

Whimble News



The '45' Ten Tors Team

June/July 2013

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What's On in Whimble

June

- 8th Front Row Film Club – Les Miserables 7.30 pm Victory Hall Details page 24
- 15th St Mary's Church Fete Details on pages 17 and 50
- 24th Wasters of Whimble Green Deal Surgery Victory hall 7.30 – 9.30pm Details page 43
- 25th Whimble Primary School presents 'Gold' at the Victory Hall at 7.00pm Details on page 44
- 27th Whimble Primary School presents 'Gold' at the Victory Hall at 7.00pm Details on page 44
- 28th VPA Bingo evening Victory Hall 7.30pm Details page 27
- 29th Whimble School Summer Fayre Details page 40
- 29th Soup and Sarnie Lunch, Victory Hall, 12.00noon until 1.30pm

July

- 7th-14th Village Week Details pages 29 - 34
- 8th Front Row Film Club – Life of Pi - 7.30pm Victory Hall Details page 30
- 9th Clog Dancers at the New Fountain Inn 8.00pm
- 9th History Society Treasure Hunt 5.30pm Heritage Centre
- 9th WI Open Evening Victory Hall 'The wonders of glass'. Details page 47
- 12th Orchard Harmony Singalong Picnic 7.30pm Victory Hall Details page 29
- 13th Village Day in the parish field. Details on pages 32 and 33
- 14th Songs of Praise in St. Mary's Church 6.30pm
- 21st 'Festival Jazz' at the Tumbling Weir, Ottery St Mary 6.00pm
- 27th Soup and Sarnie Lunch, Victory Hall, 12.00noon until 1.30pm

August

- 10th VPA Annual Flower Show, Victory Hall.

September

- 28th Soup and Sarnie Lunch, Victory Hall, 12.00noon until 1.30pm

October

- 5th Wasters of Whimble 2.00 – 4.00pm Skills Workshop. Details in future edition of the News
- 26th Soup and Sarnie Lunch, Victory Hall, 12.00noon until 1.30pm



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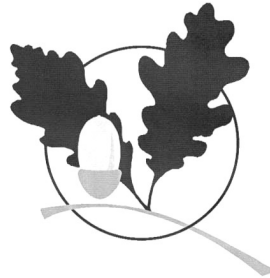
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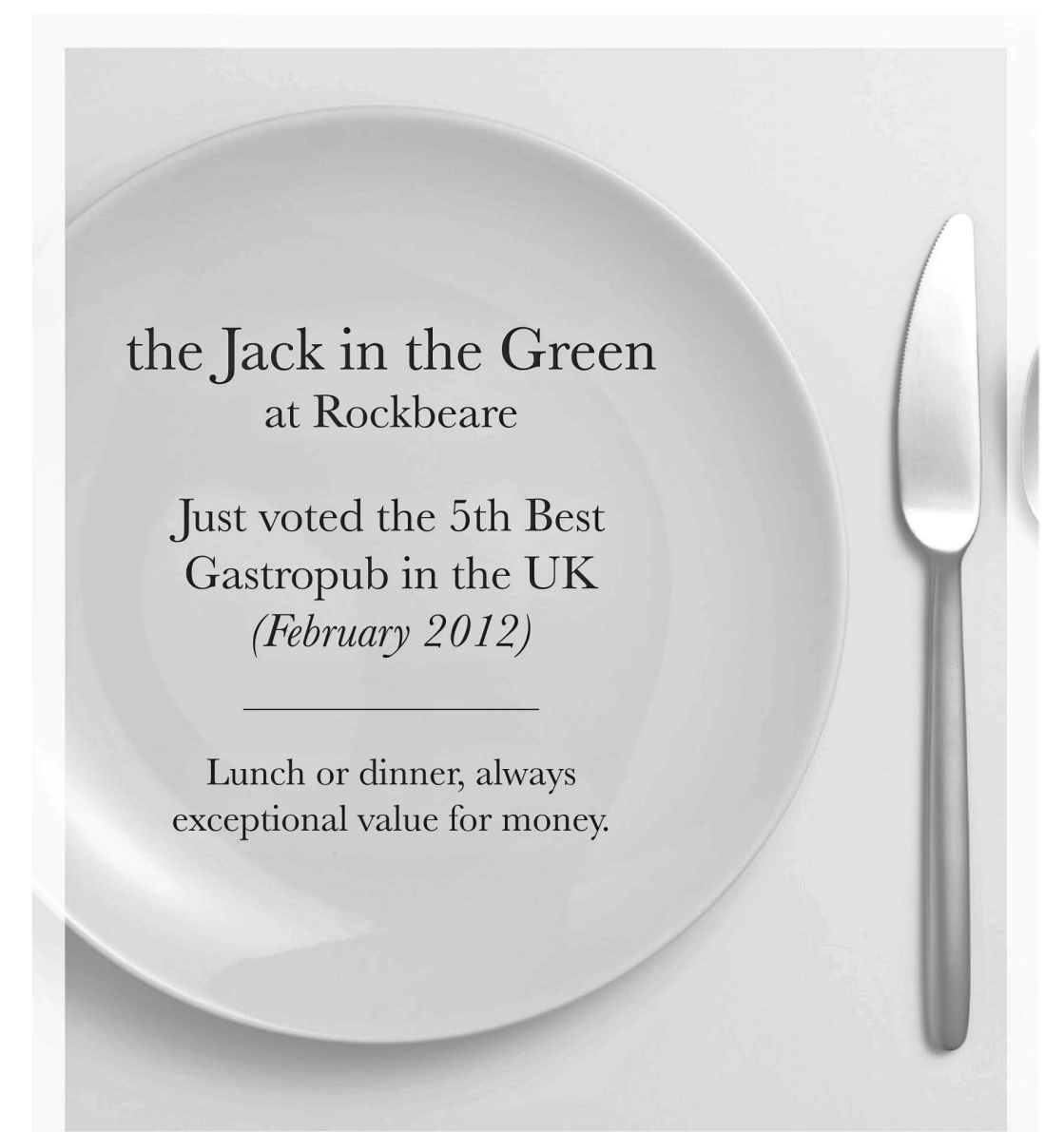
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Ed the Ed

So here we are in the middle of 2013 and still waiting for summer – well, this edition with all the news about the Whimble Village Week should be enough to kick start our summer at last. We have several pages full of lots of different things to do during that week, and the Village Week Team have worked very hard to bring it all together. Please support and enjoy as many events as you can. You will have received a book of Village Week raffle tickets with this exciting copy of the News – see page 31 for what to do!

I had very quickly read the events of the Week, and was bemused by the WI talk on the ‘Wonder of Gloss’ on the Tuesday – why would anyone be interested in paint? Would it be an evening with a Master Painter inviting us as a group to sit and enjoy watching paint dry? On a second reading, I found that I had misread GLASS...so that’s all right then!

Our front cover photo is of the successful East Devon District Explorer Scouts, (including both Whimble and Tipton Explorers) and Simon Powell has written an excellent article on pages 14 and 15 about their terrific achievements on the Ten Tors 2013. Well done to all of them for completing this challenge, and in such brilliant times. Alex Spry and his team do such consistently amazing work with the young people of this village, whilst playing a very important part in the village fabric, often quietly and unobtrusively – so well done to Alex and his team for all their hard work. It is very much appreciated.

I have declared it summer with the unveiling of the famous White Legs of Dairy Cottage, and have dazzled the surrounding area on my bike. Apologies if I have ‘over-dazzled’ on-coming motorists.

As I write these pearls, Church Road has been closed for Western Power to do their work – so yesterday I took the opportunity to paint the famous front wall with a reduced risk of traffic jams and danger to my good self (such as drivers quietly approaching from behind and then tooting their horns and shattering my nerves!). Somewhere there are several cars with white masonry paint and scratch marks on the nearside, whilst the wall, in turn has a variety of colours bearing witness to inexperienced driving skills and the estimation of the ‘gap’. You may now admire the wall’s gleaming whiteness from a reasonable and safe distance.

I would echo Martin Gammell’s comments about Sue Ayres and her valiant helpers on Litter Pick Day – well done and thanks to all involved for taking pride in our village. What I want to know is who owns the porridge bowl?

It was my plan to continue with my ‘Conversation with Lucy Smith’ thread, until in a state of over-excitement, Lucy took a tumble a couple of weeks ago and broke her pelvis. I am delighted to report that she is now back in the village, and we will re-start our chat for inclusion in the next edition. I popped down to the Ottery Hospital to see her, and was not surprised that Roger was running a ‘visitors schedule’ so that everyone who wanted to visit was able to! That is a great reflection on the village, and the affection that we have for Lucy. Welcome home Lucy.

The next edition of the News will have a number of Village Week reports; if you would like to contribute an article on that or any other topic of interest to the village, then please pass it to Jim and Alison at the Post Office, or down the wet string to Bob on bob.scanlan@eclipse.co.uk by Monday 15th July. Thanks!

Enjoy Village Week and welcome to summer!

Ed H



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Should you be lucky enough to be travelling overseas this summer please remember to order your currency from us. Orders placed before noon will guarantee next day delivery. All currencies are available. We keep Euros in branch at all times and they are available on demand.

~~~~~

Thank you all for supporting the lottery. We are doing very well with it and are pleased to say that we have seen a few decent wins lately.

Jim has started to show signs of scratch card addiction which is only aggravated by paying out wins, so if you have a winning ticket please give it discreetly to me and I will cash it for you.

~~~~~

Thank you for loving Shauls bread as much as we do, the bread rolls are fabulous for barbecues, and they freeze beautifully.

~~~~~

Offers from Johnsons the Cleaners for the next couple of months are,

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**Jim and Alison Creasy.**

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Our outstanding school is continuing to grow. The number of pupils has risen to over 110 and is likely to be over 120 next September. This is wonderful news for the village.

Members of the community can help in various ways:

- We need Community Governors to support the school as 'critical friends'.
- Assistance with reading is always appreciated, as are offers of help with art, cooking gardening etc.
- There are also projects which need some time and/or funding,

If you would like to help and invest in our excellent school please contact me.

**Maria Wallis** Chair of Governors

Tel: 823992 mobile: 07734 734440 or email: maria.wallis@tiscali.co.uk

## Sam's Country Cakes.



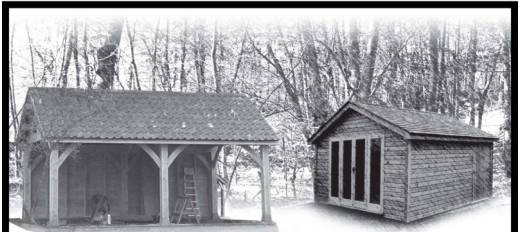
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# The Local Area Health Forum

I attended a Local Area Health Forum on behalf of the Parish Council and here is a resume of the meeting.

As of April 2013 the NHS is changing. We are all in a clinical group for Devon known as the WACKLEY group (incl Ottery St Mary and coastal towns) with 72,000 patients. Sadly the North Devon Health Trust has a huge deficit which will impact on the service provided locally.

There is a big push to save both the Ottery and Honiton local hospitals from closure. At present there are 12 used beds in the hospital at Ottery. The maximum the hospital can take is 24 but it is commissioned to run at 18. Finding qualified nursing staff under the new regime seems to be a problem.

The idea is to have urgent response nurses as the first point of contact in the community to understand the problem and then engage a GP if necessary to act as a 'one stop shop'. They also have a responsibility to follow up with helpers or charities as and when necessary. The Urgent Response nurses are available from 8.00am until 4.00pm Monday to Friday. The Devon Doctors out-of-hours service is available at other times. To speak to an Urgent Response Nurse contact the Coleridge Medical Centre on 814447 and ask for the nurse on duty.

There are a number of Community Nurses who are able to visit people should they be bed-bound and unable to get to the Medical Centre but this has to be arranged via your GP. On top of this there is a Hospital Discharge Facilitator to help people leave hospital. This service is not available at weekends.

The Government is currently having a big push on the assessment and treatment of Dementia patients. There is also a specialist nurse, called Debbie Cheeseman, who works out of RD & E and understands the issues regarding older people. A survey has found that in East Devon 21% of people are 65 or over and 5% of people are 85 or over (8% in Sidmouth!). 50,000 bed days are used by the RD & E for this section of society per annum. Two thirds of RD & E patients are over 65 with one third over 80.

We all appreciate the convenience of the Whimple Branch of the Medical Centre. However, an appointment is always needed.

Surgery Times are :

**Dr de Sousa Mon am**

**Dr Stuart Mon/Wed am**

**Dr Coles Mon am**

**Dr Bailey Wed am**

I hope this is helpful and you now feel informed. The difficult part is ensuring good communication between doctors and the communities they serve.

**Fiona Clarke**



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# Ten Tors 2013



The build up for Ten Tors started for us back in October 2012 when we commenced our training programme. Whimble Explorer Scouts section has recently joined forces with Tipton St John Explorers and both groups, as part of the East Devon District, had had a number of Explorers who were keen to take on the challenge. Initially we had one walk a month up until Christmas to give the young people a taste of what was in store. Then, after the festive break, those who remained started on over five months of training walks, one every other week all the way up until the fortnight before the event. All of these walks were on Dartmoor and starting with distances of around 10 miles in a day, gradually increasing up until the last three weekends where we ultimately ran full distance with overnight camping and walks of 35 and 45 miles respectively for our teams.

With the weather conditions we have faced this year training was incredibly challenging. Many of the walks were conducted with little more than a couple of hundred yards of visibility through the mist and others were undertaken in torrential rain and freezing cold winds. Throughout this time we were training the Explorers in the skills of navigation, endurance and camp-craft to get them to the necessary level to be able to complete the event unaided. For those who didn't make the final teams, credit must be given for their achievements during training and I hope that next year they will have another go.

Moving forwards to May and the event weekend: The leader team headed up to Okehampton on the Thursday to set up our base camp. It was a good job we got there early as the wind and rain picked up during the day and by lunchtime those later arrivals from other teams were struggling with canvas and poles in gale-force winds and torrential rain. Our old discoloured marquee however, stood the test while we huddled inside and enjoyed a well deserved beer!

Friday morning and the Explorers arrived. This day is quite administrative with team registration, briefings and logistics, including the demanding scrutineering process where every item of equipment is checked for suitability before allowing the children out on their own. The other key thing that happens on Friday is that the teams get assigned their routes. There are a total of 26 different routes which cover the three different distances (35, 45 and 55 miles). Our 35 team was assigned route N and our 45 team assigned route Q. Knowing which tors were to be visited then allowed the Explorers to work out their route planning, timings for each leg and allowed us to warn them of areas where they needed to take particular care.

Saturday morning and the campsite is awoken at 5.00am hours by the sounds of 'Chariots of Fire' coming over the tannoy - this is a tradition that dates back many years and sends shivers down your spine as the camp comes to life. After breakfast and a final kit check the teams walk through the camp up to the start at Anthony Style. The sight of 2,400 young people lined up across the hill is incredible and when the cannon is fired to signal the start they all disperse in different directions to begin their two day challenge.

## The '35' Ten Tors Team

This year, the weather was really against us and our 35 mile team, having passed Kitty Tor and Chat Tor successfully reached one of the manned river crossing points. The first team, from a different group to ours, managed to cross with the aid of the Dartmoor Rescue Group who subsequently made the decision to divert the remaining groups and escort



them across the river upstream in knee high water. Not a great start to the weekend to fill your boots with water that early and also lose over an hour of time due to the diversion. Our team pushed on to Lynch Tor across to Higher White Tor and South Hessary Tor before making camp at Black Tor for the night. 6.00am on Sunday and the team left Black Tor, travelled up to Great Mis Tor, then across to Beardown Tor, up to Sittaford Tor and finally on to Oke Tor before coming back in to camp as a full team of six at 15.06hrs. The 35 mile route N was one of the toughest on the competitors, with 40% of the participants on that route falling out. Apart from the team who got to the crossing first and didn't lose time, ours was the fastest group on the route.

Our 45 team had been incredibly strong through training so we were confident of a good performance, and they didn't disappoint! Their route went south past Watern Tor, Sittaford Tor, Combestone Tor and Pupers Hill, crossing right across the South Moor to Great Trowlesworthy Tor before heading back Northwards past South Hessary Tor and spending the night somewhere beyond. On Sunday morning they checked in at Black Tor, managed to briefly see our 35 mile team and continued on to Great Mis Tor and Lynch Tor. Beyond Lynch was the same crossing that had delayed the 35s the previous day, but by now the river had dropped and they continued on to Kitty Tor unimpeded before coming in at 12.02pm. They were the fastest team on their route by a good hour - the 4th 45 mile team across the line on any route and the 24th team overall out of somewhere around 380 that started. The time they came in on was identical to the fastest time on the same route last year, in conditions that were somewhat more glorious, so an amazing achievement by any standard.

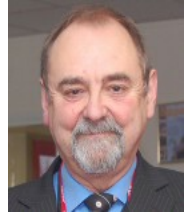
So another year over for Ten Tors and another full house of medals. We begin again in October when, hopefully, some of the 45s will want to tackle the 55 mile distance, the 35s will try for 45 miles and a new batch of recruits take the first step and go for a 35 route.

**Simon Powell**, Explorer Scout Leader



## Thanks From Peter Bowden

Through the pages of your magazine may I say "Thank you" to all those who went to the polling station and re-elected me as your County Councillor for the next four years. I am delighted with the result and am resolved to answer all and every question put to me. I would like to take this opportunity to offer thanks and respect to all those candidates who contributed towards an interesting campaign.



The next four years will not be easy as we absorb an ever reducing level of grant at a time when social pressures are steadily increasing and the needs of both young and old become more urgent. Nevertheless DCC is determined to meet the challenge and I will continue to do all I can to influence our policies for the greater good.

A new administration means some changes to my responsibilities and I have been asked to sit as Vice Chairman of the Devon and Exeter Rail User Group (I am sure Roger Algate will be pleased). I will also continue my work on the Foster Panel and as a Governor of the Maynard School. I have been invited to act directly in matters related to Flood Alleviation throughout East Devon and will act as substitute to the Portfolio Holder and Lead Member of the SW Regional Flood and Coastal Committee. I will continue with my membership of Scrutiny Panels in both County and District; of the County Council Development Management committee and, as Vice Chairman of the East Devon Audit and Governance Committee. Membership of the Highways and Traffic Order Committee for East Devon and the County Committee also continue as will my interest in local traffic groups and safe routes to school for pupils of all ages.

If you want to keep up to date with County Council matters you can visit my website [www.peterbowden.org.uk](http://www.peterbowden.org.uk). I can be contacted at any time by phone on 823450, by email ([peter.bowden@devon.gov.uk](mailto:peter.bowden@devon.gov.uk)) or through my website. My home is at Bradcott House, The Green, Whimble, EX5 2UA.

**Peter Bowden**

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## WALK FOR YOUR HEALTH, and EXERCISE IN SAFETY

The Parish Field, off Broadclyst Road, is a great facility for everyone in the village for so many different activities including running, walking, dog walking, cycling, picnicking, children's play facilities, bmx biking, bird watching, kite flying, nature walks, to name but a few.

Exercise is something we all know is good for us and walking is one of the most effective. Unfortunately, the village roads and footways in many ways are not always the safest and the air can be polluted by traffic fumes.

This is where our Parish Field is a wonderful facility which already is, and could be of benefit to many more villagers. No traffic, no fumes, fresh air safe and best of all it is free for all to use.

The tarmac track makes it an all weather facility, which can be used without having to encounter the mud, and haven't we had some wet weather in the last year?

As an added interest to walking and running, the track has recently been accurately measured, and the result shows that:

**3 laps of the track is almost exactly 1 Kilometre.**

This makes it easy to know how far you have walked/run etc. and perhaps how fast you are completing your distance! Who knows we may have more potential future athletes who can put their success down to using the Parish Field! **John Munslow**

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## Cricket Club Single Wicket Competition

The Cricket Club will be holding a single wicket competition on Sunday 7th July as part of Village Week. This is open to anyone who can hold a cricket bat and is over 14.

We will need 16 entries to make it work, and all names go into the hat, so it is quite possible for anyone to win. Each game consists of two players head to head.

Each will bat two overs and bowl two overs against each other and the player with the most runs goes through to the next round.(6 runs get deducted each time you are out).

There will be the same 5 fielders and a wicket keeper for each head to head game. The competition will start at 11.00am and finish around 5.00pm. We are hoping, depending on support, to make this into an annual competition.

There will be a bouncy castle and barbecue and, hopefully, this will turn out be a fun family day and an enjoyable event to mark the start of Village Week.

To enter or for further details please contact me, **Jon Silk** on 822389

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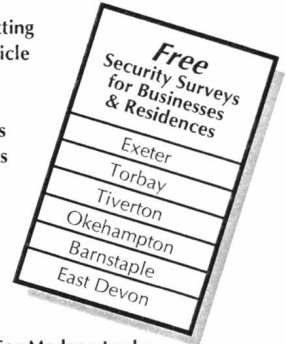
I would like to thank you all for my get well cards, flowers, gifts and visits during my recent stay in Ottery Hospital. I am now happy to be back home in Whimple.

**Lucy Smith**

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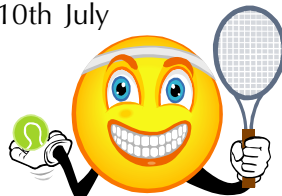
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11.00am - 12.00pm Proficient Young Players. Players should be able to sustain a rally over a full sized tennis net and on a full sized court. The emphasis here is on improving on particular areas of the game.



- 
- Each session holds a maximum of 15 players.
  - Contact Eddy 07854294447 or edward.kerr14@yahoo.co.uk to book your slots
  - If the weather looks doubtful for the next day we will contact you as soon as a decision is made.
  - Any questions feel free to contact me.
  - Bring along a racquet (we do have some spares)

Come along and have fun.

**Nikki Harris** 823873

The New Fountain will be holding a

### **Mini Beer Festival**

throughout Village Week.

The Raddon Hill Clog Dancers

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# BEER FESTIVAL



# Front Row Club Film Night

## Victory Hall

### 7.30pm Saturday 8th June



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# WHIMPLE AND DISTRICT VILLAGE PRODUCE ASSOCIATION

Despite the appalling growing conditions for March and most of April, it was amazing to see the tables so full for our annual Plant Sale and Coffee Morning. As usual it was very hectic for the first hour with the usual rush to get to the plants first and to snap up the many bargains! Although at first it didn't appear that we had quite as many people this year, a lot of plants went home with some new owners. All the profits from the day will go towards the costs of running the annual Flower Show, so we know we have that covered for another year. A big thank you to all of you who came along to support us for this very important event.

We are going to try a new venture this year by running a Bingo Evening at the Victory Hall. This will be held on the evening of Friday 28th June with 'Eyes Down' at 7.30pm. We look forward to a good turn out as we know there are some keen bingo enthusiasts in the Village!

We have recently gone through the Show Schedule for this year and copies are now available at the usual outlets - the Post Office and Village Stores to whom we are very grateful. Copies can also be obtained from our website so you can download your own copy from there. Don't forget the Show has returned to its traditional date of the second Saturday in August, which this year is Saturday 10th August.

We are going to arrange a trip to Westonbirt in the Autumn when hopefully you will be able to see the trees in their full autumnal splendour. Doreen Staddon has kindly agreed to arrange this trip so, if you want to book your seat, please give Doreen a ring on 823594.

We look forward to seeing you at these events, especially the Annual Flower Show. Details of all our events are listed on the website which is: [www.whimplevpa.org.uk](http://www.whimplevpa.org.uk)

**Paul Wilson**, Hon. Secretary.



## "Thank You" from Sam

The recent Tea-Time Assortment Concert raised just over £700!

This means I am only £200 off the full £3,800 I need to raise.

So can I say a huge "thank you" to all the people who have supported my fundraising events during the last year: -

**The Tea-Party, Brenda and her Pub Quiz, the Plant Sale  
and the Ceilidh plus numerous very generous donations.**

Thank you also Myrtle and Sylvia for knitting wonderful woolly creatures,  
With my arms full of injections, I'm almost ready to go to Cambodia on July 15th.

**Sam Palmer**



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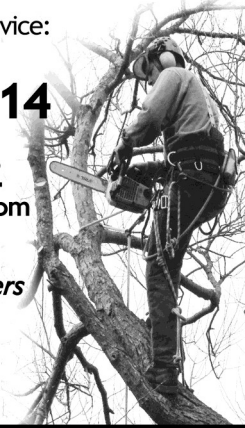
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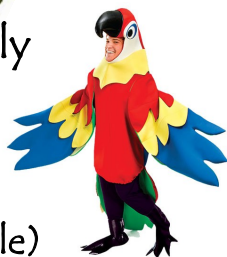


At the Village Fair on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> July

Open to all Adults and children

Judging at 3.00 pm

(register on the day - changing area available)



## Orchard Harmony

invite you to join them on  
at 7.30pm on Friday 12th July  
in the Victory Hall for a

# Sing-along Picnic

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**Take That, Gary Barlow, Robbie Williams and Abba**

**Tickets:** £5.00 (available from the Post Office, and Choir Members)

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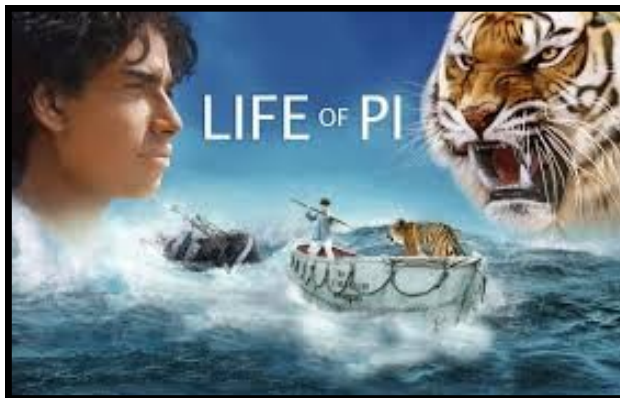
**WACY RACES**  
**12.30pm**  
**Saturday**  
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**A 1¼ mile road run around the village  
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**Can you beat 15 year old Charlie Spicer's record of 8 minutes 13 seconds  
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**The Challenge is on**  
**watch out for more details**

**The Front Row Club**  
**Village Week Special**



**7.30pm Monday 8th July**

**Tickets available from the Post Office shortly**

# Village Week 2013

Arrangements for Village Week 2013 are coming together well after the problems last year when the deluge in July led to the cancellation of all the weekday outdoor activities and the postponement of the Village Fair until September.

It will open with a new event at the Cricket Club on Sunday 7th July, a Single Wicket Competition (see page 20 for details), followed by Arthur Smith in the Victory Hall and will end with 'Songs of Praise' in the Church on Sunday 14th.

The full programme for Village Week is over the page. Sporting activities have been arranged for the kids most afternoons with football, cricket, tennis and netball. The New Fountain Inn is holding a mini beer festival throughout the week with Raddon Hill Clog Dancers visiting on Tuesday evening. The Thirsty Farmer will host the skittles and darts competitions each evening. The Front Row Club will be showing the oscar winning film 'Life of Pi' on Monday evening and there will be a quiz in the Victory Hall on Wednesday. Many of the old favourite events will also take place during the week and Orchard Harmony will be performing for us again on Friday evening.

The climax of Village Week will, of course, be the Village Fair in the Parish Field on Saturday 13th July. The success of the Village Fair last September was largely down to the range of activities which everyone could take part in; and that has been our approach again this year. So come along and join in the fun whether it is the Fun Run, Fancy Dress, Tug of War or the Egg Catching. There will lots of games and activities for the kids, a story tent and, of course, plenty to eat and drink. There will also be a range of stalls for you to browse.

In order to raise the funds needed to put on these events we are again running a Village Week Draw with a total of £300 in cash prizes. You will have received a book of draw tickets with this edition of Whimble News. Your generosity is vital to the success of the day so please buy some tickets and return the completed stubs and money to David Myers at 1, Henry Lewis Close by the end of June. All proceeds will go to support Village Week and any profits go to the village organisations who work together to make the week such a success.

**Bob Scanlan**



# Village

Sunday 7th July

Single Wicket Cricket

Cricket Club 11.00am

Arthur Smith

Victory Hall 7.00pm

Monday 8th July

Kids Football

School MUGA 3.45 - 4.45pm

Front Row Club Film - The Life of Pi

Victory Hall 7.30pm

Darts tournament

Thirsty Farmer

Tuesday 9th July

Walking Treasure Hunt

Heritage Centre 5.30pm start

WI Open Evening - the Wonder of Glass

Victory Hall 7.30pm

Raddon Hill Clog Morris

The New Fountain Inn 8.00pm

Skittles tournament

Thirsty Farmer

Wednesday 10th July

Kids Netball

School 3.45 - 4.30pm

Kids Tennis

Tennis court 5.00 - 6.00pm

Beetle Drive

Primary School 6.30pm start

Quiz Evening

Victory Hall 8.00pm

Skittles tournament

Thirsty Farmer

# Week 2013

Thursday 11th July

Kids Cricket

Cricket field 3.45 - 4.45pm

Prize Bingo

Whimple Victory Hall 7.00 for 7.30 start

Tennis Club Summer Social

Tennis Court 7.00-9.00pm

Skittles tournament

Thirsty Farmer

Friday 12th July

Orchard Harmony

Victory Hall 7.30pm

Skittles final - children

Thirsty Farmer

Saturday 13th July

Village Day morning bells

Coffee and cake

St Marys Church from 10.15 am

Village Fair in the Parish Field

Starts at 12.00noon

Fun Run 12.30pm

Fancy Dress Competition 3.00pm

Tug-o-War Competition from 3.30pm

Egg Catching Competition 5.00pm

all in the Parish Field

Skittles final - adults

Thirsty Farmer

Sunday 14th July

Songs of Praise

St Marys Church 6.30pm

# Volunteers!



**Village  
Day Fair  
Saturday  
13th July**

The Fair is run by the village for the village - it's a great community get together but it needs you to help.

Can you spare an hour or two?  
on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> or Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> July

Call or speak to one of the organising committee.

**THEY ARE:**

**Sue Ayres 823082**

**Ann Bowden 823450**

**Rosie Davis 823356**

**David Myers 822411**

**Mike Snell 822565**

**Sam Walker 822649**

**George Begent 823500**

**Vicky Clough 822800**

**John Griffiths 823480**

**Bob Scanlan 822262**

**Ali Tierney 822724**

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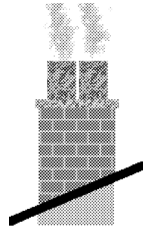
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Welcome to Healthwatch Devon,  
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consumer champion for Health  
and Social Care!



The Community Council of Devon has set up and now manages Healthwatch Devon, which was introduced on April 1st 2013. It is about local voices influencing the delivery and design of local services, plus being able to help you with information about the care choices you have and to navigate the health and social care system.

We are holding events across Devon to introduce you to the work of Healthwatch Devon, and to explain how to get involved - and why it is so important. These events are aimed at all people and organisations with an interest in the future of our health and social care services in Devon. There will be introductions and presentations from the Healthwatch Devon team and key delivery partners with an interactive session for you to tell us how you want Healthwatch to work for you. Our key partners will also have information stands, and will be on hand to answer questions.

The local event will take place at ISCA Bowls Centre, Summer Lane, Whipton, Exeter EX4 8NT on 12th June from 1.00pm to 5.00pm

If you wish to book on to one of these events, either as an individual or as a representative of a group or organisation, please call and speak to a member of the Healthwatch Devon team, on 01392 248919. Places are limited, and will be allocated on a first come first served basis. Please let us know if you have any special dietary or other requirements to allow you to participate fully at these events.

We look forward to hearing from you, and to meeting you at one of our events.

Debbie.

Visit [www.healthwatchdevon.co.uk](http://www.healthwatchdevon.co.uk)



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**Monday 29th July 2013**

**Monday 18th November 2013**

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# Anniversary and a Few Reflections on Elections

possibly boring, but important, especially for motorists



Gosh, it is exactly two years since I was elected to the job! Time has whizzed by and I am thoroughly enjoying the privilege of being your Councillor. I sense that I am starting to get the feel of the job, which is far more complex than I ever imagined. I have learned an awful amount about the workings of the Council and the strains that are being put on it by the present economic crisis and the way central government is pushing so much work and expense down the line to local councils. This is an excellent idea, but it comes with very little extra funding. This makes me much more aware of the huge job that the District Council - the members and the staff – perform in providing the services they are responsible for and which we, as consumers, take for granted. Which brings me on to comment on the recent County Council elections. Above everything else, I was bitterly disappointed that so many people did not seem to know anything about the vital work of the County Council, and voted on issues that County Councils can do nothing about, like immigration or Europe. The candidates for the Sidmouth division held a hustings, and made it clear that they were not prepared to talk about those matters – or planning issues, which are District Council responsibilities. That left the audience with very few questions to ask! Yet they could have asked about so many matters affecting us, our families, our neighbours: children and grandchildren and old people, because it is the County Council which is responsible for schools, public health, council care homes, location of quarries (Whimble might find one even closer than Rockbeare Hill), roadside parking charges in towns and roads repairs. (See below) County Councillors have enormous responsibilities and we should have tried to find out which candidates are up to those responsibilities, not whether their opinions reflect our feelings about wider issues. I would even dare to suggest that an occasional ‘blog’ from our County Councillor would have helped the electorate understand more about the work of the County Council.

## A Few Facts and Figures on the Election Results

I also looked at the County Council results to see how voters made their choice, which make an interesting activity for any student of psephology (The science of analysing voting patterns in elections). Yes, there really is an “ology” for this riveting activity! In the nine divisions in East Devon only two resulted in the winner gaining an outright victory by polling the majority of the votes cast. One of these was in Ottery Rural where Claire Wright polled nearly three times as many votes as her rivals. The other was in Axminster where the winning Conservative obtained 400 votes more than all the other candidates combined. Congratulations to them both. In the other seven divisions the candidates elected did so with a minority of the votes cast. In the two Exmouth divisions and in Seaton twice as many votes were cast against the winner as were cast for them. We can see the same minority wins right across the County of Devon and also across the country as a whole. This is what always happens with our “First Past the Post” system. This time round, several other parties put up candidates and that also complicated matters. With UKIP, the Greens and the Labour parties all fielding candidates, voters were given plenty of choice, although the results often ended up with no change!

Perhaps it is time to consider a different election process which will give a more representative council. With a bit more understanding of the Councils work as well, there might also have been a better turnout than the poor 35% Whimble and Broadclyst division achieved. And of course, congratulations to our own Peter Bowden for being re-elected.

## **County Council to Disown Potholed Roads**

Here is a disturbing piece of news. In 'Asphalt News' (Yes – really!) I read recently that the County Council, which is as strapped for cash as everybody else, is considering down-grading the status of country lanes from 'roads' to 'byways. The Council has no legal requirement to maintain byways and would thus save a lot of money. This would, of course, be at the expense of the users of lanes who live on them or use them for essential travel – as we all had to do for a working week when Church Road was closed. The lanes are in a dreadful state, so let us hope that particular scheme does not become reality.

## **The Dog Mess Campaign**

And now (at last!) to the services that the District Council provides - and which we take for granted - EDDC has just announced a new dog mess campaign titled "Pick it up" which is aimed at that small group of anti social individuals who refuse to pick up their dog's mess, or - even worse in some ways - who bag it, and then drop it at the roadside or hang it in a tree. The Parish Council pays out a large sum of money every month for the emptying of the red dog bins three times a week so it seems a shame that a few people choose to ignore the requests to pick it up. (By the way, did you know that if there is no red dog bin then it is legal – though rather unpleasant -to place the mess in an ordinary waste bin?) The District Council's strategy is to highlight local sites which are a persistent problem by spraying a message on the pavement in red paint. The idea of this is that a bold message in red psychologically confronts the offender next time they come past, so they will be shamed into picking up the mess in future. The red paint biodegrades in a couple of weeks so the council cannot be accused of vandalism. Let's hope that it is an effective strategy: I am certainly looking forward to seeing if it works. When I was campaigning many years ago in another part of the country I cornered the market on dog mess when I sent out a questionnaire on the issue. I received a huge number of letters! I didn't get elected but it did teach me that dog poo can be a big concern. So - well done the Council for starting this initiative and I wish them every success! Look out for red graffiti!

## **Local Heroine**

Last week I turned up in The Square in Whimble to volunteer for the Great Litter Pick. Phew! What a hard job it was. We teamed off in pairs and covered an awful lot of Whimble. In two hours we collected a huge amount of litter from garden edges, roadsides and hedgerows. This is a sad reflection upon the messiness of people as even a small amount of litter can really spoil both the countryside and our lovely villages. Well done to these unsung heroes and heroines who turned out and made a difference to our environment, and a particular "Well done" to Sue Ayres for arranging it all! A good example of one of the many hidden services your local councils provide, without a hint of politics anywhere! Why not take part next year? It is quite hard work, but also very satisfying, and the more of us who take part the more we get done.

**Martin Gammell**

# Whimble School Summer Fayre and Open Afternoon 1.00 – 4.00pm Saturday June 29th @ the school

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# Wasters of Whimple



We have been discussing many ideas for the next Wasters project and we met some interesting people at the Devon CC recycling awards.

One lady, Karen Berger, runs an interesting project in Honiton. This is called 'waste not want not' and she has a website if you want to find out more about it. The best way to describe it is a freecycle event run on the first Saturday of the month in Honiton at Mackarness hall from 9.30-12.00noon. If you have goods you want to move on or if you want to go along to find something new to you, Karen would love to see you. If you want to make a donation to help her cover costs that would be very welcome or if you can offer her time to help out, she would be very grateful.

If you think this is a useful idea for Whimple, we would be happy to run a freecycle event again. Our last event saw lots of goods brought in but not many people coming to take away. Let us know if you are keen for this event to run again.

## Forthcoming events

**Green Deal surgery** – Monday 24th June 7.30 - 9.30pm – Whimple Victory hall.

Lowering your energy bills via the Green Deal – an energy surgery. Come and ask your questions – find out more.

There has been a lot of talk about the Green Deal but many of us don't fully understand how it works or how it would benefit us personally. Phil Dominy has kindly offered to run an advice session to help guide us all through the process. This is for anyone who is interested in improving their home's energy efficiency and eventually reducing their household bills. Entry is free and all are welcome.

**Skills workshop** – Saturday 5th October 2.00 - 4.00pm. Keep this day free for an opportunity to learn a new skill. We hope this will include baking, knitting, craft, bike maintenance, basic computer skills, photography, furniture restoration. More details to come once teachers have confirmed availability. We are hoping to offer short sessions to allow you to try out and learn new skills.

**Food hub** – Warren Spokes is hoping to have a trial of this scheme during June-August. He is looking for 20 people to be the trial buyers. The aim of the hub is to allow people to order local produce, at a reasonable price and have it delivered weekly to the village. If you are interested in taking part in the trial, please contact us and we will pass your details on to Warren. Alternatively, speak to Warren, Phil Dominy or Simon Davies who will be able to add your name and give you more details and a copy of the current brochure.

If you would like to join our group, or have any ideas to offer, please contact us. We are an informal group with an aim to encourage recycling and environmental awareness through useful and fun projects which benefit our community.

**Any enquiries please contact:**

|               |        |                            |
|---------------|--------|----------------------------|
| Jenny Sanders | 823015 | jls.sanders@btinternet.com |
| Alison Betts  | 823967 | alison.betts@yahoo.co.uk   |



I find it hard to believe we are heading towards the end of another half-term (especially considering the current wet, cold and windy weather).

The children in year 5 and 6 are working to produce another memorable drama production. This time it is 'Gold', a story based on the Greek myth of King Midas.

The performances are on Tuesday 25th and Thursday 27th June at the village hall at 7.00pm. Tickets will be available to the general public - please see posters for further details and where to obtain tickets.

**Carole Shilston**

## The Fire Fighter Visit

Whimble Primary School has had visitors from Devon and Somerset County Fire service. Class 3, 4, 5 and 6 have had a workshop with Carol and Maxine from the Fire service. Sam and Molly were chosen to dress up as a Fire Fighter - just the way normal Fire Fighters would do. By **Cameron Kidd** (Year 6)

The Firewomen came to our classroom to talk about how to keep safe from fire danger. They showed us a clip of Frances The Firefly. Two people called Noah and Adelaide got to wear some fire fighter uniforms. We tested a smoke alarm. It was noisy. By **Sam and Rhys**. (Year 2)



# Egyptian day

On a Friday near to the end of the spring term, our lovely teachers made a suggestion that we had a man come in from the Royal Albert Memorial Museum (also known as R.A.M.M) to teach us all the main facts of Egyptians. We learnt how to mummify a person (Grace Porter and Joseph Tandy!), we learnt 'the importance pyramid' and we learnt that there are still tombs to be found in Egypt. We also learnt how to be an archaeologist, from the best Howard Carter himself. (or herself!) **By India Withers and Eva Penney (year 6 and 5)**

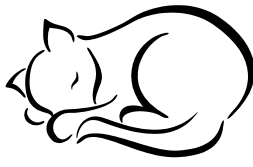


In the morning children in years 3, 4, 5 and 6 made scarab beetles out of clay. They are a lucky charm to the Egyptians. Also, we made shabties made of newspaper with a thick layer of tape covered with mod rock. We dressed up as Egyptians. I dressed up as Cleopatra (Mollie) and I dressed up as Isis (Harriet)

In the afternoon we had an assembly, we showed our outfits to the rest of the school. Everyone got to say who they were dressed up as and explained what kind of things they did. Then when we got back to class, we carried on with our shabties. Next we started painting our scarab beetles. It was a LOT of fun!

by **Megan, Emma, Mollie and Harriet (year 3)**





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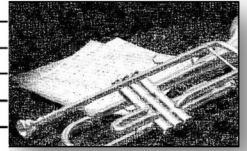
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# Annual Village Litter Pick 2013

Despite being a Bank Holiday weekend we had a good turn out once again.

A BIG THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO CAME ALONG – but special thanks must go to Alex and Thomas Tooze who bravely tackled the ground either side of the path leading to the Station. They found some unusual items including a fresh bowl of porridge complete with spoon – presumably left by a rushed commuter.

But sadly we all found the 'USUAL SUSPECTS' - BAGS OF DOG WASTE thrown in all sorts of places. Each year £1200 of the Parish Council's Precept (which comes from your Council Tax) pays for nine dog waste bins to be emptied three times a week.

PLEASE USE THEM. Dog waste can also be deposited in any landfill bin. Sadly, although knowing they are in the wrong some dog owners ensure no one is around when they leave dog waste. This is why we have so much of it about – bagged and un-bagged. We are informed by the EDDC Dog Warden that anyone can report a dog owner seen leaving dog waste – take a picture – your privacy will be respected.

On a lighter note – I hope you all agree that keeping the village clean and tidy is a worthwhile venture. Many thanks once again . **Sue Ayres**, Whimble Parish Council.



## WI Open Evening - 7.30pm Tuesday 9th July

Come and hear Professor Alan Leadbetter talk on the fascinating story of 'The Wonders of Glass' at the Victory Hall on Tuesday of Village Week.

**This event is open to everyone**

At the April meeting Deborah Pearce, a hypnotherapist and psychotherapist, gave an informative talk on the varied benefits of hypnotherapy. Also in April, several members attended the Spring Council Meeting of the Devon Federation held at Torquay. Ann Widdecombe was the main speaker and gave a most entertaining and amusing talk.

Whimble WI hosted the group meeting when we enjoyed an excellent speaker. James Moore works with the Travel Health Consultancy and, when the opportunity arises, works as an expedition medic at many overseas locations. The evening was completed with a short entertainment staged by members of Whimble.

The Annual General Meeting was held in May and Pam Scanlan was elected as the President. Avril Ellingham is taking a well earned rest after four and a half years. Our thanks to Avril for her hard work and the fun she has brought to the meetings. Our best wishes go to Pam for her coming term of office.

If you are interested in becoming a member please contact Pam Scanlan (822262).

**Rosemarie Burrows**

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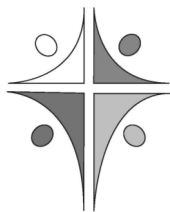
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# WHIMPLE CHURCH

[www.whimplechurch.org](http://www.whimplechurch.org)

## Churches 4 All

Whimple - Talaton  
Clyst Hydon - Clyst St Lawrence

Our **Saturday Morning Coffee** sessions have now commenced, with tea, coffee and home made cakes being served in church from 10.15am to 12.00pm every Saturday except 15th June. Funds raised will be used towards the maintenance of our church building, so please do come and support these enjoyable (and tasty!) events.

Our annual Church Fete takes place on Saturday 15th June in the garden of Hindstrete, Church Rd commencing at 2.30pm. Admission and car parking in the adjacent field is free, and this year's fete again features the OSM Silver Band Brass class and the Whimple School choir. Cream teas and a Pimms bar are a feature of the afternoon as well as a wide variety of stalls and competitions. Plus there is the return of the not-to-be-missed opportunity to Pillory the Priest!



The annual Bellringers Outing is taking place on Saturday 6th July, leaving the Square at 9.30am. It is planned to visit churches in the Chew Valley Lakes area, stopping for coffee in Axbridge and tea in Wells and returning at about 7.00pm. As usual, the ringers invite others to join them on the coach for this "outing with a difference". If you wish to come please contact Roger Algate or speak to any of the ringers..

We look forward to the many events taking place during Village Week. The Church, and the WI will be providing refreshments on Village Day. Following on from the success of last year we are hoping to provide savoury rolls as well as tea and cakes. The next day will see our popular Songs of Praise in St Mary's Church. Everyone is welcome to this event and we would especially like the younger people to choose a piece of music.

There are also a number of events taking place in other churches in the Mission Community.

Talaton is especially busy with fund raising for repairs to the Bell Tower. One of the main fundraising events is a Sponsored Abseil down the Church Tower which is taking place on Saturday 20th July. This will be followed by the Talaton Village Barbecue at 4.00pm. The following Saturday sees the Great Games Afternoon followed by the Children's Great Tea and Party.

Another special event taking place in Talaton on Thursday 18th July is 'Opera in the Park'. This is a family evening with a live broadcast of Tosca streamed from the Royal Opera House on a large screen in the grounds of Talaton House. Beer, wine, soft drinks and barbecued food will be available. For more information on any of these events please contact Dianne Goodwin on 823476.

We look forward to welcoming you at Whimble Church where there is a variety of styles of service and children's and young people's Services for all ages. Please do join us.

## Services for June

|      |         |                                                               |
|------|---------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2nd  | 8.00am  | Holy Communion                                                |
|      | 6.30pm  | Evening Praise<br>join us for Coffee and Cakes from 6.00pm    |
| 9th  | 11.00am | Holy Communion                                                |
| 16th | 8.00am  | Holy Communion                                                |
|      | 9.30am  | Celebration Service<br>join us for Breakfast from 9am         |
| 23rd | 11.00am | Morning Worship                                               |
| 30th | 10.30am | Mission Community Service of Holy<br>Communion at Clyst Hydon |

## Services for July

|      |         |                                                          |
|------|---------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| 7th  | 8.00am  | Holy Communion                                           |
| 14th | 6.30pm  | Village Week Songs of Praise                             |
| 21st | 8.00am  | Holy Communion                                           |
|      | 9.30am  | Celebration Service<br>join us for Breakfast from 9.00am |
| 28th | 11.00am | Morning Worship                                          |

## ROGER FLOOD

I would like to thank family and friends for their support and cards received following Roger's death. Also thanks to all who attended his funeral and after at the Thirsty Farmer. The collection for Cancer Research UK made a total of £590.53. Once again many thanks.

**Brenda**

# Devon Wildlife Trust

## Get Devon Buzzing campaign 2013

The beloved bumblebee is in trouble. This widespread, familiar and much loved insect is becoming a scarcer sight. Three of our 25 British bumblebee species have already disappeared. This is why Devon Wildlife Trust has set up its 'Get Devon Buzzing' campaign this summer to help the bumblebee and now you can help by making your garden more bee-friendly.

### **Bumblebees are important**

Insects pollinate around three-quarters of our crops. Without them it would cost billions of pounds for us to do their job. Did you know that every tomato, strawberry and blueberry you have ever eaten was pollinated by a bumblebee? And yet bumblebees are in trouble.

Just like us, bumblebees need a varied diet to stay healthy. They like to drink nectar and eat pollen from a mix of different flowers. However, this mix of flowers is disappearing from our landscapes.

### **Help the bumblebee in your garden**

Whether you have a window box, a balcony, a small garden, an allotment or a corner of the school playing field, there's plenty you can do to help bumblebees! Complete the garden to do list below to make your garden a haven for bumblebees.

### **Garden to do list**

- Grow a variety of flowers throughout the year** - great bumblebee plants include: willow, apple, bluebell, cowslip, ivy, red clover, thyme, lavender, forget me not, strawberry, chive and daisy. Find more plants on our website below
- Build a bee nest** - make a log pile, use an upturned flowerpot or build an earth bank
- Put away the pesticides** - these are harmful to bees. Try to avoid spraying hedgerows and wildflower areas
- Create a pond** - for bees and other wildlife to drink from, but make sure bees can climb out if they get stuck
- Help a sick bee** - if you find a weary bumblebee place it in a quiet spot with a few drops of sugar water to help revive it

The Get Devon Buzzing Campaign has been supported by Western Power Distribution, Devon Doctors, The Paper Florist and Tideford Organics

### **Help support the bumblebee further**

Become a member of Devon Wildlife Trust and help us improve habitats for bumblebees. Or why not adopt a bumblebee for a year for £20?

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# Whimble History Society



## Heritage Centre Anniversary 2003 - 2013

The History Society celebrated the 10th Anniversary of the opening of the Heritage Centre during a glorious Bank Holiday weekend.

As part of the celebration, children in the village were asked to design a celebratory cake depicting the heritage of Whimble. The cake was to be made up by Sam Watson of 'Sam's Country Cakes' in Whimble.

We had some splendid entries and after much deliberation, 10 year old Grace Tierney's design was chosen as the one that best represented Whimble's history.

The runners up were Lewis Batten, Olivia Woollam, Tegan Street, Jack Delves and Dulcie Sanders. Grace was presented with a cake in her design.

The History society wish to thank everyone that helped celebrate the Birthday of the Heritage Centre. Please come and visit the centre to see what we have on display.



David Rastall and Grace Tierney with her prize



The Winning design  
(Pictures by AlanSmith)



Grace with History Society President Richard Webber

A bike was left in the Victory Hall car park recently. Is it yours?  
If so please ring Maria Wallis on 823992 so we can return it.



## Spring Concert Review

On Saturday 23rd March an enthusiastic audience gathered in Ottery St Mary Parish Church for a rare opportunity to hear Handel's great oratorio *Israel in Egypt* performed by the Ottery St Mary Choral Society.

The concert opened with Haydn's Symphony No 82 in C Major, performed by the orchestra under their leader, Sarah Greinig.

*Israel in Egypt* is widely considered a very challenging work to perform. Handel originally wrote the piece with several orchestral interludes, but he later removed these to produce a much shorter work. This therefore puts great pressure on the choir which has 28 choruses to perform with only one interval. Furthermore, 18 of these choruses are double choir pieces – sung in eight voice parts. The conductor, Malcolm Matthews, did a wonderful job of guiding his choir through such a difficult piece.

The Choral Society was joined by two well-known local soloists. The outstanding mezzo-soprano Rebecca Smith gave a clear, warm delivery of the soprano solo, as well as that of her natural range. The tenor, Leslie Baker, also gave an experienced and authoritative performance. As usual, the Society was able to use three accomplished soloists from among their members. Tenor Michael Gascoigne-Pees and baritone David Batty sang the duet *The Lord is a man of war* with clarity and conviction. Pip Gascoigne-Pees joined Rebecca Smith in the duet *The Lord is my strength* which was also beautifully performed.

After an immensely enjoyable evening the audience stayed to socialise with friends and choir members over a glass of wine. The retiring collection raised £230 for Hospiscare.

The Choral Society would like to thank the audience for their continued support.

For more information regarding OSMCS please contact:

**Liz Hooper** - Publicity - 42116

**Annie Bassett** - Chairman - 823331

[www.otterystmarychoral.org](http://www.otterystmarychoral.org)



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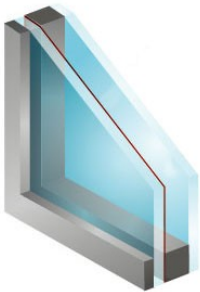
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| <i>Clerk:</i> Gerri Turner,                                                 | 823385       |
| <b>St. Mary's Church</b>                                                    |              |
| <i>Parish Priest:</i> Chris Martin                                          | 822427       |
| <i>SClub11 &amp; Impact:</i> Maggie and Ian Spicer                          | 823640       |
| <b>Devon County Councillor</b> (www.peterbowden.org.uk)                     |              |
| Peter Bowden                                                                | 823450       |
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| Martin Gammell                                                              | 823535       |
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| <i>Headteacher:</i> Mrs. S. Jessop                                          | 822584       |
| <i>Chair of Governors:</i> Maria Wallis                                     | 823992       |
| <b>Whimble History Society</b>                                              |              |
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| <i>Vice Chairman,</i> Paul Wilson                                           | 822744       |
| <b>Whimble Football Club</b>                                                |              |
| <i>Chairman:</i> Ian Stephenson <i>Secretary:</i> Julian Johnson            | 822639       |
| <b>Whimble Tennis Club</b>                                                  |              |
| <i>Secretary:</i> Roddy Bridge                                              | 822057       |
| <i>Treasurer:</i> Adrian Rushworth                                          | 823276       |
| <b>Whimble Cricket Club</b>                                                 |              |
| <i>Booking Secretary:</i> Liz Silk                                          | 822389       |
| <b>Whimble Victory Hall</b>                                                 |              |
| <i>Chair:</i> Maria Wallis                                                  | 823992       |
| <i>Secretary:</i> Pam Scanlan                                               | 822262       |
| <i>Booking Sec:</i> Ali Tierney                                             | 822724       |
| <b>Whimbletons</b>                                                          |              |
| Ed Hitchcock                                                                | 823194       |
| <b>Wasters of Whimble</b>                                                   |              |
| Jenny Sanders                                                               | 823015       |
| Alison Betts                                                                | 823967       |
| <b>St. Mary's Bellringers</b>                                               |              |
| <i>Captain:</i> Roger Algate                                                | 822480       |
| <b>Whimble Scout Group</b>                                                  |              |
| <i>Group Scout Leader (and Marquee Booking):</i> Alex Spry                  | 822844       |
| <b>Whimble Book Group</b>                                                   |              |
| Katy Howard                                                                 | 823038       |

## The Whimble News Team

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Sally Wilde 823246

### Delivery, Advertising and Community Diary

Ed Hitchcock 823194

### Treasurer

Miles Leonard 822415



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