# Whimple News



June/July 2008



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Folk Week: Blue Suede Shoes on June 20th

Whimple Week: Plan B 11th July

Morris Dancing outside the Farmer on the 12th July in

the afternoon

Music nights:

Furious George 1st August
Thick as Thieves 22nd August

### WHAT'S ON IN WHIMPLE

#### June

7th 'Plan B' at the C	Cricket Club
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12th Pre School Summer Fayre, Victory Hall Garden, 10.00am-12.00pm

13th Meat Bingo, Cricket Club, 7.30pm

14th Church Fete, Hindstrete, Church Road, 2.30pm

20-22ndEnglish Country Music Weekend – for details see advert

26th Freecycle/Afternoon Tea, Scout Hut, 12.00noon-4.30pm

28th Recycling (plastic bottles & cardboard), Village Car Park, 10.00 -11.00am

28th Open Gardens, Whimple, see posters for details

#### July

6th-13th Village Week – numerous activities – see centre pages

10th Tennis Club Summer Social, 6.00pm – 9.00pm

12th Morris Dancing, outside the Thirsty Farmer

12th Village day - School Fayre, Fun Run, Fancy Dress and Grand Draw

19th Meat Bingo, Cricket Club, 7.30pm

25th Guided Village Walk, starting from Heritage Centre, 6.30pm

#### August

1st Guided Village Walk, starting from Heritage Centre, 6.30pm 8th Meat Bingo in aid of over 65's Christmas Party, Cricket Club,

9th VPA Flower and Craft Show, Victory Hall, 2.30pm

## St Mary's Church

### **Monthly Programme of Services**

1st Sunday	8.00am 11.00am	Holy Communion Celebration Service
2nd Sunday	11.00am 10.45am	Holy Communion S club11/Impact in the Scout Hut
3rd Sunday	8.00am 11.00am	Holy Communion Morning Service
4th Sunday	11.00am 10.45am	Holy Communion S club11/Impact in the Scout Hut
5th Sunday	11.00am	Joint Benefice Communion

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#### Ed the Ed

We have an action-packed edition here for you gentle reader – with the unexpected good news that Graham is re-opening the Village Shop (see pages 12 & 13). This edition has lots of examples of how this village gets involved and takes responsibility (one of my soap boxes, you may have noticed!). The Shop Project was one example, with the Hall meeting and then the generous offers of practical and financial help. We cannot afford to be spectators – if there is something that needs doing, don't wait for someone else to do it! I met a lovely set of initials for 'GOYA' in a previous life …simply Get Off You're A\*\*\*; we have many peeps doing just that in the next few weeks. Great stuff!

Congratulations to Jim and Alison at the PO for succeeding in remaining open; and well done to Jim for his bravery in rescuing Jean Mazurek when her house exploded. I have heard it said that as soon as he heard the first 'boom' he hurried up the road to see if Jean wanted to increase the amount of her PO Domestic Insurance policy. Jim has appeared in so many Express and Echo's that they don't bother with any new photos of him - they just go straight to the 'Jim Gallery' that they keep.

Talking of house damage, (another seamless link) the current Mrs H and I are pleased to see that the recent damage to Dairy Cottage by CDC (Croft Demolition Company) has now been repaired and we can live peacefully until the next time a delivery lorry tries a short cut through our wall.

We are delighted to have an article from Sally Wilde's mum, Vivian, who spent a weekend with Whimple recently, and put finger to keyboard about her time here that included both the Murder Mystery and the Barn Dance. Gosh, how Sally spoils her mother!

Well done to Sarah, Maggie and Janet for completing the London Marathon –Janet has offered some words on that great achievement in this edition, and they raised nearly £4000 for charity at the same time. Great job, team!

The timetable for Village Week is set out in this edition, so please support all that you can – it is all for a local cause, and is always a lot of fun. Hidden amongst those events are 2 opportunities to join a Guided Village Walk run by the History Society. These are always a relaxed way to learn about the village where you live, and will take about 2 hours wandering around, and learning how it has developed and changed. My favourite piece was spotting the few houses in the village that have NOT been the Post Office!!

That Geoff Delves (who has to be King of the GOYAs) just missed the deadline for last times edition, with his report of the Past vs Present Whimple Football match. When we saw them come off the pitch, it appeared to have been a bit of a mud bath especially for Geoff himself and Dave Box. Once in the panto, you just have to go for it, wherever you are!!

If you would like to put pen to paper for the next edition, please either leave it with Jim and Alison at the PO (he'll be the one in the Superman outfit, Alison will be the one covered in cake ingredients and jam). Or you may like to send it direct to Bob Scanlan (bob.scanlan@eclipse.co.uk) by Monday 14th July. We don't take anonymous articles, but are happy to include contributions from named people, but we can publish without names in those instances.

And thank you to the kind contributor who left a donation at the PO recently.

Have a great summer

Ed H



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# Whimple Post Office News



We are very pleased to inform you all that we are to remain open. In our immediate area we have been lucky in keeping Talaton, Broadclyst and Rockbeare, but our sympathies go to Tipton St John who are one of the branches set to close.

Anyone visiting the Post Office recently would have noticed a few changes, some new lines, and services that are now available to you. The most important thing now is that you can arrange to pick up your prescribed medicines from us. Just inform your surgery, Coleridge or Pinhoe, or bring in your prescription and we will do the rest.

We have just become an agent for Johnson's Dry Cleaners. Our pick up days are Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, and the turn around is usually two days. They will also take Laundry; it's a great way of getting large items cleaned such as curtains and duvets. They also have a carpet cleaner for hire – ask for details if you are interested.

Milk sales are increasing, and we try to have all combinations available. We buy our milk from an Exeter based dairy, who supply us daily with West Country Milk We also sell eggs - local, free range, and large!

We are pleased to say that the Newspaper system is working well, all due to the fantastic help of Marion Daniels. Just to clarify the present situation - the Express and Echo and the Western Morning News are always available, the Daily Nationals will need to be pre-ordered, with a few spare copies available until lunch time.

Oh, and by the way, we also sell stamps !!! We sometimes have to remind ourselves the real reason why we are here. Your support is essential, as always, to keep the business viable.

Both Jim and I would like to thank everyone for all the support that you have given us over the past few difficult months; it certainly makes the extra work all worthwhile.

Jim & Alison



## FROM MY WINDOW IN THE SQUARE

Edith Marie-Louise Grout

#### A LAST TRIBUTE TO BILL PORTER OF TORENA

I'd like to be the sort of friend that you have been to me I'd like to be the help that you were always glad to be I'd like to mean as much to you as you have meant to me I am wishing that at this special time I could but repay you A portion of the gladness that you have strewn my way

If I could have only one wish, I'd like to be the sort of friend that you have been to me and so many others who have come to know you

I count myself if nothing else to be a happy soul in remembering a good friend. I am sure that all of those from this village who went to pay their last respects were also touched by the beauty and simplicity of the service at the crematorium and later at The New Fountain Inn where Paul and Gill received us with so much kindness. Bill was a true countryman and had a wonderful dose of common sense. For all the trivial rounds and common daily tasks, he knew the joy of early morning light. I remember him telling me that nine out of ten plants in the world were grass, reminding me that even my ordinary lawn was at the same time wonderful. Since then, it seems to me that the good way to look at the common things in life is to find something of beauty in all of them.

Bill had a great gift and affinity with the natural world, people and animals – especially dogs. Many people in this village will have had an experience of it. On his long walks he always had sweets for the children or biscuits for the dogs!

I am so fortunate to have this same affinity with just a little extra love for my birds! The thrushes that deserted me last year are back, and enchant me with their melodies, as well as the many blackbirds waiting for me early in the morning expecting crumbs. My father used to say that as a child I could charm the birds off the trees – and I still do with the greatest of joy. I have learned to appreciate the quality of each hour. When I look to the brook in the Square and see blackbirds and pied wagtails having a dip and preening themselves I think of that water which day after day looks the same whether in full flow or trickling. I realise the water is constantly renewing itself and that with all the many changes in our daily life, the greatest is not to change but to adapt ourselves to changes.

When Jack and I moved to Devon from London and lived in three different villages, the first thing we were told about village life was the most important thing to remember was the three P's:- Parson, Pub and Post Office. The first visitor we had in our new homes was the local Parson. \what a warm welcome we had in The Square from our Rector the unforgettable Harold Tucker and his charming wife – Mary.

A Parson was seen everywhere and was known by and knew everyone whether you were a churchgoer or not, we all belonged. Every Sunday morning the Rector walked all the way down from the Rectory at the top of Church Road and he

unlocked the church and got everything ready for the 8 o'clock communion and also rang the bell so we knew it was Sunday.

Soon after we arrived Reverend Tucker asked us if we could take the Sunday School classes every Sunday at The Old Manse, which we did gladly. The children came for half an hour and then were bought to church to witness the sanctity and reverence of the service, and they all liked it. Pastoral visits and social events at The Rectory were the norm and it was always a pleasure to have the Rector giving us a concert on his pianola. He was, and still is, a good musician even in his retirement. The variety of services was amazing, almost all the activities in the village had a special service, Harvest service and supper, the Plough service, the Sport service, Scouts etc...

But then came the great change; Rectors and Vicars were replaced by Priests-in-Charge of several parishes and that's when pastoral visits ceased. You can imagine what it meant to many people especially the very sick like Jack who had cancer and was one of the unfortunate many who had undergone the wrong treatment with an overdose of radium which resulted in burns. It is at that time I decided to look after Jack at home where he would get quality of life he would not get anywhere else, and that is when friends rallied round.

Colonel Paul Pettit would pop down the hill calling in offering a cheerful visit and help, Betty Williams our postmistress often left little messages on the door with a posy "Thinking of You", Margaret and Henry Stephens (what friends we had in them), Graham Hansford trying to make us smile, Tom Perry and, of course, dear Bill Porter who was most kind and thoughtful.

I remember one day he came offering a bunch of asparagus after hearing that Jack had difficulty swallowing, but still enjoyed it. "I'd rather give you these now than flowers when you're gone!" On The day of Jack's funeral he offered to care for our beloved airedale, Blaze. On learning what time the hearse was coming out from the Chapel of Rest at the Hand & Pen – he was there as Graham Hansford drove out – encouraging Blaze to sit and bow his head in respect for his passing master. Bill was also kind to the family of the late Colonel Pettit by looking after their hedge and garden at Lawn End until the house was sold. Betty Williams came back from Singapore on the last day of Bill's life, bringing him some lovely orchids which I placed in his hands for his final journey as a token of friendship. Last but not least, dear Bill never forgot my birthday, his smiley face arriving with a card and present – usually a nice bottle of sherry. Christmas times he would walk down from Torena with a plant, be it a poinsettia, cyclamen or azalea, in fact I still have the plant he gave me last Christmas. A friend in need is a friend indeed.

Don't wait till you have a garden To grow life's favourite flowers True friendship blossoms not in soil But happy well spent hours

I have been so blessed, in my long-lived life, in the true friendships I have found in Devon. For me, there are no strangers in the world, only friends I have yet to meet.

a



#### The Veterinary Clinic, Whimple

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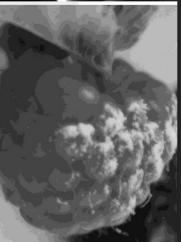
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## WHIMPLE STORES

Karen & I have now reopened the shop and will operate on a Monday to Friday basis with these opening hours:-

Monday	7-30am	to	6-00pm
Tuesday	7-30am	to	5-30pm
Wednesday	7-30am	to	6-00pm
Thursday	7-30am	to	5-30pm
Friday	7-30am	to	6-00pm

Due to the high costs of electricity and continuing big rises in the costs of 'bake off' bread products and cakes, we will no longer be baking on the premises.

We plan to be selling the usual corner shop products such as bread, milk, eggs, coffee, tea, vegetables, cool drinks, wine, spirits, ales, lagers, confectionery, soups, sugar, jams, cakes, cleaning and laundry products etc.

This is your opportunity to support the shop to continue to make it a viable and essential part of your village lifestyle.

Suggestions of products you would like to be able to buy in the shop can be left in a suggestion box on the counter, or just ask Karen or myself.

Orders for bread would ensure your supply - phone 01404 822316 during shop hours.

**Karen and Graham** look forward to seeing you in the shop.

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# **VILLAGE SHOP PROJECT - UPDATE**

I had planned to open this article with a summary of the shop survey results as promised in the last edition, but then the Shop Project Team were taken by surprise when Graham told us that he planned to re-open the village shop. We held a meeting with him on 14 May to fully understand his plans, and following that meeting, we will be putting the Shop Project 'on ice'.

From that meeting, we gathered that Graham wants to re-open the shop (date to be decided) but with reduced stock, and a smaller shop area. He does not plan to do papers or fresh bread, and will open Monday – Friday. I will leave Graham to fill in the gaps.

The shop will remain on the market, and if/when it is sold, the Shop Project Team will review the future based on whether the new owners want to continue with the shop or use it in a different way.

We have contacted all the kind people who volunteered to offer help in whatever the 'new shop' was going to look like, and have explained this. So our grateful thanks to those 40 people. We have returned all the kind donations for the initial shop plan, and would also like to thank all those generous people who had said they would offer loans to our project. It is good to know that we had your support.

At the meeting with Graham, once we had understood his plans, we offered him a summary of the survey results so that he had a clear idea of what the village wanted from its village shop. Obviously there is a difference between us starting from scratch, and Graham re-opening, but we hoped that the survey results would help to focus his ideas on village priorities.

We had an excellent 110 returned survey forms, so thank you very much for the time and effort that you all put into completing those. Of those 110, 109 said that they would use the shop. (By a process of deduction, gentle reader, you will have worked out that one person did not plan to use the new shop).

The top 4 items from the survey were bread, papers, fresh vegetables and milk. Comments from the forms also clarified that people wanted us to use local suppliers, preferably with organic or free range, to offer quality produce, and that the shop would not be the main shop for many households, but used mainly for things that you ran out of. We found the survey results very helpful, and they reinforced our own views of what this new shop idea would look like.

So thank you again for those forms, but most importantly, thank you to Vicki at the Thirsty Farmer who had offered us some real, practical help with our early plans, and to Jim and Alison at the PO who have stepped into the breach with the supply of milk and papers over the last few weeks. Obviously they have had their own concerns over the last months about the possible closure of the PO, so a big thank you to them for all their hard work.

Gordon Podbury, Gill Wilson, Lester Bowker, John Mackie and Ed H

## **VPA Flower and Craft Show**

Here are some advance details about this year's Flower and Craft Show.

Our annual show will be on Saturday 9th August. It is the 55th annual show since this tradition first started in the middle of the last century, making this the oldest surviving village event which has run up to the current date without a break. We hope to see as many as possible of the 102 villagers who entered last year because, without you, there would be no show! We would particularly like to welcome a few Flower Show virgins or first-timers.

The thing that puts most people off is that their produce will not be good enough. Then, on the day, they come along and can be heard muttering, "my carrots would have been as good as those!" Come on, please have a go – the competition is light-hearted and we would love to see you! Also remember that if your entry doesn't win a prize, no-one will know it was yours unless you tell them, as exhibits are displayed anonymously to make sure the judging is "blind".

Another thing people say sometimes is that the format of the Show doesn't change enough from year to year. This year you will find plenty of changes! We hope you like them.

To begin with we have brought forward a little the time when the Show is open to the public to 2.30pm and prize-giving will be earlier too at 4.45pm.

We have split Flowers and Vegetables into two separate sections with two cups to be awarded in each. The Whimple Folk Cup will still be awarded to the person with the most points over both these two disciplines.

We've thrown out the standard recipes! This year you are free to bake and make your dishes in the Homecraft section in exactly the way you want to – but still keep to the numbers and sizes in the schedule. By the way, in addition to the usual jams and chutneys, the classes this year include a savoury vegetarian dish, a gingerbread and Chelsea Buns.

We are not having home made hooch classes this year (Beer, wine, cider etc) as there haven't been many entries recently. It must be all that cheap supermarket booze? But it would be a shame if all the traditional skills were lost and we will be happy to reinstate these classes when we hear that illicit stills are smoking again in Aller woods!

The Flower Arrangement titles are Cider with Rosie, a floral birthday card, How Green is my Valley, The Beachcomber and The Magnificent Seven. That last one is for MEN only! Let your feminine side out and shove seven flowers in a jug!! How hard can it be?

Photography titles are Roof Lines, Close up of a botanical subject, Moving Water, a Skyscape, Wildlife or Pet photo and, finally, a picture of an unusual or amusing sign.

Craft classes include quilted item, sewn item, hand knitted item, a tea Cosy, article made mainly from wood, and a painting/sketch. Please see the schedule for size limits for all these.

Talking of Schedules, they are all ready now. If you want one straight away give me a ring on 822437. I hope Jim and Alison will be able to find room for lots more copies amongst the milk and bread nearer the date of the Show!

Finally we are getting involved with Whimple School to promote the Show in the same way that Playgroup have always helped us (and continue to do so). Look out for children bringing home seeds and information about the Show on Monday 9th June. Also, thanks to the enthusiasm of Suzie Langley and her team at the school, 8 - 11 year olds have a chance to get involved in our SCARECROW CHALLENGE. We hope on show day there will be masses of life-size scarecrows dotted all over the grass outside the hall. If you have an 8 - 11 yr old who doesn't go to Whimple School but think they may like to participate that will be fine – give me a ring for further details.

Finally don't forget the PRIZE MONEY – with £1 to winners of each adult class down to 30p for a third place in one of the children's classes this could just be the way to offset the huge recent increases in the cost of living?

Andy Bratt, Show Secretary.

# Martha Mockford

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### WHIMPLE PRE-SCHOOL PLAYGROUP



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Teas/cakes/ice cream/BBQ
Guess the Teddy's Name,
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## CHANGE OF RECYCLING DAY FOR WHIMPLE

You all should have received a large post-card style 'flyer' from East Devon Council, telling you that as from Friday 6th June, the recycling day for Whimple is now moved to Friday, from the usual Thursday. The recycling collection day will be fortnightly thereafter.

This makes it easy for us, as Friday is also our refuse day, but on a weekly basis (see- nothing gets past me!!!).

As usual, please ensure that your refuse and recycling are ready for collection at 7.00am. As Edith Grout says elsewhere in the News, please avoid leaving discarded food in black plastic sacks overnight as it will be a temptation for cats . foxes etc to slice the bags open and spread their contents all around.

Ed H

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**Maggie Spicer** 

# Whimple Victory Hall



# Village Day Lunch by the Soup and Sarnie team



12th July in the Victory Hall 12.00noon until 1.30pm

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for details ring John 823614 or Pam 822262



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### MY WEEKEND IN WHIMPLE

When my daughter, Sally, decided to move to a Devon village from the city of Bristol I did wonder how long it would last. After last weekend I think it might be a very long time.

It was my birthday on Friday, 16th May and, when we heard that there was something going on in Whimple, it seemed a good idea to celebrate there. Sally's older sister, Susan, came from Manchester with her son, Sam, and we arrived just in time to be whisked off to the Village Hall for a Murder Mystery. Right from the start we were all engrossed in questioning ex-pupils of a school who were attending a reunion, especially after one of them was cruelly murdered. Red herrings swam everywhere, especially as those questioned were allowed to lie about themselves but must tell the truth about everyone else – but the murderer could lie about everything!! We were sustained halfway through with delicious rolls and cheese and fuelled by B.Y.O. throughout the evening. To the family's surprise, Sam (who we did worry might be a bit bored) threw himself into the questioning, making copious notes, and won it for us! That Ed always did look a bit of a slippery customer.

Saturday was spent having a pub lunch and then walking in Sidmouth, but as the day wore on the weather worsened and we were sure that the evening's festivities (Barn Dance In The Blossom) would have to be cancelled. Then we had a phone call to say that a local farm had offered their barn, so off we went. The large barn had been transformed into the set of "Seven Brides for Seven Brothers", with straw on the floor and bales to sit on. A bar was on one side and a barbeque cooked hot dogs and burgers. A great country style band was on a dais in the corner and a most professional caller explained and guided all the dances. One side of the barn was open and we could see horses and sheep outside.

The atmosphere was fantastic with people of all ages dancing and laughing and really having fun.

I set off for home on Sunday feeling that I had spent a weekend on a film set. It had all seemed too good to be true. But it had all happened and lots of people must have worked very hard together to make everything so perfect and to organise two events which gave so much pleasure to young and old. This would not happen in the city and I can understand why Sally loves life in Whimple so much.

Vivian Wilde.

# 'For all flower lovers'

Ottery St Mary Flower Club is having an Open Evening on Tuesday 24th June 2008 at The Institute, Ottery. Michael Bowyer, a national demonstrator, will be entertaining us with 'Summer Splendour'. Everyone is welcome. If you require more information or tickets please contact **Jane Clements** 01404 822181.

# An Appeal

If our village wants to enter 'The Best Kept Village Competition' it is high time that we cleaned up our act. Week after week householders put their bags in The Square for the refuse collection and unfortunately put left over food not thinking of the consequence. The net result is that dogs, cats and rats tear the bags open and leave a mess.

Have people ever thought of the millions of starving people in the world who would only be too pleased just to eat the crumbs under the rich mans table?

Week after week, some of us in the Square have the unenviable task of clearing up the mess.

PLEASE MAKE US AND THE PEST CONTROLLER REDUNDANT.

Edith M Grout

#### Some Food Facts

- The British throw out 30-40% of all the produce they buy and grow each year
- It is estimated that the wasted food is worth between £8bn and £16bn per year
- The edible food thrown away could feed 250,000 people
- 17m tonnes of food is being put into landfill at a cost of £175m a year
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### WHIMPLE MARATHONEERS - 385 YARDS TO GO!!

In 490BC the brave Athenian army defeated the Persians at the battlefield near the town of Marathon. The Athenian herald, Pheidippides (530BC to 490BC), ran the 26 miles 385 yards to Athens to declare 'Rejoice we conquer' and the Marathon distance was born.

This year the London Marathon (1908-2008) was celebrating 100 years of the distance and Whimple ladies Sarah Evans, Janet Leach and Maggie Richards were rejoicing on Sunday 13th April, 2008 when they saw the sign '385 yards to go' and then completed the London Marathon conquering the historic distance.

Tens of thousands of people lined the streets of London and the ladies were supported by their friends, families and people from Whimple who cheered them on to victory. Your support really helped and kept them going on their way.

The ladies only started running a few years ago beginning in the Whimple Fun Run. The ladies then completed the 'Race for Life'; then 5miles, 10km runs; the Taunton, Great West, and Cardiff half marathons; and have now achieved their goal in one of the World's major marathon events.

In total they raised over £4000 divided between the two charities 'Children with Leukaemia' and 'The Wooden Spoon' children's charities supporting sick, disabled and disadvantaged children in Devon.

The ladies would like to say a massive thank you to everybody who put their hands deep in their pockets and gave up their time to volunteer to support many Village events. These included the auction and quiz night at the Thirsty Farmer; the raffle at the Village Pantomime; The Whimple 5 mile run; the veteran and current footballers who donated the proceeds of their charity football match; the many sponsors of the Whimple 5 mile run, including the Millstone Bakery Ottery St. Mary, and Kevin Thompson Printers, thank you to Whimple Cricket Club for the use of their facilities and all of the 5 mile run volunteers and contributors. Thanks to The Jack in the Green, Mark and Alison Tierney, Rob and Liz Camp, Vicki from the Thirsty Farmer and all the sponsors for their very kind donations.

What happened to their husbands and friends on the day? There are 65 hostelries on the London Marathon route.....now that's what we call a marathon!!!



Congratulations to John and Ben Silk who also completed the Marathon distance. After the finishing line the successful Whimple marathoners all met under the 'W' (for Whimple!) tree in St James Park to celebrate their success.

What next? You will still see the ladies pounding the lanes of Devon they have 'caught the running bug'. Why not join them?

Janet, Sarah and Maggie xx

### WHIMPLE HERITAGE CENTRE - CURATOR

The History Society is looking for a person to take over the role of Curator of its Heritage Centre. The current Curator will be standing down at the end of September to allow him to spend more time on other interests but he intends to still be involved with the Society.

The position would suit anyone who has an interest in local history and the preservation of the heritage of Whimple. The History Society would welcome new ideas and a new perspective on the running of the Heritage Centre. The Committee all take an active role in different aspects of the Society but the Curator is the central position for running the Centre, deciding on displays, liaison with the other museums/heritage centres in East Devon etc. with the help and support of the Assistant Curator. It is a responsible but rewarding role.

A full description of the role can be obtained from The Secretary, **Dr Roger Smith** Tel 01404 822244 to whom all enquiries should be addressed.

#### CHARITY FOOTBALL MATCH

A charity football match was held on Sunday 23rd March between a 'Past Whimple 'Team, (I think Geoff means a 'Well-past-it-Whimple' team – Ed ) and the current team. Seven of the original team who had set up the football club back in 1991 had dusted off their boots to take part – Paul Gillard, Tom Martin, Paul (Basher) Bending, Dave (The Box ) Mahoney, Billy (The Wiz) Bloomfield, Stuart Austin (who travelled down from London just to play) and me.

I am sure that I was not the only one with sore muscles for the next few days . The current team had played a league game in the morning which drained them a bit, so, to even it up, we had a pint of beer before we started. Not a good idea, with the game ending in a 4 - 4 draw. It was a perfect finish, with all thirty-odd players on the pitch at the same time come the last ten minutes, plus I think the ref was on the oldies side. Thanks Lionel! Who told me he used to play for Whimple back in the 50's? So it really was a Past Vs Present match.

After the game there were hot dogs and burgers, and a prize draw, for which we raised £250 for Janet, Sarah and Maggie running in the London marathon – good luck to you all.

I would like to say a big 'thank you' to everybody who took part especially the girls in the kitchen – Maggie Richards, Janet Leach and Jackie Box. Also I had better just mention the bar staff – my dear wife Karen not only got stuck behind the bar serving drinks all day but it was also her birthday! I have promised to make it up to her (honestly!)

Thanks to everybody

**Geoff Delves** 

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## Barn dance in the blossom

What a brilliant evening and congratulations to Sue Wilson and her team. It is one thing to organise such an event, but it is another massive challenge then to move the venue from their orchard, up the hill to Lester and Helen Bowker's. The weather might have won, but the new venue in the barn was excellent. The team had been busy all afternoon re-assembling all the 'equipment' and just looking around the barn, everything worked very smoothly. There were always people cooking the food, serving it, and running the bar, with some fantastic Yellow Hammer flowing like nectar down the old throat. I was forced to have 2 of the delicious pork rolls (from Lester's own pigs) to replace all the calories I had burned up as the current Mrs H and I tackled the west face of the hill on foot, whilst being roped together as we fought our way to the rarefied air of the top of the Woodhayes hill. Once we had passed the snow line, I knew that all was well, but still suffered a slight altitude sickness once at the Top Camp.

I don't know if it was me, but the combination of Yellow Hammer and being whirled round at great speed, produced a result of being on a very fast fairground ride ...not quite a black-out moment due to G forces (or is it YH forces). I had to re-gather my composure with a small tincture of the amber liquid.

The band were brilliant, and the whole barn was full of thousands of energetic people (me, exaggerate? Never in a million years!) whirling around at great speed. They all appeared to be having great fun. The band also had their share of 'challenging' moments when they lost their drummer in mid-afternoon. This was very careless, but fate was on their side and a young replacement appeared to save the evening. Sue must have wondered what else was going to be thrown at her with this event.

It was great to see the Primary School children playing a couple of violin pieces, and they all did amazingly well. It is one thing to harness the mysteries of the violin, but it is another to stand up in front of a group of people and play for them – well done!!

So, a fantastic evening, and great village occasion that just gets better and better. Well done again to Sue and her team, and many thanks to Lester and Helen for their hospitality.

Ed SnakeHips.

## Whimple Primary School - Community Governor Vacancy

Whimple Primary School has a vacancy for a Community Governor. If you have some experience (ideally from the business community) that would be of benefit to the school, please contact the Chair of Governors, Pam Scanlan, on 822262 giving some information about yourself. Thank You



#### WHIMPLE CHURCH

www.whimplechurch.org



The **big event** this spring in the life of Whimple Church has been our **Church Weekend Away** at Park Hotel, Paignton. This was a great opportunity to spend relaxed time together, explore the beautiful beaches and coastal paths of Torbay, and to learn together about the work of the Holy Spirit, from the book of Acts. We hope this will become a regular event in the life of our church - do join us next time!

We have also recently had the second in our series of **Women's Breakfasts**, when we enjoyed a delicious breakfast in the Victory Hall followed by a Bible based talk on hospitality. This was followed by discussion around our tables on how to practice it today. These breakfasts are really enjoyable occasions to meet one another and to think together about issues of practical Christian living, and anyone is welcome to join us.

As part of our recently launched Mission Action Plan we are planning to develop better **pastoral care provision** in our church and wider community. With this in mind, at the beginning of May we had the next in our series of 'Toolbox' training sessions. Esther Langrish, of Acorn Christian Foundation, led a very helpful workshop for over 20 church members on listening skills, which was a particular challenge for those of us who love to talk and be quick to offer advice!

Our **Summer Coffee Mornings** have now commenced, with tea, coffee and home made cakes being served in church from 10:15 to 12:00pm every Saturday (except 14th June, 2nd Aug & 13th Sept). Please do pop in and join us, and also take the opportunity to stock up on **Fair Trade** 

goods from the stall which will be open at these times.

Thank you to the many in the village who have supported **Christian Aid** Week again this year. Some of the money raised will be used by Christian Aid partners in Burma for the relief work following the recent cyclone, also in other parts of the developing world to help cope with the effects of climate change, and in relieving poverty. Christian Aid's strap line this year **is** 'If we come together, we can achieve amazing things' - thank you for your contribution to their lifechanging work.

We would love to welcome you at our **Church Fete** this year, on Saturday 14th June, 2:30pm at Hindstrete, Church Road. Come and stock up with plants, books, home-made cakes and jams and other home produce and crafts. Test your skill at hoopla and other games, and enjoy the maypole dancing, led by children at Whimple School. Even the delicious cream teas are an incentive in themselves to come and join us! There is something for everyone—bring the whole family.

An advance date, for those of you with children aged 11-14 is the **Total Adventure Activity Holiday** (11-14 yr olds) running at Kings School, Ottery St Mary, from 25th—29th August 2008. This will be an action packed week of activities being organised by local churches, and run by Adventure Plus. The allinclusive cost will be £150, and further details can be found at www.adventureplus.org, or contact Phil Dominy(822163).

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



### **David Aiton**

John and Thelma Aiton and family would like to express our heartfelt thanks for all the expressions of sympathy, support and amazing generosity from so many people in the village following the untimely death of our son David. It was your generosity which made it so much easier for us to bring David home and lay him to rest in peace here in Whimple.

Our thanks must also go to all those special people who made it possible for us to plan, organise and produce such a dignified and moving ceremony for David in the Victory Hall, a ceremony which we know will always be remembered and treasured by his family, friends and his son Dane and would surely have brought a wry smile of approval from David.

I shall repeat what I said at David's funeral - Whimple truly deserves to be called 'a community'.

John and Thelma Aiton



# Whimple Primary School Parents, Teachers & Friends

# Association



Well done to all the royal courtiers who raised £185 in the King/Queen raffle. Thanks to the Jack in the Green and Music For Schools Foundation for sponsoring the event. Our Village gueen for 2008 is Bethany Carter from Year 1, who was crowned at our Blossom dance on Sat 17th May and will open the school summer favre. Trudie Carter won the £50 voucher to dine at the Jack in the Green

#### **Blossom Dance**

A BIG thank you Helen and Lester Bowker for use of their barn. Sue Wilson, our organiser, and all the helpers before, on the night, and clearing away afterwards.

We raised just under £1000.

Thanks to the Maypole dancers and ladies who ran the Maypole club. If you missed seeing them, they will be performing again at the Church Fete on Sat 14th June.



Don't forget to come along and have fun in Village Week. The teachers will be running a beetle drive on Monday 7th July. The PTFA need your help with the fun run, fancy dress and school fayre on Saturday 12th July

#### Elite Photographic

Of Devon

#### **PHOTO SESSIONS**

Take advantage - fundraise for the PTFA whilst smiling! Ideal Christmas presents for relatives.

You do not need to be connected with the school to book a session, everyone welcome.

We have Elite Photographic of Devon, coming to our village on Sat 27th September, to take family/friend groups or individuals - the studio will be in the school. A proportion of sales will go to our PTFA.

Sessions are by appointment only and can be pre-booked at the Post Office for a deposit of £5.00.



Could you please ask your employer or company to sponsor a prize for our Grand Raffle? Contact Nikki Harris on 01404 823873. Thank you.

The school council met with the PTFA to present ideas and they requested new playground games /equipment. We agreed to raise funds so that they can buy a new soft play surface, with balance and coordination equipment.

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# Whimple Village

Date	Event & Venue	Organised by
Monday 7th July	Beetle Drive Primary School 6.30pm start	Whimple School PTFA
	Darts tournament	Thirsty Farmer
Tuesday 8th July	Walking Treasure Hunt Heritage Centre 6pm start	History Society
	Skittles tournament Thirsty Farmer	Whimple Football Club
Wednesday 9th July	Worm charming Best dressed bike competition Bicycle advice/ refresments Parish Field 6pm for 6.30pm	WAC4Y WAC4Y
	Skittles tournament Thirsty Farmer	Whimple Football Club
Thursday 10th July	Prize Bingo Whimple Victory Hall 6.45 for 7.30	Whimple & Broadclyst  start Young Farmers
	Tennis Club Summer Social Tennis Court 7-9pm	Whimple Tennis Club
	Skittles tournament	Whimple Football Club



# ge Week 2008

Date Event & Venue Organised by Friday 11th July Live music - Plan B Thirsty Farmer Skittles final - children Whimple Football Club Thirsty Farmer Saturday 12th July Village Day morning bells St Mary's church ringers Fun run Whimple School PTFA Village Square 10.30am start Stalls in the Square Whimple Victory Hall Village Square 9am-12 contact John Discombe for pitch Coffee and cake St Marys Church St Marys Church from 10 am Soup & Sarnie Whimple Victory Hall Whimple Victory Hall 12-1,30pm Fancy Dress parade Whimple School PTFA Village Square for 1.30pm judging Summer Fayre Whimple School PTFA Whimple Victory Hall 2pm start Skittles final - adults Whimple Football Club Thirsty Farmer Sunday 13th July Songs of Praise St Marys Church St Marys Church 6.30pm

# Co-ordinated by Whimple Primary School PTFA

Please support this great community week and the many organisations we are so fortunate to have.

# **Whimple Church**

# GARDEN FETE

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2.30pm

Hindstrete
Church Road

Cream Teas . Stalls . Competitions

Maypole dancing by Whimple School

**Admission Free** 

In Victory Hall if wet

# Whimple Victory Hall

The Hall Trustees have been planning improvements to the hall for some time. The first stage of those improvements is now complete with a smart new car park – hopefully the muddy puddles will be a thing of the past. The next stage will be improvements to the entrance way and toilets which we hope to start later in the year.



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# In Memory of William Porter Known as "Bill" Torena Church Road, Whimple

On Friday 11th April we lost a dear friend Bill Porter. He was known to a few as "Bills caff - open all hours". Bill would make you feel very welcome and serve you the most delicious milky coffee along with a Cadburys chocolate roll, which was always on hand, straight from the fridge. The chocolate would crackle and flake deliciously. Putting the world to rights over a coffee with Bill was always the highlight of the day. Bill had a wonderful sense of humour and had such a variety of stories to tell, along with some beautiful poems he would so often recite with a glint in his eye. He could hold a conversation on any topic whatsoever.

There were a few friends who would call in for a whisky or two and, after a few hours, would wobble out again. My Dad was one of those visitors on his numerous visits to Devon.

Our family had known Bill for 19 years but, for the last sixteen years, he would foster our Golden Labrador "Lacy" (Pedigree "French lace") whilst we went to work and, as we had our own business, this would sometimes go beyond normal working hours. We always knew Lacy was having more fun than we were.

Bill would collect Lacy at 8.00 am and return her back to our home early evening. Each morning she would wait at our front door and she would sense Bill coming up the drive, and with her bottom shaking, and tail wagging, she would greet her best friend. Running straight to the orchards they would both go, sometimes Lacy pulling on her lead eager to get to their safe zone; many times walking as she was munching on the forbidden biscuit Bill would have in his pocket, which would put another ounce on her waist.

I would dread the visit to the vets as we would always be reprimanded for her weight gain. I would convey the vets wishes of "no biscuits for Lacy" to Bill. He would give you a cheeky wonderful smile and say "ok" but once again the next day you would find crumbs on the front door step. I wonder who left them? They would spend the day together walking, dozing, or working in the garden and listening to Judi Spiers on Radio Devon. What a life!

Every day rain, wind or sleet, they would both go and sit by the water tower in Mr. Borroughs orchards, where they would take in the view and would be gone for hours.

Many a time Bill would go off to do a bit of gardening for Miss Inman or Nora Blackmore who lived in the village. If Lacy was in our garden, her nose would go up in the air and she would be off like a bolt of lightening looking for her best friend. She would know where to find him like an Exocet missile and, after jumping all over him with excitement, she would then lay at his side and watch him do his chores, never letting him out of her sight.

All dogs had an amazing rapport with Bill. It was in their instinct to want to be near him, even if they had never seen him before. It was a gift he had, and he was the pied piper of the canine breed, as well as being a kind, considerate and wonderful natured person.

Bill's father on his death bed asked Bill to look after his mother and so he did. Bill devoted his life to caring for his mother until she passed on. Every three weeks Bill would go to the graveyard in Payhembury to tidy and lay flowers at their graves. Bill carried on living at Torena, spending many an hour caring for his pristine garden, and many of us were honoured to have him as a friend and neighbour.

In 2005 Lacy developed a Cancerous tumour on her leg and, as time went on, it progressively got worse. Her walks were minimal and Bill asked to look after her 24 hours a day. In her last few weeks we fought with our conscience as to what was best for Lacy, was it to die naturally? As the vets assured us she was in no pain Bill and ourselves decided to let nature take its course and Lacy died 2nd December 2005 in Bill's arms and we were grateful they were able to say their goodbyes.

People would often say to Bill "what a wonderful dog you have" and Bill would say "she is not just a dog she is my best friend". So now they are together, two free spirits enjoying their everlasting life together and I am sure there will be a few other canine friends showing up along their way.

God bless you Bill. Thank you for being a part of our family, you are a treasured gentleman and will be so very missed.

Gill & Richard Beaumont, Laura, Emma and James

## Oliver!

by Lionel Bart

Tuesday 28th July - Saturday 2nd August at The King's School, Ottery St Mary at 7.30pm
Tickets £6 children £4 (3 for the price of 2 on Tuesday)
Pre-show supper on the Saturday £5
Tickets from Bagpuss, Stagestruck or Hospiscare in Ottery
All proceeds to Hospiscare



What another busy couple of months we have had here at school – the children are always very busy and keen to contribute to everything.

We are still collecting (and counting!) Tesco and Sainsbury's vouchers so, if you have any hanging around, please hand them in at school.

Enjoy the read – many thanks.

**Carole Shilston** 



Test day: Tuesday 29th April 2008

At Whimple Primary School the NSPCC visited us to talk about raising money for cruelly treated children. So KS2 were given 20 words to learn. They asked their families to sponsor them for a certain amount of money per word. They did the test and collected the money. KS1 were given 10 spellings and also had to collect the money raised as well. We in the end raised £1,488.

By: William, Hannah and Rebecca. Year 5

## Egyptianl

Year 3's have been learning about Egyptians the way they dress, what they eat and their lifestyle. We have designed our own god masks and death masks. On Egyptian day we dressed up as Egyptians it was really good FUN! We made scarab beetles out of clay.

By Cameron, Beth and Oliver Year 3



On Thursday 3rd April Whimple school held a recycling day. Parents and pupils could bring in anything they didn't want, to be recycled. Children were encouraged to make a hat out of recycled things. They brought their hats in and they were judged by John our caretaker and Mrs Maria Wallis. Some of the names of the winners were Charlie Spicer, Leah Young and Mrs Clapp.



All children were asked to make a pledge about something they could do to help the environment e.g. turning the lights off when going out of a room.



A sign competition was held throughout school, to design a sign for the school gates about road safety. The winners were Dulcie Sanders, Isaac Penny and Alfie Howard. A great day was had by all.



By Toby, Georgia and Abi Year 6

## Reporters: Sam Dyas, Luke Hayes, Alfie Howard



In class 4 we have sketched monsters using different body parts of animals. After we drew the monster we drew incongruous backgrounds such as:

in a crowded city, in the Swiss Alps and on Uranus.



They all turned out really well and everybody enjoyed doing them.

Luke Hayes





## Denim for Diabetes day.

On the last day before the Easter holidays we had a special day called Denim for Diabetes day. On it we raised £116.32 for Snack Pack (a local diabetes charity) It was non uniform. We also had a lot of fun and played fun games about diabetes.

By Edmund, Max and Peter Year 2

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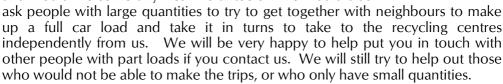
## Wasters of Whimple

#### Cardboard/plastic bottle volunteer collection

A big thank you to the April volunteers for yet another well supported collection.

As mentioned last time, kerbside collection in Whimple for these items is not anticipated until 2010.

We will endeavour to keep up the volunteer collection and would welcome any fresh volunteers. We would also



The next volunteer collection will be on Saturday 28th June 2008 from 10.00 - 11.00 am in the Car park off of Village Square (behind the Vets). Clean and crushed cardboard/plastic bottles (lids removed - milk bottle lids can be recycled by the Church).

#### Tetra Paks/cartons

We have been asked about containers which are made predominately from cardboard, but are usually foil/plastic lined and sometimes have plastic stoppers. Cartons like this cannot be recycled with the cardboard. Currently there are no facilities in the UK to recycle these but it can be done in Europe, so any collections in the UK are shipped out (tetrapak.recycyling.co.uk). Mid Devon District Council already offer kerbside collection and there are special bins in and around Exeter, namely at larger stores of Tesco and Sainsburys and Exton Road recycling centre in Marsh Barton.

If you have any difficulties getting to any of these sites, please contact us and we will help.

#### Freecycle/afternoon tea

We are delighted that Whimple Scout group have agreed to work in partnership with us for this event which will be on Saturday 26th June 2008 at Whimple Scout Hut (parking in the car park off The Square)

12.00noon -2.00pm - bring your unwanted, quality, clean, workable, portable items to the venue. For larger items that can't be carried away, we will display photo's/descriptions with collection and contact details.

2.30-4.30pm - the venue will be open to the public for people to take things away. Number of items taken per person may be limited to discourage dealers. Any donations to Whimple Scouts gratefully received.

Afternoon tea will be available



#### The rules will be as follows:

The organisers will just be hosting the event for you and will take no responsibility for the goods.

The organisers reserve the right to refuse goods.

Products brought to this event must be yours to dispose of.

Only complete, quality, carriable goods i.e. crockery, games, equipment, tools

If you want goods back you must collect them by 4.30pm or the organisers will redistribute to local charity shops or recycling centres.

No soft toys, books, or clothes,

This is not a jumble sale. It is your chance to pass on unwanted goods, locally and conveniently. It saves on the manufacture and transportation of new products and means less is thrown away.

Please contact us if you would be able to help with the event or teas, or if you would be able to make cakes for the refreshments. Again, all profits will go to Whimple Scouts.

Fruit and veg box schemes - we are investigating a group box scheme delivery in the Village. If you are interested or would like to recommend a scheme you are using already, please contact us.

#### **Fashion Show**

Plans are being made for later in the year.

### Composting/tackling food waste talk

Plans are being made for a date in Autumn. We would like to link this with a local produce market. Any contacts for local producers would be gratefully received.

#### Grow your own

Kaieteur in Sidmouth are offering excellent prices on plug plants (minimum order required so maybe get together with neighbours). info@kaieteur.uk.com

#### Ottery St Mary markets

There is a farmers market in the town on the first Friday of every month 9am - 1pm and a local craft market on the last Saturday of every month 9.30am 12.30pm in the Institute. Contact <a href="mailto:info@sustainableottery.org.uk">info@sustainableottery.org.uk</a> for their eco groups newsletter and updates.

Next meeting - Tuesday 24th June, 8pm, Hillcroft, Church Road

Contact: Alison Betts (823967 alison.betts@yahoo.co.uk)

Jenny Sanders (823015 barnum.sanders@virgin.net)

## Whimple ToddLers Group

Back of the Victory Hall, Church Road, Whimple Wednesdays 2.00pm - 3.30pm (term time)



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## Whimple Womens Institute

The speaker at the April meeting was Mr Peter Cripps on 'The Life and Times of a Queen's Trumpeter', a fascinating insight into a musical career in the services. Mrs. Joan Soul visited the Institute in May and her subject was 'Women in the History of Exeter'. She spoke of many women whose lives had influenced the city over the centuries, starting with Sidwella - after whom many Exeter landmarks are named, through to Princess Henrietta Maria (whose portrait hangs in Exeter Guildhall), and on to the 20th century and the first woman mayor of Exeter, Councillor Mrs. Minnie Nichols. There were also brief reports and discussions on the resolutions going forward to the Annual Meeting later in the year.

On 17th April six members attended the spring Council Meeting of the Devon Federation at Exeter University. The day lived up to its usual high standard and general efficiency. Approximately 1200 members enjoyed excellent speakers throughout the day. The guest speaker in the afternoon was Pam Rhodes, best known perhaps for her presentation of Songs of Praise. She spoke with enthusiasm and humour - and without a note! We would welcome visitors and guests at any of our meetings on the second Tuesday of each month. For further information just contact Ann Bowden (823450).



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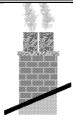
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## ENGLISH COUNTRY MUSIC WEEKEND

20<sup>th</sup>- 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2008

The English Country Music Weekend is an informal celebration of Traditional English Music which has been running for over 30 years and is organised in a different part of the country every year by volunteers. This year it is being held in Whimple and is being organised by Jason Rice, Jim Causley and Ali Standring.

The best way to explain the feel of the weekend is that it will be very similar to pub sessions at Sidmouth Folk Festival every summer, (on a somewhat scaled-down level!) with musicians playing ad hoc in both the New Fountain Inn and the Thirsty Farmer all weekend. There will also be morris dance displays from local teams, talks held by the Whimple History Society on Whimple, Wassailing and Whiteways! And the Wren Trust on local traditional musicians such as Fred Pigeon of Stockland and William Rew from Sidford. Folklore archivist Doc Rowe will be giving a video presentation of local customs such as tar barrel rolling plus screening exclusive footage of the Whimple Wassail in 2007! There will also be a Grand Devonshire Music Hall Concert on the Saturday afternoon in the church and a song session in the side bar of the *New Fountain Inn*.

We are very excited to be bringing the ECMW to Whimple, (the last time it came to Devon was Chagford in 2002). It is a fantastic opportunity to celebrate this areas rich cultural heritage and a great excuse for Whimple to have a good old knees up!

For further info and a programme of the events please visit:

www.mustrad.org.uk/ecmw

Alternatively write to Ali Standring, The Old Barn, Hills Court, Cotleigh, Devon EX14 9HE or call 01404 831 765



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Don't assume an internet company is based in the UK just because its web address has "uk" in it.

Take into account the shipping, postage and packing costs. Weigh them up against the parking and travelling costs you would have to pay if you went to the high street.

Do not use the same password on every site. Pick three or four and vary them:

Do not write down passwords or your personal identification numbers (Pins).

Lets hope you don't need to <u>report an incident to the police</u> at any time: **999 in an emergency - otherwise 08452** 777 444 *John Munslow* 

#### Parish Plan news

There may be an opportunity in the future for the local community to have access to facilities, which will be provided by Whimple School.

The first of these is the Multi Use Games Area (MUGA). Negotiations will need to take place between the School Governors, Parish Council and East Devon District Council in order to change the terms of the planning approval. The idea would be to hire out these facilities during non-school hours for a fee, which would help towards the school finances.

The second of these facilities would be the use, out of school hours, of the twenty-four station, Information Technology suite, which is situated within Whimple School. These computer courses could be run for beginners, intermediates or experienced computer users.

In order to judge if there could be a demand for either the MUGA or the IT suite, could individuals or organisations please contact me on my business mobile 07802-310497.

Alan McArthur, Parish Councillor.

#### **Pride of Place**

By the time this is read the first round of judging for the Devon **Best Kept Village** competition will have taken place. The second round takes place during June so can we again appeal to all residents, organisations and businesses to keep their premises tidy and to take a communal responsibility for reducing litter in the village. Should we be marked highly enough, final judging will take place in August.

Thank you to everyone who turned up for the litter pick which took place on 28th April, in conjunction with the church members working party in the churchyard. Special thanks to the VPA members who donned wellies and cleared the stream which runs alongside the school and who are removing out of date posters around the village.

Mike Ellingham



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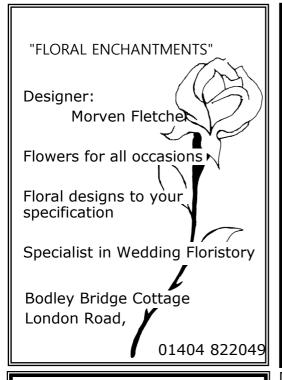
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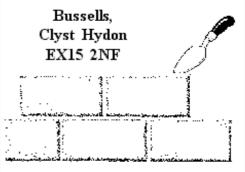
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