

# *Whimble News*

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April/May 2014

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# What's On in Whimble

## April

- 5th Easter Egg Hunt 2.00pm Woodhayes Lane – see posters for details
- 5th-6th Whimble Cricket Club 'Big Clean Up' – 10.00am - 4.00pm. See posters for details
- 5th Heritage Centre opens – see page 12
- 12th Front Row Club presents 'Philomena' 7.00 for 7.30pm Victory Hall
- 13th Whimble and Broadclyst Young Farmers – Easter Bingo – Victory Hall  
Details page 36
- 14th Whimble Parish Council – Annual Parish Meeting 7.00pm Victory Hall  
details page 33
- 15th Planning meeting for Church Fete – details page 17
- 25th Whimble History Society talk – Victory Hall 7.30pm – Yvonne Bell on  
'Love and marriage Edwardian style'.
- 26th Annual Village Litter Pick and Tidy Up – 10.00am in The Square - see  
page 11
- 26th Soup and Sarnie Lunch – Victory Hall 12.00noon to 1.30pm

## May

- 3rd VPA Coach trip to the Lost Gardens of Heligan
- 10th Front Row Club presents 'To kill a mocking bird' 7.00 for 7.30pm Victory  
Hall
- 17th VPA Spring Coffee morning and Plant Sale -10.00am Victory Hall
- 31st Soup and Sarnie Lunch – Victory Hall 12.00noon to 1.30pm

## June

- 14th Whimble Church Fete – details to follow
- 14th Front Row Club presents 'Blue Jasmine'. 7.00 for 7.30pm Victory Hall
- 21st Midsummer Race Night in aid of Whimble School – details page 55
- 21st-22nd VPA Open Gardens Weekend – details page 51
- 26th Whimble Cricket Club 1.00pm Devon Under 17 Ladies vs. Wales Under  
17 Ladies in a limited overs match – see page 15
- 28th Soup and Sarnie Lunch – Victory Hall 12.00noon to 1.30pm
- 28th Whimble School Summer Fayre – details page 21

## July

- 6th-12th Village week
- 6th Tony Hawks at the Victory Hall with On a Whim Productions 'Fridges  
frolic and films' – see posters for details
- 8th Walking Treasure Hunt, starting at the Heritage Centre 5.30pm
- 25th Conducted village walks by the Whimble History Society; starting at the  
Heritage Centre 6.15pm. Book with Roger Smith on 822244
- 26th Soup and Sarnie Lunch – Victory Hall 12.00noon to 1.30pm



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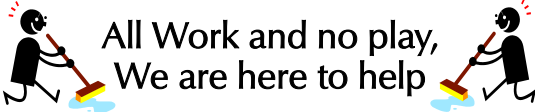
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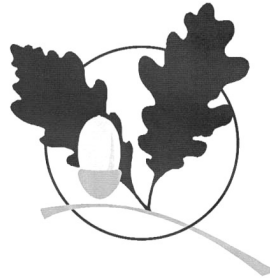
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*References for all past projects available*

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# Miles the guest ED

With Ed off and doing things which are much more fun, it fell to me to try and fill his boots – but having been his panto buddy for many years, I am more used to seeing him in high heels than boots!!

Back to the script (which harking back to panto days was something we both heard Peter calling from the front on many an occasion).

You may not realise, but inside the back cover of The News is a small piece of valuable code – two letters and two numbers. In this edition it reads WN89. Having been involved with The News for some time, until recently I had no idea what this was – I assumed Bob was keeping track of his Lottery wins, or perhaps some other covert message was being communicated to others. But no, it relates to the number of editions that the current team have put together – I am not particularly good with numbers but with six editions in the calendar year, that makes one short of 15 years! That led me to think how to fill this space, so I settled on some recollections.

15 years ago, an appeal went out to the village to keep The News going, with the existing ‘team’ understandably wanting a break – Peter and Angela Smith organised a gathering to see if that was possible. Friends, acquaintances and strangers all met and lo and behold a new committee was formed. Back in those days, the newsletter was produced and then photocopied, leaving the committee the job of assembling each and every copy. That involved a bizarre ritual – about seven grown adults circling Ed and Nicky’s dining table picking up page after page and hoping that they were being assembled in the correct order, before being handed over to the person responsible for ‘the stapling’ and then being bundled into piles for distribution to the delivery team. These were fun evenings – friendships were made over a very boring job, but the pain was eased by the odd glass of wine ...

Since Ed took over as Chairman/Editor editorial meetings have always been fun and certainly don’t feel like ‘work’. We now use the services of Kevin Thompson, a local printer who lives in the village, so the assembly is now done before the copies arrive back in Whimple for distribution.

A big thank you to those who do what they do to ensure The News lives on and arrives (free of charge) through your door each month – all the way back to Peter and (I’ll have a tea please) Angela for the original inspiration to organise that important first meeting, then Ed and Nicky, who now work hard to keep everything going, Bob Scanlan, who gives the most time to the cause in preparing every edition, to Kevin for the printing etc., to Sally for supporting Bob and ensuring that in our meetings we always have other ‘stuff’ to talk about and to all the distributors who trek out every other month to drop your copy through your letterbox, and to John Aiton who then puts each edition online.

89 down and how many more to go – who knows!

Enjoy this copy

**Miles**

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# Whimpe Post Office News

Royal Mail have announced price changes from 31st March:-

First class stamps have gone up by 2p and now cost 62p.

Second class stamps have gone up by 3p and now cost 53p.

If you purchased stamps before 31st March you can still use them. Any stamp that has 1st or 2nd class on them can be used regardless of when you purchased them, or how much you paid for them at the time.

Small parcels under 1kg will go up by 20p. However, small parcels over 1kg will actually be going down by £1.40. So e-bayers please be sure to quote the new prices by picking up a leaflet, or asking us how these changes will affect you.

~~~~~

We are closed over Easter. Benefits due on Good Friday and Bank Holiday Monday will be available on Thursday 17th April.

|                     |                  |
|---------------------|------------------|
| Good Friday         | Closed           |
| Easter Saturday     | 9.00am – 12.30pm |
| Bank Holiday Monday | Closed           |
| Tuesday             | 9.00am - 1.00pm  |

Benefits due on May Day Bank Holiday 5th May will be available on 2nd May.

Benefits due on Bank Holiday Monday 26th May will be available 23rd May.

~~~~~

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

April - 25% off Duvet Cleaning

May - 25% off Laundry

June - 25% off Curtain Cleaning

~~~~~

Thanking you for your continued support.

**Jim and Alison Creasy.**

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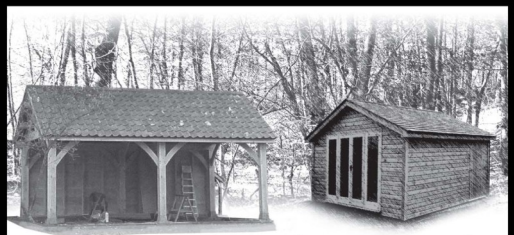
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# Whimble History Society



## THE HERITAGE CENTRE

Will be open every Saturday from 5th April 10.00 - 4.00pm

And every Wednesday from 9th April 2.00pm - 4.00pm

**Entry is FREE**

Bring along your family and friends to see a pictorial history of Whimble or, with the help of our archivists, spend some time looking through our unique archive to find out more about Whimble over the years.

This year's exhibition will tell you something of the life of the villagers in the years leading up to The First World War and of the lives of some of those who fought for our country. We have been given all sorts of interesting items for you to see.



The First World War research project is ongoing. We aim to research every man associated with Whimble who fought in the war. The 1911 Census tells us there were 730 people living in Whimble, 342 of which were male. Our Roll of Honour contains over 100 names – every person in the village would have known several men who fought in the war: imagine that today.

If you would like to help with the research please contact the History Society by email [info@whimble.org](mailto:info@whimble.org) or phone 822499.

The History Society would like to extend its thanks to Lorraine Tandy, Jennifer Holmes, Kevin Thompson, Bob Fletcher, Judith Imbo and the members of the committee who have already given many hours to researching the First World War.

**The Heritage Centre is run by volunteers - please come along.**

# Dates For Your Diary Village Week 2014

**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> to  
Saturday 12th July**

**Something for everyone  
Events, Times and Venues  
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# Whimble Cricket Club

Whimble has been lucky enough to be selected as a venue for an important and prestigious Cricket Match. Devon Under 17 Ladies will be playing the Welsh Under 17 Ladies at the Knowle Cross Ground in a limited overs match on 26th June commencing at 1.00pm. This is recognition of the club's excellent facilities and the high standard of the pitch and outfield.

We have recently had to replace the boiler and showers in the Pavilion. The artificial pitch is the next on the list for improvement and the rear windows need to be replaced. There is always redecoration to do, which is going to be tackled before the season starts.

These are expensive items and we are looking for sponsors for the match day balls for the adult teams and the youth teams. The cost is £20 per ball and you will get a mention on match days as well as knowing that you will be helping the young people in the village and also helping to retain this marvellous facility.

We are continuing to expand and now have five Colts age groups with as many as 60 boys and a few girls attending practice nights every Friday. The high standard of coaching is reflected by the number of boys over the years who have been selected to play for East Devon.

The Club will be very grateful for your support and if you can help please contact **Jon Silk** on 822389 or **John Spencer**, Club Treasurer

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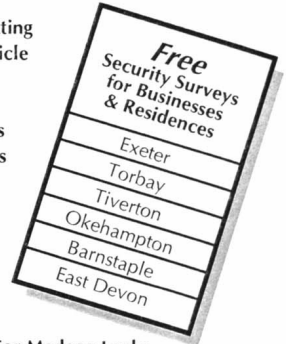
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# WHIMPLE OVER 60's SOCIAL CLUB

Much has been made recently in the media regarding loneliness in old age and lack of contact with local amenities through cuts in social services etc. Here in Whimble we would like to think this is of no concern with the abundance of Societies and Organisations as we see within the Whimble News.

Our Organisation is now entering the 47th year. Our aim is to continue to promote the interest of members with social activities however we can. From the outset we have used the Victory Hall each Tuesday afternoon for friendship and to partake of pastimes mingled with talks or slide shows and to exchange pleasantries over light refreshments. Coach trips are organised from April to November culminating with a Christmas Lunch in December.

We keep in touch with members celebrating their birthdays with a card. In illness we visit where we can with fruit or flowers where prolongation or return from hospital occurs. Condolences are given in bereavement.

In 2009 we received accolades and reward from the Exeter Council for Voluntary Service.

Facilities at the Victory Hall provide more than one expects and use of their full size snooker table gives us enjoyment on Thursday afternoons and Friday evenings. We have capacity for anyone who enjoys the sport to join us and we have room for other activities if required.

Over 60's we may be but enjoyment in the company of others reverses the years.

We also know loneliness can come through loss of a partner or loss of a job. If you are not yet 60 we may be able to offer support.

We have also proved to be therapeutic in certain illnesses through our activities.

If you would like to join in with us or even help with organising or coordinating our various actions you will be warmly welcomed.

**Arthur Iball**, Chairman 822905

## WHIMPLE CHURCH FETE

Saturday 14th June 2014 at 2.30 pm

We are holding a planning meeting for the Church Fete on **Tuesday, 15th April** at 7.00 pm in **St Mary's Church**, Whimble and would be delighted to see as many volunteers as possible. We have taken over as co-ordinators from Mike Ellingham so your support and ideas would be greatly appreciated.

Many thanks and see you on the 15th of April.

**Mike and Tamara Snell 822565**



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# The Latest News From Your Local Pre-School



**WHIMPLE**  
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of Toddler Group

## Spring!

At last, spring seems to have arrived! It's been a challenging winter at preschool with all the rain, the garden has been a muddy bog and we have had lots of coughs, colds and poorly children. Hopefully the weather has now turned for the better and we can start enjoying the garden more and getting lots of fresh air. We will be learning about spring and the changes it brings by going on nature walks and planting seeds. On the 31st March we will be visiting Martinsfield Farm in Broadclyst (part of the Killerton estate) to see lambs and other baby farm animals.

## Music...

Music and singing is a big part of preschool and the children enjoy a weekly music session with Clare Martin (a music teacher from Ottery) which really helps with their language development and listening skills as well as rhythm and rhyme. The children also love having Rev Chris Martin who visits us every few weeks with his guitar for singing, a particular favourite is waking Chris up when he pretends to fall asleep when singing about the babies in Wheels on the bus!



## Growing Numbers...

Preschool numbers are still increasing and after Easter we will be opening up a Wednesday afternoon session for the summer term for the younger children who are due to start school in Sept. 2015. The Toddler Group will move to a Tuesday afternoon for this term.

## Information...

For more news, term dates, etc please check our website [www.whimplepreschool.com](http://www.whimplepreschool.com) or call 07794 652549.

*Dates to Remember...*  
*Last Day of Term*  
*Friday 4th April 1pm*  
*Summer Term*  
*Mon 24th April to*  
*24th July*  
*Half Term*  
*26th - 30th May*



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# Whimble School

Summer Fayre and Open Afternoon

June 28<sup>th</sup> 1.30 - 4.00pm

@ the school

There will be Cream Teas, Cakes,

Beer and Pimms,

Stalls & Games,

The chance to look around the School

and meet the Governors



Displays and lots more

Come and have some fun

whilst supporting your local school.

## Best Kept Village

Congratulations to all the villagers of Whimble who took part in the Best Kept Village in Devon competition last year which resulted in Whimble winning first prize.

About 35 villages in Devon participated, so it was quite an accolade that we won. Thanks of course to all those in Whimble whose efforts and hard work over the preceding months made for a successful result. The list of requirements to win the competition were quite extensive so we won't bother to tell you what they are right now, except that it is our intention to enter the competition in 2014. So look out for the information published in the Whimble News in the weeks to come.

Apart from the kudos of winning, the prize of a silver cup and framed certificate were also given. These were presented to the people of Whimble at the East Devon Offices last October and collected by John Griffiths, Chairman of Whimble Parish Council.

Yes, we are entering the competition again this year, and of course we are going to win. It is comforting to lie back at home and say to oneself that "I live in the best kept village in Devon". Well done everybody.

**Cllr. John Schofield**

## East Devon 'Best Kept Village' award

The great efforts of Mike Ellingham should be recognised who several years ago energised the Village into taking action for this award. Similarly for Sue Ayres, who picked this up via the PC, and who thereafter organised working parties and participated herself in keeping Whimble looking as good as it can. **I'm sure that we will all continue to support John Schofield and others.**



**Hugh Roberts**

# Orchard Harmony News

Girl Power in Whimple! Your very own ladies singing group is going back to its roots for this year and focusing on getting out and about in Whimple to sing.

We are going to focus on close harmony singing both unaccompanied and using piano/backing tracks - singing music ranging from Ellie Goulding to madrigals!

Plans are already underway for our annual Sing-a-long Picnic as part of Village week on Friday 11th July - we also hope to get out and about maybe at some local watering holes? Watch this space! We are also planning a new look Christmas Concert - again watch this space for more details.

So - if you are reading this and thinking to yourself "you know I would really like to sing in a group like this" or "I would love Orchard Harmony to sing for my event" why not give me a ring: 07779 139251. We are always looking for new members and new challenges.

Exciting times .....

Julia Green

## Whimple Victory Hall



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# March District Councillor's Report



## Yet more on the railway saga

The other week I struck up a conversation with a First Great Western train driver on Whimple station. He told me that there is a scheme about for his railway company to invade our line and provide a half hourly train service between Exeter and Axminster. This certainly sounds quite credible as the aim of the Exeter railway development is to increase the density of local railway services as well as opening or re-opening stations and routes that have been long closed like the line out to Marsh Barton,

It is exiting also to hear the talk of reopening the line from Oakhampton around the north of Dartmoor down to Plymouth. If we remember that on the Dawlish Warren line it has been a constant struggle to keep open for 150 years with storms breaching the line and cliff falls regularly cutting it. It has been an expensive headache for the company to keep it open. Indeed, in steam days waves would flood the fireboxes of the locos and bring them to a halt as well. When both lines were open the drivers of both companies had to regularly work each other's lines to be familiar with the route in case either was incapacitated – a very sensible arrangement.

## An important day for E.D.D.C.

A first for the Council has been the presentation to the Cabinet meeting on the 5th of March of the Lypmstone Neighbourhood plan. This is the first neighbourhood plan of the dozen or so in preparation that that has been completed. The District Council is required to consult formally on the plan for six weeks before appointing an independent examiner to consider the soundness of the plan and any representations on it. Well done Lypmstone and good luck in their final examination

At the same meeting an application to designate Clyst Honiton as a neighbourhood area was made. If this is approved then Clyst Honiton may make a formal application to produce a neighbourhood plan setting out how the local community would like to see the village develop. In reality, they will have to settle for a much reduced designated area as so much of the parish has been engulfed by the airport, SkyPark, the intermodal interchange and the Airport Business Park.

## The New Council Offices.

So, it's official – at the last full council meeting E.D.D.C. announced the selection of SkyPark as the choice for the location of the new council offices. This is despite the fact that it is right at the Exeter end of the District which rather contradicts their declared aim to place the new offices more centrally and more accessibly in the centre of the district. In fact, this principle was taken up by a number of councillors (including myself) who put forward a motion for the council to re-examine the idea of looking more closely at the option of staying at the Knowle and spending the borrowed £5 million that it is estimated is needed to build the Skypark premises to refurbish the Knowle. This intention to borrow for SkyPark is another broken promise as we were all assured that the move would be cost neutral. This motion produced some very lively debate but the motion was lost –so- SkyPark it is.



Afterwards in conversation with fellow councillors it became apparent that the new location will be as awkward to get to as Sidmouth and will affect more councillors and this will be equally true of members of the public. I wonder how far the decision was influenced by the council's commitment to placing new jobs and growth in the Growth Point area.

### The East Devon Public Health Plan 2014-2017.

This report presents a draft Public Health Plan for the district. This plan has been prompted by the transfer of public health responsibilities back to local authorities this year. It focuses on a small range of priorities which it is felt can have a positive effect on community health. It does this by complementing the medical professions which focus upon curing sickness by concentrating upon the prevention of sickness. The plan has been produced jointly by the District Council and the County Council. The County Council contribution has been provided by a public health specialist, a public health consultant and a public health analyst. The public health plan is also made consistent with the Council's Health Equalities Policy which has been in place since last year.

The plan argues that it will be able to make effective interventions in terms of Cardio Vascular Disease prevention, increasing levels of overall physical activity, emotional health and wellbeing and the reduction of poverty. It is intended that these areas will be the council's initial priorities and that the perceived challenge is in targeting the Council's health interventions where they can make the most effective, and positive improvement in the health and wellbeing of individuals and communities. The delivery of the programme will - amongst others - involve the voluntary sector, schools, churches, leisure centres, community centres, care homes and children's centres. In fact a whole community approach.

### The Review of the Pest Control Service

The Council is intending to create an in-house pest control technician post in May of this year. Until now the Council has employed a contractor to provide this service on Council land (parks and gardens, depots and the sea front) as well as supplying a contract service to residents if they request it. Unfortunately, there have, apparently, been problems with this service which has prompted the decision to trial an in house provision even though the Council has no legal obligation to provide a pest service. The proposed service will use a qualified Royal Society of Public Health technician who will be a mobile field based worker communicating by mobile phone who will treat rats, mice, fleas, bed bugs and wasps on residential premises as well as public land and property.

### A Travel Threat to the Elderly

An alarming piece of news from the Local Government Association (LGA). It appears that free travel for the elderly is under real threat. It has stated that government funding for local government has fallen by 39% since 2010 and it has reached a state where some councils have begun cutting free pass routes. Buckinghamshire, Cumbria and Somerset are among the County Councils that have been affected by this development, Who will be next I wonder? Certainly, I find the pass a great help for local travel on a daily basis and I will certainly miss this privilege if it is withdrawn

## From EDDC's ConnecteED January 2014

### A Chance to Shape the Future of your Village

The current edition of ConnectED includes an article on the Council's new initiative to draw the inhabitants of the villages in East Devon into the process of contributing to their villages development. The intention is to produce a Villages' Development Plan Document (DPD) by a process of consultation which has already started and will continue until March 10th 2014. The information gathered by consultation will be used to write a revised document which will then go for further consultation in the summer. This second consultation, which includes a map and comments made by the Government Inspector on our Local Plan, will focus on specific policy for village development as well as the constraints limiting development.

The draft DPD document lodged on the E.D.D.C, website goes into a large amount of detail about every village and also suggests some revisions to the current, built up areas, which ring fence the land and that may be considered for building. It also seeks the views of the public, community groups and organisations, businesses and other interested bodies or individuals on proposed sites and policies for development in East Devon villages as well as the Greendale and Hill Barton business site.

### Good News on Public Speaking in Committee Meetings at the Knowle

The Standards Committee has been considering ways to increase the effectiveness of public speaking at Council committee meetings which are made inefficient by the three minute limitation upon being able to address the appropriate committee and the frustrations of strangers who wish to speak upon the same issues who are unable to elect a spokesperson. The Standards Committee has now made recommendations on ways to increase the effectiveness of public speaking events

The Development Management Committee has recommended that a working group considers revision of the arrangements for public speaking to increase the efficiency and efficacy of the meetings and reduce the intolerable length of DMC meetings which recently have been running to eight or nine hours of debate where it is well established that meetings that have run on more than 50 minutes rapidly become inefficient.

### The Devon Waste plan – energy out of waste

The County Council, as you know, have been advocating waste/energy plants at four sites located throughout the County. The thinking so far has been to locate two of these in East Devon at Hill Barton and Greendale Barton each with an 80,000 ton capacity.

Although E.D.D.C. welcomes this energy plan, at the same time, it is determined that only one site is located in the geographical area of East Devon because of its concern with increased density of lorry traffic as well as the polluting hazards of these plants when they are operating at full capacity. I look forward to the resolution of this argument with interest.

**Martin Gammell**

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# Film Nights

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# SNOW WHITE: A review

Regrettably this reviewer must begin by offering apologies for what it appears were comments too frank on last year's performance of 'Hamlet?', 'Swan Lake'? - old men forget (quote Albert Einstein?/William Shakespeare?) - by The Whimbletons so that offence was given even where it was intended. How else explain the receipt from the Box Office of two complimentary tickets for the opening night with an accompanying note —'for yourself and a friend — if you have one', to which the only possible reply was 'unfortunately cannot attend opening night; can the tickets be exchanged for the performance on the second night - if there is one?'.\* In the event the all-singing, all-dancing performance of 'Snow White' ran for not only two nights but in addition for a matinee and a third night, which this reviewer was privileged to attend.. Privileged indeed, since the cast excelled themselves in a production of which the writer and director can rightly be proud (ably assisted by a cast of thousands — well, enough to fill a whole page in the FREE programme — and in those acting in more technical roles of equal importance, e.g. the bar staff.) It would be invidious to single out any individuals from such a star-studded cast but that has never been a problem in the past to a 'fair-minded and incorruptible reviewer'? - so a few of the cast can hopefully be mentioned without causing bitter reproaches (and threats) from those stars too numerous to list, so here goes:

Chester the Jester opened the performance and carried it along with numerous appearances which called back to their seats those members of the audience who felt that the horror of the role played by characters such as the Queen threatened their enjoyment of what was intended to be a light-hearted evening's entertainment; the Queen herself played her role in a manner that was not only good, it was wicked (the fact that your reviewer found himself sitting next to the Queen's real-life partner in no way influenced his opinion).

Snow White needed to do little but be beautiful, and effortlessly she did, but added to this by her singing and dancing, aided by a tempting Prince Rupert (tempting to Snow White, not only to those members of the cast and audience who expressed their appreciation of his gay and enchanting role-playing), and last but not least to those characters who made the reviewer's task easier when commenting on their performances either by threats or appreciative (and appreciated) donations, a small proportion of which were recycled to the Whimbletons via the bar and the raffle (fixed! i.e. the reviewer did not win anything) namely the Seven Dwarfs, or as was maintained by some members of the audience who had spent too much time and money in the bar, the Fourteen Dwarfs whose enthusiasm for work was an object-lesson to anyone who maintains an undeserved life-style thanks to contributions from the hard-working taxpayers.(The preceding sentence makes the author a strong candidate for the Oscar awarded to a writer who wastes none of his/her 'talent' (?) on the quality of his/her words but makes up for it by an admirable quantity ). At this point it would seem to be appropriate to draw the curtain on another superb Whimbletons' production and look forward to the next — with or without a review.

\*With acknowledgements to George Bernard Shaw and Winston Churchill, whose skill with a telling phrase possibly exceeds even that of your anonymous reviewer.

# A Whimpletons Winner

The Whimpletons' rendition of Snow White had all the vital ingredients of a perfect panto: plenty of comedy references to surrounding villages; a scary wicked queen to rival the Disney version; fantastic costumes and make-up; lots of audience interaction and a great selection of drinks from the bar!

Sam Mahoney has graduated from one of the quieter ones in the troupe of kids when I was cracking the whip as Stage Manager to a confident leading lady! I loved Chester's (aka Dave Jones) interactions with the audience (after years of attending, I avoid the aisle seats). I particularly enjoyed Cathy Bartlett-Horwood's rendition of 'Hey Big Spender' (as did the very brave 'volunteer' John Discombe I'm sure!)

It was great to see Sally in front of the scenery for a change (even if it was for 30 seconds). As usual the scenery was amazing – all Sally's team's hard work paid off!

I loved the addition of the video at the start of the second act and, as usual, Slack Ma Girdle provided brilliant musical accompaniment; so much better to have live music at the panto.

We went to Saturday night's performance but I understand that the matinee was a sell-out, with many of the children entering into the panto spirit by dressing up. I think this new tradition ought to be extended to adults next year, but Kevin doesn't agree!

Well done to all involved this year – I loved it!

**Brigid Thompson**




The cast


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## THE FUN RUN DESPERATELY NEEDS SOME HELP

We still need an enthusiastic person or group of people to help arrange the Annual Village Fun Run – and you don't have to be a runner to be just the person we need. The Fun Run is currently part of our Village Week events and if you agree to take it on you will be offered help and support from the Village Week Team. However, you will also be free to make your own organisational changes including the date, the route and the distance. It's a great fund raiser for any organisation.

As it stands we don't have an organiser, so this popular event will not happen this year. So please give it some thought and let me know – Sue Ayres 823082 or [sue@reubenayres.com](mailto:sue@reubenayres.com)

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# News from Whimble Stores

We are pleased that so many of you are enjoying the delicious beef and lamb from Dartmoor Farmers. We know the ear tag number of the animal and which farm it comes from. Meat is delivered on a Tuesday and is packed to give a good shelf life. We also have a good stock in the freezer but, if you want to order in something special, please let us know by Sunday of the week before delivery.

A lot of us enjoy the produce of Ashclyst Dairy so we were surprised when we recently had an issue with the milk tasting 'odd'. Ashclyst ran various checks and the cause was identified as buttercups in the silage. Because the milk they sell is from their herd only, any distortion in the milk is magnified and that is why there was a temporary problem. They were happy to refund any dis-satisfied customers for this and assure us this should not happen again. Hopefully, we managed to remove most of the offending batches once the problem was identified but please let us know if you experienced any problems in February or if you have any future problems.

From April we hope to offer a mid-week menu idea using fresh seasonal produce where possible. We will try to come up with ideas for quick, tasty meals with recipes and all necessary ingredients. This should allow you to pick up one bag of goodies which will have everything you need to make a meal.

Don't forget that you can also order fish from Frank Houldin. You can phone him on a Tuesday night 01823 277669 to place an order and he will deliver it to the shop for you to collect on Wednesday. Frank buys fresh local fish where possible but if weather conditions are poor he still has a great stock from other UK sources. The fish is fresh and excellent quality.

There are a few new faces helping us out in the shop and we are hugely grateful to Ed, Cathy, Alison, Tracy and Julie for giving us their time and support. We also wish Edith a speedy recovery as we miss her support and encouragement.

Jenny and Mark Sanders

Whimble and Broadclyst Young Farmers



Easter Bingo

Sunday 13th April

Whimble Victory Hall



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## Tim Myers

Sadly, Tim died, aged 40, on 18th February following a long and brave fight with a brain tumour.

Those of us who knew him well never ceased to be amazed at his positive thinking and his determination to survive for as long as possible. He endured his treatment without complaint and never appeared to feel sorry for himself. He retained his sense of humour and his tendency to giggle almost until the end.

I was privileged to form a close bond with Tim over his last few months, and am content that he is at peace and that his suffering is over.

His parents, Delia and David, have been unstinting in their care and enabled him to have his wish to live and die in his own cottage. They are now coming to terms with their loss, and I hope that the love and support of their many friends will help them through this difficult time. If the attendance at Tim's funeral is a measure, there are many caring people who are prepared to help in any way they can.

Tim's son Darren lives in the USA, and I hope that their continued contact with him will enable Delia and David to re-live happy memories.

Tim will be greatly missed by his many friends.

**Pam Scanlan**

## A HUGE THANK YOU

To all those people in the village that have supported the Myers family through the years of Tim's illness and particularly in the awful last few months of his life.

The fact that Tim remained so positive, resolute and cheerful throughout almost all that period was, in no small part, due to the magnificent love and support he received from his many friends in the village.

Not only was Tim buoyed by the care he received but our burden was lightened by the many kindnesses both he and we were shown

With all this help, we managed to give Tim the best, and for that we will be forever indebted to you.

**David and Delia Myers**

# Whimle Gurkha Kitchen

On Monday 24th February the East came to Whimle, when Vicki opened her Thirsty Farmer kitchen to the chefs and owners of the Gurkha Kitchen, an excellent Nepalese and Indian restaurant based in Heavitree Road.

This was a much anticipated evening, and proved very popular. A lovely set-priced 'tasting' menu had been put together, with something for everyone.

As soon as I heard about it I wanted to book, as I am a big fan of any spicy food.

However, on the night I was in full-on PPD (Post Panto Depression) and had helped Vicki clear quite a lot of her wine stocks the afternoon before while watching Maggie Reeday, so all I really wanted was a night in to recover.

However, I was offered great company by the Podbury's and Wilson's and it turned into a brilliant evening.

We were in the second sitting, due to the popularity of the event, and were given a delicious mixed plate of starters once we were settled in. These varied in spice and content and were soon demolished by all. I especially liked the spicy potato.

The main course again featured a good mix of different meats and fish, along with a really perfect rice, flavoured with saffron.

As a veggie, I asked if I could just have a larger portion of the vegetarian part of the menu, but they insisted on rustling up a vegetable jalfrezi just for me, and it was perfect ( my favourite). I thought this went above and beyond on such a busy night.

Everyone enjoyed everything and it was a nice touch to be served a refreshing lemon sorbet afterwards.

The Gurkha owners, Shyam and Lov, visited each table to check everyone was enjoying themselves, and to tell us more about the Nepalese specialities available in their restaurant, of which they are rightly proud.

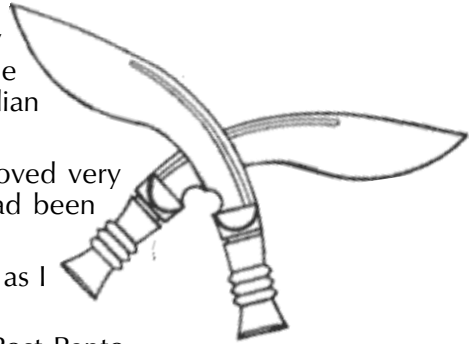
The atmosphere was great for a Monday night and the additional waitress service excellent.

It was pouring down ( for a change) when we came out, so we were all glad we had made the effort and not missed a night of good, unusual food, well supported by the Village.

I even stuck to sparkling water.....

**Sally**

P.S. Vicki has just confirmed that she hopes to try this format again, so watch this space.





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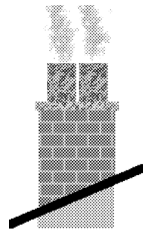
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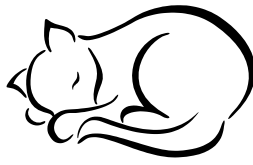
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# GREAT PRICES - GREAT SERVICE

As usual we have had a very busy couple of months. Our speaker for the February meeting (a change from the advertised speaker) was a gardener and horticultural lecturer from Bicton College. He gave us a fascinating talk on the history of the gardens and the work of the students.

Many of us were involved in the area round of the county quiz which was held at Broadclyst. Two teams of four were competing and several of us were either asking the questions or serving teas during the interval. We have also had four members competing in the county whist competition.

For our March meeting Dr Todd Gray talked about 'Remarkable women of Devon'. He is an excellent speaker and kept us all enthralled.

In April several of us will be attending the Spring Council Meeting at Torquay where the guest speaker will be Kate Humble and later in the month Mary King will speak at our group meeting.

For more information contact **Pam Scanlan** on 822262.

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# WHIMPLE CHURCH

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

The year seems to be flying by yet again. It is so good to see the lambs in the fields and the hedges full of new growth, including lots of Devon Primroses.

There is lots happening in the Mission Community. We have got special services planned for Mothers Day on 30th March, Maundy Thursday on 17th April and Good Friday on 18th April. We are also running our popular Easter Garden in Whimple Victory Hall on Saturday 19th April. Full details can be found in The Link.

The PCC AGM will be held on 28th April in the Church at 7.30pm. Please come along to find out what has been happening over the last year.

Another important date for your diary is the Annual Summer Fete. This year's event will be on Saturday 14th June. There will be a Planning meeting at 7.00pm on Tuesday 15th April in St Mary's Church. Please come along to help us make this popular event a success.



We are holding our popular breakfasts during May. The first of these on 3rd May will be a Women's Breakfast and it will be in the Village Hall at Talaton. The Men's Breakfast will be on 10th May in the Victory Hall, Whimple. The speakers at both of these will be from the Exeter Street Pastor team.

Our popular weekly Morning Coffee returns on Saturday May 17th. Please join us for coffee and cakes and friendly company. There are also a number of other informal Get-Togethers happening on a regular basis. Around a Table and a Pint is a very popular discussion group for men and now, the ladies have set up a similar group meeting on the first Monday of every month in The Thirsty Farmer. There are also groups who meet on Monday and Friday mornings in the Church for coffee and chat.

We also have a number of Home Groups who meet regularly to pray and discuss the Bible. Details of these can be found in The Link.

A new venture for children started at the end of February. Jigsaw is aimed at pre school and Key Stage 1 children. It will be running fortnightly on Friday afternoons after school. Full details can be found in The Link.



Twice a month, on the 1st and 3rd Sunday Services at St. Mary's in Whimple, we have a small band of musicians, to accompany us in our worship. We would love to have more people join us whether adult or young person. So if you can play **any** instrument at **any** standard, or know anyone who does, why not come along? If you would like more information email Phil Dominy [dominypr@hotmail.com](mailto:dominypr@hotmail.com) or ring 822163.



## Talaton Open Gardens Weekend 2.00 – 6.00pm 24th and 25th May

Start off from the Church Car Park (EX5 2RL). and pick up a map. Entry costs £4.00, the ticket is valid for both days and children aged 16 years and under are FREE.

A variety of about a dozen gardens will be open, from Country House to Cottage Garden. Some have streams and bog gardens, one has a garden smokery and another has a Garden Railway.

This year there is a small red squirrel to find in each garden. It is not to be taken away but it is there to amuse the bored husband or child!

A prize winning Codeword Puzzle might also keep the visitors amused and there is a chance to win a FREE Family Entry Gift Voucher to Escot Park for the winning entry.

Plants and Cream Teas will be on sale. Proceeds will go to Talaton Church and Hall.

Contact Peppi Shaw 01404 822482  
[www.talatonparishcouncil.co.uk](http://www.talatonparishcouncil.co.uk)



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# Broadclyst Bowls Club

With the new season nearly upon us, Broadclyst Bowls Club would be pleased to invite both experienced and novice bowlers from Whimble to come along to see us. Our season opens at 5.00pm on Tuesday 22nd April and any experienced bowlers will be made very welcome by our members. We will also be playing on Wednesdays from 1.30pm and on Thursdays from 5.00pm.

For the novices, and for those who may just want to give it a try to see how they get on, we are holding an Open Day on Saturday 10th May. We will be there from 10.30am to 3.30pm to explain the basics and for you to have a go. For those who wish to continue we are offering a free coaching session each Thursday over the following four weeks. Equipment will be provided but flat soled shoes need to be worn. Refreshments will be available

Anyone wishing to play regularly can choose to become a full member or just come along when they are able to play and pay a nominal roll up fee.

You will find us at the Sports Pavilion, Holly Close, off Woodland Road, Broadclyst. EX5 3JB.

We look forward to greeting men and woman from all age groups who are interested in getting some fresh air, gentle exercise and making new friends.

For further information contact **Steve Higginson** 01392 460427 or **Steve Cowling** 01392 680964

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# The Countryside Code



The countryside code began in the 1950's to help protect, respect and allow people enjoy the countryside in England and Wales. Due to the spring and summer months soon approaching, it is beneficial to the environment and farmers to remind dog owners how to conduct themselves while walking in the countryside. Key things to consider are:



**Respecting other people – always leave gates as you find them and follow instructions on signs.** Leave farm equipment and animals alone, if you think an animal is in distress try to alert the farmer or inform the RSPCA. Keep out the way if animals are being moved and follow farmer's directions.

**Protecting the environment –** always pick up after your dog, take litter home and dispose of appropriately. Ensure your dog is wormed regularly, at least every 3 months, to prevent infections and protect other animals.

**Protecting your dog against diseases that can be contracted through wildlife –** Monthly treatment against Lungworm protects your dog from the 'silent killer' that is carried by foxes. This parasite is not killed with regular worming treatment - ask your vet how to protect your dog.

**Protecting livestock and wildlife -** Make sure your dog is under control near any wildlife or farm animals by **keeping your dog on a lead**. Pay attention to any signs which may not permit dogs to walk on certain land.



**Livestock can behave unpredictably** especially if they have young animals; give them space so that they don't feel threatened. Some dogs have the tendency to chase animals; please keep them away from livestock, especially pregnant ewes and ewes with young lambs.

**It is a legal requirement to keep your dog on a short lead on 'open access land' (no more than 2 metres) near animals and horses for safety reasons.**

For more information on Lungworm please visit [www.lungworm.co.uk](http://www.lungworm.co.uk)

For more information on rights and responsibilities please visit [www.naturalengland.org.uk](http://www.naturalengland.org.uk)

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# WHIMPLE AND DISTRICT VILLAGE PRODUCE ASSOCIATION

At the time of writing it seems that spring is on its way as we enjoy the very welcome sunshine. No doubt we shall soon be enjoying all those other harbingers of spring such as mowers, hedge trimmers and the like, oh, and of course, the wonderful dawn chorus!

By the time this edition goes to print we will have enjoyed a very interesting talk by Mary Benger on Burrow Farm Gardens. These splendid gardens at Dalwood are well worth a visit and have been beautifully developed by Mary and her family.

As I write the coach trip to the Lost Gardens of Heligan is almost fully booked, so if you want to go you need to contact Doreen Staddon as soon as you see this article. She can be contacted on 823594 or by email on [doreenstaddon@btinternet.com](mailto:doreenstaddon@btinternet.com). Those of you who have already booked need to contact Doreen to arrange payment for the trip.

It seems that the appalling weather hasn't completely washed away everyone's gardens and we will be staging an Open Gardens weekend on 21st and 22nd June. One ticket will cover both days so there will be no need to rush around the gardens on display. The profits from this will be shared with the Ottery St. Mary League of Friends.

Our annual plant sale will be on Saturday 17th May in the Village Hall. We hope to have all the usual range of plants and hopefully there will be something for everyone! The sale will start at 10.00am prompt and early arrival is essential to avoid disappointment.

We hope to have the schedules for the annual flower show available at the plant sale on 17th May.

In order to help those of you who are keen photographers, here are the subjects for the classes in the photography section. All prints can be colour or black and white and prints must not exceed 6" x 8" or 150mm x 200mm. The classes are; 'Storms in the SW', 'A Song Title', 'Shadows', 'Nature's Jewels', 'Night Sky', 'A Botanical Subject', 'An Architectural Structure in England', 'Engines' and 'Regeneration'.



The schedules will also be available at the Post Office and Whimble Stores as soon as they have been printed.

We look forward to seeing you at some if not all of our events this year.

**Paul Wilson**, Hon. Secretary.

If your Association has an event which you would like listed in 'What's on...' please contact **Ed Hitchcock** on 823194 or e-mail [edhitch@btinternet.com](mailto:edhitch@btinternet.com).



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# Spring Concert

The beginning of 2014 has been very busy for the Ottery Choral Society.

Rehearsals began in January for the Spring Concert which will be held on **Saturday 12th April**. While many of you will know Mendelssohn's 'Elijah', you may be less familiar with his first oratorio 'St. Paul', written in 1835. Like 'Elijah' this masterpiece also has many magnificent choruses. As usual for the Spring Concert, the Choral Society and Orchestra will be joined by three professional soloists for this performance: *Héloïse West*, soprano, *Edward Coton*, tenor, and *Martin Shaw*, baritone. (More information about the oratorio and the soloists can be found on the society website.)



After the concert a glass of wine and light refreshments will be offered (inclusive in the ticket price).

**Tickets** are available from Stagestruck in Ottery St. Mary (811311) or from Society members.

## Annual Dinner

On Thursday 6th February members of the Choral Society went to the Tumbling Weir Hotel for their annual dinner and social evening. A delicious three-course dinner was enjoyed by the gathering of sixty members and friends. The social evening was organised by Vivienne and Michael Gascoigne-Pees and also included a quiz and entertainment.

This year the entertainment was mainly in the very capable hands of some of our gentlemen members who concentrated on the witty works of Flanders and Swann.

'The Bedstead Men' was sung by David Glennie, 'A Transport of Delight' by Chris Startup and Michael Gascoigne-Pees, and 'The Gasman Cometh' by Brian Waterfield, complete with the predictable audience participation in the chorus!

Tim Savage had written 'In Memori- um!' for which he took on the role of a village vicar giving a very amusing eulogy for an imaginary local parishioner. The final piece of the evening was Victoria Wood's 'Ballad of Barry and Freda' (Let's do it) sung by Kyle Hayes.

The raffle raised £154 for Hospiscare, our designated charity for this year.

## Charity Cheque Presentation

In January, Ottery Choral Society members were present at the official presentation of a cheque for £15,100 to the local Force Cancer Charity. This was the final total raised by the Classics Galore Concert in November, in which the Society performed.

For more information regarding OSMCS please contact: [osmcs@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:osmcs@hotmail.co.uk) or Annie Bassett - Chairman 823331



Welcome to this editions contribution from the school. As always life is very busy and the children have been doing lots of different things.

## Our Samba experience.

Oak class went on a bus to Broadclyst. We walked to a big hall. In the hall we met a man and we talked about samba. Samba is noisy music from Brazil. There were lots of instruments like, big bass drums, triangles, shakers, claves, cow bells and lots more. We learned how to play different rhythms on all the instruments.

We are holding another music assembly on Thursday 3rd April at 2.00pm in the Village Hall and this is open to everyone in the village to attend.

What a noise! It was important we all worked together and listened for the whistle that told us what to do next. We all had a great time.

## Class 5 poppy pictures

In January 2014 class 5 painted very pretty poppy pictures. Some of them were fields and others were really detailed. One of them was a picture of a field of poppies with a cottage and another was a single poppy in a vase.

Exactly 100 years ago, WW1 started on poppy fields; it was a horrible war and it lasted 4 years. We wear poppies to remember the people who died in the war.

Our poppies are all different shapes, styles and sizes.



## Class 4 infographics

An Infographic is a piece of paper with information, bar charts, pictograms, pictures and questions which the creator answers. They are much better than usual boring bar charts and column graphs which only have a tally and a chart. If you make an infographic you can do any topic you like for example Australia, WW1 and Victorians.

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Our last order date was 24th March where we achieved a price of 51.44 pence per litre + vat This compares to a best price quoted for 1000 litres of 54.20 pence per litre + vat and a worst price for 1000 litres of 56.50 pence per litre + vat.

PLEASE BE AWARE:

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| <i>SClub11 &amp; Impact:</i> Maggie and Ian Spicer                          | 823640       |
| <b>Devon County Councillor</b> (www.peterbowden.org.uk)                     |              |
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| <b>East Devon Councillor</b>                                                |              |
| Martin Gammell                                                              | 823535       |
| <b>Whimble Primary School</b> (admin@whimble-primary.devon.sch.uk)          |              |
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| <b>Whimble History Society</b>                                              |              |
| <i>Chairman:</i> David Rastall                                              | 822486       |
| <i>Secretary:</i> Roger Smith                                               | 822244       |
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| <b>Whimble Book Group</b>                                                   |              |
| Katy Howard                                                                 | 823038       |

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