

Whimpe News

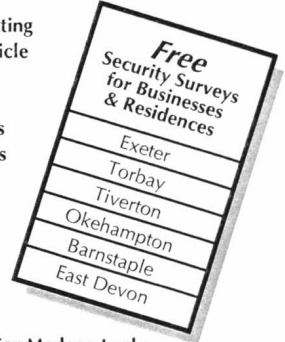


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Friday 18th December Old Skool Rox (School uniform fancy dress)

New Years Eve Evening The Keystones and Disco £5 Tickets

Sunday 10th January 5.00-7.00pm Maggie Reeday



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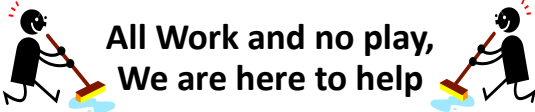
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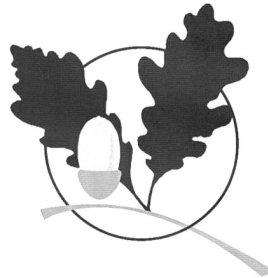
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What's On In Whimble

December 2015

- 4th Over 65s Christmas Party Victory Hall
- 5th Heritage Centre open for Christmas shopping – 11.00am – 3.00pm
- 6th Whimble Young Farmers –Christmas Bingo, Victory. Hall Details page 52
- 8th WI Christmas party
- 12th History Society Annual Christmas lunch at the Cricket Club
- 12th Front Row Club at Victory Hall - 'Testament of Youth' - 7.00 for 7.30pm. Details page 41
- 19th Soup and Sarnie Christmas Special Lunch, Victory Hall . Details on page 10
- 21st Carol Singers around the village from 6.30pm
- 24th Christmas Eve Carols in the Square 7.00pm. Details page 13
- 30th Front Row Club at Victory Hall - ' The Misfits' - 7.00 for 7.30pm. Details page 41
- 31st New Years Eve in The Square. Details page 39

January 2016

- 3rd Whimble and Broadclyst Young Farmers – Charity New Year Big Breakfast, Victory Hall – 9.00am – 1.00pm. Details page 49
- 11th VPA AGM 7.30pm, Committee Room Victory Hall
- 16th History Society – Wassail starting at the New Fountain 6.30pm. Details page 22
- 30th Soup and Sarnie, Victory Hall, 12.00noon to 1.30pm
- 30th Pre School Quiz and Curry evening Victory Hall , 7.00 for 7.30pm. Details page 25

February 2016

- 18th The Whimbletons - 'Jack and the Beanstalk', 7.30 pm Victory Hall
- 19th The Whimbletons - 'Jack and the Beanstalk', 7.30 pm Victory Hall
- 20th The Whimbletons - 'Jack and the Beanstalk', 2.00 pm Victory Hall
- 20th The Whimbletons - 'Jack and the Beanstalk', 7.30 pm Victory Hall
Details page 16
- 26th History Society Talk at the Victory hall 7.30pm; 'Smuggling in Devon' with Robert Hesketh

March 2016

- 12th Pre School Easter Egg Hunt. Details to follow
- 18th History Society AGM, Victory Hall 7.30pm, followed by Martin Horrell talking on ' Medieval Rood Screens'

April 2016

- 29th History Society talk at the Victory Hall 7.30pm – 'Metal detecting' with Tex Hart

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Ed the Ed

Good people of Whimble, welcome to your Christmas edition – incorporating a big change for us, but hopefully invisible to you. We have changed printers which means that this edition is 68 pages big, compared with our previous limit of 64, and we feel that the quality of finish remains high. Thanks to Kevin Thompson for all his help over the years, and good luck with his new on-line printing venture.

Page 21 has the heart-warming story behind the Whimble Wonders Calendar for 2016; we have an interesting village in that the ‘panto men’ used to fight to dress up as ladies, and now we have a group who have no inhibitions at all in getting their kit off. A great cause, and I hope that you have all bought a copy – the shop sponsored month of August represents the message that we are getting a little behind with our orders, in a subtle and tasteful way. At the time of writing, I hear that calendar sales have been excellent, and only a few remain – there will not be a reprint. Get your copy now!

We have a Whimble News delivery vacancy on page 52; we would also like to express our thanks to William and Jill Trump who have hung up their delivery bags, serving the Strete area for many years – and brilliantly, they found their own replacement! Welcome to Cara.

I had ‘one of my conversations’ with Sam Walker – see pages 28/29, and Sam is a perfect example of the mantra ‘Ask not what your village can do for you, but what you can do for your village’. Despite having a busy job and being a full time mum, Sam has steered both the PreSchool and Whimble School parents groups to amazing levels of fundraising – Sam is a real gem in our village, and we should all be grateful for her magnificent contributions.

Page 17 gives you valuable information about an opportunity to shape the future of our village – we have a keen team doing the preparatory work for public consultation – please work with them in 2016, for OUR village.

If you would like to submit an article for the February/March edition, please send it either direct to Bob on bob.scanlan@eclipse.co.uk or just drop it in the Dairy Cottage mail box, by Monday 11th January. Thanks!

The Whimble News team would like to wish you and your families a happy and safe Christmas and New Year.

Ed H

If your Association has an event which you would like listed in ‘What’s on...’ please contact **Ed Hitchcock** on 823194 or e-mail edhitch@btinternet.com.

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Whimble Stores

Grocers
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As in previous years we will be happy to take orders for the Christmas period. We can get boxes ready for collection of all fruit, veg, dairy, bread, meat, cheese, etc. There are many pies and pastries we can order but please place your orders as early as possible. Some items may need to be ordered two weeks before delivery over the Christmas period.

Opening hours are in the centre of the mag as usual and we hope to have a pot of mulled wine and mince pies ready for Christmas Eve to help you get the holiday spirit started.

Newspapers will be available every day apart from Christmas Day.

Post Office

Our First Christmas with the Post Office looms and we hope to be able to offer you a great service and good advice regarding your posting requirements. Of course we only have one terminal, compared to two in the old Post Office so we won't be as fast as Jim and Alison if there are lots of people with parcels. If you have a lot of parcels it may be worth getting a Drop and Go card. You can load this with money and leave it and your parcels with an action list for processing later.

Dangerous Goods

Regarding parcels, it is now the law that we only accept post we believe will comply with the Dangerous Goods Act. This means we have to ask what is inside the parcel and we have a list of items that cannot be sent or may be restricted. These restrictions are not only for the safety of the Royal Mail handlers but also for many air passengers as Royal Mail use passenger planes to carry some deliveries. This means that anything at risk of catching fire or exploding needs to be carefully controlled.

I hope this explains why it is so important for us to know what is being posted. The questions we have to ask do slow down the posting process but it is essential for safety and to allow us to give you a professional service. If something is posted without the correct labels, there is a risk that it will be sent to Belfast for assessing. This can take weeks and if the contents are prohibited items they will be destroyed without you being contacted.

Having said that a number of items can be sent by Royal Mail that cannot be accepted by other couriers. Items such as batteries, nail varnishes, spirits, etc can be sent by Royal Mail although there may be some restrictions on the quantity that can be sent. If you are sending anything that you are unsure of, please come and take a leaflet on restricted items or ask our advice.

High value items

Items posted through the standard postal service are covered up to the value of £20 and if you use the signed-for service this is covered up to £50. This does not cover sending cash or jewellery.

If you need to send anything of a higher value or of a secure nature or you need to have it delivered the next day, it is advisable to use the Special Delivery Service. Items sent this way are kept separate from standard post and you can track and trace them at any time. Items can be sent up to £2,500 in value.

Useful information

Just a reminder that our peak times are between 4.30 and 5pm and we have to give priority to items that need to be taken by the postman as he has a time frame to stick to and cannot be expected to wait. Please try to get to us before 4.30pm to avoid any delays and to ensure next day deliveries and bankings can be processed in time.

Last posting days

- Australia and New Zealand – 10th December
- USA, Canada – 15th December
- 2nd Class UK – 19th December
- 1st Class UK – 21st December

There are plenty of other deadlines for other countries, so if you require any advice, please ask.

Mark and Jenny 822316



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Thank You

Whimple Parish Council would like to thank Councillor Billy Bloomfield and his helpers for constructing the new planters around the village signs in Church Road and at Venn Cross. Along with the one already in existence at Knowle Cross, they really enhance the entrances to the village. Thanks to Billy for planting up the Church Road one and to the VPA for putting bulbs in the Venn Cross one – we look forward to a lovely show in the spring.



It's All New at the New Fountain

Following the change of ownership earlier on this year, Steve has decided to move on from the pub to explore new opportunities elsewhere and therefore Dominic has taken over sole ownership of the pub. This has resulted in some necessary restructuring of the team and so whilst it is farewell to Lee, Charlotte has joined us to bring new skills and ideas to the food side of the pub - welcome along Charlotte!

Paddy has created new winter menus combining old favourites with some new "winter warmers" and a brand new lunchtime menu with some more budget conscious options. These, together with a revised wine menu, are proving popular so it is well worth booking to avoid disappointment. We will be continuing our fortnightly 'Steak Night' theme with some alternative culinary themes coming your way in the New Year. Our great take-away menu continues to be available on weekdays up until 8.30pm. So rather than cook why not order supper and have a drink in the bar whilst it is being freshly cooked for you?

We are also gearing up for Christmas and New Year. We will be open for drinks between 11.00am and 1.00pm on Christmas Day and also, for the first time, serving a Christmas Day lunch but book as soon as possible since there are only a couple of tables left! Our New Years Eve dinner is already a sell out but why not join us for a drink to bring in the New Year? Also from 1st to 24th December we will have a traditional Christmas menu available running alongside our blackboard favourites.

So, it is all new at the New Fountain. Why not make a reservation to sample great food locally produced or join us for great cask ales and superb wines from the Award Winning Regency Wine Cellar?

We look forward to welcoming you.

Dominic, Patrick and all the great team at The New Fountain



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FROM WHIMPLE

STORES



For the attention of the people of Whimble 'an opportunity to shape the future of our village'

In 2007 a group of volunteers consulted with the people of Whimble and formed the **Parish Plan**. The Parish Plan set out what the residents of the village wanted for Whimble. Much has been achieved, but we are now due to update the Parish Plan and replace it with a **Neighbourhood Plan**. Having a Neighbourhood Plan will give us greater powers when asserting our needs. It will allow us say what we want for Whimble, instead of being told.

A new group of volunteers supported by Whimble Parish Council has already set the ball in motion. Early in 2016 a public launch, outlining the process, will be held in the Village Hall. This will be followed by a series of public consultations, during which you will be asked to give your views on all aspects of village life. A questionnaire will be sent to every household asking for more detailed information. Based on all the findings, a draft version of the plan will be written and a final version sent to EDDC. However, before the Neighbourhood Plan can be adopted, it will be subjected to a final referendum. This will be your last chance to agree or not agree with the content. **Please note, you can only take part in the Referendum if you are registered on the Electoral Roll. Enrol now.**

The Steering Group will be applying for government grants to help with material costs and the whole process will hopefully be completed by 2017.

Please be an active participant and shape the future of Whimble.

Notification of events will be displayed in Whimble News, notice boards, Victory Hall and on Social Media sites – 'Whimble What's on' Facebook. Keep an eye out.

From Peter Bowden

I have set aside my usual Councillors report this month so that news regarding the Neighbourhood Plan is fully reported. A huge Thank You to Sue Ayers and her team for all that they have achieved so quickly.



News from France concerns us all but I am sure you will hope for the happiest of Christmas Days and the most content of New Years.

Our children and grandchildren will join us for Christmas for the first time in eight years and we are absolutely delighted.

With best wishes to everyone at Christmas and for the New Year.

Peter and Ann Bowden

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Bumble – For One Night Only

As many of you will know by now. Whimple Cricket Club was honoured when Bumble (David Lloyd) England cricket coach, test batsman and Sky commentator agreed to help with our fundraising for an electronic score board and probably more importantly a new roof.

When Ben (Silk) first wondered if he could approach him via David's friend Geoff 'The Brigadier', he never in his wildest dreams thought Bumble would or could be able to give up his precious time, but he did. After a hugely successful and amazing evening when, after approximately 270 people were served curries, Bumble took on two Question and Answer sessions; stand up Bingo; a 50/50 draw ending up with an auction where items of cricket memorabilia signed by members of the England Cricket Team went 'under the hammer'

A huge thank you therefore to David Lloyd, The Brigadier, Jules, Ben (Jon Silk who thankfully seems to oversee most things Club related) and all who came forward to help when needed – we couldn't have done it without you.

Can we now afford to replace the roof and purchase the Electronic Score board?

Yes!

Will it happen again? As it was such a huge undertaking, which I appeared to get sucked into, I said 'never' during the week leading up to it but ... watch this space!

Many thanks

Liz Silk



Bumble in full flight.

Here are some of the helpers, without them the event would not have gone so smoothly!



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The 2016 Whimble Calendar

With bare faced cheek some of Whimble's finest men-folk have been baring their cheeks and more, for a charity calendar to raise funds in aid of Marie Curie Cancer Care.

Earlier this year Susie Plank, a well-known resident of Whimble, received the news that her mother, Martha, had been diagnosed with terminal cancer. Determined to support the wonderful Marie Curie nurses who cared for her mother, Susie and 7 of her close friends, decided to take on the Marie Curie Snowdon Challenge to raise money for the charity. The walk is due to take place in June 2016 with the ladies walking under the banner of 'Marching for Martha' in memory of Susie's Mum.

With the challenge booked, the group set about coming up with fundraising ideas. Keen to expand beyond the traditional bake sale, the ladies thought it would be a marvellous wheeze to encourage their men-folk to get their kit off for a 'Calendar Girls' tribute with a twist! Martha was tickled by the thought and it kept a smile on her face.

Keen to exhibit their carefully honed physiques many chaps volunteered for this good cause and after a tasteful photo-shoot, with our local photographer Sue Draycott, the calendar is ready for release. Sadly Martha did not get to see the final product but her memory will live on through the efforts of Susie, her friends and some cheeky Whimble chaps!

The Whimble Wonders calendar is available to purchase in The Whimble Stores, The New Fountain Inn, The Thirsty Farmer and Moor View Motors for the bargain price of £8.00.

If the calendar is too fruity for your tastes, Susie and the gang are organising the 'Fifty Shades of Whimble' which is a lampshade making event and a summer garden party with a brass band and cream teas.

Please support the extraordinary Marie Curie Nurses by buying a calendar, coming along to an event or making a donation at www.justgiving.com/Marching-for-Martha.



Whimble History Society

Saturday 16th January 2016 - Wassailing

This season's Wassailing will start at the New Fountain Inn at about 6.30pm for the usual 'rehearsal'. The assembled company will then move off at about 7.00pm to Wymcott for the first Wassail ceremony, courtesy of Mr. and Mrs. I. Hardcastle.

The procession will then proceed up Church Road to Lower Woodhayes Orchard for the second Wassail ceremony. The procession will then move back to The Square, via Dince Hill Close, where the procession will gather near the tethering stone to remember the Society's first chairman, John Shepherd.

The procession will continue to the orchard adjacent to Knowle Cross Farm for the final ceremony of the evening, courtesy of Jim and Mary Chard.

The last port of call will be at the Cricket club for traditional Wassail refreshments (a small charge will be made).

We urge everyone to enter into the spirit of the evening by wearing traditional dress and bringing 'instruments' that will make sufficient noise to waken the apple trees and ward off any evil spirits in them.

Christmas shopping opening times for the Heritage Centre are:-

28th November and 5th December from 11.00am until 3.00pm.

FIRST TWO VERSES OF THE WASSAIL SONG

(We always sing the first two verses of the Wassail song , copies of which are handed out on the night. Here is your very own copy to bring with you! You can now practice your singing over the next few weeks!).

**A-Wassail, a-wassail! The Moon she shines down;
Our apples are ripe and our nuts they are brown,
Whence thou mayest bud, dear old apple tree,
And whence thou mayest bear, we sing unto thee.**

Chorus.....

**With our wassail, wassail, wassail!
And joy come to our jolly wassail!**

**O apple tree prosper, bud, bloom and bear,
So we may have plenty of cider next year.
And where there's a barrel, we hope there'll be ten,
That we may have cider when we come again.**

Chorus.....

**With our wassail, wassail, wassail!
And joy come to our jolly wassail!**

A Bit from the Belfry



I thought this a useful time to bring you up to date with what's been happening in ringing circles. Panto people will doubtless know of Annabelle King's birthday treat to see the bells. It was probably a bit more energetic and dusty than imagined but she made it, to her great delight - and mother too, I think.

Of course the passing of Pam Scanlan has been marked in Whimble News, but she had been a bell ringer since a girl and rang in Whimble many a year prior to her long affliction. Every member of the band turned out to honour her with half muffled bells at her funeral. Nan Sturdy has been ringing bells for well over 60 years, having been taught at Chudleigh as a girl. She has decided to take things more gently now but still rings with us occasionally.

Our novices are hardly that any more and are ringing very competently. They have all been tested on bells beyond Whimble; the last joining a specially assembled band from East Devon to provide experience on heavier bells than ours.

In similar vein we are hosting bell ringers from Kentisbeare and Exminster on Thursday evening 3rd December for a joint practice. They are a competition team and will offer us a valuable opportunity to improve our striking. Be assured we are always striving to raise the quality of our ringing!

The scouts are coming to see us Thursday 10th December, though you won't hear anything that evening. We shall look forward to 'showing them the ropes' and it would be super if some decided to go forward to learn - we do need younger people in bell ringing. Indeed, if you would like to learn we can work round your diary - 20 to 24 hours should do it! (you choose the hours).

My number is in the back of this magazine.

Roger Algate

Wanted

A Prince or Princess for The Whimble Wassail on 16th January
To enter the competition to be selected please submit an
A4 poster advertising the event.

The competition is open to any child living in the
Whimble area aged between 9 and 13.

Posters to be delivered to The Whimble Stores by December 20th.

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Saturday 30th January 2016



Where?

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What time?

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Team size?

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Devon Historic Churches Trust Day

To all of you who so generously sponsored us on the cycle ride in September - a BIG Thank You! Your support was so very much appreciated by both Mike and myself. Because he was on holiday on the 12th, the official day for the ride, and I was busy with hospital appointments we decided to cycle the weekend of the 6th September. We were so blessed with the most amazing weather for touring our beautiful county. Apologies to Chris that I wasn't sporting skin tight, fluorescent lycra or a wasp's bottom style helmet - maybe on another year's outing or maybe not!!

I set off on a route from Whimble and visited churches in Talaton, Escot, Ottery St Mary, Wiggaton, Tipton St John, Venn Ottery, Newton Poppleford, Harpford and West Hill before returning to Whimble. The views were stunning with the sun shining down and it was glorious to ride over so many bridges and waterways in such a short distance. To follow the river Otter through the wooded areas listening to the birds singing and the water burbling on its journey towards the sea was blissful.

Mike took a different route starting at Newton Poppleford, down to East Budleigh, then following the other side of the river back to Ottery St Mary. From there he headed on to Talaton before returning to Whimble.

Between us we raised £690.50 thanks to your generosity, so well done all you long suffering sponsors! Half of the cycle ride takings will go to the Devon Historic Churches Trust and the other half into the Fabric Fund at St Mary's, Whimble. Thank you.

Jane Clements

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A CONVERSATION WITH SAM WALKER

I have chosen Sam for this conversation piece because I see her as a very important person in our village, getting things done by chairing committees supporting Pre School and the Primary School.

I started the conversation with the innocent "Tell me where you started in life and where you have been to get to Whimble?". Well gentle reader, as soon as Sam started, I knew that it was going to be an event-filled story... Sam was originally from Hertfordshire, and came via the 'simple' route of the Midlands, Oxford, Camp America, Canada, Scotland, Yorkshire and then Devon!

Sam was doing her 'A' levels in Solihull, but decided, after a year, that she needed to get away from the Midlands, and went to France where she was an au-pair for six months. During this time, her interest in nursing was fired up and she came back to England where she studied for three years at the John Radcliffe Hospital in Oxford. She returned to Solihull to work in a coronary care unit for six months before the travelling bug got to her, and she found herself working in Camp America during one summer and then travelled from New York to Los Angeles, ending up in Vancouver where she applied for, and got, a nursing job. This is where she first met Neil, working on the same ward and they became friends. (If only she had known!). Overall, Sam stayed in Canada for about seven years, and actually became a Canadian citizen.

Sam made full use of being in Canada, and travelled to places like Alaska, and Hawaii to name but two. Again, the travelling bug got to her and Sam went to Nepal, to climb a particular mountain with a group of friends. It was when they were doing a training climb in the US that they were caught in an avalanche and sustained several injuries - but that didn't stop them! Once they were in Nepal, and on the final leg of the ascent, they unfortunately suffered from altitude sickness and had to abandon that attempt. On the same world trip, Sam worked in Uganda as a volunteer in a small hospital for some 3-4 months looking after a number of children with Aids, and orphans of parents who had died from Aids. This made a great impact on her. Sam told me of a 14 year old boy who was looking after his three siblings, and how that experience made her appreciate everything that she had compared with a lack of food, clothing and good health experienced by the boy.

Sam returned to the UK and studied tropical medicine with the aim of returning to Africa. She met up with Neil again and the relationship moved on from friendship. Neil returned to Scotland, and Sam returned to Vancouver, becoming involved with community nursing. After 12 months - can you see what is coming, gentle reader? - Sam left Canada and moved to Ayr to be with Neil and took up a one year District Nursing degree at Glasgow University. This led to her working as a District Sister covering the mining villages of Ayrshire, and this is when Sam and Neil got married. Yorkshire now beckoned to Neil, drawing him in with the offer of a job, and Sam obtained a position as a District Sister in Leeds. Yorkshire is where both Mya and Max were born, much to Neil's consternation, having family roots on the OTHER side of the Pennines!

However, Sam had cousins who lived in Exminster and it was when she was house-sitting for them one year that she took the opportunity to travel around glorious Devon, and fell in love with the county. So Neil found himself applying for jobs in Devon, and Sam was in charge of house hunting. Whimble was the location of one of the ten houses for which they had the details and luckily everything clicked for them with Slewton Crescent. Sam also got a job in the Exeter NHS Walk-in Centre, and that was the start of their Whimble chapter!

Sam was keen to get involved in village activities, so she took over the running of the Toddlers Group one day a week for 12 months. She then moved onto the Chair of PreSchool, which is no easy job. It means taking full responsibility for running a real business, with all that involves. After this apprenticeship, Sam moved onto the Chair of the Friends of Whimble School. She has done an amazing job steering the team whilst raising something like £5000 per year over the last seven to eight years. All this money goes back into the school, and has paid for theatre visits, i-pads and playground structures – and a lot more!

Sam has now taken on the role of Vice Chair, as she prepares to move on. As well as undertaking the normal taxi duties for her children, she supports craft nights in the pub, likes to go ski-ing, walking and having time away with the family in their van – and still finds time to deliver the Whimble News!

Her much-loved grandma chose to travel to Switzerland to end her life this year. This whole process is something that Sam would like to get more involved with, and offers her support and knowledge to change the current environment to have more choice in this situation. We wish her good luck.

Ed

Poppy Collection

This year's Poppy Collection amounted to £1,004.22 not including a church contribution of £423.14 making a total for the District of £1,427.36.

Many thanks go to everyone who helped by door to door selling,

The Primary School raised a very commendable £106.45, also noteworthy were the Thirsty Farmer with a donation of £99.99, Whimble Stores with £125.50 and Milestone Service netted £109.29.

It is a very worthy cause and there are many servicemen and women connected to the village. In these uncertain times we are reliant on the forces to keep our shores safe.

It is 100 years since the First World War where my grandfather fought with his brothers. It really shook up a generation. What would they make of terrorism today?

Thank you.

Fiona Clarke



Den and Win Clapp

Mum and Dad (who died 2008) lived in Whimple for over sixty years. Firstly in Wymcot, then Hindstrete and finally in West View Close. They loved the village and all aspects of village life and this gave me a very happy and solid childhood.

Dad worked all his life for Whiteways, starting as the Office Junior and retiring as the Sales Director.

Mum involved herself in all manner of village activities, the WI, Mothers Union, St John's Ambulance, the Over 60's Christmas Lunches, coffee mornings, countless fund raising projects etc etc, but especially the Tennis Club. She loved tennis and, I think, was a founder member of the Club. With Dad and many others she took part in a travelling Variety Show which toured the County to raise funds for a hard tennis court which is still used today. On the day the new court was formally opened there was an inaugural mixed doubles match played between the 'older' and 'younger' club members. The former being Mum partnered by Ian Hardcastle and the latter Roger Smith partnered by Sarah Wilde. I was one of the ball-boys.

Paul Clapp



Win Clapp at 99

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Thank you to everyone for all your support during 2015. Events such as the Morning Coffee, Men's and Women's Breakfasts and Annual Fete have all been well attended and have all provided an opportunity for fellowship.

Once again St. Mary's Church is indebted to the ladies of Whimple who have kindly made cakes for, and served at, the Saturday morning coffee and cakes in church from May to September. Needless to say that without our customers the whole venture would be pointless so it is a big thank you to everybody for their support. The mornings have proved to be most enjoyable and I know that at this time of year a lot of people miss the stroll to the 'coffee shop' on a Saturday for a chat.

Quiz night success! In early November, the Impact youth group of St. Mary's Church organised a quiz night in aid of the charity 'Send a Cow'. This charity helps to end poverty in Sub-Saharan Africa by helping farmers gain confidence in farming and providing livestock and training.

We simply wanted to say a huge 'thank you' to everyone who attended and supported the event. We were so encouraged by the turn out and are excited and very pleased to say that we raised around £1,200 for the charity! With generous match funding from Whimple Church PCC and further match funding from the government, we will have raised a total of nearly £5,000 which will help to change the lives of several families. We hope you enjoyed the evening as much as we did and thanks again for your support!

This year's **Christmas Fun Day** for primary school aged children will be on Saturday 12th December in the Victory Hall from 9.30am until 12.30am. There will be Christmas crafts, songs, games, stories and lots of fun! Meanwhile parents can do those important pre-Christmas jobs that they want to do without having children in tow! Prior booking is preferred. Booking forms are available from the Shop, the Church or you can book a place by ringing Dianne Goodwin on 823476.

Our **Christingle Service** this year is at 4.00pm on Sunday 13th December. This is an informal service particularly suitable for children, when we celebrate Jesus as The Light of the World. It will be followed by a Cake Sale in aid of the Children's Society.

This year's **Christmas Celebration Service** is at 9.30am on Sunday 20th December. This is another informal style service designed to appeal to all ages. Join us for a Bring and Share Breakfast from 9am. In the evening we will be holding our Christmas Carol Service which will be followed by Mulled Wine and Mince Pies.

There will be a **Midnight Communion** service at 11.00pm on Christmas Eve, and on Christmas Day at 11.00am we have our **Family Service with Carols**. There are also a variety of other services at Talaton and Clyst St Lawrence and The Link (Churches 4 All magazine) and Christmas cards distributed around the village list the full details.

Please welcome our **Carol Singers** again this year as they sing in parts of the village on 21st December from 6.30pm,

If you would like to join them to sing or play a musical instrument please contact Gerri Turner on 822587. We would also welcome non singers to help us with the collection



The Parochial Church Council on behalf of Whimpe Church wish you a joyful Christmas and New Year

Music for a Winter's Evening

Retiring collection in aid of Hospiscare

Concert by Tale Valley Choir

Musical Director: Emma Palmer

& Richard Douglas, Tenor

Saturday 12th December // 7:30pm // Talaton Church





A Merry

Christmas opening hours

		St Mary's Church Special Services	Post Office	Whimble Stores
Thursday	December 24th 2015	11.30pm Midnight Communion	8.00am-12.30pm	8.00am-12.00pm
Friday	December 25th 2015	11.00am Short Family Service and Communion	Closed	Closed
Saturday	December 26th 2015		Closed	9.00am-11.00am
Sunday	December 27th 2015		Closed	9.00am-11.00am
Monday	December 28th 2015	11.00am Holy Communion	Closed	9.00am-11.00am
Tuesday	December 29th 2015			7.30am-6.00pm
Wednesday	December 30th 2015			7.30am-6.00pm
Thursday	December 31st 2015		7.30am-1.00pm	7.30am-1.00pm
Friday	January 1st 2016		Closed	9.00am-11.00am
Saturday	January 2nd 2016			8.00am-1.00pm



From the Whimble

Christmas

s (normal if blank)

Whimpe Surgery	Ottery Surgery	New Fountain Inn	Thirsty Farmer	Milestone Garage
		noon-2.00pm 6.30pm-11.00pm	noon-12.00pm	
Closed	Closed	11.00am - 1.00pm (drinks)	noon-2.00pm (no food)	Closed
		Closed	Closed	8.00am-10.00pm
			noon-10.30pm	
Closed	Closed		noon-11.30pm	
			noon-11.30pm	
			noon-10.30pm	
		noon - 3.00pm 6.30pm-12.30am	noon - 1.00am	
Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	8.00am-10.00pm
			noon-2.30pm 6.00pm-11.00pm	

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Whimble Tennis Club



Now that winter is here many folk would think that tennis has come to an end for another year.

Not so in Whimble!

There is a small hardy group of tennis players who brave the chilly winter mornings to play a set or two on Saturday and Sunday mornings, weather permitting, between 8am and 10am. A great way to start the day - exercise to warm you up, while burning off a few of the Christmas Meal calories!

If you are interested in joining this hardy crew please contact Marianne Randall on tel: 822025 or email: Marianne@buildconsultants.co.uk



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Well, what can I say about our last event of the year; another talk by Paul Rendell which clearly hit all the right buttons in getting everyone's attention. We had a record attendance for Paul's talk on 'The Making of War Horse on Dartmoor.' After a resume of some other films which had been filmed on the moor, including Revolution in which Paul was an extra, he then gave us a fascinating insight into much of what went on behind the scenes to create the sets that were used. Those of you who were unable to attend missed a thoroughly entertaining evening. Many thanks go to Doreen for arranging this excellent evening.

Back in September another coach load made the trip up to Rosemoor for the Clematis and West Country Food Fair. This was another joint trip with the Ottery Garden Club and was very enjoyable.

We are already planning ahead for next year and are looking to organise a trip to the Cardiff Spring Flower Show in April 2016. Further details to follow but initial expressions of interest should be made to Doreen Staddon and she can be contacted either by email on doreenstaddon@btinternet.com or telephone 01404 823594.

We have been looking ahead to next year's Flower Show and have come up with the following titles for the ten photography classes. Hopefully, there will be something there for all you keen photographers. The titles are: 'A Barn Door' (whole or part), 'Springtime'; 'Book Titles'; 'A Landscape'; 'A Botanical Subject'; 'Winter'; 'Creatures'; 'A Portrait'; 'The Seaside' and 'A River Scene'.

Our first meeting in the new year will be our Annual General Meeting which is to be held on Monday 11th January 2016 at 7.30pm in the Committee Room of the Victory Hall. As always, all are very welcome to attend especially anyone who would like to join our Committee - we are always pleased to have new faces with fresh ideas!

Paul Wilson, Hon. Secretary.



New Year's Eve 2015

**Come and join us in the Square at around 11.45pm on New Year's Eve
Bring candles to light your way. Hear the church clock chime midnight**

The church bells will be rung to welcome the New Year

Mulled wine will be served in The Square

We will sing 'Auld Lang Syne' together

(The church will be open)

After fifteen years John and Jan are taking a break this year but have arranged for Mark and Sally to serve mulled wine from No. 1 The Square – next door to Whimble Stores. Donations of wine will be gratefully accepted! Please deliver to No. 1 The Square or to Whimble Stores.

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Saturday 12th December
Testament of Youth

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Special Christmas 'B' movie from 7.45pm

Wednesday 30th December
 EXTRA Twixtmas Special
The Misfits



Coming soon:

January

February





The Children's Society

The Christingle service at St Mary's Church Whimple will be on Sunday 13th December at 4.00pm.

To help raise funds for this valuable charity there will be a cake stall at the back of the church. Anyone wishing to help provide items to sell or willing to

purchase some tasty morsel please come armed with goods and/or money!

The charity was founded in 1881 by Edward Rudolf, a Sunday school teacher, and the partnership with the Church has been of central importance ever since. The Children's Society works to support 'Children and young people who are forced to run away from home or care, protecting them from abuse, crime and prostitution on the streets; children and young people in trouble with the law, guiding them away from a cycle of crime and custody; refugee children, helping them rebuild their lives in new communities, surrounded and supported by friends; disabled children and young people, ensuring they are protected and are given the choices that other children enjoy; children who are often forgotten, such as young carers, traveller children or children whose parents misuse alcohol or other drugs'.

As well as supporting change at an individual level through its direct programmes of work, the Children's Society aims to effect systemic change by influencing legislation and government practice to effect a positive shift in public attitudes towards children and young people. It opened the UK's first residential children's care home and first safe house for runaways plus were instrumental in securing free school meals for all infant school children living in poverty.

Jane Clements



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We have returned after half-term and no matter how hard we try to avoid mentioning Christmas, we have no choice as rehearsals have to start for our Christmas performance. Despite this, the children have been involved in many exciting events already this month. As you will read below we had a visit from Theatre Alibi, a local group, performing 'Olive and the Dream Train' which the children loved. They have also watched an interesting version of 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' at Exeter Cathedral. The weather finally permitted a few visits to The Orchard to pick up apples to be sent for cider making at Dart's Farm and around 80 children ran around a muddy field at Killerton for a fun run which also involved many other schools. This is on top of each class learning about a country of the UK and finally sharing what they have learnt across the school with a tasting afternoon, 'Green screening' slideshows and fact finding session.

Then we head to Christmas....

The pupils and staff at school hope everyone has a pleasant festive period and a great new year.

Carole Shilston

Our Trip to Exeter Cathedral

On Monday 9th November Whimple School children went to Exeter Cathedral. We went to see the Handlebairds act out a play, 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'.

Inside the Cathedral it was beautiful. We saw a massive organ, but our favourite place in the cathedral was the ceiling. It was carved and painted beautifully. There were lots of chapels to remember saints. We had to go down a secret stone staircase to the Chapter House where the play was.

When we were down from lunch we sat on the floor and watched the play. Our favourite character of the play was Bottom and Puck.

When we got back to school, it was home time so we had our fruit, got our bags and went home.

By **Joshua and Fletcher** (Year 3)



Olive and the Dream Train

Last week we had Theatre Alibi come and visit the whole school and perform a play in the hall. The play was called 'Olive and the Dream Train'.

The play was about a little girl who lived with her dad and day dreamed a lot. In fact, sometimes her day dreaming got her into trouble in class! Also, Olive loved olives and would day dream a lot about olives! Olive's dad looked after Olive but he was not happy in his boring job. He loved to sculpture with clay and wished he could earn enough money to do this as a job, but he knew that was impossible.

One afternoon, Olive's teacher, Mrs Sandy, asked the class to go home and think about something that happened to them, so tomorrow they could write about it. Olive went home but couldn't think of anything to write about and got into a real fluster. Even her Dad tried to give her some ideas.

Every morning Olive had to catch a train to school and this morning, she still had no idea of what to write for her story. She was so busy day dreaming about what to write that she missed her usual train. But she did catch a train – she caught an imaginary train which travelled to all sorts of interesting places and saw all sorts of interesting sights. Her dream train soared over her house and garden, where she saw her cat, Miu. Her dream train zoomed through the Channel Tunnel into France and Olives saw the Eiffel Tower from the skies. Then, as if by magic, her grandma joined her on her travels, even chatted with her. Olive's dad joined her on the train and they visited his work where she saw how unhappy he was. Even olives appeared on her dream train! It was very funny.

When she got to school she wrote about her imaginary journey on her dream train. Mrs Sandy, Olive's teacher asked Olive to read out her story (we don't think Mrs Sandy thought Olive had written anything) but Mrs Sandy and the other children were surprised because Olive wrote a fabulous story about her imaginary travels on her dream train. Mrs Sandy gave Olive a little note book because she said every time Olive let her imagination take her somewhere, she must write it down for another story. This really inspired Olive to write more. Mrs Sandy inspired Olive to write more so Olive wanted to inspire her dad so she bought him some clay. He was so happy working and sculpturing with his clay, it helped him cope with his boring job.

Some of us really liked it because a lot happened in the play and it was very funny but some of us thought too much was happening and it got a bit confusing.

We enjoy seeing plays in the hall and hope we see another one soon.

Written by Years 3 and 4

Apple Pick

On Monday 9th and Tuesday 10th of November KS1 and 2 separately went apple picking at the m.u.g.a. We managed to gather up loads of heavy sacks full apples, big and small. Sadly we could not sing our autumn songs this year as the original date of the apple pick was postponed, but there's always next time!

The apples we have collected will be sent to Darts Farm to be made into some delicious cider.

News From Your Local Pre-School

The children are enjoying a busy term at preschool, we have been exploring what Autumn brings and going on walks to observe and collect leaves, acorns and other treasures. We invited parents in to share our homemade bread that the children had made and we sung our Autumn and harvest songs with Reverend Chris Martin on his guitar.

We had a lovely afternoon at our 'Going on a Bear Hunt' that was organised by some of our fantastic committee members, it was well attended and we raised about £200. The children went on a hunt for bears hidden around the village that led them back to the treasure at preschool!

Whimble is very fortunate to have such a thriving preschool as some nearby villages have had to close theirs down due to lack of children and funding. Whimble Preschool continues to offer a great early years education, we offer a nurturing and



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www.littlegreensprouts.co.uk/whimble_pre_school_playgroup



stimulating environment where children from 2 ½ years to school age can flourish and learn through fun, playful activities that prepares them well for their transition to school.

We are looking to update our dressing up clothes and role play resources - if anyone has anything that might be suitable, please contact Jo Sibley on 07794 652549, we would be very grateful for donations.

Information...

We have spaces at preschool for children aged from 2 ½ to school age, please contact Jo Sibley on **07794 652549** to find out more about us.

There is also a breakfast club available.

Please visit our website - **www.whimblepreschool.com** for more information and to find out what we have been up to!

Dates to Remember...

Baby & Toddler Group
Every Wednesday
2-3.30pm, in Pre-School Room
(term time only)

End Of Term
Friday 8th Dec at 1.30

Quiz & Curry
Saturday 30th January



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07779 139251 /

r.green2@virgin.net

Whimble Rail Users' meeting

Report on Refranchising South West Trains



A big 'thank you' to everyone that came, we estimate about 85 people attended the meeting.

Lewis Ward did an excellent job setting out how the County Council gets involved with transport policy, touching on involvement with the train operators, and the franchise process. He then gave a comprehensive guide on how to respond to government consultations. Lewis confirmed that the public consultation closes the first week of February 2016.

Your views are important to creating a user led service. Time is short and you are busy as Christmas looms, so don't write an essay! A 'shopping list' is enough. Put it on our facebook page (Whimble rail users..), or in the shop/PO (Look for the basket with the train picture on it!). Be wide ranging. Cover things you like now and frequency, destinations, ticket options, rolling stock, space on the trains-sitting/standing etc. We will do the 'writing up' for you and several folk at the meeting volunteered their services to do this...so have you had your say yet?

Roger Algate



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WHIMPLE YFC CHRISTMAS BINGO!

SUNDAY 6TH DECEMBER-WHIMPLE VILLAGE HALL-EYES DOWN: 7.30PM



**OUT OF MY WAY!
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BINGO!**

MacMillan Coffee Morning

“Thank you” to all those who made the MacMillan Coffee Morning such a success in October.

Especially “thank you” to Lis Roberts and Jane Clements without whom it would not have happened.

The grand total raised was £370. Thank you.

Delia Myers



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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2016:

Monday 11th January 2016

Monday 21st March 2016

Monday 25th July 2016

Monday 31st October 2016



Whimble News

Delivery Vacancy

We have a vacancy in the Whimble News Delivery team, to deliver to the twelve houses up Lillypond Lane.

If you are able to help, then please contact me either on **823194** or edhitch@btinternet.com.

Thanks!

Ed H

Rhoda Wood



Rhoda would like to thank family, friends and everyone for all the lovely cards, gifts and flowers she received to celebrate her 100th birthday.

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Our first event in September was at Exeter University. A few of us were joined by ladies from other local WIs for a two hour guided tour and history of the beautiful gardens and buildings that make up the campus. We thoroughly enjoyed the morning.

Our September meeting included a fascinating talk from The Freewheelers, an emergency voluntary service that provides a free, out-of-hours, motorcycle courier service to hospitals in the South West. A very impressive service that hopefully none of us will need but we will certainly know who they are now if we see them out and about.

On a wet Monday morning, several ladies (and two husbands and one dog) enjoyed a walk along the river Otter, followed by refreshments at Otterton Mill. The sun finally made an appearance as we walked, adding to the enjoyment.

We continue to play skittles. Firstly, with a Whimble WI social evening in Talaton, then a friendly against Ottery St Mary, who beat us by just one point! Also too good for us were the ladies from Sidford WI, when they recently knocked us out of the first round of this year's competition. Great fun though and we will try harder next time.

Our talk at the October meeting was again given by Janet East, a local farmer. Janet related more of the humorous events surrounding the B&B she runs at the farm. A most entertaining lady always! Our President Gill Down won the Bursary this year to Denman College and gave us a brief résumé of the fashion course she attended. She said how much she had enjoyed the experience – very smart she looks too!

Six of us attended the Autumn Council Meeting in Plymouth's Guildhall. The main speakers were Dame Esther Rantzen on the formation of 'Silver Line' and Julie Summers, author of "Jambusters", which was adapted into the TV serial "Home Fires". Quite appropriate, as there was a fire alarm at mid-day and we were briefly evacuated – someone smoking in the toilets? We concluded October with another of our social lunches, this time at The New Inn at Broadclyst. A few of us met recently for a very bracing walk along the seafront at Budleigh Salterton, finishing at a delightful café in the town.

Hopefully, you have noticed our new brightly painted notice board in the village square and our thanks to Malcolm Willoughby for its creation.

If you would like to join us and become a regular member, please contact the secretary, **Ann Bowden** on 823450.

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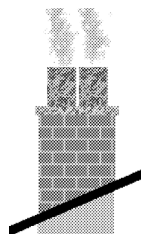
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Gentle Exercise

7-9pm, Tuesday 24 November

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Dance

7-9pm, Tuesday 1 December

Join in and try out some dances moves - you don't need a partner or any previous experience, just shoes you can dance in.

Singing

7-9pm, Tuesday 8 December

Sing along to some classic numbers. No singing ability necessary, just a willingness to join in.

Christmas Crafts

7-9pm, Tuesday 15 December

Try your hand at making some cards and gift tags. All resources will be provided.

Drink Wise Age Well, Devon are funding these workshops as part of a project to help people over 50 cope with life changes through learning new skills and making new friends. There will be information on hand about other learning opportunities and how you can look after your health and well-being.

To find out more about Drink Wise Age Well, visit drinkwiseagewell.org.uk.

Ottery Help Scheme, The Station, Ottery St Mary.

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Learn Devon is funded by the Skills Funding Agency and the European Social Fund. Free courses may be subject to terms and conditions.



Your pet has arthritis? or is it just getting old?

Osteoarthritis is a chronic, degenerative joint disease that makes movement difficult and painful; osteoarthritis mainly affects pets in their middle and senior years, although younger animals may be affected too.

It can be heart breaking to see your once lively, active best friend start to limp, or feel pain when moving around. There is no cure for osteoarthritis. However, if treated promptly, there is a great deal that you and your vet can do to decrease your pets discomfort and increase their mobility; keeping them active and happy into old age. Among the symptoms, watch out for the following:

- Difficulty walking, climbing stairs, jumping into back of car or getting in and out of litter tray
- An overall decrease in activity, especially playing
- Dogs may 'bunny hop' with back legs, rather than walk normally
- Cats may fail to groom themselves, eat less and lose weight.
- Slow, stiff movement when walking after a rest, or in cold weather

What causes osteoarthritis?

There are many causes of osteoarthritis, but the main reasons are;

- Injury to joint
- 'Wear and tear'
- Obesity, an excessive load put onto joints
- Developmental defects that alters joint shape
- Genetic, some breeds of dog are more prone than others

Whatever the cause, stress on a joint can begin a destructive cycle of inflammation of the joint area and damage to cartilage that leads to pain for your pet.

How is osteoarthritis treated?

Weight control; Dogs or cats that suffer from chronic pain caused by conditions like osteoarthritis often become inactive, which can result in obesity. Controlling your pets weight will lighten the load on arthritic joints and make it less difficult to move around. A daily, moderate amount of low impact exercise also improves joint mobility and can help get a lethargic, arthritic pet active again. Dogs will benefit from activities such as walking and swimming.

Cats will benefit from play that keeps them moving without excessive jumping.

Anti-inflammatory drugs; a group of drugs that reduce the inflammation in the joints, thus relieving pain, increasing mobility, and protecting the joint from further damage. Newer drugs are proving to be especially effective in reducing inflammation and pain to improve mobility without significant side effects.

If you notice any of the signs listed, don't just think your pet is 'slowing down with age', Take him along to see the vet. The faster osteoarthritis is first diagnosed and treated, the better your pets' quality of life will be. **(With thanks to Vale Vets)**



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Christmas Concert

As December arrives and you find yourselves busy with preparations for the festivities, don't forget that Christmas music is a great way to help you relax and celebrate the season. Come along and join the Choral Society for their annual Christmas concert in Ottery St Mary Parish Church on **Saturday 12th December, at 7.30 pm.**

This year's major choral work will be **Fauré's *Requiem***, with soloists Pip Gascoigne-Pees, David Batty and Michael Gascoigne-Pees. The orchestra will be performing **Alessandro Marcello's *Concerto in C minor*** for soprano saxophone, featuring Alison Davies. The choir will sing a selection of Christmas music, and the audience will, as usual, have the opportunity to join in with some favourite carols, accompanied by organist Alex Davies. At the end of the evening you can chat to your friends and members of the choir over a glass of wine and a mince pie (included in the ticket price). A retiring collection will be made for our chosen charity, Hospiscare.

Tickets are £10.50 (£5.00 for under 16s) and are available from Choral Society members or *Tourist Information* at Ottery St Mary. Telephone: 813964.

Classics Galore Concert

On November 14th more than a thousand people gathered in the Great Hall of Exeter University for our biennial fund-raising extravaganza of well-known light classical music. Ottery St Mary Choral Society formed the greater part of a chorus of one hundred singers accompanied by the Classics Galore Orchestra. We were also joined by the SWComms Brass Band. The audience thoroughly enjoyed joining in the Last Night at the Proms style finale. The final sum raised for the Force Cancer Charity is expected to exceed £16,000.

Our thanks to all of you who supported us so enthusiastically and we look forward to welcoming you again at the Christmas Concert. For more information please visit www.otterystmarychoral.org

or contact osmcs@hotmail.co.uk. Telephone: Annie Bassett - Chairman 823331

Remembrance Service

Just a short note to say a huge "Thank you" to everyone who came to my aid during Sunday's remembrance service. Many thanks especially to Ross for all your help, to Gwen for playing the organ throughout, and to the congregation, many of whom were children, for being so patient and quiet.

I am sorry for disrupting what was a beautiful remembrance service and for interrupting Chris' sermon!

At every remembrance service in future I will not only remember the servicemen and women, but also the help and love shown to me by Whimble Church in 2015.

Thank you and God bless you all,

Lin Carder



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Organisations in Whimble

Whimble Parish Council (whimbleparishcouncil@gmail.com)	
<i>Chairman:</i> John Griffiths	823480
<i>Clerk:</i> Gerri Turner,	823385
St. Mary's Church	
<i>Parish Priest:</i> Chris Martin	822427
<i>Impact Cell:</i> Helen Bowker	823193
Devon County Councillor (www.peterbowden.org.uk)	
Peter Bowden	823450
East Devon Councillor	
Peter Bowden	823450
Whimble Primary School (admin@whimble-primary.devon.sch.uk)	
<i>Headteacher:</i> Mrs. S. Jessop	822584
<i>Chair of Governors:</i> Maria Wallis	823992
Whimble History Society	
<i>Chairman:</i> David Rastall	822486
<i>Secretary:</i> Roger Smith	822244
Whimble Mothers Union	
Margaret Burrough	822257
Whimble Pre-School & Toddler Group (whimblepreschool.weebly.com)	
<i>Chair:</i> Cathy Culshaw	822363
<i>Playleader:</i> Jo Sibley	822183
<i>Toddlers:</i> Linden Best	822595
Whimble Womens Institute	
<i>Secretary:</i> Ann Bowden	823450
Whimble Over Sixties Club	
<i>Chairman:</i> Arthur Iball	822905
<i>Secretary:</i> Beryl Iball	822905
Whimble Recreation Trust	
<i>Knowle Cross Sports Ground:</i> Roger Smith	822244
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<i>Group Scout Leader (and Marquee Booking):</i> Alex Spry	822844
Whimble Book Group	
Tanya Mooney	823326

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