# Whimple News



## Christmas 2012



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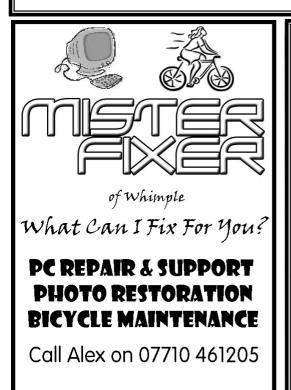
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#### What's On in Whimple

#### December

- 1st Honi'n'Soul in Concert 7.30pm Ottery St Mary Parish Church.
- 8th Whimple Cinema Film Day 2.30pm and 7.30pm Victory Hall Details on page 22.
- 8th Ottery St Mary Choral Society Christmas Concert 7.30pm Ottery St Mary Parish Church - Details on page 57.
- 15th Christmas Special Lunch from the Soup and Sarnie team, Victory Hall Details on page 11.
- 24th Christmas Eve Carols in The Square 7.00pm Details page 25.
- 31st New Year's Eve in The Square 11.45pm see details on page 28.

#### January 2013

- 11th Village Produce Association AGM 7.30pm Committee Room at Victory Hall.
- 12th Front Row Club (ex Whimple Cinema) see posters for details.
- 17th Wassail...assemble at New Fountain from 6.30pm Details on page 13.
- 26th Soup and Sarnie Lunch Victory Hall 12.00noon.

#### February

- 21st Whimpletons present Treasure Island, 7.30pm Victory Hall, details on pages 17 & 18.
- 22nd Whimpletons present Treasure Island, 7.30pm Victory Hall, details on pages 17 & 18.
- 23rd Whimpletons present Treasure Island, 2.30pm Victory Hall, details on pages 17 & 18.
- 23rd Whimpletons present Treasure Island, 7.30pm Victory Hall, details on pages 17 & 18.

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

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

If you would like to submit an article for the next edition of Whimple News, then please email it to bob.scanlan@eclipse.co.uk or pass it to Jim and Alison at the Post Office by Monday 14th January. Thanks!

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## Sal The Ed

Ed The Ed, in a moment of madness, decided that he would have an 'Edition Off' and let me loose with his beloved page.

Well, to start with, I think we should have far more 'girly' articles in the News and, with the sadly missed articles from Edith of late, there has been nobody describing the beautiful autumnal colours and the birds rummaging for winter grubs amongst the golden foliage and all the gorgeous, fluffy kittens frolicking around the Village... Now, see inside the lustrous pink cover for backcombing tips from Miles Leonard plus ballet moves, which can be useful for cricket bowling styles, from Kevin Thompson....

Coming back to reality, Christmas is coming and this edition is full of events for everyone to enjoy, from a festive Soup n Sarnie, a screening of 'It's A Wonderful Life' and the other Wonderful event, the Christmas Eve Carols in the Square. Well done to everyone who works so hard to make so much happen in Whimple.

Of course, it gets just as exciting afterwards, with the annual Wassail on January 17th (see inside for details), when Ed gets his smock out, and then It's The Panto! No doubt Ed will get his frock out for this, and, even more importantly, I get to boss everyone around again. This year it's Treasure Island, with Pirates, Parrots, Wenches and, well, more Pirates.... Not to be missed. Tickets available from the Small Outlet after Christmas.

On the subject of people working hard behind the scenes, I would just like to mention Brenda, who tirelessly hosts the pub quiz at the Farmer every other Sunday, despite all the good-natured abuse she puts up with every time. She splits the proceeds between various different local charities (plus £81 to the Poppy appeal recently), and these sums have really added up over the years. Well done, Brenda, and all those who give their Sunday evenings to supporting her.

One idea that I particularly like in this issue is from Laura, aged 12, who is starting a Whimple Cookbook for Comic Relief. I'm sure this will sell well (not certain if she wants residents with funny names, or recipes, though!).

Lastly, congratulations go to all involved in securing and planting our Jubilee Trees.

Have a peaceful and enjoyable Christmas and New Year, everyone, and keep In The Pink this winter!

#### Sally Wilde



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## Whimple Post Office News



Have you noticed the 'Not suitable for HGV' sign as you enter the village? Let's hope the articulated lorry drivers do!!! John and Jan Discombe from the Jays and ourselves campaigned for this in an attempt to deter the very large lorries from coming through the village. In the past, both of our properties have sustained damage, and in order to prevent more, we have to encourage the driver to turn around in The Square and return to the main road; not funny when its dark, raining and the driver can't speak English.

Peter Bowden put us in touch with the right man at the council; it took several months, a barrage of emails and many attachments of photographs of the vehicles to finally get a result, but we got there in the end. Now let's hope it works.

Here are the all important last Christmas Posting dates.

Wed 5th Dec	Asia, Far East, Japan, Australia, New Zealand.
Fri 7th Dec	Africa,Caribbean,Central & South America,Middle East
Mon 10th Dec	Eastern Europe,Canada,and USA
Wed 12th Dec	Western Europe

#### Air Mail Overseas

#### and in the UK

Thur 13th Dec	Standard Parcels, mail order returns
Tues 18th Dec	Second Class
Thur 20th Dec	1st Class
Sat 22nd Dec	Special Delivery

Of course we would recommend you post well before these dates if you possibly can. Please remember to pack your parcels well, try to make them waterproof, write the recipients name and address clearly, use the post code and write your details on the reverse of the parcel.

Thank you for making the lottery terminal a great success. The popularity of it has been most welcome and remember, a scratch card inside a Christmas cracker could make it a Christmas to remember for someone!

Finally Jim and I would like to thank you for your support throughout 2012. We wish you and your family a Happy Christmas and a Healthy New Year.

#### Jim and Alison.

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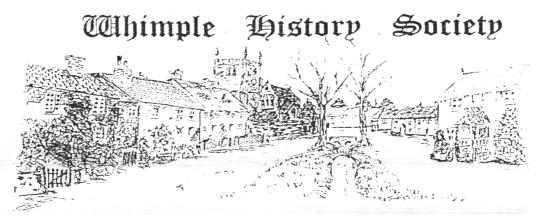
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#### Thursday 17th January 2013 - Wassailing

This year's Wassailing will start at the New Fountain Inn at about 6.30pm for the usual 'rehearsal'. The assembled company will then move off at about 7.00pm to Wymcott for the first Wassail ceremony, courtesy of Mr. and Mrs. I. Hardcastle.

The procession will then proceed up Church Road to Lower Woodhayes Orchard for the second Wassail ceremony. The procession will then move back to The Square, via Dince Hill Close, where the procession will gather near the tethering stone to remember the Society's first chairman, John Shepherd.

Then the party will move onwards through Town Lane to the site for the third ceremony, courtesy of Mr. and Mrs. P. Bowden. The procession will then continue to the orchard adjacent to Knowle Cross Farm for the fourth and final ceremony of the evening, courtesy of Jim and Mary Chard.

The last port of call will be at the Cricket club for traditional Wassail refreshments (a small charge will be made).

We urge everyone to enter into the spirit of the evening by wearing traditional dress and bringing 'instruments' that will make sufficient noise to waken the apple trees and ward off any evil spirits in them.

Many of you will remember that a TV crew were filming throughout last years Wassail with the intention of its inclusion in a programme to be aired later this year. Sadly, we have been advised that the programme will not now go ahead. We are trying to obtain a compilation of the footage taken and, if successful, will screen it at an appropriate time within the Heritage Centre or Victory Hall.

The auction of Pledges and Promises was a great success and about £1800 has been raised. We are extremely grateful to David Williams, our auctioneer, and for the generosity of all donors and bidders. A big thank you to all who attended for taking part and creating the party atmosphere.

Xmas shopping opening times for the Heritage centre are:- 24th Nov and 1st Dec from 11.30am until 2.30pm. No dates have been fixed for 2013 yet.



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## Wasters of Whimple

How time flies! It's now six months since my first sunshine review in the Whimple News, so thought it was high time I gave another update on how we've been doing for sunshine since May. As you know, Wasters have been promoting a solar power campaign across the village over the past two years in order to reduce our carbon emissions. Since then about 40 installations have taken place, so far saving roughly 56,000kg of carbon pumping into our atmosphere!

If you have solar panels it is important to regularly 'benchmark' their performance with similar nearby installations, to check they are working properly. But also I hope this data is a fascinating summary of Whimple's wonderful sunshine! After what was a pretty lousy summer (especially June), you may be forgiven for thinking that we must be way down on sun compared to average. However, actually we have not fared too badly, with the past year total just 1.2% below normal.

Production at 35 Slewton Crescent	May-12	Jun-12	Jul-12	Aug-12	Sep-12	Oct-12
Actual Average (kWh/day) per kW	4.2	3.0	3.7	3.3	3.3	2.2
Actual Total (kWh) per kW	129.7	88.9	114.8	102.3	99.8	68.8
'Normal' Total (kWh) per kW	124.1	118.1	115.1	110.7	92.9	74.1
Total Actual/'Normal' (%)	104.5%	75.2%	99.8%	92.4%	107.5%	92.8%
Actual Cumulative (kWh) per kW	501.9	590.8	705.6	807.9	907.7	976.6
'Normal' Cumulative (kWh)per kW	477.7	595.9	710.9	821.6	914.5	988.7
Cumulative Actual/'Normal' (%)	105.1%	99.1%	99.3%	98.3%	99.3%	98.8%

(Note all values are per kW, so are not dependent on the size of my panels.)

(Note too that cumulative figures include the previous 6 months too, so show a whole year by end Oct.)

**Sunshine / weather review** – From the above figures, it can be seen how poor June was for sunshine (and we all know how much rain we had – such that the Church Fete had to be in the Victory Hall!). August and October were also duller than normal. However we had generally sunny weather in May and September, and July wasn't too bad either, after a very wet start (postponing Village Day). The best weeks of the summer were 21-27th May (40.5kWh/kW) and 21-27th July (40.7kWh/kW). Bizarrely, the sunniest day June 19th (6.6kWh/kW) was in the dullest month! The worst day of the summer was July 7th (0.9kWh/kW) with bad flooding in the village, but fortunately we were blessed with a sunny re-arranged Village Day (Sep 22nd) before an awful dull and wet day on the 23rd – ironically Harvest Sunday!

**Solar PV review** – to compare my figures above against yours, you need to multiply them by the quoted maximum kW that your panels can produce. My panels are unshaded and face almost due south (200°) and incline 42°. From other data given to me, SE-facing or SW-facing are likely to be about 10% less and due east or west facing may be up to 50% less.

Any enquiries please contact: Phil Dominy 822163 dominypr@hotmail.com



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## WHIMPLETONS PANTO 2013

Gentle reader, on the previous page you will find a stunning advertisement for the Whimpletons' production of 'Treasure Island'. It was a script that dear Peter Bolwell had started, but didn't finish. Neil Walker has stepped into the breach and, aided/ abetted/hindered by Jerry Wilson and me, we have cobbled together something that resembles a panto script. We think that we have done a fine job here, so come along and give us your views by watching the world famous Whimpletons lurch from one missed cue to another as they trample mercilessly through our finely honed work of art.

The panto will be unleashed on Thursday 21st February, at 7.30pm in the Victory Hall. Tickets are held at a special teasing price of £4 for adults and £2 for children, just for that one night.

The panto is repeated on Friday (22nd February) and Saturday (23rd February) nights, again at 7.30 and tickets are priced at  $\pm 5$  for adults and  $\pm 3$  for children. Please note that our prices have not changed!

There is also a Saturday matinee (23rd February) starting at 2.30pm so even more opportunities for you good folk of Whimple to enjoy our offering.

All the evening performances will have a licensed bar supplying beer, cider, wine and soft drinks; we will have asked several village organisations to supply teas, coffees, cakes and soft drinks at all the performances.

We hope to see you all there! Tickets will be available from the Post Office in early January once Jim and Alison have recovered from the excesses of the festive season. **Ed H** 







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## Whimple On Tour!

#### Car Fest North

Continuing our 'stalking' of Chris Evans into another year, Claire Podbury and I managed to get an invite to his Children In Need Car Fest event this September. He needed seven cars from each car club willing to take a pitch in Cholmondeley Castle, near Chester, so we piled into Joey, my Beetle, and headed off – tent safely packed.

Despite a little 'problem' with the car we made it there safely and had a great time.



It was slightly marred by missing Village Day but a few Pimms later, lots of sunshine, fabulous cars, aerial displays and Top Gear track simulators and we began to move on and enjoy ourselves. Chris had his seven Ferrari's on display plus Chitty Chitty Bang Bang which he had just bought and restored.

Highlights for me were the Dancing Diggers JCB display (there was also a Hot Rod JCB!), the Vulcan bomber flying low, Paloma Faith live and generally talking about Beetles all day long for two days.

Claire didn't seem quite so keen on this part.

Chris raised over £180,000 for the charity between the two events, North and South, so a success all round and good to be a part of it.

#### Exeter Chiefs in Dublin

The Chiefs played against the legendary Leinster in a Heineken Cup match in Dublin on October 13th and, funnily enough, quite a few from Whimple thought it might be nice to pop over to see how they got on.

The 'Fun Bus' crew were on form right from the start and a good time was had by all. We did do *some* cultural stuff during Friday, such as the Guinness and Jameson's tours....

There were a lot of other Chiefs supporters in town, and we just about stopped the traffic on the walk to the ground, all chanting, and many with full feathered headgear, war paint and drums. (Cathy Bartlett-Horwood took her Chiefs teddy bear, Baxter, along and he was quite the superstar.)

The local radio predicted a 'whitewash', but Exeter played well and lost by a only a small margin. The Irish fans were really friendly and chatted away to us afterwards. I remember promising one of them that "under no circumstances would I go to Temple Bar that evening", but



seemed to be there somehow at 3.00am with Ann Daniels and Tom. Ooops!

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## Whimple Cinema and Friends of Whimple School

## Christmas Film Day

Whimple Cinema are delighted to announce our second annual **Christmas Film Day** on **Saturday 8th December** at the Victory Hall.

2.30pm: Family Matinee (U). FREE tickets available from the Post Office.

This screening is organised by Friends of Whimple School. (note: all children should be accompanied by an adult)

#### 7.00 for 7.30pm: Timeless Classic

#### Its a Wonderful Life (U)

Tickets £5 (for film programme, mulled apple juice and mince pie), available from the Post Office. Bring your own alcohol (glasses available).

#### \* Christmas carol singalong around the Piano \*

Often voted as the No.1 Christmas Film of all time, 'It's a Wonderful Life' tells the story of an angel who helps a compassionate but despairingly frustrated businessman by showing what life would have been like if he never existed. We recommend you get your tickets early from the Post Office as if last year's Christmas screening was anything to go by tickets will be flying out quicker than Santa down a chimney!

Oh and seeing as Christmas is the time for giving, everyone gets FREE mulled wine and mince pies\* on arrival.

In 2013 Whimple Cinema will be changing into the Front Row Club. We will be bringing you a season of films - a mix of recent releases and classics - throughout the year, and introducing a membership scheme (either 'day' memberships or annual subscription). Find out more at the Christmas screening!

\*Donations of wine for mulling and mince pies will be gratefully received. If you can help please contact me by 1st December, before I make a trip to Sainsburys.

Rob Davis 823731

## Films Coming Soon

Saturday 12th January: Recent Release (TBA)

February: Roman Holiday

March: Recent Release (TBA)

April: North by Northwest

## Whimple Cinema

#### Whimple Cinema is changing

We hope you have enjoyed the films that we have screened over the last year.

For the future, we have been looking for ways to keep the cost as low as possible without sacrificing quality. The best (and legal) way to do this is to have a membership scheme. This allows us to screen films under a public video screening licence (PVSL) which costs £104.40 per year. This is a much better idea than having the additional cost of a single screening licence which costs £120 per film.

Our new village organisation is called the 'Front Row Club'.

We have set the annual membership at £25 per head which is all that would have to be paid to see 10 films a year minimum (sometimes this may go up to 12 a year if there is demand in the summer months). The first year's pro-rated subscription to June 2013 will be just £15.

If you are unlikely to want to come to most of the films then there is the option of paying £4.50 for single night membership at the door for each event. It is clearly more economical to have annual membership if you are likely to attend six or more films.

The club is non profit making- proceeds being used for Hall hire, Licence, cost of film, purchase and upgrading of equipment.

There will be a brief AGM before the September film each year to circulate accounts and to decide what to do about any excess funds (or deficit for that matter). The constitution can also be reviewed and amended by the membership at the AGM.

See www.frontrowclub.wordpress.com for more information or speak to Rob Davis or Richard Davies.

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## Christmas Eve Carols 7.00pm in the Square (in Church if wet or too cold)

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music available in advance.

If enough choir attend, we may sing something! Collection in aid of Devon Air Ambulance



#### Thank You

Thank you everyone for all the support and caring you have given during George's illness. We have really appreciated all your offers of transport and shopping and have been comforted by your presence, either in person or at the end of a phone.

George has now started a six month course of treatment, and we are looking forward to an improvement in his health.

Thank you again.

Jan and George Begent.

## **CRAFTY WITH FLOWERS**

Thank you to everyone for making our Flower Festival such a success... we had over 450 people to view it and the comments they wrote in the church visitors book are lovely to read. The knitted mice were a great success - the children enjoyed looking for them with Lis's questionnaire - as did a lot of the grownups.

Our flower arrangers came up with an amazing variety of ideas and colours which, along with Impact, Whimple School and Preschool, made for a colourful and stunning show.

Also thank you to designers, caterers, stewards and to all who helped at the Sarah Chester talk and the Wyndham Singers concert. It must have been a first having the bagpipes play in St.Marys ...also thank you to Gwen for her recitals in the afternoon.

We closed our festival with a Songs of Praise with hymns chosen by the flower arrangers and taken by Rev. Chris Martin. It was a real Grande Finale.

We have made in excess of  $\pm 2500.00$  which, for a village, is a wonderful achievement.

There are some lovely photos of the festival ably taken by Margaret Burrough on display in the church.

Also the 2013 Altar Flower rota will be inside the Church door from December so if anyone would like to put their name on it to do the flowers for a two week slot it would be lovely ...you do not need to be brilliant at arranging flowers for this or spend a lot of money, just a few flowers from the garden would be perfect...or share the cost with a friend.

Thank you for your help and support....

Happy Christmas and happy flower arranging in 2013.

#### Margaret Bucknell







Any donations of wine will be gratefully accepted! Please leave at 'The Jays'.





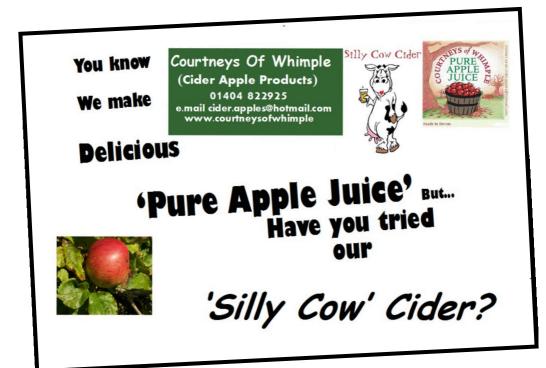
# 2013

#### Whimple Village Recipe Cookbook

My name is Laura, I'm 12 years old and I'm seeking your help. Last year I raised £116.00 for Comic Relief. This year I want to help even more. My idea is to produce a Village Recipe Cookbook and that's where I need your help. I'm after family recipes from residents of our village, if they have a funny name, red ingredient or red in the name all the better. I will edit all the recipes and produce the Recipe Book which Jim @ the PO has agreed to sell; all proceeds will go to Comic Relief.

Please send your recipes to whimplecookbook@btinternet.com or drop them into Jim @ the PO.

Thanks, Laura





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## DANCE IS WITH MUSIC

Many of you here in Whimple will no doubt have seen the brightly sign-written '*Dance is With Music*' van driving through the village these last few months. The name, a play on words to a film starring Kevin Costner called 'Dances With Wolves', announces the recent arrival of Colin and Catherine Dance who moved to the area in February. Colin is a retired Devon and Cornwall police officer, and Catherine works for the School Library Service in Exeter as a mobile Librarian.

Colin is a former member of the Band of the Devon and Cornwall Constabulary, and was a founder member of the highly regarded British Police Symphony Orchestra. More recently he has served with the Royal Navy Volunteer Band movement (RNAS Yeovilton and HMS Drake) which is run by HM Royal Marines Band Service as a Drum Major having been trained in this discipline at the Royal Marines School of Music in Portsmouth whilst still a serving police officer (in his own time of course!). Colin also plays bass (tuba) with the award-winning Lympstone South West Telecoms Band.

Having worked since his retirement with the Devon LDP Music Service as an instrument technician, Colin and Catherine have now decided to go it alone as 'Dance is With Music' and offer a wide range of musical services from brass and percussion teaching (in school or at home) to musical instrument repair and maintenance. A specialist in brass and percussion after a lifetime of musical performance in these disciplines, Colin can also turn his hand to maintaining woodwind, guitars and strings, and is an associate member of the Association of Musical Instrument Repairers (NAMIR).

With a 1st Class Honours degree in composition, arrangement and conducting, Colin is also an accomplished composer and arranger and has had many of his works published. He won a competition to write a brass band test piece in 2002, and his works for brass band are proving very popular! He also conducts the newly revived Lympstone Training Band on Saturday mornings – everyone welcome from complete beginner to intermediate level, or mature players looking to return to playing after an absence.

So, if you are interested in learning to play an instrument, or have one that needs a bit of TLC, get in touch with Colin and Catherine. Our motto is: 'We don't have problems – only solutions'.

Website: www.danceiswithmusic.com Email: colindance@btinternet.com Mobile: 07854 829230

#### Sam Palmer's Ceilidh

Thank you to everyone who supported my Ceilidh for Cambodia. We raised a massive £600. Sam Palmer

(see www.easyfundraising.org.uk and enter 'Sam Palmer' in 'Find a Good Cause')

# A Merry

#### Christmas opening hours

		St Mary's Church Special Services	Post Office	Whimple Stores	Whimple Surgery
Monday	December 24th 2012	11.30pm Midinght Communion	9.00am-12.30pm	*	
Tuesday	December 25th 2012	11.00am Christmas Service	closed	closed	Closed
Wednesday	December 26th 2012		closed	closed	Closed
Thursday	December 27th 2012			*	
Friday	December 28th 2012			*	
Saturday	December 29th 2011			*	Closed
Sunday	December 30th 2012	10.30am Morning Worship	closed	*	Closed
Monday	December 31st 2012		9.00am-12.30pm 1.30pm - 4.00pm	*	
Tuesday	January 1st 2013		closed	closed	Closed
Wednesday	January 2rd 2013			*	

fGraham is unwell at the moment. We send our best

## From the Whimple

# Christmas

#### (normal if blank)

Ottery Surgery	Ottery Pharmacy (Co-op)	Cranbrook Veterinary Surgery	New Fountain Inn	Thirsty Farmer	Milestone Garage
	9.00am - 4.00pm	8.00am - 5.30pm	noon-2.00pm 6.30pm-11.00pm	noon-12.00pm	7.00am - 8.00pm
Closed	Closed	Emergencies only On Call	noon - 2.00pm (no food)	noon-2.00pm (no food)	Closed
Closed	Closed	10.00am-5.00pm	Normal Hours (no food)	closed	8.00am - 8.00pm
	9.00am - 6.30pm			noon-11.00pm	
	9.00am - 6.30pm			noon-11.30pm	
Closed	Closed			noon-11.30pm	
Closed	Closed		•	noon-10.30pm	
	9.00am - 4.00pm	8.00am-5.30pm	noon - 3.00pm 6.30pm-12.30am	noon - 1.00am	7.00am - 8.00pm
Closed	Closed	10.00am-5.00pm	noon - 3.00pm 5.30pm-11.00pm (no food)	closed	8.00am - 8.00pm
	9.00am - 6.30pm			noon-2.30pm 6.00pm-11.00pm	

wishes. See shop window for details when known

## News Team

## FRIENDS OF WHIMPLE SCHOOL 100 CLUB (Whimple PTFA – charity registration number - 1045581)

Would you like to support Friends of Whimple School (FOWS) and have a chance of winning a cash prize every month?

The 100 Club is a lottery and membership costs just £1.00 per month of which 50p goes into the prize fund and 50p goes into the general funds of the FOWS to support Whimple School by providing many of the extras enjoyed by the children.

Draws will be made monthly (with the exception of August & December when funds will rollover to September and January). The results will be displayed in the window of the school office. Membership is payable in advance for 6 months ( $\pounds$ 6) or 12 months ( $\pounds$ 12) and you can join at any time.

Remember, more members means bigger prizes, so please encourage friends and family to join too.

*FOWS reserves the right to add additional numbers should there be the demand.* Interested? Contact **Vicky Clough** for further details and an application form.

822800 or jasperfluff@btinternet

Or collect a form from the School Office

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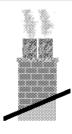
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## Jubilee trees for Whimple

Readers may like to know that the smaller Jubilee Oak supplied by the Woodland Trust is now at the head of the glade in the Parish Field. It was grown from seed saved from the Royal Gardens. The bigger locally grown sapling on the NE flank was supplied at cost by Dan Williams, together with much of the material in the glade, so special thanks to Dan.

My thanks also go to Mick Street and Sue Ayres for their knowledge and skilled contribution and, of course, to my Wasters friends for terrific help as always: cake supremos and perfect planters! Great photos from Sue Draycott and support from Alex Spry and his Explorer Scouts.

The project was financed from our Wasters funds, and also from WACY, so thank you trustees. I hope that you enjoyed it, and thanks for turning up and enjoying the event.

Hugh Roberts Wasters of Whimple



## Lots of Bits and Pieces

Little has come my way on the activities of East Devon Council during September and October. In fact, where I have been most active is in the immediate vicinity of the Ward and Otterv St Mary. So here goes on a series of snippets on my experiences lately.

Speed Dating at the King's School: I attended another of

E.D.D.C's speed dating events at the beginning of the month, this time at Ottery where the sixth formers (Year 12) had the opportunity to guiz the serving councillors on their roles and tap their knowledge of current political events. It is a fun event much enjoyed by all the participants and a golden opportunity to convince the students of the importance of their future participation in the political process. I was very impressed by the students' maturity and their desire to become involved in the adult community. I met a number of students who live in Whimple and I need to keep in touch with them as very soon they will be old enough to vote. E.D.D.C. has decided to extend this participatory event across the whole of their administrative area, a decision that I heartily support and intend to be fully involved in.

Local Democracy in Action: Recently, I attended a special meeting of the Talaton Parish Council which had been called to decide upon the distribution of a £500 grant from East Devon District Council. In the event, there were only 2 bids for the money - The Church and Talaton Calendar. Each of the organisations that had applied presented a well argued case to the meeting for the award of the cash and in the end the council (with the approval of the meeting) decided to split it between the two applicants. It was a civilized and intelligent debate and a well considered conclusion. I see this meeting as an excellent example of local democracy at its best and long may it reign. My only regret was that so few members of the village attended this excellent meeting.

**Health Provision:** At a recent meeting of the North Devon support group a number of developments were reported: The Take a Break Scheme is being increased from twelve to thirteen vouchers. These vouchers each provide three hours assistance for a house bound person - cleaning, ironing, sewing on buttons or just sitting with for company. This increase, although rather minimal, is a good example of the new policy for health care to help people to stay in their own homes rather than in hospital.

The Future for Local Hospitals: The trust maintains a staff/patient ratio for local hospitals which dictates the number of beds that they can have. So, if hospitals lose patients then they lose beds. The minimum number of beds is set at eighteen, although at the moment Ottery has only twelve beds in action which is rather alarming. The hospital will be closing its own kitchen in the near future which means that meals will have to be outsourced. As someone who has been a hospital patient several times I was worried by this plan so I took advantage of an offer to attend a food tasting session at the hospital to try out the new meals. It was hot and delicious - best cauliflower cheese ever! 38



There are 60 main meals, 30 vegetarian meals, gluten-free options and 30 puddings! And the food provision is being kept inside the Health Service as the firm chosen is Cornwall Foods, part of the Royal Cornwall Hospital Trust.

The Police Commissioner Elections: In a desperate attempt to find out about this new post I went to a hustings in Honiton to meet the candidates, find out who they are and what the job involves. Only six out of the ten candidates came. It was a crowded meeting with some very searching questions from the floor and some very intelligent replies from the candidates. (It was a great joy to attend a hustings, a political device which appears to have fallen out of use. Gosh, I remember attending such an event in the early sixties when 'Supermac' - Harold MacMillan - arrived in a car with nothing more than a driver, climbed up on an old air raid shelter, and addressed a very large crowd of many questioners, hecklers and passers-by. Then he jumped back into the car and roared off.) But I came away from this Honiton hustings with little more idea what this new role is about than I had when I arrived. When I went down to vote at 9.30 in the evening. I found that only 170 people out of the 1400 on the electoral role had at that time voted, a turnout of 11% - even worse than the national average of fifteen percent. Whatever else the new elected police commissioner may be, he or she will not truly represent the population they serve.

A Green Note to End: What a delight to see that the preliminary clearing of the Grove Road site for the new affordable homes unearthed a grass snake, twenty five slow worms and a number of lizards Wow! It just goes to show how little we are aware about what is going on in the fields and hedgerows of Whimple. When we had a cat at the station she would bring in slow worms and lizards every day. So it looks as though they might not be as rare as the experts claim. I wonder if the people from the Environment Agency also found dormice.....?

### Cllr Martin Gammell



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### WHIMPLE CHURCH

www.whimplechurch.org

### Village Survey - some New Year changes at St Mary's Church

Firstly, may I thank all those of you who took the time and trouble to respond to the village survey that was circulated by St Mary's church earlier in the year. It has been an encouragement to me to take up residence here knowing that so many people care about the church and its place in our village life together. On your behalf may I also thank those involved in analysing the results, keeping us informed as to what has been going on behind the scenes and outlining the flavour of the responses you gave to the questions posed.

### Heating

A very significant majority of the responses commented that the heating system at the church needs an upgrade - it's difficult to speak of and experience the fire of God's outrageous love and the warmth of His extravagant welcome in a freezing cold building!! As I write, the heating engineers are currently working on installing a new heating system which should improve things, and hopefully in time for Christmas.

### Styles and times of services

There were also a large number of comments about the timing and style of the services at St Mary's. As has previously been reported, it's been noted that 11.00am on a Sunday morning is not the ideal time for young families and that, for others, an 11.00am start time simply writes off the rest of the day of rest! In addition, many like it 'traditional' while just as many want something more modern and/or different.

Taking these comments on board, there will be a slightly different service pattern commencing in January 2013:

- First Sunday 8.00am Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion service 6.30pm Evening Praise (a more informal service of prayer & praise, with the band)
- Second Sunday 11.00am Holy Communion service (from 'Common Worship')
- Third Sunday 8.00am Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion service 9.30am Celebration service (a new time for the existing informal family service and beginning with a 'bring and share breakfast' at 9.00am)
- Fourth Sunday 11.00am Morning Worship
- Fifth Sunday 10.30am Joint Mission Community service (at one of the four Mission Community Churches in rotation)
- Second Wednesday 9.15am 'Sacred Space', a time of solace, guietness and reflection 42

Obviously it's difficult to always please everyone but one of the great things about the Anglican Church is the possibility of being able to find 'unity through diversity'. So, whether you like the old or the new, familiarity or innovation, hymns or songs, drums or organ, you can hopefully find a home that suits you, whilst also retaining a strong sense that you are part of, and willing to embrace and support, a wider 'church family'. I hope that through these changes, we will be better able to continue offering something to suit all ages and preferences, and at times of the day that reflect modern life.

### What else?

I'm aware that these changes are only scratching the surface of the tip of an iceberg. There is so much more we can do as a church to be a relevant, vibrant, welcoming and inclusive community of people devoted to serving the needs of Whimple folk and sharing God's love in practical service. But even the longest journeys begin with the first small steps and I hope that these changes are stepping stones to greater things. I hope you will feel able to give something a try and, in doing so, discover the God who waits for us with His arms open in welcome.

Wishing you a very Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

### **Rev Chris Martin**

December Services for St Mary's, Whimple		
2nd - Advent Sunday	8.00am Holy Communion 6.30pm Advent Carol Service	
9th – Second Sunday of Advent	11.00am Holy Communion 3.00pm Christingle Service	
16th – Third Sunday of Advent	8.00am Holy Communion 11.00am Celebration Service	
23rd - Fourth Sunday of Advent	6.30pm Christmas Carol Service	
24th – Christmas Eve	11.30pm Midnight Communion Service	
25th – Christmas Day	11.00am Family Service followed by Holy Communion	
30th	10.30am Mission Community Service Holy Communion at Talaton	

### WHIMPLE AND DISTRICT VILLAGE PRODUCE ASSOCIATION

We are now very much into autumn and it will certainly be winter by the time this edition is delivered! I am sure everyone is reflecting on another successful year in the garden – well hopefully anyway!

Regrettably we had to cancel the visit to Westonbirt Arboretum as there were simply not enough people wanting to go to make it a cost effective trip. However, all is not lost, we are looking to try again next year to see the trees in their autumn splendour. So if you were one of the disappointed ones, there is going to be another chance in 2013. We hope that by giving more notice of this, we will have enough for a coach load next year. We will be looking at a date in 2013 to make this trip.

We are also looking to have a trip to the Lost Gardens of Heligan which will probably be in May 2013. As well as that, next year we are thinking of a possible trip to St. Bridget Nurseries for their Rose Nursery Tour. This is likely to be in July. We also hope to have some guest speakers to talk on various plant / gardening related subjects so hopefully there will be something for all gardening enthusiasts next year!

Our Annual General Meeting is to be held on Friday 11th January 2013 at 7.30pm in the Committee Room of the Victory Hall. All are very welcome to attend especially anyone who would like to join our Committee – we are always pleased to have new faces on the Committee!

Don't forget that details of the flower show, results and pictures, forgether with all our activities are on our website and this can be found at: www.whimplevpa.org.uk

Paul Wilson, Hon. Secretary.

## **POSTERS PLEASE**

This is a busy time of year with loads of things going on in the Village! It would be good if organisations could remove their **posters immediately after the event.** This is simply to allow good visual access for others, to save litter, and to keep Whimple tidy.

If you could **recycle** materials, even better!!

Have a good Christmas!

Wasters of Whimple et al

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Half-term now seems a long time ago as we are already in full swing getting ready for Christmas. Our production this year is called 'Little Angel Gets Her Wings'. I have no doubt that our children will thoroughly enjoy themselves whilst making us feel very proud of their achievements. As the term progresses the excitement will build as the children look forward to the Christmas Fayre, parties and, of course, Christmas dinner.

Just before all the madness begins we asked everyone to come to school in their pyjamas to raise money for Children in Need – it wasn't that everyone slept in!

More news after the festive celebrations.

We wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Carole Shilston

**Ourselves** The children in Reception and Key Stage 1 have been doing a range of activities linked to ourselves. Tasks have included: cooking - cheesy feet and jam tarts, making fruit kebabs; producing a skeleton using art straws; designing a house both using card and clay; creating bedroom name labels, collage faces using Autumn materials and deciding what foods are healthy and unhealthy.



Today we went to the heritage centre, we found out all about Whimple and its heritage. It was very exciting to find out what the people in Whimple used to do. Mr Smith also told us that the railway was very important to Whimple, as about 200 more people came to the village because of it. We had some time to have a walk around. They had a big model of what the houses looked like. Year 6 are making our own Guide to Whimple. Mrs Killen thought it would be good to go to the heritage centre to help us with this.



Hi the last time we had talked to you we had said we will reply to you from when we watched the railway children, now we will tell you how it went! For a start it was fabulous! Also the actors were VERY VERY good at their job! The WHOLE school enjoyed the play and even the teachers loved it!





Class 4 have been working on the directional lines of Van Gogh. Van Gogh had a lonely life bnt was comforted by his brother and friend Theo.



Theo was the only person who bought one but now they sell for thousands of pounds! Van Gogh was sent to a mad peoples prison but, was never mad!

This painting resembles Vincent and Theo. The boot on the left (Vincent) is leaning on the boot on the right (Theo) Who is supporting him.



Peasant woman binding sheaves



Peasant woman bruising flax



The reaper

By €va





The thresher



The sunflowers. One of Van Gogh's most famous paintings.

## Poppy Appeal 2012

I am pleased to report that I have paid into the Royal British Legion £1414.72 for Whimple.

Many thanks go to all the people who go round the village collecting and all those that contributed.

Special thanks go to those that attended the Thirsty Farmer Quiz night who raised £81 as well as those who gave to the church collection amounting to £407. This is up from last year by £200 so lets continue to see it rising!

Devon itself made over £1m last year for the first time.

In this time where the Forces are being

squeezed it shows there is sympathy out there for those who are prepared to risk their lives.

Fiona Clarke

### Greetings From Nottingham

It is now 18 months since we left the joys of Whimple for Nottingham. We are now well established in our home in Radcliffe on Trent which is just outside Nottingham.

As we continue to read the Whimple News with delight it reminds us of the enjoyable times in Whimple. It also shows what many activities take place in the village. What hard work is done! Very pleased to see that Village Day and all that surrounded it was such a success. Most important you now have a new priest to lead you forward in faith.

We did not make it to Whimple in the summer , but maybe next year.

We wish everyone in Whimple an enjoyable Christmas and prosperous New Year.

God Bless you all.

### Mike and Beryl Boyd

(email mikeboyd7@btinternet.com)

Our speaker for October gave a very interesting talk on Shelterbox, the charity that supplies emergency donations of shelter and life saving supplies for families around the world affected by disasters. There was much



inspiring and thought provoking information. This was an open meeting and we were pleased to welcome a number of guests. In November we learned something of the drug smuggling scene around the south west coast. There were some frightening statistics and stories.

In October two of our members attended the Devon WI Autumn Council Meeting at Barnstaple. Philip Searle from the Antiques Road Show was the guest speaker, he gave an interesting and amusing talk about his career.

Whimple entered the first round of the Devon WI skittles competition. The team won their first match and went forward to the second round, which unfortunately they lost.

If you would like to join Whimple Women's Institute just contact our President, Avril Ellingham (822945) for further information.

**Rosemarie Burrows** 

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## A Medal for Marian

There have been many times, I am sure, that at one time or another we have all said 'that woman deserves a medal', well now she has one !!

Last month Marian, her family and myself attended County Hall in Exeter to see her awarded with her B.E.M., and what a proud moment it was.

We were welcomed to the Fortescue Room at County Hall where the



presentations were made. One by one each of the seven recipients had their citations read aloud and were presented with their medals by the Lord Lieutenant of Devon. Official photographs were then taken, and the afternoon rounded off with a Devon Cream Tea.

Marian has also received an invitation to a garden party at Buckingham Palace - get the hat out again Marian !!

Alison Creasy



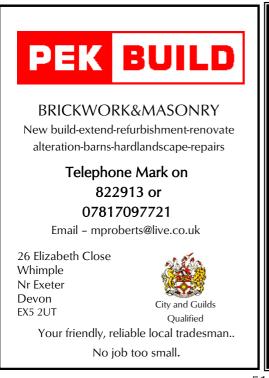
## Seventy Penguins Seen in Whimple

Whimple Book Group has been going for about seven years now. In that time we have read over 70 books, ranging from classic novels such as Wuthering Heights and Jamaica Inn to contemporary fiction, poetry, and even a couple of plays. We are currently reading a non-fiction book, 'The Winter of our Disconnect', by a mother of three teenagers who decides to try living screen-free for six months. No computer, TV , DS games or mobile phones. I haven't finished it yet, but apparently they do survive the experience.

We meet roughly every six weeks in each others houses, usually on a Thursday evening. Meetings are very informal; in effect more of a social gathering loosely based around a book we've all read rather than in-depth study. The size of the group has varied over the years, as people have left, joined, or re-joined, the minimum

being about six and the most fourteen. At present there are about nine regular members ( currently all female though that is by no means a rule). New members are always welcome to join us.

### Katy Howard







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Wild plant charity Plantlife (<u>www.plantlife.org.uk</u>), are noping to reach out to many wild plant enthusiasts and nature lovers by inviting them to become wild plant 'pioneers' and subscribe to a free quarterly e-learning bulletin to learn more about our native wild plants via the 'Wild About Plants' project website - <u>www.wildaboutplants.org.uk</u>. The Wild About Plants project aims to help people reconnect with the outdoors and their local greenspaces. Working with schools, families and communities from all walks of life and with fantastic free downloadable

resources, the team hope to engage people with the nature on their doorstep. In recent years subscribers have been asked to record the plant life in their local area and recount what they used to see/pick and forage for. Wild About Plants is funded by Natural England through Access to Nature, as part of the Big Lottery Fund's Changing Spaces programme. It is a partnership project

involving partner organisations throughout the country."

Earlier in the year our Pioneer readers approached their own local parishes with a short article about Plantlife and our Wild About Plants project, we had a really positive response featuring in several local newsletters, resulting in a new wave of interest and potential awareness raising for Plantlife.

If you have any queries about Plantlife or the Wild About Plants project then do not hesitate to contact me.

Katie Cameron Tel:(01722) 342759 Email:katie.cameron@plantlife.org.uk www.plantlife.org.uk

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## WARTS UPDATE END OF YEAR 2012

Hello and welcome to all new and existing members of W.A.R.T.S (Whimple Against Rising Tariffs). Our aim is to periodically secure the services of the cheapest oil provider to deliver to members within the EX5 Post Code.



I'm pleased to report our numbers have now increased to 180+ households.

Our last order date was 19th September where we achieved a price of 58.89 <u>pp/ltr</u> against a best /worst price quoted for 500 litres at 60.71 pp/ltr and 63.00 pp/ltr respectively. Our final order for this year is Monday 26th November.

### PLEASE BE AWARE:

We are unable to quote an advanced 'price per litre'; as the 'number of drops ordered' (on that day) PLUS the 'price per litre' (on that day) determines the 'end price' (on that day). However, we can assure you, past experience tells us that our prices have consistently beaten any individual household prices over the past five years.

> DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2013: MONDAY 28/01/13 MONDAY 25/03/13 MONDAY 29/07/13 MONDAY 18/11/13

We would kindly remind you:

ALL ORDERS FOR OIL SHOULD BE PLACED AT LEAST <u>ONE WEEK BEFORE THE</u> <u>ABOVE ORDER DATES!</u>

(Minimum order: 500 litres. Please allow a further 10 days for delivery)

All existing (and potential new) members with <u>access to e-mail</u> may contact Graham Batten with their order/\*registration at gkbatten@btinternet.com. Whereas those of you <u>without e-mail</u>, please call John Aiton on 01404 823155.

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

### \*\*DISCOUNTED BOILER SERVICING for 2013\*\*

We are very pleased to inform all members that there will be NO CHANGE TO THE PRICES first offered in 2011. These prices continue on into 2013 !!

The format for booking your service remains the same:-

Choice of every 2nd and 3rd Monday from January to December.

£66+ Parts for Non-Condensing Boiler (no VAT payable).

£71+ Parts for Condensing Boiler (no VAT payable).

(Still very good prices against the norm of £85-£90+ parts and VAT in some cases). Place your order with Graham on 01404 823317 or gkbatten@btinternet.com Keep Warm this Winter and have a great Xmas. Best Wishes for the New Year.

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## **Christmas Concert**

In the midst of all the busy preparations for entertaining, cooking and choosing gifts, be sure to make time to relax with some wonderful Christmas music as well. To start your celebrations, come and join us in Ottery St Mary Parish Church on:

## Saturday, 8th December at 7.30 pm.

The main choral work will be Schubert's Mass in G. The Society has also been busy rehearsing some delightful arrangements of some lesser-known carols for you to enjoy. You will, of course, be invited to join the choir in a selection of traditional carols as usual.

At the end of the concert you will be able to join us in a festive glass of wine or soft drink, and a Christmas mince pie (all included in the price of your ticket).

Tickets are available from *Stagestruck* in Ottery St Mary (telephone 811311) or from Society members.

Thank you for your continued and enthusiastic support which is always appreciated.

Please visit our website for any more information you need about the society and forthcoming concerts. www.otterystmarychoral.org

Liz Hooper - Publicity - 42116 Annie Bassett - Chairman - 823331

## Village Week

Now that all costs for Village Day are in, I am pleased to be able to tell you that we made an overall surplus of  $\pounds 2105.55$  which has been distributed among various village organisations.

Full details of the income, costs and distribution of the surplus are displayed on the notice board in the entrance to the Victory Hall along with a selection of photographs taken on the day.

Planning is now under way for Village Week 2013. If you would like to be part of the planning team we would be happy to have you. Please give me a ring on 822262.

Bob Scanlan



## **Isca Funeral Services**

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In the previous edition of the Whimple News I expressed the hope that the 2012 coffee morning would be extra special to mark Hospiscare's 30th anniversary and what a special morning it was. The grand total was  $\pm 1,076!!$  It was difficult to believe, but a tremendous tribute to the enthusiasm and generosity of everyone concerned.

Particular thanks to all the helpers, to those in the kitchen, those who served coffee, the stall helpers and the sellers of draw tickets. A special thank you to members of the WI and other friends who gave such unstinting help and a special mention to members of the NAPS group, a new group who worked so hard and enthusiastically and helped to swell the total.

On behalf of Hospiscare, my warmest thanks and appreciation - a lovely morning and a superb result -  $\pm 1,076$  - thank you.

**Rosemarie Burrows** 





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Chairman: John Griffiths	823480
<i>Clerk</i> : Gerri Turner,	823385
St. Mary's Church	
Parish Priest: Chris Martin	822427
SClub11 & Impact: Maggie and Ian Spicer	823640
Devon County Councillor	
Peter Bowden	823450
East Devon Councillor	
Martin Gammell	823535
Whimple Primary School (admin@whimple-primary.devon	.sch.uk)
Headteacher: Mrs. S. Jessop	822584
Chair of Governors: Maria Wallis	823992
Whimple History Society	
Chairman: David Rastall	822486
Secretary: Roger Smith	822244
Whimple Mothers Union	
Margaret Burrough	822257
Whimple Pre-School & Toddler Group (whimplepreschool.	weebly.com)
	4 654380
Playleader: Tanya Chitty	823549
Toddlers: Louise Fenner	822272
Whimple Womens Institute	
President: Avril Ellingham	822945
Secretary: Ann Bowden	823450
Whimple Over Sixties Club	
Chairman: Arthur Iball	822905
Secretary: Beryl Iball	822905
Whimple Recreation Trust	
Knowle Cross Sports Ground: Mr Roger Smith	822244
Whimple Village Produce Association.	
Chairman, Mick Street	823277
Whimple Football Club	
Chairman: Ian Stephenson Secretary: Julian Johnson	822639
Whimple Tennis Club	
Secretary: Roddy Bridge	822057
Treasurer: Adrian Rushworth	823276
Whimple Cricket Club	
Booking Secretary: Liz Silk	822389
Whimple Victory Hall	
Chair; Maria Wallis	823992
Secretary: Pam Scanlan	822262
Booking Sec: Ali Tierney	822724
Whimpletons	000104
Ed Hitchcock	823194
Wasters of Whimple	000015
Jenny Sanders	823015
Alison Betts	823967
St. Mary's Bellringers	000400
Captain: Roger Algate	822480
Whimple Scout Group	000044
Group Scout Leader (and Marquee Booking): Alex Spry	822844
Whimple Book Group	000000
Katy Howard	823038

WN81



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## the Whimple News Team

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Bob Scanlan	822262	
Sally Wilde	823246	
Delivery and Advertising		
Ed & Nicky Hitchcock	823194	
Community diary		
Nicky Hitchcock	823194	
<b>Treasurer</b> Miles Leonard	822415	



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