# Whimple News



Aug/Sept 2006

the Summer in our Beer Garden

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#### WHAT'S ON IN WHIMPLE

### August

- 8th WI afternoon tea party details from Ann Bowden 823450
- 11th History Society Guided Village Walk 6.30pm at the Heritage Centre
- 12th VPA Annual Flower Show, Victory Hall, public viewing from 3.00pm
- 28th Come and see the REAL Muffin the Mule Puppet and his puppet friends 10.00am 3.30 pm at the heritage Centre, Church Road

### September

- 10th Devon Historic Churches Trust Bike Ride or Stride details from Mike Ellingham
- 18th Parish Council meeting, Victory Hall, 7.00pm
- 24th Harvest Festival St Mary's Church at 11.00am, followed by 'Bring and Share' lunch in the Victory Hall
- 30th Soup and Sarnie lunch 12.00 noon 1.30 pm, Victory Hall

#### October

16th Parish Council meeting, Victory Hall, 7.00pm

#### November

20th Parish Council meeting, Victory Hall, 7.00pm

## St Mary's Church

#### Monthly Programme of Services

1st Sunday	8.00am	Holy Communion
	11.00am	All Age Service
2nd Sunday	11.00am	Holy Communion
	10.45am	S club11/Impact in the Scout Hut
3rd Sunday	8.00am	Holy Communion
	11.00am	Morning Service
4th Sunday	11.00am	Holy Communion
5th Sunday	10.45am 11.00am	S club11/Impact in the Scout Hut 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 edhitch@tiscali.co.uk

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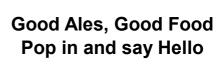
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## Ed The Ed

Welcome to our HOT HOT Sizzling Summer Edition – remember these halcyon Mediterranean days in November when we are feeling the cold, and it has been raining forever, and we go to work with our lights on and we come back from work with our lights on.....and think back to July and August. The long light nights, sitting outdoors in the shade and still being warm, frying eggs on the paving slabs, the midday streets full of dogs and mad Englishmen....Another pint of chilled cider please!

I have continued my efforts to save the environment by cycling into Ottery for the last couple of months and doing a passing resemblance to a lollipop when I arrive...a bright red face, with little white legs. I am delighted to see an invitation for Whimple Runners to meet up at the Thirsty Farmer at 7.20am and 8.10 am on Sundays....I would love to, but can't run with a pint in my hand. And how are they opening so early?

Well done to Jenny Sanders and her team with the successful Village Week – some great support and help from lots of people. We really enjoyed the History Society Treasure Hunt, with some superb clue setting by Katy Howard...it made for an entertaining evening. The Fancy Dress Parade was very well supported and there were some wonderfully creative costumes. Well done to all who took part!

On a sadder note, the village lost Andy Batten, and I was proud that some 350 people came to the church to say goodbye. My main thought that day was that we shouldn't be there, that we were 40 years too early. I delivered a speech that remembered our friendship and the good times, and that was the hardest of all speeches that I have ever made. We shall miss him.

Village life will go on, and I must congratulate the youth teams of the Whimple Cricket Club who appear to be on the verge of taking most of the trophies in East Devon – plus all the help and support behind the scenes that made it happen. Whilst talking of sport...do you see gentle reader, another seamless link that I know you have grown to know and love ...Geoff Delves is hanging up his football managers fur coat, trilby and wellies to rejoin the 'Sunday morning under the duvet club' – thanks for all your hard work with the Football Club over the years, in virtually every role going!

And so gentle reader, rather than exclaiming 'Piffle and balderdash, the man is obviously a sandwich short of a picnic as an editor', put pen to paper, fingers to keyboard and let us have the pearls that fall from your lips, either direct to Bob 'I'm just popping downstairs for a while' Scanlan on bob.scanlan@eclipse.co.uk, or via Jim (any chance of a kiss, Ugly Sister) and Alison at the PO by Monday 18 September.

Lynda Trevena, who has been part of the News team and looked after the 'What's on in Whimple' column, is going to take a rest from the hectic world of local magazines, so thanks to her for all her work over the past months and years. The current Mrs H will take over the Community Diary mantle as I feel she needs more to do now that I have enough cardigans and balaclavas for the oncoming winter.

Stay cool!



Joyce and Hayley have pleasure in announcing a new team member to the salon

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## Whimple Post Office News

As I am sure many of you are now aware as from 31st July we will no longer be able to supply you with a T.V licence.

All enquiries after this date can be made via the BBC helpline on 0845 155 040.

We have just been informed that the Post Office is to discontinue its 'Flowers by Post', by the end of July.

The loss of both of these services are indeed a great concern to us, therefore any extra support that you can offer us for bill payments, cash withdrawals etc will be greatly appreciated.

We are pleased to announce that the card account is still alive and kicking, don't forget if you become entitled to any benefits, including heating allowance, you can still ask for these payments to be made via your local post office. Please ask us for details.

The dreaded 'Pricing in Proportion' is due to be launched on August 21st.

The majority of mail will be unaffected, anything over A4 will be more expensive, but the advantage is smaller letters can weigh up to 100grams for 23p/32p.

All households should receive a pricing guide, or you can pick one up from the Post Office.

Thanking you all for your continuing support.

Jim & Alison

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## Village Week Review

Village Week in the reign of Queen Natasha! Another year of frantic organisation was rewarded with a lovely Village Week and this would not happen without the support and hardwork of the PTFA committee. A huge thank you to all who helped out organising stalls for Village Day, for all the unseen months of planning before, and to Vicky Kendrew and her team of helpers for sorting out the bunting. A big thank you to the Cricket Club, the History Society, WACY, the Young Farmers, the Pre-School, the Church, Lucy Ambler and the Thirsty Farmer for their events. This year we were fortunate to receive some sponsorship for the programming from Halls Estate Agents who also sent the program out as part of their regular mailing. Paul and Gill Mallett also sponsored a stall on the day as did Mark Middleton's company AEP Ltd. This support is not only a great encouragement, but also allows us to try new things which we previously had thought too costly. The grand raffle this year had nearly £400 worth of prizes so a huge thank you to all of the following who kindly donated prizes - The Jack in the Green, Crealy Park, St David's Restaurant at Exeter College, Diggerland at Cullompton, The New Fountain Inn, Bicton Park, Cathy Bartlett Horwood, Richard Wellesley, Moto Services at Sowton, Devon Railway Centre at Bickleigh, Thomas Moore toys and clothing in Exeter, Otter Nurseries, Farway Countryside Park, Odeon Cinemas, Joshua's Harvest Store at Ottery, The Thirsty Farmer and Somerfield who also kindly donated a large quantity of DVD's used as prizes for the games and Tesco for their voucher. The support of these companies is very much appreciated. Village Day was great fun. Ann Daniels did a great job organising the fun run and raised money for the PTFA - so thank you Ann. Thanks also to Richard and Clive for the breakfast stall. Camilla did another great job organising the Fancy Dress Parade and still managed to find time to dress up herself. I think the Fancy Dress Parade is wonderful so thanks to Camilla and the judges. A big thank you also to Graham Fowle who kindly donated prizes for the Fancy Dress as well as for stalls at the Fete. The committee and parents did a great job with the interesting stalls at the Fete and everyone seemed to have a great time. A special thank you to Hitts Barton for providing pony rides - this seems an essential part to the Fete and a good fund raiser. Boyd Bears were among the companies who donated a lot of toys and Andrew Peters kindly allowed us to borrow some hay bales. The teachers supported this event and manned a stall as did Alison and Jim Creasey on behalf of the governors. This makes the event a great thing for the unity of the school especially with the support of the Year 6 children who manned a stall and the interest of other children like William Bowden, Abigail Bunkum, Hannah Tierney and Jessica Burt who all took it upon themselves to come up with fundraising ideas. A big thank you to all the children at the school who helped and even those who have left but came back to help out with nail painting -Naomi, Rachel, Lucy, Kitty, Emma and Alicia. I think the star event must go to Dave Palmer's hamster racing - a lot of work for Dave but a lot of fun.



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The massages seemed to be very popular and raised a large amount of money which was all donated to the PTFA by the wonderful Lucy Ambler and Sally Baker. Thank you very much for the donations and also for the massages - they were great. We must also thank our wonderful Queen Natasha Katz who raised nearly £100 for our funds and was a very deserving Queen who looked fantastic. Well done and thank your Natasha. At the end of the day the PTFA raised just over £2,000 for the funds and this will help towards our target for helping to build an outdoor classroom. Any one who can help with building skills would be very much appreciated and should contact me. Don't forget this a PTFA. We have parents and teachers support but we would like some more friends. We already have friends in the form of local businesses loyal support of money and encouragement such as Paul and Gill Mallett. We also have support from parents who no longer have children at the school such as Ann Daniels and Camilla Witton. We all need friends and in these days of the schools being short of funding and under increasing pressures we would value anyone who would like to be involved. I hope you all enjoyed Village week and the Fete and look forward to your support of our great local school.

Jenny Sanders 01404 823015

#### WHIMPLE FUN RUN 2006

The weather for this years fun run was fortunately kind and saw a record turnout of 78 runners and one dog 'Blue Camp' who came in ahead of his owner Rob at a commendable 40. All runners did exceedingly well in the heat, with only one child being bowled over in the excitable frenzy at the start of the race. The winners were:

Under	8	Male	<ul> <li>Oliver Wellesley</li> </ul>	(10m 57.3s)
Under	8 1	female	- Chloe Betts	(10m 57.6s)
Under	10	Male	- Charlie Spicer	(7m 40.6s)
Under	10	Female	- Abigail Bunkum	(9m 33.3s)
Under	13	Male	<ul> <li>Joseph Daniels</li> </ul>	(6m 35.9s)
Under	13	Female	- Rachel Daniels	(7m 49.6s)
Over	13	Male	- Jake Langdon	(6m 48.4s)
Over	13	Female	- Eleanor Dodd	(8m 8.5s)

A huge apology is owed to David Henderson (6m 54.5 s) for the mix up of adult male winner. Unfortunately Tom (the timekeepers) fingers are rather on the large size and hit an incorrect key, causing Jake's name to be deleted from computers finishing line up. My thanks to all the helpers, including Graham from the shop who provided the orange juice and came to the rescue once again with a large box of safety pins. And a special mention for Leeson's trophies of Honiton who have engraved the trophies free of charge for many years now. I look forward to seeing you all on the starting line next year.

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# Whimple Village Day Fancy Dress Competition Results

#### Under 5's

1.	Alien	Richard Betts
2.	Gone Commando	Charlie Taylor
3.	Rubics Cube	Brock Banfield

#### Age 6 - 11

1.	Cyberman	Rebecca Hart
2.	Mrs Tiggywinkle	Harry Sanders
3.	<b>Humpty Dumpty</b>	David Banfield

#### Age 12+

1.	The Droid	Carol Hart
(no	other entries)	

#### Groups

1.	Bride & Groom	James & Freya Harris
2.	Cinderella	various!

3. **Cops & Robbers** Tom, Robbie & Sam Palmer

Once again it was very hard to judge the entries - they all looked so impressive! A big thanks to Graham in the shop who provided free lollies to the children who entered the fancy dress. I hope Jim from the Post Office has got over the trauma of being mauled by Cinderella's Ugly Sisters! He had to be rushed to casualty to have the red lipstick marks removed from his face and head!! (For future reference, if you want to come first, you must give Jim a kiss before the judging, not afterwards!)

#### Naome Glanville



## FROM MY WINDOW IN THE SQUARE

#### **Edith Marie-Louise Grant**

Harvest approaches with its bustling day
The wheat turns brown and barley bleaches grey
In yellow garb the oatland intervenes
And tawney glooms the valley thronged with beans

They say that a dry and warm August does harvest no harm and I think this year should be quite prosperous provided we do not have too many thunderstorms laying the wheat on its side. The poet Byron said that the English winter ended in July and started in August. What with Midsummer coming three days after the Summer Solstice, the start of Summer, it seems to me that the English weather offers us a great range of possibilities. It makes me wonder whether the actual Summer ends six days after the longest day. Something to think about.

Our wonderful Village Flower Show is always great fun and well supported; the very long and slender parsnips, the mouth watering tomatoes, the baskets of mixed vegetables, the delightful rose buds, beautiful vibrant dahlia, the pansies with their charming friendly faces, the flower arrangements which show always the greatest imagination of interpretation and also reflect how well the WVPA committee, without whom the programmes would not be thought out to encourage as many entries as possible. I always like the children's corner; the creativity and imagination of our young ones is certainly proof that talent exists in Whimple. Dogdays, the first two weeks in August, often bring sultry hot weather. They are named after the bright dog-star, Sirius, which time rises and sets with the sun. Settled weather on St Bartholomew's day, the twenty fourth, promises a fine Autumn. There is a country saying that:

If Bartholomew's Day is bright and clear Then a prosperous Autumn comes that year

No sight enhances the pleasure of a summer's walk than a host of butterflies fluttering before one or feeding, wings outstretched, on the hedgerow blossoms. The butterfly hatches toward the end of July and is on the wing well into September. It is particularly attracted by brambles in bloom and of course buddleias are their favourite. I have planted quite a few buddleias, both the ordinary mauve variety and the yellow globes.

The abnormal growths on plants known as gall are among the most frequent objects to excite attention and question in the countryside. Many are at their best late Summer and also most conspicuous. Galls are caused by a variety of different organisms which stimulate the affected part of the plant to abnormal development.

Most are caused by animals, but a few by funghi. I find that perhaps the most bizarre is the Robin's Pincushion, also known as Briar-balls, moss gall, or bedegaur gall, commonly found on both the dog rose and field rose. But by far the largest number of different galls are found on the oak such as the familiar oak-apple, marble galls and the currant and spangle galls caused by different generations of the same species of gall-wasp.

I found this old fashioned poem by John Clare from his shepherd calendar and thought it would fit in well for my October story:-

Here the industrious housewives wend their way
Pulling the brittle branches carefully down
And hawking loads of berries to the town
With unpretending skill yet half divine
To press and make their elderberry wine
That bottled up becomes a rousing charm
To kindle winters icy bosom warm
That with its partner nut brown beer
Makes up the peasants Christmas keeping cheer

In Devon we seem far ahead of other counties in England in our celebration of harvest festivals. October is really the month of celebrating the bounty of the land being reaped and when people start preparing for Winter. Keats called it the 'Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness'. It often brings sunny days after the morning mists have cleared and I have even heard it said that October always has twenty one fine days. I have not checked that, but let us hope it is true. Some years Autumn days have vivid, almost dazzling colours. In the Square we have a maple which year after year has the most enchanting colours and I usually pick up the leaves and dry them between newspaper, they come in so handy for Christmas table decorations. In the hedges in my garden I have the very pretty Clematis Vitalba. Clematis comes from the Greek word meaning 'vine-shoot' from the resemblance of its branches. Vitabla comes from the Latin word for vine and alba 'white' for its fruit. The clematis is better known around here as 'Travellers Joy'. It was John Gerrard who coined that name for the well known climber so decorative in our autumn hedges because it is decking walls and hedges where people travel. It has also another rather sweet name 'virgin's bower' considering it is a suitable plant to form an arbour in which young girls would sit, protected from the Summer sunshine and from passers-by. In the Victorian language of flowers it stood for rest and safety. Its other very common name is 'old man's beard' partly because of its feathery tufts and partly because this Old Man, alias The Devil, can twist around the trees and shrubs and choke them. It is also called 'boys bacca' cigar length of the stems as they are hollow and do not easily burn. What an amazing plant.

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## One way of celebrating a significant birthday!

Just before 6pm on 29th May 2006, to celebrate my impending 50th Birthday, I set out to run an overnight Ultra Marathon from the beach at Lee Abbey, near Lynton on a route heading across Exmoor via Barbrook, Simonsbath, and then on very minor roads - to Dulverton, Exbridge, Oakfordbridge, Tiverton, Brithem Bottom, Clyst Hydon, Aunk and finally home to Whimple.

An Ultra Marathon is defined as anything over 50 kilometres (31.25 miles). In the past I've run a couple of Marathons on the flat, and in the months before those I had done the sort of training runs and mileages that meant finishing was reasonably likely. This, though, was very different. In many ways a journey into the unknown. The number of steep climbs, the overall distance, the hours on my feet and the duration of the night time sections were all unchartered territory. I hoped 50 kilometres was possible (to celebrate 50 years), and that 60 kilometres could be achieved (to celebrate Lee Abbey's 60th Anniversary).

At a couple of points the whole thing felt virtually impossible; first on a blustery Exmoor at about 35 kilometres in the cold and pitch black; and then again at about 74 kilometres at Brithem Bottom, south east of Tiverton, where a colleague from work, Cathy, had agreed to join me running the last leg of the journey. Just after 4am I sat down in the back of our car outside her house to drink and to eat some chocolate and peanuts. It took three attempts before I could even stand again, let alone move! Over the last few miles I had to walk up all the hills, and even on some of the flat sections. Running became very tough.

On 30th May, with the sun beginning to rise and just after completing 80 kilometres/50 miles I also reached the age of 50; A moment of elation. Finally, I was very pleased to finally arrive at Whimple in time for breakfast after a total of 93 kilometres/58 miles. To be candid, I didn't know if I would get as far as Whimple; though I knew if I did that Sidmouth would 'only' be another 16 kilometres, which might seem tantalisingly close... I can now safely say that when I ran into the village I had no desire to go any further! The picture shows us with the journey nearly complete, about a mile outside the village.



Two people supported me all the way, by driving on a distance and waiting for me to catch up; making sure I drank enough fluid and encouraging me constantly. Dy, my wife, and Nikki another Whimple resident and good friend. Dan and a friend Alistair, also each covered roughly half the journey in their cars so that at all times there were two vehicles within a reasonable distance of me.

And Lee Abbey? It is a remarkable holiday and conference centre set in 280 acres including its own beach, located at the western end of the Valley of the Rocks. It is run by a resident international Christian Community and opened its doors in June 1946. I'm raising money to help furnish new accommodation planned for the community www/LeeAbbey/org.uk/2006. If you would like to contribute I have a website <a href="https://www.justgiving.com/markbeedellultramarathon">www.justgiving.com/markbeedellultramarathon</a>

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## Whimple Runners

Would you be interested in running either approximately 5 miles or 10 miles on a Sunday morning? No racing is planned, this will be at a steady pace at which talking is possible!

As from 10th September, for an experimental four week period, I plan to set out from the Thirsty Farmer at 7.20am and run for about 5 miles, getting back to the Thirsty Farmer at around 8.10am, and then continuing by running on for another 5 miles. Anyone over 18 years old is very welcome either to join the run at 7.20am or at 8.10am; finishing at around 9.00am.

If you'd like to join me, please phone in advance (823675) in case arrangements for a particular Sunday need to change.

Mark Beedell



## Whimple Primary School

We still need more volunteers to supervise

our walking buses from

September.

If you are interested and would like to know more, please contact:

Emma Palmer 823083

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## Barn Dance in the Blossom

Thank you to everyone who supported my "Barn Dance in the Blossom".

Demand for tickets was huge and I sold a lot more than I'd originally planned. At one point I was having to advise people to search on EBay to see if any tickets were being auctioned but sadly they weren't.

Despite there being no blossom left on the trees due to the rather unhelpful weather leading up to the event, we were still able to go ahead in the orchard and the evening ended up being quite warm and still and the dance floor was only a skid pan for the last few dances. I have since found out that other villages around suffered torrential rain that evening so thanks be to "Him Upstairs" and thank you if you were among the number I know who were praying for fine weather – clearly a case of not *what* you know but *who*!

The evening raised a massive £1200, which, together with other donations has meant I have been able to send off over £1600 to the work of Habitat for Humanity.

Top Tip – don't underestimate how many things can go wrong in a raffle!

And finally; one tiny detail - due to a change in family circumstance I am unable to go away on the trip to Kenya at the end of August as originally planned but instead am now going to go to Tanzania in November - still with HFH.

Sue Wilson

## Whimple Victory Hall

The next Soup and Sarnie Lunch
will be on Saturday 30th September
from 12.00noon until 1.30pm
in aid of Hall funds
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### Wonderful Whimple Raises over £800 for Cathedral Choir

The good people of Whimple contributed over £800 to the Exeter Cathedral Choir Tour Fund, from two events staged in the village last month.

On 17th June the boy and girl choristers gave a concert at St Mary's. The evening consisted of a varied programme, which gave the Children, all of whom are under-13, the opportunity to share their musical talents with Whimple residents.

There were some outstanding solos both instrumental and voice, and the group work, be it the wind ensemble, the girl choristers or the boy choristers, or the whole Choir was enchanting. This event alone raised over £300.

The following Saturday (24th June), the sun shone as Edith Grout opened up the 'Old Manse' home to host a 'Strawberry Fayre'. Local residents not only attended this event in good numbers, but also supported it by donating raffle prizes and preserves. In addition, hard-earned cash was exchanged for punnets of fresh strawberries and plants donated by Edith.

The raffle was conducted with great enthusiasm and humour, by local Broadcasting personality, Sally Sedgeman, who kindly gave of her time to support this fundraiser.

Tea and Coffee were served by willing volunteers, as visitors took advantage of the weather to admire Edith's garden. The Dean of Exeter Cathedral and his wife were among those who attended the Fayre.

In all. £505 was raised and donated to the Chorister Fund.

The Choristers of Exeter Cathedral are scheduled to go to Milwaukee, Illinois, Rhode Island and New England for 14 days of concerts and performances in July. This intensive tour has had to be funded, in the main, by fundraising activity.

It is a credit to all those involved, that by harnessing the support of people like the generous folk of Whimple, over £55,000 has been secured / pledged to enable the tour to take place.

The Choir will represent Exeter Cathedral and Devon with honour and enthusiasm. They would like to express their heartfelt appreciation to all those in Whimple who supported them.

Graham Deasy, chairman

Matthew Locke Society (Chorister Parents Association)

**Exeter Cathedral** 

Wendy, Marie and Russell Batten would like to thank everyone for their kind words of support, plus their cards, over the past few weeks after the sad death of Andy.

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# WHIMPLE AND DISTRICT VILLAGE PRODUCE ASSOCIATION

By the time this reaches you all it will time for the annual Flower Show on Saturday 12th August, the highlight of our yearly events. No doubt many of you are or have been putting the final touches to your exhibits or are hoping that nothing untoward devours your garden produce before it gets into the Victory Hall! Once again we are looking forward to seeing a wonderful array of exhibits and having the Victory Hall filled with the creativity that exists in the village.

This year the arrangements for getting your entries in have changed. For those of you who have been used to taking them round to Sandfords for many years please note that this year we have arranged for this to be done in the Billiard Room at the Village Hall on the Monday 7th, Tuesday 8th and Wednesday 9th August in the evening from 5.30 to 8.00pm.

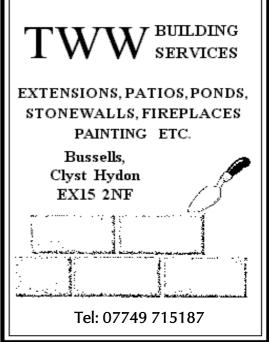
On the day of the show, all entries must be in place by 10.00am as this is when the Judging starts. As usual the doors are open for public viewing at 3.00pm.

We look forward to seeing you all on Saturday 12th August for what we hope will be another memorable show.

Paul Wilson, Hon. Secretary.







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# S Club 11 & IMPECT

In September SClub11 (5 - 9) & Impact (10 - 14) start meeting again in the Scout Hut at 10:45am - 12:15pm on alternate Sunday mornings.

Please join us – <u>especially if you've just turned 5 or started at school!</u> or if you haven't been for a while.

"Bring-A-Friend" and both you and your friend get a prize!

Friends from surrounding villages are encouraged to come - & it's all free!!

Forthcoming dates are: Sep 10th, Sep 24th, Oct 8th, Oct 22nd,

Nov 12th, Nov 26th, Dec 10th

Also linked to the Informal Monthly <u>Celebration</u> Service at 11.00a.m. Sep 3rd, Oct 1st, Nov 5th, Dec 17th (Christmas Special!).

P.S. More members for the mini-'band'/'orchestra' warmly welcomed!

#### For more info contact:

Phil or Rebecca Dominy on 822163 or dominypr@hotmail.com or visit www.geocities.com/dominyclan/SClub11.html

The Post Office Magazine "Sorted" invites its readers to nominate their local Post Office for a special award. If we can commend what Jim and Alison are doing, especially anything out of the ordinary, they could win  $\pm 500$  and a special award.

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## WHIMPLE FOOTBALL CLUB

It was once again another tough year in Division 4 of the Sunday League; after having some of our players leaving us through work commitments, we had to get in some new blood. Sean Window had taken over as Player-Manager from his brother Paul this year and had a tough job to do getting players together on Sunday mornings – never an easy job at the best of times – well done!

We had mixed fortunes in League and Cup – we ended the season 10th in the League – not so good when there are only 12 altogether. As for the Cup we got to the semi-final of the Jim Howard Cup where we lost 3-2 to a team in a higher division. I was a bit disappointed at the poor turn out of villagers for the match as it was played under floodlights at Clyst Honiton on a Thursday night. We put up posters around the village – perhaps now the World Cup is on, people might become interested in a bit of local football in the forth-coming season.

Still, it's not all doom and gloom for Whimple FC, we did get a trophy for The Sportsmans Award , not only for our Division but for all Divisions, which also meant that we got a nice bonus of  $\pm 50$  to go towards this season's affiliation fees. Well done to all the players.

It was 1992 when I started up the Football Club. Derek Brown was the landlord of the Thirsty Farmer where it all started with just a few of us kicking a ball about outside the pub – Mark Fenner, Kev Ball, Paul Forty, Ian Brown, Darren Green, Martin Ball, Billy Bloomfield, Stuart Austin, Martin Crew, and Mat Barnes to name but a few. What memories! From going to a scrap yard to get the steel to make the goal posts to us actually playing our first game which I think we lost – Kentucky Fried Chicken was the team from Exeter – no change there then!

Having been goal maker, line marker, player, manager, kit washer, money collector, chairman and every other job there is to

go with running a football team, I feel it is time to step aside. This is my last year to be involved in the Football Club and I have now stepped down as Chairman. The new Chairman is Ben Silk – good luck, mate.

Thank you to all who have been involved in Whimple FC over the years.

THANK YOU ALL

**Geoff Delves** 



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# A Vision for Whimple The Whimple Parish Plan

By comparison with other parishes which have undertaken preparation of a Parish Plan, the response to the Consultation Events in the Victory Hall on Saturday 3rd June and the following Tuesday was, we are told, exceptional. A total of 267 people attended, including 29 youngsters aged 11 - 17 who made some valuable comments.

The competition for the younger children attracted only 17 entries but their views on Whimple were enlightening and helpful. Congratulations to Edmund Kelly and Elliott Board for winning their respective classes.

More than 1860 comments were posted on the nine topic boards, and a very crude summary of the main areas of interest is set out below. The key issues which could be developed into an Action Plan are currently being translated into a series of questions which will be included in a questionnaire to be delivered to every house in the parish, hopefully in early September.

The steering group is grateful to Whimple W.I. for serving the refreshments at the Consultation Event, to the Pre-School Playgroup for provision of crèche facilities and to Milestone Garage who provided some of the teenagers' raffle prizes. We were also fortunate to secure some of the Devon County Show poster boards which were very useful.

The preparation of the Parish Plan is primarily funded by a grant from Defra, secured via the Community Council of Devon.

A pair of sunglasses was left in the Hall on the Saturday. Please contact Mike Ellingham on 822945 if you have lost them.

**Education -** The Primary School is important to the village, with strong feelings that a new school and/or better facilities are needed. A number of people said that they would like Whimple to come within the King's School catchment. Better facilities are needed for Pre-School.

**Roads and Transport** - Speeding and road safety attracted by far the most comments of all, and parking problems (mainly in The Square) are also a key issue. There is also strong support for keeping and improving the train and bus services.

**Environment -** Recycling is considered by many to be an important issue, with better facilities and education of young people. There is clear concern over litter in the village, and many people value the surrounding orchards.

**Local Amenities -** There is very strong support for keeping a village shop and a post office. There is also a significant feeling that Whimple needs a new

all-purpose community hall or, at least, refurbishment of the Victory Hall. Many people (including, we suspect, the younger respondents) feel that there should be wider use of the Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA), and much more use should be made of the Parish Field. Significant numbers of people would like to see public toilets, a tea room or a village green/picnic area, and wider use of the church

**Recreation -** Facilities for young people are a major issue, with suggestions for somewhere for them to meet and provision of generally improved facilities for both younger and older children.

**Housing -** Various comments about Cranbrook, with the importance of maintaining a green wedge between the new town and Whimple. Affordable housing is an issue, but views are equally divided for and against further development in Whimple.

**Social Issues -** The key issues are maintaining the Doctors' surgery and improved facilities for young people.

Thank you to everyone who contributed at this stage of the Plan preparation, and to the steering group who were greatly encouraged by the response and appreciative of the complimentary comments received about the Consultation Event.

Steering Group - Annie Bassett, Richard Betts, Fiona Bowyer, Mike Ellingham, John Griffiths, Jenny Sanders, Liz Silk, Alex Tooze, Adrian Williams

Mike Ellingham

Following the 'Vision for Whimple' day on Saturday June 3rd, the current Mrs H noticed some comments regarding lack of knowledge about the existence of a local police beat officer. She bravely seized the initiative and asked Jim Tyrrell, to put some words together about his role in local policing. You will find this on page 35. We have to be realistic and acknowledge that Jim cannot be in the village all the time, and if you read the details of his 'patch', you will appreciate why. However, I do see Jim on a regular basis in the village which is pleasing, and I know that he takes an interest in the village, and attends the Parish Council Meetings regularly, to report on the local situation.

Ed H

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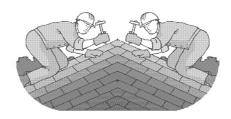
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## MESSAGE FROM PC JIM TYRRELL, YOUR LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD BEAT OFFICER.

For those of you that have not met me or know of me, I thought it timely to give an input into the Whimple News as to my role within the area.

I am the Ottery St Mary Rural Beat Officer and the following areas come under my responsibility - Whimple, Talaton, Clyst Hydon, Clyst St Lawrence, Fairmile, Fenny Bridges, West Hill, East Hill, Wiggaton, Tipton St John, Aylesbeare. Also, from time to time' when staffing conditions dictate, I assist in covering the wider Ottery St Mary Police area which in addition to the above areas includes Ottery St Mary itself, Rockbeare, Clyst Honiton, Broadclyst, Killerton, Ashclyst Forest, Poltimore, Stoke Canon, Upton Pyne, Rewe, Brampford Speke etc. and the Airport.

As you will already have established, Ottery St Mary Police cover a significant area and it is often a case of me helping out in the wider area when needs must.

My role within my own patch is in effect to deal with anything that comes my way. If I am not on duty and a job needs resourcing, my colleagues at Ottery St Mary will be tasked to deal if it is something that cannot wait until I am next on duty. If it is something that can be dealt with in slow time by myself, then the job will be passed on to me when I am next at work.

If you need to contact me you will need to ring the Central Switchboard number on 08452 777444 and ask for me. If I am not on duty you can leave me a message which I will pick up on the computer when I am next at work.

You can also email me on <u>James.TYRRELL@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk</u> If you have any particular issues which you need to discuss with me I will gladly assist.

One of the major complaints I receive is about speeding vehicles along Church Road. You will all be aware that Church Road is not blessed with much pavement and I would ask you all to have as much consideration as possible for all other road users. I do not want to have to report back to you in due course about someone having been injured in an accident because of excess speed by motorists who should all be well aware of the need for extra care along Church Road and elsewhere come to that!!

On a happier note, generally speaking Whimple and the surrounding area enjoys a low crime rate. The village is well blessed with Neighbourhood Watch. If you see something suspicious, please don't hesitate to report it at the time. It is far better that we know immediately rather than a few days down the line.

## **Bonjour Tous!**

How are you all? We hope that you are all well and enjoying summer.

We went for a drive in the Pyrenees the other day. We were quite remote, miles from any sign of life, or so it seems. We drove quite calmly on a B road, as you do, when suddenly, out of no-where, a guy in uniform appeared and waved us to a halt in a lay-by. Nothing too unusual perhaps but for the fact that once in the lay-by, we saw that there were may more uniformed people, who appeared to be customs and excise. We saw one more car in the lay-by and this car had the boot open, all 4 passengers were standing outside the car whilst the custom people were searching their car. Apparently they were looking for cigarettes, alcohol and drugs as, unbeknown to us, this particular road is a famous rat run for smugglers, coming from Spain. So after a quick inspection of our car, we were waved on. Most peculiar to us, but according to locals it is quite normal

I do love the way the French communities in rural France still 'live off the land' as it were. In the weekend people go with whole families into the countryside and look for food, either by fishing, hunting fruit and vegetable searching. For instance in winter and spring people go wild boar shooting (and they are plentiful in these regions), fishing, mushroom picking, wild asparagus hunting, then before you know it the cherry season is upon us, wild cherry trees are plentiful here in the Corbieres, so people freeze them, bottle them, make alcohol with them, make jam then it is the turn for apricots, peaches, walnuts, strawberries, currants, gooseberries, almonds and asparagus (which are wild just about everywhere too).

Then we go into the summer with blackberries, pears, more mushrooms and late summer of course the grapes, apples followed by mushrooms again in autumn. Then the whole cycle recommences. I think this is all possible because there are vast areas still here, which are not cultivated for farmland nor sprayed like we were familiar with in the south west of the UK.

Also instead of planting ornamental trees in their gardens here, people tend to plant trees and shrubs, which have a food value, which of course also makes sense. People will go out in little family groups and have a great day out, fruit picking or mushroom hunting and the like which fosters good family relations in my opinion, it also solves the 'bored teenager syndrome'. What a great way of life! Long may it continue, as this is one of the things that attracted us to this region, being such a wonderful area for children to grow up; the wealth of culture, nature and just simple way of life.

Paul has been decorating in a house just half a mile down the road. The owner had recently had some furniture delivered by a removal company and whilst talking to one of the chaps it transpired that he also does a bit of gardening as a sideline. Now this person was hoping to have some work done and this was arranged to be done yesterday. Imagine Paul's utter amazement when yesterday the chap arrived in a small box van, followed by another, followed by a car which all parked on the lawn next to the house. Out of all these vehicles came: the

gardener/removal man, his wife, 2 babies, two of his brothers, and finally his mother. Paul was watching with amazement and nearly fell of his decorator's steps, when the wife proceeded to install a hammock between two trees, and got out a picnic blanket. A fire was laid and a huge cook-pot came out. Then a dog appeared and to top it all , washing was done over the fire, and a washing line appeared. Paul quickly called his boss, who at first thought he was making a joke. Upon closer inspection it transpired that this man belonged to a gipsy commune and thought he would set up camp whilst doing the job.

As if this was not enough excitement for one day, we created our own too! Paul had to pick up some official government translations from a translator near Limoux. She had suggested that we would meet her in front of the local village cave in a place called St. Hillaire near Limoux, as she, herself, lived too far away somewhere in the sticks. It all sounded quite simple and we arranged a rendezvous for Sunday 2.30pm.

No sooner said then done. Now I have to tell you that this 'official' government translator asked us if we were willing to pay in 'cash' in order to avoid the necessary taxes for the government, who she worked for...yes, I know...say no more, we are doing everything by the book out of fear of being deported, and there is a government official asking for a backhander as it were... She even e-mailed us that she would be wearing dark glasses and driving a Volkswagen Polo (what, no Peugeot???...frowned upon by the government I bet...),

So there we were, standing in front of a wine cave which is normally closed on a Sunday in 35 degrees when everyone is enjoying the 5 hour long Sunday lunches...but still... where was Madame?

Paul got quite hot and we decided to park our car in the shade of the weighbridge in front of the cave. With that Paul got out of the car as temperatures inside a stationary car very fast started to exceed the 35 degrees outside. Paul walked to the back of the car and suddenly I heard an almighty bang and crash... My first thought was that Paul had decided to open the back door and with that, knocked himself out...as attempted before...Non! He had actually got out of the door and taken a step back...straight down a shute where local farmers would deposit their grapes in the grape picking season, and which leads down into a weighing vessel below the ground level and from where the grapes are transported into the wine making process area.

I didn't know any of this and went running down to the back of the car to expect Paul lying flaked out behind the car, but instead found him upside down six feet down a shute...Yes I know, these things happen only to us...When we had recovered both from hoots of laughter we saw that in fact he had a very lucky escape as had the grill, which we presume is there during the non-vendange time, not been there he would have had a serious injury.

With that our elusive 'Madame' arrived, we paid our 'black money' backhander and off we went...Never a dull Sunday!!!

Au revoir

Janine Peryer.

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# *Adrienne Whiteway* 1919 – 2006

It is with sadness that we record the death of Mrs. Whiteway, nee Jackson, the wife of Mr Eric.

Her funeral service took place in St Mary's Church on Tuesday 20th June and was well attended.

She had many established links with the village and was a generous benefactor to its clubs, societies and church.

She was born in Patna, India, and lived there for some time but received the majority of her formal education in this country at different schools, including Wycombe Abbey, and University College London in the late 1930s. It was during her time at UCL that she first met Eric Whiteway and in 1948 they were united in marriage.

In addition to being a devoted and loyal wife she was a keen tennis player and in particular enjoyed many happy hours playing that game at the Victoria Park Club in Exeter. She enjoyed Scottish Dancing and was a member of a Scottish Dancing Group. And she liked visiting her sister Judith, and her family, in Scotland.

Although she has departed this life memories of her will always remain.

#### **Andy Batten**

We would like to thank all the many friends of Andy who sent cards, flowers and many phone calls to us after his sad death and to all the people that came to the church.

We will miss him greatly. Also we would like to thank all his friends old and new that helped Andy through his last traumatic year.

Many thanks to you all

Vera and Trevor

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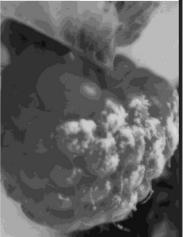
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# "Gotta Dream Boy - Gotta Song? Paint Your Wagon and Roll Along"!

You know what; every time I see that guy with the wagon and horse parked neatly up on the verge at Devon Smithy this song comes to mind. I wondered if his life was as idyllic as it looked - well, no harm in asking...

With a love of nature and deep rooted scepticism of society, John Treagood turned his back on 'normal' life and took to the roads some thirty seven years ago in his native home of Kent. Having spent thirty years on foot (the last thirteen being in Devon) John decided to turn to horse and wagon some seven years ago when he'd saved enough money to buy the materials himself. It took him three months to build the wagon based on a Kentish bow-top design.

Horse husbandry was learnt as a boy on the family farm so the move to take ownership of one didn't faze him at all. Gildor is around ten years old and being part Welsh cob is thick in stature and stubborn in nature. When on an uphill incline John has appealed to folks passing in cars to please not slow down in front of the horse and take photos as Gildor loses momentum and grinds to a complete standstill. Whereby John has absolutely no alternative but to sit...... and wait...... till Gildor recovers and makes his own decision when to be on the move again! Gildor can anticipate traffic light flows and knows to stop at white lines, in fact the only thing that freaks him out is braying donkeys

so no visits to the Donkey Sanctuary of late! Gildor is in the peak of health with a diet mainly consisting of grass and clover along with whatever else suits growing on

the roadside. His hooves are unshod as John (having a BA in medieval history) tells me shoeing horses only came about when going into battle ensured a lethal fighting weapon. A happy and healthy Gildor is John's main concern and you can be sure that he endeavours to keep the horse this way.

He wakes at first light, followed by a regime of feeding, grooming, tidying the camp and completing any repairs. On mobile days John aims for three or four travelling hours aiming to stop at about 11am. A suitable kerbside would have been chosen where he is legally allowed to park offering plenty of good grazing and shade for Gildor. John says his life would be complete if he could have a water bowser

attached to the back of the wagon! Not only is it necessary for Gildor and Gizmo (the dog) but John drinks three pints of water a day as he believes it "gets rid of impurities" - as well as all the other obvious uses for water that we take for granted.

Gizmo a Staffordshire bull terrier cross is sixteen years old (though you wouldn't know it)! His contribution to the camp is bringing in the odd rabbit or bird that John deftly turns into a stew for that day's meal. He also prepares and cooks any road kill he comes across admitting it to be tough but he's used to it - throwing in any wild herbs or vegetables he finds to 'beef' it up.

From time to time kind lorry drivers drop off items of food rather than take back to the depot undelivered. John never expects anything from anybody but I would suspect he is quietly thankful for when people do think of him. He is allergic to nuts however and is still pondering what to do with a tin of chestnut puree found in recent offerings from a kind donor!

John is intelligent and well read having attended boarding school and in later years becoming a University lecturer having a PhD in Environmental Studies. He is still an avid reader but remembers fondly The Snow Goose as the book that most influenced him when he was five years old: "I believe every child should read it as it teaches not to judge people just by their appearance".

He can't understand the ignorance and selfishness of people who knowingly destroy the countryside by dumping rubbish, fridges, mattresses and wheelbarrows. He's seen it all, often being disgusted by 'others' purporting to be travellers or gypsies parking illegally and leaving their filth for others to clear up – so please don't lump him in with them.

He admits to a stress free life, disregarding occasional obscenities or people shouting "get a job you lazy \*\*\*\*\*\*\*". He is over seventy and neither asks nor expects anything from anyone other than to be allowed to go about his business in his own quiet and unobtrusive way. Not drawing a pension (and fully aware he has not contributed in order to receive one) he lives frugally from money he has saved from occasional talks on the environment or items he has made and sold over the years.

He's certainly not complaining about his lifestyle; he is rarely ill, finding wild comfrey in the hedgerows the main 'cure all' for stomach upsets, sores and sprains - failing that Culpepers Herbal book is at hand for any other remedies. When he dies "well, that'll be the end of it" he says, "it won't worry me I'll not know a thing about it!" And as for being buried "oh just toss me into the hedgerows so I can at least give back a little of what it has given to me!"

I enjoyed my chat with John - he's sparky, the couple of hours sitting on the front of his wagon passed far too quickly. Am I envious of his lifestyle - no, but not wishing to sound too sycophantic (which he'd hate) I certainly do admire him.

#### Julie Millward





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#### Whimple Women's Institute

The June and July meetings brought the opportunity to learn more about two widely differing topics. At the June meeting Liz Paulter gave a very informative talk on 'Recycling in Devon' - including how to make things from plastic bags! In July Shirley Williams showed members something of her skills in porcelain doll making. Most of us have seen the exquisite dolls Shirley produces but it was quite a different matter to learn a little of the process involved in creating these beautiful objects.

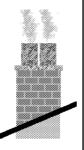
Liz Roberts reported on the National Meeting held at Cardiff, which she had found both interesting and stimulating, with a wide variety of speakers and many different topics discussed.

The weekly craft afternoons continue, in addition to which there has been a day school on log cabin patchwork under the expert tuition of Shirley Williams. There was also a pressed flower day run by an excellent visiting tutor.

Several members helped with the WI's usual tombola stall on Village Day. In other words, it has again been a busy and varied two months and on August 8th we look forward to an afternoon tea party instead of our usual evening meeting.

We are always pleased to welcome new members. For further information please contact Ann Bowden (823450). Rosemarie Burrows

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#### WHIMPLE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Harvest Festival takes place this year on Sunday 24th September and as last year, a 'Bring and Share' lunch in the Victory Hall will follow the service. Just bring a plate of food - preferably something that can be eaten with the fingers (no washing up!) and come along. The hall will be open from 10.00am if you would like to leave food there prior to the 11.00am service.

Any harvest gifts received will again be given to St Petrock's in Exeter. This charity provides lunches on a daily basis for homeless people in Exeter and they are delighted to receive anything we are able to give them - tinned goods are as acceptable as fresh produce.

Coffee Mornings. Have you been to a church coffee morning yet? These take place each Saturday until mid-September and apart from the coffee and a fine selection of home-made cakes, provides an ideal opportunity to meet and chat with friends - all without leaving the village!

Coffee is served between 10.15am and 12.00 noon - Fairtrade goods are available at each session.

#### ON YOUR BIKE!

Devon Historic Churches Trust Bike Ride or Stride - Saturday 10th September - a fun annual event open to all, either as a participant or a sponsor. Participants plan their own route to visit as many churches as they wish during the day. Half of the sponsorship money raised goes to the Trust, the other half to the participant's own church.

More details and sponsorship forms available from Mike Ellingham (822945).



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#### Save the Children Fund Collection in Whimple

Many thanks to all those inhabitants of Whimple who contributed to our collecting tins when we made house calls last March. In particular, we congratulate those children who baled out their parents from their money boxes or made donations in their own right. In the event we collected a respectable £86 for the charity.

In reality, the fund gives us only a week to fill our collecting tins and in this fairly short time my wife and I are only able to cover a small portion of the village which makes the amount given even more respectable. If there were more of us collecting in the week then we would be able to cover far more of the village and ideally, raise a much larger sum for this excellent charity. If any Whimple News readers are willing to help us with the annual street collection in future then please do contact us on 822550 or call at the Station House.

Many thanks for your cash and hopefully your time in the future. Martin and Marion Gammell



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Over the last few months, most readers will have been aware of the publicity given to **IDENTITY FRAUD**, and the important advice to shred personal information and out of date credit/bank cards before their disposal.

There are two types of shredder commonly available for domestic and small business use. These are:

STRIP SHREDDERS and CROSSCUT SHREDDERS



The picture above shows the results that they both give, shown on the left the 'strip shredder' does a reasonable job, but shown on the right the 'crosscut shredder' is much the better.

As a guide on price, I recently bought a crosscut shredder for £15 and am delighted with its performance.

John Munslow 01404 823456



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#### **Changes to Childhood Immunisations**

The Department of Health are introducing changes to the childhood immunisation programme. These changes set out to ensure that young children get the very best protection against serious preventable diseases.

From 4th September this year, a new vaccine will be used to protect against pneumococcal infection.

Children will have two doses of vaccine in the first year of life, and a booster dose in the second year;

When your child's immunisations become due you will be invited by post to bring him or her to an immunisation clinic.

Further information can be obtained from Coleridge Surgery practice nurses, your GP or www.immunisation.nhs.uk.

A national advertising campaign will be run to raise awareness about the new programme.



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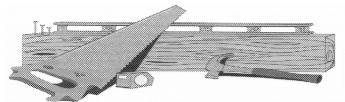
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### **YOGA**

Yoga practice promotes health & happiness by working on the mind & body, which positively affects all aspects of our lives. This non-competitive practice originates from India & has been developed over thousands of years. It has now travelled all the way to Whimple!

The new yoga class has been running since Easter & has proved popular with residents of a number of the local villages. In the classes we enjoy the physical practice of yoga - stretching & moving into a variety of postures, combined with relaxation. At the moment we have the extra joy of practising outside in the Pre-School garden, with the blue sky above us & the sunshine radiating down on us!

The classes take the format of relaxation, warming up, a flow of postures, short relaxation & specific posture work, finishing with time for deeper relaxation & a moment of quiet reflection.

Practising yoga regularly helps improve overall health by increasing suppleness, improving posture, building strength, enhancing sense of balance & ability to relax, raising physical awareness & confidence whilst also positively stimulating the systems of the body. We work smoothly with the breath & mental focus to help boost energy & calm the mind. Relaxation also counteracts the effects of stress & allows the body to recharge so you are left feeling refreshed & energised after practice.

The classes are on Thursdays throughout the year, from 7.00 - 8.30pm at the Village Hall & are open to everyone, of any age or level of fitness. You are welcome to drop in & out as you please. I also run a class on Monday evenings in Woodhayes Lane.

If you are interested in attending any of the classes, would like to book a 'one-to-one' yoga session or just like to know more about yoga please give me a call on **07808-720577**.

A **BIG** thank you to <u>everyone</u> that has supported the classes & helped me get them going!

Lucy.





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#### Label Nonsense

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On Tesco's Tiramisu dessert (printed on bottom) - Do not turn upside down.

On Sainsbury's peanuts - Warning: contains nuts.

On Boot's Children Cough Medicine - Do not drive a car or operate machinery after taking this medication.

On Marks & Spencer Bread Pudding - Product will be hot after heating.

On a Sears hairdryer - Do not use while sleeping.

On a bag of Fritos - You could be a winner! No purchase necessary. Details inside.

On a bar of Dial soap - Directions: Use like regular soap.

On some Swanson frozen dinners - Serving suggestion: Defrost.

On packaging for a Rowenta iron - Do not iron clothes on body.

On Nytol Sleep Aid - Warning: May cause drowsiness.

On most brands of Christmas lights - For indoor or outdoor use only.

On a Japanese food processor - Not to be used for the other use.

On an American Airlines packet of nuts - Instructions: Open packet, eat nuts.

On a child's Superman costume - Wearing of this garment does not enable you to fly.





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Margaret Burrough Gateshayes Farm	822257
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Playleader. Jo Westney Glencroft, Church Road	822168
Toddlers: Karen Bell 5 Lower Woodhayes Court	823443
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Mrs. Ann Bowden, Bradcott House, The Green	823450
Whimple Over Sixties Club	000005
Mrs B. Iball, 11 Rectory Close	822905
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