighted that Alan Libby from Cornwall will be leading our Sunday morning service at 11 am on 10th September. Some of you will have met Alan at previous Winkleigh Fair Concerts when he has sung and played his guitar. Everyone is welcome to attend; we would love to see you there. Afterwards, we are planning a bring-and-share picnic style lunch at Fiona’s Farm Shop.

Our regular activities continue

Sunday worship begins at 11 am with coffee served from 10.40 am. Sunday School and SOW for teenagers runs at the same time. Every first Sunday in the month we meet at 5.30 pm instead of 11 am and have an informal time of worship and enjoy a bring-and-share tea together

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

Oasis continues to run on Mondays with a home-cooked two-course lunch (£7) being served at 12.30 pm (coffee, lighter lunches or cakes also available). All ages welcome – please pop in! Proceeds are used to support the charity Project Gateway and to fund a treat for regular customers.

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

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

Alan and Fiona Marshall 01837 83809 / Pam Down 01837 83674



One of the Activity Days at
Winkleigh Methodist Holiday Club

Letter of Thanks From Queenie & Frank Pidgeon

Dear Readers

We would like to say a big thank you to everyone who supported myself and Frank whilst he was very ill in hospital. And thank you for all your cards and letters and to all those who helped by visiting him, it gave us and the family great strength. Also, thank you to the church for all your prayers, it was a great comfort to us. The prayers have been answered and Frank is now home and recovering well.

Thank you to all the Winkleigh people for all your kindness.

Queenie & Frank Pidgeon

Number Puzzle

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

Solution on Page 56

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Winkleigh Beavers.



It has been an adventurous term, we have spent most of the time outside and not in the hall. Our first outdoor walk was a spring flower hike, well it might have been spring but the weather was of a wintery feel. A hail storm made looking at flowers impossible but one of the mums saved our day by providing hot chocolate in her warm kitchen. Some of our activities included a treasure trail, an evening on a farm putting up tents, learning knots and sitting around the bonfire. They took part in a simple map reading evening around Haywood Woods also water games evening and a hike from Okehampton station to Simmons Park. The beavers really enjoyed our OCRA evening, where they had a go at fencing and martial arts. This evening was possible due to Father Peter presenting us with a cheque, we were very grateful for the money. A big thank you to Penny for her acting evening and Lenka for her Tai Chi. It is great when other people share their interests and knowledge with the younger generation. If you think that you have an interest you would love the beavers to gain knowledge of, then please get in touch on 01837 83487. We would love someone who enjoys science to come forward, as we are covering the beavers science badge this term and all of us leaders are very poor when it comes to this subject.

This coming term we are having a "bird man" coming with his raptures and we are having back the travelling planetarium, this is such a great way for all sections to gain their space badge and last time we had all the parents staring up at the universe as well as beavers!! We hope the beavers will gain their disability badge and we would like someone to come and talk about how they cope with their disability, it is easy for us leaders to talk about the subject but we have not been there. Can you help?

The beavers are aware we are part of the community and this year they had a great time planting up colourful buckets and planting geraniums and giving them to members of the Over 60's club and this year instead of putting flowers in a jar, they had a go at flower arranging for the church porch during Fair Week, and I have had lots of compliments on their arrangements, well done beavers.

We are having lots of our beavers going up to cubs in September so if your boy or girl is aged between 5 1/2 years and 8 years of age and would like to join us on a Tuesday evening between 5pm and 6.30pm at Winkleigh Village hall then please get in touch with Pat on 01837 83487.

This is where I say from the bottom of my heart a great big thank you to Vanessa, Christina and Ashleigh who are exceptionally talented leaders and great to have on board. Also I would like to say a big thank you to my husband who is our fill in and money man, he only joined to help out occasionally!!!!!!!

Have a great summer.
Pat [Ahmeek] Cunningham,
Beaver Leader.



Winkleigh Neighbourhood Plan

A roadmap for the future.

A summary of ideas has been put together as part of the next stage of the development towards our Draft Neighbourhood Plan for Winkleigh. Together, with a questionnaire, it is being circulated to every household in the parish

By preparing a Neighbourhood Plan, the parish will have more say in the future and this will be a statutory planning document that sits alongside the Torridge District Council's Local Plan and allows us to put "more flesh on the bones" of the Local Plan's policies. It will be based on the recent Winkleigh Community Led Plan and Village Design Statement.

We hope that you will take the time to read the document you will receive and respond to the questionnaire so that Winkleigh Parish Council can hear your views about the future of Winkleigh.

If you are interested in contributing to or joining our working group please contact: Adrian Mercer on 01847 83841, or Wendy Mondy on 01837 680022

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Memories of the 50's at Winkleigh Primary School.

When I was a pupil at Winkleigh Primary School in the 50's Mr. Melhuish was the Headmaster and his classroom was half of the big room in what is now the Community Centre.

We use to say our tables every morning in a line and when answering correctly we would move up to be nearer the cast iron fire that was lovely when lit in the winter. I never made it right to the front as time would run out, well that was my excuse.



Our P.E. lessons and assemblies were held across the road in the Village Hall and we also learnt to dance the maypole.

We danced at the Church Fete which was always on the Tuesday of Fair week on the old vicarage lawn which is now the Croft.

We girls had fancy white dresses which had been tradition for many years, the same as when my Mother was at the school. Sometimes the smartly dressed boys would join us for country dancing instead of the maypole.

At school we looked forward to that special occasion.

Marcia Butt



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Gauloises and Potato-mashers

My first childhood memory of hosting people from abroad, is of waiting up for our 'French boy' to arrive. To my five-year-old self, he was such an exotic creature – with his accent, smell of Gauloises, silk scarves and strange aroma of French soap. We have carried on this tradition since moving to Devon twenty-five years ago. Many who know me, will have met me out and about - accompanied by someone, usually young, with hesitant English and a slightly disorientated air.

My husband and I have hosted many people from all over the world – 20 countries in all – some for a weekend, some for a few weeks. We really enjoy learning about different cultures and customs, and in return our guests experience living in a very different type of home, not exactly 'typically English' either. Such an interesting insight into how other people live - their families, their food, the politics and the similarities to our own culture.

There have been some amusing moments – the amazement on our Chinese guests faces when I produced a potato-masher. Or the Christmas dinner we served to our Polish guests in mid-Summer. The blush on a French girl's face, when we explained that the English word 'pants' meant what was worn *under* our trousers.

Winkleigh has a tradition of welcoming people from France and Germany, through the Twinning Association which ran for 30 years. We are still visiting them, and welcoming them back to us in return. We are volunteer hosts for HOST UK www.hostuk.org which arranges weekend visits from international students at UK universities. We have people to help in our large garden in return for accommodation through www.helpx.net. Also, we have been hosts (and guests) through Couchsurfing and Hospitality Club - websites where you can give and receive free hospitality all over the world.

I was saddened by the racist attacks following the Referendum, especially those closer to home in Devon. So I thought it was important to say that there are many people doing their best to offer the hand of friendship to people from other nations – it is very rewarding and enriching. We can all do our part to make this country, and the world, a little friendlier. If you would like to know more, please get in touch.

Kim J Melhuish (Hollocombe)

Our “Music in the Barn” Day

The day dawned bright, sunny and warm on Saturday 13th May 2017 for our Musical Afternoon in the Barn at our home “Oakhayes” between Monkokehampton and Winkleigh. After a week spent preparing the Big Barn for the Orchestra known as the Bondleigh Barn Band to perform in, also to accommodate the audience, together with the Baby Barn which our team of 5 ladies used to prepare the Devon Cream Teas, all was at last ready.

Cont. on next page



In great anticipation, 39 musicians turned up at 1.45pm to park in the field and then to tune their instruments in readiness for playing, and from 2pm onwards about 200 folk arrived to listen to us playing everything from Classic, Jazz, Folk including “Midnight in Moscow” “Calypso” “Carmen” “Alexander's Ragtime

Band” “Immigration Blues” a Polka and many more including sing-along songs which everyone joined in with gusto! We made it easy by having the words on a big screen for all to read so there was no excuse for people not singing !! In the interval our worthy team of 5 ladies sold the Cream Teas that they had been busy preparing while the Orchestra was playing and it took over an hour to serve them as there was such demand!! It all turned into a very happy, social occasion with lots of familiar music thrown in for good measure.



Alan and I would like to thank everyone who helped us prepare for this event, for all the musicians who came to play, for so many people who took time out to come and listen to us and enjoy a Cream Tea and for everyone who donated so generously to Devon Air Ambulance – we raised £972.50 (plus two 5US Dimes which I believe I had dropped into our Devon Air Pot thinking

they were 5p pieces !!).

Our sincere thanks go to Andrea Dunn of Underdown Farm, Exbourne, who donated all the Clotted Cream & Milk for the event and Raymond & Pam Gill who donated the wonderful “Tiptree” Strawberry Jam – and to everyone for making our event such a huge success!

Thanks to you all from Jennie & Alan Gill

Autumn Word Search

R	E	N	R	U	B	D	O	O	W	U	L	H	R	F
A	S	H	O	R	T	E	R	D	A	Y	S	A	E	L
H	E	D	G	E	C	U	T	T	I	N	G	R	D	O
A	I	E	U	S	A	B	P	A	G	J	N	V	I	W
R	R	I	Y	T	U	P	D	H	C	N	I	E	C	E
V	R	O	F	Y	T	Y	P	B	A	M	H	S	D	R
E	E	H	A	H	U	I	S	L	I	S	G	T	E	S
S	B	F	W	K	M	L	O	S	E	N	U	M	L	A
T	K	J	K	L	N	D	S	I	D	S	O	O	L	S
T	C	L	E	S	M	F	S	H	L	V	L	O	U	E
I	A	N	S	D	I	Q	A	T	L	F	P	N	M	R
M	L	M	W	V	S	T	U	N	T	S	E	H	C	T
E	B	S	Z	C	T	A	S	J	F	V	T	A	O	P
H	A	R	V	E	S	T	F	E	S	T	I	V	A	L

SHORTER DAYS
MULLED CIDER
GUY FAWKES
APPLES
AUTUMN MISTS

WOOD BURNER
HARVEST FESTIVAL
BLACK BERRIES
HARVEST TIME
PLOUGHING

HEDGE CUTTING
FLOWERS
CHESTNUTS
HARVEST MOON

Solution on Page 56



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Winkleigh Sports Centre.

It has a very busy time for the Sports Centre recently with many interesting & exciting developments.

Firstly the committee would like to thank the amazing & unselfish members of the community who have made donations to Sports Centre activities. The night landing site for Devon Air Ambulance is fully operational thanks to the generosity of many. Mr Ken Ellis contributed the majority of the costs involved in this vital project but others also made contributions. These included the Parish Council and the estate of the late Mrs M Partridge through donations made by Mrs B A Coombs, Mr & Mrs C Harris plus an additional collection. Without their support the night landing site would not now be in place. Mr Ken Ellis has also shown his support for the Sports Centre by providing substantial funds for outside floodlighting. Winkleigh should be very proud of having such a caring & supportive community. The committee would also like to thank Graham & Cheryl Thompson who provided all of the funds for the recently installed defibrillator. This is sited at the main entrance to the Sports Centre and is a reassuring addition to our facilities.

Aunt Sally - practice throws still take place on Sunday mornings from 10 - 11.30 am. Catering is provided free of charge by Mrs Vicky Radcliffe with additional support from the Kings Arms Winkleigh. All are welcome though the team were very disappointed to see their very first competitive match, versus Chipping Norton, cancelled due to exceptionally bad weather.

However Tony & Deb at the Kings helped put our disappointment to one side with excellent food and hospitality. The team are now looking for others to take up the game with Chulmleigh Sports Centre showing great interest. Perhaps other local clubs, pubs or groups would also like a go.

Contact Tom on 07811 772730 for more information.

Tennis - the present hard working coach is about to move on to pastures new. The tennis club has a group of dedicated players who thoroughly enjoy their coaching sessions. The committee are keen to find a replacement so if you have any ideas please contact Mike on 01769 520605. The committee would also like to thank the outgoing coach and wish him well in the future.

Toilet facilities - thank you to all of you who have asked if these can be reinstated. The committee has set aside funds to bring this about. We can all see the value of doing this especially for those using the outside play area. We hope that this proves successful and escapes the every day blight of vandalism. We greatly value the work of all of you who oversee the facilities of the Sports Centre, so if you see anything untoward let us, or the police, know.

Fitness suite - we have started to collect basic gym equipment to set up a small fitness suite. If you have any equipment lying around unused we can help you out! Transport can be provided.

Please contact Tom (07811 772730) if you want to discuss this. More details to follow.

Please note that the next committee meeting is on 12/10/2017 at 7.30pm. All welcome. Please feel free to contact any member of the committee if you have any ideas or wish to use the Sports Centre facilities.

Tom Radcliffe - Secretary.

Chulmleigh Cricket Club

Looking For Players



Chulmleigh Cricket Club FOUNDED 1880 are a traditional village team whose values lie in providing enjoyable cricket for all ages in our community.

We play at Southcombes Ground in Cricket Close in Chulmleigh on one of the most picturesque grounds in Devon.

SENIORS

We play friendly cricket from May through to September with matches on either a Saturday or a Sunday.

JUNIORS

We play in the North Devon Youth League where matches can be on weekends or during the week. Week games usually start at 6pm. We currently have U13, U11, U10 and U9 sides.

If you are interested or would like to discuss this further please contact:-

Rodney Davies - Tel:-01769-581250 e.mail:- rodney@eggesford-barton.co.uk

Martin Campling - Tel:- 01769-581147 e.mail:- campling51@tiscali.co.uk

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I think my mum is an alien!

On Monday, the strangest thing happened. I was walking home after school, when I heard a bang coming from where my house was. I quickly ran over to check if everything was alright. It looked absolutely fine, so I just assumed that it came from a different house. But when I went inside, there was a massive green light coming from my mum's room! I cautiously went over to my mum's room. I grabbed the handle and slowly started to turn it. When the door was open, I slowly stepped in, then I turned to look at mum. Both her hands were on her head, she was saying something that I couldn't understand, then I looked down at her feet; they were green!

In a panic, I ran downstairs and hid under the blanket on the couch. Mum stormed downstairs and shouted, "You're supposed to knock before coming in my room!" "You had green feet!" I stuttered. Mum said, "You must have been seeing things!", but then I noticed her eye twitched as if she was hiding something. Then there was a massive noise outside, it sounded like a rocket. "It's here!" mum said, then she faded into thin air. I quickly ran outside to see what was making all the noise. Outside my house, there was a massive spaceship, and my mum was inside!

In a panic, I clambered aboard, but made sure my mum (my alien mum) didn't see me. 10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1... and the engine started up with a big roar. It was shaking like crazy. Then it went all smooth. I had to stay in this really uncomfortable position so that mum wouldn't see me. Then, about 10 minutes later, there was a big bump; we had landed. I saw a door open and my mum walked out, then I heard a big gasp and a bang. I stood up, accidentally knocking over something alien. Then I walked out and I saw my mum on the floor, so I dragged her inside and put her on one of the really peculiar chairs. About 15 minutes later, she woke up with a gasp and said, "Was it just a dream?" Then she ran outside. When she got outside, she did a really loud scream and started panicking. I went outside to see what the problem was.

When I got outside, I saw a whole city that looked like it had been burnt down. My mum was crying outside the spaceship. I said, "What's wrong?" Mum said, "My whole race is gone!" I said, "Can't we find another planet that you will like?" "No, there are no planets for miles." "Well, um, you could always live on Earth with me", I said. "You know what?" mum said, "that would be really nice. Just don't tell anyone I'm an alien!"

by Soren Moreby

Man of Devon – Francis Chichester by John Flower

On May 28th this year, crowds gathered to witness the return of the sailing ketch GIPSY MOTH IV to Plymouth, to celebrate 50 years since Sir Francis Chichester's record circumnavigation of the globe single-handed. This time Sir Francis' son Giles, former MEP for SW England & Gibraltar, was on board for the last leg to the Breakwater.

I first met Francis Chichester 8 years earlier than that first circumnavigation in 1967. Working at the Hydrographic Dept. of the Admiralty in Taunton, Somerset. I used to do freelance work for his map business in London, which he had set up after the war in 1945. He was producing small, leather bound, map guides to London for business companies to give their customers, as advertising gifts, with a location map and information about the company.

In 1959 he invited me to a meeting in London at his office in St. James's Place to discuss the possibility of my returning to the London area to take over the cartographic side of the business with a view to expanding the range of guides. In the entrance hall of the offices was a framed notice saying 'A map is the key to adventure'. This quotation and the enthusiasm of Francis Chichester's plans for the future helped me decide to sign up to an agreement to move back again and find a house, within commuting distance from London, to enable us to live and me to work from home, full time for Francis Chichester.

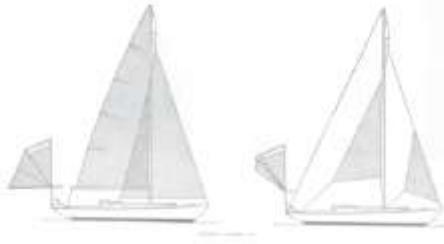
Sadly soon after I joined the company Chichester was taken seriously ill, diagnosed with 'terminal' lung infection. Which left the running of the company to the business manager and sales director. Sheila Chichester was involved in looking after her husband. This carried on for several months. His recovery was so remarkable that he was, by early 1960, talking to other sailors about planning a race to be called The Single-handed Trans-Atlantic Race. One of the other contestants was Blondie Hasler, well known for being one of the 'cockleshell heroes' during the war. The next frantic weeks involved running in the new boat Gipsy Moth III. Most of it on the Beaulieu River at Bucklers Hard.

There was the time needed to plan the route to take and above all to design a self steering device, to facilitate time for sleeping, sail changing and many other tasks needed to be performed without having to man the tiller. This is a 40ft long yacht normally sailed by 6 crew!

He spent many hours, watching boys sail their model boats on the Long Pond in Kensington Gardens trying to find inspiration for self-steering device. He eventually called it 'Miranda'.



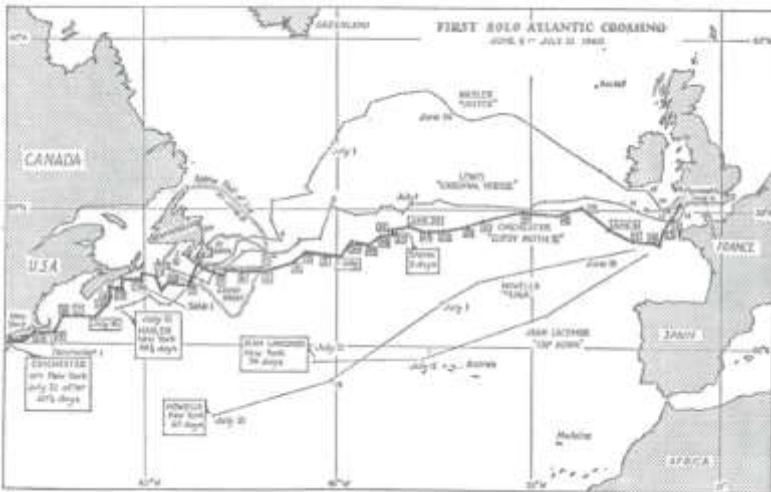
Francis Chichester 1963



Gipsy Moth III, showing 'Miranda' the wind vane on the self-steering device, with different sail settings.

Finally they were ready for the race on 11th June 1960. Starting from Plymouth to cross the line at the Ambrose Light Vessel, New York. Francis Chichester won the race and reached New York on July 21 in just over 40 days. His return to St. James's Place was a relief to all, but it became obvious to everyone that all was not well with the business and the accountants were worried about turnover and were seeking adjustments in the finances. A year later I left the company.

The later sailing exploits of Francis Chichester brought him much publicity and press coverage.



Map of single-handed competitors at the finish on July 21st 1960.

It is not so well known about his earlier life and adventures.

Francis Chichester was born in Barnstaple, North Devon in 1901, as part of an historic family based mainly at Arlington House (Now NT) he went off to New Zealand to make his fortune in 1919.

He was successful in making prosperous businesses in forestry, mining, gold prospecting and property development, but suffered severe losses during the Great Depression. Returning to England in 1929, for a family visit, he took flying lessons at Brooklands in Surrey and qualified as a pilot.

He obtained a de Havilland Gipsy Moth by-plane to enable him to try to fly solo to Australia in record time. He made the flight in 41 days, but without breaking the record. He was only the second man to do this feat. The following year Amy Johnson became the first airwoman to do the same route.



The Gipsy Moth was then shipped to New Zealand to prepare for a new challenge that Chichester had set his heart on. That was to fly solo from New Zealand across the Tasman Sea to Australia (E to W). He had to solve the problem that the aircraft could not reach Australia in one flight because, even with extra

fuel tanks fitted, it cannot carry enough fuel. There are two small islands which could be used on the route, Norfolk Island and Lord Howe Island, but it was established that there was no suitable area, to land an aircraft on, even one as small as Gipsy Moth. Then Chichester came up with the solution! To add floats to the plane so it could land at the islands to re-fuel on route. There followed many hours flying to master the new techniques having floats on the plane, also mastering take off and landing on water.

Eventually he was ready to set off to Norfolk Island on March 28th 1931. Then on to Lord Howe Island and finally to Jervis Bay, Western Australia, June 10th.

Trying to find two small islands in the vast area of the Tasman Sea was going to be difficult for a solo attempt. Chichester had to use all his expertise to devise a new method of navigating, to successfully find the 'two needles in the haystack'. For this he was awarded the inaugural Guild of Pilots and Air Navigator's Johnson Memorial Trophy. This added to the achievement of being the first to make the solo flight across the Tasman Sea.

After two weeks he was itching to get going on his new adventure, to fly solo around the world. Starting from Australia and going via Japan.

He set off on July 10 (1931) and flew up the east coast of Australia, round New Guinea and up through the Philippines to the eastern coast of China. From there to Japan.

Where he had a miracle escape from death when he flew into telephone wires and ended up on the harbour wall. Remarkably he got away with only several broken bones but the aircraft was a write-off. It was the first solo flight to Japan and the first solo flight, long distance, ever made in a sea plane and that was some consolation.

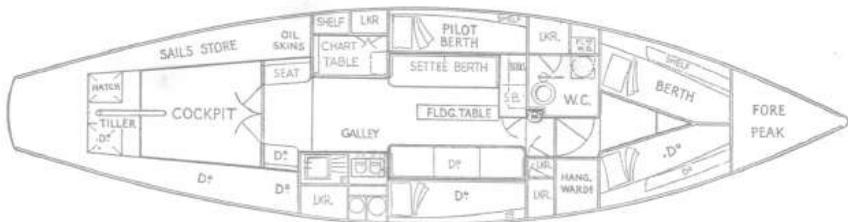
After his recovery he returned, by P.&O. steamer to England.

Visits to cousins in Instow, N. Devon where he decided to write a book on his flight across the Tasman Sea. He also found time to join the Taw & Torridge sailing club to experience his first sailing lesson. He then decided to return to New Zealand (1932). Returning again after 4 years, on a visit to the family he met his future wife Sheila.

When they married at the end of the year, they went off to New Zealand in 1937. Conditions were not as they hoped and they came back to England to look for jobs. On his return Chichester tried to enrol in RAF Reserve as a pilot but was told he was too old (38yrs) and had poor eyesight. He did not participate in the 2nd World War until 1941, when he was allowed to join the Volunteer Reserve. In 1943 he did Navigation Instruction with the Empire Central Flying School until 1945. He wrote the Navigational Manual showing pilots of single-seated fighters how to navigate across Europe and back, using kneeboard navigation method similar to the one he used on his Pacific solo flights. Coastal Command units also used this method. After the war he remained in England and founded his own map-making company. He joined a sailing club on the Isle of Wight, and helped to crew boats winning several trophies for major races. Eventually he moved on to the Single Handed Race which was described earlier.

In 1966 he sailed single-handed, in Gipsy Moth IV, round the world (one stop in Sidney) in 226 days. The first person to sail solo west to east via the 'Capes'. In 1967 he was knighted for sustained endeavour in the navigation and seamanship of small craft. Gipsy Moth was preserved in dry dock alongside, the Cutty Sark in Greenwich.

In 1970, Chichester (at the age of 69) attempted to sail 4,000 miles in 20 days in Gipsy Moth IV, he failed by one day!



Plan of cabin layout for Gipsy Moth IV.

He died in Plymouth in 1972 and was buried in the church of his ancestors, St. Peter's Church, Shirwell, nr. Barnstaple.

In 2004 Gipsy Moth IV was in need of restoration and it was lifted out of the dry dock in Greenwich taken via the original builders at Gosport for a £400,000 refit with money raised by public donations. In Sept.2005 it embarked on a 21 month educational, round-the-world, voyage, via trade winds route through the Panama and Suez canals. Was refloated after it run aground in the South Pacific in 2006. It sailed into Plymouth in May 2007 and docked at West Hoe Pier just as she had done, exactly 40 years earlier, to complete her journey round the world.

Francis Chichester lived his life to the outmost of his abilities, in everything he did.

A TRUE MAN OF DEVON

Recommended books by Francis Chichester.

'Alone across the Atlantic' Allen & Unwin 1961.

'The Lonely Sea and the Sky' Hodder & Stoughton 1964.

Down Farm Harvest Feast.

It has been a busy and unpredictable summer at Down Farm Market Garden, with weather being hot and dry, to wet and very windy! However the garden is still flourishing with the big September harvest almost upon us. Our farm launch party, in early July, was a huge success, with lots of familiar Winkleigh faces coming to visit and enjoy delicious pizza, summer salad, as well as a fine selection of local drinks. Following this success we want to continue hosting food events for our local community.

To celebrate the big harvest we will be having a supper club in September/October in Winkleigh Village Hall. We will have a simple, delicious and affordable meal for all in the community to enjoy. We will use all the Down Farm produce we can, and source anything else we need very locally. Please look out for the confirmed date online or posters locally. We look forward to seeing you there!



Veg boxes

If you like local, fresh, Winkleigh veg every week we are now providing £10 veg boxes twice weekly. Order your box on a Monday or Thursday (or both!) and collect from the farm, or a Winkleigh, drop off point, on Tuesdays and Fridays. Everything in the box has been grown organically on Down Farm, is always seasonal and of course delicious.

Please get in touch if you are interested in a veg box, whether you want a regular box or an 'as and when' box.

Olivia & Henry
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Garden Studio Open

Once again established Devon artist, Celia Olsson, will be welcoming visitors to her studio in the garden for Devon Open Studios between 9th and 24th September.

This has been another year of travel for Celia – south as far as Belize and north to Spitzbergen. As always Celia takes her sketchbooks to record the things she's seen, which you will be able to see when you visit. "It's hard to say which was the best place. The Azores were a delight (even on a wet day), Havana in Cuba was overwhelming and the fjords of Norway were just stunning". She has come home with so many memories, which, with her sketchbooks, are the inspiration for the paintings she is working on at the moment. All this travel to far flung places doesn't mean she's forgotten home – and she's seen it from a different angle. Having breakfast on deck watching Ilfracombe and Combe Martin go past, albeit under a blanket of cloud, was a bit surreal. She is also producing paintings of woodland near home and of course beloved Dartmoor.

Celia paints in a loose style mainly using watercolour because of the wonderful choice of vibrant colours, but also likes to experiment with acrylic inks and various texture media. She says watercolour is such an exciting media because you never know how it will turn out.

She also runs watercolour classes locally, and is invited to demonstrate and run workshops for art groups all over the South West. At all these events she likes to encourage people to have a go without fear of failure.

On Saturdays 16th and 23rd September Celia will be running workshops 'Playing with Colour'. At these workshops you will have fun mixing watercolours and creating textures. They are suitable for those who have never painted before and those who want to get out of a rut and experiment with new methods. They start at 2.30pm, finishing at 4pm with a cup of tea. The cost is £5 and booking is essential as space is limited.

Celia's studio will be open on 9th, 11th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 18th, 21st, 23rd & 24th September from 11am to 6pm.

For more details please contact Celia – tel: 01837 82796.

Email: celia.olsson.art@gmail.com

website: www.celiaolssonartist.co.uk

www.devonartistnetwork.co.uk

Birds for Autumn

Most of the summer migrants have now flown, with the Swifts leading the exodus, but Swallows, Martins, Flycatchers and the Warblers also now mostly departed, although a few Chiffchaffs and Blackcaps now overwinter here. Apparently UK Blackcaps fly south, but some German birds come here for the winter. No doubt they will be joined in due course by the winter thrushes, Fieldfare and Redwing, but we are too far west for most of these winter incomers, though I did once have a single Waxwing in my crabtree.

Meanwhile there are four local sites worth a look. The airfield has regular Linnets, but large flocks of Lapwing, Golden Plover and some Snipe seem to be a thing of the past. Although in decline nationally, the improvement of the airfield grassland has not helped their numbers here. Winkleigh Wood has most of the woodland species, and has had Nightjars, though I have not heard them for a couple of years. In the summer the top path, through the gate and straight ahead) has most of the warblers in the scrub to the left and Yellowhammer in the trees.

Another site of open land for warblers is Hollocombe Moor, where in the summer there are hundreds of Willow Warblers, but also Garden warblers, Grasshopper Warblers and Sedge Warblers. But you really need wellies and to get as close as you dare to the wet flushes from parking at Lodgey Cross.

My fourth regular stop-off is the Kersham Bridge at Bridge Reeve. Not only can one find four water species, Kingfisher, Dipper, Grey wagtail and Sand Martin, but walking up the footpath is usually quite productive, and the lane along to Gosse's. Clearly someone is breeding Red-legged Partridge near there, but it is the English Grey Partridge that is really becoming rare. Do let me know if you find any.

Lastly, Red Kites do not yet nest in Devon, but are often seen singly in April and May. This year I have seen one in the Sampford Courtenay area at least six times right into July. Has any seen a pair? Maybe we are about to be first Devon site.

*Peter Howard 83362
peterjhoward27@gmail.com*



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Winkleigh Fair 2017.

The summer has almost gone and the autumn is well and truly on the horizon. The Fair Committee has been reflecting on the completion of its first year in office, not least of which regarding the Winkleigh Fair week in July. What a week that turned out to be!

After months of planning and re-planning, Saturday 8th July arrived and the sun was shining. We had a great afternoon at the Sports Centre for the Clay Shoot which culminated in an exciting shoot-off with Chris Dark taking the honours for which he was presented with a trophy and certificate. With shotguns and clays for all those over the age of 11 and air rifles plus targets for those under that age the event was well attended. A few people asked about the reasons for having an age split in this way. This was down to the public liability insurance cover for the event that stipulated the age. We hope that this did not detract from the excitement of the event – certainly both types of shoot proved to be very popular. Thanks are due to Eggesford Clay Shoot for all the help and work they put in to make the event the success it was but especially to Ian Rule and Sian Thurlow for the time and effort they expended both before and during the event.

At the same time Tom Radcliffe organised an “Aunt Sally” throwing event at the Sports Centre, a game that, from the outside, looked quite simple but which, in reality, was anything but. Another fun event!

The Saturday Quiz evening was extremely well attended and very successful with over 80 people taking part at the Village Hall. A cheese and biscuits supper went down well.

Sunday saw the official opening of the Fair Week with music in The Square provided by Hatherleigh Silver Band. We were delighted that Margaret and Michael Bridgman could perform the opening ceremony and to crown the lovely Jasmine Bradford and handsome Theo Duffin who represented the Village as Fair Queen and King. Thank you to all those who dressed the well with flowers. It was good that we were able to open the well and for some of the young children to pump water out. We also welcomed Father Graham Smith to the Village who led the procession from the Square to All Saints Church for the traditional Fair Service and then back again for the blessing of the well. We loved his classic sports car as well! The afternoon continued with transport by vintage coach, kindly provided by Dan Shears from the West of England Transport Collection, from the Square to the Sports Centre for the Teddy Bears picnic. Thanks to Billy and Clare from Marvellous Event-Ures for providing the teddy bear characters – the youngsters loved them!

Monday evening brought the Winkleigh Discovery walk which many people took part in. We are indebted to Winkleigh Society and to Penny Griffiths in particular for the huge amount of work she put into arranging the walk and for ensuring that there were lots of period characters at strategic points to give a history of particular areas. The walk culminated with a gathering at Court Castle courtesy of Tilly and John Kimber. It was interesting that so many people had never had the opportunity

of looking at the Castle remains and grounds so thank you, Tilly and John, for allowing us to finish the walk in this way. I won't dwell on the details of the walk as I know that Penny has written more about it elsewhere in this magazine.

The Children's Cinema evening took place at the Village Hall on Tuesday when the film "Trolls" was shown. It is unclear as to which group enjoyed the film most – the children or the adults! Another hall full of residents – food for thought about possible future cinema events for children and for adults.

Wednesday saw the traditional gathering of Vintage Vehicles which ranged from old coaches to period cars and classic tractors to an old powered motor cycle that had no brakes! A great evening with a BBQ thrown in. Thanks go out to all residents who co-operated with the road closure and parking prohibition that was in place for the evening. People came from far and wide with their vehicles, from the North Devon coast to the south and some from even further afield.

A Family Bingo evening took place at the hall on Thursday evening – again it was very well attended and Mark Bridgman once again took the helm as caller – thanks Mark.

What can we say about Friday? We had the idea of putting on a concert of sorts for the Fair Friday evening some months previously and we eventually settled on booking the D-Day Darlings, whom some of us had seen before, to perform their "Songs that Won the War" concert. We had no idea how many people might be interested in coming along but thought that it might appeal across all age groups. We ended up with over 170 attending, filling the hall to almost bursting point. And what a night it turned out to be. Some of the post-event comments speak volumes: "I have never seen the hall so full"; "It was like watching a West End show"; "I have never known anyone get a standing ovation like that at the Village Hall!" and "How are you going to follow that next year?!". The Committee was absolutely delighted that it was able to present a performance that gave so many people such a great deal of pleasure.

Continued on the next page...

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The event was such a success that, by popular demand as they say, we are pleased to confirm that the D-Day Darlings will be returning to Winkleigh Village Hall on Friday 15th December when, with improved lighting, they will deliver their “Home for Christmas” 1940’s style concert. Tickets will cost £10 for adults and £5 for children with £1 per ticket being donated by the Committee to the British Legion Poppy Appeal. Tickets can be reserved now but we are expecting a large take-up so, in order to avoid disappointment, call Kay and Tony on 01837 83248 to reserve your seats.

So the final day arrived, Saturday Fair Day. The weather turned a little grey and drizzly but not to the point where people might have decided to stay at home. Children and adults alike enjoyed the market, fun fair, organised games, tug ‘o war and food outlets. Coz the Clown gave his usual professional and entertaining performance for the children. The talented “Mrs and The Martins” entertained those in The Square during the late afternoon with AC/DC tribute band “Thunderstruck” continuing the musical theme into the night. Again, thanks are due to all residents regarding the road closure and parking restrictions and for enduring the amplified music delivery until it finished at 11pm.

There are so many people to whom we send our thanks for contributing to, sponsoring or otherwise helping the Committee to deliver its first Winkleigh Fair, to Marcia Butt for all the work she did in accommodating us in the Village Hall (not always an easy task!), to John Short and Rob Baker for leaping up and down ladders to put up and remove the Fair bunting in The Square, to Barry the Mad Butcher for providing all of the delicious burgers and sausages for the BBQs, to Red at The Bakery Store for pulling out all the stops to get his Fair Saturday delivery rearranged and special thanks to Daisy Garland for her excellent and colourful picture which was used for the cover of the Fair programme. The biggest thanks, however, go to you, the residents of Winkleigh and neighbouring areas, for the fantastic support that you all gave throughout the week. The success or otherwise of the Fair depends entirely upon such support and we, the Committee, are so very thankful to each and every one of you. We have received so many positive comments and remarks in the weeks following the Fair, and some constructive criticism, all of which will be discussed and considered in the review that we are carrying out to make sure that what we offer is what the Village wants, particularly for the Fair but also in respect of our other fund-raising events through the year.

The Fair Annual General Meeting will be held at the Village Hall at 7pm on Thursday 5th October. You are all invited to attend and to voice your comments, good or bad, about what we as a Committee have done thus far. We welcome your comments and suggestions, all of which will be discussed by your Committee in the following weeks and months. Likewise, we are always on the look-out for those amongst you who might either be able to put themselves forward as Committee members or who might, from time to time, might be able to give a few hours of their time to help the Committee during, or leading up to, our events.

Please come along to the AGM or just make yourselves known to any Committee member. Contact details are posted on the Fair Notice Board outside The Bakery Store in South Street.

By the time you read this you will be able to find, on the notice board and online at <http://www.winkleighonline.com/index.php/winkleigh-fair>, details of the Winkleigh Fair 2017 Autumn/Winter programme to take us to the end of the year. We hope to see many of you at these events.

It may seem some way off but already the Committee is looking forward to Christmas and planning its festive events in The Square on Saturday 9th December. More of that to come in due course. Keep an eye on the notice board.

The Winkleigh Fair Committee



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What's On Diary:

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

SEPTEMBER	
<i>2nd Sept 11am – 2pm</i>	<i>New Perspectives, Beaford Archive Event – South Molton Town Hall – Pg 14</i>
<i>4th Sept 7.30pm</i>	<i>Winkleigh Singers Open Rehearsal – Umberleigh – Pg 12</i>
<i>6th Sept 2pm – 4pm</i>	<i>Forget-me-not Friends – Community Centre – Pg 28</i>
<i>6th Sept 2.30pm</i>	<i>WI presentation “Trip to Mardis Gras” – Village Hall – Pg 8</i>
<i>6th Sept 7.30pm</i>	<i>Winkleigh Society Meeting – Community Centre – Pg 20</i>
<i>8th Sept 7.30pm</i>	<i>Hollocombe Music Club- Community Centre</i>
<i>9th Sept 11am – 6pm</i>	<i>Open Studio – Pg 50</i>
<i>10th Sept 11am</i>	<i>Sunday Service lead by Alan Libby – Winkleigh Methodist Church – Pg 33</i>
<i>11th Sept 11am – 6pm</i>	<i>Open Studio – Pg 50</i>
<i>14th Sept 11am – 6pm</i>	<i>Open Studio – Pg 50</i>
<i>14th Sept</i>	<i>Flower Demonstration – Sandford Parish Hall – Pg 9</i>
<i>15th Sept</i>	<i>Deadline for WPC Grants process – Pg 29</i>
<i>15th Sept - Morning</i>	<i>Fundraising Coffee Morning –All Saints Church</i>
<i>15th Sept 11am – 6pm</i>	<i>Open Studio – Pg 50</i>
<i>16th Sept 11am – 6pm</i>	<i>Open Studio – Pg 50</i>
<i>16th Sept 2.30pm</i>	<i>“Playing with Colour” Workshop – Pg 50</i>
<i>16th Sept 7.30pm</i>	<i>Quiz – Village Hall – Pg 10</i>
<i>17th Sept 2pm – 5pm</i>	<i>New Perspectives, Beaford Archive Event –The Gallery, The Plough Arts Centre, Torrington – Pg 16</i>
<i>18th Sept 11am – 6pm</i>	<i>Open Studio – Pg 50</i>
<i>20th Sept 2pm – 4pm</i>	<i>Forget-me-not Friends – Community Centre – Pg 28</i>
<i>20th Sept 5pm – 9pm</i>	<i>Open Evening, Ashridge Great Barn, North Tawton – Pg 11</i>
<i>21st Sept 11am – 6pm</i>	<i>Open Studio – Pg 50</i>
<i>21st Sept 7.45pm for 8pm</i>	<i>Winkleigh Morris Dancers – Rugby Club, North Tawton – Pg 13</i>
<i>22nd Sept 7.45pm for 8pm</i>	<i>Winkleigh Morris Dancers – Lapford Victory Hall – Pg 13</i>
<i>23rd Sept 11am – 6pm</i>	<i>Open Studio – Pg 50</i>
<i>23rd Sept 2.30pm</i>	<i>“Playing with Colour” Workshop – Pg 50</i>

Continues on the next page...

What's On Diary: Continued

24 th Sept 11am – 6pm	Open Studio – Pg 50
26 th Sept 7.45pm for 8pm	Winkleigh Morris Dancers – Old Schools, Hatherleigh – Pg 13
28 th Sept 7.45pm for 8pm	Winkleigh Morris Dancers – Castle (1646) Community Centre, Torrington – Pg 13
OCTOBER	
1 st Oct 11am	Harvest Service – All Saints Church – Pg 5
1 st Oct 12.30pm	Harvest Lunch – Village Hall – Pg 5
3 rd Oct 8pm	Winkleigh Morris Dancers – “Taster” Session – Community Centre – Pg 13
4 th Oct 2pm – 4pm	Forget-me-not Friends – Community Centre – Pg 28
5 th Oct 7pm	Fair Committee A.G.M – Village Hall – Pg 54
12 th Oct 7.30pm	Sports Centre Committee Meeting – Sports Centre – Pg 43
13 th Oct 7.30pm	Hollocombe Music Club- Community Centre
18 th Oct 2pm – 4pm	Forget-me-not Friends – Community Centre – Pg 28
31 st Oct	Deadline Winkleigh Society's “Children's Writing Competition” – Pg 23
NOVEMBER	
1 st Nov 2pm – 4pm	Forget-me-not Friends – Community Centre – Pg 28
3 rd Nov	Deadline Advertisements for Distinctly Winkleigh Winter Edition – Pg 62
3 rd Nov – Evening	FOWS Fireworks evening – Sports Centre
10 th Nov	Deadline Articles for Distinctly Winkleigh Winter Edition – Pg 62
10 th Nov 7.30pm	Hollocombe Music Club- Community Centre
11 th Nov	Winkleigh Singers Concert – Barnstaple – Pg 12
15 th Nov 2pm – 4pm	Forget-me-not Friends – Community Centre – Pg 28
24 th Nov - Morning	Fundraising Coffee Morning –All Saints Church
DECEMBER	
6 th Dec 2pm – 4pm	Forget-me-not Friends – Community Centre – Pg 28
9 th Dec	Christmas Fair Event – The Square – Pg 55
15 th Dec	“D-Day Darlings” Concert – Village Hall – Pg 54
16 th Dec	Carols In The Barn - Beachlea
17 th Dec 7.30pm	Winkleigh Singers Christmas Concert – Village Hall – Pg 12
20 th Dec 2pm – 4pm	Forget-me-not Friends – Community Centre – Pg 28
21 st April 2018	Winkleigh Singers Spring Concert, Torrington Church – Pg 12

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

And finally

Once again our contributors have helped to create a bumper edition so thank you to everyone who submitted an article, what ever its length. Also thank you to our advertisers and distributors without you we would not be able to carry on producing Distinctly Winkleigh.

The front cover features a drawing submitted by Lynn Giles. Many thanks Lynn. If you have a drawing or picture you would like us to use on the front then please do send it in.

The “What’s On Diary” giving details of events in and around Winkleigh is proving to be very popular. If you have an event you would like to include in the “What’s On Diary” then just give us the basic information via articles@distinctlywinkleigh.co.uk. and we will try to include it.

If you have any suggestions of how we can expand or improve Distinctly Winkleigh then please do let us know via articles@distinctlywinkleigh.co.uk.

Once again thank you to all our contributors, advertisers and distributors, we couldn’t do it without you!

The deadlines for the Winter Edition is **Friday 10th November** for **articles** and **Friday 3rd November** for **advertisements**.

Alice Turner & Godfrey Rhodes

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

All our readers are welcome to send in Articles of interest to the local community. Articles may be emailed to articles@distinctlywinkleigh.co.uk, or sent to the Editors.

The articles deadline is the second Friday of each publication month.

Advertisements from businesses in the local area are also always welcomed and should be emailed to advert@distinctlywinkleigh.co.uk, or sent to the Editors.

The advertisements deadline is the first Friday of each publication month.

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

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

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