

Whimble News



Christmas 2020

www.whimplenews.uk

THE
THIRSTY



FARMER
WHIMPLE

The Thirsty Farmer

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IT'S REALLY HARD TO KEEP UP WITH ALL THE CHANGES AND NEW
GUIDELINES AT THE MOMENT, SO PLEASE BEAR WITH US!

We will be reopening on the Friday 4th December primarily as a restaurant. We have taken the decision to open for lunch on Christmas Day for food. three courses at £60 per person, the menu will be available from the 1st December.

We will be open Thursday until Sunday through December. Closed on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

We have plenty of packages available including buffets delivered to your workplace. Woodfired pizzas, jacket potatoes, and bar meals will be available as well.

We look forward to welcoming you back

TABLE SERVICE **ONLY** FOR EVERY VISIT, TO **MAX 6** PER TABLE,
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CHRISTMAS
MENU NOW
READY AND
BOOKINGS
BEING TAKEN



Ed the Ed

Welcome to your December/January edition of the Whimble News – this will be my last ‘Ed the Ed’ as the current Mrs H and myself have got everything crossed for us to complete our house sale. I think we could claim the longest time for a ‘Sale Agreed’ sign to be displayed in the village. We will leave Whimble with many happy memories of 25 years (I know – such a long time!) but we feel that we have one last house move in us, and so we are off to Exeter, but we will still come back to visit the Farmer, Film Club, the shop, the panto, and Village Week!

This edition has a book of raffle tickets which we would be grateful if you could buy, and all the proceeds will be going to The Victory Hall in what remains of its centenary year. We will all be looking forward to an opportunity to have a great afternoon in the sun for Village Day in 2021. See page 11 for details of the raffle.

Lots of good things continue to appear in this wonderful village – the ‘I Spy’ project, the Scarecrow initiative, both encouraging us to explore our village and see it through different eyes; Jill Courtney and her mask making marathon, and generous donation to the Village Hall Fund. There are heart-warming themes throughout this magazine as we all find different ways of keeping busy and involved...we are very lucky to have Katie Williams and the band of volunteers doing so much during these strange times; and the Secret Chef continues their great work in a cloak of anonymity. I love the Christmas Eve poem from Louise Walmsley on pages 46 and 47 plus we have continued with the very valuable Problem Page from Delilah. Several people have stopped me to question this column ‘Why why why Delilah?’ they asked ...I replied...‘It’s not unusual....’.

I note that Kevin Finch is hanging up his Parish Clerk hat and gown – he has been so helpful and professional in this role, and we will miss his well-organised approach – thanks Kevin for all your efforts. My favourite example of his service-minded approach was when I forgot to submit the annual grant application for the News from the Parish Council – no problem as he realised that I had been a silly old duffer, and included the request anyway!

It was sad to have to cancel Wassail in January – the first time in my knowledge and hopefully the last! But it would have been totally impractical to run it...I just worry what Ray Horn will have to set fire to if he can’t do the bonfires in the orchards. Let’s hope that the Fountain will be open again for the 2022 Wassail! (See page 29 for a suggestion about doing your own Wassail). I always enjoy meeting up with our own Jim Causley at this time, and as a travelling musician, Jim has been affected by the closure of venues for his performances. However, he has produced a couple of CDs that hopefully will provide some income for him in these strange times. You can see more details on his web page – www.jimcausley.co.uk.

We lost two of our ex-Whimble News Deliverers in the last couple of months – Irene Carter – she carried on delivering with help from her two sons, and kept going until a ripe old age and only gave up a couple of years ago and Keith Kanopka from Orchard Court who always used to make my afternoons in the shop a learning experience!

If you would like to contribute to the first edition in 2021 of this great magazine, then please send your contributions to Bob on bob.scanlan@eclipse.co.uk by 12th January.

On behalf of the Whimble News team, have a happy and safe Christmas, and a better 2021!

EdH

WHIMPLE STORES



As a lot of you will have seen, the shop is still on the market. There has been activity recently as we have changed agents and our new agent seems much more proactive so the sale is more visible.

It may take us a while to sel but it was always our intention to do this for a few years. The energy and commitment it requires is enormous and whilst we are really proud of what we've achieved, we are pretty exhausted.

We are glad that you are enjoying the longer opening hours. For us it has been nice to be open longer but it has been much quieter. We hope it is just that people are enjoying a bit of freedom out of the village but if there is something wrong with the service you are getting or the quality of the produce, please let us know.

There has been a lot to learn with the constantly changing Covid-19 requirements and there are some people coming into the shop who are understandably nervous. It is mandatory for customers entering the shop to wear a mask and we would still ask people to respect social distancing. We do still have a one way system in place and would ask customers of all ages to respect this and to allow time for customers to do their shopping. We have worked hard at trying to come up with the best solution for distancing but we are limited by the space so the position of the fridges is not ideal. We are trying to serve people as quickly as possible to avoid long waits in queues but part of us being a village shop is that we take time to serve customers who need a bit of extra support.

Tensions are high as people get scared but we would ask you all to be patient with us and with other customers. Some customers have dementia and hidden disabilities such as anxiety or lung conditions which makes wearing a mask difficult. We do not judge anyone for being scared or for not wearing a mask but if you feel uncomfortable please speak to us. We do not have to police people not adhering to the rules but we do have a duty of care to all our customers so we do want you all to feel able to come in and do your shopping safely. We are hugely grateful to our team for their hard work and want to look after them which is why we are really keen for people to follow the guidelines and pay by contactless card where possible to reduce the risks of cross contamination and save our poor hands from the constant use of chemical cleaners. We know it is a nuisance paying for small amounts on your card but we all really appreciate your commitment to helping us stay safe.

As in previous years we will be offering a pre-order service for your groceries over the Christmas period. Sheets are available in the shop and orders need to be with us by Sunday 20th December.

Just a reminder of our opening hours – weekdays 8am-6pm – weekends 9am-midday.

Post Office

The Post Office is open the same hours as the shop.

There have been changes recently regarding the price structure of overseas mail. There are now three zones and the prices have increased as, with the reduction in passenger flights, Royal Mail are using more expensive means of transporting mail. If you are thinking of posting overseas for Christmas you may want to think about acting early and sending parcels by land rather than by air. We are always happy to give advice. At the moment there are long delays in mail being sent to Australia and New Zealand so the last posting date has been brought forward to 4th December. Hopefully you will have seen the signs in the shop about this and also on social media so it is not a surprise.

The last recommended posting day (for post to get delivered for Christmas) is 2nd class 18th December, 1st class 21st December and Special Delivery 23rd December.

Christmas stamps this year depict images of stained glass angels.

Just a reminder that we offer a good range of banking services for all high street banks and a few others so, if you need to deposit a cheque or cash, this can be done with us. Cheques need to be put into a banking envelope (we hold a good stock of these for most banks), ideally with a paying in slip but if you don't have a slip just write the account number and sort code of your bank on the reverse of the cheque. Cash deposits for most high street banks can be done via your debit card.

The Post Office will be closed on Christmas Day, Boxing Day and Sunday 27th December as well as on 1st January. This will mean no cash withdrawals on these days - so please plan around this. The shop will be open for two hours on Boxing Day and Sunday 27th but, without the Post Office, there will be less back-up support.

We were sad to hear that Jo has retired from Talaton Post Office. We wish her all the very best and thank her for all the unused stationery very gratefully received.

Best wishes for a Merry Christmas and looking forward to a more relaxed and much safer New Year.

Mark and Jenny

IT support

I can offer IT support to those working from home.

Just message me or email cjtemplemurray@gmail.com



Chris



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2 Baby Gem Lettuce
200g Beetroot Cooked
1kg Carrots [LOOSE]
1 Cucumber
1 Garlic Bulb [LARGE]
750g New Potatoes
300g Mushrooms [CUP]
1kg Onions [WHITE]
1 Red Pepper
1 Yellow Pepper
Spring Onion Bunch
1kg Vine Tomatoes

£25

MEDIUM

2 Baby Gem Lettuce
200g Beetroot Cooked
500g Broccoli
1kg Carrots [LOOSE]
1 Cucumber
1 Garlic Bulb [LARGE]
200g Green Beans
750g New Potatoes
2 Jacket Potatoes
300g Mushrooms [CUP]
1kg Onions [WHITE]
225g Mixed Salad Leaves
1 Red Pepper
1 Yellow Pepper
Spring Onion Bunch
1kg Vine Tomatoes
1kg Bananas

£30

LARGE

1 Avocado
2 Baby Gem Lettuce
200g Beetroot Cooked
500g Broccoli
1kg Carrots [LOOSE]
1 Cucumber
1 Garlic Bulb [LARGE]
200g Green Beans
750g New Potatoes
2 Jacket Potatoes
300g Mushrooms [CUP]
1kg Onions [WHITE]
225g Mixed Salad Leaves
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1kg Bananas
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Mark, Jenny and Team



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Newspapers	Euro's & currency orders	Cakes
Alcohol & tobacco		Chunk Pies & pasties

Regular or one off orders can be made.
Other services.

Pharmacy collections for Pinhoe surgery, Box office for local events, Book recycle/swap

The Square, Whimble, Exeter, Devon EX5 2SN
01404 822316

New Year's Eve 2020

At the time of writing it is not clear whether we will be able to meet in the Square on New Year's Eve as we have done every year for the last 20 years.

Nevertheless we will hear the church clock chime midnight and the church bells will be rung to welcome the New Year

Keep an eye out for posters nearer the time



WHIMPLE CHURCH

<http://churches4all.org/>

Hello my friends,

As I write this we are anxiously awaiting the news conference to tell us what sort of Christmas we might have. The newspapers, as usual, are giving their various versions of what the Prime Minister will announce based on the usual combination of rumour, speculation and equal measures of doom mongering and fantasy, but what the final outcome will be I have no idea.

This last month has been curious in as much as it is lockdown but not lockdown, children have gone to school and many shops have stayed open whilst we are being urged to stay at home. On our dog walks I have noticed how much busier the roads seem compared to the first lockdown and all the while the news seems to suggest the virus is creeping closer to home. It is interesting to note how quickly we seem to have settled into a new normal, whatever that means, but it also feels a bit like, in our little piece of East Devon, there is a race between the vaccine and the virus. Strangely, even as the hope of the vaccine looks closer it is easy to feel an increased anxiety as we hear of cases mounting in our local schools and businesses. Added to this we can start to feel jaded by our efforts to keep ourselves and our community safe, all the while ensuring we reach out to others.

However, even while we can acknowledge the stress and the anxiety many of us are feeling in this continuing uncertainty, it is worth holding in our minds what a remarkable place Whimple continues to be to live in. We may sometimes be down, but we are far from out. I am sure, like me, you have seen the incredible efforts of so many in the parish to support our neighbours. The many stories of small random acts of kindness and the larger organised projects to provide a safety net. This virus has brought out the best of so many, it has proved the underlying generosity and resilience of this community and I believe provided a model for how we can all aspire to move not just into 2021 but beyond.

Maybe 2020 will be a new base line in our understanding of what it means to be a community, because being a community is quite different to just being a place where folks live. Being a community is about being grounded in, and committed to, the wellbeing of a place and our fellow human beings; it is about loving our neighbours as ourselves and making a difference in their lives. I truly believe it is love which is the most powerful force in the universe, after all it is love which brought the son of the creator of the universe to earth and it is this same golden and unbreakable thread which binds us both together but also to him. It is the power of love manifest in human beings which seeks to light candles of hope in the darkest of times and I have seen so many flickering lights this year around Whimple. These are the lights which will lighten our way as a community into Christmas when we remember the coming of the Christ child one dark and dangerous night two thousand years ago in an event which was a pivot point in history.

As your parish priest I am sorry to say I do not know many of you half as well as I would like, but I feel honoured to have been here in this place during this time. Please never forget I am the not just the minister for those who come to church but to each and everyone in the parish, whoever you are and whatever you believe. I am hopeful that as December begins we will have the opportunity for services in church as we approach Christmas. It has been a tough year and we will want to reflect on that in our prayers but we also have much to be grateful for in this wonderful little piece of God's creation including the remarkable people who make it such a great place to live.

As we head into the season of Advent and Christmas, I wish you all a joyful and peace filled Christmas, may God hold you in the palm of his hand.

God bless. **Rev Marc.**

Devon Historic Churches Trust - The Ride and Stride 2020



Having been blessed this year with the ideal weather for cycling and much quieter roads for travelling along, the four different groups raising money have together allowed me to forward the incredible sum of £2,288.00 to the Trust (half of which returns to St Mary's)!!

"THANK YOU" to all you wonderful people who have been so very generous in backing our efforts. This year has been particularly hard on all of our churches as normality has gone out of the window.... no services, no celebrations ... it has meant a huge decrease of income for each and everyone of them, so I say it again from all four of the groups who rode, a huge "THANK YOU". Without your backing and inspiration we would never have made it up all the hills that separated us from the finishing line!

Jane Clements

Photos of the groups who participated:-



A banner image showing a rural landscape with rolling green hills, a winding road, and a small village with houses. The text 'Coleridge Medical Centre' is overlaid in white on the right side of the image.

Coleridge Medical Centre

Here we are emerging from our second lockdown and there are definitely more Covid cases in the South West. The surgery continues to offer face to face appointments along with telephone, econsultation and video consultation. We are progressing well with our influenza vaccination programme and thank our patients for their patience and understanding as we got to grips with the enormity of this task. Thank you also to our community volunteers and staff who worked cheerfully at weekends to keep everyone safe and moving through the building on our new one-way system. We are catching up with our contraceptive services and minor operations along with joint injections and chronic disease management.

Staff updates: we are very sorry to be losing Dr Emma Stuart this month after 17 years of inspiring work at Coleridge. She is tackling new challenges at a surgery in Chard, who are fortunate to have her. Dr de Sousa will be returning from a period of leave and is looking forward to working again with his patients who miss him greatly.

Lockdown on this occasion has a number of differences. There is no shielding this time. Schools, colleges and universities remain open as do recycling centres and nurseries. Click and collect is available from a number of shops. People can bubble with a member of another household. Unlimited exercise is permitted. Let's take advantage of all our beautiful county has to offer and get outside whenever possible on these glorious autumnal days. Keep active, keep safe and we are here for you when you need us.

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WHIMPLE VILLAGE WEEK

The following was written whilst the lockdown rules were still being evolved. What will actually happen may differ but we will do our best to stick as close to the plan as possible.

Whimple Village week didn't happen this year, which was a real shame:-

- a. Because we had some great events planned
- b. 2020 is the centenary of the Victory Hall and they had plans to raise funds for its renovation. It has been gratifying to see how the village has found other ways to support the cause and, we were hoping to make a significant contribution towards it.

Never to be thwarted, the Village Week committee have come up with a couple of things which we hope will lift the Covid gloom.

I SPY WHIMPLE A walking picture quiz of 24 places around the village to identify. Entries available from outside The Pea and anywhere else we can get to sell them. £3 a go with the winner being announced, together with the raffle winner, on 19th December.

First Prize:- a Christmas Hamper

All entries - including incomplete ones - will be put into a second draw for a Christmas table decoration and a mystery prize.

BE A FILM STAR FOR A DAY (if you want to be) Buy a raffle ticket, better still buy the whole book enclosed with this edition of Whimple News and be filmed receiving your prize.

Because of Covid restrictions we cannot make the draw in public as we usually do, so the draw for both the walking picture quiz and the raffle will be filmed so that everyone can see. The draw will take place at the Victory Hall at 2.30pm on 19th December. Prizes will then be delivered to the winners and the hand-over will be filmed (but only if you want it to be). The winners receiving their prizes will be edited into the film of the draw (thank you Bob Scanlan) and the final film pinned onto Whimple What's On which will be modified for the day (thank you Rob Davis).

Improve your chances of being a film star for a day: buy more raffle tickets or donate a prize.

All tickets, used and unused, together with any prize donations should be taken to 1 Henry Lewis Close before the closing date. Thank you.

David Myers, Treasurer

Hello again from your District Councillor

Dear Residents,

Here we are once again having to endure a lockdown to try to ensure the safety and protection of us all. I hope that when you receive this news letter you and your family are managing to find some sort of comfort during this difficult time.

Your district council are once again pulling out all of the stops to ensure there is a system of support for those that need it.

Our fabulous volunteers are busy behind the scenes getting flyers out there so that you will know who to contact locally for help. Others are getting food boxes ready for anyone who may be finding it a bit tough and may need a bit of help to feed themselves or their family.

Meanwhile your district council are trying to keep everything ticking along as best as possible. Suez will be continuing to recycle for us, and our public parks will be kept open (hopefully some toilets too!).

If you have a smart phone and don't already have it, please download the East Devon app which has all sorts of information on it including a reminder of what is collected on which Friday - which is useful for me if my very own home recycling elf is away.

This month was special for me at EDDC. I put a motion to council, which was passed, that asked for gender neutral language be used within EDDC, that councillors with extended roles should be offered maternity pay, for our policy on sexist language and behaviour within council to be tightened and for all of our committees to have the leader of those committees to be addressed as 'chair'.

This may seem unimportant to some but many of us would like to see more women become members of our district council and therefore we need to make it a more equal and attractive proposition.

By May 2023 (election time) I would hope that far more women feel confident enough to enter into local politics.

Please do not be afraid to ask if you need any help, we are a village bursting with good people who want to help.

I hope Christmas this year will have some joy for you. I think I'll get the garden decorations up early, the local children, big and small love a bit of sparkle and shine.

Talk to you next time, please be in touch if you need me.

Below is a link for guidance for grants available for volunteer groups from East Devon District Council, this would work if you are looking at the electronic Whimble News or on EDDC website.

If you do not have access to a computer or smart phone please let me know and I will try to help.



GRANTS AVAILABLE

<https://eastdevon.gov.uk/coronavirus-covid-19/latest-updates/east-devon-residents-coronavirus-update-3-november-2020/>

Guidance on public health and well-being

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-for-the-public-on-mental-health-and-wellbeing?utm_source=66b7f731-f6b0-4f50-885d-9f2ab2586f60&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=immediate

Kind Regards

Cllr Kathy McLauchlan,

Whimble and Rockbears Ward

Email: Kmclauchlan@eastdevon.gov.uk

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Whimble Parish Council

Some useful links and information



Dog and Waste Bins

I am pleased to confirm that the new Dog Poo and General Waste bins have been installed in the entrance to the Parish Field. Please use the correct bin for depositing waste. The Parish Council pay EDDC £260 plus VAT per annum for each and every dog poo bin to be emptied three times a week.

If you are aware that a dog poo bin in the village has not been emptied in the past three days please report this direct to EDDC https://eddc-self.achieveservice.com/service/Report_a_full_dog_bin

For general waste bins please use <https://new.eastdevon.gov.uk/environmental-maintenance/litter/report-a-full-litter-bin/>



Community Speed Watch

With an increase in complaints regarding speeding, a good option to consider would be 'Community Speed Watch (CSW)' There is now in place a new method for setting up a

CSW group. Initial requests for a new CSW Group can be submitted by any member of the community (18yrs or over), all requests for new groups are requested online, through CSW Online at: <https://www.communityspeedwatch.org/> A minimum of 6 volunteers are required for a CSW Group to become active. I am happy to co-ordinate this (unless there is another willing volunteer in which case I am more than happy to offer assistance)! I know that our District Councillor, Kathy McLauchlan, asked residents at the start of the year to let her know if they were interested in joining a scheme but Covid-19 put the process on hold. I have spoken with Kathy who suggested I ask again that any resident who may have previously expressed an interest to email me with their details (Data protection rules sadly means Kathy cannot share the details she previously may have received with me). whimbleparishcouncil@gmail.com



'Who is responsible for maintenance to Hedges and Verges?'

This is often a question raised to the Parish Council.

Many hedges and trees grow on the edge of the highway and mark its boundary with private property. In these cases the adjacent landowner or occupier is responsible for maintaining them. This also applies to trees that overhang the highway or fall on to it. If you are unsure whether you are the owner check your property deeds or The Land Registry. For more guidance see <https://new.devon.gov.uk/roa.../factsheet/hedges-and-verges/>

Drains/Potholes/Street Signs/Parking/Snow

Residents are asked to report problems with potholes, flooding and blocked drains, street lights, fallen trees, defective signs and road markings and parking issues to <https://www.devon.gov.uk/roadsandtransport/report-a-problem/>



Car Park Closure

**CAR
PARK
CLOSED**

I have had a further notification that the Car Park will **need to be closed and clear of all residents vehicles on or before 9.a.m. Monday 4th January 2021** to enable the culvert repairs to be carried out.

The closure is likely to be for 6 weeks. I appreciate this is a little early to advise and the date may change again! I will keep residents informed as we get nearer to the closure date.

Christmas Lights in the Square



Hopefully by the time you read this edition of Whimble News the Christmas Lights will have been installed in the Square by the Parish Council. Our thanks go to Rev Marc for his assistance.

On behalf of all the Parish Councillors and myself, may I take this opportunity to wish everyone a safe and happy Christmas and prosperous Covid free new year!

Kevin Finch, Whimble Parish Council Clerk, whimbleparishcouncil@gmail.com

Hats and Fascinators

- Bridal headwear and tiaras
- Mother of bride/groom
- Match your outfit/theme
- Men's buttonholes
- Unique fascinators for themed events
- Retrim a hat you already own
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Tallulahmahoolah

Hilary Nowill

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**Are you looking for a part-time, local job?
Do you have sound admin skills?
Would you like to help your local community?**

**Whimple Parish Council is recruiting a
part-time Parish Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer**

We are an active, non-political, nine Councillor strong organisation, which meets regularly (12 meetings per year and occasional planning meetings). Our current Parish Clerk is leaving and we are looking for a community-minded, energetic and committed person to take on this challenging and rewarding role.

The ideal candidate would:

- Be able to work independently and from home.
- Be able to attend meetings in evenings and work flexibly at other times.
- Be able to act both collaboratively and on their own.
- Have previous experience in either a secretarial or administrative role (experience working for a similar body would be beneficial but not essential as relevant training is available).
- Be IT literate. (Word, Excel, Outlook, knowledge of maintaining a Website Facilitating Virtual Zoom meetings)
- Be able to prepare and maintain financial records. (Year-end and monthly accounts, Audit, PAYE, Budget forecasts and VAT)
- Be an effective communicator.

The position is part-time, averaging 14 hours per week.

A Council laptop, printer and telephone will be provided

Salary in accordance with recommended national pay scales depending on experience and qualifications.

Interested? To apply please send a CV and covering letter by email to:

whimpleparishcouncil@gmail.com:

Or for more information please contact the current Parish Clerk, Kevin Finch on whimpleparishcouncil@gmail.com or tel: 01404 823385

Closing date for applications: 23rd January 2021

WARTS - DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2021

11th January 2021

29th March 2021

19th July 2021

25th October 2021



We would kindly remind you:

**ALL ORDERS FOR OIL SHOULD BE PLACED AT LEAST
ONE WEEK BEFORE THE ABOVE ORDER DATES!**

(Minimum order: 500 litres. Please allow a further 10 days for delivery)

All existing (and potential new) members with access to e-mail may contact Graham Batten with their order/*registration at gkbatten@btinternet.com.

If you are without email you may call 01404 823317

***Registration to include: Name/Address/Postcode & Telephone Number**



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4094

Remembrance Sunday St Mary's Church Whimble 2020

"They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them."

'For the Fallen' Laurence Binyon

At 11am the country paused to remember those lost in war as, at 11am, the guns fell silent on the Western Front and with it the Armistice which heralded the 2 minute silence.

This year there was a different silence as we viewed quiet streets and a London Cenotaph that leads the nation's commemoration silenced to a few, as the echo of the thousands of veterans and serving personnel that would have solemnly filed past, watch from their homes.

The reason, a pandemic that has taken life. With it, a stirred emotion of how life can change as in war and once again the pain and anguish of bereavement and loss is felt.

The act of remembrance was observed as it has been every year by the village of Whimble, honouring not only those names etched onto the memorial at St Mary's Church but all the fallen. Fewer wreaths laid, no last post but a service and silence held with the greatest dignity.

This year the Royal British Legion were unable to have poppy sellers in our villages & cities. Donations can be made via their website www.rbl.org.uk/poppyappeal and click on 'donate'.

Karen Hall-Williams



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A message from Whimple Volunteers

There finally appears to be some hope around the corner, and that, by spring, this pandemic will hopefully start to get under some sort of control. Until then I want to reassure you all that help is still here and we are all still more than happy to assist any of you in any way you need.

Here are the things that we offer if you are being affected by Covid-19, whether you are shielding, self-isolating or awaiting test results.

- Essential shopping
- Prescription pick ups
- Food Bank
- Hot meals delivered to your door on Saturday evenings (this service only runs during lockdowns), thanks again to the wonderful 'Secret Chef'.
- We can deliver puzzles, books and newspapers to you
- Friendly phone calls
- Christmas Lunch delivered to your door if you are alone or a couple on your own this Christmas - this is a free service being provided by Otter Nurseries and I need to know asap if you or anyone you know would like this amazingly kind offer.

So please if you're struggling with anything, reach out to us, we are so lucky to live in this great village so lets all make the most of it.

Lastly I want to wish all the amazing volunteers a very Merry Christmas and, fingers crossed, for a much brighter New Year. I can't even begin to explain to others what you have done for your fellow villagers, your kindness is what has kept me positive throughout this very difficult year, so thank you, you've been bloomin' amazing!

Please call me on **07967 374760**

Katie Williams xx

For prescription help, please call **Sue Ayres on 01404 823082**

For more Food Bank details please call **Marc Kerslake on 01404 822104**

Whimple Victory Hall



All of the Trustees extend their heartfelt thanks to Jill Courtney for raising such a large amount for the hall refurbishment fund.

We are also extremely grateful to the Village Week Committee who have arranged the raffle included with this magazine with all proceeds going to the hall refurbishment fund. Please buy lots of tickets.

During Lockdown 2, from 5th November to Wednesday 2nd December inclusive, the School, Preschool and Breakfast Club have continued to use the hall.

From Thursday 3rd December user groups will be allowed back, providing they can follow the latest Government regulations and also comply with the hall's Covid Safe guidelines.

For further information, please contact Ali Tierney, Bookings Secretary, on 822724.

THEY DON'T JUST MAKE GOOD CIDER!

Jill Courtney, ably assisted by Richard, decided to make face coverings for our community at the onset of the pandemic.

In exchange for a donation they probably supplied the majority of our community with a mask that served very well – I still use mine..

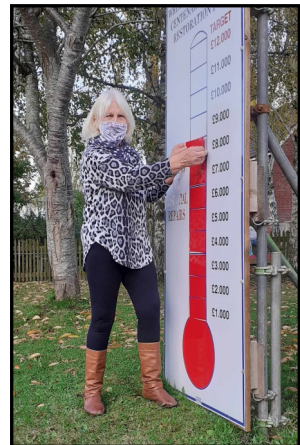
In return for their efforts they raised a significant sum – in excess of £1500, as a contribution to the Village Hall Appeal.

On behalf of the community, we can but admire and be inspired by such a commitment to the village whilst thanking all who donated to the cause.

We extend our sincere thanks and congratulations to Jill & Richard for this magnificent effort and suggest villagers raise a toast, gin (Courtneys, of course) & tonic would be becoming, by way of appreciation.

It might be fun if villagers could take a break at 6pm on Christmas Eve to ring their bells (see page for details of the Christmas Jingle) and to applaud this effort by 'clapping or banging dustbin lids'. Let's see what we can do!

Maria Wallis, Chair



Shelley
Spry



Tale Valley Care

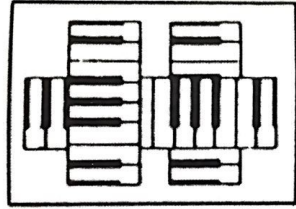
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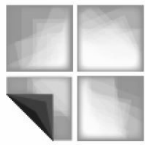
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Whimble History Society

Unfortunately, the Heritage Centre has remained closed and our usual regular talks and events have been cancelled this year, for obvious reasons, but rest assured that the committee quietly continues to move things forward.

On that note – on Monday 23rd November BBC Radio Devon gave us a ten minute slot to talk about what it is that makes our museum so exciting. To hear Karen Hall-Williams’s interview with Pippa Quelch go to:

www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/p08xv6lz

This will take you to the BBC Devon website, then move the slider along to 3:09.00

Sadly, our Wassail in January is also a casualty of the current Covid pandemic but we have still included the words of the Wassail song because you may want to do something in a family group or in your ‘bubble’ on January 17th. I am sure that the apple trees won’t mind if you cannot wassail under their branches but perhaps do something in your garden! If you do have a Wassail, please send any photos to the History Society at whimble_heritage@uwclub.net (note the _ between ‘whimble’ and ‘heritage’) and we might also be able to put them in the next Whimble News.

We’re very excited and pleased to be supporting *Whimble in Stitches*, a community project to create an embroidery of the village. We have offered £300 to kick-start their fundraising. If you would also like to make a donation, please see Hilary Nowill’s article in this edition of Whimble News.

We have acquired some new display boards from Ottery Heritage Centre. Thanks to David Rastall and Margaret Burrough for organising transportation.

At the moment, we are considering the best way to go ahead with the AGM that usually takes place in March. We will be in contact with members as soon as a safe and sensible approach has been identified.

In the last update, it was said that our Treasurer, Mike Rovira, had secured a Govt. Grant of £10. Bit of a typo there – it was actually £10,000. Yay!

Finally, we are very grateful to Graham Potbury for laying a wreath at the War Memorial on Remembrance Sunday on behalf of all of us in the History Society.

**A-wassail, a-wassail! The Moon she shines down;
Our apple s 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.....

POW&R



Protect our Whimble & Rockbeare Group

www.powr.live Email:- contact@powr.live

During an early evening in October, looking out and seeing a beautiful field of corn, not quite as high as an elephants eye, or even climbing right up to the sky, but it was impressive. Next morning, it was gone – harvested, ploughed, raked and sown. In a week there were green shoots appearing and in two weeks a rich carpet of green across the entire field. It's all part of the rural cycle of seasons. It's these activities in our village, which are so precious, as is the apple harvest, in the remaining orchards dotted round the village. We sit in an area of Devon's rich red soil, we are rural, but rooted in the twenty-first century with all that is positive and negative.

The immense pressures of development on the door step of Whimble, has been a feature of 2020. The year started with submissions from the majority of POW+R Group for the inquiry into the extension phase of Cranbrook New Town. It included a 19,000 word report on the impact of Cranbrook on Whimble and Rockbeare and the problems associated with a Developer Led Consortium, plus no Town Centre. POW+R had strong representation at most of the hearing sessions, challenged every section and were very vocal in our desire to protect our village.



The hearing was put on hold due to issues surrounding the viability of the scheme and is now back as a virtual hearing starting on the 16th November 2020. POW+R will have representation from three of our group, focusing on development east of Cobden Lane, including the proposed Gypsy and Travellers Site.

In August of this year, there was another 'bombshell', when plans were published under the title of the **Greater Exeter Strategic Plan (GESP)**. It would have accepted the principle of hundreds of acres of land to be developed, including a possible, bolt-on extension to Whimble of up to 2,500 Homes. With a considerable number of forces in the village, emails to a large number of Councillors at East Devon District Council and the involvement of Kathy Mclauchlan, the council decided to withdraw from the derisory GESP.

If that wasn't enough then came one of the most divisive **White Papers – Planning for the future**, that is riddled with false information and acutely biased towards developers. It is full of criticism of planners, when they are purely implementing the requirements of the current planning law. In addition, the Government wants to take away key democratic areas of Local Government and centralise many systems. This is not linked to the Localism Act 2011, it's not localism it's vandalism.

POW+R is again on the case and each of our group made representation as part of the consultation process, by the due date of the 29th October 2020. This has included a comprehensive analysis of the White Paper and the completion of the questionnaire, which in itself is chronically biased and would not pass muster on any social-scientific feedback process. The PM has described the planning system as beginning to crumble; it is just not true. It's the power that developers have and holding back land that has already gained planning permission, which is one of the problems. Planning Departments are very streamlined operations with much being done online and with a high standard of professionalism, all with limited resources. It is just fundamentally wrong to use algorithms to make planning decisions – look what happened in the exam fiasco.

Now it's a waiting game for the Government to evaluate the responses to the White Paper.

The POW+R group are very pleased to see work on the Neighbourhood Plan for Whimple begin, at last, with the steering groups getting underway on this most important document. The Neighbourhood Plan will form the backbone of the village's defence mechanism, once ratified, and, as EDDC look to update the Local Plan in the next few years, the Neighbourhood Plan should inform that process. Without a Neighbourhood Plan, the village is completely defenceless against future encroachment from large-scale developers. Thank you to everyone who has got involved in this vital work so far.

POW+R is now looking for a new Chair and would welcome any input and assistance from members of the wider Whimple/ Rockbeare communities. If you would be willing and able to give up some of your free time in order to help protect the village from the expansion of Cranbrook and any other large development that is proposed, we'd love to hear from you! Please email us at contact@powr.live.

A busy year for POW+R and now at the beginning of November, the Country has gone into lockdown II, until the 2nd of December – well that is the Plan A. In our village life goes on as best as it can, but time does not wait for the cycles of the seasons to pass.

We wish all villagers well, good health and contentment.

Alan Lascelles

Press and Publicity, POW&R Group

Dated – 6th November 2020



A Merry

	St Mary's Church Services	Post Office	Whimp
Thursday December 24th 2020	11.00pm Holy Communion	9.00am - noon	9.00am
Friday December 25th 2020	TICKET ONLY 09.30am and 11.00am	Closed	Cl
Saturday December 26th 2020		Closed	9.00am
Sunday December 27th 2020	10.30am Community Service	Closed	9.00am
Monday December 28th 2020		9.00am - 11.00am	9.00am
Tuesday December 29th 2020		9.00am - 6.00pm	9.00am
Wednesday December 30th 2020		9.00am - 6.00pm	9.00am
Thursday December 31st 2020		9.00am - 6.00pm	9.00am
Friday January 1st 2021		Closed	9.00am
Saturday January 2nd 2021		9.00am - noon	9.00am



From the Whim

Christmas

le Stores	Whimpe Surgery	Ottery Surgery	The Jack in the Green	Thirsty Farmer
m - noon			11.00am - 3.00pm 5.30pm-10.00pm	noon - 9.00pm
osed	Closed	Closed	noon - 3.00pm	noon - 4.00pm (bookings only)
-11.00am			noon - 3.00pm	noon - 3.00pm brunch booking advisable
-11.00am			noon - 5.00pm	noon - 7.00pm
- 11.00am	Closed	Closed	11.00am - 2.30pm	Closed
- 6.00pm			Closed	Closed
- 6.00pm			Closed	Closed
- 6.00pm			Closed	See 'Whimpe What's On'
-11.00am	Closed	Closed	Closed	See 'Whimpe What's On'
m - noon			Closed	11.00am - 9.00pm brunch

Whimpe News Team



Christmas Eve Carols are go
 but not as we know it!

With both Whimble's Christmas Eve Carols and Talaton's Christmas Lights Carols unable to take place, we're doing a virtual carol project. We have gathered a group of musicians, including a small group of singers from The Whimbletons and Tale Valley Choir and asked them to video themselves playing/singing a selection of favourite carols. Each of the videos will then be edited together and put online.

Why are we doing this?

Both events collect for local charities. Whimble has collected for the Devon Air Ambulance since the Air Ambulance was launched and Talaton raises funds for Devon Freewheelers. So, I've set up Just Giving pages for both. The videos will be posted on Whimble What's On Facebook page with a link to the charity. There will also be a collecting box in

Whimble Stores

Alternatively go to the Just Giving website & search for

Whimble Virtual Christmas Carols
 Please help us raise much needed funds.

Thank You!
 Emma Palmer

...and look out for our live stream
 on Christmas Eve





After what has been an unprecedented year due to the Covid-19 pandemic, with people losing loved ones, being separated from family and friends and struggling with the impact of lockdown restrictions, an idea is gaining momentum to spread some cheer over the festive season with a 'Worldwide Christmas Eve Jingle'.

The idea is to bring 'magic, hope and togetherness' to communities by asking everyone to come outside on Christmas Eve at 6pm and ring a bell for two mins to spread Christmas spirit and to help Santa fly that sleigh. Then sing carols together afterwards!

The idea appears to have started in Yorkshire and is spreading around the world, The original Facebook group now has over 300,000 members and adds: "It will create a wave of bells across the world. After a tough year it would be an amazing memory for the kids and communities and end 2020 with a bit of magic, hope and togetherness!"

So, as we can't meet in the Square this Christmas Eve at 6pm we are asking everyone to stand outside their homes and ring a bell for two minutes to spread Christmas Spirit and help Santa fly that sleigh. It will create a wave of bells across the world. End 2020 with a bit of magic, hope and togetherness!

Afterwards, please join in with the three carols - 'Away in a manger'. 'Silent night' and 'We wish you a merry Christmas' - Emma Palmer, a group of musicians and some of the Whimbletons have also videoed these carols so you can also use them to help sing along. The words and videos will be available on Whimble What's On and the Whimble News website on Christmas Eve.

Donations please to Emma's 'Whimble Virtual Christmas Carols' justgiving page

Listen to the carols

If you would like to hear the carols, once they have been posted, just head on over to the Whimble News website:

www.whimblenews.uk

and click on a Christmas tree bauble



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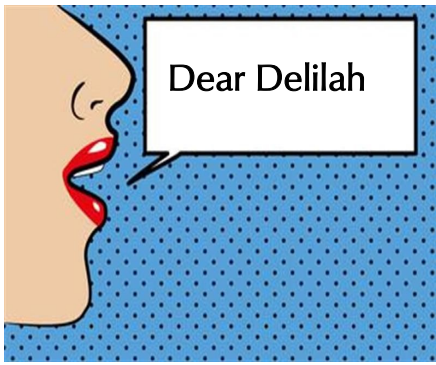
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Lee Maddicks

David Drew



A light-hearted
'Problem Page' from the
mysterious
Delilah...

Dear Delilah

While he was visiting, my father asked for the password to my Wi-Fi.

"It's taped under the modem," I told him.

After three failed attempts to log on, he asked,

"Am I spelling this right? T-A-P-E-D-U-N-D-E-R-T-H-E-M-O-D-E-M?"

Is this a generation problem?

Name withheld

Dear Mr Withheld

Not at all.

I think you should choose which ever password seems appropriate to you.

Dear Delilah

I am writing because I am concerned about my husband. There is no other way to describe him but fat. Now don't get me wrong, I love him just as he is but what with his raised cholesterol and blood pressure I'd also like to be able to love him a bit longer. He is also getting on a bit now and, what with one thing and another, this is definitely not a good time to be old and overweight.

I was also overweight before the first Lockdown and have done really well with the Fast 800 and online yoga and zumba classes and stuff but can't get my husband interested at all. He's also always wears the same style of traditional, old-fashioned clothes. If he lost some weight, I'm sure I could also get him looking really quite trendy. What do you think Delilah?

Dear Mrs Claus

Back off right now! Do we want Santa as dressed by Victoria Beckham? Also, what about all the mince pies he is supposed to eat on Christmas Eve? Does he leave a note saying "Sorry, I'm on a diet?" Children would be devastated. No body shaming here please!



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something out of the woods?*

Thoreau



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YOGA – BUT NOT ON THE MAT

I'm going to talk about YOGA – No! Don't turn the page. This IS relevant to you.

OK, so yoga does have a bit of a stereotypical clientele (which I suppose I do actually fit into) - female - tick, middle aged - tick, slim - tick, searching for your 'inner goddess' - tick (obviously ☹️). But the benefits of yoga can apply to us **all**. Even the English Rugby team, Daniel Craig, Lady Gaga and loads of teenagers during lockdown are doing it. So **do** read on and I will explain.

The first thing to say is that the yogic image of someone, aka the description above, contorting themselves in strange even dangerous looking, poses on a mat or sitting cross legged singing 'OM' is not really Yoga. It might be a part of it if you want it to be. However, the physical practice of Asanas (pronounced arse-nas!!) is only one aspect of the many disciplines. To put it simply yoga can be defined as

Taking part in an activity and directing one's mind without distraction or interruption. It is a quality or state of being fully absorbed in what you are doing.

So, you see, you don't need to be on a yoga mat to experience a state of yoga. In fact you probably experience yoga more than you realise. For example, singing, gardening, cooking, reading a really good book, painting, or even doing the washing up. If you are fully present in the moment, not worrying about the future or dwelling on the past, then you are practising yoga.

Sounds easy doesn't it? But take a moment to consider when you were actually in that state of complete focus. It might well be days, weeks, months ago. Our mental state is so often scattered or fixated on something that is NOT the present moment. Our modern lifestyles lead us to be multi tasking, problem solving and forward planning. We get very good at spinning plates, but often at a cost. Regular introspective practice IS good for you, it puts 'tools' in your health and wellbeing 'toolbox'.

Here's a teeny bit of science - when you are calm, focused and grounded you are in a Parasympathetic Nervous State. This means physically your heartrate is slower, breathing is deeper, muscles are more relaxed, and digestive system is functioning more productively. All good things, which in turn aid your sleep, energy levels, etc. Conversely when you are anxious, overstimulated or stressed, your body is likely to respond with shallow breathing, heart rate racing, poor digestion because you are in that 'Fight & Flight' mode, too much of this is definitely **not** good for your health.

There is plenty of research and evidence – I like this quote from a *Live Science* article by Dr Loren Fishman "*It(Yoga practice) thickens the layers of the cerebral cortex, the part of the brain associated with higher learning, and increases neuroplasticity, which helps us learn new things and change the way we do things,*" WOW you **can** teach a (downward facing) dog new tricks!

And in a pandemic? – breathwork and mindful practice help improve lung function, stimulate the vagus nerve, improve immunity and help to reduce inflammation. ALL are extremely important for maintaining good general health.

Now, I am a yoga teacher and I know that if you do venture onto your yoga mat, or attend regular classes, then this can be a great benefit to your health and wellbeing.

As Dr Fishman suggests, regular practice helps us to create positive habits, rather than just reinforcing old habits, that might be limiting you. The reason is twofold

1. Exercise that has familiarity and repetition leads to calmness and peace of mind. Therefore, regular practice means you learn how to drop into this state, when the going gets tough – family, work, health, even a pandemic!
2. Exercise that is also challenging and encourages attentiveness. In other words, you learn to be fully present in your body. Translate this into everyday life and you become more aware of how you are really feeling. This helps you to make more informed decisions.

Finally, you don't need to worry about the difference between a *Virabhadrasana* and a *Natarajasana*. You might never achieve, or want to even contemplate, a headstand (that's *Salamba Sirsasana* to you geeks). However, you may just find that trying to be truly present in certain moments of your day will bring a certain steadiness, focus, and calmness that you can return to whenever you need it most. That is one of the true benefits of Yoga and something we can all achieve if we put our minds to it. Anyone can be taught a downward facing dog. It is just a series of joint positions. Anyone can learn how to breathe properly. The bigger question is what do you want to do with the breaths you have today?

Namaste

Sarah Thackeray is a yoga teacher and therapist. Yoga Classes for all abilities will be starting on Tuesdays 9.30am and 6.30pm in the Whimble Scout Hut. Tuesday 8th and 15th December. Contact Sarah for booking and further details (ad on page 25).



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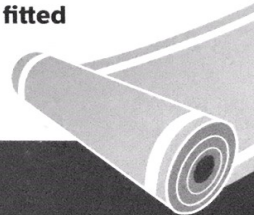
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Whimple in Stitch

Following the article in the previous edition of Whimple News, we received a staggering interest in the project 'Whimple in Stitch'.

If you have not heard about this project, it is a group of about 45 villagers, each stitching a small element which will reflect Whimple life. We are busy stitching Whimple buildings, apple blossom, activities, chickens and so much more. Each small element embroidered will be applied on to a larger background piece to create a framed embroidery. Some of the stitching group are novices and some more experienced embroiders. Once Covid19 restrictions permit, we will meet together in stitching groups to support each other.

The finished embroidery will be approximately 1.5m x 2.5m framed. This seems a large picture (and it is!) but we have a lot to include. One of our difficulties is we are such an active village, and have so many beautiful and historic buildings, sadly, not everything can be included. We will do our best!

Donna and Marc have kindly agreed to hang it in the Thirsty Farmer so everyone, including visitors can see it. We hope to display it for the first time during Village Week 2021.

The History Society have very generously donated £300 for materials so that we can make a start. Now we need to raise approximately £900 for framing and hanging this historic reflection of our village in 2020.

If you would like to make a donation, the account details are:

Account name: Hilary Tallulah Nowill, sort code 09-01-29, account 55777065.

At the end of the project, an account will be available on request to all who make donations.

**Thank you very much from the Whimple in Stitch organisers
(Suzanne Rothwell, Hilary Nowill, Louise Walmsley)**

Fish and Chips

The van will be in the Square on 18th December for its last visit in 2020.
Normal service will be resumed on 8th January 2021.

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Christmas Eve

'Twas the night before Christmas in the parish of Whimble
And Covid19 meant that nothing was simple,
For families were afraid and locked in their homes
In fear of a cough or an ache in their bones.

The Whimplies were glum as their parents did warn
To expect nothing much in their stockings next morn'.
For Santa'd been served with a notice quite strong
To visit homes outside his bubble was entirely wrong.

To add to his problems, the elves had been furloughed
Making toys for every child an impossible workload.
And Rudolph and the rest of the reindeer were in quarantine
Since visiting a mink farm – a surprise unforeseen!

And the failure of magic extended to Amazon
Too few drivers accepting the chance to sign on.
A delivery from Waitrose, Sainsburys or Tesco
Was a dream most desired, but as scarce as green snow.

Sugar plum fairies danced in nobody's heart
Without all the trimmings and with families apart.
But opting to take part in the Christmas Eve Jingle,
Folks all trooped outside, taking care not to mingle.

And as they rang and they sang a new feeling grew
'We will find a way to help take us through.
We can make do and mend and never will flinch.
Like the Whos we can take Christmas back from the Grinch.'

So dads climbed up ladders to dizzying heights
And garlanded their homes with sparkling bright lights.
Whilst from the rear of the freezer, mums created a feast
Finding something to disguise as the Christmas Roast Beast.

And children called grandparents and asked for a plan
To make decorations and presents that didn't come in a van.
While the rest chose the shapeliest trees in the Square
To trim with baubles, and twinklies and chocolates to share.

Just then from above there arose such a clatter
Each looked to another asking what was the matter?
When out from the clouds emerged a strange airship
And within an old lady with sparkly hat and firm grip.

For pulling that sleigh instead of the reindeer
Were Boris and Michael and Sturgeon and Keir
And Hancock and Sunak and Davey and Barnier.
The Queen had them in tandem and finally working together!

Now whether you believe it was HM, fairies or Santa
Or purely the imaginings of a foolish old writer
(And whatever he might claim, definitely no thanks to Trump!)
Those sad and limp stockings were suddenly plump.

So we discovered whilst fighting this deadly influenza
That Christmas in Whimble could still be on the agenda
People smiled to their neighbours as they gazed at the sight
And called out 'Merry Christmas on this blessed night.'

With thanks to Clement Clarke Moore for the original poem .

Louise Walmsley

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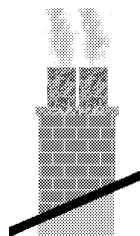
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Well here we are with another edition of the News and no activities to report! At a time when we usually reflect on a busy year, this time we only have the two events in March to look back on – and those seem a very long time ago! However, all was not lost as so many people seemed to have discovered the joys of gardening, whether it be flowers or vegetables, new skills have been found and will hopefully be continued into 2021!

Our first meeting of the new year is usually our Annual General Meeting which would normally be held in the Committee Room of the Victory Hall. However, with the current restrictions more than likely to be still in place in January, we have decided that for this year we will have a virtual AGM. With so little to report on, it didn't seem very practical to use the Hall this time.

Having had no Flower Show this year, we will be hopefully using the schedule we put together this year and fine tune it for our show in 2021. So, fingers crossed that this will take place.

Information on the VPA and reports on previous events can be found on our website which can be found at www.whimble-vpa.co.uk

Paul Wilson,



Note on Advertisements

The advertisements that appear in this magazine relate to normal times.

We do not know for sure which services are available at the time of going to press, or how that will change over the days and weeks to come.

When you need to respond to an advertisement, we suggest that you either email or telephone the advertiser to find out whether or not they are open for business.

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Yippee, we've planted a tree! With kind permission of Malcolm & Marianne Randall of The Hive, we planted a flowering cherry tree on the 14 October and attached a plaque to commemorate 100 years of Whimble WI. Four of us, plus Marianne, celebrated the planting with a glass of elderflower, a decorated cupcake and a lovely poem composed by our President, Di Eden. It was a beautiful sunny day and we were all delighted to be able to do something to mark this special year. A week later we delivered a "goody bag" to all our members to show they were not forgotten – we hope they enjoyed the contents!



TREE OF HOPE 2020



*This was our year to celebrate
One hundred years of Whimble WI
Humanity has dealt a mighty blow
Our resolve and spirit, to try*

*Corona has set the world such a challenge
Our beloved freedoms, under threat
Holidays, birthdays, gatherings
Celebratory promises still to be kept*

*And as this strange year draws to a close
The Committee thought to plant a tree
Prominent in the village centre
For every member and villager to see*

*Flowery bowers, just so lovely
Bringing everyone some hope and cheer
We've chosen a flowering cherry
With the promise of blooms next year*

*We had such plans for the morning
After the tree planting ceremony
Invites to lunch in a local hostelry
Sadly not meant to be*

*There were six socially distanced souls
To witness the happy occasion
Yet the tree will be for everyone
Bringing beauty through all the seasons*

*So, with a gentle breeze and fine
weather*

*14 October saw the job done
We dug that hole and planted that
tree*

With hopes set fair for 2021

We have booked our speakers for 2021, with fingers crossed that our meetings can resume in January. All in the 'lap of the gods' they say, but we will remain positive.

Barbara Ackland

Marilyn Mills 821860

For more information on Whimble WI, please contact



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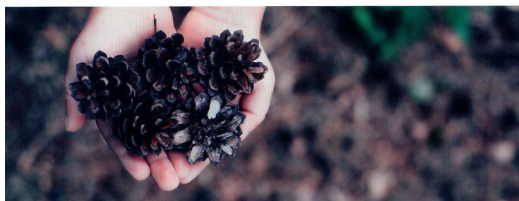
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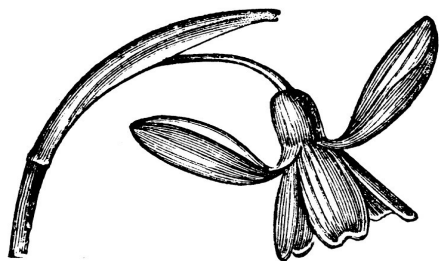


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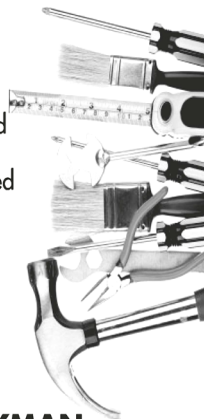
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Whimble Cricket Club

It's a quiet time of year at the club, although facilities are being put to good use by the Whimble football teams. We hope that those games can continue after the latest lockdown restrictions are eased.

We held our AGM on November 3rd, a meeting that was attended predominantly on Zoom and where matters were voted on ahead of the meeting online. It was reported that this had been a successful season of cricket at all levels despite the challenging circumstances. The many volunteers who support the club were thanked for their hard work. We had the obligatory review of club finances, which are in a satisfactory state despite the difficult year and thanks to the receipt of some grant monies.

Several people stepped down from the committee this year. Our thanks go to Kirsty Sherwood, Steve Kidd, Chris Mclauchlan, Martyn Randall, Barry Wright and Nick Thornton for the contribution they have made to running the club. There has also been some change to the senior team captain roles. Votes were received from nearly 40 members to choose between two nominees for 1st XI Captain, with Cameron Kidd being elected to take the team forward next year. Duncan McConachie will take up the reigns for the 2nd XI and Andrew Startup will lead the Sunday and Social side.

Discussions continued as to how best to solve/replace the broken tractor, so that we can continue to maintain the grounds. Inevitably at this time, financial caution is front of mind and a decision as to the next steps will be taken when we have a better idea as to what cricket, and fundraising opportunities, will be possible in 2021.

Finally, there was a discussion of club membership fees. For adult playing members, these will return to an annual membership fee but with a reduction in matchday fees. Social membership will increase to £10 for the year. These are necessary changes to help ensure we cover club overheads. The committee made a commitment to make sure that no player at any age level would be put in a position where the cost of membership prevented them from playing cricket at Whimble. More information on the final membership fee structure for the year ahead, and options for staged payments if required, will be available well ahead of the 2021 season.

On behalf of the cricket club, we wish you all the very best this Christmas. We look forward to 2021 as a year in which we hope we can enjoy not only cricket from the Spring but also return to the many events we run throughout the year.

James Woollam

Chairman

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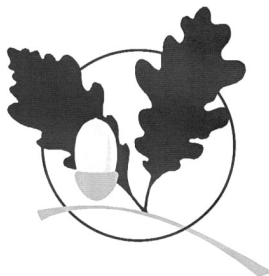
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As we enter our second lockdown, this one feels a little different and we welcome the fact that we continue to stay open for all of our pupils. We all continue to stay fit and healthy - we have had a few adults and children having to self-isolate due to links outside of school but thankfully, everyone has been OK.

Our annual apple pick took place just before half-term and although it had to be undertaken a class at a time, the children thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Along with numerous families who collected at weekends, over 60 bags were filled and sent off to Courtney's.



The Year 6s in Willow Class took part in Bikeability this term, and braved the elements to develop their skills and learn how to ride safely on the road.

All children across the school have been enjoying using our new Chrome Books. At a time where movement around the school is limited, they have enabled our children to continue to access technology and develop their skills across a range of subjects.



Linked to their study this term of the Vikings (Norse men), pupils from Beech Class have spent time during Forest School time making Anglo-Saxon villages and representing key features of them using natural materials. While making their villages in small groups, they thought about defence strategies, food production, water sources and how to store items for trading. At the end of their making time, members from each group talked about how they had created their village.

Art has also been a popular area of the curriculum with the children across the classes.



Willow have been experimenting with colour pallets to understand how colour can define and change with the mood of a piece of work, and how different colours represent different emotions and times of year.



Whereas pupils in Beech Class have been designing and colour mixing, when producing some paintings and mixed media pieces of work which have been inspired by the coming of autumn.



Oak children have been working on collaging techniques. The children were then given time to produce their own piece of art using their new skills.

Self portraits in the style of Pablo Picasso have been studied in art sessions in Ash Class. Children drew their own Picasso style portraits with pencil and then went over them with a black felt pen. They carefully coloured them in using oil pastels – don't they look fabulous!



Reception children enjoy the outside area during continuous provision, all learning how to share and play well as a group. They have made the most of the outside space even though the weather has been unpredictable.

As we head towards Christmas it will be very different this year – we will endeavour to continue some of our traditions even if they have to be adapted to keep everyone safe.

Take care and stay safe.



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Poppy Appeal 2020

Despite no door to door collections or a proper service at the church, I am amazed to report that, so far, I have paid in £1,525.25 for the poppy appeal.

In Covid times, when voluntary donations are sparse once again, Whimble has excelled itself.

The service in The Square was befitting the remembrance and enjoyed by all. It was good to get together to remember. The collection raised £333.

Thanks go to the School as well as the Air Cadets, who joined us for the service, as well as the many people who visited me in The Square, on two rainy days!

I have just one box outstanding and that is in the Thirsty Farmer, which I did not collect before the second lockdown. This will be added to the total.

By bending the rule a bit and staying safe we can still out-perform!

Let's hope that a vaccine will be in the offing before Christmas, so we can all enjoy being with our families.

Fiona Clarke

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Iain Chubb	07932 459595, 01297 35468
East Devon Councillor (kmclauchlan@eastdevon.gov.uk)	
Kathy Mclauchlan	07811 138177
Parish Council (whimbleparishcouncil@gmail.com)	
<i>Chairman:</i> John Griffiths	823480
<i>Clerk:</i> Kevin Finch	823385
Primary School (admin@whimble-primary.devon.sch.uk)	
<i>Headteacher:</i> Carole Shilston	822584
<i>Chair of Governors:</i> Linden Best	822595
Friends of Whimble School (FOWS) (whimblefows@gmail.com)	
<i>Chairperson:</i> Carla Whitaker	07976062725
St. Mary's Church	
<i>Parish Priest:</i>	
<i>Impact Cell:</i> Helen Bowker	823193
Book Group	
Tanya Mooney	823326
Cricket Club (jameswoollam@gmail.com)	
<i>Booking Secretary:</i> James Woollam	07989 234372
Football Club	
<i>Chairman:</i> Victoria Kendrew	07966 550260
<i>Secretary:</i> Lee Wheaton	077341 52120
Front Row Club	
<i>email:</i> frontrowclub@gmail.com	
History Society	
<i>Chairman:</i> David Rastall	822486
<i>Secretary:</i> Roger Smith	822244
Mothers Union	
Margaret Burrough	822257
Over Sixties Club	
<i>Chairman:</i> Arthur Iball	822905
<i>Secretary:</i> Beryl Iball	822905
Pre-School & Toddler Group (www.whimblepreschool.com)	
<i>Chair:</i> Joe Pearce	823512
<i>Information:</i> Jo Sibley 07794 652549 or admin@whimblepreschool.com	
Recreation Trust	
<i>Knowle Cross Sports Ground:</i> Roger Smith	822244
Scout Group	
<i>Group Scout Leader (and Marquee Booking):</i> Alex Spry	822844
St. Mary's Bellringers	
<i>Captain:</i> Roger Algate	822480
Table Tennis Club	
Chris Beer	07787 544192
Tennis Club	
<i>Secretary:</i> Viv Brown	07876 653264
<i>Treasurer:</i> Marianne Randall	822025
Victory Hall	
<i>Chair:</i> Maria Wallis	823992
<i>Secretary:</i> Di Wilkins	758459
<i>Booking Sec:</i> Ali Tierney	822724
Village Produce Association	
<i>Chairman:</i> Paul Wilson	822744
Whimbletons	
Cathy Bartlett-Horwood	823944
Womens Institute	
<i>President:</i> Di Eden	821992
Whimble and Broadclyst Young Farmers:	
<i>Vice Chair:</i> John Down	07580 938109

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Paul, Judy & the team

www.jackinthegreen.uk.com

Tel: 01404 822240

Closed for maintenance: 29th Dec - 14th Jan inclusive