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QUARTERLY JOURNAL

The Winkleigh Society

WORKING FOR WINKLEIGH

SUMMER 2024



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Chair's Report

SUMMER 2024



Guest of honour at our Winkleigh Society A.G.M. was Godfrey Rhodes *Distinctly Winkleigh's* retiring editor.

Hardworking, conscientious and public- spirited, Godfrey dedicated himself to representing the news, views and commercial enterprises of Winkleigh and Hollocombe. It is a complex job requiring sound record keeping and a keen interest in stories of interest to the local community. A good communicator [with an interest in Winkleigh's history and the Winkleigh Society archive] Godfrey prompted stories as well as received them and always went that extra mile with layout, seeking out illustrations and photographs. Great communication with our posties, Winkleigh Society committee and delivery supremo, Barry Jenkins, ensured an efficient distribution service of DW.

We were delighted that so many of our posties came to our A.G.M as they are all part of our wider Winkleigh Society team.

We presented Godfrey with a bottle of Jack Daniels his favourite tipple, along with a bottle of red wine for Jo, his wife. The forty four who attended our A.G.M. demonstrated their enthusiastic appreciation for Godfrey with a standing ovation.

We then introduced and welcomed our incoming editor Peter Hopkinson who comes from the world of print & publishing. We also welcomed Rachel Gordon a new addition to the editorial team.

With edition 89 of *Distinctly Winkleigh* under our belt and a new editor at the helm, we as a committee have introduced other changes as well. We now use Deltor Communications Ltd for printing and pay for the services of a graphic designer to organise layout and the art work of advertisements. As a committee we have been busy.

District Councillor Simon Newton did the honours of chairing the meeting as the committee came up for re-election. Our hard working Treasurer Rachel Goldsworthy stood down from committee. Rachel was presented with flowers and we thanked her for the sterling work she has carried out in the dual role of Treasurer and Advertising Manager. Angela Findlay sent in her nomination and was voted in as treasurer.

The committee role of Advertising Manager / liaison to be filled, any offers?

FUTURE PROJECT: Is a follow up to the book 'It's Living History Isn't It?' One of these stories of the evacuee Ron Peachey is featured (as part of a series) in this edition.

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There were questions from the floor, an archive display, and serious tucking into a delicious ploughman's supper with locally produced cider and apple juice. Thank you to Lorne and Alex Hamilton for setting up and operating the sound system, Gail Flockhart for taking the minutes and all the committee for rolling up their sleeves and transforming the community centre into a welcoming cafe.

INVITATION: Interested in joining us on The Winkleigh Society Committee?

Please get in touch. As a civic society we champion village history, culture, landscape, architecture and local business. We need new eyes and new voices to reflect all the changes taking place.

See page 41 for the article on Winkleigh's very own U.S. Billboard charting artist Justin Novak. Thank you Robert Baker for telling me about him [while queuing in the village shop] and thank you Justin for agreeing to an interview for *Distinctly Winkleigh*.

Distinctly Winkleigh is an offshoot from The Winkleigh Society. The first editions carried no adverts. Later, acknowledging that the most effective way of supporting local business [one of our key objectives] was by featuring their adverts, we changed tack. It is this revenue that funds all the costs of producing DW four times a year to a professional standard. Thank you to all the businesses who continue to support us and all our regular contributors. We cannot do it without you.

Penny Griffiths and Margaret Miller



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Welcome

TO OUR SUMMER EDITION

Summer is the time for strawberries and cream, picnics, open air theatre, jazz in the park, the sound of leather on osier, Wimbledon and last, but by no means least, The Winkleigh Fair! I have cleared my diary for 14th to 20th July and I am looking forward to all the fun of the fair. A diary of events for the Fair can be seen on pages 55-57.

The Sports Centre is planning for a multi-use games area and would be grateful if you could help the cause by following the link on p50 and complete the online Torridge Activity Survey.

Our congratulations go out to one of our younger citizens and future leaders, Euan Ripper, who led his school team to successfully complete the 55 mile Ten Tors challenge (see p39).

As we went to press there was good news for those of us who use, or would like to use, the Winkleigh to Chulmleigh road. The road has been allowed to get into such a dreadful state that there have been road closed signs up for the last several weeks which I suspect is to provide the council with a defence against claims for vehicles that may have disappeared down one of the potholes never to be seen again. DCC Cllr Andrew Saywell in his report on p10, writes that the resurfacing of the road is due to take place in June. I wasn't going to hold my breath but guess what? Big machines turned up this morning (13th June) and barriers are across the road.

My thanks to all those listed below who have helped DW90 to see the light of day. We are looking for a volunteer to liaise with our advertisers so if you'd like to join the team then please get in touch. On the subject of advertisers please do tell them that you've seen their advert in DW.

I hope you have a lovely summer and Distinctly Winkleigh will be back with its Autumn issue in September.

Peter Hopkinson

Editor - peter@hoppy.biz

Erratum

In the last issue page 41. Barbara Jenkins should have read Margaret Ferguson, as being the author of the article on Taw Valley Quilters.

The Distinctly Winkleigh Team

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WINKLEIGH

Parish Church News

We are so fortunate to live in such a beautiful part of the world. The views of Dartmoor from the Vicarage are glorious and this has inspired us to get out and explore it a bit more. Thus begins the Vicarage Dartmoor Tors challenge! 176 Dartmoor Tors to be ticked off in the log book and an enjoyable experience for two humans and two dogs. We are familiar with Dartmoor and its challenges and hazards, plus have appropriate clothing and equipment, but so far we are only 6 Tors down, out of a planned 12 or so. Despite the preparation and planning, heading out when the sun is shining in Winkleigh and the forecast looks ok, we have been thwarted. We have been buffeted back to the car by strong winds, horizontal rain and thick fog – we know when to quit! Only to return home to find the sun shining but Dartmoor hidden from view.

A couple of weeks ago it was glorious up on Dartmoor and we managed to tick off three Tors. The sun was shining, a gentle breeze could be felt and all were enjoying themselves. It wasn't however a walk without its challenges. Somethings you cannot plan for or avoid. The ground in places was boggy and careful navigation was required to ensure no-one got stuck. The short-legged dog needed a leg up onto Kes Tor and then rolled in 'something'. The long-legged dog needed careful assistance up a steep ladder stile, promptly falling into a boggy bit on the other side. The last slog up hill on soggy ground was hard going for all but the views made it all worth it.

Sometimes life can feel a bit like this. We make plans, we prepare for something and have a goal in sight. We think the going is good and all will be well. Off we set heading towards our goal and then it all goes awry. In those moments when the fog seems to come in and the wind blows us backwards, we need help and support. As Christians we believe that God is with us, in those moments of amazing views and rejoicing, along with those times when we don't know which way to turn. God is faithful throughout all life's challenges, as we are told in Lamentations 3:22 'The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases his mercies never come to an end.' We so often see God at work in our lives through the actions of others. Those who give us a helping hand over an obstacle. Friends who simply walk alongside us when the going is tough and the hill seems steep. Companions on the journey of life and all that it brings.

Whatever your journey looks like at the moment, give thanks for those who walk alongside you and know that God walks with you too.

Blessings

Revd Helen Blaine

01837 83710 or Revhelenblaine@outlook.com

Distinctly Winkleigh Diary dates - All Saints, Church

30th July
10am-12noon
**Children's
Activities
in Church**

10th August
2pm-4pm
**Church Fete
in church**

25th August
3pm
Pet Service
- all welcome!

27th August
10am-12noon
**Children's
Activities
in Church**

3rd September
10am-12noon
**Children's
Activities
in Church**

Winkleigh Flower Ladies

We are a very small group of ladies that like to welcome local residents & visitors to our beautiful church with the presence throughout the year of a floral display on a pedestal. On special occasions ie. Easter & Christmas additional windows are also decorated.

We would very much welcome any new comers to join our group. No experience is necessary as guidance and help will be given. Simple displays



are all that is required. All necessary equipment will be supplied.

You do not necessarily have to live in the village, but just enjoy flower arranging.

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PRESS SNIPPETS

Crediton Country Courier; May 9

Company Zed Pods are due to erect 3 single story factory built homes in Crediton. The specialist design delivers ultra low to net zero carbon homes with lowest possible running costs. Company Zed Pods is working with mid Devon District Council. The tenancies and maintenance of the homes will be managed by the District Council.

North Devon Journal; May 16

Torrige Councillors clash on plea for climate change action. After much debate Councillors voted to note rather than endorse a plea for more action. Indeed some councillors expressed their scepticism as to whether Climate change is man- made. These sceptics were told to 'GET THEIR HEADS OUT THE SAND' in a heated debate.

Okehampton Times; May 2

Devon is to get dental van to tackle the treatment crisis in the region for the most vulnerable and disadvantaged residents in the county. The County's integrated Care Board

is one of 15 in the country to receive a specialist vehicle some-time next year.

The Moorlander; May 10

The Museum of Dartmoor Life is hosting a series of events and activities about MYTH AND MAGIC including black dogs, witches, herbal potions and folklore. The events run from May to October and will be held in The John Young Gallery at the museum.

Western Morning News; May 17

Bank closures pass 6,000 milestone since 2015. Concern expressed at the expectation that everyone is ready and willing to switch to digital banking.

North Devon Journal; May 23

Planning enforcement officer drafted in for 6 months to reduce backlog in Torrige has had an impact but more than 330 cases are still live 66% of high priority cases were visited within 2 working days says Helen Smith Head of planning.

Penny Griffiths

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WHAT NEXT FOR WINKLEIGH'S *Neighbourhood Plan?*

As a general election approaches, change is on the horizon. Planning is always on the Government's watch list, with both Conservative and Labour manifestos pledging to increase the rate of house building and free up the planning system. Most of the potential changes are strategic in nature – 1.5 million new homes, new towns, a faster and less complicated planning system etc etc, and it will be interesting to see how this cascades to neighbourhoods and rural areas.

The Neighbourhood Plan was 'made' (the term for officially endorsed and accepted by Torridge) in August 2021, and was the result of work by volunteers over a three or four year period, building on previous Community Plans and the Village Design Statement. Plans are never 'finished' but are intended to be tools for decision making, ensuring the actions of those using them reflect community priorities and are consistent. This is how the Parish Council uses the Neighbourhood Plan when discussing planning applications.

Both political parties see a continued role for Neighbourhood Planning. The Levelling up and Regeneration Act 2023 proposes a new tool for Neighbourhood Planning called a "neighbourhood priorities statement", which Local Authorities must take into account when preparing their own plans. Our own Neighbourhood Plan has strong themes around the environment and heritage; design; connecting places. The new Act envisages design codes for Local Authority areas that can be more detailed at the local level.

It is important that the Neighbourhood Plan is kept up to date and relevant. As changes are introduced and Torridge's planning processes adapt it will be interesting to review the impact on our own plan and think about how it may need to change. Parts of it may need to be reviewed as new guidance comes on stream and the role of a "neighbourhood priorities statement" considered. Is there a role for both?

Pauline Warner



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Our Devon County Councillor writes...



As ever, it has been a busy time at the County Council and there are a number of developments I would like to update readers on.

First, as you will probably have seen in the local news, the Leader of the County Council, Cllr John Hart, will be retiring after 15 years as Leader. John has been one of the longest serving Local Government Leaders in the Country and his dedication has been second to none. He has been an invaluable source of support to me and I have learned a great many things from him. Cllr Hart will be standing down at the County Council's Annual General Meeting when, barring anything unexpected happening, he will be appointed the next Chairman of the Council and will become the new 'Civic' head of the Council.

His replacement as Leader is likely to be Cllr James McInnes who is the current Deputy Leader and ward member for the neighbouring division of Hatherleigh and Chagford. The new Deputy Leader is likely to be Cllr Andrea Davis, ward member for Combe Martin Rural and current Cabinet Member for the Environment, Infrastructure and Transport. Both are very experienced Councillors and I am looking forward to working with them on tackling the many common issues that we face in the parts of Devon we represent.

As we head into a new 'municipal' year I am pleased to report that the County Council was able to break even for the financial year just ended, coming in with a small underspend. I cannot stress enough what a strong achievement this is given the difficult financial climate many other local authorities, including some near neighbours, have found themselves in.

While we are not facing a 'financial emergency' like our neighbours in

Somerset, it is crucial that we do not become complacent and that we continue to drive forward with modernising the Council, both internally with its structures and processes, and externally – looking at how services can be delivered differently and more effectively.

One of the services I take a close look at, and I know many of the readers of Distinctly Winkleigh do, is Highways. A major piece of work that has now started is looking at the future delivery of the Council's highways maintenance contract. Although the current contract still has over 2 years to run, a huge amount of work will need to take place between now and then to ensure whatever the future model is – whether it is taking the entire contract back in house, creating a Council owned arm's length company, or continuing as is – that we get the right solution that works best for our residents.

This work is still in the early stages and I will keep readers informed of any developments, however alongside this, the County Council is continuing to trial new methods and techniques of road repair, with the use of the 'Dragon Patcher' and 'Elastomac' (a new recycled material for pothole repairs which binds itself to the road surface and should prevent water ingress), and a new 'recycling' retread/resurfacing treatment.

All three of these treatments have been put to use in Torrington Rural and we have had the Dragon Patcher out in Winkleigh and have plans to use it here again this coming summer.

Mostly, I am pleased to report the new treatments have been successful. I have seen some major improvements to some of the roads which have been dragon patched for example. The Elastomac

repairs have also worked well and the feedback I've had on the 'recycling retread' schemes carried out in Torrington Rural have also been positive. To that end we have put forward the roads at the southern end of the Parish near Bondleigh to be assessed for this new treatment.

Nonetheless, sometimes with a new treatment it won't work as well as we would have liked which can in turn be hugely frustrating, but I would rather we actually tried something rather than do nothing or have to wait for a lot longer, years even, for a full resurfacing scheme for example. When a new treatment doesn't work, the Council will look to carry out remedial works and if the initial fault was with the contractor then this will be done at the contractor's expense and not the Councils.

Nevertheless, while we are in a situation where money remains very restricted for Highways, I would rather we trialled a new treatment to improve a road's condition than either see it being unable to secure funding for resurfacing or worse, do nothing.

However, one road I am pleased to confirm is down for resurfacing is the road to Bridge Reeve and Chumleigh which is due (weather and unforeseen circumstances permitting!) to take place in June. I know this road has been in a very bad condition for a long time and it has been one of my biggest frustrations lobbying to get it repaired because the really bad sections do not actually sit in Winkleigh Parish or my electoral division. But I am pleased at long last this is due to be resurfaced and the scheme should also extend into Winkleigh Parish heading towards Stable Green.

Nonetheless, although funding for highways remains tight, I am also extremely pleased to report that a further £10 million of funding for Highways has been approved for this financial year. Thanks to the County Council's prudent financial management in balancing

its budget for the last two years and disposing of or repurposing of redundant buildings, the Council has been able to free up this additional funding and re-invest it directly into Highways.

The majority of this new funding will be used for 'serviceability patching' which are resurfacing repairs covering partial or full sections of the carriageway. I have already been out and about in Torrington Rural and Winkleigh identifying potential sites with my Neighbourhood Highways Officer and you can rest assured I will be sending him a lot of requests through!

Although the state of the Highway network remains challenging, as we now come in to the warmer summer months I am expecting to see a lot more repair work going on from resurfacing, patching, dragon patching and serviceability patching.

As ever, if there are any DCC issues you'd like to raise with me you can contact 07886 446560, [f](#) cllrsaywell or email andrew.saywell@devon.gov.uk

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From your **District Councillor**

As I write, the starting gun for the next General Election has just been fired and Winkleigh Parish Council have also elected a new chair. To the outgoing chair Angela Findlay, who is shortly to move away from the area, I would offer my thanks for all that she has done for the village during her time on the Parish Council, especially during the pandemic when she set up and ran the volunteer support network.

Last week I attended a joint Torridge and North Devon District Council meeting at PETROC where they had invited a specialist panel to discuss agriculture in the region. The panel included reps from the NFU, North Devon +, Exmoor Hill Farmers Assn, a farmer who was also a District Cllr, a non-exec director of Mole Valley Farmers, the N Devon Biosphere manager as well as local agri consultants.

The key message that we all took away from the meeting was that our Planning Departments were too slow in processing applications for changes to farm infrastructure required by new regulations and the Environment Agency. As a result farmers are at risk of being fined or losing grant funding if they cannot meet the deadlines set by the EA. We also discussed the switch from the old subsidy scheme based purely on land holding to the new grant scheme that rewards farmers for better environmental and stewardship practices: the consensus was that if farmers embraced change then the new system was viable and necessary. A plea was also made to buy local and British (coincidentally I have just raised with our MP the recent announcement that Morrisons are abandoning their policy of only stocking British lamb – he says he will be taking

the matter up with them if re-elected). Another topic of conversation was water pollution, especially the run-off of nitrates into our rivers from agricultural activity and it was agreed that progress is being made through the infrastructure changes (covered yards etc) but that more time was needed to increase awareness amongst the farming community.

By the time this edition is published I suspect the General Election will have taken place and I only hope that voters consider the real facts and issues when making their decision – the cheap “sound bite” language used during elections should usually be ignored and the rubbish and trolling that appears on Facebook is not even worth the read! Nobody seems to be talking about real issues like the huge hit the economy took from the COVID pandemic and Russia’s invasion of Ukraine that together helped create much of the cost of living crisis, nor do people seem to look elsewhere to compare how other countries are doing – I see current predictions are that the UK’s growth will be the strongest in Europe next year apart from Germany. But that would be confronting fact rather than saying what people think they want to hear!

As always, please do get in touch with me if there is anything I can help with that concerns the village or District. Or better still, come to one of your Parish Council’s meetings (4th Wednesday of the month in the Community Centre starting at 7.30pm) that I always try to attend.

Councillor Simon Newton MBE
07943 830220
Councillor.newton@torridge.gov.uk

Winkleigh Parish Council

Annual Report 22nd May 24

In May 23, 7 councillors were elected unopposed leaving four vacancies which were filled by co-option in the weeks following. This sadly means that once again there was no election, with the result that our parishioners had no choice as to whom their representatives are. Until people are willing to stand at election time and not put themselves forward for co-option **after** the election then this will continue to be the case. I am hoping that with the expansion of the village local democracy will improve exponentially.

Winkleigh Parish Council had a rocky start to this year's work, with a locum clerk and then the appointed clerk who lasted only a few weeks, leaving due to family circumstances. We now have a third clerk, Alan Mathewman, who is slowly finding his feet.

PLANNING

WPC spends time each month looking at planning applications and trying valiantly to ensure that developers both large and small, adhere to the principles of the Neighbourhood Plan. Unfortunately, TDC has been unable or unwilling to support us in this, despite encouraging us to write a plan and as a consequence one huge estate has been completed, with three more planned, all of which largely ignore the principles highlighted within the plan and which certainly don't value the environment or attempt to reduce the impact of climate change.

BUNGALOW REPORT

The bungalow group councillors inspected the building. We were informed that the damp problem in the roof space related to some of the screws holding the roof panels down, being loose and having poor seals.

We thought the metal window frames at the garage end needed wire brushing and re painting.

After a builder's survey and South West Fixing visiting, it was proposed to replace all the screws and washers using longer screws, (water ingress had rotted the seating for the screws in the wood and some washers were perished). Taking advantage of this work, in addition it is proposed to fit eaves vents to allow air movement through the roof space to reduce condensation. Following the receipt of quotes this work was completed in Nov 23.

There have been a number of repairs to the boiler (18 years old), in recent years and the valve that switched between hot water and central heating had stuck a number of times in the previous year, leading to no hot water being available. Howes had inspected the premises and found no problems.

The rent was increased and linked to the CPI, this time. The Tenancy agreement is for the RPI to be used. Although the Tenancy Agreement allow for an annual increase, the time it takes to implement it runs to over a month. This means an increase will be at 13 month intervals. WPC is in the unusual position of being landlords and therefore responsible.

COMMUNITIES FAIR

In September WPC held the very successful communities fair which invited all the various clubs and societies to show case their work and recruit more participants. WPC hopes to improve on this event this summer.

SUPPORT FOR GOOD CAUSES

WPC continues to support parishioners and good causes, donating money to Warm Space, Devon Archives, Citizens Advice Bureau and Okehampton Community Transport. In addition, some councillors support the Winkleigh Volunteer Service with their time. In addition, a small team has been working hard on the environment to keep the paths and grass verges clear and benches repaired as well as challenging Devon County Council about the lack of safety on Townsend Road and pedestrian movements around the village.

WPC developed *Winkleigh Cares*, an on-line Directory posted on the Parish website which sign posts people in need to the various organisations and support groups, both locally and nationally who can help. In addition, the council is in the process of putting QR codes on various benches in the village again to signpost people to where help can be found. The WPC facebook page is being reviewed as it is not working as we would wish.

MOVING FORWARD

WPC's next big project is the Winkleigh Community Awards which will be launched at the Winkleigh Fair on 18th July. These awards are our attempt to acknowledge, celebrate and reward those contributions made by volunteers and inputs from a variety of people and organisations who are fostering community growth and sustainability.

Finally, it is my sad job to hand in my resignation as a Councillor with effect from the end of May giving me a few days to support the new chair if required.

I have served on this council for nearly eight years it has been an honour and a privilege to do so. As one of only two councillors to have actually been elected during this time, I feel it is my duty to encourage more people to support the Council in whatever way they can. Whilst some, who are on the council, and contribute very little, if anything, perhaps should remember that being a councillor is about **servng** the community.

Thank you to my fellow councillors who contributed to this Annual report.

Angela Findlay

Outgoing Chair

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Ron Peachey

This is the first instalment of the memoir of Ron Peachey who was evacuated to Winkleigh during WW2. It was first published in "It's Living History, isn't it?"



“When we were first told that we were being sent away from London most of us had no idea why. I for one was quite pleased to be told that we were going to start a new life in the country, even though I didn’t know what the country was. I came from a very poor family with six children, there was never enough food to go round and money was almost non-existent. My mother didn’t seem to care for any of us, so I’m sure she was pleased to see the back of us.

The day we were due to leave we went to school with our gas masks, a label on our coats and all our clothes. I think mine consisted of two shirts and a pair of shorts. My mother didn’t come to see us off and I did not see or hear from her for the next six years. We were marched to the station at Forest Hill, South London and put on the train with some teachers to look after us. We stopped at various towns and villages where groups of children were taken off.

My first memory of Winkleigh was being lined up on the stage of the village hall. There were about twenty of us, all in the age group of about six to twelve. Some ladies were there who gave us cups of tea and cakes; the first thing we had to eat since leaving London. We lined up for our

prospective new ‘parents’ to pick who they wanted. The local farmers snapped up the older, bigger boys first, no doubt with an eye to cheap labour. There were more people willing to give homes than there were children to go around.

A lady called Mrs Reynolds eventually chose another boy called Greg Welton, and me. I was a thin little seven year old and Greg was about the same age, but fit and healthy, he had been well looked after. Mrs Reynolds was a seventy-two year old widow who was kindness itself. A smallish lady, with grey hair worn in a bun, she always wore black. Her husband Tom had been dead for some time. He had been a farm worker and in the cottage there was a big framed picture of him holding the bridle of a horse. It was dark by the time we left the village hall, and though there were no street lights she took us home as if it were daylight. We went straight to bed as soon as we got in. We must have been asleep on our feet.

The cottage is on Church Hill, the last on the right going up and it was the biggest shock of my life.

No electricity, no gas, no water, and, worst of all, no toilet! The cottage consisted of two rooms downstairs, the largest being the living room, and to the left, a sort of washroom cum scullery.

Upstairs there was only one bedroom I think. We all slept in the same room anyway. Greg and I in a big brass double bed and Mary (Mrs Reynolds) in a smaller one. We always had to call her Mrs Reynolds. All the cooking was done on a coal fired oven with two hot plates on the top. Mary cleaned it every week with black lead until it shone like a diamond. All the water had to be carried from the pump which was round the corner. If you turn right at the top of Church Hill, past the rank of houses on your right, the pump was on the left, but I see it's no longer there. That was quite a long way for a seven year old boy to carry two buckets of water. Going to the toilet was the worst ordeal. If we just wanted to wee we went outside the back door and did it on the bramble bushes.

The 'other' was a different matter. There was a bucket in the garden shed and when you had done you just threw

it on the cabbage patch or the flower garden. I always avoided eating any vegetables from the garden if possible but I must admit she grew some wonderful sweet peas!

When I arrived at Winkleigh all I had was a pair of plimsolls. I had never had a pair of leather shoes in my life. It was either plimsolls or sandals. Mary took us both up to the shop and bought us boots.

I had never seen anything like it! They had about twenty studs, and steel pieces on the toe and heel.

They were so heavy we were walking about like deep-sea divers for about a week. Also we had little brown leather leggings which did up with buttons on the side. They had to be done up with a buttonhook.

The second instalment from Ron Peachey's memoir will be in the next issue of Distinctly Winkleigh.

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AMATEUR RADIO AND ITS IMPORTANCE IN RURAL COMMUNITIES

How prepared is Winkleigh in the event of a major emergency?

Here Greg Goldsworthy explains the what and the why of the Winkleigh Repeater

WHAT IS AMATEUR RADIO?

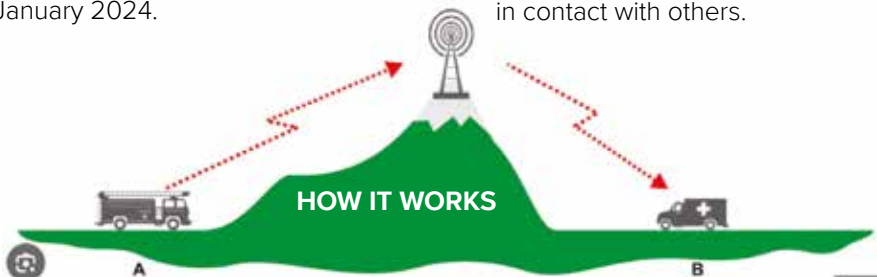
A description from RSGB (*Radio Society of Great Britain*) 'Amateur radio is a popular technical hobby and volunteer public service that uses designated radio frequencies for non-commercial exchange of messages, wireless experimentation, self-training, and emergency communications.' Amateur Radio is regulated by Ofcom who stipulate the power and frequencies that can be used. These depend on the license type of which there are three – Foundation, Intermediate or Full.

I became interested in Amateur Radio due to being involved with updating the Emergency (*and Resilience*) Plan for the Parish. I was contacted by a reader of Winkleigh FB who suggested that Amateur Radio communications, in the event of failure of our 'taken for granted' cell phone and WIFI networks, was extremely important. To this end, and after many hours of discussions with some Amateur Radio Operators (*Hams*), it was deemed to be a good idea to establish a communications 'Repeater' within the Parish. This Repeater identified as GB3LZ or GB7LZ, depending on the mode of transmission used, became operational in Winkleigh in January 2024.

Our aim is to keep the Winkleigh Repeater operational during a major power failure – we are looking to acquire rechargeable batteries and eventually a Solar power system. A Repeater enables 'Hams' to communicate with networks nationally or around the globe if necessary. There is a South of England network called the Southern Fusion, which enables users to easily contact other Hams - encompassing the Southwest from Cornwall to Hampshire. In the event of a serious incident in the area with all cell phone and Wi-Fi networks rendered inoperable, the Southern Fusion could be easily contacted to bring help into the area.

I passed my Foundation level exam in April 2023 which enables me to communicate through established networks within the Ofcom license structure. It was not too expensive to take the exam and buy my first 'radio'. All for under £100. I see some major benefits of being able to use the 'Ham' radio structure as:

- The ability to contact others locally, nationwide, or even globally, in the event of a disaster.
- For those housebound or with mobility issues, a means of keeping in contact with others.



- An important part of any Emergency Plan – communications are always vitally important.

An organisation called the Winkleigh Repeater Group was formed in 2023 and our current equipment was either given, borrowed, or donated to get us started. We have also been given a couple of small donations and raised money ourselves through the now annual Mid Devon Radio & Electronics Fair held at Winkleigh Recreation and Sports Centre in December.

The picture shows the ‘rack’ that houses all the hardware for the repeater. If anyone would like information or a chat with our experienced Ham operators on how to get involved with Amateur Radio, then please contact me, Greg Goldsworthy, on 07813 158568 and I will put you in contact with those concerned.





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WINKLEIGH PARISH COUNCIL

Community Fair

Thursday July 18th

3.30pm - 8pm in the Community Centre

You are all invited ...

to join us to celebrate our lovely village and all that is on offer to our community. We welcome everyone to explore what is available in terms of arts, crafts, sporting, social, environmental clubs, and groups. We aim to make it a fun, informative and an active occasion. We are also launching the new **Winkleigh Parish Council Community Awards Scheme**.

If you are curious and interested in what is available and want to learn more, come to meet, and join clubs and groups, in an open afternoon and evening, with a wide range of activities on offer. Come along and enjoy some refreshments, entertainment, explore ideas, connections, activities on offer to local people. This is an opportunity for getting together and promoting and celebrating what is available.

The village is growing, and we are all very proud of all the many and varied selection of things to do in our community. Our ambition is to explore how we can connect in even better and more effective ways, building on the feedback from last year's successful event, we always welcome collective ideas and suggestions from you all, please.

There will be tables and representatives on hand to talk to you together with displays and information, a raffle, competitions, and some fun activities to take part in.

Parish Councillors will be available to listen to people's views, to answer questions and to consult in several ways, including a brief questionnaire to gather views and ideas. We would like to explain what we do and how it is possible to connect with us. Above all, we all have the same goal - to connect with each other and continue to develop this vibrant village.

For more information, please email Clerk@winkleighpc.org or contact cldr.a.warner@winkleighpc.org Cllr.andy.keys@winkleighpc.org or telephone 0787614299 | cldr.pauline.odulinski@winkleighpc.org



SINCERELY SAM'S

This outstanding Winkleigh business is converting more and more customers to the true taste of Devon cider as Rachel Gordon reports

Sam's Cider is a Winkleigh business through and through, based at Western Barn in Hatherleigh Road it uses local apples as the raw material - it is also family run by David Bridgman together with his daughter Kylie and son-in-law CJ Beardon, who have all grown up in the area.

Kylie's connections with the Winkleigh Cider Company run deep - it was founded by her father, David Bridgman, who restarted the company in 1999. Sam's Cider is the brand name - and it was named after Sam Inch, a famed cider maker who started producing cider on the site in 1916. CJ (Christopher John) is also Sam Inch's great nephew.

But despite the historic roots, this is a business that is very much focused on the future. Although cider making is at the core, the company has expanded and now runs a highly regarded cafe on site as well as a shop, and it is also a tourist attraction - there are regular group tours. These take place on a Thursday, where visitors learn about the



company's history, enjoy a cider tasting and can also stop off for lunch or coffee in the cafe.

CIDER AND MUSIC

There is also an annual summer festival with live music that takes place on 3 August - tickets always sell out fast. The festival is for over 18s only and will feature bands Reckless, The Headrush and local solo singer Mark Anthony. There will also be locally sourced foods, a bar and cocktails - along with copious amounts of cider.

CJ is a former steel fabricator and is from a local engineering family.

CJ now works alongside David where they share the cider production. Kylie is responsible for running all aspects of the business and dealing with a wide range of areas including marketing and people. She was the core designer when building the stylish Tallet Cafe - the name refers to a gallery type space in the roof and transforming the former industrial space was an extensive building job. "We wanted the cafe to be somewhere that has a relaxed atmosphere and would offer excellent food with good service from friendly people," she says.

Kylie and CJ have three children aged 11, 9 and 7 and are clearly adept at managing incredibly busy lives. They have a team of around 15 staff and also take the Sam's Cider brand out to a number of events, including the Winkleigh Car Show, Winkleigh Christmas market, the Okehampton and North Devon Shows.

WINNING AT THE DEVON COUNTY SHOW

Meanwhile the business is also currently celebrating winning GOLD at the recent Devon County Show - Kylie was there to pick up the accolade in the 'best cider for retail trade' category. "We're absolutely thrilled to win in this competitive category and it's great to be getting the Sam's Cider name out there."

The brand is also available in many retail outlets including Waitrose. "Our best seller is the Poundhouse Crisp - it's a refreshing and clean tasting drink that's not too strong at 4.5%. I also enjoy our Elderflower cider, which has a beautiful flavour and again is lower in alcohol at just 4% - we also do a range of sweeter and dry varieties as well as fruit ciders - really popular - and scrumpy, which is more alcoholic. We'll also make the odd quirky flavour and this year, it was a chocolate egg cider to coincide with Easter. This had an infusion of chocolate and a dash of vanilla."



David Bridgman is a director of the business and is a master cider maker.

“He’s passionate about making cider and always has been. He started work at the business when he was just 15 in 1966 and always had a strong relationship with Sam Inch. Both were dedicated to learning as much as possible to produce the best quality cider.”

Under Kylie and CJ’s energetic leadership and with David’s continued influence, Sam’s Cider is a thriving business. But, the company’s history has been turbulent. Sam Inch launched the company in 1916 and his cider was popular in local pubs, but perhaps surprisingly, he had few ambitions to run a major business and continued to work as a coachman and postman. The company saw steady expansion and by the 1950s was available in bottles as well as draught - distribution was increasing. In the 1980s, business was booming,

with a move into international exports to Europe, the Middle East and US and top-selling brands like White Lightning and Stonehouse. All was well until 1996 when the business was sold to Bulmer’s. Being part of a large organisation proved a disaster and just two years later in 1998, the business closed with staff made redundant and nearly all of the 30, 100 year old oak cider vats were destroyed apart from four.

STARTING OVER

“My father always wanted to carry on producing cider as he had been taught by Sam Inch himself and he started negotiations with Bulmer’s. It was not easy and there were restrictions, but they did agree to sell him the four remaining oak vats and so the Winkleigh Cider Company was born. Bulmer’s retained the Inch’s name, but Sam’s Cider was permissible,” says Kylie.



LOCAL BUSINESS

The original four vats can be seen through the back wall windows of the cafe, where there is also a large image of David and Sam, at a cider forum, showing their enthusiasm and commitment to product development.

The company has since seen significant investment in machinery and new buildings to modernise the cider making process and Kylie ensures a strong brand presence through the website and social media.

This is certainly a golden age for Sam's Cider as popularity of the brand continues to grow and it reaches new markets. But, this is also a company that remains rooted in Winkleigh and the local community. Kylie concludes

she has other plans up her sleeve that includes opening a farm shop at some point in the future. She has no time to reflect on much deserved success as she returns to her office - upstairs above the cafe.



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Lord of the Dance

Colin Andrews is a founding member and foreman of Winkleigh Morris and is very knowledgeable on many aspects of folk dance and song. He talks to Rachel Gordon about his passion

This summer, Winkleigh Morris will be dancing out at numerous events, bringing colour, tradition and toe-tapping tunes to many locations around the region.

Winkleigh Morris was set up 34 years ago in 1990, as Colin explains:

“The landlady of the former Winkleigh Hotel wanted to run morris dance evening classes. I was already involved with Exeter Morris and so offered to teach - men only at first then very soon after women, in two consecutive sessions on the same evening. That same year, at Easter, we gave our first performance in the village square. They have an active repertoire of around 30 dances, some of which are traditional and others created by Colin or other team members. Costumes are colourful ‘raggy’ jackets, red waistcoats and socks (black striped for the ladies), black skirts or trousers and white shirts, and the men wear black top hats. Most dances are performed with handkerchiefs or sticks, and have their roots in dances collected from various places in the Cotswolds or the English counties bordering on Wales.

For Colin though, it is not just a passion for the dance and music since



he is also well versed in the history of Morris. So when did Morris dancing start? Colin explains:

“The earliest written record in the UK dates back to 1496 in a reference to silver goblets that were engraved with images of morris dancers. There is no certainty about where Morris dancing – or the word Morris - originated but it’s possible that it’s from the word ‘Moorish’ and the dances are linked in some way to the Moors who occupied southern Spain until they were driven out by the Christian armies by the early fourteenth century. In England the dancers would

have been professionals and performed in Royal courts, and similar dances may have existed elsewhere in Europe”.

But the once well-respected and supported tradition came under pressure and lost support from the Church and State. Colin recounted that in Cromwell’s protectorate, morris dancing was effectively disallowed, and when the monarchy was restored, it had been transformed into a rural activity performed by the common people. It gained in popularity particularly in the Cotswolds where many villages had their own teams, reaching a peak in the mid 19th century, after which it again went into decline.

Colin described how morris dancing was rescued from potential oblivion due to the work of Cecil Sharp (1859-1924), an academic, musician and dedicated collector of traditional folk songs, tunes and dances, and Mary Neal (1860-1944), a prominent suffragette, and co-founder of the Esperance Club in London where she helped women from poor backgrounds, teaching them songs and morris dances. Sharp initially supported Neal in collecting and teaching such dances but soon clashed over their different views on teaching morris. Mary Neal was quite progressive in her views whereas Cecil Sharp was determined to preserve the tradition as collected.

For a large part of the 20th century Sharp’s views prevailed, with women effectively excluded from dancing morris. From the later 1960s’ however, women once again began to take an active role. Colin reports that today there are still many single gender teams but also in recent years there has been a large increase in the number of mixed gender sides.

CONTINUING TO TEACH

Colin has given numerous presentations on the history of morris and covers this extensive topic with enormous enthusiasm. The ability in public speaking



may also come from his former career as a teacher. For 23 years he was Head of Chemistry at Chulmleigh College.. Prior to this he taught in Sussex and Hampshire.

Colin says he always enjoyed folk music and started up a club when at University College, Cardiff. On his return to Sussex, he joined the Chanctonbury Ring Morris Men and also formed a folk song group called The Trugs. He has also published books on folk dance and song as well as several novels. He continues to develop an on-line morris dance database that lists teams and dances world-wide.

Since living in Devon, Colin has continued to teach and promote morris and he says there is always room for new members. “You don’t need previous experience and I would recommend that people try it out and see if it is for them. Some dances are easier than others to learn and they can be a good starting point. Others include more complex footwork – and while you may lack the ability to co-ordinate your hands and feet it will come with plenty of practice. It would also be good to have more involvement from people in Winkleigh itself, as most of our dancers are now from further afield.”

You can find out about the next Winkleigh Morris appearances by visiting the Facebook page for Winkleigh Morris and also checkout Colin’s website, www.bonnygreen.uk, which also has a vast amount of information about the topic.

The Winkleigh Singers

A MAN HAD A DREAM

by Rachel Gordon

Forty years ago a man had a dream; that dream was to gather like-minded local people to sing madrigals with surprisingly complex harmonies, sometimes accompanied by piano or organ and sometimes not, but always to aim for three concerts a year in spring, summer and at Christmas.

And so, in 1984 this dream became reality, and the name of this reality was The Winkleigh Singers, and the man with the dream was one Roland Smith.

Under his guidance and tutelage, The Winkleigh Singers expanded their repertoire from madrigals to many other works both large and small by composers from the sixteenth to the twenty-first centuries. The choir has performed with a number of professional orchestras and ensembles and employed talented young people of whom several went on to have illustrious careers – people like Gareth Brynmoor John, who won the Kathleen Ferrier Award in 2013; Iain Milne – now singing leading roles at the Opera House Zurich; Gareth Malone OBE; and Emma Grainger – now principal harpist at The Royal Opera House. The choir also took overseas tours to France and Hungary and worked with other local music groups, such as the Artavian Baroque and Singers.

The year is 2024 and The Winkleigh Singers have had a fortieth birthday to celebrate and they intend to continue celebrating all year with style. Imbued with confidence after a successful bash at Henry Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas* last Summer (who can forget the blood-chilling performance of the witches), they started the season with a Spring Concert to a very good-sized audience in Great Torrington Church. The programme included Faure's *Requiem*, Holst's



Te Deum, Bairstow's Anthem – *Blessed City, Heavenly Salem*, amongst others, all accompanied by former Exeter Cathedral organist Andrew Millington.

On Monday 8th July the choir will give a concert with The South West Baroque Players in Umberleigh Village Hall. The featured music in the programme will be a concert performance of John Blow's opera *Venus and Adonis* and a rarely-heard ode to King Charles II by Pelham Humfrey. Tickets are now on sale from www.ticketsource.co.uk/the-winkleigh-singers. We suggest you book early as last year was a sell out and there's an early bird discount ending on 15th June.

The piece de resistance, the crowning jewel in the celebrations will be an extra concert at Christmas with an extremely special addition. This will be a brand spanking new, never heard before piece, commissioned by an exciting composer, Dr Allison Willis. Dr Willis has already met with the choir and has the lovely idea of setting some of the Landkey Carols to new arrangements and this piece will be given its world premiere on 14th December at Great Torrington Parish Church.

What a year it will be!

Financial Focus – Groundhog Day

Disclaimer: The author is an active, regulated Director and the founder of Moor Independent Financial Advisers Ltd, a local, independent financial planning and investment management firm serving private clients and trustees. This guide is for information purposes and does not constitute financial advice, which should be based on your individual circumstances.

The value of investments may go down as well as up and you may get back less than you invest. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance.

Global markets have taken off in the second quarter of 2024, the Bulls leading an unstoppable charge that has seen numerous equity indices surpass their previous record highs the world over. Whilst technology initially led the way, other sectors have quickly joined the march. Much of this activity reflects the global influence of the US economy, which continues to perform strongly.

Whilst global equity markets have hit new highs, market participants remain in a state of limbo, patiently awaiting fresh inflation data each month. The eagerly anticipated rate cutting cycles across major economies are being repeatedly delayed due to persistently high levels of inflation.

The latest reading for UK inflation was 2.3%, which reflects the annual rise in inflation from April 2023 – April 2024. This is down sharply from 3.2% in March and the lowest since July 2021 when it stood at 2.0%, according to the Office for National Statistics (ONS). However, the Bank of England was anticipating a reading of 2.1%; services inflation was higher than

expected at 5.9% (5.5% anticipated), along with core inflation (which includes goods but excludes energy, food and tobacco) which fell to 3.9% (anticipated 3.6%).

This data came hot on the heels of the IMF report a day earlier, within which the IMF revised its UK growth figure for 2024 from 0.5% to 0.7%, stating: “With growth recovering faster than expected, the UK economy is approaching a soft landing, following a mild technical recession in 2023. CPI inflation has fallen faster than was envisaged last year and is projected to return durably to target in early 2025.” The recent inflation data means Britain now has a lower rate of inflation than the United States, Canada, France and Germany.

However, given the inflation data was above the anticipated levels, the odds of a rate cut have once again been pushed back, with Bloomberg reporting that the market participants broadly agree that a June rate cut is off the table; the chances of the first rate cut coming in August were slashed from 80% to 40% within minutes of the data being published.

Sterling jumped on the latest inflation data, which in turn corresponded to a fall in UK equities. However, as of 22/05/2024, consider the FTSE All-Share has risen 14.84% over the past five years; 8.31% of that rise has been in 2024. The FTSE 250 meanwhile has made just 8.3% over the past five years, with 6.16% of that rise occurring year to date. Many would argue the rally does not yet look overblown within UK stocks.

Some maintain the view that the Bank of England should have commenced interest rate cuts already and remain concerned that

the ongoing delay may cause the economic recovery to falter in the months ahead. British manufacturing orders contracted in May at the fastest rate since November and expectations for future price hikes abated, a recent Reuters survey showed. The Confederation of British Industry's monthly gauge of industrial orders sank to -33 from -23 in April, despite the biggest rise in output since November 2022. The survey's reading of future selling price expectations fell in May to +15 from +27, its lowest since January 2024. In simple terms, we now have a lot on the shelves, whilst the order book is looking increasingly smaller. However, the UK is primarily a Services economy and this sector grew by 0.7% in the first quarter of 2024, whilst elsewhere the production sector grew by 0.8%.

Broadly speaking, the UK outlook is considered positive, but the economic recovery appears fragile and sensitive to any potential market shocks. The IMF, whilst upgrading the UK outlook, highlighted this within its recent commentary: "As monetary policy reaches an inflection point, the timing and pace of rate cuts must carefully balance the risks of premature and delayed easing."

Elsewhere, technology stocks continue to dominate the US markets, whilst cyclical areas such as Industrials have picked up considerably. Japan remains solidly positioned, with a recent Reuters poll of equity strategists reaching consensus for a further 4.6% rise on the Nikkei by year end. The Nikkei has risen 16.4% so far this year, following a 28.2% gain in 2023.

Chinese markets remain subdued,



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whilst the country is becoming increasingly alienated from key markets due to political affiliations with countries such as Russia, recent comments about Taiwan and concerns over human rights abuses. The government recently announced a financial plan to tackle the overhang of real estate that exists, but the problem remains enormous. “This is a drop in the ocean given the scale of unsold stock,” said Harry Murphy Cruise, an economist at Moody’s Analytics. New home prices in April dropped at the fastest monthly rate in nine years.

India continues to strengthen and consolidate its position on the global stage and, whilst huge challenges remain, there are signs that rural parts of the country are also benefitting. The Reserve Bank of India recently

stated that rural demand for fast moving consumer goods (FMCG) has outpaced urban markets for the first time in at least two years on the back of robust demand for home and personal care products. Inflation remains stubborn, coming in at 4.83% in April, from 4.85% in March.

In the EU, more centralisation is in the works. The European Union’s securities watchdog recently called for powers to **directly supervise cross-border financial firms** and help fast-track the bloc’s capital market union (CMU). Reuters reports: “There is also greater urgency due to London, Europe’s biggest financial centre, becoming a competitor since Brexit.”

Jonathan Cotley Chartered FCSI
 Director of Moor Independent
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"If there's a bustle in your hedgerow, don't be alarmed now..."

Led Zeppelin 'Stairway to Heaven'

A hedge and a hedgerow are different things: a hedge is usually made up of the same plant, often in a single row, creating a design effect, a screen or a barrier in a garden. They are sometimes still useful to wildlife, depending on the species, and are usually clipped a couple of times a year. A hedgerow however is a richer thing.

The definition (from Natural England) of a hedgerow is a boundary line of trees or shrubs with specific qualifiers: Hedgerows are over 20m long and less than 5m wide, and any gaps between the trees or shrub species are less than 20m wide. Any bank, wall, ditch or tree, and any herbaceous plants within 2m of the centre of the hedgerow is part of the hedgerow habitat. There are over 550,000km of hedgerow in England, with over 400,000km being actively managed Hedgerows are usually planted in at least two staggered lines

of closely planted woody species.

Earlier definitions of hedges were of 'ancient and/or species rich' hedges, now it's considered to be those predominantly made up of at least one native woody species of tree or shrub, mixed with at least two others. The main species is usually, but not always, hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*) other species of English hedgerows include Field Maple - *Acer campestre*, Guelder Rose - *Viburnum opulus*, Blackthorn - *Prunus spinosa*, Hazel - *Coryllus avellana*. Climbing plants such as honeysuckle and bramble are integral parts of many hedgerows, but not included in the definition of woody species.

Hedgerows offer many benefits, to people and to wildlife. They provide corridors for wildlife travelling between different areas; they provide nest sites for birds, mammals and many insects, and they provide food, in pollen berries

and of course the leaves of the plants themselves for wildlife and shelter from predators or inclement weather.

For gardeners nearby hedgerows have the great benefit of drawing the natural predators of garden pests to the area, especially birds and beetles, who will eat aphids and grubs and of course the snail crunching slug munching wonderful hedgehog. They also provide shelter and wind breaks protecting more vulnerable plants (in a similar way to a hedge).

For farmers hedgerows around fields bring the same beneficial predators, and shelter for crops, breaking up strong winds so they do less damage close to the ground, and allowing stock to use them for shelter, as well as adding some variety to their grazing in some cases. Hedgerows also help prevent topsoil from washing away in heavy rain. Where hedges have been replaced with fences, topsoil easily erodes and can even wash onto roads, into drains, or just into other fields. Fields

reach saturation point more easily without a living hedgerow taking up moisture, and where there is a large healthy hedgerow there is less risk of flooding thanks to it's influence. For all of us hedgerows clean the air and capture carbon.

So valuable are hedgerows that the woodland trust regularly supply communities with free hedging plants. This March many schools and communities received bundles of trees and shrubs to plant up new areas, soon after applications for the November deliveries will open, so if you have a bit of land, or know of somewhere which would benefit from having a hedgerow planted to dry up the wet soil, to reduce erosion, to support wildlife or to provide corridors or screens, have a look at www.woodlandtrust.org.uk and check out their schools and communities bundles with saplings and protection.

by Jo Coffey

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GARDEN NOTES

by Jo Coffey



Summer Gardening

The warm late summer is a great time in the garden, all the year's work is starting to show. There can be whole days where it feels like the only task is to sit, with a drink garnished with borage flowers, nibbling on your home grown raspberries, strawberries or apples enjoying the beauty of your floral borders and all their natural visitors feasting on the nectar.

Through summer crops become ready to harvest, or we learn lessons of what we're definitely doing and not doing next year. Many gardeners keep notes of these things, they know with all the best intentions we won't necessarily remember when it comes to next spring's planning so a little book holds the notes of which varieties of which crops did best, which flowers were brightest when, and which point in the summer had gaps in the borders. It's great to take photos of your borders in full bloom not just to cheer you up in the winter months (and it really can) but because it makes planning out of season adjustments so much easier.

Nowadays there are apps to help track your notes, spreadsheets of productivity if you want, but lots of gardeners still find

there's nothing that quite beats a little hardback notepad and a pen or pencil for recording your horticultural achievements and adventures year on year.

JULY

- Check clematis for signs of clematis wilt
- Care for houseplant while on holiday
- Water tubs and new plants if dry, but be water-wise
- Deadhead bedding plants and repeat-flowering perennials, to ensure continuous flowering
- Pick courgettes before they become marrows
- Treat apple scab
- Clear algae, blanket weeds and debris from ponds, and keep them topped up
- Order catalogues for next year's spring-flowering bulbs
- Give the lawn a quick-acting summer feed, especially if not given a spring feed
- Harvest apricots, peaches and nectarines

AUGUST

- Prune Wisteria
- Don't delay summer pruning fruits trained as restricted forms
- Deadhead flowering plants regularly
- Watering! - particularly containers, and new plants, preferably with grey recycled water or stored rainwater
- Collect seed from garden plants
- Harvest sweetcorn and other vegetables as they become ready
- Once you harvest your main crop potatoes plant first earlies for a xmas treat
- Continue cutting out old fruited canes on raspberries
- Lift and pot up rooted strawberry runners
- Keep ponds and water features topped up
- Feed the soil with green manures

SEPTEMBER

- Divide herbaceous perennials
- Pick autumn raspberries
- Collect and sow seed from perennials and hardy annuals
- Dig up remaining potatoes before slug damage spoils them
- Net ponds before leaf fall gets underway
- Keep up with watering of new plants, using rain or grey water if possible
- Start to reduce the frequency of houseplant watering
- Clean out cold frames and greenhouses so that they are ready for use in the autumn
- Cover leafy vegetable crops with bird-proof netting
- Plant spring flowering bulbs



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WINKLEIGH'S SEVEN STARS

- it's the pub for everyone by Rachel Gordon

Whether it's music, a meal out, sports or games, there's always plenty going on and you'll be assured of a warm welcome from landlords Tracey and Ash.

Have you been to the Seven Stars on the High Street lately? Perhaps you had a preconception that this was a pub largely frequented by men watching football and drinking beer? If this is what you thought, then it's time to think again. There may well be men enjoying an ale, but this is a pub where anyone can step inside and feel at home.

Ash Edgecombe and Tracey Williams took over the freehold pub back in October 2022 and they have worked incredibly hard to create a stylish and welcoming environment for everyone. That includes families, groups of friends and people on their own who just want to catch up with friendly locals for a chat at the bar.

And, as Tracey says: "We have lots of women who come here now, including one of our favourite groups of ladies who are known as the Pub Chicks, who's laughter is contagious." They host many regulars together with the Winkleigh Football Club, as Tracey & Ash support both the teams throughout the season after each home game with some hot food and a couple of jugs of lager for the winning team.

In its previous incarnation, the Seven Stars was largely a sports bar - and Tracey and Ash have ensured this remains a feature with three screens and themed nights such as when there is a major football or rugby tournament or boxing match. There are also team games - this includes darts and there are a growing number of players - so much so that a second team is about to be formed. There is also an Aunt Sally team, a traditional



game where sticks are thrown at a wooden dummy, which is played every Sunday morning during the season.

But this is only part of the Seven Stars. Those with zero interest in sport - on TV or in teams - can play board games or chess or what about taking part in one of the regular karaoke nights?

Live music is also featured on the first Saturday of every month and you can be assured of a mix of genres, including Skool Daze, The MoJoes, Chris Bandaras, Booster, Hot Tin Ruth, Jason Toft and singer songwriter, Dave Rich to name a few.

Alternatively, many simply want to sit down and enjoy a meal. Tracey has expanded the menu, which is good value, with pizzas being particularly popular, as are loaded fries, lasagne, jacket potatoes and salads all available dine-in or takeaway.

Being a freehouse also means a wide range of drinks - recently, there has been a rise in demand for non-alcoholic drinks. This includes Guinness Zero, Free Damm lager, Dartmoor Zero and Tanqueray Gin that are 0%. On the alcoholic front, Tracey says the Whitley Neill range of gins are highly favoured and she has upgraded the wine quality. Ciders including Thatcher's

and Sandford's are popular and there are numerous beers and lagers.

Ash adds that the Seven Stars looks to be as inclusive as possible. "We don't want to be a pub where you feel uncomfortable if you don't know anyone. We know that more people are moving to Winkleigh, and this is a good place to get to meet the local community - anyone who wants to find out about what's going on simply needs to ask at the bar, or they can check out the Facebook page."

Ash and Tracey have also done a great deal to the interior. Although it has always been characterful, Tracey says it was "looking a bit tired" and they are in the process of completing some extensive exterior renovations. Ash is a qualified Carpenter & Joiner so is in the process of fitting new windows throughout the building, then they will tackle a complete exterior redecoration. There has been a recent bar refurbishment along with stools made from former tractor

seats which have been a hit with the customers. There are also many twinkling lights and a 'memorial space', with photos and order of service details for local people who have passed away. "It was requested by our customers," says Ash, "and is a space where people can be fondly remembered." There is a large ship in the window which was hand made by Ash's father.

Outside the pub is a suntrap garden which has also been vastly improved and where summer barbecues are often held.

The Seven Stars also gets out into the community via a mobile bar, which Ash built. This includes at events such as the Winkleigh Car Show, weddings and birthdays.

Whether for some entertainment, a shared sporting experience, a tasty meal out or simply a relaxing drink, the Seven Stars does indeed offer something for everyone - and the good news is it's right here in Winkleigh.

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WINKLEIGH'S EUAN RIPPER LED HIS TEAM TO RISE TO THE

Ten Tors Challenge

May saw over 2000 teenagers take to Dartmoor to hike the 62nd annual Ten Tors challenge! Ten Tors is an endurance test hosted by the armed forces, teens carry all the kit they need (often around 20kg) to be self-sufficient for a weekend of gruelling hiking. Based on age category, teams of 6 trek either 35, 45 or 55 miles through all the bogs Dartmoor has to offer.

My team (QE School Crediton) and I have now completed every event distance over the last 3 years. Despite this year's record dropouts due to heat stroke, the whole team completed the 55-mile challenge in 33 hours, including 26 hours of walking and two 4am starts, leaving just 1 hour to spare.

The toughest part of the event was at the end of day 1, we were all exhausted, nearly out of water and too far from a river to get more. What little water we did have had to be conserved for cooking. As the sun went down, we found ourselves stuck in a bog, the wrong side of our 7th checkpoint with only a 20-minute window before the checkpoints closed. We didn't make it to the 7th checkpoint in time, so we spent all day 2 on the brink of disqualification, rushing into checkpoints minutes before



Vlad Mototolea, Euan Ripper, Etta Fawsssett, Chloe Nursaw, Sean Thomas-Alexander, Arthur Stevens (all 17 years old)

the cut-off times. We had to remind ourselves constantly that it wouldn't be worth anything if it wasn't a challenge.

We had all trained hard over the winter, hiking together in the fog, hail and even the snow, but we weren't ready for the intense heat. Most of our safety gear was emergency survival blankets and extra layers, the opposite of what we needed. Of course we had basic medical kits, plenty of plasters and painkillers, but there was no avoiding the blisters. It was obvious who had done the challenge in school the next few days, as competitors hobbled around with the distinctive "Ten Tors Limp".

Despite all of this, I absolutely loved it. The sense of accomplishment is immense, the bond we formed as a team is unbreakable and the iconic "finish line pasty" makes it all worth it. Ten Tors is not a competitive race, it is all about finding your limits and pushing past them, and you need the support of everyone else from your own team and beyond to do that.

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Justin Novak **Winkleigh's music talent!**

DW is delighted to have learnt of yet another person within the community whose talent has been recognised in the wider world. This time it is 33 year old Justin Novak who is a 2 x US Billboard charting artist.

Justin made his mark on the music scene with his debut independent single, "What You Need," which emerged to critical acclaim in December 2017. The track has since garnered an impressive 300,000 streams on Spotify, showcasing his innate ability to resonate with diverse audiences.

Justin has collaborated with top artists like H-Town, Abi Flynn, Milkwish and Osborne. Recent in Justin's releases to hit DSP's is his collaboration with Multi platinum selling artists H-Town, titled Pac Man

which charted at #1 iTunes Dance Chart in the USA in its first week of release. The record also entered at #4 on the Billboard's Dance/Electronic Digital Song Sales chart and entered the Adult Contemporary Billboard chart at #29.



LOCAL DISTINCTIVENESS

Next time you visit Winkleigh Post Office look up at the unique green sign that adorns it on the outside wall. That is not Post office official branding that is a hand carved wooden sign made by renowned wood carver John Butler.

John Butler has an international reputation. It is his carved figures that are dotted along the Tarka Trail. He is known for his quirky, comical interpretations which are displayed in The Burton Art Gallery Bideford.

His parents ran Winkleigh Post office in the 60's and 70's and John grew up in the village. This is his gift to the village; unique, distinctive and hand crafted.

At a time when pattern book housing estates are sprouting up around the village that make no concessions to local craftsmanship or materials, it is a reminder of the affection people hold for the place they were raised, and how important it is that these stories are told.

Penny Griffiths





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Sculpture Exhibition

A DECADE IN DEVON

The Sculpture School – the UK’s only venue for realist sculpture training – is celebrating its 10th anniversary in Devon. To mark this milestone, it will be holding a major exhibition from 24th June to 7th July showcasing a DECADE of talent.

With its unique and innovative method of producing modern realist sculpture in simple steps, the school attracts students from all over the world. Under the inspirational leadership of husband-and-wife team, Master sculptor Andrew Sinclair, MRSS, and Diane Coates-Sinclair, the North Tawton venue has become a sculpture sanctuary with school, gallery, workshop, luxury accommodation and sculpture garden.

Courses run from a one-day taster, through four-day in-depth animal and human sculpture, to a one-year curriculum. Enthusiastic amateurs, professional sculptors and artists, school leavers, retirees – and even plastic surgeons – have all visited this Devon centre of sculpting expertise.

A current ‘One Year’ student explains:
“Andrew Sinclair has brilliantly developed an organised figurative sculpting method which can only be described as a breakthrough. After a humbling decade of courses with sculptors in Florence, Paris and New York, I had almost lost hope

that I would ever be able to design my own sculptures or apply the anatomical importance I wanted in figurative sculpture.”

The show – a DECADE in Devon – is open 10am to 4pm daily and admission is free. A selection of top work from Andrew and Diane, their students and alumni, will be available to view and purchase. Demonstrations and tours are planned for the weekends.

Monday 24th June - Sunday 7th July 2024
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Winkleigh VILLAGE HALL

I hope that, after such a wet winter and spring, you are able to read this whilst enjoying warm summer sunshine.

In the last edition of DW I included an appeal to village residents and businesses to help the hall trustees to finance much-needed roof insulation in the building. Circa £2000 is needed to purchase fibre glass rolls sufficient for full coverage. I am delighted to say that, at the time of writing, over 50% of this has already been raised - £1009.00 – as a direct result of donations made by local residents, from the proceeds of the monthly market raffle, and Winkleigh Parish Church from the proceeds of their May monthly market refreshment sales. Thank you so much to everyone who has so far donated. However small or large, all donations, from individuals, organisations, or businesses, are truly welcomed. We are hoping that, come the colder autumn and winter evenings, we will have purchased and fitted the insulation and that you all will be able to feel the benefit.

The hall Movie Night will be screening its last film of the season on Friday July 12th. This will be the first of periodic classic movies shown. To commemorate and remember 84 years since the RAF famously fought off its German adversaries, the 1969 movie, “BATTLE OF BRITAIN” will be shown. With its stellar cast including Michael Caine, Sir Laurence Olivier, Susannah York, Patrick Wymark, Kenneth More, Ian McShane, and many more, this highly acclaimed movie is one not to miss.

The autumn/winter season will begin on Friday 20th September in ABBA musical style, with the screening of “MAMMA MIA – HERE WE GO AGAIN”.

The Policies Sub-committee has been

working hard to create a series of policies for the hall including Data Protection, Safeguarding, Hall Hiring, Finance, and Risk Assessment. By the time you read this, they will have been completed and will be available for all to read. Thank you to all who contributed to getting these important policies in place. Hall bookings continue to thrive and I am pleased to see significant Increases in the hall being used for private parties and other entertainment events.

Once again, a big thank you to Paul Beer for all the gardening work he carries out each month, making the hall exterior look as attractive as possible.

Between 14th and 20th July, events in the village for Winkleigh Fair will again be taking place, with the hall being used by a number of local organisations. See notices nearer the time.

From a personal perspective, I have decided that, at the hall autumn Annual General Meeting, I shall be standing down as Chair of the hall and from the committee. I am hoping, however, to continue running the Movie Nights. A new Chair will be elected at the AGM.

As always, massive thanks to all residents, visitors and helpers who continue to support hall activities. We couldn't do it without you!

Tony Abston – Chair

CONTACT

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The Curiosity Café

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Something new for Sunday afternoons at Winkleigh Village Hall. If you are interested in Art, Music, Craft, Culture, History, (Retro) Technology etc. A warm welcome awaits. By yourself or with friends and family.

There will be lots to do, see, and experience in a relaxed café atmosphere.

We will be creating a space where people can share their passions, hobbies, interests, and creativity.

The Curiosity Café afternoon will be in two parts.

PART ONE. 1.30pm-3pm A chance to check out what others have brought along. Sit and have a look - have a read – have a play - have a listen and have a chat, a drink, and a slice of yummy cake. There may also be some quiet acoustic music.

Some examples of what will be available for part one:

- **The Stereoscope.** A Victorian 3D photo viewer. The virtual reality of its day. The viewer and the photos are between 100-150 years old.
- **Polaroid Instant camera.** Yes, retro tech. Take a physical, hold-in-your- hand photo.
- **Mini Microscopes.** Handheld and portable 60-200 times' magnification. See the world as you have never seen it before.
- **Learn to knit.** It's fun and easy to learn the basics. We will show you how.
- **Historic Newspapers and Magazines.** From the First World War to 1970's music magazines.
- **Flint Blade Core.** A 5,000 year old flint core for making flint blades.
- **Gentle Ambient Acoustic Music.** From 1.30pm-3pm.

Many more things to discover on the day and many more things to come!

PART TWO. 3pm-4.30pm. A chance to enjoy some short (informal) performances.

This could be some music, some poetry, a talk, a demonstration, a show and tell, etc.

We also wish to encourage people to participate so these will not be on stage performances and will be with a relaxed audience. Does your child play the recorder (badly or not) – fantastic! Bring them along for a very short performance.

Examples for part one or part two: Chess, draughts or other board games. Show off your crafting hobby. Bring along your collection of retro or modern artefacts. Demonstrate your juggling skills. Bring along your art. Do a short talk. Musicians are very welcome. We will also be accommodating to last minute (impromptu) performance decisions.

We aim not to be prescriptive about what's on offer so these are merely suggestions in order to give a flavour and some inspiration!

We are very keen for people to join in and share, so if you or someone you know has something you think would be of interest for either part of the afternoon, please do get in touch or even better come along.

There is an in-tune piano available and also a projector with screen.

We hope you will enjoy your experience at The Curiosity Cafe and would appreciate donations. These will go towards the running costs, future activities, room hire and admin etc. Suggested amount £1-£5.

Proceeds from the café refreshments will go to the Warm Space project.

We will initially be organising two events in July, provisionally Sunday the 7th and 21st and if successful will then look to make it a regular event, so do come along and enjoy what's on offer!

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FOOTBALL ROUND UP

by Jodie-Kate Johns

As Winkleigh approach the end of their 23/24 season, it can only be described as a tale of two halves.

A stellar start to the season saw Winkleigh remain undefeated in the league for a run of games, which was well deserved as Winkleigh had entered the Premier Division with enthusiasm, passion and champion vibes after gaining promotion from Division 1 the previous season. At the end of 2023, we suffered terrible weather, and teams across the league struggled to host their games due to waterlogged pitches - resulting in Winkleigh playing a meagre 2 games throughout December and January. After this unexpected break, the second half of the season saw Winkleigh struggle to gain points both home and away. A run of losses saw team spirit weakened, evident on and off the pitch.

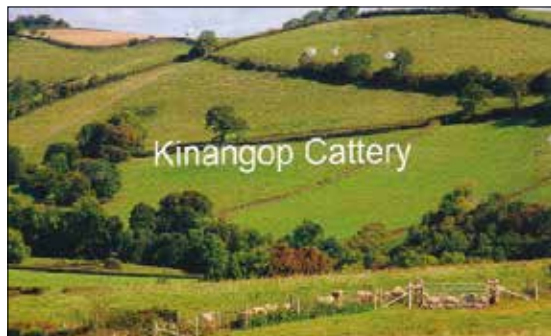
At the time of writing, Winkleigh are playing their last game of the season against Lapford tonight where they're

hoping for one last win to see the season out.

As it stands, Winkleigh are currently 8th in the league table (out of 14 teams) and having gained promotion from

Division 2 to Division 1 in season 21/22 and from Division 1 to Premier in 22/23. It goes without saying that everyone is incredibly proud of the teams' achievements over the past couple of years and finishing mid-table in the highest division they've ever played is a great victory and something each and every one of the players should be proud of.

Team player/manager, Robin Knight, announced last year that this season would be his last as manager so that he can focus more on his family and his wedding planned for later this year. Managing a team solely alone is not something that happens very often at this level of football, and Robin has done a fantastic job in getting the team to where they are now. As a club, we would like to extend our thanks



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to Robin for his time, hard work and continued efforts in taking the team as far as they have come. We look forward to seeing Robin back on the pitch as he continues to play for Winkleigh.

The search for a new manager has been underway throughout this season and after a few dead ends, Winkleigh FC are proud to announce that Lee Green (pictured below) will be managing Winkleigh for season 24/25. The club would like to welcome Lee to the team, village and community - we can't wait to see what the future holds.

After many years of hard work, our club groundsman, Malcolm Passmore, has decided to step down from the role.

From being there to open up at every home game and travelling to the furthest away games, to maintaining the pitch and sorting out the recycling, Malcolm has done it all. His voluntary efforts will most certainly be missed! As a club, we would like to extend our gratitude to Malcolm - there are very

few people that would selflessly give up their time week in and out as Malcolm has done, and we are very grateful.

With the season closing, Winkleigh FC are looking forward to celebrating at their end of season dinner on Friday 14th June, closely followed by the annual 6-a-side tournament on Saturday 22nd June. As a club run by volunteers, we're always on the lookout for extra pairs of hands, be it on the committee or a little help on match days. If you think this is something you could help with, please email winkleighfc@outlook.com.

And finally, where would a club be without its supporters and sponsors? Throughout the good and the bad times, Winkleigh FC have always had a supporting crowd and it doesn't go unnoticed! A big thanks to everyone that has backed the team this season.

Follow our Facebook page: Winkleigh Football Club to stay up to date with latest news, fixtures and events.



Tony Bayley, Chairman (left), Lee Green (middle), Robin Knight (right)



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Letters...



Dear Distinctly Winkleigh,

William Blake once wrote, 'to generalise is to be an idiot.' Unfortunately, this has become a timeless quote and one that repeatedly affects teenagers and the younger generation. I have spent time as a teacher in both Hampshire and Devon working with teenagers and have also lived and worked in Romania, working in two orphanages and a psychiatric hospital for children. I have not been stood on the sidelines as an observer and as such, feel I am in a good position to say how amazing, talented, kind and thoughtful so many of the younger generation are. A huge majority are hard workers, they understand competition both within themselves and with others and they can certainly not be accused of being 'dumbed down'.

With so many more options open to children and young people now, not only do they have to be good all-rounders, their strength of character has to withstand so many more forks in the road. From such a young age, we expect children to make one important decision after another and most of the time, they rise to the occasion. Aside

from this, the GCSE exams are tough. The top grades are not just given away and pupils are expected to sit multiple papers for just one subject. Pull all the subjects they are expected to do together and suddenly, you have a very daunting exam timetable.

I moved to Devon ten years ago and the younger generation in this village have always been polite and friendly; they have always either spoken or smiled when passed in the street and many have stopped to speak to my one year old in his pushchair. I don't think we can ask for 'better' than this.

We must not brush aside the part parents, teachers and care givers play either. All work tirelessly to ensure the children in their care grow up with a strong sense of what is right and wrong and therefore, with a drive to improve society. I see the results of this in action every day, not only in the children in Winkleigh but further afield as well.

I hope that those in prominent positions in society can learn how to support our younger generation and can be humble enough to learn from them rather than knocking them down.

LAURA LAMBTON

The advertisement features a green background with a silhouette of a family (two adults and a child) walking. The logo for Gilbert Stephens Solicitors is in the top right, with the letters 'gs' in a green box. Below the logo, the text 'Solicitors' and 'Legal advice for every chapter in life' is displayed. At the bottom, contact information is provided: '01363 775 566 / law@gilbertstephens.co.uk' and 'gilbertstephens.co.uk'.

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WHAT'S ON...

REGULARS

MONDAY

Short Mat Bowls 1:45pm-4:15pm Sports Hall

Netball Club 7:30pm-8:30pm Sports Hall

TUESDAY

Free 'Sewcial Crafternoon' at Catkin

Blooms 1:00-3:00pm

Badminton 7:00pm-9:00pm Village Hall

WEDNESDAY

Mini market & charity coffee morning

9:30am-10:30am Community Centre

Tap Dancing 7:00pm-8:00pm Village Hall

Youth Club 7:00pm-9:00pm Sports Hall

Kung Fu 6:30pm-8:00pm &

8:00pm-9:00pm Community Centre

THURSDAY

Winkleigh Art Group 10:00-14:00

Community Centre

Tai Chi 10:30-12:00 Village Hall

Tiny Tots 9:30-11:15 Sports Hall

Therapeutic Pilates 19:15-20:45 Village Hall

Tai Chi 19:30-21:30pm Sports Centre

FRIDAY

Youth Club 7:00pm-9:00pm Sports Centre

Therapeutic Pilates 9:30am-12.30pm

Village Hall

Short Mat Bowls 13:45-16:15 Sports Hall

JUNE

29th 2024 Coldridge Village Fete & Vintage Rally, Flower Festival & Dog Show

JULY

6th Winkleigh Monthly Market, Village Hall 10:00am to noon

8th The Winkleigh Singers 8:00pm Umberleigh Village Hall Venus and Adonis by John Blow. Concert performance with South West Baroque Players.

9th Winkleigh Friendship Club trip to Greendale farm Shop and Exmouth £12

9th Church Wives Group, Village Hall 2.30pm-4.30pm

12th *Battle of Britain* with a stellar cast showing at the Village Hall

12th *Wicked Little Letters* showing at The Pavilion, Leigh Road, Chulmleigh EX18 7JL. Film starts 7:30pm

14th- 20th Winkleigh Fair

18th Winkleigh Parish Council – Community Fair 3.30 - 8pm in the Community Centre

23rd-28th Chulmleigh Old Fair

27th Mid Devon Show at Knightshayes, Chettiscombe, Tiverton



Coldridge Fete & Vintage Rally
Flower Festival & Dog Show
12 noon
Saturday 29th June
middevonparish.co.uk/coldridge
(In aid of Coldridge Hall & St Matthew's Church Fabric Fund)

AUGUST

3rd Winkleigh Monthly Market, Village Hall 10:00am to noon

3rd Sam Cider's Summer Festival
3pm - 12am

13th Church Wives Group, Village Hall
2.30pm-4.30pm

SEPTEMBER

7th Winkleigh Monthly Market, Village Hall 10:00am to noon

10th Winkleigh Friendship Club trip to Boscastle and Tintagel £12

10th Church Wives Group, Village Hall
2.30pm-4.30pm

20th *Mamma Mia – Here We Go Again*
screening at the Village Hall

OCTOBER

5th Winkleigh Monthly Market, Village Hall 10:00am to noon

9th Church Wives Group, Village Hall
2.30pm-4.30pm

NOVEMBER

2nd Winkleigh Monthly Market, Village Hall 10:00am to noon

12th Winkleigh Friendship Club trip to Strawberry Fields and Tavistock £12

12th Church Wives Group, Village Hall
2.30pm-4.30pm

If you are an open air theatre fan a good website to find out what is available is www.theploughartscentre.org.uk/whats-on/live/open-air



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WINKLEIGH FAIR PROGRAMME 2024

Come and join in the fun!

SUNDAY 14TH JULY

Opening ceremony - 3pm

In the square with a church service led by Reverend Helen Blaine.

- Winkleigh Morris Dancers
- Crediton Town Band
- Cream tea/Cake stall
- Crowning of the King and Queen



MONDAY 15TH JULY

Family fun dog show 6-8pm

At East Sedgetts, Farmer Franks Lane.

Sponsored by West Ridge Veterinary Practice Judge Bev Kemp (RVN) BBQ and drinks will be available.

CLASS LIST: £1.50 A CLASS

- Pure Breed (dog or bitch)
- Cross Breed (dog or bitch)
- Best puppy (4-12 months)
- Best Veteran (8 years and over)
- Young Handler (14 years or below)
- Most handsome Dog
- Prettiest Bitch
- Scruffiest Dog

- Best Rescue
- Best Condition
- Best in show (open to all class winners)

THE RULES

- Dogs must be kept on leads at all times.
- Organisers take no responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to any dogs, person or property.
- No puppies under 4 months or bitches in season.

TUESDAY 16TH JULY

Winkleigh Fair Bingo night

Open from 6.45pm. Eyes down 7:30pm

WEDNESDAY 17TH JULY

Classic Car and Bike Show. Including auto jumble 6pm

Winkleigh Village Square

- Live music from The Hummingbirds.
- BBQ, drinks will be available.
- Nico's Ice Cream.

To book your vehicle or Auto Jumble
Contact Neil 07775 568728

THURSDAY 18TH JULY

Winkleigh Parish Council 3:30pm - 8pm.

Something for everyone, come join Winkleigh Parish Council at the Community Centre

- Fun activities, mini quizzes, lots of fun and competitions!
- Tea/Coffee and Cakes will be available.
- Come join us to see what we have to offer for our village.

FRIDAY 17TH JULY

Winkleigh Fair Quiz 7pm

Winkleigh Village Hall. Doors open from 6.30pm. Get your team together and join the fun!

- Max 6 people per team
- Raffle
- Licensed bar
- Quiz master Tony Aston

**To book your table contact:
Christine 07833 132848**

Photos courtesy Royston Naylor stone@stonefree.org

SATURDAY 20TH JULY

WINKLEIGH FAIR DAY 2PM

2.30pm

Hatherleigh Year 6 School band

3-4pm

Children's fun games in the square! Egg and spoon, Sack race, running games, tug of war and much more

4pm

Idly Wild Western/Folk Music playing

6.30pm

Adult Tug of War

8pm onwards

Missin Links band

ACTIVITIES THROUGHOUT THE AFTERNOON

- Bucking rodeo
- Bungee run
- Basket ball Dual,
- Tin Can Alley,
- Bean bag carnival Challenge,
- Lollipop Hoop,
- Pea shooter.
- Friends of Winkleigh Stall
- The Drum Bus
- Face painter
- BBQ
- Nico's Ice Cream





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Enrichment Activities

Learning extends beyond the classroom! Weekly enrichment activities, theme days, and enterprise projects provide practical experiences, fostering social skills and self-esteem. From museums to outdoor adventures, our pupils gain new perspectives and skills.



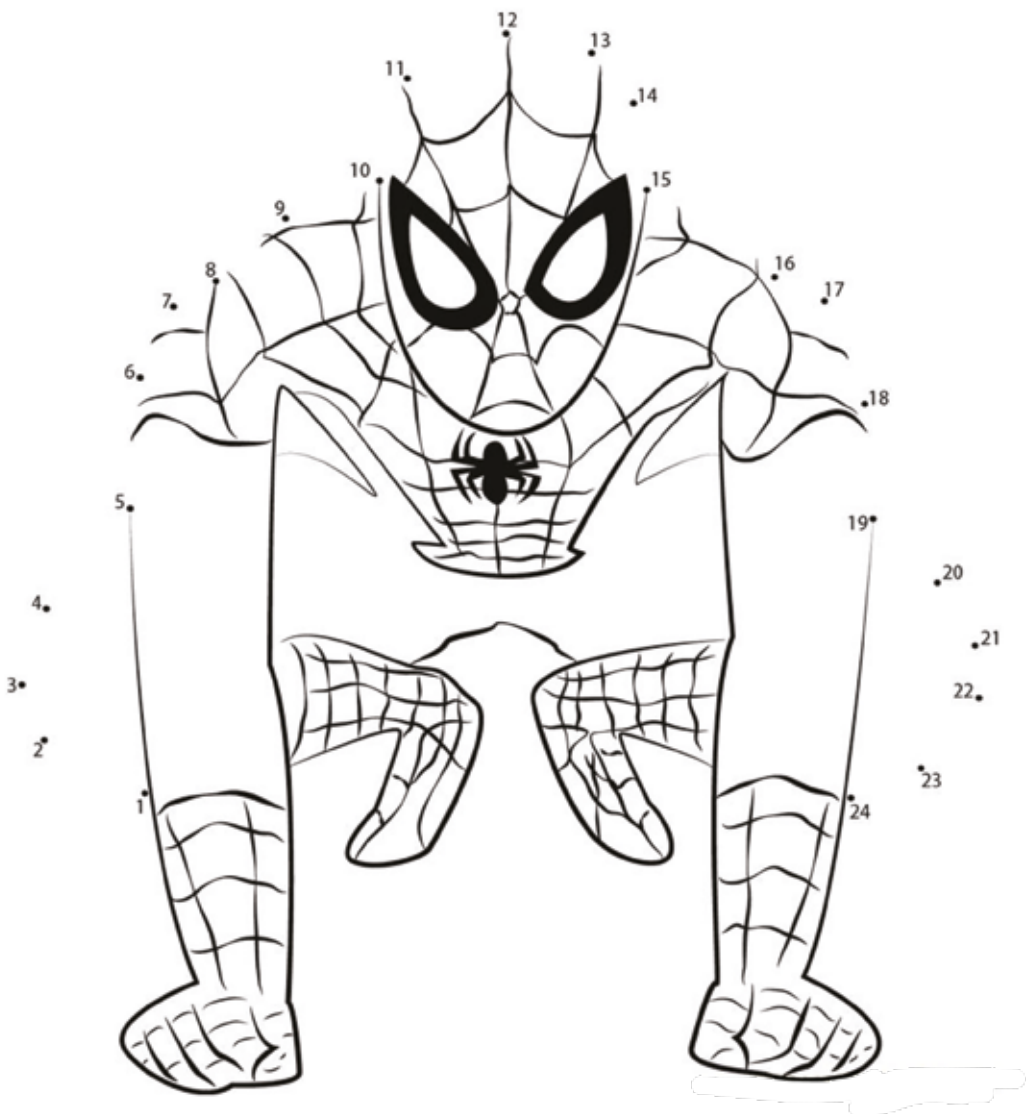
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SCHOOL NEWS

Winkleigh Primary School Headteacher
Mrs Victoria Fenemore reports

The half-term has been one of pride in our children and I want to share with you some of their achievements over the past 6 weeks.

During the school week, staff are observant of particularly positive achievements, behaviours and attitudes that warrant a certificate in our celebration assemblies on Friday afternoon. We have given 126 Kindness, Excellent Error and Achievement awards; 48 learning leaves and 63 sports certificates with medals. Children have visited other schools and taken part in sports fixtures and have won numerous trophies and medals. We really are grateful to Queen Elizabeth in Crediton who have provided so many sporting opportunities for our children and they have benefitted enormously.

Our extra-curricular events continue with the trips offered to children and residential season is upon us. Year 5 went to Skern Lodge and learned about team building and personal challenge in conquering the obstacle course, high ropes, tunnels, canoes and rafts. There were evening activities where they could enjoy games in the pool and Olympic fun on the field. As always, the feedback from the provider was that our children are remarkable in their care of each other, resilience and willingness to try everything. Our upcoming residentials are for Year 3 – camping; Year 4 – Escot and Year 6 who are going to London for three days and then surfing to finish off their time with us.

Extra-curricular events are costly and I would like to thank our staff and families for their support of our fundraising activities such as family breakfasts in order to help fund our trips and ease financial burdens on families.



We now look forward to the second half-term of summer with eagerness to see how the children continue to grow and prepare for the next step in their educational journey and especially to our Year 6 children who will move on from Winkleigh to secondary school. They are a very accomplished group of children who are ready to move on from primary education and given the theme of this article, we are very proud of each and every one of them.

My thanks to everyone who supports our wonderful school.



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Temporary Path



A long awaited temporary pathway has been created by Alison Homes to allow all dog walkers access to the dog walking field along the bottom of 'Moor View' housing estate. Hence allowing dog walkers to have a far safer walk away from traffic using Townsend Road leaving the B3124 from Winkleigh By-pass, that can get very busy at certain times of the day.

Digging Up the Past

June 17 is the confirmed date by for THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL works to commence on Phase 2 of High Moor View. **Stephen Reed** from the Devon Historic Environment Team confirmed that A C Archaeology will be excavating the site of the **Romano British** ditched enclosure.

There will then be an **OPEN DAY** (date to be confirmed) **for the community** where artefacts will be displayed. A school visit is also planned.

Penny Griffiths

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Molly and Tom Squire on the birth of their daughter Grace Olive Squire. Grace was born on 2nd March and weighed in at 7 pounds and 15 ounces.



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(if you leave messages on the landline and I don't return your call in 24 hours please ring or text 07455365144)

THANK YOU

May I take this opportunity to thank all my volunteers for their support and help with this service.

If you're interested in volunteering please give Angela a ring to find out more!





Ann Beer

Patricia Ann Glover was born on 16th July 1941 at Ingleigh Green near Broadwoodkelly and was the daughter of Greta and Harold, but was always called Ann. She grew up locally and went to the local school at Winkleigh. Ann married Arthur on 10th June 1961, by the winter of 1962 their son Paul was born. When their son was 10 and their daughter Amanda was six months old, they moved to Winkleigh.

During her life Ann worked as a dinner lady, carer and dressmaker. She worked at Culverhayes, Winkleigh Court and Creedy Court to name a few employers and also worked in the community to adjust clothes, curtains and dresses. Ann also enjoyed making her daughter's wedding dress as well as christening gowns for her grandchildren, Richard, Katrina and Eileen. She made costumes for Richard and Katrina to wear at Winkleigh Fair. On one occasion she made a Little Bo Peep costume for Katrina which won the best homemade category. Ann was a perfectionist and her son can remember her still sewing in the early hours as she was not happy with the result.

Ann loved nature and always had a garden full of flowers and had several pets either dogs or cats. During the last four years of her life she suffered with Alzheimer's and died peacefully in her sleep on 18/05/2024. She will be sadly missed by her family and friends, especially her husband Arthur.

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DISTINCTLY WINKLEIGH

PUBLICATION INFORMATION

The Winkleigh Society publishes Distinctly Winkleigh quarterly at the end of **March, June, September** and early **December**. Copies are available free of charge to all homes and businesses in the Parish (many hand delivered others available from village shops).

Please email Articles to articles@distinctlywinkleigh.co.uk and Adverts to adverts@distinctlywinkleigh.co.uk One-off posters for community 'not-for-profit' events are free of charge.

Please ensure that any images you submit are of the highest possible resolution and that all articles and images are copyright-free. All articles submitted for publication may be subject to editing, primarily for space or layout reasons.

Note also that it takes only 500 words to fill each (A5) page without any images.

Please be aware that the views expressed in submitted material are not necessarily shared or endorsed by the newsletter team or The Winkleigh Society. Furthermore the Society does not accept any responsibility for the accuracy of any information, goods or services advertised in adverts or articles.

ADVERTISEMENT RATES & SIZES

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1/2 PAGE

128 x 92mm - £30

FULL PAGE

148 x 210mm (with 3mm bleed) - £60

Please supply your adverts as hires PDFs.

Discounts given for four consecutive editions when paid in advance.

All residents of Winkleigh Parish are welcome to attend and vote at Winkleigh Society General Meetings. Further information about the Society can be accessed at:
www.winkleighonline.com

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