

Whimble News



Thatching by Dan Plank. Photo by Phil Knowles

Oct/Nov 2021

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SPECIALS

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY! THIRSTY FARMER CENTENARY FLAPPPER
NIGHT SATURDAY NOVEMBER 20th!

SATURDAY BRUNCH 10.30 - 2pm

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OCT - German NOV - Game

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QUIZ NIGHT Last Sunday of each month at 7.30pm

BAND NIGHT Last Friday of each month from 9pm

October: Blue Arsed Fly Nov: Eat The Rich

ACOUSTIC SUNDAYS: 2nd Sunday each month from 4pm

October: Dandy Nov: Phil Smyth

Welcome to the October edition...

As we head into Autumn, with the dark evenings drawing in, it is usually time to turn up the heating and think about hibernating for the winter – but not so here in Whimple. There are signs that our community is stirring as we emerge from lockdown. In the pages that follow you will read about some of the events that have drawn us out of isolation and started to bring us back together.

The cricket club has been busy with training, matches and it held the Ben Moon celebration and the very successful 12th Man Festival recently. The Tennis club is back in action and inviting new members.

It was unfortunate that Village Day couldn't happen again this year but, in consolation, the Village Week Team arranged for travelling players to perform 'Tuck Inn' in the Parish Field to an appreciative crowd - and what a great evening that was.

More events are being planned for all of us to enjoy.

The Victory Hall is taking bookings and the Front Row Club have promised to be back soon. The Thirsty Farmer's programme is full and the Village Week Team is arranging a Race Night in the Victory Hall in November. The History Society is also back in business. After opening for cream teas last month we can look forward to apple pressing at the heritage centre and a new series of talks.

It promises to be a busy Autumn.

A new pump track has appeared in the Parish Field and is clearly popular with bike riders of all ages. Thanks go to the Parish Council and Richard Lawrence, our District Councillor.

Jenny from Whimple Stores reminds us that Christmas is not that far away and the first deadline for overseas posting is now only a matter of days away.

With change in the air, we also note some other important hand-overs that are happening. At the end of October the new owners of the shop will take over and we thank Jenny and Mark for all they have done to make both the shop and the Post Office thrive. We wish them well.

Maria Wallis has stepped down as chair of the Victory Hall. In her many years at the helm Maria has steered the hall through some difficult times and it has emerged much stronger and is now being refurbished. Thank you Maria.

Maria has handed the reins over to Sue Ayres. We wish Sue well.

Can I remind you that it will soon be time to let me know of any plans you have for the Christmas period so that they can appear in the next issue of this magazine.

I hope you enjoy this magazine and invite you to contribute to our next, Christmas, edition by sending your article, and photos, to me at bob.scanlan@eclipse.co.uk or drop it through my door at Albecq, The Green by 12th November please.

Bob Scanlan

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What's on in Whimble

October

- 6th German themed night at the Thirsty Farmer (see page 2).
- 10th Acoustic Sunday at the Thirsty Farmer (see page 2).
- 22nd Talk by Battery Hamlin, 7.30pm at the Victory Hall (see page 28)
- 24th Apple pressing at the Heritage Centre, 11am to 2pm (see page 2)
- 29th Whimble and District Gardening Club trip to Kingston Lacy (see page 26)
- 29th Band night at the Thirsty Farmer (see page 2)
- 31st Thirsty Farmer Quiz (see page 2)

November

- 3rd Game themed supper club at the Thirsty Farmer (see page 2)
- 6th Bonfire and Fireworks at the Cricket Club (see page 33)
- 14th Acoustic Sunday at the Thirsty Farmer - Phil Smyth (see page 2)
- 19th Race Night at the Victory Hall (see page 44)
- 20th Centenary Flapper Night at the Thirsty Farmer (see page 2)
- 26th Band night at the Thirsty Farmer - Eat the Rich (see page 2)
- 28th Thirsty Farmer quiz (see page 2)



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Shop

As we look forward to the Autumn, we have some lovely products in from local artists. There are collage cards from the Primary School and some lovely acrylic pour cards from a Whimple artist as well as Sue's great photo cards and Jess's fun earrings. If you are looking for unusual gifts we have some lovely bee revival kits – little keyrings that contain some nectar that can be given to any bees or butterflies that you find that are tired and struggling. A great idea for wildlife watchers and bee lovers.

We have been very quiet over the summer period and look forward to welcoming you all back soon. The shop has proved itself to be important at times of poor weather and crisis and as we often buy directly from local suppliers we have never had a problem stocking milk, eggs and bread although sometimes we have reduced our stock level due to poor demand only to be caught out by a surge in demand when supermarket deliveries are short of these fresh products. The joy of our direct connection with suppliers is that we can request extra deliveries that we can pick up or are delivered the next day. Working with local suppliers is so important in keeping our communities alive.

The new owners are hoping to take over at the end of October and it would be lovely to think that the village will embrace their enthusiasm to keep the shop and Post Office as a vital village asset and recognise how amazing it is to have this amenity in the village and support the new owners to help keep this business viable and alive.

Post Office

For those who need to post overseas, you will know that there have been price increases for most overseas mailing services. If you are posting for Christmas there is always the option of a cheaper surface mail service. It takes longer but parcels to Middle and Far East, Hong Kong, Singapore and South Africa should still get there if posted before 15th October and to Canada and USA if posted before 1st November. This service outside of Europe is often half the price of the standard airmail service so it is worth considering.

Overseas parcels sent with Royal Mail cannot exceed 2kg unless they just contain printed paper. Options are available over this weight but it would be with Parcelforce and the cost increases significantly.

All overseas parcels will need to be sent with a customs label. If you are sending overseas, please ask us for a customs label so that you can complete it at home. Labels should be completed in capital letters and every item you put into the parcel should be listed and the correct weight and value detailed. Most countries have tightened their customs control so getting the labels correct will save items being returned to you and incurring costs in reposting.

If you are selling goods abroad, make sure you consider the tax implications as there is likely to be an import tax in the recipient country. If you are selling through a platform you will need to tell the Post Office which platform so that we can put the appropriate stickers on the parcel to avoid a double taxation. Platforms acknowledged by Royal Mail are Ebay, Etsy, Not on the High Street and Amazon (please remember to identify the domain name so that we know which Amazon platform has been used).

For general services the last posting dates will be available in store soon. Australia and NZ should be posted by 6th December, Middle East by 8th, Eastern Europe by 11th, USA by 13th, Eire by 16th, France by 18th. BFPO mail should be sent by 29th November if operational or 6th December if static.

UK last posting dates are 18th December for 2nd class, 21st for 1st class and 23rd for Special Delivery. All last posting dates are the recommended date to post if you want it to get there for Christmas.

As the Post Office will get busier as we run up to Christmas it is more important that you bring your parcels in ready for posting. That is labelled correctly (clear customer address including the postcode and your sender details (house name/number and postcode), securely packaged and if you are reusing packaging – with all old postal marks obscured. It is fairer to us and other customers if you have your parcels ready to go and we are always happy to give advice before you bring your parcels in.

With returns, if you are sent a QR code only, we have the facility to scan this from your phones and print you off a label. If the QR code is part of a label you have been given then you need to print that off yourself and bring in the labelled parcel which we will scan and issue you with a proof of posting.

All items need to be weighed. This information is coded into the Royal Mail label and helps them move mail around. We always need to know the weight and the postcode.

For other parcels we will always need to know what is being posted so that we can ensure it is handled correctly. Alkaline batteries can be posted as long as they are in their original packaging – they cannot be sent if they are loose or installed in a product whereas lithium batteries cannot be sent on their own but can be sent if with the device they belong to. This catches people out when sending toys at Christmas. There are restrictions with perfumes, nail varnishes, spirits and a few other items so please ask if you want any advice before buying or wrapping.

If you are experiencing problems with your mail or are receiving mail for other properties, please carry on bringing it into us so that we can send it back to Royal Mail to keep them aware of any problems. Our posties are amazing and have done a great job during the covid crisis but Royal Mail are keen to maintain their standards so notifying them of problems helps them to improve and keeps us all happy and confident about the service they provide.

Jenny and Mark 01404 822316

Mark, Jenny and Team



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Whimble Parish Council

The Parish Council are excited to announce that work for the Whimble Pump Track has been completed in the Parish Field. Cllr Richard Lawrence has been putting regular updates on the 'Whimble What's On' Facebook page. We hope the Pump Track will be enjoyed across all ages in the village.



The Parish Council needs your help and support if you are able to offer any of your time to the Whimble Neighbourhood Plan. If you would like to be involved in any way and can offer support or expertise please contact our Clerk, Claire Rayner, on whimbleparishcouncil@gmail.com.

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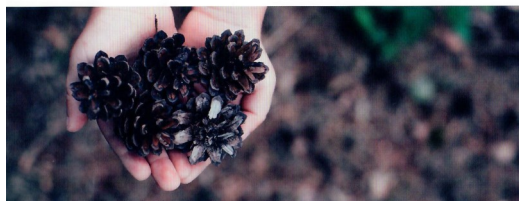
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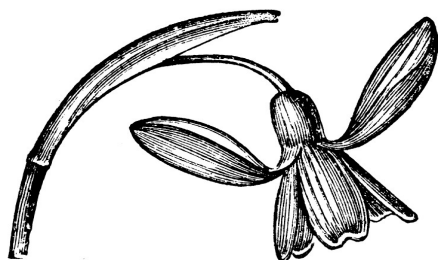


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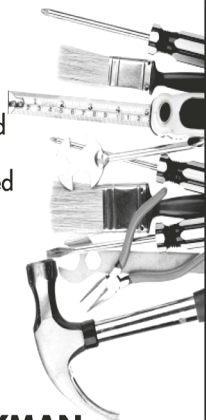
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Whimble Victory Hall



Photo: *Sue Ayres*

The Trustees have worked hard during the school summer holidays trimming the hedge, tidying the front garden and painting part of the outside of the hall.

Hall hire

In line with Government relaxation of all Covid regulations, the Hall has re-opened to all regular groups and has actively welcomed new hall hire enquiries and bookings from 19th July.

Additional guidance issued by Devon Communities Together, specifically aimed at village halls, advises retention of the following measures to ensure all sectors of the community feel comfortable on returning to the hall:

- QR Test & Trace (poster in Hall foyer) and collation of attendee details where they were unable to access QR
- Hand sanitiser stations
- Use of face coverings on entry to the hall
- Frequent cleaning of regularly touched surfaces
- Sensible maintenance of social distancing
- Provision of good ventilation

Please respect and support anyone displaying a more cautious approach than yours.

For hall hire enquiries and further information, please contact Ali Tierney, our Booking Secretary, on 01404 822724.

Whimble Victory Hall - new Chair

Following our AGM meeting on 6th September, we are very pleased to announce Sue Ayres is our new Chair.

Sue will build on the legacy left by Maria Wallis and formulate a plan for appropriate extension and refurbishment to the hall which will make it fit for purpose, reflect current needs and safeguard it for the community. We will make further announcements as soon as we can.

If you would like to be involved, please send me a message or contact Sue directly on 01404 823082.

Di Wilkins, Secretary

diana_wilkins@hotmail.com

New Fountain Inn Update

We have submitted our application to the FCA to be registered as a Community Body and this has involved several meetings with our Plunkett Foundation representative (who has been very helpful), so we are well on our way.

The group is now preparing our Action and Business Plans, which will formulate how we would run the New Fountain Inn if we are successful in our efforts to purchase it as a Community Body. We are basing it on the views you gave us in the community surveys.

In terms of the Planning Application, the owner lodged an appeal with EDDC over the time taken to make a decision and the application has now been referred to a Planning Inspector. The latest notification from the owner/agent can be viewed at:

<https://eastdevon.gov.uk/planning/planning-applications-and-information/view-planning-applications-enforcements-and-planning-appeals/>

the reference is 20/2481/FUL

We would recommend everyone has a read and lodges any comments via email to planningwest@eastdevon.gov.uk; it is our understanding that anyone can add comments at any time up to the decision. All previous objectors will also be notified once the Planning Inspector begins his review and we will let everyone know. It would be incredibly powerful if everyone could add more comments to the portal at that time (and this may be just a reiteration of previous objections but still powerful).

As you know we previously raised a small amount of money for running costs and we wanted to share with you how this has been allocated.

Opening/Bal	0
Initial capital donations	+£400
Intro /cake sale	+£365
2 x Banners	- £216
Plunkett Joining Fee	- £310
Current Bal =	£ 239

If anyone would like to donate for future running costs ahead of any share option please contact the group via email Savewhimplesnewfountaininn@outlook.com and we will be in touch – every little helps as they say.

We will be running other fundraisers over the next few months with the ultimate goal of releasing share options further down the line.

And finally if you would be interested in joining the core group you would be very welcome.





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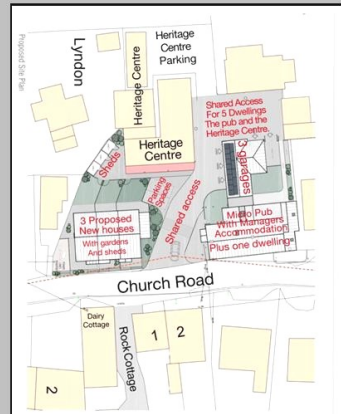
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Take Ten Questions - Julia Green

Introducing 'Take Ten Questions' a new idea for the Whimble News where I will be interviewing a local resident to find out a bit about their past, their experiences and talents, and what they love about Whimble.

To start us off, I chatted to Julia Green. A well-known singer, teacher, musical director and co-presenter on Box Office Radio.

Q: So, Julia, how did your regular spot each Saturday afternoon on Box Office Radio come about?

A: I'd wanted to volunteer for hospital radio for ages, since the 1980's. My dad was in hospital and I picked up a volunteer leaflet. So, I volunteered for about a year, along with Richard, my husband. We'd go around the wards, chat to the patients and collect their requests. Then play them live 8-9pm. Without a shadow of a doubt, the talking to the patients was the best bit. I loved it.

Box Office Radio, a station purely dedicated to music from stage and screen, set up by Josh Haywood in his garage at the beginning of lockdown, were looking for presenters. We applied and it all started from there.



Q: It must be quite a commitment. Where do you record it?

A: It's an international set up, and not just from Devon. All the presenters broadcast from their own homes. Every Friday night we turn our spare bedroom into a studio! I do most of the researching which suits my creativity and Richard has a great 'radio voice'. We are a good partnership.

Q: Did you come from a musical family?

A: My Mum was a singer. She joined the local Operatic Society when I was 14 years old, and I went with her. Also, I had a special music teacher who discovered my voice, then really encouraged me to develop it.

Q: Did you have a classical training?

A: Yes I trained at Dartington College of Arts, and I did consider a professional career as a singer, but I decided to go into teaching. I felt I'd rather be a professional amateur than an amateur professional. Though, I have often worked semi-professionally, for example at The Northcott Theatre.

Q: So, you must have directed many productions. Do you have a favourite one?

A: That's so difficult. But I do love anything by Stephen Sondheim and I've played some of his amazing roles. Though if I had to choose one musical, I think it would be *Blood Brothers*. I've seen it five or six times and each performance received a standing ovation.

Q: What about a favourite character you like to play?

A: I've been really lucky to play several roles, alongside all my teaching and musical directing. I love Mrs Lovett from *Sweeney Todd*, as well as Eliza Doolittle in *My Fair Lady*.

Q: I know you set up Orchard Harmony Women's Choir in Whimple. Is there a choir that you have particularly been inspired by, or enjoyed working with?

A: I do think there is something magical about women's voices singing in harmony. After retiring from teaching, we took a break & lived in Normandy, France for eight months. There was a Ladies' Choir run by an expat in the village. I was invited to go along, but I thought I might stand out with my classically trained voice. However, they were AMAZING singers, led by a brilliant MD. All very disciplined and wonderfully trained. You always learn something from taking on new experiences and unexpected challenges.

Q: Talking of new experiences, has radio presenting brought some new challenges for you?

A: I've learned that you need to be aware that your listeners like to sing along and listen to songs that they know and love. So, it is important to include some popular requests such as Rogers and Hammerstein, Cole Porter, or Andrew Lloyd Webber. There needs to be a balance of ethnicity within the selection of artists too. I enjoy discovering new covers of songs. For example, someone requested *The Sound of Silence* by a heavy metal band, and it was amazing! It is important to have an open mind and be on the lookout for new things

Q: Do you feel connected to listeners through your radio show?

A: Yes, we often get little messages of appreciation along with requests, especially from regular listeners. People that started listening to us during lockdown, have stayed listening. Not just locally in Whimple, but from much further afield, which is great.

Q What are your plans for the future, or your next project?

A: One thing lockdown has taught me is that I have found contentment in my house & home. I always used to have to be busy, out & about etc, rather than staying in. So, my new philosophy is to let music and musical projects find me. I don't have the need to hunt things down in order to feel fulfilled. I think we have all changed a bit over the last eighteen months, and I'm certainly more laid back.

But I do have a new project– Directing *Pirates of Penzance* in St Mary's Church, in November 2022. Also, our radio show is to be lengthened to two hours, so I have plenty to consider. Plus, I have a few W.I. talks lined up where I can sing some of my favourite songs. Singing is something I will always love, and I will endeavour to keep performing.

Sarah Thackeray

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At the beginning of the year we saw the rapidly growing green shoots, now there are massive, neatly gift-wrapped bales, higher than most cattle. It's what happens in this fertile plain of East Devon. It's a part of village life, just like the birds over the fields and the badgers in the woods. It is what POW+R Group is working constantly to protect.

Local Plan for EDDC

There is very little to report, except that the representations on the Issues and Options consultation is now being evaluated, which includes a report from POW+R Group. The last update on the East Devon District Council Website was the 24th June 2021.

New Fountain Inn Application 20/2481/FUL

The latest update is that Dominic Morgan for Sanders Valander Ltd of Bath, the owner of the pub, has submitted a Planning Appeal as at the 23rd August 2021 on the basis that the local authority had not determined the decision within the appropriate time frame. There were very valid reasons why this was the case. In their submission regarding the appeal they state, "*They do not seek to close the pub. It is already closed because of its non-viability and its inability to compete with larger, established nearby operations.*" This is of course the usual rhetoric by the applicant. Referencing the Nightjar public house in Aylesbeare is totally irrelevant as the site was double the size, allowing space for a large car park. There is no similarity to the New Fountain application. It seems that the Applicant is getting desperate, as they appear to blame an "*orchestrated local objection from over 200 people titled 'Save the New Fountain'*". According to one of the Planning Officers, a further document is required to make the appeal 'valid'. This will trigger a start date, and individuals that made objections, first time round, will be notified. This will allow a consultation period of eight weeks.

Cranbrook Community Governance Review

POW+R Group have submitted a Report on the 14th September opposing any re-alignment of our Parish boundary. Clearly, this is an attempt by Cranbrook Town Council, in partnership with EDDC, to enlarge their authority in all directions. This is the start of a process that must be fought every inch of the way, in vehement opposition. Whimble ceded many acres in 2016 as an act of goodwill, but that is it; no more.

Neighbourhood Plan

Members of POW&R Group attended the Parish Council Meeting on the 23rd August 2021 to put forward our plans to achieve the NP by working together with the Parish Council. The Council confirmed the preferred consultant to work with both POW+R and the Parish Council. At the meeting POW+R stated that we have started on preliminary work and developed a Strategic Plan Document, outline of

key topics of the NP, list of bodies that need to be consulted and a questionnaire. In recent months our group has pulled together a professional team with experience in Town Planning and Project Management. Our next aim is to organise, in partnership with the Parish Council, a village consultation weekend this autumn.

Clearly, this is without doubt, the number one issue for our community. The village is in a very vulnerable position with no legal framework to counteract development applications without our own Neighbourhood Plan. This is exemplified by Cranbrook wanting another chunk of our Parish for another housing estate on their eastern flank.

White Paper on Planning – Consultation Stage

POW+R Group reported in our Parish Magazine a major Government overhaul of planning laws, designed to accelerate house building by 300,000 homes a year in England. A twenty page report in opposition to the Government proposals was submitted by POW+R Group.

The new laws would have given councils mandatory housebuilding targets and stopped homeowners from being able to object to planning applications through a zonal system. This would have likely affected Whimple, Rockbeare, Feniton and Broadclyst. The whole idea would have had a devastating effect on the environment and on local democracy, as new controls would be centralised.

The planning reforms have been met with criticism from countryside campaigners, who said the changes would lead to the “*suburbanisation*” of green areas without delivering affordable housing.

MPs in Southern England have been flooded with letters condemning the new planning proposals. According to ‘The Times’ plans could be scrapped, following the Conservatives’ shock defeat in the Chesham & Amersham by-election to the Liberal Democrats. Ed Davey, leader of the Liberal Democrats, said, “*That if his party gained the Buckinghamshire constituency, which had formerly been a safe seat for the Conservatives, it would be a massive mandate for those of us who were campaigning against the planning reforms*”. Tom Fyans, the deputy chief executive of Council for the Protection of Rural England, labelled the move a “*victory for common sense*”. In the cabinet reshuffle on the 15th September Housing Secretary Robert Jenrick, the architect of the white Paper, was fired.

The problem lies with developers, holding on to land, with planning permission, and drip feeding developments to maximise their profits. It does not mean an end to the Bill because under typical Whitehall methodology, a new scheme will probably emerge, but not so nasty.

Our Village Group

We need to build our POW&R Group Team. If you would be willing and able to give up some of your free time in order to help with producing the Neighbourhood Plan and protect our village and Rockbeare from the ever-expanding Cranbrook urban sprawl, and any other developments that are proposed, we’d love to hear from you!

We wish all villagers well, good health and contentment.

Alan Lascelles - Press and Publicity Dated – 18th September 2021

Time marches on, the weather changes and we are hurtling towards Hallowe'en, Bonfire Night and Christmas. Where has the year gone?

Lockdown for many of us meant slow down and that had some merit. Still, it's lovely to be back as a WI, leaner and stronger, meeting up with friends again. It's a real tonic, good for both mental and physical health, with the only side-effect being a warm and cosy feeling sharing time with friends.

Our September meeting was held in The Hub at Willow View Park, as a potential new afternoon venue and was well attended. The majority of members were complimentary about the location and facilities, as the darker nights are less appealing for many members during the autumn and winter months. The speaker Ron Howell was very engaging; his fascinating topic as a marine diver included locating and diving around the South West to find wrecks and their associated treasures, many of which are now in The British Museum. The afternoon was enhanced by homemade cakes to have with our usual cup of tea. Superb!!

On 24th September, a few of us enjoyed a relaxing outing to Burrow Farm Gardens in Dalwood near Axminster, on a gloriously fine day. The gardens were a delight with autumn colours, quirky follies and beautiful views over the countryside. There was an excellent café with seating inside or out to replenish us when needed – a thoroughly enjoyable trip and only 30-40 minutes from Whimble!



Our 12th October meeting will again be at 2pm in The Hub, and our speaker will take us behind the scenes of the fairground. At our 9th November meeting, we are hoping to learn about cyber security, with our Christmas party on 14th December rounding off the year.

We are always happy to welcome new members and so if you are interested, just come along and try us out! Marilyn is our secretary/treasurer on 01404 821860 for more details.

Di Eden, President

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Well, who would have thought that for the second year running, we would be unable to stage the Annual Flower and Craft Show? Naturally this was a difficult decision to have had to make and of course very disappointing but, under the circumstances, it clearly was not possible to stage the Show this year. Hopefully, if the situation continues to improve, we will be able to stage another successful show in 2022.

Despite there being no Show this year, we have managed to run some events. As reported in the last edition, we had a very successful trip to Hartland Abbey in July and this was followed up on Friday 3rd September with a fascinating talk by Terry Underhill. Terry will be well known to gardeners for his television programme on 'Gardens of the World'. His talk was to have been on his '80 Favourite Plants', as he said on the night, he had trouble keeping the number down to 250! We were treated to a wonderfully illustrated talk on the many plants he had seen in their native habitats all over the world.

This talk was followed by a coach trip to RHS Rosemoor on Sunday 12th September. A full coach of enthusiasts travelled up to North Devon to enjoy the gardens and the Plant Heritage Autumn Fair. Fortunately, the weather was just right and the 51 members and friends thoroughly enjoyed the day.

We have another coach trip planned, this time it will be to the National Trust property and gardens at Kingston Lacy near Wimborne Minster in Dorset. This will be on THURSDAY 28th October. A booking form is included with this edition of the News. We are very grateful to our usual retail outlets, the Whimble Stores and Roberts in Ottery for taking in completed forms. Full details of costs and coach times are on the form.

Despite everything, it has been good to have been able to run some events this year and, surprisingly, we have had good weather for them all! Hopefully we will be able to run a full programme of events in 2022.

Paul Wilson, Hon. Chairman.

Hear ye O' people of Whimble

There has been masked muttering from various Princesses, Villains, Knights and Camels yes after a dramatic pause ... the Panto is stirring once more - Hooray /Boo!

We cannot be sure yet, but hope the Whimbletons will again be able to help lighten the mood of the village during February half-term.

It may be different ... on ice in the car park or socially-distanced (well we are used to the occasional empty seat!) ... but it will be fun - with men in frocks, ladies wearing the trousers, plenty of old jokes and new songs to lift our spirits.

Cathy Bartlett-Horwood



Whimble & District Gardening Club**(WDGC)

Visit to National Trust Kingston Lacy

Thursday 28th October 2021

To book please complete the form below.

Name..... Tel. no.

e-mail address..... e-mails to more than you will be sent Bcc.

Total number of seats.....

Please tick below which applies to you.

*National Trust members that are also members of the WDGC Total £11.....

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If you wish to get on the coach at Whimble please return completed form with a cheque to Mrs Doreen Staddon, 1 Allergrove Cottages, Whimble EX5 2TJ (Tel 01404 823594).

If you wish to get on the coach at Ottery return to Brian Nelson, Gerway House, Gerway Lane, Ottery St Mary EX11 1PW (Tel 01404 813643)

Alternatively, you can hand in your envelope to the Whimble Stores or Roberts Hardware, Ottery St. Mary.

***A reminder to National Trust members to bring your membership cards otherwise you will have to pay for entry.**



** The new name is subject to ratification at the next AGM.

Whimble History Society



So, we're beginning to emerge from our enforced closure; unfortunately, not early enough to provide our usual summer schedule.

However, we did manage to hold the AGM on the 10th September where the Treasurer informed us that running costs at the Heritage Centre had been particularly high this year, largely due to the need to upgrade our electrical and safety equipment. This loss was compounded by the cancellation of our usual money – making events and the decision to extend the period members' subscriptions would last until 30th December 2021. Fortunately, the Treasurer was able to secure a Government Grant of £10,000 as well as support from the South West Museums Art Fund and we were also very grateful to receive a legacy of £1000 from the estate of one of our founder members, Col Bob Roberts.

We were also delighted to be able to vote two new volunteers onto the Committee, Sue Turner and Jonathan Prideaux.

On Wednesday 13th September the Heritage Centre was opened in the afternoon and cream teas were served to a good number of visitors by the Committee.

Apple Pressing will be on Sunday 24th October at the rear of the Heritage Centre from 11am to 2pm. Do bring along your apples to be pressed and empty milk cartons to take away your juice – of which there always seems to be a surplus for droppers by.

The first talk of the year will be at the Victory Hall on Friday 22nd October at 7.30pm when Barry Hamblin will give a timely discussion on the real history of the Gunpowder Plot.

Further ahead, we have the Christmas Lunch on Saturday 11th December and our famous Wassailing event scheduled for Monday 17th January 2022.

Donations for the Christmas lunch raffle will be gratefully received by any of the committee or can be dropped off by the front door of Primrose Cottage, The Green. Once again, we aim to reflect the Christmas spirit by asking for WRAPPED prizes which include a mixture of both fun and the more traditional.

In the meantime – do check out the website whimble.org as Bob Scanlan has kindly uploaded all of the Whimble News Archives going back to 1999.

We are also happy for some of the archive folders to be borrowed by people with an interest in researching aspects of the Village. However, to ensure timely and safe returns we now have a loan agreement to be signed which can be viewed on the Archives page of the website.

Louise Walmsley



Do you like singing, but don't want to go out during the evening?
 A daytime choir is being set up locally, on Monday afternoons under the leadership of Emma Palmer.

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Lee Maddicks

David Drew



We now enter the quieter winter period for the club, although a steady stream of private bookings will keep us ticking over. If you'd like to talk to us about hiring the pavilion for your function or event, please get in touch with James on 07989 234372.

Ben Moon Testimonial Cricket

We were fortunate enough to be able to host this game in early August. Ben Moon is the only remaining Exeter Chiefs player from the 'originals' squad that secured promotion to the rugby premierships in 2010. His testimonial year was due for 2020, but covid delays had meant it rolled over to this year and we were delighted to play our part in celebrating his success and helping raise money for charity.

Ben's team featured familiar Exeter Chiefs faces, taking on an Exeter City XI in a repeat of the fixture we held for Phil Dollman's testimonial in 2019. Back then, it was the City side that won on the day, but the rugby XI were not going to allow a repeat result and came out winners. Despite not playing cricket since his school days, Ben was encouraged by his teammates to bat and bowl. A stunning catch by Jack Yeandle saw him take a wicket with his first delivery, and he found himself at the crease to score the winning runs at the end of the game.

This was a great community event, with the Primary School PTA, Pre-School, The Thirsty Farmer, Courtney's Cider and Revive Health and Wellbeing all playing a part in the day. Just short of 500 people came up to the club and we thank you for your support.

12th Man Festival

Band Night has been a constant fixture at the end of the season for many years. With us not being able to put the event on in 2020, we felt that we wanted to make this year particularly special. Our first-ever '12th Man Festival' was a huge success. With gates opening at 1pm, we welcomed over 400 at the club for a brilliant day of entertainment.

The afternoon began with family entertainer Ben the Juggler before the first of four bands took to the stage. The music started with duo Double Entendre who were followed by covers band Stiletto who then handed on to village favourite, One foot in the Groove. Headliners Stillyano had the crowd on their feet singing and dancing at the end of the night. As they finished their set, fireworks signalled the end of the live music and we moved indoors for a silent disco.

We had entertainment all through the day with probably the biggest bouncy castle Whimble has ever seen, inside and outside bars and food including Courtney's Cider and street food paella, Revive health and wellbeing, and more.





It was a fantastic day and we have no doubt that this is the beginning of an annual event. We're looking at September 10th for 2022, so put that date in your diary now.



Bonfire and Fireworks

Our last remaining date of the year is Bonfire and Fireworks, which this year will be on Saturday 6th November. Sonic Fireworks are set to put on a fantastic display, that will be one of the finest across Devon. Tickets can be bought in the village shop, The Thirsty Farmer or online through the link on our website - www.whimplecc.co.uk. We hope to see many of you there.

James Woollam



WHIMPLE
Pre-School
& Toddler Group

We had a lovely end to the preschool year in July. We had two forest school mornings in the school orchard with Polly Luscombe where the children got to follow tracks to find hiding 'woodland animals'. They made nature crowns, looked for mini beasts and found a slow worm. They had time to safely explore and play in the woodland.

On the last day of term, we had a party in the garden and the brilliant Professor Bumble did a show which had all the children in hysterics! We then had a lovely celebration for 13 of our children who left us to join Whimple School. We wish them every happiness for their future. We hear they have made a great transition into school and have settled in well.

Our focus is now on our younger children who are still with us and our new children who have joined us. We look forward to giving these children a wonderful start to their education and making their learning fun!

We encourage outdoor learning in the fantastic garden that we have, which is now enhanced with our new wooden shelter - this is proving to be a great asset to us in all weathers.

We had to sadly say goodbye to the lovely big cherry tree as the roots were causing damage so we also had to lose our soft surfacing which is invaluable to us in wet weather. We are looking to replace this and have set up a crowd funder to help us and the hall with the costs. Details are on the next page - we would be so grateful for your support.

Thank you.

Jo Sibley



www.whimplepreschool.com

We need your help!

Following removal of the old cherry tree in the Victory Hall gardens, we would love to lay a new 400 square foot all-season safety surface for the benefit of both the Preschool & Toddler Group, and the Victory Hall Garden community users.

We are looking for sponsors to buy 'one square foot' of the surface for £10 to allow us to reach our target for £4000.

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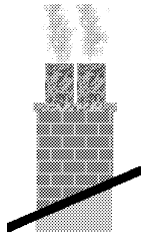
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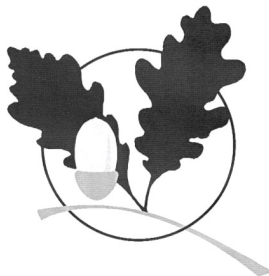
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WHIMPLE TENNIS CLUB

It's been a good latter part of the year at the club now that we are able to play tennis again after it was banned during the second lockdown. The court is playing well and it's in a lovely location.

The social sessions on Thursday evening and Sunday morning have been well attended and much enjoyed, but the majority of our members are families who just enjoy a game now and again.

Membership numbers are good, although not as good as the previous year when we hit our biggest number of members ever!

Presumably this was because in the initial lockdown last year, tennis was one of the few things still allowed; it was only in the second lockdown that it was banned. You were allowed to take a walk with a friend to the tennis club and walk around it, but you weren't allowed to play tennis with your friend! It didn't make much sense to me, but there's no point in questioning the rules, one just had to get on with it and hopefully tennis won't be banned again any time soon.



Because we are basically just a one court club with no changing room facilities, we are not eligible to play in the local LTA club tennis league (two courts and toilets are required), but we did have our own summer tournament this year, two years after the previous one.

Our summer tournament had a total of 5 ladies and 10 men entering and we played in every category – singles, doubles, mixed etc. Although in the ladies doubles, we only had enough ladies for a final! Congratulations to Sarah Thackeray and Gill Rushworth for winning that one and commiserations to Marianne Randall and Joy Whiteley, the runners-up.

In the ladies singles Sarah Thackeray beat Marianne Randall in a close match, and in the men's singles Sam Bowker brushed his opponents aside to take the title, with Julian Cole the runner-up.

The mixed and men's doubles are yet to conclude.

If you'd like to join the club, membership is open and very reasonable, please contact me.

Viv Brown

Secretary

07876653264

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Chi-quilibrium

Chi [chee] noun: the circulating life energy

Equilibrium [ek.wr'lx.b.ri.em] noun: a state of balance



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The Thirsty Farmer's Wednesday Supper Night Series started on Wednesday 1st September. It was a collaboration with Jefferys Kashmiri Cuisine of Ottery St Mary, and certainly warmed the hearts (and the bellies) of all that attended. So, here are a few of our comments. Just a mouth-watering taste of the wonderful Kashmiri food that was created, served, and enjoyed.

TAKEAWAY MENU of COMMENTS

APERITIF

We really enjoyed hearing how each dish had been developed in collaboration with Jefferys

The whole evening felt like a special event, not just 'going for a curry', but an educational taste of Kashmiri Cuisine

STARTERS

It was a great idea to present all the starters buffet style, allowing us to sample the dishes that we wouldn't usually order for ourselves

Zingy fresh flavours in the chicken chaat starter

The onion bhaji was a delightful spicy tangle on the tongue from the orient

MAIN COURSE

Very generous portions

We shared both the cod and chicken. What a great mix of flavours

Great to see ochre on the menu, and cooked to perfection

The main meals were not too spicy, but full of that wonderful Indian flavour from all the fresh ingredients.

All the little extras, poppadoms, naan, vegetables, and rice were perfect

DESSERT

I liked the story behind the desert, and it was good to try something new.

Such a blend of creamy textures with the added zing of mango. Delicious

LEFTOVERS

The best bit was Marc's address which described the journey they took to determine the menu with Jeffrey's help. He blended this with anecdotes and humour, making it a memorable evening experience

TO FOLLOW

Looking forward eagerly to the next one

A German Themed Menu on 6th October

Contact Marc & Donna to book a table

Thank you to contributors -Tim Adkins, Viv Brown, Jenny Jones, Malcolm Randall, Di Wilkins, Glenn Starkey and friends.

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W.A.R.T.S

END OF YEAR UPDATE 2021

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I'm pleased to report our numbers have now increased to 250+ households.

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Please note:- Our last order date for 2021 will be 25th October

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MONDAY 27/06/22

MONDAY 17/10/22

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*Registration to include: Name/Address/Postcode & Telephone Number



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DEVON CPRE

The Voice for Devon's Countryside



Contemporary painter Kath Hadden to help Devon CPRE find 'Best Young Landscape Artist' 2021

Exeter-based landscape artist Kath Hadden will be giving Devon CPRE the benefit of her expertise this autumn to help find the county's most talented young landscape artists.

Devon CPRE, the local branch of the countryside charity, recently launched a new competition to find Devon's Best Young Landscape Artist 2021.

Budding young artists up to the age of 18 can now compete for the prestigious title, following a rebrand of the charity's traditional painting competition for children.

The contest allows the county's under 18s to showcase their artistic skills - and win a cash prize - by capturing Devon's unique and precious landscapes in the medium of their choice. The charity is delighted that accomplished painter Kath Hadden has agreed to help judge this year's entries.

Devon CPRE Director Penny Mills says, "Kath's wonderful paintings are inspired by Devon's coast and countryside, she seemed the perfect choice to become a fellow judge.



We're thrilled she has agreed to help us. The standard of entries has been fantastic in previous years and we're hoping to encourage even more young people to enter in 2021 by raising the age limit to 18. We're really looking forward to seeing what we're sure will be some fantastic paintings and drawings capturing the natural beauty of Devon's coast and countryside."

Anything goes as far as the choice of landscape is concerned - as long as it's in Devon. It could be a favourite beach or beauty spot, a local park or green space, somewhere visited on a day out or even the artist's own garden.

Last year, the standard of artwork was so high during Lockdown that Devon CPRE produced a calendar featuring some of the best paintings and drawings.

Penny adds "We have high hopes that this new competition will yield some stunning artwork and uniquely personal perspectives of Devon in all its summer glory. The competition is simple to enter with cash prizes for each age category. We're looking forward to receiving lots of entries and collaborating with Kath".

Full details of how to enter can be found on the Devon CPRE website. The deadline for entries has recently been extended to 1st November.

www.cpredevon.org.uk/devons-best-young-landscape-artist-2021/

Issued on behalf of The Devon Branch of the Campaign to Protect Rural England CIO, a charitable incorporated organisation with registered charity number 1175228

Media Contact:

Sharon Goble sharon@if-media.co.uk 01392 661062 / 07831 695913

About Kath Hadden

Kath Hadden is a landscape painter working primarily in Devon. She studied Art and Education at the University of Exeter. Kath's work is inspired by the coastline of the South West where she lives and works. Kath's work acts as a visual diary of her experiences, travelling around the coast of Cornwall and Devon. Much of her work is by private commission and Kath works closely with clients to establish their connection to a place before she starts work on a piece. She runs workshops for adults and also has worked in primary and secondary schools teaching art and running collaborative projects.

www.kathhadden.co.uk





Devon's Best Young Landscape Artist Competition 2021

Are you aged 7-11 or 12-18?

To celebrate the natural beauty of Devon's coast and countryside, Devon CPRE's 'Best Young Landscape Artist' competition is inviting young artists to submit a painting, drawing or mixed media artwork capturing a landscape of their choice. Anything goes as long as it's in Devon - a favourite beach or beauty spot, a local park or green space, somewhere visited on a day out or even the artist's own garden.

PRIZES: £100 for the winning entry in each age category and £25 runner up prizes.

Closing date: Monday 1 November 2021

DEVON CPRE

The Voice for Devon's Countryside
www.cpredevon.org.uk

To enter, simply post us your artwork which must be A3 or A4 size, clearly marking your name and contact details on the back and age. Post to: Devon CPRE, PO Box 26, Beaworthy, EX21 5XN.

The Tuck Inn



On the evening of Saturday 4th September, the Common Players brought The Tuck Inn, their outdoor theatre production loosely based on the story of Robin Hood, to the Parish Field.

After Covid had forced the cancellation of Village Week for two years in a row, you can imagine that we were really keen to make sure that the visit went off seamlessly. However, just more than a week before the big day we discovered that the portable toilets were no longer available and after calling more than 20 companies – it was clear the problem wasn't going to be easily resolved. Thank goodness therefore for a bit of ingenuity with a portapotti and support from the Cricket Club, which enabled us to get back on track.

The weather played ball, it was a beautiful evening, and great to see so many folks able to get out and meet with their friends. The evening began with a lovely medley of music by local folk band Strandline, fresh food was provided by Catch 77 and the bar and tea tent were pretty busy.

Many thanks to all those who came along to join in with the fun and to those who contributed their time to bring everything together.

Don't forget – Village Day next year will be on Saturday July 9th 2022.

If anyone would like to join the Village Week team, please do get in touch.
walmsley_louise@yahoo.co.uk



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WHIMPLE CHURCH

<http://churches4all.org/>

What will we choose to plant for the future?

Hello my friends,

As I sit to write this in my study the mellow mists of a slightly autumnal morning are still sitting outside the window. The summer is drawing to an end and gardens and hedgerows are full of berries and fruits. Many of us who have veggie gardens will have that end of summer excess of things like runner beans and courgettes which will be appearing at our garden gates with notes pleading that passers-by will 'help themselves'. In our fields and lanes, tractors and trailers are still rumbling around bringing in the last of the harvest and in our churches, we are preparing to celebrate all that is good in God's world through the ancient rite of The Harvest Festival.

I don't know about you, but I am ready for autumn. I love all the seasons for their own special character but as a country boy there is something about autumn. The bounty of creation combined with the urgent business of bee, bug and bird to ready for the coming winter that I find particularly lovely. There is a strong sense of purpose in the preparation for the harder times of winter but also a subtle underlying optimism for next year. We see it in the planting of things like winter wheat or the storing of seed potatoes, the lifting of tender plants to hide them away in shed or greenhouse; all those things we do to get ready for next year.

In research conducted many years ago it was found that those who work in their gardens are generally more optimistic than the average person. An attitude best summed up in the idea 'that my garden is looking good but wait until you see what it will be like next year!'. We are always thinking of what we can plant not for today but for the future.

Farmers and gardeners are always looking to the future, planning, preparing, tilling, sowing.

Jesus lived in an agrarian society, one based on farming, which is why in his teaching, particularly in parables he uses stories about planting and growing. Jesus uses a parable a lot and they ask questions. Why? Well, maybe because questions bring to the surface our deep thoughts and wishes. Where parables use the familiar and simple to answer those deep questions in ways which force us to think. Jesus is big on that, on us thinking things through.

So, at a time of anxiety, fear and probably doubt what can autumn tell us?

Well, in the twenty first century we are encouraged to look for big events, to seek the big show, grant gestures and virtue signalling, but that isn't the way God often works.

God is often at work in hidden, indirect, and curious ways. Farmers and gardeners know to plan for the future through planting today for tomorrow, they know that the seed lies under ground and begins its work in secret, quietly. They also know that they do not control what the seed does but are required to help it in any way they can.

Gardeners and farmers know we have a job to do and, as Christians, we know it as well. We are called to sow seeds by our words and our deeds. It may involve getting our hands dirty. We may not always see the results of our labours, but that doesn't mean there aren't any. In our lives there will be time for this, it may well not be every day, but it will always be a task which waits for us as seasons come and go.

What sort of seeds will we scatter? It is important to consider this question for a very simple reason, it is on these seeds that the kingdom of heaven is built, little by little, one by one, day by day.

The kingdom of heaven is built on these tiny foundations.

We get to choose what our part is in that by what we scatter: love, kindness, encouragement in our works and deeds? Acts of encouragement and nurture, or cynicism, criticism, negativity? Like weed seeds those aspects of human nature spread rapidly and can lie in the ground just like good seeds, waiting for the right time to emerge, when they can grow into weeds which choke and pollute.

The lesson of autumn is also that we need to have faith and patience to remember that the kingdom of God has its own time and rate of growth, not ours.

We are not in charge of building Jesus' entire world of love and grace for all. Jesus is going to do that through the Holy Spirit. But we are in charge of what we do and what we say.

To choose each day what part we want to play in God's plan for the world.

One last point which is worth considering from seeds, sowers and growth. As the months and years turn, seeds are planted, grow and harvested, but there are also times when ground lies fallow, empty, between seasons, when land needs to be dug and turned and made ready.

In our lives and the life of the church not every season is the same over and over again, some will be but also some will require a different sowing. Then there will be times to pause, take stock of previous harvests, and consider what we do next. It may be a time to do nothing, to let the land we have charge of rest or it might be a time to plough up the land, shake things up and get ready for a new and different crop.

What exactly does that mean for us, I don't know, maybe that is another parable we need to take time to think through.

God bless my friends.

Rev Marc

SQUATTERS' COTTAGES IN WHIMPLE

In the reign of Queen Elizabeth 1, it was commonly believed that if a house was erected during one day on waste ground the builder had right of possession. This caused a problem because of the large number of illegal cottages built in this way.

The law recognised this and in 1589 the Erection of Cottages Act was passed which stated that no cottage was to be built unless it had a minimum of four acres of freehold land.

In 1601 an exemption to this law was enacted to allow the churchwardens to get permission from the Lord of the Manor to build on any waste or common at the general charges of the parish for the poor.

The Erection of Cottages Act was repealed in 1775. The main reason given was it made finding habitation for the poor difficult and may have caused a reduction in the population.

In manorial records there are many references to squatters' cottages but as, of necessity, many were very flimsily built, so they didn't last more than a few years. However, some were rapidly increased in size and became permanent features.

Nikolas Pevsner in the Devon part of his excellent series of books on the Buildings of England in which he gives details of all the interesting buildings in each parish in the county, says when describing Whimple "Knowle Cross. Several good c18 and early c19 cob cottages around the road junction. Survivals of simple one-room and two-room ground floor plans, with hipped thatched roofs; probably squatters' cottages as they are built right on the road and have no land behind".



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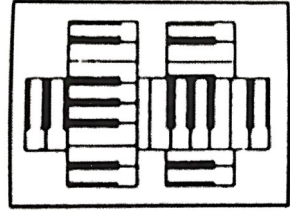
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We welcome all our new children and families to Whimble Primary School. Everyone has settled in really well and we are slowly resuming a range of activities, albeit cautiously.

Our younger children have participated in two Forest School sessions as well as some cooking and craft as part of our revamped Fantastic Fridays. This will be rolled out to our older children later in the term. We are excited to be able to begin planning some other activities and events, fingers crossed these can take place.

You will see from the article written by Joshua and George, that after a year of consultation, and a parent with fabulous art skills, we now have our 'Whimble Wonders' Harvey, Iden, May, Pearl, Latimer and Elstar

These apple characters are to support our children to develop the key skills of learning (and life). We have just started a new project with SkillsBuilder Partnership (more information next issue).

Walking past the school you may have noticed that we have had to remove a number of items due to safety issues. We are currently in the process of procuring a new shelter for our top playground along with some replacement palm trees for the lower playground.

Our PTA have been actively supporting our Orchard and gardening areas over the past twelve months and helped the school to achieve Level 1 in the RHS School Gardening Awards – thank you.

Thank you everyone for your continued support, a special thank you to the Sanders family of Whimble Stores, helping to provide food and donating other items to the school in the past twelve months. Take care and stay safe.

Mrs Carole Shilston, Headteacher

We (Beech Class) have already been busy creating pieces of artwork inspired by the theme of astronomy on hexagons of paper. We all worked really hard and did really well.

They will then be on display at Kennaway House in Sidmouth in October as part of Sidmouth Science Festival 2021.

By **Mason and Caiden**





This year Whimple School has taught us everything we need to know in the most fun and appropriate way they can. After school sports clubs have returned and the restrictions have been eased. They have also introduced us to the new characters to represent the six Rs (respect, reflection, responsibility, resourcefulness, reasoning and resilience) and have given them suitable names.



There are many new children that we have welcomed to our school in the best way we can and we all hope they have a great time learning and making new friends. Later this year we will have many fun trips that help us expand our knowledge of our topics.

By Joshua P and George W (Year 6)



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Primary School (admin@whimple-primary.devon.sch.uk)	
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Friends of Whimble School (FOWS) (whimplefows@gmail.com)	
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Editor

Production

Bob Scanlan 822262
bob.scanlan@eclipse.co.uk

Sally Wilde 823246

Advertising

Ed Hitchcock 01392 427982
edhitch@btinternet.com

Community Diary

Delivery

Cathy Sharkey 822939

Treasurer

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See you again soon.
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