

# *Whimple News*

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**Aug/Sept 2007**

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**14th September - Elvis (in honour of Geoff  
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# WHAT'S ON IN WHIMPLE

## August

- 11th VPA Flower Show, Victory Hall at 3.00pm  
20th Blood Donor Session, Feniton Primary School, for times see advert  
24th Live Music 'The Reoffenders', Thirsty Farmer

## September

- 8th Historic Churches Cycle Ride  
10th Wacy BMX track meeting, Victory Hall, 8pm  
11th PTFA Meeting, Class 2 Whimple School, 7.00pm – all welcome  
14th Murder Mystery, Whimpletons, 7.30pm Victory Hall,  
see posters for more information  
14th Live Music 'Elvis', Thirsty Farmer  
15th Soup & Sarnie Lunch, Victory Hall, 12.00noon -1.30pm  
17th Parish Council Meeting, Victory Hall, 7.00pm  
21st Fashion Show, Victory Hall, 7.30pm  
26th Wine & Cheese, Whimple Church, date tbc  
27th Cider with Roadies, Heritage Centre, time tbc

## October

- 15th Parish Council Meeting, Victory Hall, 7.00pm

## November

- 19th Parish Council Meeting, Victory Hall, 7.30pm

## December

- 8th Orchard Harmony, St Marys Church, time tbc

## St Mary's Church

### Monthly Programme of Services

1st Sunday	8.00am	Holy Communion
	11.00am	Celebration Service
2nd Sunday	11.00am	Holy Communion
	10.45am	Sclub11/Impact in the Scout Hut
3rd Sunday	8.00am	Holy Communion
	11.00am	Morning Service
4th Sunday	11.00am	Holy Communion
	10.45am	Sclub11/Impact in the Scout Hut
5th Sunday	11.00am	Joint Benefice Communion

Please use the Whimple Diary held in the Post Office for checking availability of venues and booking events.

If your Association has an event which you would like listed above please contact **Nicky Hitchcock** on 823194 or e-mail [nickyjhitch@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:nickyjhitch@tiscali.co.uk)

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# Ed The Ed

Normally at this time of year, we are in the middle of really sunny and warm weather...just looking back at the editorial for the 2006 August/September edition, I was writing about 'hot hot hot', and how I was cycling to Ottery most days. I have only managed 2 days this year, but I hear that with the reduced appearances of my finely honed and waxed Tour De Whimble legs, local milk yields are up and fewer early morning accidents have been caused by the reflection off these Olympic pins. It is sad to see so many reports of any summer 2007 activity starting with the words 'Despite the weather....'

Nevertheless, the Village Week did very well and well done to the PTFA and all involved for their energy and enthusiasm in supporting the Week. And a special thank you to the PTFA Committee for their generous donation to the Whimble News funds – it was very kind of them.

I was delighted to see that young Ian Hardcastle was the winner of the gents bike in the Grand Raffle, and I know that has amused Ian, because he is really looking forward to making full use of his prize as an 70/80 year old with one leg. Go Ian!!

In this edition, we have a short update from Mike Ellingham on the progress to date of the Vision/Village Plan. I attended the Vision meeting on 19th June, and thought that it went very well. Mike and his team have put in a lot of effort and done a really professional job, and other people in this edition have also praised the team, which is well deserved. They have worked closely with the village and given everyone the opportunity to get involved and take some responsibility, and now it is about to move to the next stage when we, as a village, take ownership of several actions to improve our local environment. If you came to the meeting, or have read the various updates, and want to get involved, then it will soon be the time to help Whimble by direct action. Watch this space!!

The Over 60's have taken the message to heart, and have many excursions arranged for the summer months (see the announcement later in the magazine) and I, for one, am grateful that we can get these hooligans off the streets and into sensible activities. For too long they have mingled outside the Village Stores, chewing gum and looking fiercely at people who have to run the gauntlet into the shop. I applaud this new burst of activity – I know that if it had not happened, the whole lot would have got a collective ASBO.

I was really pleased to see the page in this edition about Cider With Roadies event at the Heritage Centre on 27 September – it looks like a lot of fun, and educational at the same time!! Don't forget to bring your apples for pressing.

I was saddened to read of the death of Derek Brown, one time landlord of the Thirsty Farmer. He died peacefully on July 24th, surrounded by his family. Our thoughts are with them, especially Pat.

If you would like to contribute an article for the next flyaway edition of the News, then we need it to arrive, either at the Post Office with Whimble Marathon runner Jim, or direct through the wet airways to Bob Scanlan, (the next centre fold in the WI calendar), on bob.scanlan@eclipse.co.uk by Monday 17th September. **Ed H**

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## Whimble Post Office News

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We were recently asked to attend a network meeting, along with other sub postmasters in the area, at which the timetable for the planned closures were disclosed to us. Branches in the South West, it is anticipated, will know by March 2008 if they are to remain open or not, with closures actually happening in June / July.

Being at this meeting really brought home to us what a huge impact that these closures will mean to so many communities. So many smaller villages with combined shops and post offices are at risk of losing both, as each support each other.

We try to remain optimistic about the Post Office here in Whimble, but we are far from complacent. We just hope our efforts will suffice.

We will of course keep you well informed of any developments.

One target we are able to meet is that of currency sales – they have been great this summer – having the euros on demand has really proven to be very successful, thank you for supporting this.

Many of you have also been checking out the car insurance as well, don't forget to quote our branch code, so that Whimble gets the credit for the contact.

**222 5190**

We will be closed on Bank holiday Monday August 27th ,if you have benefits or pensions due on this day they can be collected on the previous Friday 24th August.

Thanking you all for your continuing support.

**Jim & Alison.**



# FROM MY WINDOW IN THE SQUARE

Edith Marie-Louise Grout

## THE VILLAGE FLOWER SHOW

A heavenly odour fills the hall  
That strangely non-committal of all  
Of parsnips, people, grass and sun  
And onions – all rolled into the fun  
In eager queues we gardeners trot  
To see what prizes we have got  
And swell the chorus of praise  
That roars and rattles round the place

How time flies!.....I cannot believe it is already time to think of writing my next article 'From My Window in The Square'. When I came to Devon many years ago, I never missed the flower shows, they are such fun and tell you a lot about village life and village people. Each year I study the local schedule with enthusiasm and marvel at the people who compile it because, without creative classes, there would not be good entries. I have been to shows in different guises:- As an interested visitor, going from stall to stall with a keen eye for the outstanding displays and making a note of my favourite. Then as an exhibitor when Jack was still here and our anticipation and hope carried us for weeks.

I remember when, at the West Hill Show, we not only exhibited flowers, vegetables and fruit, but for me the dog show was undoubtedly the best value. The majority were family pets, but there were also a few who had been taught ring behaviour. When under the scrutiny of the judge, they behaved like Hollywood starlets. Not so our beloved Dalmatian Spotty Muldoon, who invariably showed his fondness for his family and many friends when he saw them at the ringside, by licking everybody and trying to win over hearts. It was hilarious. He also liked to pose for photographers, he knew he was so handsome. From the smallest to the cuddly 'Dulux' sheepdog, they were a great attraction and certainly were the centre of everyone's attention.



Over the years, it follows that I became a judge and, for me, that is the most difficult and daunting thing to do. They say that beauty is in the eye of the beholder and how true that is. I remember a judge in the flower arranging space who only liked subdued pinks and blues, unlike another one who liked vibrant colours. I certainly prefer village flower shows to big country shows or even Chelsea, which are so perfect, but don't tell you much about the aspirations of the exhibitor and the joy felt to participate and the final prize giving. Long may village flower shows live.



It was with tremendous interest and pride that I studied the Whimple Village Parish questionnaire summary of results, which show undoubtedly that the community spirit in our village is hale and hearty. Having lived here for twenty-five years and having been one of the members who took part in the very first village appraisal, under the chairmanship of the late John Shepherd. Our findings then were most interesting and revealed that the community spirit then was as strong as it is today. What excellent news with so many young families with children living here with an average age of forty to fifty-nine. Congratulations go to Michael Ellingham, who has devoted his time to this cause since his retirement. There is still one problem, which is national as well as rural, and that is the house market for first time buyers. I am amazed that a tiny cottage in The Square costs a fortune, almost six times the price we paid years ago for the imposing and substantial Old Manse. It certainly makes you think.

I have a dream, a lovely dream, which I am sure many people in the village share with me. I sincerely hope that one day our elegant Square will qualify for a medal in Britain in Bloom. The dream also includes the creation of a Community Shop, like they have in other villages, and is so successful in nearby Talaton. We could even incorporate a coffee/tea spot, what with our Post Office it would be a perfect blend. Something we could be proud of. Living in the Old Manse makes me feel far more a custodian than an owner of this historic house. I look after it with great love and care so that it will still be there for future generations to appreciate and admire. It is one of the most photographed houses. The position is ideal, near the pretty bridge crossing the brook. It is so charming to see many young children still throwing 'Pooh Sticks' to see them float down, simple little pleasures which I witness every day.

Having been a successful hotelier with Jack for years I would have the experience and knowledge to run a community shop, even putting a small fund for its creation. Alas I have no longer the physical stamina, even though I still have the same enthusiasm. Who knows someone younger may start the ball rolling?

My home and my garden are a reflection of my idea of heaven. I love to walk through The Square and reach out and smile at people young and old and it is always with love in my heart that I walk back and feel immensely grateful for living in such a community.

And now I am old and sitting in the sun  
I sometimes think it will be rather fun  
To watch when others work and I have done  
My pleasant lot will be to sit and doze  
While others pick the greenfly off the rose  
And others hold that everlasting hose!



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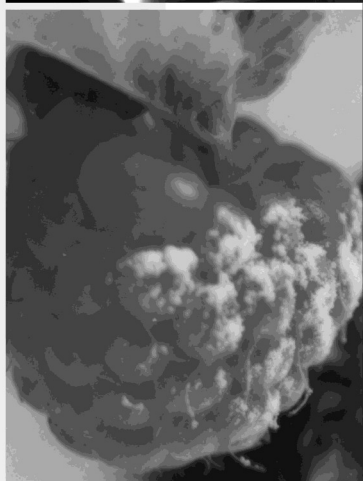
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# RUTH BROWN MEMORIAL SERVICE

Ruth Brown lived for many years in The Square, and recently a memorial service was held for her at St Mary's. The Whimble News has seen the document of what was said at that service and we have extracted some details from that below. It is a combination of a précis and quotes from Ruth's own diary that she kept. It makes for some interesting reading and helps us to realise what a tremendous contribution Ruth made to Zaire in her 25 years there, plus an appreciation of the conditions under which she worked.

Ruth responded to an appeal for missionaries to go to any part of the world, in 1951. She was offered a position in the Belgian Congo (now Zaire). After a four-month course in Brussels that improved her French language, Ruth then studied tropical medicine in Anvers. She left England in November 1953 on a cargo ship, finally arriving at Pointe Noire, Brazzaville on her 39th birthday, 19th December. Her journey continued by launch up the Congo River, and on 1st January 1954, Ruth transferred to a train for a week's journey to Elizabethville.

Ruth was based at the Songa Mission Hospital and Leper Colony. Her diary says

" They are situated on a sandy plateau about 200 feet above sea level with savannah-like tropical climate, but fairly cool nights, and surrounded by mango trees and banana plants, and not far from rivers Lomani and Lualaba which join the Congo River.

There is one large building divided into two wards, one for men and one for women and children. Between these two wards is a sort of very small dressing room cum office on one side, and the main door of the building on the other. At that time, there was no running water.

There were very few bedclothes, not much linen at all, and very little equipment. All the patients seemed very poor; some slept on mattresses or grass mats on the floor between the beds, and relatives slept under the beds at night. Sometimes they slept with the patient if nobody was around to turn them out, but most of the mothers slept with their sick babies and very small children. Altogether there were about 100 beds – of course many more patients than beds.

The other trained nurse, Thelma and I used to take it in turns to visit the leper colony twice a week to supervise the distribution of medicines. We used to check patients who were not able to leave their hut – some were very disabled, maimed with ulcerous sores on hands and feet, and some were blind. It was all very sad to see them.

Two young men I remember very well; one was not only lame with very bad feet, toes and fingers missing, but he was also blind.

His friend also had some toes and fingers missing but he managed to lead the blind man with a stick around the paths. We used to visit the blind man regularly and help him out with food, blankets and clothes. Before returning to the hospital after visiting the leper colony, sometimes we would go down to the river and have a swim and a wash. We all used the river for all sorts of reasons – bathing, swimming and washing clothes.

Years later, when I had a car, we used to wash it on the riverbank, and some of the children from the leper colony would come and help me. When I used to ride my bicycle home, quite often several children would run behind me and when I got to the hilly part, one or two of them would try to help by pushing me up the long slope to the hospital. It was great fun for them and I loved to see their happy smiling faces. “

Ruth’s work over 25 years became legendary in Central Africa. In addition to her work at the hospital and as a missionary, she was able to pass on her very considerable medical knowledge through the setting up of two Nurses’ training schools. At times when there was no doctor at the hospital she performed several successful operations.

We are grateful that she has left us her memoirs. Ruth’s life of service and her Christian faith touched so many.



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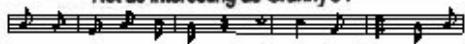
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# Whimple Primary School

Parents, Teachers & Friends Association

Another busy half term and hopefully everyone has enjoyed some of the Village week events. Thank you to everyone in the village who bagged up clothes for recycling, and to those who delivered and collected the bags. We raised £98.80 for the PTFA and 1st Whimple Scouts. Well done.

Class 6 arranged the last successful fundraising cake stall of this school year. The proceeds from all the cake stalls throughout this year, have allowed us to provide a free BBQ, bouncy castles and talent contest on the last day of term for all the pupils, staff and parents. – More news after the event.

A new venture into the movies for Whimple, we had a great afternoon filling the stalls at the Radway Cinema, Sidmouth, to watch the new release of 'Shrek the Third'. Thank you to Jon Hinson and Suzanne Hurford for all the arrangements and making us so welcome at their cinema, whilst we managed to raise about £230.00 in the process.

Thank you to the teachers and support staff for a very entertaining beetle drive at the school, raising approx £50.00.

A special thank you to all the children who ran their own stalls or helped on year stalls at the village fayre, along with the many other helpers on the day.

Please see list of winners in the village week summary.

## **The PTFA have funded this term:**

Music from around the world concert for the whole school

Science CDrom learning tool and puppets.

A year's trial of online education city throughout the school. You can see a demo of this online [www.educationcity.com](http://www.educationcity.com). It can be used in group work and singularly, with the ability for teachers to track child's progress and see problems encountered.

Subsidy for all school summer trips for each pupil.

Book vouchers for each pupil leaving year 6.

**Our next PTFA meeting** is on Tuesday 11th September, at 7pm and will be held in Class 2 at the school. Everyone is welcome, you do not need to have children at the school.

## **NEXT EVENT**

**Ladies Fashion Show**, (clothes and jewellery) tickets available from the Post Office/stores and Jenny Sanders.

Date: **Friday 21st September**, Victory Hall, Whimple. Doors open 7.00pm, starts 7.30pm.

**Entry £3.50 to include first glass of wine.** Wine/soft drinks and cakes on sale.

Come with your friends and have some fun, ticket numbers are limited so please buy early.

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## Orchard Harmony News



Following our concert last Christmas in St Mary's Church we are planning a return match on Saturday 8th December.

The programme this year will include excerpts from Handel's Messiah, together with Handel's Zadock the Priest and Christmas Music.

We are always looking for new members, particularly men for the Christmas concert. We rehearse on Wednesday evenings in the church at 7.30pm, starting on Wednesday 12th September, usually every 2 weeks.

So... put Saturday 8th December in your diaries and if you fancy airing your vocal chords come along on Wednesday 12th September!

If you would like any more details do give me a ring: 823585.

**Julia Green**

## New Craft Club For Children

Most families in Whimple know me because I'm a mealtime assistant at Whimple School. But some of those families don't know that I have a great love of sewing and craft.

It is because of this that I have started a Craft Club for 6 -11 year olds in the new wool shop 'Fiddlesticks' in New Street, Honiton.

The clubs are held for 2 hours on the first Saturday in the month although daily ones are planned for the summer holidays. Children are provided light refreshment of a drink and biscuit. Mums do not stay, affording them a good chance to go and do some shopping!

We have been using different skills to plate & flat weave, make fabric collage pictures, design t-shirts and make character bean bags. The children are free to use their imaginations and have really enjoyed themselves. I have even had brothers come back to try something else!!

Eventually, I would hope to attract older children with much more adventurous stuff ... for example making their own clothes, but all this would be dependant on how well the 'younger' club takes off.

The cost for one session is £10 and you can also book for birthday parties. For more information on dates coming up and booking call Barbara on 47676.

**Alison Gullidge**

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Tim Wright

# Whimble Tennis Club

Rain did not stop play at Whimble Tennis Club's special event during Village Week. Though the day was dreary, by 5pm the court was miraculously dry and ready to welcome the first wave of keen tennis trainees, who learnt footwork, forehand, ball skills, and more from our favourite coach, Peter Clarke. Two hours of quality time with beef burgers, sausages, jellies, cookies and drinks on tap, whilst parents enjoyed the spectacle. If you ever want entertainment with educational value, hire Peter and sit back to watch. It's magic.

Following the junior training and supper, adults rolled up for their tournament, an easy-going round robin which continued till dusk.

Also in conjunction with Village Week, the Heritage Centre had a tennis display, which gave some answers to the quiz - on a tennis theme. Thanks to all who bought the forms! Two people had correct answers to all 10 questions, and receive a book token prize: Sara Dodds and Gill Smith. Congratulations!

Here are the questions, plus answers below.

1. How old is the hard court at Whimble Tennis Club?
2. What is the probable origin of the word 'tennis'?
3. What was the name of the variety show staged by the Club in April 1959?
4. What are the four Grand Slam titles?
5. Which bank loaned the club £250 towards the cost of the hard court?
6. In a Shakespeare play, who said:  
When we have match'd our rackets to these balls,  
We will, in France, by God's grace, play a set
7. What is the name of the company who constructed Whimble Club tennis court?
8. Are women players allowed to wear shorts at Wimbledon?
9. Who donated the two club benches?
10. When was the last time white tennis balls were used at Wimbledon?



1. 45 years
2. *Tennis* is probably derived from the French 'tenez' - take this!
3. 'A Star Spangled Revue'
4. Australian, French and US Open, plus Wimbledon
5. Coutts & Co.
6. King Henry V
7. En-tout-cas
8. Yes
9. Peggy Wylid
10. 1985

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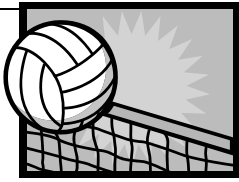
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WHIMPLE ACTION COMMITTEE 4 YOUTH

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**WAC4Y**

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**BMX track meeting  
Monday 10<sup>th</sup> September  
8pm**

**Victory Hall committee room**

Calling all parents, youngsters and interested parties.

Please come along to this meeting to offer your ideas, support or concerns regarding a proposed BMX track on the Parish Field.

Help us to put into action ideas highlighted in the Parish Plan.

We can update you on our achievements so far and we are positive that we can do more, but

**we need help and support.**

We need fresh ideas to move forward

Please support us by attending this meeting

If you cannot attend, please pledge your support and offer your help

by: Phoning Liz Silk on 822389 or

Email Jenny Sanders at [barnum.sanders@virgin.net](mailto:barnum.sanders@virgin.net)



# WHIMPLE CHURCH



There is much news from the pews on which to report as well as some great events coming up in the life of Whimple Church to which everyone is invited.

In our services on **Sunday mornings** we have been learning together from Paul's letter to the Galatians. It has been both an encouragement and challenging to be reminded that acceptance by God is not achieved through the good or religious things that we do, but is a free gift through Jesus.



Village Week **Songs of Praise** on Sunday 8th July was a great occasion, with a mix of traditional hymns and contemporary songs. The words we sang were particularly brought to life as church members explained why they chose each song, and why the Bible truths communicated through the words are such good news.

The **Garden Fete** on Saturday 9th June was a fabulous event when the village streamed into the Ellingham's garden for an afternoon of games, stalls laden with home-made goodies, a village PhotoQuest, cream teas and much more. A particular highlight was the Maypole dancing by children of Whimple School.

The **Mothers' Union outing** to Hestercombe Gardens on Wednesday 6th June and **Bellringers' Outing** to Somerset and Dorset churches on Saturday 23rd June were a great success. The **Summer Coffee Mornings** continue to prove a popular weekly event on Saturdays when many from the village gather to enjoy time together over home made cakes and coffee.

The **childrens and youth groups (Under 5s, S-Club-11, Impact and Contact)** have had a good year, with many new members at S-Club-11 and a new group Contact starting for ages 14+. The S-Club-11 year finished with a family outing to **Escot** on Sunday 10th June where the youngsters from Whimple and Talaton and a few brave adults completed the very muddy Swamp Walk.



Impact and Contact hosted an **Evening of Puddings and Promises** on Saturday 16 June when £1,350 was raised for the work of Send-A-Cow.



There are young peoples' groups tailored to all ages and new members are always welcome. Please telephone Phil & Rebecca Dominy on 822163 for further details.

There will be several spaces open to other young people from the village on the Impact and Contact **Weekend Away at Bernards Acre** on Dartmoor on 12 - 14th October, costing £35 per head. We have a brilliant time, and highlights this year will include gorge-scrambling and a Superheroes themed dinner. Please contact Chris & Kate Hamilton (823201) or Ian & Maggie Spicer (823640) for more information.

Another date for the diary is, provisionally, Wednesday 26th September when Whimple Church will be hosting a **Wine & Cheese Tasting Evening**. This will be a fun and informative event for all the village, with wines from around the globe. Look out for the posters in due course for further details.

This autumn we will be running **Christianity Explored**. This is an informal course for people who would like to investigate Christianity, or just brush up on the basics. It explores who Jesus is and what it means to follow him. You would not be asked to pray, sing, or read aloud, and you can ask any question you like. Or, if you prefer, you can come along and simply listen. Please contact Rob Wilkinson (822521/ robwilkinson@lineone.net for more information.

If you would like to receive the recently revamped United Benefice Magazine (£3.60 per year) with news of what's going on in the life of Whimple Church and the United Benefice, please contact Margaret Burrough (822257).

Whimple Church is friendly and welcoming with a variety of services to suit everyone. Please do join us on a Sunday or for our other activities throughout the week. **Rob Wilkinson** our Priest in Charge can be contacted on tel: 822521.

Kate Hamilton

HDR

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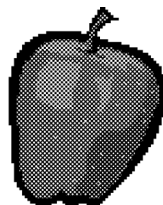
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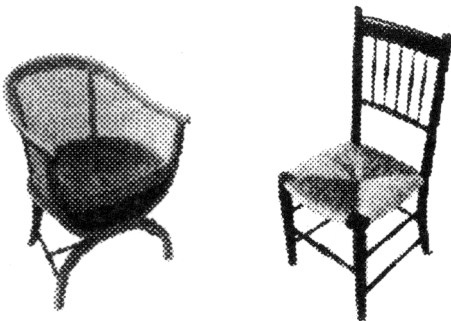
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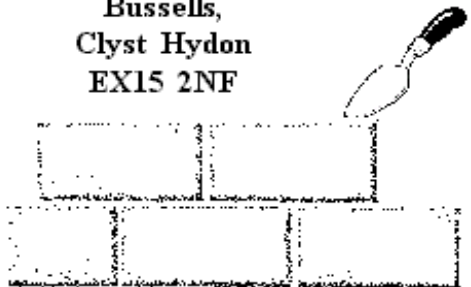
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# Parish Plan Update

More than 100 people attended the Parish Plan update meeting in the Victory Hall in June. Speakers from the Community Council of Devon gave a presentation on how they can assist rural communities and local organisations, and how CCD will assist with delivering the action plan. Detailed results of the survey carried out earlier this year were on display together with possible actions, and those present were asked to record their views on how these might be prioritised.

The steering group is now drawing up the action plan which will in due course be adopted by the parish council which will become responsible for its implementation and monitoring. However, many of the actions are likely to involve leadership and engagement by members of the community, and it is encouraging that the parish plan process has begun to stimulate a number of initiatives some of which are referred to elsewhere in this issue of Whimple News.



**Mike Ellingham**

**Christian Aid**  
We believe in life before death

## CHRISTIAN AID WEEK

I would like to thank all those who contributed to Christian Aid recently. Whimple residents contributed a total of £1317 including gift aid, and Talaton residents a further £239, making a grand total of 1556.

This has helped to support work in El Salvador, a country feeling the effects of climate change. A local organisation is helping people to strengthen river banks to prevent flooding from rising water levels.

Christian Aid believes in strengthening people to find their own solutions to the problems they face. They support poor people, whether it is speaking out against the causes of poverty or funding vital work on the ground.

So, very many thanks for your support.

**Aubrey Curry**

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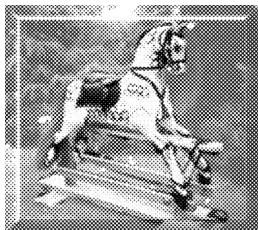
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# Village

Thank you to everyone who helped with this year's Village Week. We know that a lot of hard work and planning went in to this and it was unfortunate that the weather was so determined to undermine everybody's efforts. Given how bad the forecast for the week was we thought that it was an achievement that most of the events were able to take place. Unfortunately the parish field was too wet to use resulting in the cancellation of the sponsored bike ride and change of venue for the Village Day fayre.

The week started with the Party in the Park held by WAC4Y to celebrate the improved facilities in the Town Lane playground. This was a fun evening for the children (and adults) and got the week off to a great start.

"Shrek the Third" film premier was one event to benefit from the bad weather as there was a late surge of ticket sales as everyone decided that a dry cinema was a good place to spend a wet Saturday afternoon. There was a great atmosphere as we had exclusive use of the stalls and the film lived up to expectations.

Congratulations to the winners of the darts competition held at the Thirsty Farmer.

The History Society organised a challenging walking treasure hunt. This event was well attended despite the weather which just held off for long enough for the intrepid detectives to complete the hunt and return to the New Fountain Inn to compare notes.

The skittles at The Thirsty Farmer were of such a high standard that only those that knocked down all the pins got to be in the final.

The cricket and football clubs challenged the rest of the village to a cricket match. The two teams braved poor light and a wet pitch to have an enjoyable close game followed by live music.

Whimple Tennis Club bravely continued with the tennis evening even though the weather looked unpromising and we were rewarded with a dry evening and excellent attendance. The children's coaching session was a great success and may result in more tennis coaching in the village. The BBQ was followed by a friendly tournament which just finished as the light faded.

The Young Farmers organised the Bingo evening with the caller, Arthur Iball, pulling in the crowds.

Village Day – Finally the sun came out and Village Day was off to a great start.

The stalls in the square provided a great village atmosphere in the heart of our village.

Breakfast for world class athletes was cooked by the school PTFA –We are in talks with the organisers of the London Marathon regarding their catering for next year!

# Week

The Fun Run attracted the cream of the village athletes. I understand that Rosie and Blue would like to point out that whilst a mile “walk” in under four minutes might be an efficient use of owners time, they would like to go back to having a proper run through the orchards. We would all like to thank Ann Daniels for organising this event for many years. She has decided to step down, so we are looking for someone to volunteer to take over the running of this event for next year.

In the church the bell ringers were heard but not seen whereas the Mothers Union were seen but not heard as they served up teas with home made cake.

The Heritage Centre was open and the live bee display was “buzzing” with interest.

Then it was time for more food, this time soup and sarnies at the Victory Hall.

The fancy dress attracted a large number of fairy tale characters and home creations. Well done to all who took part, but where were the adult groups this year? – a challenge for next year we think.

Congratulations to Katie Yeoman, our Village Queen, who sold an incredible number of Blossom Dance raffle tickets to earn this title, and thank you for leading the fancy dress procession from The Square to the Victory Hall for the start of the Village Fayre. Some of you might not have recognised Katie as she came to the fancy dress not as the Village Queen but instead as an Egyptian mummy!

It was unfortunate that the Parish Field was unusable due to the large amount of rain. Thank you to the Victory Hall for offering the PTFA the use of the hall facilities at such short notice. Regrettably there were several events that the new venue could not accommodate. However the Victory Hall car park and the playgroup garden were filled with stalls. There was an excellent display by the Broadclyst TAGB Tae Kwondo group and the School playground hosted the very successful fun family dog show by the pre-school playgroup. Well done to the Pre-School for organising this event.

The day was rounded off with the Pre School running an auction of promises in the Victory Hall.

The week ended with a lively Songs of Praise in a packed church.

There is a separate note of prize-winners and thanks to individuals and organisations who sponsored the various events, apologies if we have missed anyone.

Finally we would like to thank everyone who helped with or supported village week this year.

**Whimple School PTFA**

# And now the village week PTFA results round up!

## **Whimble Village Queen** – Katie Yeoman

(thanks to sponsors Jack in the Green and Music for Schools Foundation).

## **Whimble Grand Raffle** (main prizes)

(thanks to all our sponsors Stephens & Scown Solicitors, Exeter Caravan Centre, Devon CC Road Safety, Co-op Funerals, Bodyzone@Woodbury Park, Neal's Yard, St James Park FA, Ottery St Mary Dental Practice, T&G Woodware, International Swimming Pool).

Gents Bike (donated by Stephens & Scown Solicitors) Mr I Hardcastle  
Ladies Bike (donated by Stephens & Scown Solicitors) Mrs Julia Green  
Gas BBQ (donated by Exeter Caravan Centre) Tanya Chitty  
Skid pan session Exeter Drivers Centre (donated by Devon CC Road Safety)  
Sally Wilde

## **Guess the number of Balloons**

Chauffeur driven car for a day - Karena Pring (donated by Co-op funeral care)

## **Shrek Raffle** – Isaac Penney (thanks to the Radway Cinema part of the Scott Cinema Group)

## **Cool ride from School** (thanks to Gemini FM) - Jill Wilson (Edward's Mum)

## **Whimble Pop Quiz 2007** (Thanks to John @ HDR records) – answers available in the Post Office

**1st** Keith Hudson [109 pts] £20 plus a MP3 player  
**2nd** Elaine Walker [108.5 pts] £15  
**3rd** Sam Perry [107 pts] £10

## **Road Safety Quiz** (Thanks to Devon County Council Road Safety)

**Adult** Phil Dominy

**Child** Anastasia Dominy

## **Whimble Bookgroup Quiz and Competition** (Thanks to Whimble Book Group, prizes sponsored by Curious Otter Bookshop)

**Adult** Barbara Tooze

**Child** Matthew Goodwin

## **Guess the weight of 'War and Peace'** (1kg 370g) Geoff Gardener

## **Fancy dress** (Thanks to judges Francis and Margaret Bucknell and prizes from Ed Hitchcock)

**Overall winner** Harry Sanders

**KS2** Thomas Hart & Katie Yeoman

**KS1** Dulcie Sanders

**Pre-school** Katie Campbell

**Group** Chloe & Peter Betts





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# WHIMPLE FUN RUN 2007

After a very wet week, the sun eventually came out for a fantastic end to village week. There was a great turn out once again for this years fun run, which included two dogs, Rosie and Blue, each winning the male and female for their category. All runners did exceedingly well in the heat and thankfully there were no tears or injured children. The children were phenomenal and ran a great race. It really was a FUN run.

The winners were:

- Under 8 Male - Jed Wright
- Under 8 female - Holly Bunkum
- Under 10 Male - Charlie Spicer
- Under 10 Female - Abigail Bunkum
- Under 13 Male - Daisuke Gormley
- Under 13 Female - Rebecca Awdas
- Over 13 Male - Thomas Camp
- Over 13 Female - Lisa McArthur

The beautiful glass trophies were made possible by the generous sponsor Taylor Made Driving and my thanks to all the helpers and marshals, including Graham from the shop and Leasons trophies of Honiton who have engraved the trophies free of charge for fifteen years now. I look forward to seeing you all on the starting line next year.

**Ann Daniels**

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# VILLAGE WEEK SKITTLES AND CRICKET

Skittles were held at the Thirsty Farmer on the Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of Village Week, with the weather not on our side!! Despite that, we still managed to raise a bit of cash for the Youth Club and the football team, with more money also being raised from the cricket match. The match was between the Village and the Cricket Club, with a BBQ during the evening. Thanks again to Vicky Kendrew for donating the food for the BBQ. The match continued despite the weather, and was a close thing with the Cricketers just coming out on top. We also had a band playing on the night, kindly sponsored by Paul and Gill Mallett from the New Fountain - Kody come from the Isle of Wight and have played at the Fountain over the past few years. Thanks Paul and Gill.

The whole event was a great success, with even one of the band members playing for the Village team!

I won't pick out individual players for their performances as it was a great effort by everybody, so thanks to all the players and supporters of the events, where we raised a total of £150.

Many thanks to all

Geoff Delves

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## CIDER WITH ROADIES AT THE HERITAGE CENTRE

On Thursday 27 September 2007, Whimble History Society will be hosting a unique event that combines a blend of the Arts, horticulture and an appreciation of local heritage. This is a very interesting event for Whimble as it creates a strong link back into our cider history and will help people understand, and actually see in action, the cider pressing process. Thanks to the generous support from the Museums Libraries Archives Partnership and Renaissance South West, we will be hosting a great afternoon that combines actual apple pressing, information, advice, and entertainment. Entry will be free thanks to this funding.

The purpose of the afternoon is simply to provide a great community event, to give you a chance to enjoy the entertainment, to find use for your old apples and to encourage you to grow more. The Heritage Centre will also be open that afternoon, giving you the chance to remind yourself about the cider history of our village over the years.

The actual pressing will be carried out using 'Pomona', a trailer-mounted cider press which will be parked at the rear of the Heritage Centre for the afternoon of the 27 September. The plan is for anyone to bring their apples to 'Pomona' and have them pressed and thus turned into apple juice. 'Pomona' will be available from about 1.00 p.m. (exact times to be clarified on posters) and all you need to do is to turn up with your two buckets of apples (experience has shown that a limit has to be applied). A rough rule of thumb is that one bucket of apples will press down to make half a bucket of juice. You then have the choice to drink it as apple juice within 3 days, or freeze it, or make it into cider, cider vinegar or apple wine according to what recipes you can lay your hands on! Low cost containers are provided, or you can bring your own. A modest 'pressing' charge of 50p per litre of apple juice will be made. You can't say fairer than that!

The event is not just about apple pressing, - The Common Players will be giving an entertaining performance called 'The Big Squeeze' during the afternoon as the pressing is carried out. 'The Big Squeeze' is suitable for families and is based on mummer's tales and stories told by troubadours complete with live music. We are hoping to involve the Primary School during the morning, when one of the Players, who is a qualified teacher, can work with the children and bring this part of our heritage to life for them. If you want more general information about this event, there is a very good website on [www.ciderwithroadies.org](http://www.ciderwithroadies.org).

We are very excited about this visit, as it was one of the few dates still free in the touring calendar. Ideally we would have loved it to happen in the school holidays, but we have had to juggle opportunities for funding and the availability of the Cider With Roadies team. We hope that many of you can make the afternoon!

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# Whimble Victory Hall

## Village Day soup 'n' Ploughman's

Following on from the successes of the Soup 'n' Sarnie team, a new venture was attempted on Village Day. With the proximity of the June and July events it was felt that there should be a summer special. The meal was a great success with over eighty lunches being served. Even though the summer has been, and continues to be, anything but special.

The team worked really hard to provide a cheese or a ham ploughman's and it was so successful that we ran out of soup by 1 o'clock and Ploughman's very soon after. Mike Boyd was sent on an emergency mission to locate lettuce, French bread, onion, tomatoes and sundry other items. Chopping, washing and preparing was carried out in very quick time and no-one was made to wait too long.

It was really good to see so many of our regular supporters being supplemented by new faces and we hope that we will see them all again during the year.

My thanks to the team who surpassed all previous efforts and to all those who supported our event.

The money raised from these ventures is a really important fund raiser and will be put to good use. The results of this work will be seen in the very near future.

John Discombe



## Whimble Victory Hall

### *Soup and Sarnie Lunch*

*12.00noon until 1.30pm*

*on Saturday 15th September*



*Come and Join us*

*for details ring John 823614 or Pam 822262*

# Dotty about the station

It was quickly apparent at the Village Plan meeting recently held at the Victory Hall that among the high priorities perceived by those who attended was the railway station. For those who were unable to be there that evening we were treated to a presentation by several folk well placed to set out the route map for achieving some of our ambitions for the village, and also the now familiar display boards reflecting the responses to the questionnaire. There were about five topics identified and from the emergent list of actions we were asked to prioritise them by placing a coloured dot in one of three boxes – High, Medium or Low priority. Hence the title of this piece. By the time I reached the ‘transport’ board through the throng the ‘Preserve our railway station’ was densely filled with dots in the High box.

The familiar truism comes to mind: - use it or lose it, so perhaps you would be interested to know that quite a lot of people do use the station. It is certainly used relative to the size of Whimble. The question is - will that be enough? I have just returned from the station on a weekday late morning and saw eleven people get on the Exeter train. You might expect a modest gaggle of commuters on the morning and evening services but it is becoming clear that there is a significant, if random, use during the day.

Last month I found myself on the station one early morning to catch the second train of the day - 6.57am. It was a very pleasant experience to enjoy the air and the early sun as about three others whiled away a few minutes. I was probably not fully awake but I thought I heard the announcement heralding the train’s arrival say, “Platform one for the 6.57 to Budapest - calling at Feniton, Honiton, Waterloo, Paris and Vienna”.

As it happened I was going to Budapest. I just wanted to see if I could - from Whimble. And you can. I reached the Hungarian capital by lunchtime next day. To help focus attention on our station, what is the furthest destination any resident has reached - from here and using reasonably consecutive services? Or what is the most journeys in a year anyone has made? Or indeed have you any other ideas that demonstrate the use and importance we place on Whimble station?

Let me end by thanking those on the Action Group for their time and energy to help us all move forward with the Village Plan.

**Roger Algate**



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# KILLERTON ROCK & RAIN!!

Yes I know, I really DO KNOW how bad the weather has been – but hey... did you really think a little bit of precipitation would spoil our fun? Well let me tell you....

The day started grey and miserable but I (amongst other fir cone watchers and seaweed throwers) was confident that all would be well once the day wore on. And wear on it did, how wrong was I? The first real sign of ‘no change’ was donning our wet gear from The Thirsty Farmer to load up and clamber on to the coach. Yes, dear reader even then we were still blindly smiling with optimism that it just *might* blow over.

Once the coach was parked up we hurried ourselves to the concert area in order to lay claim to our pitch. Music was blaring through the loudspeakers and our mood lifted being buoyed by the rest of the revellers. The scene in front of us was a plethora of brollies, small tents and people sitting down barely visible through their generously sized plastic sheets!

We put up the tables, covered our seats (for later) and made ready with the Pimms.

I think it was when the French stick had swollen to three times its normal size that it dawned on me that we all needed our ‘bumps read’. I wouldn’t have made the cat go out in that weather, I wouldn’t even stand in the middle of my garden in it - so what the hell was I doing juggling drink, broolly and food and in the middle of a field of red mud? Well, I will tell you why - I was in good company. There is nothing like great friends and neighbours together with that heady mix of sardonic British humour that smiles – nay, LARFS in the face of adversity! We had to laugh – we were there for the duration and by hook or by crook we intended to make the most of it!

The show opened with Buddy & the Crickets who had a very hard job warming the crowd. Then we had the Rolling Stoned who were fantastic. I could just make out his sparkly blue jump suit amongst the swathes of brollies all across the audience enclosure. Then, last but not least - Abba who went down a storm (sorry about that, just seemed apt). By this time the heaviest of the rain had worn off so off with the coats and bring on the dancing queens!

Like most concerts, the worst part was packing everything up in wet, semi-darkness and carrying it back to the coach. By now hundreds of pairs of wellies and walking boots had trodden over the way-marked areas, so keeping a firm footing for any of us was an achievement. At one point I looked down at my own legs and could just make them out spinning around like a Tom & Jerry cartoon, then SPLAT straight to the knees I went. Thank God I was well propped up with chair, table and picnic bag! No damage done, onward and upward to the coach – then home for a ‘Finishing Off Party’ (and my God did we finish off)?

Names have been deliberately kept from this article to protect the privacy of fellow ravers who do not wish it to be known that they enjoy a drink!

**Julie Millward**

Note to self: make sure large broolly purchased before next years concert – but secretly hope to God we won’t need it. 45



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## Whimble Women's Institute

A busy two months for members of Whimble WI. In June we welcomed Ann Sutherland who spoke on 'A woman of a certain age: Ageing from a woman's point of view'. Ann's talk was delightfully humorous and gave us an enjoyable and light hearted evening. In July Mac McLaren from the RNLI was our speaker. It was an inspiring account of the work of an organisation that is so highly regarded. Mac held our attention with the story of his personal involvement with the Institution, the many different emergencies for which the lifeboats are called out and the continuing need for funds. We were also pleased to welcome four visitors to the July meeting.

The group meeting was held at West Hill when Stan Hacking spoke on "My Life in Music". Whimble won second prize in the flower arrangement competition.

A successful coffee morning was held to help maintain our own funds and we took part in Village Day by running our usual tombola stall.

The craft group continues to meet on a Wednesday afternoon and we look forward to a Garden Party meeting in August and a visit to Sherborne Castle in September.

For further information please contact Ann Bowden (tel. 01404 823450).

Rosemarie Burrows



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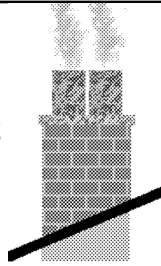
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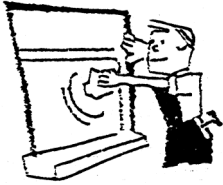
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# GUARDING GARDENS

We are a nation of gardeners and when 60 per cent of burglaries happen through the rear or side windows and doors, making your garden secure will help keep thieves out of your house. Here are some top tips for guarding your garden.

**Fences** should be kept in good condition. If they are falling down or there are holes then a burglar can get through.

**Garages and sheds** should have locks on their doors, and kept locked at all times. A heavy duty padlock, hasp and staple would be ideal, and a mortise lock for garages are a solid investment.

Out of sight is out of mind: many thieves are opportunists so keep your valuables locked away.

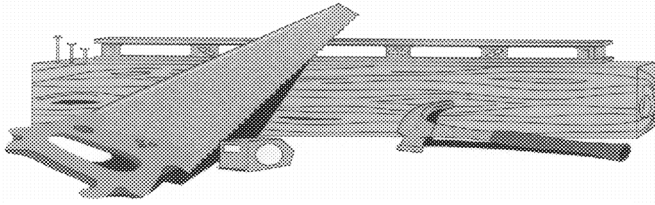
Hedges, prickly bushes and dense plants can stop intruders getting into your garden and into your property. They may be all the protection your garden needs. You could try one of these:

- ✦ **Holly** – only the most determined intruder will want to clamber over its spikes.
- ✦ **Prickly bushes** - Try the shrub 'Rose Rosa' for its excellent ground cover and extremely thorny stem. Hedges can be the perfect fences - Blackthorn is a good one – it is very dense and can grow over three metres. *But be warned, don't let your garden grow too high outside the front – if a hedge is over three feet then an intruder can hide behind it.*
- ✦ **Outside security lighting** can be cheap to install and low energy light bulbs can keep running costs down.
- ✦ **Lock up** expensive property such as garden tools, furniture or ornaments. Bring them inside if you don't have a shed or garage.
- ✦ **Mark your belongings** with your postmark and house number. There are plenty of ways to do this, engraving is good way of keeping your mark permanent.
- ✦ **Photograph your property** so that you can provide a good description should anything ever get stolen and help aid identification.

**If they can be seen then someone could try to steal**

**John Munslow 01404 823456**

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### **DIANE'S ROAD ACCIDENT 5 JUNE**

Diane and Graham wish to thank everyone from the village for their wonderful support since the accident in June.

We have so much appreciated the beautiful cards, flowers, messages and offers of help from friends and families during this difficult time. We are fortunate to live in this wonderful village of Whimple where help is never far away. Our sincere thanks to all of you.

**Diane and Graham Potbury**



**Mino Lovering and Sue Thorne** would like to thank Whimple FC for their donation of £75, which was raised during the Village Week Skittles event, for the Whimple Warriors Youth Club. Special thanks to Geoff and Karen Delves for picking the Youth Club as one of their choices this year.



### **Thank You**

I would like to thank everyone who has supported my sale of charity Christmas cards and gifts over the years.

Unfortunately I will not be taking orders any more.  
**Myrtle Dockings**

## **Over 60,s Programme**

- |                |  |
|----------------|--|
| 7th August     | Evening trip to Exmouth including a river trip; leaving The Square at 5.00pm |
| 21st August    | Coach trip to Salisbury; leaving The Square at 9.00am                        |
| 11th September | Coach trip to Poole; leaving The Square at 9.00am                            |
| 29th September | Coffee morning Victory Hall; 10.00am -12.00noon                              |

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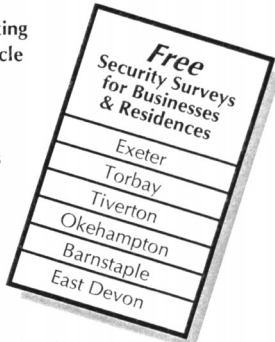
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<b>SClub11, Impact &amp; Contact</b>	
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Mrs. Ann Bowden, Bradcott House, The Green	823450
<b>Whimble Over Sixties Club</b>	
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<b>Whimble Recreation Trust</b>	
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<b>Whimble Village Produce Association.</b>	
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Emma Palmer	823083
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John Munslow, 44 Slewton Crescent	823456
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WN49

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