DISTINCTLY WINKLEIGH



Working for Winkleigh



Edition 83

Autumn 2022

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The Winkleigh Society Quarterly Journal

Record of Work – Townsend Hill Development



Photo by Stonefree

Front Cover Crown by Greg Goldsworthy



The Winning Scarecrow David Bowie by Mrs and Miss Swapp. Photograph by Rachel Goldsworthy

More Jubilee Photos





Winkleigh Society - Chair's Report - September 2022



I'm focusing the Chair's Report for this edition firstly to explain why you are receiving this edition of **Distinctly**

Winkleigh later than usual and secondly to give you an overview of the actions that take place to get the publication to you.

Our Editor (Godfrey Rhodes) has had to spend a fortnight in hospital which meant it was impossible to meet the usual August deadlines: re-formatting and piecing together the multitude of articles, photographs, art-work and managing the all-important revenue-raising adverts which enable us to print and deliver to every household in the Parish free of charge. Treasurer Rachel Goldsworthy looks after the invoicing side of things as well as liaising with Godfrey on new advertisers.

A draft version of each edition of DW is emailed to a small team of Proof Readers who report back any typos and errors. Godfrey makes corrections and the checked draft is then emailed to the printers in Crediton.

The printers usually take just over a week to print (currently 1,000 copies).

The boxes of DWs are then delivered back to Godfrey who with the help of Jo counts out the numbers of copies required for each of the 22 rounds into delivery packs.

Barry & Barbara Jenkins deliver the packs to our 'posties' (including themselves as they deliver one of the major rounds: Westcots Drive).

The 'posties' hand deliver to the houses on their round list; in addition we post over 60 copies via Royal Mail to outlying homesteads in the Parish. About a week after the hand-delivered copies go out, spare copies are left in local shops to be picked up as required. (E.g. Londis, Butchers, Post Office & Pet Home & Garden on the Airfield).

As a small token of thanks to our 'posties' we treat them once a year to tea & cake at Fiona's Farm Kitchen, resumed this year after a Covid induced two year gap.

Winkleigh Society is justly proud of our flagship publication *Distinctly Winkleigh* (now in its twenty second year). Welcome back Godfrey.

Penny Griffiths

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Trish Clarkson



The Tallet Café at Sam's Cider



We are opening on 19th September. We will be offering hot and cold food, cakes and sweet treats as well as coffees, teas, soft drinks and of course, Sam's Ciders. Our hours will initially be Monday to Friday 9 am to 3 pm and Saturday 9 am to 2 pm.

We have a lot planned for our new café and cannot wait to share it with you all. Here is a little explanation on how we came up with the name. The Tallet Café? Hmmmm 'Tallet' I hear you say!

Tallet is an intriguing Devonshire South West regional name with a difference and a goodwill feeling associated with farming, food and drink producers. Tallet is known as a place to store below a pitched roof space, usually used for hay, it is often used here at Sam's Cider as a place to gather up items and as a place of comfort.

One member of the family refers to it as a place to seek rest and relaxation: 'Goodnight, I am off to Tallet' - he says!

Our friendly, relaxing interior-designed Tallet, will be a place to gather socially and relax in a comforting atmosphere with excellent coffee, local freshly produced hot and cold food carefully served with a warm welcome for families and friends or even a meeting hub. All under one roof!!!

Please keep an eye out for our new Tallet Café Facebook and Instagram page. We look forward to welcoming you to The Tallet Café at Sam's Cider.



Our Devon County Councillor Writes



I hope all readers of Distinctly Winkleigh have been able to enjoy the summer months and haven't got too hot in the heatwaves we've been experiencing! Since the last edition we've also had the Platinum Jubilee and Winkleigh Fair so can I take the opportunity to thank everyone who was involved in organising these events.

Writing an article in August, I would normally be commenting on how it is usually a quieter month with fewer meetings and a bit of spare time to re-charge the batteries. Well, not so this year — neither in Winkleigh nor at County Hall!

We have had several meetings in the village recently to discuss the spate of housing development applications that have come through and I was pleased to be able to attend both the Special Parish Council meeting and also the public meeting with our MP Sir Geoffrey Cox.

While the ultimate decision on these applications will be made by Torridge District Council, I will be working closely with your District Councillor, Simon Newton, on the aspects of the applications where Devon County Council is a consultee – for example on matters concerning highways.

Unfortunately, at the time of writing it is too early to say or write in any detail as to what Highway's views and requests on these applications will be, especially the new Townsend Hill applications. But *if* any of these applications are approved, I will be pushing for as much infrastructure improvement as possible.

I will also, alongside Simon and Sir Geoffrey, continue to push Torridge to come up with their 'five year housing land supply' so that we can put an end to these unplanned and unmanaged development applications that we are seeing not just in Winkleigh but across the District.

While we have been dealing with these issues in Winkleigh, at County Hall it is also a time of significant challenges. A combination of unprecedented demand on our Children's and Adults' welfare as we come out of the pandemic, plus the 'cost of living' pressures such as inflation and increased bills, are putting a significant strain on the County Council's budget.

Action is already being taken now and a huge amount of work will be taking place over the summer months to scrutinise the highest spending

departments in the Council and look at what can be done differently. Again, it is too early to write in detail what proposals will come forward, but I have made it clear to Council officials that where DCC has often had an old-fashioned or traditional view towards delivering a service, the Council will have to think about delivering that service differently, and will have to deliver it in a way that not only is more financially sustainable, but also has a better outcome for our residents.

To give an example: as a Council, we are currently spending tens of thousands of pounds a week on some of our children in care. Financially that isn't sustainable, but it also isn't good for the children either! For me it is just as important that we get a **good** outcome for each child. So, the work that is going on now is taking an in-depth look at the higher cost placements for our children in care and looking at what we can do to both improve the quality of care for the child and also bring the cost of their placement down.

If we can do this, alongside all the other reviews of the council budgets, I believe that we should be able to stabilise the budget for this year and into the future. While there are challenging times, both in Winkleigh and at County Hall, I do not resile from them. For me, this is not just about a financial cost-cutting exercise, it is about transforming and changing the way that the Council delivers services so that we get consistently good, high quality outcomes for our residents. We have to break the cycle we have currently found ourselves in where, as a Council, we are spending large amounts of money on a small number of people who aren't always getting a good outcome.

As ever, I am here to help and if there are any DCC issues you'd like to raise with me you can contact me on **facebook.com/cllrsaywell**, ring 07886 446560 or email andrew.saywell@devon.gov.uk.



Airfield Garage Car Show - Thanks

What an absolutely fantastic day, the weather was perfect and everyone had a great time. The bus driven by Dan was a brilliant success and lots of people took advantage of it; it was certainly an amazing sight to see the bus full of people smiling and laughing. A huge thank you to Western Event Hire and Lorne Hamilton; the day would not have been the same without your help. A huge thank you also to all the hard working volunteers who helped on the day, the donations to the raffle and to everyone who attended and donated on the day.

We had over 240 vehicles in attendance and the mix was great. It was particularly nice to see the old Gregory lorries, so many interesting cars, bikes and trucks.

Thank you again to everyone. If you would like to see more images of the show they are on the Airfield Garage website www.airfieldgarage.com.

PS: Save the date for next year - Saturday June 10th 2023





Winkleigh Parish Council - Clerk's Report - August

Dear All.

I hope this finds you in good health and having enjoyed a beautiful summer — it has indeed been very warm, but I trust this has been a boon overall rather than a curse. Much has been happening even over the Council's summer break, with planning and so forth. The various developments both accepted and proposed are under the scrutiny of the whole Council, I've never had so much extensive information about planning in fact. Your council is working for you, to protect your interests in the Parish! I hope many of you took the opportunity to speak to our MP, Sir Geoffrey Cox QC, who visited us recently, and from whom careful attention to the developments is also forthcoming.

I would like to take this opportunity to encourage you all to engage with Torridge District Council in the coming months, as energy prices rise and the cost of living is forecast to increase. They are able to make an immediate impact in your lives through hardship funds and other schemes that they run, should you, or anyone you know, be in need of assistance.

Please all do take the time to read the open letter from the Council to the Parish penned by myself and the Vice-Chair; it shows you where the Council's priorities lie.

Your Clerk - Benjamin Roth



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Kicking up a Storm

"Any stockpiles will be held in areas wherever possible out of the wind and kept to minimum practicable safe height and located where possible away from adjacent properties and existing highways. The stockpiles will be inspected and when necessary dampened down and if necessary screened with dust screens. The handling of these stockpiles will be kept to the absolute minimum"

This is a statement from the Larkfleet /Allison Homes Construction Management Plan (CMP) regarding spoil storage and dust management.

As some residents of Westcots can testify, throughout the hot and dry summer, the contractors working on the Townsend Hill Development were not abiding by these conditions.

Faced with a towering spoil heap opposite her upstairs bedroom window, 25 metres away, from early July and plagued by the dust swirling around and covering their homes and gardens Anne Balcomb and some of her neighbours took photographs and compiled a list of problems and health concerns that were bedeviling them and blighting their quality of life:

- 1. Unable to enjoy the garden as the bank of soil is so close and impactful,
- Cannot open windows or hang out washing,
- 3. Exteriors of houses and windows and cars constantly covered in dust,
- 4. Concern of the health implications of breathing in swirling dust,
- 5. Financial impact of the construction pollution on their homes,
- 6. Damage to ancient hedge-bank and wildlife with the dust spoil rammed tight against it.

Torridge's Environment Protection Officer was contacted and did visit Anne and the building site.

Anne attended a public meeting in the Community Centre on Tuesday 9th August about new housing developments attended by Sir Geoffrey Cox MP and District Councillor Simon Newton where she distributed this list of concerns. They both



visited the Allison Homes site and saw the towering spoil mountain that was rammed against the hedge-bank on Townsend Hill.

On Thursday 11th August the **Okehampton Times** featured the story '**Residents Worried by High Spoil Heaps'** with a photograph. The journalist Amy Hetherington contacted Allison Homes for a statement which said:

"We do acknowledge that the pile has been taken too high and therefore we have instructed our ground-workers to reduce the height to two metres by close of play tomorrow."

On Friday 12th August they did reduce the stockpile so that it no longer towered over the road.

Ironically, unaware of this remedial action, Torridge's Environment Protection Officer on 16th August wrote to Ms Balcomb "I will not be able to make the developers change their practices as they are complying with their management plan..."

Shortly after the removal of the dust mountain Allison Homes have met with Anne to discuss her concerns about cleaning the exterior of her home.

Sir Geoffrey Cox has also written to Allison Homes and raised this issue with Torridge District Council, as has Councillor Newton.

FOLLOW UP:

At the August Winkleigh Parish Council meeting public session I gave a brief resume of Anne and her neighbours protest about the thoughtless mismanagement on this site and the importance of holding the Developers to their CMP (Construction Management Plan). I gave out copies of the Larkfleet/Allison Homes CMP to each councilor and asked that there could be a nominated Parish Councillor who would liaise with the site manager and keep the village informed as to the progress and any potential problems of the development to avert any other concerns that might arise.

Penny Griffiths.

Penny Griffiths.



GREENPRINTS – NOT BLUEPRINTS!

We, as a community, and as individuals who make up a society, need to review the way we think about the environment. For so long we have taken from this beautiful earth without giving a single thought to what we can give back – especially as regards expansion.

For example: Take the houses that are being built to the west of Townsend Hill. Currently about half, maybe less, of the field is intended to have 55 houses built on it. Next door to that field is a brownfield site which used to be Kingsley Plastics, who have now relocated to the airfield; there are over 70 houses planned for this site — with poor access via Hatherleigh Road, and seemingly no consideration to ecological impact or local biodiversity. The Parish Council has seen proposed plans for another 70 odd houses on the remainder of the field — making a total of 195 houses, with an undisclosed make-up of starter homes.

It is not the position of the Parish Council to brandish the pitchforks, but it is very much the case that we wish to fervently push towards as little environmental disruption as possible, which is why we created and you voted for our Neighbourhood Plan, which advocates:

- a) Safeguarding and protection of our environmental assets, particularly locally valued resources that may not be statutorily protected,
- b) To embed a principle of net environmental gain to proposals that come forward in the parish.

Winkleigh Volunteer Service

Volunteers take people to hospital and other medical appointments, collect shopping, take people to the shops, care homes and other **essential journeys**. Volunteers give their time for nothing but we do charge 50p per mile. Please note that this has had to go up from 1st September due to the current cost of fuel. I sometimes drive more than 100 miles a week for the service!

Please ring Angle: 01837 682616 or 07455365144

Please give as much notice as you can as our volunteers can't be expected to help at a moment's notice, we are not an emergency service

May I take this opportunity to thank all my volunteers for their support and help with this service.

We desperately need more volunteers especially as the annual flu jab and Covid booster programme gets under way.

If you are interested in helping out, please give me a ring to find out more!

Angela Findlay

For example, building a road joining the two estates and planting a wood between them, would be an environmental gain, we need to ask questions about what can be done, and not accept weak answers in return. The result would be, in the above case: that the trees would absorb rainwater runoff, nature would thrive, and the people in both estates would benefit from everything a wood provides, and they and their children could be involved in its maintenance, giving them a good natural education. We need green innovation – greenprints, not blueprints.

Furthermore, there is a very large fir tree opposite Mid Devon Motors that every year houses a Rookery. From what we know there are plans to cut down the tree, shorten the existing garden & build another house, which would be the prerogative of the landowners, but where do the Rooks go? Has there been any thought about the environment? Our Neighbourhood Plan has:

Policy ER9 states this: Even small-scale development, such as house extensions, may impact, for example, through loss of ground cover and drainage, and affect protected species such as bats. Alternative development solutions that are more environmentally friendly may be possible. Ideally, all development should contribute to a net gain in biodiversity.

A property has recently had constructed around it a wall, leaving absolutely no route through for small animals, of which there are an abundance in the parish. We share this planet, we are made of the same stuff as all other creatures.

We cannot view nature as the problem, and walls as the solution. Nor can we ignore the blatant issues with building a huge development that impact on the local ecology. This should not just be about our Human lives, but about the life we share with all living things in this beautiful area.

Alan J R Jacobs (Vice Chair - Winkleigh Parish Council)
Benjamin Roth (Clerk - Winkleigh Parish Council)

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Winkleigh Parish Church News



As a child, the summer holidays always seemed to simultaneously go on forever and then end too quickly. I suspect my view on this depended on the weather, my eagerness to get back to school or my reluctance to do so.

It has been, I'm sure, the same for many children and their parents and carers alike.

The month of September sees a time of change and transition for many. It will see some of our young people head off to college, university or the world of work. Younger children may be uncertain about a different classroom and teacher or a new school. Some will be glad the holidays are over, desperate to get back to friends and the lessons they love. Others will have hoped that the holidays lasted forever as the start of a new school year brings with it fears and uncertainties. Parents and carers will have their own hopes and fears as they drop young adults off at university, or as the baby of the family starts school for the first time. Some will be relieved to no longer hear the cries of "I'm bored" or "I'm hungry", whilst others will be finding the house strangely empty and silent. These whole mixtures of emotion are of course perfectly normal and I suspect most children and adults at this time will experience a mixture of them all.



TEN ACRES VINEYARD CAMPSITE

- ₱ Free local wine deliveries to Winkleigh and surrounding area. Fri 4 7pm.
- Guided vineyard tours & wine-tasting From 1st May 30th September 4.30pm every Saturday. Private group tours also available (minimum 6 people). Booking essential for all tours.
- Campsite and Devon Wine Shack open 1st May 30th September. For tents/small campervans. Glamping tents also available. Booking essential.

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It is of course the same throughout our lives, no matter how young or old we are or the situation. Times of change and transition can always be tricky to navigate and we can be looking forward to the future with excitement and fear in equal measure.

The hymn 'Through all the changing scenes of life' which is based on Psalm 34, reminds us that as we move through life and all the joys and troubles it brings, we are not alone. God walks alongside us and is faithful, reaching out to help us when we are in need but also rejoicing with us in times of joy. At these times of change and transition we are helped and supported by those around and closest to us, family and friends. It is gentle encouragement, a listening ear, joyful celebration and love which provide stability and give courage. As we seek to support our children and young people in the months ahead, these are the greatest gifts we can offer to them and to all those going through times of change and transition. In church we pray regularly for our children and young people and perhaps in the next couple of months maybe you could do the same.

'Through all the changing scenes of life, in trouble and in joy, The praises of my God shall still my heart and tongue employ.

'O magnify the Lord with me, with me exalt his name; When in distress to him I called, He to my rescue came.

'The hosts of God encamp around the dwellings of the just; Deliverance he affords to all who on his succour trust.

'O make but trial of his love, experience will decide How blest are they, and only they, who in his truth confide.

'Fear him, ye saints, and you will then have nothing else to fear; Make you his service your delight, your wants shall be his care.

'To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, the God whom we adore, Be glory, as it was, is now, and shall be evermore. Amen'.

Tate and Brady New Version (1696)

Blessings, Helen

Revd Helen Blaine (01837 83710 - revhelenblaine@outlook.com) Priest-in-charge: Winkleigh, Ashreigney, Broadwoodkelly and Brushford.

Nativity Festival

Last year saw our first Nativity Festival which was a great success with a huge variety of different nativity scenes. This year we will be holding it on **Saturday 10th December 10:00 am-3:00 pm with refreshments**. In order to make a wonderful display we need your nativity sets.

If you have a set you are willing to lend us for the day or feel creative and want to make one, then please let me know revhelenblaine@outlook.com / 01837 83710

The Bells rang out for a very special man

URBAN FRANK PIDGEON (Frank) 18th February 1934 - 18th June 2022



Frank Pidgeon was many things, a Husband, Father and Grandfather, as well as a friend to many of us. Born and raised in Wembworthy and a resident of Winkleigh for over fifty years, he lived in Vine House with his wife Queenie, where they raised their family.

Frank was a passionate bell-ringer from the age of 15, eventually becoming Captain of the Tower. He continued to ring until the grand old age of 80. He was also the proud standard bearer for the British Legion for forty years.

There cannot be many people in Winkleigh who didn't

know Frank. He had an engineering background and was always busy with different projects: making his own rotovator or helping neighbours and friends with whatever they needed. Frank often told of the time he and Queenie first bought Vine House. Apparently a lot of work was needed and Frank very much appreciated the help that so many people gave at that time — a true sign of a village community.

Frank and Queenie had the view that everyone was welcome in their home; whenever anyone left Frank would say "see you many more times". He genuinely loved Winkleigh village and the people living here. Even when he became ill he still very much enjoyed having visitors. He never lost his sense of humour and always had a twinkle in his eye, a truly lovely man with a wonderful character. He is missed by many!

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Living like Grandma

In Grandma's day, there weren't things like laptops, mobile phones or any other modern electrical things, although in her 60's she did have a fridge and freezer.

She didn't have a bank account or credit card and got paid for work in cash. She also used an 'envelope system' for her house-keeping: envelopes for rent, electricity bill, groceries, etc. Once her cash was gone that was it; she might not have had much but she didn't have any debts. It was a case of make do or go without and if you wanted any extras you had to be mindful of your spending.

Here are just a few of the things she did to save money most of which can still be used today.

She didn't have paper kitchen towels: so she would cut up old rags to use and re-use. She dried laundry outside or on an airer inside.

She didn't waste water by drawing off the cold water from the hot tap first and storing it for the kettle or saucepans and when cooking she would fill her oven.

She used more vegetables than meat, as it was cheaper to bulk out a meal.

She also planned her meals so that she only bought what she needed for the week.

She would say "I am going shopping in my pantry or freezer" to use up everything.

She always tried to have a 'no spend' week about 5 times a year to save for something she wanted.

Grandma never threw stuff away; she rarely bought anything new but everything she had she made best use of.

Old-fashioned living gives you back control of your money, environmental impact and your life.

Now here are just a few things to know about using electricity. One kilowatt hour gives you: nine uses of a kettle, four hours of watching TV or three hours on a laptop. Thank you Grandma for your hints and tips.

Deanne Whittaker



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Response to Proposed Developments in Winkleigh

Winkleigh Parish Council Planning Group is an authorised sub-group of Winkleigh Parish Council comprising two Parish Councilors, Greg Goldsworthy and myself, along with former architects of The Winkleigh Neighbourhood Plan: Penny Griffiths, Adrian Mercer and Pauline Warner. This group of people looks carefully at all planning applications pertaining to the Parish and makes recommendations to Winkleigh Parish Council.

The Planning Group have been very busy currently due to the plethora of estates which have been applied for by developers seeking to build in Winkleigh. Our main task is not to stop building in the village but to ensure that developers are cognisant of The Neighbourhood Plan and understand the villagers' wish for sustainable development at a price local people can afford, which includes affordable homes and social housing.

Our aspirations are for developments which are future-proofed for climate change, sensitive to our historic village environment and take every opportunity to enhance wildlife and green spaces.

We have objected to proposals at Great Well Park and Phase Two of Townsend Hill Development because they don't fulfill any of the aspirations of our Neighbourhood Plan which the people of this parish voted for last year. We are particularly concerned about the cavalier attitude of Allison Homes, who are currently building



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In summary: our comments sent to the enforcement officer at TDC state that:

"Winkleigh Parish cannot oppose this application strongly enough. The developers have paid no heed to the aspirations of the Neighbourhood Plan and have not entered into any meaningful community liaison as described in our Plan.

"Experiences of other councils in the country have exposed Larkfleet/Allison homes as shoddy, inadequate builders of second-rate homes of a design that has been replicated in many other parts of the country, showing no respect to the unique and ancient layout of our historic village (ENV1-3). The development is not environmentally sound, pays no heed to climate change and has not been tested for sustainability.

"Allison Homes have already shown themselves to be **inconsiderate constructors** with Phase One and should not be allowed to further desecrate our village or impact further on the health and wellbeing of our community.

This application should be rejected. "

Councillor Angela Findlay, Chair of Planning Group



Jenny Rock

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A Personal View on Planning

Recently Torridge District Council has been publicly blamed for the number of planning applications pertaining in Winkleigh by our Member of Parliament, due to an identified lack of five-year land supply. However, it's important to recognise that local authorities like Torridge have had their budgets halved by central government since 2010; as a result of this hollowing out they simply don't have the resources now to undertake many of their basic functions.

On a similar note, Local Councillors refer to loopholes in planning legislation which enable developers to exploit the absence of a five-year land supply. The truth is that there is no "loophole:" this is an explicit element of planning - it is designed this way to punish local authorities and favour developers - there is nothing accidental here.

In the blame game around the Winkleigh developments I would suggest that our representatives in central government who designed and voted for the current planning system, and supported repeated cuts to local authorities, are the ones who should be held to account.

Dr. Adrian Mercer (member of WPC Planning Sub Group)



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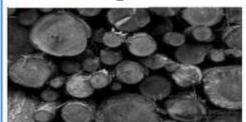
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I completed the Ten Tors

A few months ago I completed Ten Tors, which is an event where people come together to take part in a challenge of walking either 35, 45 or 55 miles in the many varying conditions of Dartmoor.

Ten Tors is not an event for those who are very easily defeated; you have to push through and think positivity. The training was tough, but it taught us new skills, how to cope and showed the leaders that we were strong enough. Each weekend spent in the fog and rain we got to know each other more, many times we argued but that just made us stronger as a team and we learnt from it.

There were ups and downs but it helped that there were lots of other people on the moor, and at each checkpoint people would come and lighten the mood with just a few words. The hardest part for me was getting to a camping destination after a long hot day of walking, but also at the end when we all realised we still had two hills left to walk. I think everyone cried at the end because it was just such a relief for it to finally be over, it felt unreal. The walk up to the finish line felt so long, but the people lined up clapping and cheering made it enjoyable and memorable.

I wanted to do it so that I could say I'd done it and so that I had something to do with my spare time, but I never quite imagined how much of a big deal it was going to be.

Penny Garland



Winkleigh Celebrates the Platinum Jubilee

"I have added this first paragraph following the sad news just announced of the passing of Queen Elizabeth II and the beginning of the reign of King Charles III. She was a leading light, a rock upon which the country was built after World War II, someone who embodied the nation and who inspired her people. We will never see her like again."

It must be said that Winkleigh did itself proud in celebrating this most unique of Royal milestones – the Platinum Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. Never before, anywhere in the world, had a monarch reigned for 70 years.

A committee, led firstly by Rachel Goldsworthy and then Tony Aston, was formed way back in January to decide how best the village could celebrate the event across an extended holiday period. Many meetings took place, mainly in the Kings Arms (no bad thing!) with firm plans gradually emerging into what was to become a

memorable few days.

On Friday 3rd June the church bells rang out to start the day and the Community Centre facilitated live-streaming of the Jubilee service from St Paul's Cathedral, which was enjoyed by all who attended.

That evening, Winkleigh rocked once more when the ABBA tribute band, "Take a

Chance On Us," with local resident Tim Rhodes – *Benny Andersson* – on keyboard. A packed Square revelled in musical memories from the 70's and 80's. Huge thanks go



out to residents and businesses who contributed financially to make this concert possible. The Kings Arms facilitated an outside bar. Delicious hot food was provided by Sam and Andy Hastings from North Devon Hog Roast and sumptuous home-made ice creams were on offer by NICO Ice Cream.



The previous weeks had seen amazing displays of scarecrows of all shapes, sizes, and designs, outside homes and businesses, this highly popular competition returning



under the organisation of Winkleigh Society. Skills and imaginations came very much to the fore and a whole raft of figures and mannequins appeared on the village streets.

A great deal of interest was also exhibited regarding the Jubilee Pudding competition and expectations were high.

The morning of Saturday 4th heralded a very special monthly market in the Royal theme-decorated Village Hall, including live keyboard music from Jenny Gill, an electronic display of images depicting the 70 years of the

Queen, a delightful selection of refreshments and a magnificent raffle organised by Ros Jarvis, with 70 prizes, one for each year of reign.

[See a few more Jubilee images inside the front cover]



At the same time, across the road in the Community Centre. Vicky Radcliffe and her team of helpers held a very popular and successful crownmaking workshop. Vicky was also instrumental in making copious quantities of purple bunting.

Aly Leah and Margaret

Bridgman worked relentlessly in organising, raising funds for, and delivering a magnificent **Over 60's Tea Party** in the centre that afternoon. This was another event that was hugely popular, with the centre bursting at the seams. Trevor the "piano man" provided musical entertainment throughout the afternoon. A wonderful time was had by all.



A huge "thank-you" is also due to Aly for all her hard work in arranging for various road closures, despite several difficulties that cropped up in the days beforehand.

Eyes were cast towards the heavens as daylight broke on the Sunday morning and preparations began for the grand Jubilee Street Partv. Weather predictions were not good, and rain was forecast to be around for much of the day. With tables and chairs provided by Western Event Hire, and marquees from Winkleigh Fair, everything was set up for the afternoon event. Light rain fell spasmodically during the event, but nothing was going to prevent a great turn-out. Winkleigh Gardening Club delightfully adorned the well with a magnificent floral display. Hamilton once again provided a sound-

system to allow music to be played. People turned up in themed costumes, Union Flags were everywhere to be seen, and picnics were the flavour of the afternoon.



Margaret Bridgman baked a delicious Jubilee cake which was distributed to all partygoers. Mementos of the day — wooden coasters with the Winkleigh Jubilee emblem burned thereon — were handed out to everyone who attended and have since been given to those who were not able to attend. These had been lovingly created by Joyce and Dave Maddocks.

An auction was held, towards the end of the afternoon, of an amazing Jubilee "Corgi" cake-topping that had been created by local baking wizard, Clare Bolt, with all proceeds being donated to the

Dementia UK charity. Well in excess of £200 was raised!

The winners of the Winkleigh Society Scarecrow competition were adjudged to be Mrs and Miss Swapp with their excellent creation of the legendary David Bowie. [*The front cover features the winning entry.*] The 'pick-from-the-hat' winner of those who completed all the trail went to 3-year-old Maisie Jones.



First prizes for the pudding competition were awarded to Chelsea Rooke, Mike Sherring-Lucas and Dan Kennedy with Chelsea picking up the overall winner's prize of an engraved glass cake stand and Winkleigh Jubilee apron. The judges all extolled the quality and taste of each entry. Well done all!

Huge numbers of photographs were taken by volunteers, Greg Goldsworthy, and Alan Jacobs, at the party and, indeed, throughout the holiday period. There was even a special, and very professional, frame made by Mandy Bridgman that people could stand behind to have their photo taken. Photographic records are such an important part of Winkleigh history, and these will be there to be seen and

enjoyed by generations to come. It is planned that there will be an exhibition arranged in the village for everyone to visit.

[Editor's note: The Winkleigh Society would like to save as many images as possible on their Archive computer in the Community Centre, so please donate copies to them via articles@Distinctly Winkleigh.co.uk]

Events such as this do not happen without a huge amount of work, commitment, time, and donations made by large and diverse groups of people and individuals. Appreciation and thanks are extended to all of the following (I apologise in advance if I have missed anyone):

- Winkleigh Parish Council for its support, financial assistance and advice.
- Alex Phillips and Steph Allen, Western Event Hire Winkleigh Jubilee committee and sponsorship of chairs, tables and toilets
- Joyce and Dave Maddocks for their donation, for leading the Jubilee
 Pudding competition and creating the coaster mementos.
- Tony Aston Winkleigh Village Hall and Jubilee Committee Chair
- Kay Aston Winkleigh Village Hall and Jubilee Committee
- Julie Mustafa Winkleigh Village Hall, Jubilee Committee and book sales donation
- Rachel Goldsworthy Jubilee Committee and Winkleigh Society
- Aly Leah Winkleigh Fair, Road Closures and over 60s tea party
- Claire Crafer Initial Road Closure arrangements
- Annie Saunders Dawe Winkleigh Jubilee Committee
- Margaret Bridgman Over 60s tea party and Jubilee Cake
- Mandy Bridgman for creating the Jubilee photo frame





- Vicky Radcliffe Winkleigh Craft Club and bunting
- Sarah Goody Winkleigh Fair
- Faye Tomkins Winkleigh Fair and Kings Arms
- Julie Robinson Winkleigh Fair
- Liz Rooke Winkleigh Fair
- Clare Lill Friends of Winkleigh School
- Rev. Helen Blaine Winkleigh Parish Church
- Alan Jacobs Winkleigh Society and Photography
- Penny Griffiths Winkleigh Society and Scarecrow competition
- Greg Goldsworthy Photography
- Sue Brown Winkleigh Craft Club
- Debbie Kennard Winkleigh Craft Club and provision of pallets for signage
- Trish Clarkson Rubbish clearing
- Helena Lewis Bunting
- Winkleigh Garden Club Dressing of well
- Hazel Towell Luxton Barton Flowers for cake table
- Londis Donation of cakes
- Winkleigh Bell Ringers National Bell Peal
- Winkleigh Church Flower Ladies Dressing the Church
- Kim Melhuish Biodiversity Group organizing and planting of Jubilee Tree
- Winkleigh Sports Centre Providing venue for Jubilee Tree

- Winkleigh Community Centre committee Free use for Jubilee events
- Winkleigh Village Hall committee Free use for Jubilee events
- Clare Bolt Creating Jubilee cake topping for auction
- Winkleigh Society Scarecrow Competition and donation
- Yokel Eggs Donation of eggs tea party and Jubilee Cake
- Ziggy Habel Winkleigh Fair King 2021-22
- Margaret Ferguson & Winkleigh Society Kings Purple Cloak
- Lorne Hamilton Sound systems
- NICO Ice cream Donation towards ABBA evening
- North Devon Hog Roast Donation towards ABBA evening
- Seven Stars Donation towards ABBA band
- Howes Estates Donation towards ABBA band
- Open Book Donation towards ABBA band
- Rangemoors Donation towards mementos
- South-West Fixings Donation
- Roger Hill Donation
- Kingsley Plastics Donation
- Orchard Lakes Donation
- Changes Donation
- Mid Devon Motors Donation
- Mad Butchers for hosting Jubilee donations box
- Numerous residents for monetary and raffle donations
- Tim Rhodes and Rhiannon Tree ABBA Take a Chance on Us
- Numerous Winkleigh Businesses Donations to Village Hall Raffle
- Airfield Garage Donation and Vintage Car Show
- Village Hall Jubilee Quiz and Pudding Night

Such a unique event as this is unlikely to be seen ever again. I extend my personal thanks to everyone who, in any, way, shape or form, helped make the Platinum Jubilee such a successful and unforgettable experience. Another mark has been indelibly notched into the annals of Winkleigh history.

Tony Aston Chair – Winkleigh Jubilee Committee



Valuing Our Rivers - Hollocombe Water

Our smaller local streams have delightful names such as Bullow Brook, Hollocombe Water and Mully Brook. All three are tributaries to the Taw River. In the driest summer for decades, I have become more aware of the water in our landscape, as brooks have dried up and streams slowed to a trickle.

Hollocombe Water is 12 km long and rises in three places - Lodgey Cross on Hollocombe Moor, beyond Winkleigh Airfield and near to Stafford Moor. Hollocombe Water is certainly beautiful and benefits from public footpath access along a significant part of its length. It is not always easy to interpret the water quality data, however. Only 16% of our British rivers meet the standard for good ecological status. DEFRA states: 'As population growth, land use and climate change are having a significant impact on our water environment, the data shows we are running to stand still.'

The tests to detect certain chemicals have changed since 2016, so in 2019 no water bodies in the UK achieved 'good chemical status'. Hollocombe Water failed due to hazardous substances: Mercury and Polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDE). DEFRA collects water samples at Bridge Reeve and although their objective is to return water quality to good ecological status, they quote poor nutrient management from



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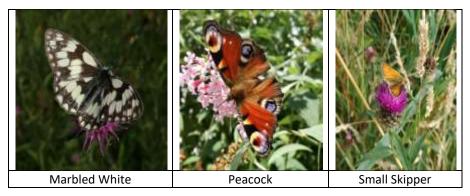
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agriculture and sewage discharge from water companies as the likely sources of pollution. DEFRA mentions 'disproportionate costs' as a barrier to reaching their aim. Pure water is so important for human health and the vast number of creatures which rely upon it. So what can we do?

Westcountry Rivers Trust offers the opportunity to become a Citizen Scientist Volunteer. They send you the testing kits with instructions and you take samples every month. So, if you loved your childhood chemistry set or you just want to do something useful and bramble-bashing or tree-planting is not your thing, then get in touch with them on 01579 372140 or info@wrt.org.uk. You might also like to attend a local training session on taking samples or join a group. Ashreigney & Riddlecombe Nature Recovery Group is planning to start one soon. Contact Neil Spencer on 07767 307295. Look out for North Devon Biosphere's session in October or November. If you are a Winkleigh or Hollocombe resident and would like to find other like-minded people join in environmental activities, take look http://winkleighbiodiversity.blogspot.com/ or the Winkleigh Environment Group Facebook page.

Kim J Melhuish – Winkleigh Biodiversity Group



Butterfly Photos by Kim Melhuish



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Why is the Flag of St. George flying at the Church?

The reason is that by a warrant dated 9th February 1938 the Earl Marshal laid down that the flag to be flown upon any Church of England church must be the flag of St George with the Diocesan Arms in the top corner nearest to the mast. These decisions have not been made at a local level but have been made by the Diocese of Exeter and the Church of England.

Diocesan flags are hard to get hold of, expensive and wear out quickly (especially in windy places like Winkleigh), so the practice of simply using a St George's flag (cheaper; easily available) is considered to be acceptable. The Union Flag is flown on churches on specific state occasions only. Therefore All Saints' will be flying the flag of St George at half-mast during the period of mourning, except between 1100 on 10th and 1300 on the 11th when it will be at full-mast for the Proclamation. We will fly the Union Flag on the day of the State Funeral.

Vicar and Churchwardens









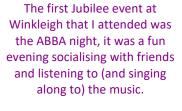




PLATINUM JUBILEE MEMORIES FROM BETSY LILL



The next event was the crown-making, we had lots of fun making crowns at the community centre.





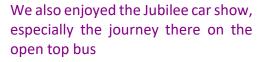
The final event was the bringand-share tea party, where we did our best to stay dry, ate food and made some friends. I also enjoyed baking for the pudding contest. I made a Bakewell Trifle and an Orange & Marzipan Traybake in the junior category. I won 3rd place for the trifle!













Thank you to everyone who helped plan and hold the events.











Winkleigh Church Platinum Jubilee Floral Arrangements

Here is a review of the floral displays we created in the Church for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

It was a lovely opportunity to use red white & blue colours.

We are looking to expand our group and would welcome any newcomers to join us.

No experience is necessary, and you do not have to live in the village of Winkleigh.

If you think you would like to help creating flower arrangements and be part of our group, please contact Marcia Butt - 01837 83734 or Linda Millership - 01837 680040.



What's On Diary - September - December 2022

All dates & details are believed to be correct at the time of going to press.

Please send details of your events to articles@distinctlywinkleigh.co.uk

See the online diary at www.winkleighonline.com if DW is advised of the details.

September						
21 st pm from 2 – 4	Memory Café – Community Centre					
25 th starting 4 pm	Harvest Festival, Winkleigh Parish Church					
26 th - starting at 8 pm	Winkleigh Singers Summer Concert: 'Captain Noah					
	and his Floating Zoo', Umberleigh Village Hall					
	October					
3 rd from noon – 2 pm	Lunches / Snacks - Village Hall – Booking advisable					
5 th from 2 – 4	Memory Cafe – Community Centre					
16 th -3 pm until 6 pm	Winkleigh Singers – Come and Sing event at The					
	Plough in Great Torrington					
19 th from 2 -4 pm	Memory Cafe – Community Centre					
22 nd , 23 rd , 28 th , 29 th ,	Dowland Floral Memorial event.					
30 th from 10 am – 5 pm	St. Peter's, Dowland, EX19 8PD					
29 th - starting 6.30 pm	Okehampton Choral Society – Come & Sing Concert at					
	Fairplace Church in Okehampton					
	November					
2 nd from 2 -4 pm	Memory Café – Community Centre					
4 th (see posters)	Fireworks Evening, Winkleigh Sports Centre					
7 th from noon – 2 pm	Lunches / Snacks - Village Hall – Booking advisable					
12 th assemble 10.30 am	Remembrance Service – Winkleigh Airfield Memorial					
13 th starting at 3 pm	Remembrance Sunday Service – Winkleigh Church					
17 th - 7 pm for 7.30 pm	HELP SAVE A LIFE – CPR Training – Community Centre					
16 th from 2 -4 pm	Memory Cafe – Community Centre					
	December					
5 th from noon – 2 pm	Lunches / Snacks - Village Hall – Booking advisable					
10 th - 10:00 am-3:00 pm	Nativity Festival, Winkleigh Parish Church					
18 th – 6.30 – 7.30 pm	Winkleigh Singers to lead Festival of Nine Lessons and					
	Carols at St Michael's Church, Great Torrington					



Hollocombe Community Group News - August 2022

Happy 2nd Birthday to our Hollocombe Hut which continues to be a focal point for our hamlet and is regularly decorated by Helena to celebrate key dates and occasions. So, thank you to everyone who has helped to make the hut a success to date. Your generosity enables us to donate regularly to Okehampton Food Bank.

Hollocombe Community Group Facebook site now has 110 members and is a valuable source of support and information.



During Jubilee celebrations several scarecrows appeared around Hollocombe, as part of the Winkleigh and Hollocombe scarecrow trail. The Swinging 60's scarecrow outside Westfield Farm was just brilliant. The Hollocombe Jubilee picnic party was kindly hosted by Ben and Wendy in their lovely garden. A fun time was had by all and wonderful live music was provided by Trevor, Chris and Steve. Bel's cupcakes were delicious. The sun even came out!

Here are a few photos from the afternoon taken by Bel and Helena, and some house and garden decorations.













On 11 July we learnt the sad news that the library service was suspended due to an incident that destroyed the mobile vehicle. Books were kindly automatically renewed by Libraries Unlimited and we continued to use the online services to access eBooks and audio books. Thankfully the mobile library resumed its service this week.

Here a few photos of Hollocombe taken by Helena, Emma and myself and a really beautiful photo taken by Peter from the Manse of a snowy Hollocombe winter by moonlight.







If you have any articles, news stories or photos, please email me on pebbles256@gmail.com as I would love to include them in future Hollocombe Community Group quarterly updates Stay safe and take care!

Sue Dally



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Researching Virtual Reality, Stroke and Dyspraxia at Exeter

My name is Jack, and I'm completing my PhD at the University of Exeter. I'm interested in the way people move. Specifically, I am researching movement and coordination in people who have conditions affecting their arm movement. People who have survived a stroke can have difficulties moving their arms. Similarly, people with Developmental Coordination Disorder — otherwise called Dyspraxia - can have trouble coordinating their arm movements.

My research focuses on how we can build detailed technology-based assessments for people with these conditions. I'm trying to use something called Virtual Reality (VR) for this. Virtual Reality uses small screens, like goggles, to show you computergenerated environments. In these environments, you can use your hands to interact with objects in the world. While you do this, we can use motion capture to record how you move your head, your eyes and your arms.

We can use mathematics to find interesting patterns in the recordings we collect. Our team at Exeter hopes that these patterns can used to create potential diagnostic tools. Our aim is to create useful, fast, and low-cost techniques for clinics. We hope that our work can be used to learn more about function after stroke, and about function and coordination in people with Developmental Coordination Disorder.

We are currently looking for volunteers to take part in some research. So, if you're interested in talking to me about this work, if you've had a stroke, or if you think you might be Dyspraxic, please get in touch. We're also looking for adults without stroke or DCD to take part! I would be happy to talk more about what we do. You can find my email address below.

Jack Evans: je426@exeter.ac.uk



Priscilla Geary (Jarvis)

Priscilla was born in Winkleigh on the 15th June 1943. The youngest of nine children, she attended the local primary school and then Chulmleigh secondary school.



Priscilla stayed a Winkleigh person all her life. Settling down with Jim (James McGinley) they raised their family in Southernhay. On many occasions her brother George would take Priscilla and her children on day trips all over Devon while Jim worked shift-work.

She was close to all her siblings, many of whom lived locally and was visited regularly.

During the last three years her health took a downturn and sadly she passed away on June 10th 2022 at the Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital.

She will be sadly missed by all her friends and especially her family.



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Winkleigh Singers Future Events



The Winkleigh Singers are delighted to announce that their rescheduled 'Nod to Nautical' summer concert will now be held on Monday 26th September, at Umberleigh Village Hall starting at 8 pm. The concert will have a distinctly nautical feel, featuring the very popular Flanders and Horovitz's 'Noah and His Floating Zoo', Sumsion's 'They that go down to the sea in ships' and the traditional shanty 'Drunken Sailor'. The choir will also be singing from 'The Little Red Riding Hood Songbook', as well as 'Old

MacDonald had a farm' and 'The Goslings'.

For tickets to this concert, which promises to be a lot of fun, please pre-book at https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/the-winkleigh-singers or call 0333 666 3366.

And for those who may be looking to return to singing, post-Covid, or who may want to just 'give it a go', the choir welcome all to a **Come and Sing event**, at The Plough, in Great Torrington, on Sunday 16th October between 3 and 6 pm. To sign up for Come and Sing, please visit: *The Winkleigh Singers | The Plough Arts Centre*

Looking further ahead, Winkleigh Singers are pleased to have been invited to lead the music at the annual Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols in St Michael's Church, Great Torrington on Sunday 18 December starting at 6:30 pm –7:30 pm. There will be carols for all to join in singing, as well as some fresh carols and Christmas favourites from the choir. All are welcome. Free entry with a retiring collection.



It was a Fair Week

What a fabulous Winkleigh Fair week we had this year! The sun shone (perhaps a little too hard at times) and people celebrated being able to come out and enjoy our Fair again.







There was a packed itinerary for the week from the ageold traditions of Fair Sunday to the crowd-pleasing dancefest that was **Kiss This**, who did a brilliant job of seeing us off on Fair Saturday.

We had an amazing night with the **Vintage Car Show**, had our 'eyes down' for a **Family Bingo Night**, zoomed

along country lanes looking for clues in the Car Treasure Hunt, tried to put our brains

and taste buds in gear for the quiz and puddings evening, had our eye in for the Clay Shoot and unleashed the hounds for the fun Dog Show.





We bought some amazing local creations, admired the talents of The Quilters, the children took part in games and shenanigans (not to mention soaking our very own Master of Ceremonies), bounced on a castle and ran a bungee! The children of Winkleigh danced on a wall to the sounds of the **Abstract Dragon Disco** while the rest drank and danced the night away on Fair Saturday to two fantastic bands..... who knew that Jonny Cash was from 'up North'! Who can forget the unmissable Tug-of-War contests and that memorable victory by the ladies of Winkleigh!!

WHAT AN ABSOLUTE BLAST!





Whist enjoy we ourselves, it's important to remember how long our Fair has been running (over 750 years) and apart from Coronavirus putting the anchors on for a year, it has run every vear before and since then! We do believe that it's the longest running village fair in the country! Something to extremely proud of and something we need to

maintain and treasure!!

Your Village Needs You

Would you like to be part of the fabulous team that keeps this amazing tradition going? The Winkleigh Fair Working Group would welcome volunteers and helpers to make the magic happen. We have a great time organising these events, but we do need more help!!!

Would you like to contribute to making Fair Week happen and bring some fresh ideas and energy to the table...? If so, we'd really love you to be involved. Drop us a line on our Winkleigh Fair Events Page on Facebook or via The Kings Arms or The Mad Butcher, we'd love to hear from you and don't worry, we are a fun bunch!

Too Many People to Thank!!

We would like to thank the many, many people that help by donating their time and services – there are far too many to mention, but you know who you are!!! Thanks to all our amazing sponsors, helpers, volunteers, donators and supporters. Every single thing you do makes a massive difference and the fair could not happen without you!

There are so many generous people that it's impossible to thank everyone individually and whether it was donating food for the BBQ and stalls, flowers, climbing ladders to put up the bunting, clearing litter, giving a few hours of your time and in some cases full-days of your time.....**WE THANK YOU ALL** from the bottom of our hearts. You are legends and we salute you!

Without you, all this could not happen and we would not have raised enough money to enable us to do it all again in 2023!!

Thanking the Folks of Winkleigh

Special mention goes to the children of Winkleigh Primary for their help on opening day and the fair day itself.....Ellen Bruce and Ceejay Whitworth, you were a fabulous Queen & King as were all the Attendants: Marshall Lill, Freddie French, Romilly

Davies, Arora Goodgroves, Marley Tucker and Rosamund Bickers. You did brilliantly on a very hot day. FINALLY, thank you - the wonderful people of Winkleigh and the surrounding areas!!! We're so lucky in that we have such a fantastic community around us and without you all attending these events and making sure that the atmosphere is stellar – it would not be the success it is. So please, don't change! Keep showing Devon how to party and keep supporting this fabulous village we are lucky enough to call home!

Love and Kisses The Winkleigh Fair Events Working Group

Local Community Trusts - 2022 Grants Available

The **Wright Fund** and the **Old School Fund** are two long-established local community charities, administered by members of the All Saints Church Parochial Church Council and elected trustees. They are required each year to set aside a sum of money as either grants or donations to residents and organisations of Winkleigh for a wide range of specified educational, recreational or other special needs.

The **Wright Fund** (registered charity 205397) can assist organisations or individuals with grants for recreational or leisure activities, or help to relieve individual and family needs.

The **Old School Fund** (registered charity 306918) provides financial assistance to help young people under the age of 25 resident in the Parish pursue post-secondary education or training.

Each fund has the sum of £1,000 available each year to be awarded in the form of individual grants/donations of up to £250 per applicant. If you are interested in applying for funding from either charity, or would like further information, please pick up an information brochure available from All Saints' Church, or by contacting the Revd. Helen Blaine, Winkleigh Mission Community at 01837-83710 revhelenblaine@outlook.com

The closing date for all applications is 31st October 2022. Funds will be made available by 1st December 2022.



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COME AND SING with Okehampton Choral Society

Okehampton Choral Society will hold a COME AND SING concert on Saturday, 29th October 2022 at Fairplace Church in Okehampton. Rehearsals during the day will prepare for a performance with soloists at 6.30 pm of the 'Little Organ Mass' by Haydn and Part Two of 'Messiah' by Handel. Singers wishing to take part will be welcome.

Audience admission to the performance will be FREE with a retiring collection.

See website www.okehamptonchoralsociety.org.uk

Email *enquiries@okechoralsociety.org.uk*_for further details & registration forms or contact Jenny Gibbons, Parkfield, Belstone, Okehampton, EX20 1RD - 01837 840282





An invitation from Winkleigh Morris



Winkleigh Morris was started in 1990 by the landlady of the former Winkleigh Hotel. Since then the mixed Morris team has performed Cotswold and Border style dances not only in its local area but at festivals and events all over the U.K, as well as in the Channel Islands, France, Holland and Germany.

Originally almost all the dancers lived in Winkleigh but, sadly, no current member is a resident of our 'home' village, though we do have some members in nearby Hollocombe, Bondleigh and Monkokehampton. We would dearly love to have some Winkleigh people once more being part of our team

We are a very friendly and sociable group. We meet from October to April on Tuesday evenings at Winkleigh Community Centre from 7.30 pm to 9.30 pm. All are welcome – no previous experience is necessary. We are also willing to run workshops for schools, youth groups, W.Is, U3A, etc.

For more information contact me at bonnygreencolin@gmail.com or ring 01363 877216 or see our website www.winkleighmorris.org.uk. We look forward to seeing you in October!

Colin Andrews – Foreman, Winkleigh Morris



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Winkleigh School Boy Wins Player of the Year



Aiden Baker, who plays for North Tawton Youth Football Club - Exeter Youth League Under-13's, has won this accolade from League Chairman John Penkethman.

Exeter Youth League - ** Player of the Year 2021/22 Season **

Aiden has had a superb season this year using his pace and power to full effect. Aiden always puts in 100% at training and in matches and has developed year on year. He is without doubt the quickest player in the league which he uses well in attack but also covers so much ground defensively when most would stop and watch. He has been a credit to coach as always and is maturing not only into a very good player but more importantly a very well-mannered young person. He should be very proud of his achievements this season.

John Penkethman - League Chairman

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On a sunny but chilly 2nd June nearly 390 "merfolk" gathered at Plymouth's stunning Art Deco Tinside Lido. The event was an attempt to break the world record for the largest number of fishy-tailed people (300) gathered in one place, and to secure a place in the Guiness Book of Records. An enormous variety of costumes had been made for the occasion, under strict GBoR rules – tail to be worn through to the ankle (fin optional), no shoulders covered; swimsuit or bikini top and as much mermaid related bling as you care to wear. And YES, we were officially recognised as the new record holders!

Pauline Warner



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Winkleigh Youth Division Football Club

I have always had a liking for football since my youngest days. My interest in the sport was rekindled when moving to Winkleigh just over five years ago. I have watched with admiration players such as Freddie Finch and Will Hallett go from keen youngsters into being an integral part of Winkleigh FC – their talents



increase with every game they play. I am pleased to be their photographer and have also served as Winkleigh FC Treasurer.

Seeing Freddie and Will go from a 'junior team' and filter into the 'senior team' made me realise that Winkleigh does not have a 'feeder' system of players for the future. Around this time last year, I spoke to a few people who said that they doubted if a Youth Division would be a viable option as it was thought that there would not be the interest from the youngsters as they would probably already be playing for other local teams. In addition it would be very difficult to get 'helpers' and trainers for the project. I am very pleased that in Autumn 2021 we were able to achieve getting an U9 team together with trainer Max Gillard (lately of Winkleigh Primary School) and two parental helpers Graham Wonnacott and David Kerr who are currently studying for their Stage 1 football trainer's certificate. The great news is that recently the U9 team (now officially the U10's) has been affiliated with Devon FA and will hopefully be able to play some matches shortly. Due to interest from parents/guardians who had younger children, we also started an U7 team earlier this year and we regularly have twenty-five plus U7 children who come down for our training sessions. In all we have over forty youngsters who attend our training sessions on a weekly basis.

None of this would have been achievable without the help and support of the



trainers, administration, and support staff along with the numerous volunteers. I am immensely happy and proud that so much has been achieved in such a short time and my personal thanks go out to all involved.

Plans for the future – I will be working with Mike Wilson, a fellow trustee of the

WWMRFF (Sports Centre), with a view to resurrecting the Youth Club within the Sports Centre. An integral part of this will be trying to generate an U16 football team. So in Winkleigh, we now have the beginnings of multi-age 'feeder teams', members of which will eventually migrate into the senior Winkleigh FC team. Onwards and Upwards!

> Greg Goldsworthy - Chair - Winkleigh Youth Division Football Club-Email: wydfc qq@outlook.com -Tel: 07813 158568



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The below list of benefits are available to you from the start of your employment with us:

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- Support gaining extra qualifications through our inhouse Learning and Development department along side industry leading experts

The below benefits are available after 12 months of employment:

- Life Assurance (x2 of the basic salary)
- Critical Illness Cover (x1 basic annual salary paid up front)
- Medicash (Money back in your packet to cover a wide range of medical, health and wellbeing expenses of up to £880)

This position would suit a flexible and caring individual who aspires to working in a vibrant specialist truly therapeutic environment where our dedicated in-house therapy team work seamlessly with education staff to enable young people to reach their individual potential.

To apply, please visit: phoenixlearningcarecareers.co.uk Call: 0330 135 8 158 or Email: recruitment@plcl.org.uk

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Acorn School achieved an OFSTED Good rating on its recent full inspection. The inspectors quoted;

"Staff sklīfully help pupils to settle and find their feet. The staff are caring, this is a happy school, staff and pupils share much humour. They work and relax together". Pupils told us they like the school because they feel understood and appreciated for who they are.

How to apply:

if you think that you have the skills and determination to support our students and further develop our stimulating learning environment, we would like to hear from you. To find out more about our roles please contact Wendy on 0330 135 8 201 or email wmiles@phoenixschools.org.uk



Britannia Sailing Trust Update



Britannia has been a blaze of activity the last few months as crew and volunteers once again sweltered away their summer in the work tent - a small price to pay for stunning progress. It is a wonder that the 107-year-old Whelking Smack has not already floated away on a sea of willingly-given blood, sweat and tears!

Volunteers have now caulked 75% of the hull, using traditional tools and techniques. The Portside bulwarks have been completed (pictured top left), with Starboard to follow. Our two Trainees Abi and Seb also showed off their skills, making a fantastic job of the bulwarks.

The garboards (lowest plank in the hull before the keel) have been cut, steamed and hammered home, after seasoning for an extra year in our woodshed. These larch planks are the longest in the hull and require three strong men to clamp and bend them into position after steaming. (pictured here in position, unpainted).

We're happy to report that the work of our small charity has recently been

recognised by the National Transport Trust, which has selected the project as the recipient of a Restoration Award for excellence and commitment to the preservation of unique transport heritage. Furthermore, we've also been nominated for a 'named' award — one of a small number given each year named after the founders of the National Transport Trust. We are waiting to discover the outcome of this at the awards ceremony later this year.

Britannia will be with us in spirit on 10th September at Exeter's **Quayside Shanty Festival**, where we'll be joining in with the festivities. We are in real need of volunteers to come along and help man the stall, which will be laden with plenty of Ship Shop goodies and our display of traditional nautical tools. If you can spare a Saturday to come along, lend a hand and enjoy some rollicking shanties by a variety of groups and bands, please let Vicki know ASAP at Britannia1915@gmail.com. We

can give lifts if needed.

The Shanty Festival starts at 1 pm outside, then inside Topsham brewery in the evening.

Britannia will likely be launched and re-rigged in Exeter in 2023, so this is a great opportunity to introduce ourselves to the locals and put out some feelers for future volunteers.



The festival will be the very first public outing of 'Baby Britannia' - the beautiful and accurate scale model hand-made by lan Hudson, artist and musician (www.facebook.com/ian.hudson2), who has donated it for use as a teaching and promotional tool. We are sure she will serve her purpose well and will give people a better idea of what we're talking about when we tell them Britannia is an 'East Coast Smack'!

As always, we welcome volunteers for a number of tasks, behind the scenes as well as "hands on" on the ship. We also

welcome visitors if you fancy popping in to have a look round. Workdays are Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, or you can phone any time on 01837 680036. We have a regular stall at the Monthly Winkleigh Market if you want to have a chat or hear more about our project and future plans.

Vicki Samuels, Britannia Sailing Trust SCIO - SC045315 01837 680036 or 07776 330169 http://www.britanniasailingtrust.org



The North Devon 'Tarka' Railway Line

The Exeter to Barnstaple railway, almost 40 miles long, opened in 1854 and until the 1960's was the principal rail transport artery for North Devon, with lines to Ilfracombe, Torrington and Taunton radiating from Barnstaple. Gradually all the lines radiating from Barnstaple were closed in response to growth of road traffic and Government policy.

However the Barnstaple to Exeter line survived closure, with rather surprisingly all of its twelve stations, including the little used stations of Chapleton and Portsmouth Arms, remaining open to this day.

With the opening of Tiverton Parkway station in 1986, many people expected a resultant adverse effect on the North Devon line's fortunes. However this was fortunately not to be the case. Through successful marketing and promotional efforts to increase leisure journeys, a growing and more mobile population and the attractions of the City of Exeter with its well-placed Central Station, a steady increase in passenger numbers ensued. In particular for various reasons, not least the attractiveness of Exeter College over Barnstaple 'St Petrocks', a very significant increase in journeys by students to Exeter College has taken place.

Over the last few years the frequency of trains has been increased to hourly each way, along with an earlier arrival in and later departure from Exeter. Most services



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are now formed of very comfortable, air conditioned three coach 'Express Sprinter' trains with 192 seats; almost identical to those used on the Exeter/ Salisbury/London Waterloo main line services.

With steadily increasing overall passenger demand, particularly at the intermediate stations whose share of the line's traffic is also increasing, a more frequent and faster service is an objective of the Tarka Rail Association, the line's rail user group, which was launched in the 1970's when the line's future was under threat.

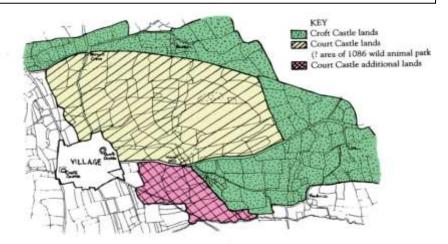
Network Rail is currently upgrading to a red - stop or green - go lights operation at the many Farm (user-operated) level crossings on the line; this along with renewal of the remaining approx. 7 miles of jointed track, with continuous welded rails on new steel or concrete sleepers will allow extension north of Copplestone of the current maximum 70 mph speed limit that applies from Exeter.

Whilst GWR, the line's train service operator, in association with Mid Devon District Council, has provided, in connection with housing development, a new 55 space car park for rail users at Copplestone, there is an increasing need for local authority Managers and office holders to find a resolution to the long known need for more car parking at Eggesford station which serves as the Railhead for the ever growing villages of Winkleigh and Chulmleigh and surrounding settlements.

Tony Hill, Tarka Rail Association.



Discovering Winkleigh Castle and its Park



Early medieval castles were built to show outwardly power and prestige to the local and wider community and inwardly to present a pleasant prospect for the leisure and enjoyments of the Lord when his family and followers were in residence. Castle sites were chosen to show visible dominance at their approach but also to have a pleasant prospect from within from the windows and wall walks for the enjoyment of the occupants. To achieve this, Deer Parks were created to be visible from within and as protection from without.

The builder of Winkleigh Court Castle was either Robert FitzHamon, to whom William Rufus granted the Honour of Gloucester, making him the first Norman feudal baron of Gloucester who held Winkleigh as his chief seat in Devon, or it was Robert of Caen, natural son of Henry I, who after the death of Robert FitzHamon in 1107, gave his son the hand of Robert's daughter in marriage, Henry's son then became Lord of the Honour of Gloucester, and in 1122 Robert was created 1st Earl of Gloucester. Winkleigh continued as the Earl's Chief seat in Devon for 40 years until his death in 1147. As the centre of the Courts for the Hundred of Winkleigh, this area became a site of major importance.

The chosen site for their castle was within the already existing Deer Park, most likely to have been created by the Saxon thane Beorhtric, Lord of Tewkesbury and Gloucester, one of the wealthiest thegns at court, who held Winkleigh as his caput in Devon and would have conjecturably, brought back his "Norman Parker" from one of his postings at the court of Flanders. The number of Saxon parks in England is fewer than 40 and Winkleigh has the only one in Devon; this is a very significant heritage asset which should receive further recognition to give the village the status it deserves.

Marian Wood BSc (Hons) Heritage Conservation

ACE Archaeology Club



I expect that by the time you read this the hot summer will be but a distant memory.

We started our annual dig at Moistown on the 16th of July, the then hottest weekend of the summer. We have calculated that whatever the temperature is in Winkleigh it is at least a degree

or three warmer at our site at Moistown. Winkleigh was forecast for over 30 degrees. So, for the first weekend there were few of us and we only worked for half the day. On the Monday, when temperatures were forecast to reach 40, we didn't work at all as we had already reached that on the site on the days before!

Normally we are complaining that rain stops us digging, but not this time.



We had the usual complement of finds from ancient to modern pottery, nails and large items of rust. One interesting find that needed a little research was a large coin or medallion. When cleaned up a little on site the reverse showed '40' and the obverse seemed to show a sunburst. We thought at first that it might be a commemorative medallion but research didn't find anything much worth commemoration for the date on the coin of 1857, or of 40 years earlier either. A little more gentle cleaning showed some of the writing and looking at it under artificial light and angling the light so as to show up the relief, we could make out, 'republic' and 'centi'. Back to the internet. Turned out to be a 40 centimos coin from the Republic of Uruguay. How of earth did that find itself in a house in the middle of Devon?? I think we will never know

A note to anyone thinking of doing any illegal metal detecting on site, don't. It won't be worth your while and the site is monitored.

In addition to the dig, we also have our ACE days out and about. Saturday, 6th August, found us exploring the Roman sites around North Tawton and looking at Bronze Age ring barrows in the same area. So good to look at local history.

We have had some new members joining lately but are always ready to welcome more. If you are interested do get in touch through our website or Facebook page.

Erica Williamson (August 2022)
ACE Archaeology Club -Publicity and social media editor
www.acearchaeologyclub.wordpress.com and Facebook

Book Review: The Land between the Moors

Book Review: The Land between the Moors: Essays in Culture, Environment and Agricultural Change, edited by Michael Winter with Tim Wilkinson, Matt Lobley and Robert Fish, 2022, Beaford Arts, £18.00, ISBN 978-1-3999-1033-0.

A notice of an academic book is not the usual content of *Distinctly Winkleigh*, but here are 15 essay chapters specifically about the area between Dartmoor and Exmoor, with Winkleigh firmly in its heart......an unusual subject area. Perhaps also, I should not review a work where I have contributed a chapter, so I shall steer clear of qualitative judgments! The area, broadly, is bounded on the north by the A361, on the south by the A30, and stretches from Crediton, west to Holsworthy.

There are three parts in the book: the first of which is largely descriptive of this area which is both the core of Devon, and largely ignored, but at last coming to the forefront with its inclusion within the North Devon UNESCO Biosphere Reserve. In writing about the historical image of the area, I had to cite its almost complete absence from most of the guide books......never easy citing negative evidence!



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Part Two is agriculturally focussed, starting with the change in the farming landscape, and on the Foot-and-Mouth disaster, both specialisms of Michael Winter. Further essays deal with the significance of the Culm landscape, and the new directions of wetland ecosystem services, and of catchment-sensitive farming.

Part Three turns to the people of the area: on the communities, including those detailed by James Ravilious, on religion, on tourism, and a particular focus on arts-based learning with children.

I suspect that changes brought about by Covid: affecting tourism, second-home ownership, working-from-home and new housing are going to demand an updated edition within a very few years.

Peter Howard

Dowland Memorial Event

Three young men from Dowland parish (near Winkleigh) did not return to their families after the end of World War 1. Their sacrifice has never been acknowledged in our village. We aim to put this right by creating a lasting memorial to bring their names back into the village for future generations to remember.

In October, we will be unveiling our handmade memorial alongside a cascade of over 7000 flowers both inside the church and outside in the churchyard, at St. Peter's, Dowland, EX19 8PD. More importantly, we will be telling the story of each of our young men and their short lives.

Open over two weekends in October, Fri 21st, Sat 22nd, Sun 23rd and Fri 28th, Sat 29th Sun 30th. 10am - 5pm. Refreshments will be available. Entry is free but donations will be welcomed. Parking will be available and sign-posted.

The proceeds raised will go to assist the work of the Royal British Legion and its vital support of veterans of war today, as well as the upkeep of St. Peter's Church, Dowland, including our war memorial and commonwealth war grave.

We do hope you can visit and join us in our remembrance.

Sue Dunn

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Winkleigh Primary School receives donation



Allison Homes South West has made a £250 donation to Winkleigh Primary School to help towards reducing the price of school trips during the next vear. The £250 academic donation will support parents and carers with children at the school who might otherwise be able to afford for their children to attend trips as the cost-of-living rises. Trips

and residential experiences are an important part of the enriched curriculum offered at the school. For children in key stage two, an annual residential trip is planned for each year group. These residential trips build on what the children learn in class and provide invaluable experiences.

Commenting on the donation, **Executive Head Teacher**, **Victoria Fenemore** said: "The donation from Allison Homes is a lovely gift to offer the school and we are truly grateful. We have an extensive program of trips that we offer across all our classes over the school year. This kind donation will help us to subsidise some of the trips and reduce costs and will ensure that all children have the same experiences and opportunities."

Michele Jones, Regional Sales and Marketing Manager for Allison Homes South West added: "We are committed to helping local communities and we are thrilled to be supporting the school. It's a tough time for many families, and we are delighted that our donation will be going towards lowering the cost of school trips. We hope these experiences will create long-lasting memories for the children of Winkleigh Primary School." .

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ANT	COCKROACH	SLUG
BEE	DRAGONFLY	SNAIL
BUTTERFLY	GRASSHOPPER	SPIDER
CATERPILLAR	LADYBIRD	WASP
CENTIPEDE	MOTH	WORM

Solution on Page 69

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Sudoko Puzzle

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("Sudoku puzzles are provided by www.sudokuoftheday.com")

Solution on Page 69



Puzzle Solutions

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1	6	2	3	9	7	4	8	5
8	3	9	5	6	4	2	1	7
7	5	4	8	2	1	3	6	9



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Pauline Metralfa

And Finally

This edition of Distinctly Winkleigh is an extraordinary one for three main reasons.

Firstly it was conceived as a full-colour edition to record the Platinum Jubilee celebrations for the seventy-year reign of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, as well as the annual Winkleigh Fair.

Secondly its production and publication has been disrupted for the first time in recent years at least, due to the unexpected two-week hospitalisation of your editor at the end of July, resulting in a backlog of emails and files to try to sort out.

Thirdly as a result of the delay, it is now mourning the sad death of our late Queen.

Consequently some advertised events will have happened before it is published.

Its content is not intended in any way to make light of the Queen's passing but rather to show how local residents came together over a long weekend to celebrate her 70 years on the throne, little realising what was to happen three short months later with flags flying at half-mast and a state funeral being arranged.

Looking ahead, the deadline for contributions to the Winter edition will be moved to NOON on MONDAY November 7th to extend the DW preparation time, with planned publication / delivery at the end of November.

BUT -please don't wait until the last minute – you can send in items at any time!

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DISTINCTLY WINKLEIGH - PUBLICATION INFORMATION

The Winkleigh Society publishes Distinctly Winkleigh quarterly at the end of February, May, August and November. Copies are delivered or posted free of charge to all households and businesses in the Parish.

The deadline for all Articles and repeat Adverts is NOON on the SECOND WEDNESDAY of the publication months. Details of NEW or CHANGES to adverts should be submitted by the FIRST WEDNESDAY of the publication month to be certain of inclusion in the edition.

Please email Articles to articles@distinctlywinkleigh.co.uk or Adverts to adverts@distinctlywinkleigh.co.uk, or contact the Editor for a delivery address. Advertising posters for community not-for-profit events is free of charge.

Please ensure that any images you submit are of the highest possible resolution and that all articles and images are copyright-free. All articles submitted for publication may be subject to editing, primarily for space or layout purposes.

Please note that the views expressed in submitted material are not necessarily shared or endorsed by the newsletter team or The Winkleigh Society.

Furthermore the Society does not recommend, or accept any responsibility for, any information, goods or services advertised in adverts or articles.

ADVERTISING RATES PER SINGLE EDITION:

Quarter-page: £12.50, Half-page: £25, Full page: £50

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WINKLEIGH SOCIETY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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All residents of Winkleigh Parish are welcome to attend and vote at Winkleigh Society General Meetings. Further information about the Society can be accessed online at: https://winkleighonline.com



https://facebook.com/TWSDW/



This edition of Distinctly Winkleigh is dedicated to the memory of Her late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II

God Save King Charles III