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QUARTERLY JOURNAL

*The Winkleigh Society*

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AUTUMN 2025



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# *Winkleigh Society Report*

**As Chair of The Winkleigh Society I was delighted to accept the outstanding community service award from Winkleigh Parish Council at the awards ceremony held at The Community Centre on July 17.** Distinctly Winkleigh is a team effort from our committee, editor and posties and I accepted it on their behalf. We stand on the shoulders of Roy Cooper, David Lausen and Alan and Marie-Claude Mulcahy who founded this civic society in 1997. The distinctive design and arresting strap line was courtesy of another of its founding members Peter Monkcom [an award-winning advertising artist who invented Captain Birdseye]. It was gratifying that David Lausen and his wife Philippa travelled from Somerset to attend the ceremony. He is delighted that we are still a going concern as you can read from his letter to the editor.

It was a pleasure to see business and volunteer leaders recognised at the awards ceremony and a particular delight to see so many children [with their parents] attend the evening event to receive their book prize award [signed by Michael Murpurgo] for the story competition. **Thank you to Councillor Odulinski for championing the childrens writing competition event. We will be featuring some of these stories in Distinctly Winkleigh. Could be a budding journalist there.**

**Distinctly Winkleigh is keen to recruit a junior reporter on our team. We need a young person to give voice to youth issues, concerns and ideas.**

## **AFTER COVID**

Distinctly Winkleigh ran a poetry competition for young people and got a big response revealing turmoil, discombobulation and surprises. In this edition we feature happier times for youngsters: post-exam prom celebration pictures. Well deserved.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**1. POSTIES TEA** Held at Fiona's Farm Kitchen. An annual event where we treat all our posties and Distinctly Winkleigh team to tea, savouries & cake as a thank you for all their endeavours.

**2. AIRFIELD REMEMBRANCE SERVICE** Saturday Nov 8. Held at the R A.F. memorial on the old Airfield. Attended by a Canadian Officer (RCAF), flanked by flags from 5 nations of service personnel that served there. Reverend Helen Blaine will conduct the service of remembrance.

**3. Visit to Barnstaple library & Heritage Centre** to meet up with archivist Tyler Pollard and hopefully a visit to the Met Office in Exeter.

*Penny Griffiths and Margaret Miller*





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# Welcome

## TO OUR AUTUMN EDITION

Welcome to our Autumn Issue which is full to the brim.

So full in fact that I have had more copy than could be fitted in and I've had to carry several articles over to the next issue including an article on the S106 agreements between the local planning authority and the local developers which total £848,203. Now that I've mentioned it I'll at last have to include it next time!

I was also going to review a couple of books of local interest one of which I will review in the next issue but very brief details of the other are shown below.

50 years ago years ago on 23rd September 1975 an awful tragedy was revealed when the bodies of the three Luxton siblings were found at West Chapple Farm near Winkleigh. All three had been shot, one had been stabbed, one had a broken leg and all four of the doors to the house had been locked from the inside. *Earth to Earth* written by John Cornwell charts his forensic-like investigation into the tragedy and is published by Riverrun Press at £22. I have a copy of this absorbing read and please contact me should you wish to borrow it.

With regard to what's in the magazine please see the index on p1 and if there are topics that you'd like to see covered which aren't then please drop me a line.

Our next issue has a copy date of 7th November and is scheduled to be on doormats at the end of November.

*Peter Hopkinson*

Editor - [peter@hoppy.biz](mailto:peter@hoppy.biz)

## *The Distinctly Winkleigh Team*

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# PRESS SNIPPETS

## **Crediton Courier: Aug 7**

Devon and Cornwall police has been taken out of special measures after nearly three years.

## **Okehampton Times: Aug 7**

Devon and Cornwall police are on a mission to remove uninsured drivers from the roads.

## **North Devon Journal: Aug 7**

An old finger signpost from Exmoor National Park has taken pride of place in The Natural History Museum having been found covered with 12 rare species of lichen.

## **The Moorlander: Aug 8**

Blacksmiths, basket makers, plant dyers and potters who work in Dartmoor National Park are featured in Suzy Bennett's new book *Artisans of Devon*. Suzy has founded the Dartmoor Artisans Trail an arts, craft and food network linking

Dartmoor's traditional crafts people, artists and producers.

## **North Devon Journal: Aug 21**

Steep increases in school bus fares has sparked outrage by parents. MPs and county councillors have held urgent meetings with Stagecoach Director Peter Knight.

## **First News: Aug 21**

This newspaper for children has just celebrated its 1,000th edition and been named newspaper of the year.

## **Crediton Courier: Aug 21**

A two day event for brass bands called 'Bandemonium' saw 23 bands perform five concerts in ten different locations across the county. All 500 players congregated in Hatherleigh for a massed band concert.

*Penny Griffiths*

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**SAT - 9AM - 4PM**  
**SUN - 10AM - 3PM**  
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WINKLEIGH

# *Parish Church News*

The seasons are starting to change and the new school year has started for many. Within the church though we are approaching the end of the church year which runs from Advent to Advent. We have prepared for the birth of Jesus, celebrated Christmas, walked the way of the cross and rejoiced on Easter Day. The summer months have been a time of learning and growing in faith before we reach this point in the year. At this time the church looks beyond the present and beyond ourselves. It is the season for grappling with the big questions of life and seeking God within them.

Our harvest service provides us with an opportunity to give thanks for the harvest. We pray and give thanks for all who work so hard to produce the food we eat, especially those in this community. Harvest reminds us too that we are just a small part of the whole created order. Playing a part in the complex web of interdependence which is the natural world. We are reminded of our need for good stewardship for future generations, and to make wise consumer choices.

We then arrive at All Souls Day when we remember before God all those whom we love but see no longer. This encourages us to confront our own mortality. Our commemoration service seeks to acknowledge that grief and loss are part of human life. We mourn the loss of person because of love we had for them and they for us. It is because of this love and the love God has for each of us that we can face those big questions around death and the hereafter. All Saints Day which follows, enables us to give thanks for those who have gone before us and for their witness to Christ. These may be people given the title of 'Saint' by the church or those who in our own lives have brought us to faith and inspired us.

Remembrance Sunday can pose many questions as we honour all who have lost their lives in conflict. WW1 was supposed to be the war that ended all wars, yet conflicts have raged throughout the world since and do so today. The world feels increasingly less safe and peaceful, and the horror of war is seen in our media. Countless people have lost their lives and loved ones, yet men and women still offer themselves in the service of their country. How do we reconcile this with our faith in God? How do we work for a more peaceful and just world?

These are big questions and there are no easy answers. Grappling with them requires courage and faith but that is what the church is here for. Our doors are open, and all are welcome – seekers, doubters and especially those with really big questions. Together before God we question and explore, trying to make sense of the world and our place in it, in the light of God's love.

Advent is just around the corner and it brings the promise of light and hope to the world. To be continued...

*Revd Helen Blaine*

01837 83710 or [Revhelenblaine@outlook.com](mailto:Revhelenblaine@outlook.com)





## All Saints Church *Flower Ladies Group*

A **Flower Demonstration** has been organized for **Tuesday 30th September at 10.00am in the church**. Refreshments will be available [**Everyone is Welcome**]. It would be lovely if you could bring along a friend, family member, or neighbour who would be interested in acquiring further knowledge and know-how of floral arranging.



The '**Harvest Service**' for this year is **Sunday 5th October**.

An open opportunity for anyone that would like to assist in assembling a floral arrangement for the harvest service would be welcome.

No experience is required as help will be on hand at all times. Any interested person/party within the village, or surrounding area would be very welcome.

A **Coffee Morning** will be held on **Tuesday 7th October – 10.30-12.30** to view the harvest displays.

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# MARCHING PAST THE CENOTAPH.

## London Remembrance Sunday 2024

In mid-2024, I was astonished to receive a message from the Royal British Legion, inviting me to be part of the procession past the Cenotaph in Whitehall, London as one of the British Police veteran contingent during the Remembrance Sunday march in the presence of the Royal Family.

Having retired from the police force (or “service” to give it its modern reference) almost 30 years previously I was somewhat taken aback to receive this. Indeed, in this day of scams and fraud, my first thoughts were that I might somehow be the target of criminal activity. But, no, it transpired that it was indeed a genuine invitation.

So, in possession of my official pass, on Saturday 9th November Kay and I took the train into London ready for an early start on the Sunday. I left the hotel at 7.30am on the morning and headed back to Paddington station to pick up a taxi, proudly wearing my and my father's medals.



I was pleasantly surprised to learn that London taxi drivers on Remembrance Sunday give free rides to all those taking part in the processional march. I arrived at the meeting point, Horse Guards Parade to find hundreds of military and civilian veterans mustering together, a number that would swell in short shrift to several thousand.

There was a good deal of waiting around whilst everyone was sorted into their correct place but coffee and bacon rolls eased things along.

Shortly before 11am we were all in

position in Whitehall. Big Ben rang out its chimes on the hour, thus began two minutes silence. Given that there were now thousands of people in the area, participants, organisers and the general public, the sound of the silence was both moving and palpable.

The march past the Cenotaph commenced once all of the official wreaths had been placed. It was a very special moment for me to pay my respects in this unique way to all those who had fallen in numerous conflicts. As we all turned into Horse Guards Road, William, Prince of Wales was taking the salute, resplendent in the uniform of Royal Honorary Air Commodore. Another unforgettable moment.

The march past concluded at 12.30pm when we were all, together with our partners, enjoyed a luncheon. Kay and I met some lovely people there before we headed back to Paddington for the train ride back to Devon.

This was a truly momentous occasion that I was so proud to be part of, one never to be forgotten.

*Tony Aston*



## *We will remember them*

The annual **Airfield Remembrance Service** to commemorate those who served at R.A.F. Winkleigh in WW2 will take place on Saturday 8th November 2025 at the Memorial on the old airfield. Meet at 10:15am for 10:30am start.

The Service will be led by Reverend Helen Blaine and a serving Officer from the Royal Canadian Air Force will read the roll call of the fallen. Wreaths will be laid by local organisations and R.C.A.F. on behalf of the people of Canada.

A musician will accompany hymns and will sound The Last Post and Reveille.

Following this Remembrance Service, an 80th Commemoration event will be hosted by Winkleigh Parish Council in the Community Centre.

**On Sunday 9th** November a

Remembrance Service will take place at **All Saints Church, Winkleigh.**

Gather around the churchyard memorial at 3pm for wreath laying, prayers and two minutes silence, followed by a service in the church. All welcome.

**On Tuesday 11th** November Remembrance Day. Gather at The Church of All Saints War Memorial just before 11am for the 2 minute silence.



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## WHAT'S GOING ON at Winkleigh Methodist Church?

What a summer we have had! No complaints this year on not enough sun; unusually, not enough rain!!

Autumn is fast approaching and for us churches, it's time to organise Harvest Festivals to celebrate the bountiful harvest that God has provided for us. The hedges have been bursting with blackberries and apple trees have been groaning under the weight of their fruit; it's been a remarkable year for both. For the farmers, they've ploughed their fields and scattered and now they're bringing in the sheaves. Gardeners are busy picking and storing all their goodies. It is indeed a busy time of year.

This year for the first time in many years, we will be having a community HARVEST LUNCH. This will be held in the Village Hall on Sunday 5th October at 1pm. Tickets are available now at £12.50pp (£3.00 for primary-aged children) from Fiona's Farm Shop, Winkleigh Mini Market or from Jane Hill. It would be lovely to see as many as possible to this celebratory event.

The following weekend, Sunday 12th October at 11am, we will celebrate Harvest at the chapel with a service led by Mr Martin Friend, a local farmer. All are welcome to join with us for this as well.

As a Church, we are very proud that one of our young people, Miss Lily Down, is going off to Bristol to work for SWYM (South West Youth Ministries) for a year before venturing on to University. We wish her every blessing as she meets with other young people to introduce them to Jesus.

Tea and Pudding afternoons continue to be a great success and if you have yet to join us, please do. They are held every 4th Sunday of the month between 3-4:30pm. It's £3.00 for unlimited tea and a pudding, but if you would like two puddings – and most do – that's £5.00. Thank you to all our volunteers for their gifts of delicious puddings and for their time serving – and of course, for chatting!

We meet for worship every Sunday at 11am. Anyone is welcome to join us. There will be a housegroup starting in September: more details about that in the next issue.

And as my dear Dad would say, all of this is God willing x

**Sunday 28th  
September**

**3 - 4.30pm  
Tea and Pudding**

**Sunday 5th  
October**

**1pm  
Harvest Lunch  
(at the Village Hall)**

**Sunday 12th  
October**

**11am  
Harvest Service**






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## From your **Devon** **County Councillor**

Summer went by so quickly but there have been many issues I have been involved in and campaigning on since the last edition of Distinctly Winkleigh (as well as the many wonderful agricultural shows I've attended with my children!)

I wrote to the CEO of South Western Ambulance Service Trust (SWASFT) and they were called in for scrutiny by DCC's Health and Adult Care Scrutiny committee in relation to their decision to phase out the fire co-responder service, where I also spoke out in concern. It was a shock decision which has generated significant worry, particularly for those of us living in rural areas where ambulance wait times are often very long. The committee heard from a large number of members of the public talking passionately about the need to retain the service, and the Southwest Ambulance Trust was heavily scrutinised by councillors. The recommendation from the committee was that SWAST should pause the termination of fire co-responders, respond within 28 days with more detail and metrics, and come back to committee in September, as they were not satisfied with the information and reasoning that was provided.

A large number of reports have been presented to us on DCC's cabinet since being elected in May. Most notable decisions include the agreement "to trial pothole repair

blitz as part of £83 million road maintenance programme". Our highways teams will carry out a repair blitz on potholes, where all potholes will be filled, rather than just dealing with safety defects, in a few trial areas of the county. Although the exact details are still to be agreed, this pilot will be used to establish the budget implications of changing maintenance procedures. I have suggested they might like to conduct this trial in Torridge!

We also agreed to "Improve the outcomes of our most vulnerable children through new 10-year plan". This is a new long-term plan to improve the outcomes of Devon's most vulnerable young people by overhauling how they are supported and cared for. We have agreed to an ambitious multi-million investment programme to establish 12 new children's homes; 20 specialist foster places; and up to four new therapeutic schools, over the next 10 years.

At our recent cabinet meeting I presented a report from the public health manager on alcohol harm in Devon. I had to declare that I am not teetotal by any means! But there was real seriousness and shocking statistics in the report, with some of the figures for Devon being double the national average. For example in Devon alone premature death (*which means dying before the age of*

74yrs) from alcoholic liver disease has increased by nearly 42% since 2001 and within the last 10 years alcohol related hospital admissions have grown by 46%. Admissions for alcoholic liver disease have increased by 70%. While nationally we are seeing a *reduction* in alcohol consumption in younger adults (18-34yrs) it still causes significant harm to young people. In Devon, our under-18s hospital admission rate for alcohol-specific conditions are *nearly double the national average*.

I have had a large number of people contact me, including the headteacher of Great Torrington School, in relation to Stagecoach's price hike in bus fares which took effect 20th July. There was no warning and a lack of communication that this was happening, meaning that many children didn't even have enough money to get home from school (those who travel out of catchment ie mainly those from Bideford). There is also huge concern for post-16 students who saw a massive increase to £444 per term to get to college. Not only this, but for everyone more generally with both return tickets and the North Devon zone now scrapped as part of their new ticketing strategy. I raised concern over the price increases urgently at our cabinet meeting and launched a petition which was actively supported by more than 2/3 of county councillors from all parties and rapidly reached more than 1000 signatures. We have now met with Peter Knight, Managing Director of Stagecoach and have agreed to work more closely in partnership, both to lobby central government in terms of the need for fair funding for our large rural county, but importantly, he has agreed to seriously look at re-zoning and lowering costs for young people under 18 which will likely come into



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**DOGS ARE WARMLY WELCOME!**

effect in January 2026.

On a more local level, I was really pleased to visit a place where I have spent a huge amount of time in the past- both as a pupil and as a teacher! Great Torrington School. I want to thank headteacher Andy Bloodworth and chair of governors Ian Newberry for inviting me in, in my new role as County Councillor. They showed me around and I heard about the challenges and things that have changed since I was there 6 years ago. As well as GTS, I have also visited Chulmleigh College and met with the headteacher, alongside the leader and deputy of DCC as well as some other County Councillors. A key insight that we all took away was the will and the need for more collaboration between Devon County Council and the schools, and the need for more face to face interaction.

I'm also pleased to say I have been able to grant some of my locality budget to Winkleigh area. £260 has gone to Winkleigh Youth FC for replacement goals, and £600 to Winkleigh AFC towards a new mower!

It has a very broad remit, but I am really enjoying having the role of cabinet member for rural affairs, and as a farmer myself it is something I am so passionate about. As county councillors we were all invited down to a farm near Ivybridge in July, and they are holding another farm event for us near Okehampton in October. This was organised by the NFU South team, it was a great way to build relationships between councillors and rural organisations, and was a great opportunity for councillors to learn about the issues and especially the recent challenges we are facing in the farming sector: the family farm tax,

the closure of the sustainable farming incentive, and unfair trade deals to name a few. As well as a presentation from the NFU and having a tour of the farm, we also heard from the Rural Affairs team at Devon & Cornwall Police about the different challenges in rural areas- from flocks of more than 100 sheep being stolen overnight, to GPS systems being stolen and ending up as far away as the USA and Mexico. These are highly organised crimes and we were urged to report any suspicious behaviour that we see in the countryside to them. As cabinet member for Rural Affairs I look forward to working together with organisations such as the NFU, sharing knowledge and information with fellow councillors, and helping us to make informed decisions, allowing Devon County Council to be a bigger voice for our rural communities.

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# Winkleigh Parish Council's Chair Report Summer 2025

The Parish Council has again been very busy working within the Community. In July we held a very successful Awards Event with children from Winkleigh Primary School and youngsters from Chulmleigh College receiving awards. Also, adults within the Parish who had gone 'above and beyond' with their involvement within the Community, also received awards.

It has been good to see that some of our Parishioners have 'taken up the cause' of helping, along with some of our Councillors, trying to make our village look tidier by working on hedges and pathways within the village. More volunteers for this type of work would always be welcome – just a few hours a week would make a difference. Please contact us via our Contact Us page on the website [www.winkleighpc.org](http://www.winkleighpc.org) if you wish to volunteer

The Parish Council continues to be concerned about traffic within our village. We have recently purchased a 'speed gun' to compile our own data on speeding and we will continue to target areas which have caused concern to our residents. It should be noted that this data is for our own use and vehicle registration numbers are not recorded.

We hope that you all had an enjoyable Summer, and the spells of fine weather continue over the coming months.

*Greg Goldsworthy - Chair, Winkleigh Parish Council*

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# HOW CLEAN IS THE AIR THAT WE BREATHE?

An emissions monitor has now been fitted outside Winkleigh Primary School.

It will record the levels of nitrogen oxides [NOx] which is the main pollutant from petrol and diesel emissions.

It is part of Torridge's statutory requirement to monitor the air quality within its district.

Once the monitoring has been done for a year the environmental officer will contact the Parish Council with the results.



## *25th Celebrations* **at Fiona's Farm Shop**

The sun shone, the marquee went up, and gazebos, party lights and flowers (kindly given by Sarah) adorned our entrance and tables. Everything came together for a wonderful evening of food and friends. We had so many lovely comments from people enjoying the amazing atmosphere. People chatted, some catching up with old friends and some making new acquaintances.

The source of our achievements here has always been, and always will be, a God who has blessed us with so much. One of those blessings is a wonderful family and they indeed pulled together for the evening. Alan orchestrated the set-up outside, and also manned the barbie! Our kitchen was full of family members all helping to feed and serve 100 people. I was really proud of them all. Thank you.

As well as celebrating our achievement of 25 years as a farm shop, we wanted to raise funds for Kidney Research UK through ticket sales and donations on the night. A total of £1,315 has been sent to them.

Many thanks to all who came and supported us on the evening.

*Andrew, Linda and Fiona*



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# Walking Summit

People over 70 years of age are walking more than children under 10 was one of the startling statistics that got me thinking when I attended a Walking Summit in Bristol this summer.

It was run by the charity LIVING STREETS an organisation that promotes the benefits of walking. Bristol was chosen as it has adopted and promoted place-making and shared space design that prioritises pedestrians and active travel and promotes walking for all. The motto for the day's summit was '**Nothing about us without us**' so careful consideration needs to be afforded to children and those with a range of disabilities.

At this walking summit there were 7 different walks we could sign up to join. I chose the **safe streets for children**. We walked to the school near Bristol Cathedral which has adopted **WOW the walk to school challenge**. This pupil-led challenge enables children to self report how they get to school every day. If they travel actively [walk/wheel, cycle, scoot or park and stride at least once a week for a month], they are rewarded with a badge.

We met with one of the teachers, pupil walking ambassadors and a Living Streets consultant who had advised the school through the process. Lots of consultation, use of data [e.g. assessing air quality readings] and getting children to redesign the streets that surround their school. Lots of engagement with parents about challenging the speed and convenience of the school drop-off and getting them to consider instead the health and well-being benefits of walking with their children to school or allowing their children to walk with their friends, observing the neighbourhood and surroundings and arriving at school refreshed and energised.

Certainly the wow ambassador pupils we met with were engaged and

enthusiastic about their independence and reclaiming car-free, noise and fume-free play space around their school.

After the walks the final session was about the impediments to walking in cities, towns and villages.

- 1. Pavement parking;** An increasing problem. It is illegal in London and in Scotland.
- 2. Loss of gardens;** to create a car park makes it more hazardous for the walker as they walk over the lowered pavement that has in fact become part of the roadside.
- 3. Gardens;** hard surfaced over for parking also reduces shade, impedes drainage and increases risk of flooding.
- 4. The increased size,** width and weight of cars and lorries is severely damaging the pavements and kerb stones. This is a particular problem in villages.
- 5. Bins & pavement clutter;** impede those walking with pushchairs and mobility aids.

## SOLUTIONS?

**Innovative;** street, road and pavement design that prioritises pedestrians, active travel, green spaces, shade and a sense of place and requires planning permission to replace a garden with a parking bay. Bristol, Leeds, Edinburgh and Manchester are leading the way in street and pavement and shared space design in the U.K.

**Regular;** more reliable bus services and access to railway stations.

The conference concluded with a passionate appeal from a doctor to get out of our cars and get walking or we will not be able to afford the health emergency that is coming our way.

*Penny Griffiths*



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# A Winkleigh Lament by an old Winkleigh codger

Yer what happened to they there tree up be Westridge vets?

There used to be loads of em now theyve all gone

What happen to the wildlife too , theyve add to move away aswell.

Farmer probable needed some fire wood no doubt still a shame thow cause I can remember playing there as a kid and when tis gone tis gone.

Never mind the whole village is changing what with all these houses going up shant now anyone before long but thats progress as well.

Everybody moans about the speed of all the cars but we wont aft to worry about them either before long as the village was designed for horse and cart not all these yer cars so twill soon get chock o block and nothing will move again.

Now that will be progress.

They say speed kills but now they got two tills in Londis ive ardlly got time to rest me stick.

## *Wild Flowers* in Winkleigh

These beautiful wild flowers are the result of seeds planted several years ago by Alan Jacobs.



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# GARDEN NOTES

*To Coffey*



For too long we have tried to over tidy our gardens and denied the part that senescence and decay have in the life cycle of all things gardening. Standing or nested dead stems can provide winter frost protection for semi hardy planting; beneficial creatures need spaces to overwinter and for many of them heaps of leaves are great; leaving a leafy mulch over open areas of borders insulates the soil and acts as gentle natural weed suppression.

Whilst clearing some dead material, or vigorous late season growth back can provide protection - for example taking bulk off roses helps avoid winter wind rock, and then in spring they can have a prune to guide their growing shape and nip out any branches which died back in winter, it is still good to not remove organic material from a site, if it can be avoided, unless it is diseases. For most material leaving it grouped discretely around the garden is great, for some it may be a compost heap is the better option, for dry wood or bulky brush, it may be a bonfire is useful, but even then if it's clean wood (not treated) then the ash can be mixed into the compost heap helping to return potassium, or potash. Not only the wildlife from microbes, thro

bugs to hedgehogs and slowworms but also the soil all benefit from keeping nutrients on site, and good garden health starts with good soil.

## 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 (always ensure netting is tight and securely fastened)
- Plant spring flowering bulbs



## OCTOBER

- Divide established rhubarb crowns to create new plants
- Cut back perennials that have died down
- Divide herbaceous perennials
- Move tender plants, including aquatic ones, into a greenhouse or conservatory
- Plant out spring cabbages
- Harvest apples, pears, grapes and nuts
- Prune climbing roses
- Finish collecting seeds from the garden to sow next year
- Last chance to mow lawns and trim hedges in mild areas
- Renovate old lawns or create new grass areas by laying turf
- Apply a last round of nemaslug before the temperatures fall too far - the fewer overwintering and breeding slugs, the less slug damage in spring

## NOVEMBER

- Clear up fallen leaves - especially from lawns, ponds and beds
- Raise containers onto pot feet to prevent waterlogging
- Plant tulip bulbs for a spring display next year
- Prune roses to prevent wind-rock
- Plant out winter bedding
- Cover brassicas with netting if pigeons are a problem
- Insulate outdoor containers from frost - bubblewrap works well
- Stop winter moth damage to fruit trees using grease bands around the trunks
- Put out bird food to encourage winter birds into the garden
- Use a seasonal bonfire to dispose of excess debris unfit for composting **BUT CHECK FOR HEDGEHOGS!**



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## Two Sculpture School Graduates Shortlisted for ‘Wildlife Artist of the Year’



**Founded by the celebrated wildlife artist, David Shepherd CBE, Wildlife Art of the Year is now recognised as the world's premier wildlife art competition, effectively the ‘Oscars’ of wildlife art, attracting thousands of artists each year from across the world, all inspired by nature and driven to protect it. It is a tremendous honour for Lucy and Steve to have their work recognised on this international stage.**

- Lucy D'Auvergne ([www.lucydauvergne.com](http://www.lucydauvergne.com)) is an award-winning sculptor, exploring form, energy and movement, capturing the spirit of mammals in motion.
- Steve Parsons ([www.steveparsonsdesign.co.uk](http://www.steveparsonsdesign.co.uk)) is renowned for taking the natural beauty of birds and animals and encapsulating them into sinuous 3D forms.

Both artists attribute their refined technique and creative confidence to The Sculpture School's intensive One Year Programme, where they mastered sculpture skills taught by world renowned sculptor, Andrew Sinclair MRSS.

This OneYear Realist Sculpture Course immerses students in the art and business of figurative and animal sculpture under the guidance of

Andrew at his Devon studios. Over twelve months students complete comprehensive modules in both human and animal sculpture, unique to the School, to bring anatomy and proportion to life in clay. Graduates emerge fully equipped with both the creative mastery and commercial knowhow needed for a professional sculpting career.

The Sculpture School is delighted that two of its long-term students have earned this international recognition and that their work will stand alongside the UK's finest wildlife artworks at this prestigious event in London.

*"We couldn't be prouder of Lucy and Steve," says master sculptor and tutor, Andrew Sinclair MRSS. "Their success demonstrates the transformative power of focused practice and dedicated mentorship."*





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# Dissenting Voices

## *at Winkleigh*

On Saturday 26th July Winkleigh Methodist Church hosted the fifth of a series of six exhibitions entitled “Dissenting Voices, Celebrating Legacy in West Devon Methodism”

Telling the story of the origins of Methodism in our area, and particularly the Bible Christians, an offshoot of the Methodist Church which started in Shebbear in 1815. All the Chapels visited were built as Bible Christian Chapels. It was a movement which grew within the farming community and its characteristics were a strong belief in the Bible, a transformed lifestyle and social justice. John Wesley supported the ministry of women in preaching, but the Bible Christian women were very visible in their communities. Mary Thorne in the early 1800s was famed for stopping business at Hatherleigh on Market Day as so many people gathered to hear her speak from the back of a cart.

The building currently in use is the second Bible Christian building, the stone from the original 1839 building is set in the wall on Barnstaple Street.

Along with historical artefacts were photos lent by the congregation of the church showing events and village life. There were wedding photos from both Castle Street and Exeter Street chapels. Winkleigh had the unusual idea of keeping both buildings open for as long as possible with basically the same congregation worshipping at both chapels on alternate weeks! In 1976 the decision was to close the Wesleyan Methodist building, and everyone went

to Castle Street.

There was exhibited a file of letters detailing the campaign in the early 1990s which saved the Chapel building from suffering a total collapse of the gable wall. It's a wonderful testament to faith and fearlessness.

An intriguing story was uncovered relating to the role of Winkleigh Bible Christians and the Abolitionist movement of the early 1800s. You may recall an article by Adrian Mercer regarding the visit to Winkleigh by Moses Roper. Moses was an escaped slave from North Carolina who made it to Britain and lectured on the evils of slavery. He was invited by the Bible Christians to speak at Winkleigh's new chapel in 1840. It turns out that there was already a mixed-race family in the village. Elizabeth Palmer (b.1792) married a man simply noted as John Thomas the Negro. He had no surname, and their three children were known as Palmer. When the youngest was two, Elizabeth, presumably widowed, married William Beer of Winkleigh in 1823. It is highly likely that they were Bible Christians and were involved in the invitation to Moses Roper. There are tantalising gaps in the story, and it would be wonderful if more information could come to light. At the exhibition people enjoyed speculating how Elizabeth and John could have met, how their family integrated into village life and the influence they had for the abolitionist cause.

The day concluded with a concert by popular local folk singer Jim Causley,

who gave us a delightful musical tour of the county. Jim also sang a couple of self-penned compositions including one written for the exhibition called "Dissenting Voices", which you can listen to on the 'Sound Cloud' app.



*The stone from the original chapel in Barnstaple Street*

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# My Most Recent Encouragement

My most recent encouragement is everyone else's as well. I am not unique, we are all encouraged by advertising to consume, to buy, to waste, to own. Every time I surf the internet, check my son or daughter's podcasts and Instagram accounts I am bombarded by encouragement to buy things. As if by magic the web knows what I like and which companies I favour. The algorithms know me better than I know myself. Unless you are totally off grid your most recent encouragements, like my own, will be dedicated to consumerism. From TV advertising, roadside hoardings, newspaper and magazine advertisements, to the sophisticated World Wide Web you are encouraged from cradle to the grave to buy goods and services.

As I am writing for the Autumn issue, I am reminded that the last Friday in November is *Black Friday*. The concept, originally from America and now increasingly adopted over here, is that the Friday following Thanksgiving, is regarded as the beginning of the Christmas shopping season and therefore one of the busiest shopping days of the year. It's the day that kicks off an orgy of spending which often spells disaster in January when the credit card bills come in, which is why the last Friday in January is apparently the saddest day of the year.

The anarchy that ensues on Black Friday; the sleeping queues outside shops to get the so-called bargains, the indignant scramble for the goods, the maxing out on credit cards, have now become an absurd, obscene, dystopian phenomenon. Black Friday sucks the life out of small businesses, who cannot compete against this ruthless price

cutting by the giant retail monopolies. We are all loser's long term.

As a woman who dislikes shopping and abhors the idea of shopping as a *leisure pursuit* I prefer to dwell less on Black Friday or Christmas shopping in general and mark **Buy Nothing Day UK**, which is the Saturday after American Thanksgiving. **Buy Nothing Day** is a day where you challenge yourself, your family and friends to switch off from shopping and tune into life. The rules are simple, for 24 hours you will detox from shopping and anyone can take part provided they spend a day without spending! (Including purchasing on the internet in the evening!).

I am old enough to remember when all shops were closed on Sundays and Wednesday afternoons and although I am not religious, I often yearn for the day and half a week that were not devoted to retail, and walks in the country rather than walks in the shopping mall were *de rigueur*! Why? I hear you asking is she writing this - it's because everything we buy has an impact on the environment, **Buy Nothing Day** highlights the environmental and ethical consequences of consumerism and over consumption. In the developed countries - 20% of the world's population are consuming over 80% of the earth's natural resources, causing a disproportionate level of environmental damage, and an unfair distribution of wealth.

However, in recent years Capitalism has hijacked Thanksgiving because the following day is designated Black Friday, the day on which we traditionally spend the most money in the run up to Christmas. I find it

ironic that one day Americans are giving thanks for what they have and less than 24 hours later they are buying more, fuelling the profits of big business and replacing family time with shopping and spending. The really sad thing is that many shops in America open at 5am on Black Friday thus encroaching on Thanksgiving and when researching this article, I was sorry to see that many shops are actually opening on Thanksgiving Thursday, and in the UK shops are planning to extend their opening hours on Black Friday thus adding an element of competition to the inducement to spend. I wonder how long it will be before shops are open in this country on Christmas day. I remember years ago being shocked when shops started opening on Boxing Day, replacing what was then called the *January Sales*. In the UK, most stores are now only closed one day a year and I fear that unless we take action now and refuse to be sucked further in to the black hole that is our consumer culture, we will lose our Christmas Day too.

In the past religious doctrine and other beliefs preached against the disease of greed, whilst often the leaders of such religions lived lives of opulence. Perhaps this cruel irony was what allowed consumerism to take hold. We have now been convinced that indulgence is good for us and it is no longer a sin to covet what others have. Capitalism has succeeded. We are all good consumers. I am a good consumer. Generally we buy products we don't need, or that until recently we didn't know existed or hadn't been invented, that we now believe we can't live without. Technology has given us more time to spend, made it easier to spend and trapped us all in its ideology. Manufacturer's

deliberately build obsolescence into their goods. They deliberately fail to make things universal. Ask yourself how many different phone chargers do you have in your *Oddments Drawer*? The shopping experience deliberately made easier from; out of town covered malls with free parking, café and diners to eat in or on line purchasing where you don't even have to leave home. Religious holidays have become shopping days. Never mind *it's so many shopping days till Christmas*, there is now shopping at Christmas!

The capitalism and consumer ethic are one and the same, a *religion* with two simple commandments and the promise of paradise. The commandment of capitalism is to get the rich to invest and the rest of us to spend and spend again. Where you may ask is paradise? We know where it is and what it is, we don't even have to die first - we have seen it on our screens both big and small, through drama, entertainments sport and advertising. We cannot escape. Marx said "religion is the opium of the people", now perhaps it is spending the associated endorphin spikes and feelgood factor, as I fill my virtual or e basket with goods.

Capitalism and Consumerism through the medium of advertising steals our freedom, our creativity and ingenuity, the cleverness of their inducements encourage us to be homogenised, profligate and greedy. Perhaps this Black Friday we should ignore the encouragement to spend and be thankful for what we have; our lives, our health and our safety, and not to spend money or yearn for yet more things. I shall be ignoring my most recent encouragement - if I can, because let's be honest I am a sinner too.

*Angela Findlay*©

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# Winkleigh - Inspiring Residents Recognised for Local Impact

Local people of all ages came together on 17th July at the Winkleigh Community Centre to celebrate not only the Winkleigh area as a great place to live but also to bring people together to recognise and honour their achievements and voluntary contributions to the community. Participants from the age of 6 to over 70 were recipients of awards to recognise their particular contributions.

The evening was organised by Winkleigh Parish Council as part of their strategy to invest in the future and to foster community spirit in the broadest sense of the word; this to be done by bringing people, groups and businesses together, celebrating the spirit and heart of what is so good about the community and publicly acknowledging and valuing

people's achievements and volunteering activities.

Children and young people from Winkleigh Primary School and Chulmleigh College received awards for creative writing and illustrations about the place where they live and their feelings of belonging to it. Community groups and individuals were honoured for their volunteering activities and businesses for their positive impact on the community.

A Winkleigh parent who attended stated, *'We all thought the night was fantastic! The food was lovely, the speakers engaging from reading meaningful quotes to telling stories that make the welcoming, friendly, special village it is. It was nice to see people getting the recognition they deserve.'*

## Community Awards 2025

### Outstanding Service to Community

WINKLEIGH VOLUNTEER SERVICE

### Highly Commended

WINKLEIGH SOCIETY & SPEEDWATCH GROUP

### Outstanding Community Services Individual Supporting People

MARGARET BRIDGMAN

### Highly Commended

ANDREW ROBERTS & JULIA MALIK & MALCOLM PASSMORE

### Outstanding Services Supporting Community Groups

MIKE WILSON

### Highly Commended - ANGELA FINDLAY

### Business Excellence Award for Services to Community

ROGER HILL - SOUTHWEST FIXING

### Highly Commended

SCRIBBLETON & CATKIN BLOOMS

### Honary Freeman Of Winkleigh

ALAN JACOBS





Andrew Roberts with Cllr. Pauline Odulinski

The surprise of the evening was highlighted by another parent who said *'my daughter was so happy to receive her certificate and voucher; it was a fabulous surprise; she was struck by Sir Michael Morpurgo's taking the time to send a message. I know that the recognition she received will inspire her to carry on with her creative writing.'* Sir Michael also sent signed books for the creative writing gold prize winners.

There were some very big cheers for the unsung local heroes and heroines when they received their community awards for all of their many and diverse contributions to the local area and community. The final award was for business services to the community.

Finally, to quote a participant, *'this is a big feel-good event, just what we need!'*

The Community Awards were sponsored by Kingsley Plastics and the Children's Awards by Roger and Jane Hill.

## BACKGROUND

The journey to the launch of the annual awards evening took a year to plan and develop.

The first step was to engage with Winkleigh Primary School and Chulmleigh College. We felt we should work together on our mutual aim to help build a more inclusive society for young people and help them express themselves freely. The



Angela Findlay with Cllr Andrew Warner

event was also designed to create an opportunity to help young people consider and express their sense of belonging and think about their values and their community (in the widest sense of the term). The school and the college embraced all this by building it into their teaching with the creative writing and illustration competition recognising their talent and achievements.

There is a large number of people in the village who work quietly on a volunteer basis helping others in many diverse ways. We felt that these remarkable contributions are so important that they need to be valued and shared with others as they make such a difference to the community. The launch of the Awards was announced at the Community Fair in 2024 and members of the public were asked to nominate people, groups and businesses for the awards. We received a good response for nominations and Independent judges were appointed to ensure that the process was fair and consistent.

With the success of this year's awards being welcomed by the Parish, the intention is to continue on an annual basis.

Two of the Winkleigh Parish Council Short Story Award prize winning stories are published below.

## **“PERSON” by Eloise Anstee**

That word can be interpreted in so many ways, defined by adjectives, split into categories, dissected into a thousand different groups and stereotypes, blueprints for different people. Creative, sporty, stupid, awkward, nerd, popular, pretty, quiet, for example. Imagine them as a deck of cards. I search through them, finding the cards I want to hold in my hand, the words I want to define me. It's interesting how much power a few words can hold. I could choose the ones I want to believe, or I can be honest with that dark part of me that only lets me choose the cards I hate, discarding the positive ones into a messy pile at the back of my head. Only the meagre few that I hold are the ones that come to mind with questions, “Who are you?”

It's never an easy question, rarely a situation where you can just say your name and go. I'll always remember those lessons with the title “Identity” So many, often involving me staring at an overly optimistic sketch of myself, the lines of the paper like bars, separating her from me. I'll never be like that. Sure, some features match mine, her glasses, her eye colour, her uniform. But most are different, slightly better. “I've never liked that feature. I could draw a different one” over and over, until it's unrecognisable. Then comes the next step. Even more dreaded than the first. Write words around the picture, words that describe yourself. I shuffle through the cards in my hand. I fill the page with yet more lies, things I've been told but don't fully believe. In those lessons, the screech of the bell signifying the end of the hour is the most beautiful sound I've ever heard. Gradually, I've learnt that people are too complex for things like that. An identity doesn't feel solid to me, something that can be broken into pieces and scrutinised under a

magnifying glass like a butterfly pinned to a board. It feels fluid every changing, something deeply personal that can't always be defined. In the end, the only word that really matters is “you”.

## **A WINNING ENTRY by Serafina Dillion**

The little huts in the village hummed with the noise of readying for the celebrations. People were hanging banners and flowers of a thousand bright colours in their doorways, letting the loose petals whirl through the soft spring breeze and settle in the cobbled street. Each person I passed wore their finest silks wrapped around their bodies as dresses or shirts with freshly pressed trousers and cotton shoes with woven soles. On one corner, there was a young girl around fourteen who was painting beautiful animals onto children's cheeks and dotting parents with streaks of colour around their eyes to pop and amaze passers-by. A little further down the road, an elderly man sat in a rocking chair picking out a soft tune from an old guitar that his wife and daughter sang gently to a crowd. Their voices trickled into the ears of listeners and persuaded them to stay and listen.

Our little village had many festivals but my favourite was this one, a celebration of Anos, the god of familial love and community. It brought everyone together in a way many other festivals couldn't, perhaps because Anos was the beating heart of our community. I slowly made my way towards his temple, one of the six that stood tall at the centre of our huts and market, silhouetted against the eastern rising sun to look even grander and more powerful than they otherwise would. As I neared, streaks of blues and greens filled the market, spilling out from the stained-glass windows to dye the cobbled stones with their brightness.

As I approached the steps, my heart grew at the sight of the offerings that filled the whole market, ranging from freshly picked flowers in beautiful bows of silk to silver trinkets and golden coins. I dropped to my knees to murmur a soft prayer under my breath before laying down a roll from my mother's batch this morning, my offering, amongst a selection of dolls with three faces. With a small glance back at the village, I raced up the stairs two at a time to reach the doors as fast as I could. As I climbed, the bustle of the village grew quieter and quieter until I stepped inside.

The temple was eerie quiet in comparison to the streets but it was comforting. The monks filled the air with a musty, ancient smell full of books and magic, humming in a low tone their daily prayers as they passed. Even though I had been many times before, it never stopped amazing me how

different it felt inside the temple, the power that pounded in my ears like the methodical beating of my heart again and again and again and again until I felt I would burst. But Madame Gold found me soon enough.

My silly choir mistress was dressed in a bright yellow silk fashioned into a rather potato-sack-shaped dress style outfit that didn't fit her right. She was a strange woman with a narrow sharp face which always seemed to not fit her torso and tree-root-like legs that struck the ground firmly with each step. Her voice, however, was nothing short of angelic, and that was how it came about that she organised the choir. With her tinkling laughter she directed me into the hall where we began to practice for our service promptly as to not be late. While I stood in my line and sang off key I couldn't help but grin. I knew deep down in my heart just then that I belonged there.



## TEN ACRES VINEYARD CAMPING

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camping/glamping and Saturday tours on our website.

**Contact Esther/Toby for info and availability.**

# WINKLEIGH *Friendship Club*

The Winkleigh friendship club is still going strong in the Community Centre on alternate Thursdays 2.30-4.30.

We welcome people from surrounding areas as well as from the village to join us. Unfortunately the talk in August had to be cancelled and the talk scheduled for October 30th has a different speaker than advertised in the last issue of Distinctly Winkleigh.

Andy Sinclair from the famous sculpture school will be coming and we will be serving the usual tea ,coffee and cake. The trips organised by our group are coming to an end soon for this year the last one will be on November 11th to Paignton and on to Torquay .

Thank you to everyone who supported our trips and helped to fill our coach over the summer. We will soon be thinking about new places to visit for 2026 so watch this space.

*Marcia Butti*

Chairperson



## Winkleigh Environmental Group (WEG)

In July WEG set up two tables at the Winkleigh Saturday Market and it was good to have discussions with the public about our local natural environment and to hear their views. It was also encouraging to hear about the little positive things to help nature recovery that people are doing such as leaving areas wild in their gardens, noting the arrival and nesting of swifts, swallows and house martins. The pond tray, complete with dragonfly larva, nymphs and young newts was a popular item and it seems that quite a few of us have ponds in our gardens which are a vital habitat for a myriad of life.

We had a questionnaire at the Winkleigh market asking the public about any good ideas or projects related to the environment or any concerns. There was some positive discussion about the allotments, interest in swift projects/placement of boxes but there was also a rather sad observation about house martins building nests but after a few weeks the nests were sliding off, possibly because the new materials being used are not conducive to mud sticking to them.

In July we were invited by the Riddlecombe and Ashreigny nature group to an organised walk on Hollocombe Moor with a very experienced and knowledgeable botanist. The weather was perfect and some impressive sedges, grasses, wild flowers, insects and birds were identified. A visit to Hollocombe Moor is worthwhile, as it feels like a special wild space.

As usual, earlier this year, there was the RSPB garden bird count and the big butterfly count, this helps agencies understand numbers in decline or increase, so well worth doing. Incidentally Devon scored as one of the highest counts of butterflies in the country.

We have had a welcome surge in insects this year, compared to the low numbers partly caused by a very wet previous year. This explains the abundance of butterflies and which also had a great impact on our bird population with swallows and house martins and spotted flycatchers having at least two broods.

For those interested in the group, if you have a good idea you would like to share or a concern, we are happy to hear about it. You can communicate via a message on the WEG facebook group.

*Stuart Rosamond*

Chair



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## Exciting news!

We're proud to announce that our practice has been awarded Silver Cat Friendly Clinic status by International Cat Care – and we couldn't be more thrilled!

This accreditation means we've taken extra steps to make visits to our clinic less stressful for our feline friends.

We now also offer cat only clinics. This means that between 11am - 12:30pm every Tuesday we will have routine appointments available only for our cat patients\*

\*Emergency appointments will of course still be available for all our other much loved patients at these times.



# Veterinarian Advice

## How to de-stress your cat when visiting the vet

Bringing your cat to the vets can be stressful for them...and you! Here are a few tips from our crazy cat nurse, Charlotte, to make the whole situation a bit more chilled.

- Leave your cat carrier around the house at all times.
- Doing this de-sensitises your cat to the carrier so that they don't associate it with being brought out just for a trip to the vets. Put it in a room they like to be in and cover the top over with a blanket that smells familiar. Make a bed for them in it and then leave them to investigate. Don't force them to use it, just it being in the environment will help it not to be so scary!
- Consider using calming pheromones or diffusers. Some cats can be anxious in their nature, so these will help this type of cat generally. But, they can also help in situations of unusual stress such as vet visits. Feliway is a pheromone based product that mimics the pheromones that cats receive from their mother when feeding as a kitten. It comes in a diffuser that invites calm into their surroundings or a spray which is ideal for spraying in carriers (30 minutes before leaving for a visit). Pet remedy is a homeopathic type product that is valerian based (it actually can help people too!) and also comes in a diffuser or spray. Both are available at reception, so please ask for more details if you think either might help your cat.
- When you arrive at the vets, keep your cat off the floor and in the dedicated cat waiting area. Putting your cat on the floor whilst they are in



their carrier can be a highly stressful situation. Cats seek to have control in their environments, which is why they like being up high so they can see everything. They are essentially 'trapped' in their carrier, and so by putting them on the floor where other animals, such as dogs, are means that they are vulnerable. Please use our cat table, reception desk or chair to put them on. If there is no available surface then please ask us and we will find your cat a suitable 'room with a view!'

- Bring a blanket to the vets that has familiar smells from home and cover

their basket with it whilst waiting for your appointment. Even the consulting room can be a scary place and full of unfamiliar smells, so something from home for them to sit on whilst the vet or nurse examines them can really help to reduce stress.

- Prepare for the return home! If you have multiple cats, but have only taken one to the vets, that cat will return home smelling like a stranger. This can create conflict between cats that are normally relaxed around each other. Feliway and Pet remedy can help these situations, but also a slow re-introduction can prevent any arguments. Keep your cats separate whilst the cat who has been to the vets starts to smell familiar again. Using a blanket that has stayed at home to stroke your cat with can make them smell a bit more familiar, but a nice nap on the bed or a chin rub on a chair will have the same effect!

We are very proud here at Westridge Vets Winkleigh to have been awarded the Silver Level Cat Friendly Clinic status by International Cat Care! This accreditation means we've taken extra steps to make visits for our feline friends and their owners more comfortable.

If you have any questions about your feline friends then please don't hesitate to give us a call.

**Charlotte Davies, BA (Hons) Cert AVN  
Cert VNECC RVN and Cat Advocate**



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# Countryfile

*I am very fond of hedgehogs  
which makes me want to say  
that I am struck with wonder  
how there's any left today....*

Pam Ayres



Whether we are burning our cleansing samhain fires, mounting our Guy atop our bonfire, or torching tar barrels at this time of year we love setting fire to things. The cold and the damp make the heat and warmth cosy and welcome. Welcome for us. Not so much so for those living in the big pile of sticks and branches we have mounded up over the last few months. Especially those inhabitants who could even be trustingly thinking, that maybe in return for eating up to 40 slugs a night, the gardener has created a nice winter nest site for them. They are generally less impressed by our sudden pyromaniacal urges.

Hedgehogs in particular have been struggling for some years now. You could say they've been running to catch up, their having evolved really quite rapidly to now tend to run rather than just curl in a ball - a tactic that serves them better with cars compared to their

earlier toothed predators.

That's not all they have to contend with, for years some have liberally scattered little blue pellets to poison the slugs, but the problem is that's the furzehog dinner table that's been made toxic, so the poor urchin is pretty sick of that one too.

On top of all that our gardens are more enclosed and controlled, the countryside built on, and their hedges grubbed up for larger and larger fields of monoculture. The every little hedgepig is forced into competition with every other grub eater for rapidly dwindling resources.

It's not all doom and gloom for our prickly friends. There are projects to create hedgehog-corridors, some people have hedgehog-houses in their garden (time to clear them out and put them back in a nice private sheltered space for new inhabitants) and there are a couple of projects to monitor their



decline of our favourite pincushion in the hope of reversing it. Fortunately people are increasingly aware that a hedgehog out in the day may be in trouble, and if under 600g will struggle to survive hibernation.

There are still hedgehogs in some Devon villages, many villages have groups tracking sightings to try to monitor numbers and improve their garden access (and educate gardeners how to avoid harming them). Many people like to run a hedgehog cafe, helping them fatten up for winter hibernation with lots of cat or kitten food.

Things like milk and bread, a favorite hedgehog food of the 60s is seriously detrimental to them, causing digestive issues, and a new popular treat are mealworms, which are really problematic junk food for hoggies, they find them delicious and will eat

them in preference to other healthier foods, however the mineral balance is off and hedgehogs eating mealworms end up with terrible bone deformities.

Given all the hardships our lovable Tiggiwinkle faces already (mostly at our hands) the very least we can do is not set light to his bedroom.

So before we light our bonfires - let's move it from the spot the wood was stored in and rebuild it (not long before lighting it) just to be sure there's not an array of little hedgehogs sheltering inside it.

*To Coffey*

You can read more about hedgehogs at [www.hedgehogstreet.org](http://www.hedgehogstreet.org) [www.britishhedgehog.org.uk](http://www.britishhedgehog.org.uk) with particular advice on when to help at [www.hedgehog-rescue.org.uk/leavealone.php](http://www.hedgehog-rescue.org.uk/leavealone.php)



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# Winkledown

Dearest Gentle Readers, Your Good Health!

Winkleigh Fair has brightened our summer Days and at the time of writing the bunting is still fluttering merrily in the Square retaining a sense of summer festivity. By the time this edition is published Bath will have held it's annual Jane Austin festival (12th to 21st September) when the whole community is encouraged to Promenade in Fancy Dress! So much fun and so Romantic!

In Regency times there were many occasions where communities would gather for festivals and picnics and Winkleigh too would have a Carnival with dressing up and parades. It is interesting to look back into that era and note the alcoholic beverages of that time.

Ale was light, beer darker and porter ( later named stout) was strong, dark well-aged beer. The name porter is alleged to have derived from the fact it was favoured by the working classes of London and other port 'tons' and cities with dockyard porters and carriers. Children in those times drank 'small beer' a low alcohol beer made from second or third fermentation of the mash during brewing, containing just enough alcohol to preserve the drink.

Wine was at the gentlemanly table, however after two decades of war with France, the favoured claret and burgundy was a problem, either very expensive or smuggled (if you knew a friendly porter maybe?) hence the sourcing of wines from other parts of the globe. The popularity arose for Hock which was the generic name for German wine, also fortified wines port and sherry (which was also known as Sack or Canary) were sought from Malaga, Portugal, Madeira, and the mid-Atlantic islands. Arrack was a strong liquor imported from India made from various grains including rice and containing coconut and used mainly in punch for the ladies. Men's punch was usually rum punch made with rum, brandy, lemon including thin strips of the yellow rind ( no pith or pulp) and sugar in water boiling ' fresh from the kettle on the fire.'

'Whiskey' became the English version of the gaelic 'Usquebaugh' from the Latin 'Aqua Vitae' – Water of life'.

Winkleigh would no doubt have had cider and maybe apple brandy. We still have our 2 taverns left and can envisage the coaching Inn.

In the last 'Winkledown' the hidden Poet's name was Blake.

Although he had died in 1784, Dr Samuel Johnson was very much quoted in Regency times ( and is to this day).

" No sir, claret is the liquor for boys, port, for men: but he who aspires to be a hero must drink brandy. "

Yours affectionately,

Winkledown



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# WINKLEIGH *Village Hall*

As I am writing this report, we are once again on the cusp of Autumn with just 112 days to go to Christmas, far fewer by the time you read this.

As is usual, the summer months have been relatively quiet at the hall as many regular classes take their seasonal breaks. Once the schools return then all events start up again in earnest. Of course, during this time, Winkleigh Fair took place with highly successful Bingo and Quiz evenings taking place in the hall.

At the end of July, Sir Geoffrey Cox MP held a well-attended surgery in the main hall, and Acorn School held training sessions over two days at the beginning of September.

The Hall Movie Night commenced its Autumn/Winter programme in September with the screening of the Bob Dylan biopic, "A Complete Unknown". Proposed movies for the remainder of the year are shown below.

The weekend of 3rd, 4th and 5th October will be very busy with the Winkleigh Football Club Quiz night, the monthly market, and the Methodist Church Harvest Festival Lunch, for which you should by now have seen advertisements, taking place over the three days. I am very pleased that wide, and varied, support for hall use continues to be the norm.

The hall Annual General Meeting will be held in the meeting room at 7.30pm on Wednesday 29th October. Having extended my chairmanship by 12 months last year, I will be standing down this year after a most enjoyable 5 year stint. A new chair will be elected at the AGM. I am, however, intending to continue running the Movie Nights each month. Also standing down from the committee will be my wife, Kay, who has brilliantly managed the market each month, and committee member, Julie Mustafa. I would like to extend my personal thanks to both for everything they have done and achieved, as well as to all of the past and present committee members who have given so much time and effort in running the hall. Details of the new chair and committee members will be circulated post-AGM. If there is anyone out there who might be interested in joining the committee or becoming a helper then please contact me.

As you will be aware from previous reports, the roof space in the hall is now fully insulated, thanks to very generous donations from you lovely people, so you will feel the benefits of that once the temperatures begin to drop.

As this will be my last DW report, it only remains for me to thank all of you – class leaders, market stallholders, occasional hirers, event attendees, our cleaner and gardener, and everyone who has in any way participated and supported the hall. Thank you!

*Tony Aston*  
Chair

**WINKLEIGH VILLAGE HALL**  
Annual General Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Winkleigh Jubilee Village Hall will take place:

**Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> October 2025**  
7.30pm  
Meeting Room, Winkleigh Village Hall

**Agenda**

Welcome by Chair  
Apologies  
Confirmation of 2024 AGM Minutes  
Matters arising from 2024 AGM Minutes  
Chairman's Annual Report and vote  
Treasurer's Annual Report and Vote  
Election/Re-Election of Officers  
Any Other Business

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19 September, 17 October,  
14 November

### Coldridge Village Hall

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11 September, 9 October,  
20 November

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Call Mary on 07758 653201 or email [mary@marymoulton.net](mailto:mary@marymoulton.net)





# Winkleigh Recreation & Sports Centre

Monday & Friday **Short Mat Bowls** 14.00 - 16.30  
oldsmithy1@btinternet.com

Monday **Fitsteps** 18.30 - 20.30  
elainecoldman@btinternet.com

Thursday 19.00 - 21.00 **Tai Chi**  
jason@taoyinarts.co.uk

Thursday **Tiny Tots** 9.30 - 11.15  
tinytotswinkleigh@gmail.com

Friday **Youth Club** 19.00 - 21.00  
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# Winkleigh Fair 2025: A Week of Entertainment, Wonder, and Community Spirit

## ROYAL BEGINNINGS

The fair opened on Sunday, July 13th in glorious sunshine, with Reverend Helen Blaine's service and blessing followed by the crowning of Bonnie Clayton and Levi Turner as Winkleigh Fair Queen and King supported by their attendants Mya Brook, Blake Wonnacott, Olivia Illman, Samuel Waite, Marley Tucker, Connie Seabridge. Their radiant smiles set the tone for a week filled with warmth and celebration. The Crediton Town Band serenaded the crowd in Winkleigh Square, while locals enjoyed cream teas and refreshments courtesy of Winkleigh Methodist Church.

One of the week's quirkiest hits was the **Murder Mystery Trail**, which had villagers sleuthing through Winkleigh's nooks and crannies, a big thankyou to Deanne for organising the event.



## PAWS, PEDALS, AND PUZZLES

The week unfolded with a delightful mix of events:

- Monday: A charming Dog Show showcased the village's most pampered pooches, a great turnout

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and lots of prizes awarded.

- Tuesday: Our Bingo Night brought out competitive spirits, great fun and lots of hearty laughter.
- Wednesday: The Classic Vehicle and Bike Show turned the square into a vintage dreamscape, even though the weather could have been better it still drew many enthusiasts from across the region.
- Thursday: A spirited Rounders Tournament at Winkleigh Sports Centre had locals swinging for glory.
- Friday: Brought out the brainiacs of Winkleigh for the ever-popular Quiz Night, held at the Village Hall. Teams packed the room, the atmosphere was electric, with friendly rivalry and plenty of laughs, a brilliant night.

## FAIR DAY FINALE

Saturday's Fair was the crescendo everyone waited for. With bunting fluttering and stalls lining the streets, the village came alive. The Roughbeats rocked the crowd, while local vendors offered crafts, treats, and treasures.

Fair Day wasn't just for grown-ups—Winkleigh's children had a blast in the games zone which featured a bouncy castle, face painting, and a whole lineup of classic games. From tin-can alley to the lollipop hoop, the square echoed with giggles and cheers as children raced between stalls and inflatable



fun. The rodeo, bungee run, and basketball duel added a dash of friendly competition. Then the energy soared at the kid's Disco, hosted by none other than Krazy Kacey the wildest party maestro. With bubble machines and a playlist packed with party hits, it was the perfect way to end the day on a high note before moving into the evening entertainment.

The evening gig by Kiss This turned the square into a dance floor, lots of energy and high spirits proving once again that Winkleigh knows how to party—rain or shine.

## BLOOMING BEAUTIFUL

Special shoutout to the winners of the Winkleigh in Bloom garden contest. Trophies and vouchers were awarded during the Fair Day finale, thanks to generous sponsors Catkin Blooms and Seven Stars

Whether you came for the music, the mystery, or the memories, Winkleigh Fair 2025 was a celebration of everything that makes this village extraordinary.

Winkleigh Fair wouldn't be possible without the incredible support from our local businesses, sponsors, and volunteers who give their time, energy, and resources to keep the spirit of the fair alive.

Finally- a date to put in your diaries 6th December 2025 "Winkleigh Christmas Fair & Market"

Until next year—best wishes from the Winkleigh Fair Working Group

*Steve Worthington*



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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  
FitSteps 6:30pm and 7:30pm Sports Centre  
Yoga 6pm Village Hall  
2nd Monday of each month bar January  
Church Wives Group, Village Hall  
2.30pm-4.30pm

### TUESDAY

Yoga 9.45am Village Hall  
Free 'Sewcial Crafternoon' at Catkin  
Blooms 1:00-3:00pm  
Badminton 7:00pm Village Hall  
Family History Group every 3rd Tuesday  
10.30am-12.30pm

### WEDNESDAY

Mini market & charity coffee morning  
9:30am-10:30am Community Centre  
Tap Dancing 7:00pm 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  
Chi Kung 10:30 Village Hall  
Tiny Tots 9:30-11:15 Sports Hall  
Therapeutic Pilates 7:15pm Village Hall  
Tai Chi 19:30-21:30pm Sports Centre

### FRIDAY

Youth Club 7:00pm-9:00pm Sports Centre  
Therapeutic Pilates 9:30am  
Short Mat Bowls 13:45-16:15 Sports Hall

### SATURDAY

1st Saturday Monthly Market

## SEPTEMBER

**20th** Church Fete 2:30-4.30 in the church

## OCTOBER

**3rd** Winkleigh FC Quiz Night Village Hall

**5th** Harvest Eucharist 9.30am The  
Church of All Saints

**5th** Methodist Church Harvest Festival  
Lunch 1pm Village Hall

**11th** Kenyan Food Experience & Market  
noon Village Hall

**13th** Church Wives Group 2.30pm  
Village Hall

**17th** Movie Night "Sully" 6.30pm for 7pm  
screening Village Hall

**21st** Family History Club 10.30am Village  
Hall

**30th** The Winkleigh Friendship Club talk  
'All About Owls' Martin Unwin 14:30 –  
16:30 Winkleigh Community Centre

## NOVEMBER

**2nd** All Souls Commemoration Service  
6pm The Church of All Saints

**8th** The Airfield Remembrance Service.  
Meet up at 10:15 am followed by an 80th  
Commemoration at the Community Centre

**9th** Act of Remembrance 3pm meet at  
The Church of All Saints War Memorial

**11th** Remembrance Day. Gather at The  
Church of All Saints War Memorial just  
before 11am for the 2 minute silence.

**11th** The Friendship Club trip to Paignton  
& Torquay

**16th** The Early Bird Craft & Gift Market  
2025 11:30-14:30 Winkleigh Sports  
Centre

**18th** Family History Club 10.30am  
Village Hall

**21st** Movie Night "Darkest Hour" 6.30pm  
for 7pm screening Village Hall

## DECEMBER

**20th** Church Fete 2:30-4.30 in the church





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# Chulmleigh College Football Star

*Mr Harrison of Chulmleigh College reports on a rising star of the football pitch.*

It was an honour to nominate Harrison Jordan for the Devon FA U16 representative team back in July of last year and an even greater honour to be able to watch him play in his final league match of the season at the Devon FA headquarters in Newton Abbot recently against Wiltshire. Harrison has played for the Devon representative side all season, playing in fixtures against Somerset, Cornwall, Gloucestershire and Wiltshire, scoring the winning goal and gaining the man of the match award for his performance against Somerset. Next year he is moving onto Exeter College and has already secured his place in the football academy squad, successfully navigating his way through a trial last month. He is considering his club football future and is hoping to wear the Tiverton Town shirt



next season but will have a host of clubs to choose from of that I am certain. Well done, Harrison, your hard work ethic and football ability has driven you forward and we at Chulmleigh are very proud of all your achievements. We look forward to hearing where your footballing pathway takes you, well done chief!

*Editor – You may remember we featured Harrison Jordan in the last issue as he was the Head Boy at Chulmleigh College. A boy of many talents!*



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# MOVING ON TO PASTURES NEW

The end of last term saw the departure of the Chulmleigh College Year 11 students marked by the School Prom. where the creative transport options proved a real highlight for waiting parents, guardians, and teachers!

Here we highlight two now ex-students who before Chulmleigh College attended Winkleigh Primary.

DW congratulates them and their fellow school leavers who had their schooling interrupted by Covid and wish them every success and happiness in the future.

## Erin Jones

Erin enjoyed her Chulmleigh College prom last month at Country Ways in High Bickington. She travelled to the prom in her Grandads Massey Ferguson 4840, getting in and out was tricky in heels!

After completing all her schooling so far at Winkleigh Primary and Chulmleigh College she is hoping to go onto Exeter College to take A-Levels in Business Studies, Photography and 3D Design. She isn't entirely sure what she'll go into after college, but no doubt it will be something creative.



## Reuben Coldman

Reuben began his education at Winkleigh Primary before moving to Chulmleigh for Year 6, initially to help

ease the transition to secondary school. His time there spanned the COVID years, bringing a unique experience shared by many of his peers.

Reuben will now move on to Duchy College to study Military and Protective Services, covering all aspects of the uniformed and emergency services, with a view to a future career in the service sector.



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# Letters...



*Dear Editor,*

Sometime ago I saw a post on the Chawleigh Facebook site saying Chawleigh was building ten houses for local people at rents they could afford as opposed to affordable rents which aren't.

I asked lots questions and in the end was invited to a public meeting Chawleigh was holding about these houses. Cllr Newton agreed to come with me. I have to admit to being sceptical about this being achieved without a vast amount of money and fund raising. By the time we left the meeting we were both very positive.

We have needed housing for local people for as long as I can remember. As it gets harder not only to afford to buy or rent even with all the different schemes and affordability or part buy/rental but Chawleigh have found a solution. My thoughts were if Chawleigh can we can.

They have just started building ten 1/2/3 bed houses and they will be let at

an appropriate amount, only available to local residents and run by local trust committee. There are many hurdles to overcome and it has taken Chawleigh 7 years but after consultation with them we may not need as long.

I bought this subject to the last Winkleigh Parish Council meeting during public speaking time. It was met by most councillors favourably. I am hoping to get it on the agenda for the September meeting to include a speaker from Chawleigh. The public are always welcome to these meetings.

I will also be doing a house to house survey to gather the need and opinions

Once we have all this information it would be really good to have a Winkleigh Meeting to answer questions and listen to suggestions.

Many hurdles to overcome BUT with Winkleigh behind us we can achieve it.

Sharon Jeens

*Dear Editor,*

The sustainable landscape and attenuation pond mentioned in this article were planning conditions set out in planning application 1/0127/2017/OUTM.

Alison Homes had to do these "green developments" in order to get the site passed by planning in order to commence selling the dwellings; Alison Homes are not doing Winkleigh any favours!

Under section 2 Open Spaces of this development "The Owner shall transfer the Open Space to a Management Company established for the purposes of managing the Open Spaces, the Company to be approved in writing by the council prior to the commencement of the Development"

So who pays for all of this ; the residents of the development (s) or is it to be added to Winkleigh Council Tax?

Name & address supplied

## *Dear Editor,*

Recently, my wife and I came back to Winkleigh to attend the celebration evening at the Community Centre. It was marvellous to see so many young people win awards for creative writing. There are many ingredients to making the most of opportunities in life including aspirations; encouragement and help of parents; and schools that provide excellent teachers and a supportive environment. It was good to see that the roles of both Winkleigh Primary School and Chulmleigh Community College were celebrated. Both schools have made remarkable journeys of advances over the past 25 years.

The biggest cheers on the night came when the often unsung heroes in the community were celebrated. Over many years in their different ways, they have created positive ripples throughout Winkleigh. They certainly have boosted morale and inspired others.

In the same week that the Independent Commission on Community and Cohesion has warned about “a ‘doom loop’ of inaction, crisis and piecemeal response had failed to strengthen the foundations of communities”, it is great to see that Winkleigh is bucking the trend. The format / model that the Parish Council used for the evening was excellent and can easily be adapted to changing events and priorities. I am certain that this new initiative by Winkleigh Parish Council will now go from strength to strength. Winkleigh is distinct in so many ways and it was a privilege to experience so much positive energy.

David Lausen

One of the founders of Winkleigh Society and Winkleigh District Councillor 2007-2015

## *Dear Wesley and Betsy,*

I took great pleasure in reading your poem about Elms meadow play area in the *Distinctly Winkleigh*. Part of my role at Torridge District council is to focus on planned improvements of certain play spaces across the whole of Torridge. This is extremely difficult as we don't get given any money to improve the areas. However, it's part of my job to try and find a way to help this happen. From my site visit and listening to local children and parents, I can see how improvements that you are suggesting would be beneficial and we have been lucky enough to find some funding that we can put towards Winkleigh Play spaces. This may not happen quickly but hopefully by the next edition of this newsletter, we will have been able to identify what is required and how much it may cost to make certain improvements.

Play spaces are very important parts of the community and we will do our best to keep them safe and enjoyable where possible.

Fingers crossed that very soon (if not already!), you will see some improvements.

Best wishes

Adrian Avery - TDC Community Engagement Project Officer

*This letter was received just after we went to press with our summer issue and refers to the poem which appeared in the spring edition of Distinctly Winkleigh.*

# SCHOOL NEWS

Will Slocombe, Winkleigh School's Head of Teaching and Learning, looks back at the summer term and forward to the new academic year.

We are delighted to begin the new academic year with the expansion of our brand-new Baby Room within our Foundation Stage Unit. We were very pleased to be able to offer provision to children from 9 months of age from June. These spaces have been carefully designed to provide the very best start for our youngest learners, with nurturing environments, stimulating resources, and plenty of opportunities for exploration and play. We have heavily invested in these areas to give our newest entrants an amazing setting. Thank you to the whole team who have worked tirelessly to allow this to happen. We are taking bookings for the Autumn Term and beyond – for enquiries please contact the school office at [admin@winkleigh.devon.sch.uk](mailto:admin@winkleigh.devon.sch.uk) or telephone **01837 83354**.

We are thrilled with the transformation of our **EYFS and KS1** areas, which now incorporate a wonderful **Forest School** and enriched provision. These developments will provide our children with even more opportunities to learn, grow, and flourish.

Looking back over the summer term, we are incredibly proud of the rich and varied experiences our pupils enjoyed. Our programme of residentials was once again a highlight. Year 5 had an action-packed stay at **Skern Lodge**, where they challenged themselves with adventurous activities, teamwork, and resilience.

Year 6 swapped classrooms for the surf



at **Widemouth Bay**, trying out surfing and bodyboarding after embarking on their unforgettable **London residential**. Their trip included visits to the **Houses of Parliament**, a West End performance of *The Lion King*, exploring the **Harry Potter Studios**, a **boat tour on the Thames**, the **London Eye**, and iconic London landmarks such as Buckingham Palace and Westminster Abbey. They navigated the **Underground**, dined at the **Hard Rock Café** and **Pizza Express**, and even travelled by train to Paddington, all while staying in a youth hostel in the heart of the city.

Year 4 ventured to **Wildwood Escot**, immersing themselves in history, nature, and outdoor challenges, even getting the opportunity to see a rare Chough! While Year 3 enjoyed a camping and climbing adventure, building confidence and memories to last a lifetime. These residentials are such a valuable part of school life, giving pupils experiences far beyond the classroom.

The Summer Term was also bursting with events closer to home. Our **Sports Day** was a huge success, with **Hawthorn House** taking the trophy. A big thank you to Mr Walter for organising such a great day. **The Family Fun Day**

brought the whole community together, with highlights including “sponge the teacher,” a visit from **Domino the horse**, and plenty of laughter. Key Stage Two pupils enjoyed a thrilling visit to the **Wake Park**, while our younger learners in Key Stage One had a wonderful day at **The Mole Resort**. Alongside these, there were a host of trips and special activities that kept everyone busy and smiling right through to the summer holidays.

Our **Year 6 pupils** also deserve special recognition for their outstanding **SATs results**, a testament to their dedication and the hard work of their teachers. We are immensely proud of their achievements and send them off to secondary school with our very best wishes for the future.

As we look ahead to another busy term, we are excited to see everyone settling into their new year groups. A warm welcome goes to **Miss Batstone**



and **Mrs Roberts**, who join our teaching team this term, with **Miss Crosby** set to start after Christmas. At the same time, we say a fond farewell to **Mrs Manning** and **Mrs Dennis**, who leave us for new opportunities.

Here's to another exciting year ahead at Winkleigh School!

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# *In memory of Sidney Ernest Butt*

1940 – 2025

I don't know what Sid would have thought about me writing this as he wasn't one for a fuss, he never wanted to be praised for his achievements and quietly went about his daily life. So this is a short tribute and summary of his life.

Sid was born at Higher Cherubeer, Dolton on April 9th 1940 and attended Dolton and Torrington schools. He spent a lot of time in and around Winkleigh where he met me through mutual friends. We were married in All Saints Winkleigh March 22nd 1969.

His working life was on the farm near Dolton raising cattle and sheep. He also did building and painting on the farm.

When the farm was sold he built up a successful business as a builder and painter and decorator. His reputation was built on quality, trust and word of mouth. Many people in the area will remember his workmanship, his modesty and daring ladder techniques which defied logic and health & safety. Many houses in the village were painted by him. Sid spent many hours on a voluntary basis maintaining the village hall; from routine day to day maintenance, to sorting out the heating and assisting in the fitting of a new kitchen. He was community minded and always eager to help.

The highlight of his life was the birth of our daughters Isobel in 1970 and Heather in 1974. In 2013 our grandson Luca was born, his pride and joy. He was so pleased of all they have achieved and continue to achieve in their lives.

Until Sid became ill he was a keen bowler on both green and short mat. He took pleasure in many coach holidays in this country and abroad. He went up at precisely 8:30 am each morning to fetch the newspaper, have a walk whatever the weather. Sid enjoyed watching Formula 1, darts, snooker, football and quiz programs on tv.

After fifty-six years of marriage, on the 12th May we sadly had to say goodbye but it was his wish to do so at home with his family. With the help of health professionals, Hospice at home and Marie Curie we were able to do so.

We were so proud and touched to see so many family friends and acquaintances at his funeral on May 30th which proved what a special person he was. His voice, smile and advice will be missed. The mark he left will remain.

Winkleigh was his favourite place but truthfully he helped make it so for many of us. We were blessed to have him in our lives.

*Marcia Butt*

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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.

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