

Whimble News



Feb/March 2018

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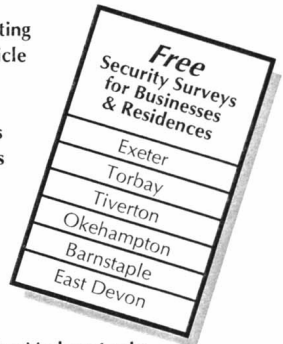
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What's On In Whimple

February

- 3rd` Front Row Club – see website and posters for details – info on page 53
- 4th Dress Making Worksop – details pages 34 & 35
- 6th Over 60's Tea Party and Get Together
- 15th The Whimpletons present 'Treasure Island Part 2' Victory Hall 7.30 pm.
- 16th The Whimpletons present 'Treasure Island Part 2' Victory Hall 7.30 pm.
- 17th The Whimpletons present 'Treasure Island Part 2' Victory Hall
matinee performance 2.00 pm.
- 17th The Whimpletons present 'Treasure Island Part 2' Victory Hall 7.30 pm. See page 13
- 18th Geoff Gardner Birthday party Victory Hall – details page 8
- 18th Dress Making Worksop – details pages 34 & 35
- 20th Over 60's Bingo and Committee Meeting
- 24th Soup 'n' Sarnie Victory Hall 12.00 noon to 1.30 pm
- 24th Macmillan Mammoth Quiz – Whimple and Broadclyst Young Farmers – Victory Hall 7.30 pm – Details page 44
- 25th Dress Making Worksop – details pages 34 & 35
- 27th Over 60's Beetle Drive

March

- 6th Over 60's Photo Competition
- 10th Front Row Club – see website and posters for details – info on page 53
- 13th Over 60's Speaker Rob Carlyon - Jersey in the War Years
- 20th Over 60's Quingo
- 24th Christ in the Concrete City St Mary's Church 7.30pm. Details page 17
- 25th Christ in the Concrete City St Mary's Church 3.00pm. Details page 17
- 27th Over 60's Whist, Dominoes, etc
- 27th Christ in the Concrete City St Mary's Church 7.30pm. Details page 17
- 28th Christ in the Concrete City St Mary's Church 7.30pm. Details page 17
- 31st Soup 'n' Sarnie Victory Hall 12.00 noon to 1.30 pm

April

- 14th Front Row Club – see website and posters for details – info on page 53
- 20th Closing date for responses to Whimple Neighbourhood Plan – see page 11

May

- 12th VPA Spring Plant Sale and coffee morning Victory Hall
- 19th Front Row Club – see website and posters for details – info on page 53

June

- 9th Front Row Club – see website and posters for details – info on page 53
- 24th Exeter Gauge O Model Railway Group Open Day, Victory Hall, See page 11

July

- 1-8 Village Week
- 7th Whimple Day and Fun Run

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Ed the Ed

Our cover photo is of the Whimple Wassail, with pride of place on the left hand side given to our very own 'Fireman' Ray Horn who creates brilliant bonfires in the two orchards we visit – great for finding the right tree and for warming up! I have written a short article about this year's Wassail on page 12. Once again, when you look at the What's On In Whimple page, we have a great variety of events to publicise for this wonderful village. So much to do, so little time!!!

I tried my best in the last edition with noting the days that the Codfather would be in the Square before Christmas – all with the best of intentions but fell at the hurdle of his van's electrical systems which failed and meant he couldn't get to us! Hopefully all is well again.

We had a fun run up to Christmas in the shop and I have to say, all the fun comes from dealing with you, our wonderful customers. So thank you to you who make working in the shop worthwhile! You will see that we are now stocking home-made cakes, and it is temptation itself to be stood next to either carrot cake, swiss roll or lemon drizzle, especially when people ask 'What is it like?' So, in the true sense of offering the complete customer experience, what choice do we have gentle reader but to test the product so that we may recommend and comment on it? Mark and Jenny are still pondering the proposal that the staff also sample the wines, again, purely for the fuller customer experience, you understand. I fear that anything after 4.00 pm would go in a blur so best not to!!!!!!!!!!!!

You may be aware that the famous blue milk churn, lovingly painted by Sally for Dairy Cottage was stolen recently, having adorned our front step for some 20 years, protected by a security bike lock. We have reported it to the police but accept it will be low down on their list of priorities. We are just sad to have it stolen, as it was a part of our cottage's charm. Sadly at the time of writing this editorial, Clive and Sarah at Rat's Castle also had their painted milk churn stolen, again protected by a sturdy chain. It is interesting that there has been a report of a local break-in, to agricultural premises when items containing metal have been taken. Metal appears to be a common theme here. If you see anything, please contact the police.

Once again we need to ask drivers to slow down through the village. Recently a speeding car narrowly missed a cat in Talaton Road. Next time it could be a child.

Now onto other things – for some time now as I drive down Barrack Road on the way to Ottery, there is a Cat Hotel on the right which makes me smile. They have a planter in the shape of a cat, and according to the weather, they will adorn it with some appropriate headgear. So we have seen jaunty straw hats in summer, to sou'westers in the rain, and last week it wore a Tam a'Shanter in celebration of Burns Night. Have a look but do it with care!!!

If you would like to contribute an article for this great magazine we would love to hear from you; please either send it to Bob on bob.scanlan@eclipse.co.uk, or drop it into Dairy Cottage if technology is not your thing, by Monday March 5th. Thanks!

Thanks to our great team of deliverers and the proofreading team.

Ed H

WHIMPLE STORES



Thank you to everyone for their kind wishes, cards and gifts over the Christmas period. We are sorry we didn't have time to send cards out to everyone but we appreciate your custom, support and friendship.

Listening to all the new year press coverage there are a few issues that we are pleased to say we have been aware of for a while.

We only sell small cans of energy drinks and we don't sell more than one can to children before school and if they want to buy more we check with parents first.

We are very conscious of recycling and our cardboard and plastic film wrap is taken back to Bookers for recycling. We are allowed to do this because we sign up to Bookers scheme and have applied for a trade waste licence. We try to avoid plastics by selling loose fruit and veg and we do monitor our products and try, where possible, to stock the most environmentally sound products. We are always striving to find products that don't use palm oil and try to encourage people to reuse carrier bags rather than supplying new ones.

We don't have a minimum spend on card transactions and do not charge for card use and cash withdrawals from the Post Office do not incur any charges.

Our takeaway cups are recyclable and we are always happy to fill up your own reusable cups.

It is nice to know everyone is catching us up!

Mark and Jenny

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Whimble Neighbourhood Plan - Shaping your future

Please accept apologies from the Steering Group for the delay in making the Survey available. We did wish, however, to ensure a well balanced questionnaire and one that was as straightforward as possible from both an online and paper based perspective.

We are now pleased to tell you that the online Survey is now available on the designated site:- www.whimble-survey2017.co.uk.

If you are unable to access the Internet or a computer, we will be stockpiling copies of the Questionnaire in the **Village Shop**, the office of **Build Consultants Ltd** (on the corner of School Hill opposite the Thirsty Farmer pub), and in the **petrol station at the Hand and Pen** from **the 20th February**.

The closing date for responses to the Questionnaire will be **the 20th April**.

An introductory or supplementary questionnaire, which embraces the various amenities within the Parish, is enclosed with this issue of Whimble News – this will also be available online but for logistical reasons in a different format.

We really hope to hear from as many of you as possible and value your interest.

If you have any questions regarding the Questionnaire or the Neighbourhood Plan process, the Steering Group would welcome contact EITHER by Email OR by telephone if you don't have email:-

Email : wpcnp2017@gmail.com Tel : 07864117619

We will continue to keep you informed by articles in the Whimble News and on the Whats on in Whimble site or via the Parish Council

Thank you! **Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group**

EXETER GAUGE O MODEL RAILWAY GROUP

The above Group meets at the Victory Hall every 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month, from 7.00pm to 9.45pm. We specialise in 7mm scale models, and welcome visitors to our sessions in the Hall. If you want to attend more than once, then we ask for a donation of £3.00.

We will be holding our Open Day on 24th June, when we welcome outside Model Railway Groups and members of the public to come and see what we have on display. This year is particularly important for us as we celebrate 25 years as a group. We had a tremendous response from the village when we ran a similar event a couple of years ago, so we look forward to welcoming more Whimble residents to our event!

There is more information on our website which you will find on:

www.exeter-gog.net

If you have any questions, please contact me on exeter.gog@gmail.com.

Chris Ward, Chairman

WASSAIL 2018

I have to admit that I spent an anxious afternoon before the wassail, whilst attending to my very important retail duties, looking at dark skies and the very real threat of heavy rain to accompany us round the orchards. The good news was that the temperature did not do its usual late afternoon 'plummet'. As it was, it was an acceptable temperature and there was only a bit of rain towards the end of our trip around the village. I hate being cold, so had planned for a chilly evening – five layers to be honest!! (great for the Wassail but you could be in danger of combustion when you are at the Cricket Club!) But the five layers worked a treat. It was the first time the Wassail had been led by a Michelin man look-a-like! The only concern I had was that if I had a medical episode then A&E would have a long job in cutting their way through!!!!

We had a splendid Wassail with just over a hundred people, and we had a lot of fun with our Wassail Princesses, Rosie and Ella, and Jim Causley with his assorted musicians leading the procession. Thanks, as ever, to Ray 'The Fireman' Horn, the gun team, all the stewards for keeping us safe, the History Society, Paddy at the New Fountain for opening early for us, the team at the Cricket Club who provided an excellent food service and the bar team, plus of course the Wassail Cup providers and Margaret Burrough and Jim and Mary Chard for allowing us into their orchards. And not to forget the good people who turned out on the night – thanks for your support and we hope that you all enjoyed the Wassail.

Let's hope that we have helped towards a bumper harvest later this year!

Ed H

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Your Parish Council

Whimple Parish Council exists to represent the interests of the whole community. The Parish Council consists of nine unpaid volunteer elected Councillors who work hard to understand the needs of different people in the community in a non-political culture. Occasionally there will be conflicts of interest requiring sensitive judgement and making difficult decisions, in an open and reasoned way, is something that the local council strives to do well in.

To be effective, the Councillors need to be well informed about the diverse local views. The Neighbourhood Plan Questionnaire which should be launched in the coming weeks (*apologies for the unforeseen delay*), is just one of the ways of capturing feedback.

Probably the most important source of information sharing, hearing about current issues and evidencing decision making is to attend the monthly Parish Council Meetings held in the Victory Hall. The Parish Council meet twice a month, normally on the first Monday in the month for a Planning Meeting and then on the third Monday in the month for a full Parish Meeting. The Agendas are published on the Wednesday before a meeting on the Parish Notice Board in the Square and on the Parish website <http://whimpleparishcouncil.weebly.com>. After the meetings the minutes are published in the same manner normally within 3 working days of the meeting.

The Councillors welcome attendance by residents to the Parish Council Meetings and a full list of dates are displayed on the Notice Board and website. This is your opportunity to 'have a say' and also be informed of both significant issues and matters of interest that impact the Parish.

Whimple Victory Hall

**Join us for
Soup'n'Sarnie Lunch**

**12.00noon to 1.30pm on
Saturday 24th February
and Saturday 31st March**



Are you interested in becoming a Councillor?

For many people, it is the satisfaction of acting on behalf of their local community that encourages them to become councillors. You need to be over 18 and a qualifying citizen of the Commonwealth, the European Community or the Republic of Ireland. You will work with other councillors to serve the community and are tasked to bring local issues to the attention of the Parish Council and help make decisions on behalf of the local community.

The diversity of the Parish Council is its strength with councillors having different backgrounds, enthusiasms and interests. By working together as a team, councillors provide a service to the community. A councillor has responsibility to attend the Parish Council meetings when summonsed to do so, consider agenda items, take part in voting and respect decisions made by the majority of those present and voting and ensure the council is properly managed. The Parish Council has a code of conduct which deals with councillor's obligations about their conduct including the registration and disclosures of interests.

Are you interested in local issues? Are you able to commit time to attend meetings and associated duties that may be delegated to you as a councillor (such as a snow warden for example)? Are you passionate about Whimble Parish? Have you considered standing as a councillor? If this may be you call Kevin Finch, Whimble Parish Clerk 01404 823385 or email Kevin at whimbleparishcouncil@gmail.com in the first instance for a confidential informal chat. **Kevin Finch** Whimble Parish Clerk
Tel 823385 Web <http://whimbleparishcouncil.weebly.com/>



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We are a friendly, enthusiastic and supportive group of passionate brass players who are seeking musical direction. We meet every Wednesday morning at Tipton St John Community Hall, Tipton St John, Devon, EX10 0AF where there is good parking.

We are now seeking an Honorary MD to help the growth and development of the Band: a sympathetic, kind spirited, experienced musician with a sound understanding of the brass musical genre to take up the baton and help move the Band forward.

For further information about the Band please visit our website at :

<http://eastdevondaytimeband.weebly.com>.

If you are interested in this exciting opportunity, or know someone who may be, please contact our Chairman, **Trevor Heynes**:

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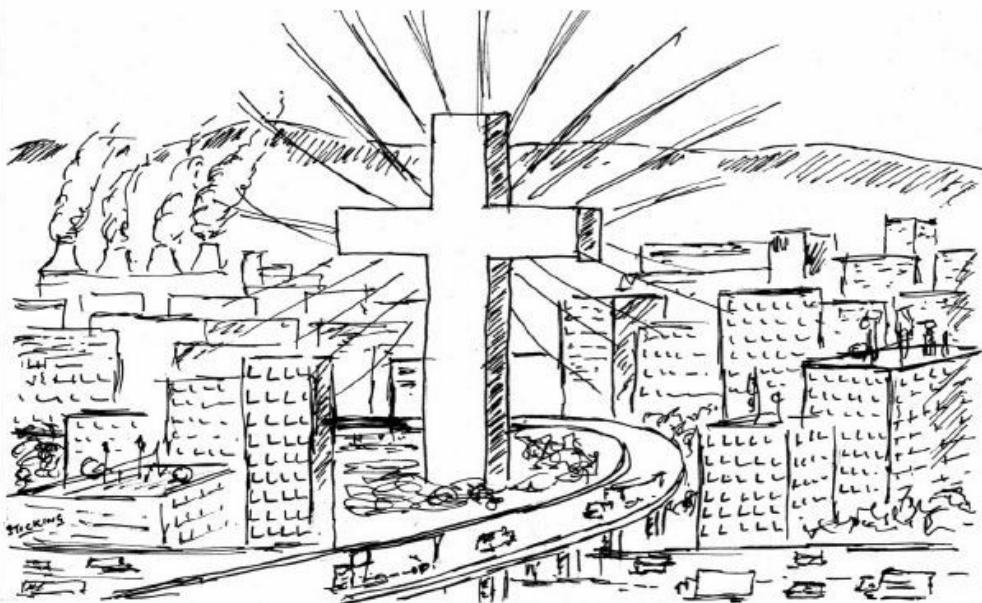
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Saturday 24th March at 7.30pm, Sunday 25th March at 3.00pm

Tuesday 27th March at 7.30pm & Wednesday 28th at 7.30pm

TICKETS £8 ON SALE IN

TALATON VILLAGE SHOP AND WHIMPLE VILLAGE STORES

FROM SATURDAY 17th FEBRUARY

WHIMPLE AND DISTRICT VILLAGE PRODUCE ASSOCIATION

Our last event for 2017 was the Quiz Night on Friday 10th November. This proved to be a very well supported event and was certainly a very entertaining evening. It was good to see some new faces and it was evident that everyone enjoyed the evening. Our thanks go to Brian Nelson and Roy Cark for the Gardening Questions and to Doreen Staddon for the General Knowledge Questions. For some extra entertainment we also had some Dingbats to solve which well and truly tested everyone's lateral thinking processes! This is definitely an event we will be repeating later this year!

By the time this edition of the News goes to print we will have had our AGM which was held on Monday 22nd January. The reports will no doubt have reflected on another successful year for the VPA and a full report will be in the next edition. We are naturally looking forward to another very enjoyable year.

Our Annual Spring Plant Sale and Coffee Morning will be on Saturday 12th May in the Village Hall. This is now a well and truly established annual event and hopefully we will have the same support this year. We aim to provide a wide range of plants, so hopefully the weather will be kind to those of us who grow the plants and there will be something for everyone! The money raised enables us to fully cover the cost of the Annual Flower Show which is a great help to ensure the success of the Show.

The annual Flower and Craft Show will, as usual, be on the second Saturday in August and this year the date will be Saturday 11th August 2018. Details of the Photography Classes were published in the last edition of the News but for the benefit of those of you who missed them, here they are again. All the classes are for a coloured or black and white print, maximum size being 6" x 8", or 150mm x 200mm. The titles for this year are: 'Doors'; 'Frozen'; 'A Non Flowering Subject' (eg Ferns, Fungi; Mosses. Leaves etc); 'Patterns in Nature'; 'A Quotation'; 'Reflections'; 'Stones'; 'Love is.....'; 'Shadows' and 'All Creatures Great and Small'. So, hopefully, there are some suitable titles for all those keen photographers we have in the village! We hope to have the schedules out with the details of all the Classes by the plant sale in May.

Those are the two main events for the year but we hope to arrange some more for which full details will, of course, appear in future editions of the News.

As mentioned in a previous edition of The News, we are looking to run a garden competition for the young people in the village. Details of the competition are shown in the preliminary draft we have put together which is on the opposite page. It is proposed to have three age groups and we are looking for expressions of interest to see if this will be viable to run. If, having read the details of the competition, anyone is interested in taking part, then we would like you to let Hugh Roberts know. He can be contacted on 822651 or by email on hughroberts@cooptel.net and this will enable us to see what support there is for this innovative project.

We look forward to seeing you at the above events as well as any others we can arrange during the year.

Paul Wilson, Hon. Secretary

WHIMPLE VILLAGE PRODUCE ASSOCIATION

Garden Competition For Young People

Starting in 2018' the VPA will be running a gardening competition for young people. There will be three age categories as detailed below. It is open to young people living within a radius of 5 miles from Whimple Church.

Competitors will be asked to look after a small garden at their home or at a friend's/relative's house or part of an allotment and become involved in planning, decision making, and routine work. If actual garden plots are not available, big planters may be substituted. We would like you to maintain a small number of ornamental plants and common vegetables or salad crops. You must be involved in soil preparation and sowing seeds, both for your garden/planters, and using your own sown transplants. Two VPA members will visit you in late May and July, take a look at your efforts, and chat to you about your general knowledge of gardening and the garden/planters you are managing. They will score your efforts and a cash prize will be awarded to the winners at the Flower Show in August 2018

Prizes: Age 5-10 £15 : Age 10-15 £25 : Age 16-20 £40

Specifications:

Age 5-10 only. (contact details will be requested at handover)

You will be given a container in which to grow your plants. You must grow two small annual flowers (trailing types best e.g. trailing lobelia, dwarf petunia) and two salad crops (bunch or single plants e.g. lettuce, rocket or radishes).

Older Competitors	Age 10-15	Age16-20
Your garden area. (no lawn area to be included)	At least 6m² or 3 containers or planters	At least 8m² or 5 containers or planters
Small perennial flowering plant, 2 different herbs, not more than 3 varieties of annual flowers.	Examples: Rock rose, hardy geranium, antirrhinum, lobelia	Ditto 10 -15 group but expect more questioning!
Vegetables and salad crops - 3 rows , of your own choice of varieties – but see suggestions. Some must be planted out from your own raised seedlings	leeks, parsnips beetroot, broad beans, courgettes, dwarf beans, radish, lettuce and rocket are typical examples.	Compact runner bean tripod or similar Ditto 10-15 group Slightly more in depth questioning

Provide your name, address and phone number (or parent/carer) your DOB and your age on 1st January 2018 - Email address if preferred

Advice is available from: Hugh Roberts 822651 on general matters, Branco Love 822006 on vegetables and salads and Paul Wilson 822744 on flowers

Tanzania Update:



Dulcie and I would like to give you an update on how our fundraising for the Tanzania expedition is going. We had a great time running the Christmas Film Night and would like to thank everyone who supported our film night, with a special thanks to Rob Davis for lending us all of the equipment and setting the hall up for us. We really appreciate it and altogether the cinema night raised over £200.

We would also like to thank everyone who has purchased items from our stall in the village shop and who has kindly donated money which has raised over £300 .

Look out for other upcoming events that we will be holding in the village which will be advertised in the Whimble News and shop.

Lastly don't forget you can also support our cause by simply shopping online through easyfundraising via the links below

<http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/dulciesanders/>

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Thank you again

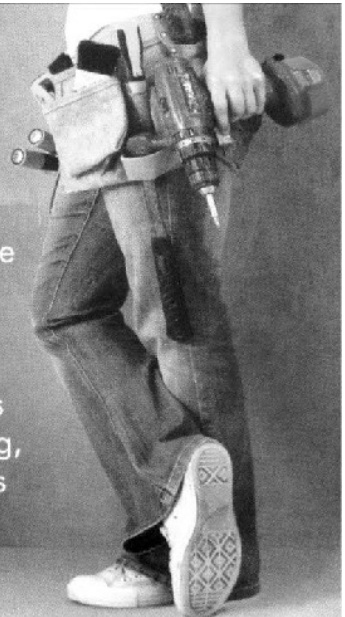
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West Hill Village Hall.

2.00 – 5.00pm 5th May 2018

Otter Vale Hospiscare Support Group are organising a Craft Fair on 5th May 2018 at the West Hill Village Hall. There will be a variety of stalls, selling wonderful hand-crafted items all made locally. Refreshments will include traditional cream teas, as well as the new popular savoury version. All the money raised will go directly to Hospiscare.

If you are interested in coming as a stallholder, please contact Cathy on 814852 or email cathybadley@hotmail.co.uk as soon as possible to book your table. Thank you for supporting Hospiscare.

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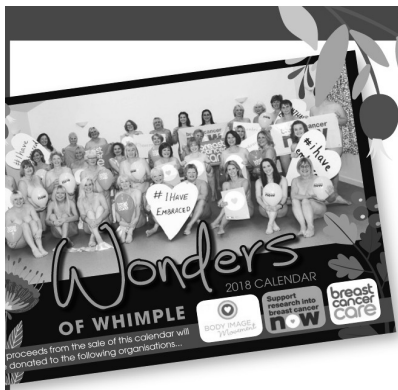
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Wonders OF WHIMPLE

We would like to say a huge thank you to everyone that supported us with our 2018 Calendar.

We have currently raised in excess of £5000!!!!!!

Your generosity has enabled the film 'Embrace' to be shown at five of

our local secondary school, and over £3500 will be donated to Breast Cancer Charities.

If you are still to purchase a calendar or you wish to donate, they will remain on sale at 'Whimple Stores' until the end of January.

But once again *THANK YOU!*



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Over 65's Christmas Party

As no one came forward to organise the 2017 Christmas Party, and thanks to the generosity of some Whimble residents and careful financial management, I have over £700 at present which is held in the Britannia Building Society.

I therefore intend donating this to the Exeter branch of Age UK.

However, if anyone feels this should be donated elsewhere, please contact me by the end of March 2018 with alternative suggestions which I will consider.

Please contact me by -

phone on 823157

email ccjdown@btinternet.com

or writing to Sunnybank, Church Road, Whimble EX5 2TG

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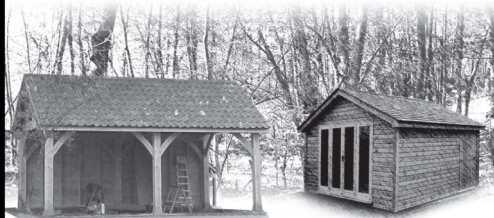
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Hospiscare

A new year and Ottervale Friends of Hospiscare have a busy calendar of events planned – some old favourites and some new ventures. But first, a heartfelt “thank you” to everyone who attended our 2017 events and bought cakes, raffle tickets, Christmas cards, Magpies jewellery, etc and put money in collecting tins. Every penny raised goes to Hospiscare to help local patients and their families.

Throughout the year there are 10 bingo nights booked at the Ottery Football Club. These are always well supported and we thank the Football Club for allowing us the use of their premises and for all the money they raised for Hospiscare at their matches last year. Look out for posters with dates and times.

The annual Wayfarers lunch will be held at the Royal British Legion hall in West Hill on March 10th. Tickets, in advance only, from Margery Whittington, 01404 814366; West Hill Post Office; and the Hospiscare shop in Ottery St. Mary. Two courses and coffee for £12 – all food homemade and delicious!

On March 24th there will be an Easter coffee morning at Newton Poppleford village hall from 10.00am to 12.00noon. As well as tasty treats, there will be a raffle and various stalls – cakes; books; crafts; Magpies jewellery, etc.

Also on March 24th there will be a concert by the Choral Society in St. Mary's Church, Ottery St. Mary. The Society has been a great supporter of Hospiscare over the years.

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Hospiscare

Continuing the musical theme, on April 14th there will be another concert in Ottery St. Mary Church, this time featuring the Budleigh Male Voice Choir. More details to come – look out for posters nearer the time.

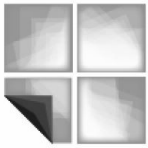
On May 5th we have a new event – a selling Craft Fair, with cream teas, to be held in West Hill village hall. So all you crafters and craft lovers, mark the date in your diary. If you would like more information, or to book a table, please phone **Cathy Badley** on 814852.

November and December weather (Dince Hill Close)

	November		December	
	<i>Reading</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Reading</i>	<i>Date</i>
Temperature				
Maximum (°C)	15.1	1st	13.0	30th
Minimum (°C)	-4.5	29th	-5.5	12th
Days with frost	9		11	
Precipitation				
Days with rain	16		19	
Wettest day (mm)	10.7	22nd	17.3	26th
Monthly total (mm)	54.1		97.8	
Monthly total relative to 2016	34%		550%	
Monthly total relative to Whimble long-term average	51%		97%	

The first three weeks of November were very mild, cloudy and damp and overall it was a relatively dry month, especially compared to last year. November ended on a cold note and this continued through most of December, with some hard frosts, but no snow. In terms of rainfall, prior to the festive period December was quite dry but this changed with a lot of wet and windy weather between Christmas and the New Year. As a result, December turned out to be the wettest month of the year, followed by September and July. Total precipitation for 2017 was 831.3 mm (32.73 inches), compared to 834.4 mm (32.85 inches) in 2016. By way of context, the wettest year recorded in Whimble since 1969 was 2012 (1265 mm; 49.80 inches), and the driest was 1975 (677 mm; 26.65 inches).

Simon Foulds



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Important dates for your Diary 2018

WHIMBLE VILLAGE WEEK **1st - 8th JULY**

on the Parish Field

WHIMBLE DAY and FUN RUN **SATURDAY 7th JULY**

If you or your organisation would like to raise funds by having a stall or organising an activity or you would just like to help, please let one of the team know, we would love to hear from you.

Bob Scanlan, Ali Tierney, David Myers, Sue Draycott, Gary Lovering, Heather Pye, Louise Walmsley, Suzanne Rothwell, Katie Williams, Rosie Davies, Sam Walker, Sue Ayres.

We'd also be keen to hear your ideas to freshen up what is a special Village Week

Whimble History Society

Tales of Whimble

The Murder of Police Constable Potter

In the last edition, we told the heartening story of how an abandoned baby, Thomas La Drawer, was adopted by a Whimble family and became part of the village community.

However, the most idyllic of places sometimes have a darker side. Sadly, Whimble is no exception, as shown by the shocking murder of the Whimble village constable. This terrible incident became a virtual legend within the Police Force.

P.C. John Tremlett Potter was a quiet man, loyal to his comrades and trusted by his superiors. He commanded a great deal of respect in the Force.

For some months he had received reports that petty theft was taking place at the offices of Whiteway's Cyder Company. P.C. Potter arranged with the company to have access to the offices in order to keep watch and hopefully apprehend the culprits. On the 17th January 1938 he set out from his home to walk to Knowle Cross but purposely only took his torch, leaving his truncheon and handcuffs behind as he intended to return home for supper before continuing his shift.

However, he did not return home and his wife and son assumed he would return at midnight when his shift finished. At 3am Mrs Potter could wait no longer and telephoned Sergeant Abrahams at Ottery St Mary. Her son, William, went to look for his father at the factory but returned home after he had found the door to the offices secure. Sergeant Abrahams and a colleague also searched for their comrade but found nothing untoward at the offices.

At 7.00am the following morning Mr Ronald Whiteway arrived at the factory and on entering the offices found P.C. Potter lying in a pool of blood and with severe head injuries. The policeman was immediately taken to the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital where he subsequently died from his injuries on 2nd February 1938.

The hunt started for his assailants.

Suspicion fell on two employees of Whiteway's, Stanley Clarence George Martin and Leslie George Downing. Martin had facial injuries on turning up for work the day after the attack and Downing's fingerprints were found on the office window. When interviewed, Downing admitted that they had broken in to the offices but had found nothing worth stealing. They started to leave with just a bag of sweets when they encountered P.C. Potter. Downing stated that the policeman failed to notice him and he was able to escape and he caught the 9.28pm train to Exeter.

Martin was grabbed by P.C. Potter and a lengthy fight ensued which ended after Martin had hit the constable several times over the head with a metal chair. He then left by the main door, securing it behind him. He later confirmed that Downing had not been involved in the fight.

On the 18th February, Downing and Martin were committed to trial at the Central Criminal Court on two charges:

1. Jointly murdering P. C. Potter
2. Breaking and entering the offices of Whiteway's Cyder Company and stealing therefrom.

The trial lasted only five days.

Martin was found guilty of the murder and sentenced to death. Downing was found not guilty of murder but guilty of office breaking and sentenced to 12 months imprisonment.

After petitioning for a reprieve from his death sentence, and supported by public outcry, Martin's sentence was commuted to penal servitude for life. He was finally released in 1950 and, perhaps surprisingly, returned to live in Whimple.

P C Potter's funeral was held in Whimple and attended by police officers from all over the country, who provided an honour guard for the coffin. A fitting send off for their comrade who had given his life in the line of duty. P.C. Potter's grave lies in the churchyard of St Mary's Church.

Mrs Potter and her son received overwhelming sympathy and support and police officers from all over the country and members of the public contributed to a fund set up to assist them. Whiteway's Cyder Company was a major contributor to the fund and the monies raised were used to purchase a plot of land and build a house for them to live in. The house, Lyndon, is next to the Heritage Centre.

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Villages in Harmony

Friday 23rd March 7:30pm. Exeter Cathedral

Villages in Harmony brings together **Orchard Harmony**, **Tedburn St Mary Community Choir**, and the **Marsh Green Melody Makers** under the musical direction of Julia Green, together with **The Hatherleigh Silver Band** under the musical direction of Matt Green in an evening celebrating the joy of music making.

It is the final concert for Julia Green before she retires from her choirs and singing teaching commitments in order to pursue other musical and non musical hobbies.

Over 150 performers will come together to bring you music ranging from Handel's Zadok The Priest to the unforgettable Les Miserables, and much much more.

We are also looking for sponsorship for the event - either advertising in the programme: £80 full page, £50 half a page, or £30 a quarter of a page, or sponsoring the concert as a whole. If you are interested please contact Julia Green on 07779 139251.

This is going to be a really special evening of music, and if you would like to support the concert, tickets £10 (adults) £5 (under 16) can be obtained from Exeter Cathedral: www.exeter-cathedral.org.uk - 01392 285983

See you there!

Julia Green

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Dress Making Workshop

My name is Michelle Moinzadeh and I was given a box of lace many years ago by a friend whose mother had just passed away. He told me that she loved lace and although these pieces were really old, she could never bear to throw them away. "Make something beautiful with them" he said, and so my fascination with lace and vintage fabrics began.

I love contemporary fashion but I am always inspired by historical costume and techniques. My collection of garments began when I started to think about throwaway fashion and sustainability, how we no longer treasure clothes, or collect beautiful fabric. Although I use vintage fabric and patterns, they are cut to be worn as contemporary fashion; objects to be desired and treasured.

I have also been teaching Fashion and Textiles for over 20 years and the idea of seam.network is a result of sharing ideas and sewing skills with other individuals who want to make their own clothes. I've sourced vintage fabrics and yarns to enable you to make your own authentic vintage clothing. In each work-shop you can select a box which contains all you need to make a dress (cut out garments, instructions, thread, zips and buttons). If you would like to make your own clothes, then join a workshop at the Whimple Hive. <https://www.instagram.com/michellemoinzadeh/>

I hope you can join me in one of the workshops.

Michelle

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The blustery winter weather makes our weekend morning tennis games interesting, with the wind carrying balls further than expected, or completely off course! You are welcome to join in the experience on Sunday mornings from 8.30am - 10am, just come along to the court.

Don't forget that Whimble Tennis Club is registered with the Lawn Tennis Association which gives Club Members the opportunity to join British Tennis for free and thereby enter the Wimbledon ticket ballot. Opting in for the ballot is open until 23rd February 2018, so there is still time for members to login to the LTA British website to click the box if you would like a chance to win tickets for this year's Wimbledon fortnight.

By the time this is in the Whimble News, we will be getting close to our AGM'. This is usually held towards the end of March, around the time that the clocks change. The evenings begin to stretch out, making Club Night tennis on Thursday evenings a regular fixture. Please keep an eye out for notices advertising the AGM, and come along to support the club.

Marianne Randall



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If you would like to donate food to the Exeter Foodbank to help local people, please bring items to **St Mary’s Church, Whimple**. There will be a box at the back of the church to place items into and this will be regularly delivered to the Food Bank to help people in need.

Please only donate in-date, non-perishable food. For more information and to find out an up-to-date list of items needed, please log on to the website:

www.exeter.foodbank.org.uk.

They don’t need baked beans or pasta as they have over 50 crates of each at the moment!

Many thanks. **Rebecca Dominy**

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Custard – tins / cartons	Potatoes – tins / instant mash
Basic toiletries; toothbrushes/paste, deodorant, shampoo, shower gel	Tea bags
Squashes /cordials	Tinned fish
Jams & spreads	Biscuits



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WHIMPLE CHURCH

www.churches4all.org

Firstly a big thank you for all the support during 2017. It was good to see the Church packed for a number of special services during the last year, especially the Christmas Services and the Christingle Service. A particular thank you goes to Whimple School Choir for providing the music at the Christingle service. We also had a good attendance for our Christmas Celebration Service at Cotley Farm. Many thanks to Helen and Lester Bowker for allowing us to take over the barn for a few hours. Also thank you for the support for our Breakfasts in January. We were particularly fortunate to have the new Bishop of London as our Guest Speaker at the Ladies Breakfast.

Now that Christmas is over we are looking forward to Easter. This year Easter Sunday falls on 1st April. (Not an April Fools joke although I did see an article suggesting that there would be two April Fools Days in 2019 to compensate.) Lent starts on Wednesday 14th February. And our Lent course starts the following Tuesday at Talaton Village Hall.

LENT COURSE 2018

the
PRAYER course

The Diocese of Exeter's vision is that we continually seek to be a people who are:

- Growing in Prayer
- Making new disciples
- Serving the people of Devon with joy

This year, our Lent course will focus on the first of those priorities – 'Growing in Prayer' and to do that we shall be using a resource called 'The Prayer Course'. This is a course that uses the Lord's Prayer to examine different aspects of prayer – for example, adoration, petition, intercession, perseverance, listening and warfare.

Growing in prayer is essential if we are to witness God's Kingdom and become the people God has called us to be.

Please note the dates, time and venue.

Tuesdays in Lent: 20th and 27th February
6th, 13th and 20th March
Venue: Talaton Parish Hall
Time: 7.30pm until no later than 9.15pm

Full details will be in The Link and on the website. There will also be details of our regular Lent Lunches held in Clyst Hydon and Talaton.

In March, thoughts turn to Spring cleaning and the Church is no different. We want to try and tidy up the Church and grounds ready for a busy season of Morning Coffee and also weddings. If you can spare a few hours on Saturdays 10th and 24th March then please join us from 9.30am

As always full details of events can be found in The Link or on the website www.churches4all.org



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The next time you are washing your hands and complain because the water temperature isn't just how you like it, think about how things used to be. Here are some facts about the 1500s:

Most people got married in June because they took their yearly bath in May and they still smelled pretty good by June. However, since they were starting to smell, brides carried a bouquet of flowers to hide the body odour. Hence the custom today of carrying a bouquet when getting married.

Baths consisted of a big tub filled with hot water. The man of the house had the privilege of the nice clean water, then all the other sons and men, then the women and finally the children. Last of all the babies. By then the water was so dirty you could actually lose someone in it. Hence the saying, "Don't throw the baby out with the bath water!"

Houses had thatched roofs of thick straw, piled high, with no wood underneath. It was the only place for animals to get warm, so all the cats and other small animals (mice, bugs) lived in the roof. When it rained it became slippery and sometimes the animals would slip and fall off the roof. Hence the saying "It's raining cats and dogs."

There was nothing to stop things from falling into the house. This posed a real problem in the bedroom where bugs and other droppings could mess up your nice clean bed. Hence, a bed with big posts and a sheet hung over the top afforded some protection. That's how canopy beds came into existence.

The floor was dirt. Only the wealthy had something other than dirt. Hence the saying, "Dirt poor." The wealthy had slate floors that would get slippery in the winter when wet, so they spread thresh (straw) on the floor to help keep their footing. As the winter wore on, they added more thresh until, when you opened the door, it would all start slipping outside. A piece of wood was placed in the entrance-way. Hence: a thresh hold.

In those old days, they cooked in the kitchen with a big kettle that always hung over the fire. Every day they lit the fire and added things to the pot. They ate mostly vegetables and did not get much meat. They would eat the stew for dinner, leaving leftovers in the pot to get cold overnight and then start over the next day. Sometimes stew had food in it that had been there for quite a while. Hence the rhyme: Peas porridge hot, peas porridge cold, peas porridge in the pot nine days old.

Sometimes they could obtain pork, which made them feel quite special. When visitors came over, they would hang up their bacon to show off.

It was a sign of wealth that a man could "bring home the bacon." They would cut off a little to share with guests and would all sit around and chew the fat.

Those with money had plates made of pewter. Food with high acid content caused some of the lead to leach onto the food, causing lead poisoning death. This happened most often with tomatoes, so for the next 400 years or so, tomatoes were considered poisonous.

Bread was divided according to status. Workers got the burnt bottom of the loaf, the family got the middle, and guests got the top, or the upper crust.

Lead cups were used to drink ale or whisky. The combination would sometimes knock the imbibers out for a couple of days. Someone walking along the road would take them for dead and prepare them for burial. They were laid out on the kitchen table for a couple of days and the family would gather around and eat and drink and wait and see if they would wake up. Hence the custom of holding a wake.

England is old and small so the local folks started running out of places to bury the dead. So they would dig up coffins and would take the bones to a bone-house, and reuse the grave. When reopening these coffins, one out of 25 coffins were found to have scratch marks on the inside and they realized they had been burying people alive, so they would tie a string on the wrist of the corpse, lead it through the coffin and up through the ground and tie it to a bell. Someone would have to sit out in the graveyard all night (the graveyard shift) to listen for the bell; thus, someone could be saved by the bell or was considered a dead ringer.

And that's the truth. Now, whoever said history was boring!!!

So...get out there and educate someone! Share these facts with a friend.



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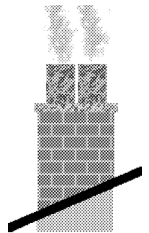
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In mid-November we played our second round/county skittles competition match against Smeatharpe and unfortunately lost this time by 4 points. We all had a thoroughly enjoyable evening however and wished the ladies from Smeatharpe WI the very best of luck in the next round. We will hopefully have better luck in next year's competition. A few days later we enjoyed a Social Skittles evening at the New Inn, Broadclyst, which was unfortunately cut short when we broke for refreshments, by a plumbing problem. This was quickly rectified but too late for us to restart. We didn't seem to mind too much though and enjoyed the food and a good natter! We will arrange another skittles evening sometime in the new year.

Several of our ladies enjoyed a Christmas Shopping trip to Cardiff on the 30th November, along with ladies from other local WI's. By all accounts it was a great trip, albeit a cold one!

As I am sure you are aware, seven ladies from our WI took part in the 'Wonders of Whimple' calendar for 2018 in aid of two Breast Cancer charities and a Body Awareness charity. We 'bared all' for April and I think we look splendid. However my husband was a little disappointed - he said I was too demure and should have ditched the apron and just held the cake in front of me! We were thrilled to be included and several of us attended the launch event in the Victory Hall on the 1st December and danced till late to a silent disco. This photo shows us in our dressing-gowns preparing for the shoot, but if you want to see the 'real thing', then I feel sure there are still copies of the calendar for purchase in the Village Shop.



Our Christmas Party was held on the 12th December in the Victory Hall, where we enjoyed a Beatle Drive, a quiz and a delicious supper provided by the members, 27 of whom were in attendance.

The following day we all enjoyed a Christmas Lunch at the Thirsty Farmer, organised by Frankie Wilson and we thank her for all her efforts.

The new year brings various events for us to enjoy: participation in a county quiz, another social skittles evening perhaps in February, plus a winter coffee morning and more.... Our February meeting will be held at the Cricket Club, owing to the Victory Hall being used for the pantomime and our speaker will be Sau hang Fong-Bennett on the Chinese Tea Ceremony.

If you would like more information on Whimple WI, please contact our new secretary Di Eden on 821992.

Barbara Ackland

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WHIMPLE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Happy New Year to everyone – what a gusty one it has been. Despite this, we have managed to continue with a range of activities both inside and outside.

A Busy Day Out

On the 7th of December 2017, Beech and Willow had a day out. We went to the MUGA and orchard area.



Orienteering: Our first activity of the morning was orienteering. We had to get into pairs, and then we were ready to go. There were 10 controls to find and they were all over the orchard.

Hot Chocolate Time!: Next, we sat round the fire pit with Mrs Wall. She boiled water on the fire and made us hot chocolate. It was the best I ever tasted.

Tag Rugby: I was really excited when the game started. In the last two minutes, Mr Brown said only girls could score, so it got really tense.

Free Time: After that, we had some free time. We built dens and looked for bugs. I really enjoyed this event and I hope Whimple Primary School do something like this again.

By Fletcher Sherwood (Year 5)



On Monday 15th January the school held their own wassail in preparation for the village event on Wednesday. The idea being not only to encourage our fruit crop but also to enable children to appreciate and understand a long-standing village tradition. Mrs Emma Palmer and Mr Jim Causely came along to talk to the children, teach the



song and provide musical accompaniment.

On Wednesday of the same week, we had two young musicians, Aaron and Molly, talk and play to the children. They explained all about the song writing process and got the children singing a range of songs with them.

Carole Shilston, Acting Headteacher



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Whimble Over 60's Club

Our Programme for February and March is as follows:

- February** 6th Tea Party and Get Together
13th No Club -Panto Week
20th Bingo and Committee Meeting
27th Beetle Drive
- March** 6th Photo Competition t.b.a.
13th Speaker Rob Carlyon - Jersey in War Years
20th Quingo
27th Whist, Dominoes, etc

There is snooker and other activities each Thursday and Friday.

We have a forthcoming Outing on April 10th to Oakham Treasures Bristol. The fare of £20.00 includes the entry fee. The Coach departs from the Village Square at 9.00am

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May 19th

June 9th

July 7th (Village Day)

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Visit www.frontrowclub.wordpress.com for more information or email frontrowclub@gmail.com to receive an electronic copy of our brochure.

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Travelling with your pet

Now is the time of year when we look forward to the summer holidays and for lots of us, that can mean taking our furry friend along too. The Vale Vets team are here to tell you what you need to know before you go.

Since 2000, the Pet Travel Scheme (PETS) has allowed cats, dogs and ferrets to enter the UK from certain countries without being placed in quarantine. Animals resident to the UK can now travel to most European countries as well as more distant destinations. From 1st January 2012, the PETS travel scheme changed such that dogs and cats can move freely between PETS-scheme approved countries provided the following conditions are satisfied:

- 1) The pet must have a permanent microchip implanted, which lots of animals already have.
- 2) The pet must be vaccinated against rabies after microchipping. This can be done any time over 12 weeks of age using a licensed vaccine. Boosters are given according to manufacturers' recommendation.
- 3) The pet must have a PETS passport signed by an official veterinary surgeon, confirming the above conditions have been met.
- 4) Some destinations require an additional export certificate. It is important to check with DEFRA for specific conditions requested by the country you wish to travel to.
- 5) There is a 21 day wait after rabies vaccination before travel abroad and/or entry into the UK is allowed. This is to allow time for the vaccine to take effect.
- 6) There is a requirement for a veterinary certified tapeworm treatment 24-120 hours before return to the UK. Travel companies and ports will often help you locate a veterinary surgeon for this.

If you are travelling to a country not listed on the PETS scheme, additional conditions must be met. This means starting this process at least 4-5 months before you expect to travel. A blood sample must be taken a minimum of 30 days after rabies vaccination. If the test is successful, a three month wait must be observed following the date of the blood sample before your pet will be allowed back into the UK. If the blood test does not prove adequate antibody levels, your pet will require a second vaccination and blood test. It is also important to contact DEFRA and check for any additional requirements of travel to specific countries.

We recommend making sure your pet is protected against ticks and sand-flies during their period of stay outside the UK as these can carry a variety of disease which we rarely encounter in this country. It's also important to consider whether your pet enjoys travelling, changes in environment and temperature or whether they may prefer to stay at home. If you have any questions, please contact your vet.

Above all, enjoy your holiday!

(With thanks to Vale Vets)

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East Devon Councillor (mevans-martin@eastdevon.gov.uk)	
Mark Evans-Martin	07968 785845
Parish Council (whimpleparishcouncil@gmail.com)	
<i>Chairman:</i> John Griffiths	823480
<i>Clerk:</i> Kevin Finch	823385
Primary School (admin@-primary.devon.sch.uk)	
<i>Acting Headteacher:</i> Carole Shilston	822584
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