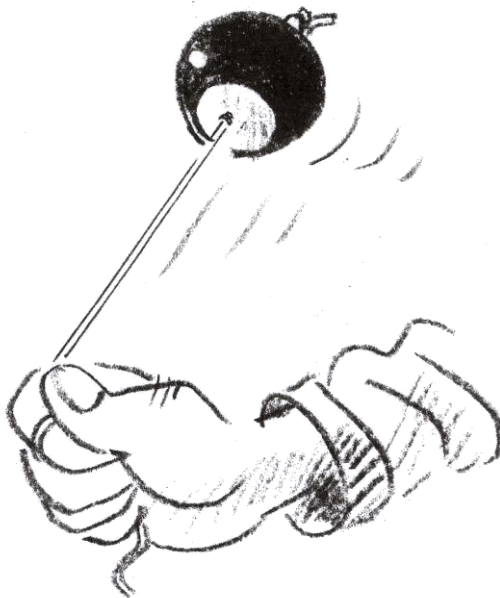
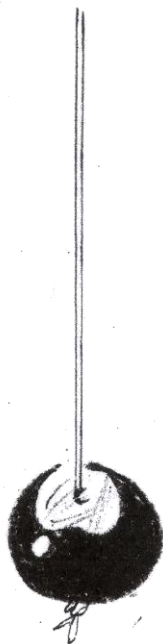


DISTINCTLY WINKLEIGH



Working for Winkleigh



Edition 39

Autumn 2011

Cover sponsored by
Ian Shacklock, MTF Training, Moortown Farm, Winkleigh. 01837 83325

The Journal of the Winkleigh Society

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Winkleigh Society News

The other week I attended a meeting in the village and when it was suggested that details of a forthcoming event could be put in “Distinctly Winkleigh”, someone commented, “**What’s the point, no-one ever reads Distinctly Winkleigh!**” I am afraid that I was so shocked by the comment that words failed me to respond!

I am sure that... well, I hope that... this comment is unfounded. When we first purchased our property in the village some twelve years ago, “Distinctly Winkleigh” was our introduction into the life of the village – and continues to be so. Where we have previously lived, there was always a local newspaper that specifically covered the life of our local community, whether it was published weekly, fortnightly or even less frequently. “Distinctly Winkleigh” is our local newsletter and magazine, covering the life of the community of which we are all part of.

I would therefore like to take the opportunity to thank all of the contributors of “DW”, especially those who contribute on a regular basis, and to encourage others to do so as well, especially if you are involved in a community-based group or organisation. AND, once again a huge thank you to Alan Mulcahy our editor.

Three thousand copies of our “Welcome to Winkleigh” leaflets have now been printed and distributed to various outlets around the area including the relevant Tourist Information Centres [TICs]; and in the autumn a couple of new initiatives will be launched under the umbrella of the Winkleigh Society:

1] To mark the special year in the life of our Winkleigh Fair, we are producing **a village calendar for 2012, simply called “Celebrating Winkleigh”**. This should be on sale by the beginning of November. To get this off the ground, we would appreciate submissions of local photographs taken in and around the village on special days or just on ordinary days. Please send any pictures for consideration to me either by email (preferably) or by post.

2] At the last Winkleigh Society AGM it was suggested that we looked at the possibility of starting **a Film Club** in the village. After some investigation, we are now in the position to establish this over the next few months. Because of shape and size of available rooms in the village (and because of the fact that the building already has the required equipment) this will take place in the Chapel on Castle Street on a monthly basis. To keep within the law, the name of the film cannot be openly advertised before the event nor can a charge be made for entry. But, by establishing a club membership, members can be advised of the film to be shown and of course can therefore pass the information on by word of mouth to others in the area. *I would be very grateful if you could contact me if you are willing to help with setting up this film club.*

Yours sincerely,

Graham Warmington

I have just returned from my three month Sabbatical during which we spent quite a bit of time harvesting fruit and vegetables and quite a bit of time looking at weather forecasts. I'm usually mainly concerned with the weather on my day off each week but spending most days outdoors for the past three months the weather has become something of a preoccupation. Rain has been welcome in order to water the crops but dry weather has been needed to do the other things we hoped to get done!

Talking about the weather is seen as something peculiar to the English but when you're working outdoors and growing crops it takes on a particular importance. Other parts of the world would dearly love some of the rain that we have, particularly those parts of Africa suffering from famine at present.

Water Aid, the charity we normally support at Harvest will again benefit from our Harvest Auction. However, Harvest Festival will be a little different this year as we are planning to have a Harvest Lunch on Sunday 2nd October following the Sung Eucharist in Church which will be at the later time of 11.00 a.m. The produce auction will take place after lunch. These arrangements will replace the Harvest celebration that used to take place on the Monday night. Tickets will be available for the lunch at £10 each which those of you who have been before will know is very good value.

Sunday School will be meeting again by the time you read this and we welcome children to come and join us on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Sunday of the month from 9.00 a.m. in the Brook Room opposite the Church. The children ended their term back in July with a service in Church focusing on the story of Noah and the Ark (this was also the theme of their window in Church during Fair Week). At that service the children were presented with their certificates for attendance — this year for the first time, they all received a gold award. Well done!

Now that I am back from Sabbatical, the normal pattern of services has resumed, details of which can be found in Church and in our Parish Bulletin also to be found in Church and in the Post Office.

OUR COMMUNITY CENTRE

It's almost four months now since Winkleigh took charge of its Community Centre, and changes are beginning to be seen . . . !

A survey has been made of one critical area of the roof which has located the cause of dampness getting through it. Repairs to this will be put into effect as soon as possible. Some additional guttering at the kitchen end of the building is in the process of being fitted. Wall-cladding in the kitchen area, is currently in progress and plasterwork above the two electric cookers has been re-done and now awaits re-tiling.

A number of possibilities to improve the heating of the hall are currently under investigation and, hopefully, will soon result in some radical changes in time for the arrival of colder weather.

Our thanks to Ken Judge for the two new wooden gates – replacing the original ones which were gently decaying. One of these is currently elsewhere to be painted.

In order to meet modern norms, a Disabled Toilet is also planned.

We are working on the best way to raise money for the next stage of repairs and improvements. This is likely to be a mix of local money raising, applications for grants from charitable and government sources and a review of charges. We want our charges to be realistic versus the cost of running and maintaining the building, comparable with other community buildings locally; and different scales for community users and private, commercial or other outside users. We want to keep prices affordable for community users and are looking for ways of reducing running costs by shopping around for cheaper suppliers of electricity and insurance; and seeking to complete as much of the rehabilitation of the building as possible through a mix of volunteers and professional advice/supervision.

A recent clean-up of the rather overgrown car-park wall has shown that some of its stonework has become dislodged, and this is where we would love to hear from a volunteer. If anyone knows about dry-stone walling – or knows someone who does – please contact us.

Whilst on the subject of volunteers, we need to check & clean the existing guttering, and make good/replace any parts that are beyond repair. We will shortly be organizing a working party to complete the remaining preparation and painting of the outside of the kitchen block. There will be notices about this and if you are willing to volunteer, that would be most welcome. Let us know how we can contact you by approaching any of the trustees by phone or email as follows:

Peter Stutt	01837 83283	peter.stutt@theoldmalthouse.plus.com
Sara Grimwood	01837 83155	sara_grimwood@yahoo.co.uk
Alan Mulcahy	01837 680145	alan.mulcahy@tiscali.co.uk
David Lausen	01837 83209	dlausen@toucansurf.com

THE WINKLEIGH SINGERS

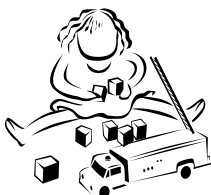
The Winkleigh Singers were very honoured to have attended a workshop by Deborah Miles-Johnson who travelled overnight to be with us, after rehearsing the choirs for the First Night of the Proms. The workshop was organised by the Winkleigh Singers and attended by members of 30 choirs from as far afield as Bridport to the East and Bude to the West, and 20 younger singers from the surrounding area. Below is a review written by one of our younger workshop singers and expresses how enjoyable the day was for us all.

"When my grandfather asked me if I wanted to go to a singing workshop with the Winkleigh Singers, as he is a member, I thought, why not, it might be fun. And when he said it was with someone called Deborah Miles-Johnson, as if that was something important, I didn't know what he was on about. He then told me that she had worked with and trained the voices of the BBC choir. A while before the workshop I did some research and found out all about her. And come the day I was nervous, but ecstatic. When the workshop started, I was having second thoughts about whether this was a waste of time and I remembered I don't like singing in front of people, but after the first song I was sure I would never regret this. With the raw power of our voices together, we sounded like a professional choir. It was literally breathtaking. We sang in foreign languages and listened to soloists singing pieces of their choice. I was able to close my eyes and just sink into the music. If I was asked my favourite piece then it would have to be Zadok the Priest. I also enjoyed doing breathing exercises and singing into our hands. Before the workshop, Deborah had said she "Doesn't really do children" but I think she is an amazing singing coach for all ages. It was an opportunity of a lifetime and if it is ever on again, I recommend it to anyone who likes to sing, never mind your age. It is a great day out for the whole family".

Forthcoming events will be the Traditional Christmas Concert (early this year) on 10th December. The main work will be Bach's Christmas Magnificat, a really exciting musical celebration of Christmas, and a good selection of traditional carols for all to sing. The organist will be Andrew Downton (as last year). Young people (including some of those who took part in the workshop) will also be taking part. We hope you will join us for this event and details can be found on our website <http://www.winkleighsingers.org.uk> or by telephone on 01363 83922.

Come and join us at Toddler Group Winkleigh Community Centre

News to



shout about!

Toddler Group is celebrating it's 35th Year!

From September, Toddlers will be running twice a week. Sessions will be provided on both a Tuesday and a Friday morning.

We are hoping to continue providing sessions twice a week, although, we can only do so with YOUR support. So, if you would like to come along with your children, or just pop in for a catch-up with other parents and carers, in a fun & safe environment for your children to play, we would love to see you there.

Sessions start on Tuesday 6th September

9.15am – 11.15am

£2.00 per family

This includes:

Tea & coffee for Mums, Dads, Grandparents & childminders

Juice and a snack for the children

So come along and join the fun!

Please call Margaret Bridgman for further information

Tel: 01837 83447

Taw & Torridge Metal Detecting Club

The lifeblood of any Metal Detecting Club is SITES – the Taw & Torridge Metal Detecting Club is no exception to this need.

The purpose of this small notice is two-fold – firstly to draw your attention to the Club’s existence and where we meet and to invite you (with no obligation to join) to come along to our Monthly Meetings at:-

The Methodist Church Hall, Great Torrington
On the 4th Monday of the Month at 7pm for 7.30pm start.

The second purpose is SITES. We would like any landowner, large or small, within this Publication/Newsletter distribution area (and beyond) to consider allowing the Club to Metal Detect on their property. Of particular interest to the Club is land with Historical Interest – maybe a Manor House, or site of, or an ancient building, mill or barn. Not everywhere is suitable and not everywhere is free from restriction (Historic Monuments and Sites of Scientific Interest often have legal limitations.)

Recently sown fields are sometimes excluded and long grass makes detecting difficult.

Before too many of you hastily press the mental “NO” Button perhaps we could put our case:-

- We would assure all Landowners that we are a Fully Constituted Club.
- We are affiliated to the National Council for Metal Detecting and abide by their stringent Code of Conduct; as Club Members we are covered by appropriate Third Party Liability Insurance.
- We abide by the Country Code and exercise particular care for Wildlife, Crops, and Property.
- We readily show finds to the Landowner and at the outset invite them to enter into the usual 50:50 Landowners/Searchers Agreement and we leave little or no sign of our non invasive searches.
- Many of our members have a wealth of Historical Knowledge and Expertise gained over, in some cases, 25 years or more Metal Detecting and as a Club we have a strong and active relationship with Exeter and Barnstaple Museums and of course the Small Finds Liaison Officer for Devon (and Cornwall should we stray across the border!)

In truth we are most unlikely to find Saxon Hoards or buried Treasure – what we often find are objects of Historical Interest such as small artefacts and tokens and coins of all ages – we share and research information on our more interesting finds – hence our frequent consultation with Museums, Archaeologists and the S.F.L.O.

We offer a Free Recovery Service, details on request.

If you are happy in principle to allow us on your land then please contact us and we can organise a meet between you and a Club Representative and discuss arrangements.

Whether it be SITES, Membership, or Metal Detecting in general, (perhaps your club or organisation would like to invite us to give a short talk on the subject?)

Please contact, in the first instance, either:-

Richard Holladay, 01409271256, (Holsworthy) folly.gate@virgin.net

or our secretary

Val Woolf, 01237420576, (Bideford) thewoolfs@tiscali.co.uk

Poet Tree With Know Mist Aches

I have a spell chequer
It came with my pea sea
It plainly marques four my revue
Miss steaks eye cannot sea

When eye strike a quay, right a word
I weight four it two say
Weather eye am wrong oar write
It shows me strait away

Ass soon as a mist ache is maid
It nose bee fore two late
And eye can put the error rite
It's rarely, rarely grate!

I've run this poem threw it
I'm shore your pleased too no
It's letter perfect in its weigh
My chequer tolled me sew!

WINKLEIGH WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

As Autumn approaches we are looking forward to getting back to our programme for the rest of the year, but Cathy is already putting together the 2012 programme! In it we try to have something to suit everyone's tastes, which is no mean feat, but with a mixture of talks and information, outings and workshops, quizzes and demonstrations, we hope to manage some variety.

Of course members are not restricted to our programme only, with so much organised by the County. Within Devon Executive Committee there are various groups organising county-wide events and activities in the following categories:

Sport and Leisure – walks, short-mat bowls, darts, skittles, croquet

Combined Arts – competitions, theatre visits, choir groups

Food, Craft & Skills – Summer show exhibits, special days such as 'Apple & Pear Day', celebrations of crafts, workshops such as stained glass window, weaving, willow weaving

Environmental & Rural Affairs – Butterfly count, protection of birds & bees in dry weather, visits eg Westonbirt Arboretum

International & Public Affairs – supporting women in Third World Countries, health issues, and clinical research survey results.

and this is just a flavour!

You may have heard that at the National AGM there was a 97.7% majority in favour of the resolution to save libraries, and Devon is lucky that library services are not being axed although there will be reduced services in some places. There is recommended action for those counties not so lucky.

You may not have heard that 21,000 ladies joined the WI nationally in the last year – perhaps you could be the 21,001st!

Our September meeting is a visit and workshop at 'Step by Step' in South Molton but we will be back to our usual evening meeting on 5th October in the back room of the Village Hall. See you there.

LOCAL VOLUNTEER CAR SERVICE?

It has been suggested that Winkleigh would benefit from a Volunteer Car Service to take anyone who needs to get to a Health Centre or dentists' appointment in Chulmleigh. If you think you would use such a service, or know someone else who would, or could be a volunteer driver (receiving payment directly from passengers) please let me know so that I can gauge interest and maybe try and set up such a thing.

Catherine Knight: 01837 83205/ catherineknight@hotmail.com

Winkleigh & District Garden Club

We have a great 2011 programme which consists of monthly meetings with a range of speakers and a number of visits.

The club meets in the evening of the third Tuesday in the month in Winkleigh Village Hall and normally start at 7.15pm.

Meetings: Sept 20th Gardeners market evening, Oct 18th Veg without Pain, Nov 15th AGM and Seed order, Dec 20th Christmas Party

In addition to the 'topic' of the meeting, such as a visiting speaker, meetings also include a raffle, tea/coffee and biscuits, giving time for members to socialise, and we encourage members to bring in plants to sell/swap.

New members and visitors are always welcome to our meetings and under 16's can join the club without a membership fee. A nominal charge of £1 per meeting is made to visitors which is put towards the cost of the meeting and includes refreshments.

For further information contact our Chairman Mr Ed Porter on 01805 – 804838 or Beverley Cook
E-mail cookbeverley@hotmail.co.uk

Chittlehamholt Nursery

We are now taking orders for the Autumn supply of bare root requirements including Trees, Roses, and Hedging.

We stock common, & not so common Hardy Perennials, Shrubs, Grasses, Climbers, Roses, Alpines, Ferns, Bulbs, Hedging, Fruit bushes, Fruit & Ornamental Trees, and Seasonal Bedding.

Winter opening times: Monday closed. Open: Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, and Sunday 10am to 4pm (5pm+ in Spring & Summer).

Thursday & Saturday from 3pm approx. (after return from Market).

We can also be visited at South Molton Pannier Market on most Thursdays & Saturdays till 1pm.

Jean & Martin can be reached on:

Nursery: 07766323769, House: 01837 682990

Email: chittlehamholt.nursery@hotmail.com

HEDGEHOG STREET

Hedgehogs are familiar animals to many people – brown, spiky mammals, creatures of the night that trundle around our gardens and hedgerows, and stars of several children’s books. Gardeners love them as they feast on slugs, grubs, beetles, worms and spiders. Familiar too, in flat-form, when they are all-too-commonly squashed as they try to cross a busy road.

At least we used to see them quite often, but sightings have become less frequent in the last few years. Surveys made over the last 25 years have shown drastic declines – numbers have dropped by almost 50%, and more recent studies indicate that the decline is still continuing in England and Wales. The survey results were sufficiently alarming for hedgehogs to be declared a priority conservation species in 2007.

Why are they declining? It could be for many reasons such as loss of hedgerows in the countryside and less in the way of rough field edges. Pesticide use has gone up, killing the bugs and insects that hedgehogs make their food supply. Countryside habitats are much more fragmented by roads, and fences replace hedges.



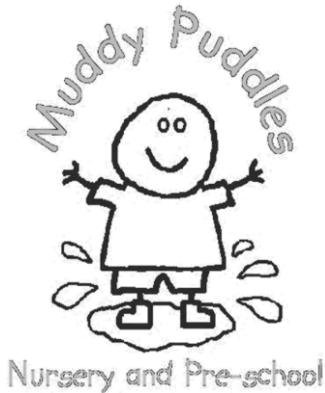
In urban gardens the trends are to have decking, gravel and paving, shaved lawns, super-tidy hedges and shrubs, well-sprayed to keep the pests down. Thus invertebrate food for hedgehogs is reduced. Solid walls of stone, brick or wood prevent hedgehogs from travelling their usual mile a night around urban areas to forage. Shelters and refuges under piles of logs, or in the wilder parts of gardens, are hard for hedgehogs to find these days.

There’s less that we as individuals can do in the wider countryside, but people with gardens could make them more hedgehog friendly and accessible. This is where HEDGEHOG STREET comes in. The People’s Trust for Endangered Species* and the British Hedgehog Preservation Society have joined forces in a campaign to help hedgehogs. They are running several studies in the countryside using researchers, but a really important project needs you. The UK’s 15 million gardens provide important homes for hedgehogs. Is yours hedgehog friendly?

You can join HEDGEHOG STREET and become a champion of hedgehogs in your street or area. Go to www.hedgehogstreet.org and get a free pack, full of resources to help encourage the neighbours to join in, plus simple ideas to lure charismatic hedgehogs to your garden.

Sheila Anderson-Witty

* I must declare an interest – I’m a trustee of PTES, and my tiny walled garden in Winkleigh, graveled and paved, is useless! Can you do better? I’m happy to answer questions about HEDGEHOG STREET, but I’m away until early September. 01837 680156



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Contact us on 01769 580861
maureen@muddypuddlesnursery.com
www.muddypuddlesnursery.com
(website under construction)

ACE Archaeology Club

Thank you to everyone who supported the 2nd Annual Festival of Archaeology and Old Technology 2011, held at Pattiland Farm, Broadwoodkelly on July 23rd, 2011.

We feel it was a great success - everyone said how much they had enjoyed being at this year's festival. Double the numbers of visitors were admitted on the Saturday this year, which is the best feedback we can have – hopefully we are creating an event which you enjoy coming to.

It's still a little show, but from the feedback we are given, it would seem that everyone enjoys the relaxed atmosphere, talking to the exhibitors and having a go at some of the activities.

We welcome new exhibits - If you would like to exhibit at next year's show on July 21st, 2012, please do come along – exhibits can include anything you don't commonly see in use (typically anything 25 years or more in age), including domestic and industrial tools and machinery.

Arts and Crafts and all manner of trade stands are also welcome. Contact giles@pattilandfarm.com for more information.

New for this year were a licensed bar and caterers, which meant you could come along and spend several hours, have a meal and a drink while enjoying the scenery, atmosphere and exhibits.

The Festival is all about “Hands On” - getting stuck in and having a go (if you want to).

ACE was busy working on the ruins at Moistown, with the help of Devon Dowzers, who were showing visitors how to dowse. Once you had learned the art of Dowsing, you could then go on to help with the Archaeological survey which was taking place on the actual site of the house and buildings.

Archaeology is also about experimenting – and this year ACE Archaeology Club built 3 cob ovens from soil and clay dug up on-site, which were fired up and used to bake bread, using corn freshly ground in the quern, which was operating in the same area.

Experimental archaeology is very valuable because a lot can be learned about the way people used to live and by building things like these ovens, can help archaeologists to recognise such features when excavating a site. Many of these features can help to date a particular site as well as providing pointers as to how it was used.

Other working exhibits this year included Vintage Television (including the two systems which competed for use in the original BBC TV broadcast service – the Baird mechanical 30 line system, and the all-electronic Marconi 405 line system, which eventually won, from the late 1920's to 1950's). Also attending were the Wool Spinning and Peg Loom exhibitors, vintage horticultural and garden machinery, vintage cars, classic commercial vehicles, vintage tractors, demonstrations of rope handling including making knots, a collection of

miniature tractors, the art gallery which this year featured artists books and paintings of traction engines, working miniature steam engines and more.

There were more trade stalls including a section featuring children's toys, old records, clothes and more. Also new for this year the books stall, selling old books for 50p and a £1. Other tents housed Lavender products, home-made cakes and preserves, cream teas, the Bar with 4 different real ales and Sam's Winkleigh Cider, a mobile caterer with meat and vegetarian menu producing food to eat on-site, a garden stall selling all sorts of stuff for your garden including plants and tools, art and wood turning, flowers fruit and vegetables and more.

Next year we are hoping to introduce more working exhibits in an arena, hopefully including a steam engine, afternoon and early evening entertainment and more fun things for children to have a go at. So why not have a day off from modern day life and come along to the 3rd Annual Festival of Archaeology and Old Technology at Pattiland Farm (2 miles from Winkleigh Square, Shoresgate Cross A3124). Come along for lunch, stay for the afternoon and early evening! Plenty of things to do for all the family.

Once again, many thanks to everyone who made it possible, including everyone who helped set-up for 2 weeks before, helped out on the day and helped with the clearing up afterwards. Also thank you if you brought exhibits and trade stands, without which shows like these, could not happen.

Hope to see you at next year's festival – remember July 21st 2012 – The 3rd Annual Festival of Archaeology and Old Technology.

Giles Warham

If you would like to know more about ACE have a look at our website www.acearch.org.uk or contact **Janet Daynes** at ace@acearch.org.uk or on 01769 520326

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WINKLEIGH FAIR DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Christmas Lights Switch On &
Christmas Market**

11 December 2011

Easter Market

31st March 2012

750th Winkleigh Fair Week

8th - 14th July 2012.

LOCAL RUGBY STAR HELPS ENGLAND TO A DRAW



Daniel Lee of Hollocombe has emerged as a rugby star in his international debut. Playing for England under-18 schools & clubs against Ireland in Dublin, he went on as a replacement at half-time when England were trailing 17-0 and helped the team to draw the match 23-23.

Later in the month he played in a tournament in Japan as a member of Exeter Chiefs rugby academy at Ivybridge College.

Lee will be studying sports therapy at City College Plymouth in September, and hopes to emulate his older

brother Mark by signing a professional contract with Plymouth Albion



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t: 01805 601122 f: 0844 414 5817
e: info@coppsremovals.co.uk w: www.coppsremovals.co.uk

WINKLEIGH FAIR 2011



After a very well attended Quiz evening on the Saturday night, Winkleigh Fair got underway on July 10th with the Opening Ceremony. Events started with the well being dressed with flowers by the pre-school and a craft workshop for children of all ages. Torrington Town Band played some wonderful music in the square and then led the parade to Winkleigh Parish Church for the Egg and Flower service. After the church service, the band played the parade back into the square for the Well Blessing by Father Ken Moss. The Fair was officially opened by Queenie Pidgeon, resident of Winkleigh and holder of the British Legion

long service award the Leaf of Gold. The Fair Queen Charlie Sibley and Fair King Sam Clark were then crowned by Queenie. A balloon release ended the official ceremony. To refresh everyone the W.I. provided cream teas in the Community Centre and there were a series of hotly contested village rounders matches at the Sports Centre.

Monday night always sees an event hosted by the Methodist Chapel in the Village Hall. This year it was the musical Pharisee. Entry to this event was free, but a collection raised £180 for Action for Children. On Tuesday evening the Fair continued with a fully booked Bingo evening with Bruce Evans and his unique version of calling the numbers. Thursday evening saw the beginning of the events in the field with a very well attended Produce and Culture Show during the afternoon followed



by a packed dog show in the evening. It was also the first evening of the Anderton and Rowland Funfair in the field.

The Talent Show on Friday night was an amazing success. There was standing room only in the marquee where the audience of nearly 300 watched a huge variety of acts, from singers and comedians through to bouncing men in lycra! The event was won by singer Elizabeth Turner who has a fantastic voice and sung Music of the Night from Phantom of the Opera.

Despite the terrible weather during the morning of Fair Saturday, the Farmers and Craft Market was packed with people shopping and enjoying bacon butties and a hog roast. The theme of this year's fancy dress competition was Wild Wild West and the cup for the Best Overall costume was won by the Garland Girls dressed as squaws! The Fancy Dress parade was piped in by the Tarka Pipe Band who braved the weather and also played outside the marquee to entertain the crowds. Repto-Bug man was back with us again this year with his fascinating collection of spiders, snakes and bugs and was as popular as ever with both adults and children alike. During the afternoon



in the marquee there were various pre-school activities and both children and adults enjoyed a performance by Bobo the clown. During teas provided by the W.I., Philippa and Grant played soothing music. As the weather improved and the sun came out some events moved outside where there was a welly-wanging competition and a very hotly contested hay bale tossing competition. The Village Races were held again this year, though there were new routes laid out around the field and the Fair Queen Charlie Sibley and Fair King Sam Clark handed out the prizes. As always the Tug-of-War was a hard fought competition and very enthusiastically supported. The wonderful Gobi was our first band of the evening and Winkleigh Fair 2011 was played out by the Feel Good

Factor who had a packed marquee dancing late into the night.

Winkleigh Fair could not survive without the help and support of the village and local business, in particular the Winkleigh Fair committee would like to thank Jamie and Pippa Stuart, The Exeter Brewery, BBD Marquees and Anderton and Rowland Funfair, but especially Nick and Sarah Turner and their family not only for their unwavering help and support during Fair Week but also for the use of their field, without which the events couldn't take place.

WINKLEIGH METHODIST CHURCH

Once again, on behalf of Winkleigh Methodist Church, may I thank everyone who came and enjoyed the Roger Jones' musical "PHARISEE" during Winkleigh Fair Week (July 11th). As a result of everyone's generosity we were able to send £180 to Action for Children. All told, the Musical tour generated over £700 toward local and national charities.

Coming up over the next few months, are the following happenings which you are very welcome to join us.

Our next Messy Church event will be on Sunday 11th September. This will begin with a Messy Church Harvest Festival Service in the Chapel, followed by a BBQ at Higher Punchardon Farm [Fiona's Farm Fayre] and a games afternoon, including tractor trailer rides, etc. "The Fruit of the Spirit" is the theme for the next Messy Church which will be held at the Community Centre [5pm on Tuesday 11th October].

Our Oasis Coffee Shop continues to open from 10am through to 1.30pm every Monday (except Bank Holidays), offering a wide range of snacks and light lunches. At the same time, the C.A.B. consultant is also in the building on a fortnightly basis.

We also meet for worship every Sunday morning in the Chapel (11am), other than the first Sunday in the month, when we meet at 5.30pm for a Tea Service in the Oasis Room. Please feel free to come and join us for worship at any of these times. Details of other events are to be found on our website: www.winkleighchapel.co.uk

As we are a praying community, if you ever want to chat about anything or would appreciate the opportunity for people to pray for you (all, obviously, in the strictest confidence) then either contact us through the normal means, or call into the Coffee Shop on a Monday morning. We will always make time for you.

Rev. Graham Warmington

warmington49@btinternet.com

077597 25227



Outstanding Results for Winkleigh Pre-School

Delighted Staff and Committee Members are celebrating being given top marks by Ofsted. Inspectors graded Winkleigh Pre-School as “outstanding”, giving it the best possible score in EVERY category.

The glowing report included praise for the setting, staff and environment. Reporting inspector, Sara Frost, commented that *“children’s learning is fully supported in a stimulating and welcoming environment”*.

Following the move to the new premises, significant changes were put in place and the results have confirmed that the staff are on the right track.

“the environment is extremely well-organised with resources and play equipment to promote all areas of children’s learning both indoors and outside”

Ofsted inspection report June 2011

Further enhancements are planned as the Staff and Committee maintain continuous improvements.

“The staff team are extremely experienced, knowledgeable early years practitioners, who are very confident in the delivery of the Early Years Foundation Stage”

Ofsted inspection report June 2011

Bridget Down, Chair of Winkleigh Pre-School Committee, has congratulated the staff and all those who have worked so hard over the past few years to achieve this most amazing of results.

The pre-school is run by a voluntary management committee providing a range of sessions during term time. Sessions are available for a maximum of 26 children from 2 years to under eights.

Contact winkleighpreschool@yahoo.co.uk for further information, or phone 01837 680007.

WINKLEIGH FAIR WINNERS 2011

Quiz Night	Shirley Cox's team
Talent Night	Elizabeth Turner
<u>Blooming Winkleigh</u>	
Perpetual Challenge Cup Small Garden	B Sayers
Perpetual Challenge Cup Large Garden	M Partridge
Window Box & Hanging Basket	Ann Beer
Best Street	Clotworthy Barns
Best Vegetable Plot	John Colgrave
<u>Dog Show</u>	
Best Puppy	Alison Davey with Dougal
Best Veteran	Caitlin Nightingale
Best in Show	Mrs Diggins
<u>Produce Show</u>	
Fruit & Vegetables	Sophie Roberts
Children's section	Maya Leahy
Fancy Dress (best homemade)	Tom and Elana Evans
Fancy Dress (best overall)	Eloise, Daisy-Mo and Penny Garland
Round the village (11 and under)	Euan
Round the village (Junior)	Rhea Backshall
Round the village (Adult)	Bruce Evans
Men Tug of War	C.Lee Selection
Women Tug of War	Feisty Four



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LIGHTS OUT !!

You may remember that Winkleigh Parish Council was approached by our then P.C., Dick Rowland, about 2 years ago, to suggest improvements to our street lighting system. We were told that white light L.E.D.'s (Light Emitting Diodes) - were much more efficient.

- A. They only use one third of the energy of the orange lights.
- B. Their rays are more penetrating and cover a larger area than the older lights.

Winkleigh Parish Council therefore gave the go ahead to implement the changeover and, as you may have noticed, some of the village already benefits from the new lights. This process will however take quite a while to conclude. Devon County Council, in the meantime, are hoping to progress their energy saving agenda and are proposing that Winkleigh will be among the first in a cluster of parishes to have their street lights turned off between 12.30.a.m. and 5.30. a.m. The only road that will stay lit will be the A3124. Winkleigh Parish Council discussed these proposals at our Annual Parish Meeting on 20th July at which we displayed maps of the areas affected. There was strong support for this move by those parishioners who were present.

At our next meeting on 27th July we voted in favour of the project. . We had various queries to put to D.C.C. and the following are their responses:

1. The timing of turn-off (12.30-5.30a.m.) is a county wide set time.-. no room for negotiation at this point. Noted that the lights will be fitted with timers that are light activated so will not necessarily all go on at the same time but gradually as it gets darker
2. Yes there is the opportunity to remove/turn off permanently specific lights but there must be FULL agreement of residents affected. This would be better done before any timers etc are installed.
3. The new modern street lights are all designed to point downwards and only any residual "old style" have a more out and up light pattern. These are in the process of being updated as they are serviced.
4. Lights missing from Hollocombe map. DCC queried if maybe District or privately owned. Either way agreed PC to site visit and investigate (collect numbers etc.) to establish the situation.
5. Additional maps being sent for Parish Meeting
6. DCC are happy to extend response deadline to ensure that the community are informed (via notice boards & Parish Meeting etc.) and requested that the PC respond as soon as possible

No 4 and No.6 above have been dealt with and the map of lights in Hollocombe has been updated and W.P.C. has responded positively to D.C.C. on their energy saving initiative. D.C.C. has indicated that the lights should be fitted with the appropriate timers by the end of this year. We hope that this will herald generally more energy conscious policies from T.D.C. and D.C.C. and that Winkleigh itself can lead the way with the help of our newer and greener parish councillors! Please note that those plastic containers which never seem to find a place in among the newspaper collections are being collected at the market on Wednesday mornings thanks to Maggie Watson and her helpers.

Do remember that our Parish Council Meetings are held on the **4th Wednesday of every month**, and we are having an extra one in August to deal with urgent issues. Agenda for meetings are displayed in the P.C. noticeboard in the square

DO COME ALONG AND HELP US TO HELP YOU!

Marjorie Bowers

Chair Winkleigh Parish Council

VILLAGE HALL EVENTS

The Village Hall committee hopes that you will join us for an entertaining evening with the “Men from Morchard” on Friday 9th September at the Village Hall. The show will begin at 7.30 pm with doors opening at 7pm.

Tickets are £5 and are available from committee members or by calling 01837 83484 or 01837 83734.

There will be a draw and a bar with all proceeds going to Village Hall funds.

This is your last chance to see the “Men from Morchard” in Winkleigh as they are disbanding.

We are also looking forward to holding a “Murder Mystery” evening on Saturday 12th November 2011, more details to follow.

WINKLEIGH SPORTS CENTRE

Making the headlines at the Sports Centre in recent months has been our outreach project for the “Bluecoat Children’s Centre”. Following their first ever inspection by the government education watchdog Ofsted, “Bluecoat” has received the highest possible accolade of “outstanding”. Press reports state that this is the first “outstanding” children’s centre in the county. We really are lucky to have such a hugely beneficial contribution to the community and the future of our children operating within the activities of the centre.

The netball scene is relatively quiet at this time of year but the girls are now working hard at Sunday training sessions in preparation for the forthcoming league activities. I am sure there will be successes to report in the future.

The snooker team meanwhile have considerable success to report, considering their relatively recent entry into competitive events in the Okehampton league. Tom Mares won the final in the knock-out competition, Tom and James won the doubles and the Winkleigh team were runners up in the whole contest. Well done all those who competed.

News from the outdoor bowlers is not so great as they are struggling to find new members and there is a real possibility that the club will not be able to continue. This would be a huge blow as the club has a long association within the community and have been at the current venue since 1962, which would make next year a significant milestone. If anyone reading this report is new to the community or perhaps just looking for a new outlet, could this be what you need? All enquiries welcome.



The other sad news at the centre, which you may have read about in the press report, was the vicious and mindless attack on the community garden with what is believed to have been caused by a weedkiller such as “roundup”. Whoever could do such a thing is beyond belief and it is fortunate that serious illness was not caused to any of the youngsters

involved in the work in the garden. The police have been dealing with this matter but sadly nobody has been brought to task at the time of writing. This action has

had a big effect on progress in the garden and the displays for the coming months will not be as good as expected, but rescue efforts have managed to show some success - witness the sunflowers in the picture.

On the general front the centre continues to move in the right direction, and following the financial struggles of latter years it can now be reported that the last of the loans has been paid off. Consequently, plans can now focus on future development. This will include improvements in the overall appearance within the building which is showing signs of wear after eight years of mixed fortunes and an immediate requirement is to fill the vacancy for a cleaner. The proposal is to initially employ someone to work Sunday mornings, every other week, for three hours. If there is anyone reading this who may be interested please get in touch.

Finally I would like to thank those who have co-operated with the appeal to be mindful of our need to keep the areas clear of rubbish and separate recyclable items into the bins provided. If you have any enquiries regarding the centre or issues raised in this report please get in touch.

Many thanks. **Brian Holland 01837 83521 (e-mail briwyc@hotmail.co.uk)**



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The advertisement features a collage of images showcasing various home improvement products: a large PVCu window with a balcony, a modern kitchen with wooden cabinets and a tiled splashback, a bathroom with a white sink and toilet, a glass balustrade on a roof, a conservatory, and a small wooden shed. The company name 'KJ BROMELL' is prominently displayed at the top left, with 'EST. 1979' in smaller text below it. The bottom of the advertisement contains contact information and a list of services offered.

Winkleigh Rethinkly – recycling ‘food plastics’

Winkleigh has had its first mixed plastic recycling collection! Peninsula Waste Savers collected 2 dumpy bags full of yoghurt pots, marg tubs, meat trays etc from the community centre on 27th July and will be coming back regularly, provided we can keep them supplied with a steady stream.

These ‘food plastics’, which are not accepted in the green box scheme, go to Peninsula Waste Saver’s sorting depot in North Tawton and then on for further hi-tech sorting in Lincolnshire. The company runs a commercial waste collection service, but is generously picking up Winkleigh’s community recycling efforts for free.

Initially publicized at the Wednesday mini market and through Winkleigh’s ‘green drinks’ social group, this scheme is available to anyone who’s fed up with sending all their household plastic to landfill. There is a trial-run bin behind the wall at the downhill gate of the community centre, so you can drop off your CLEAN plastic even if you can’t make the mini market. The next collection, in late September, will be advertised locally.

But **please make sure it’s clean** plastic – volunteers have to sort the bin contents and the scheme will only run if this job remains bearable!

Here’s what you **can** recycle:

- Food containers (margarine tubs, yoghurt pots, meat tray etc but not the ‘film’ lids).
- CDs and cases
- Clean plant pots
- Trays from boxes of chocolates/biscuits.
- Punnets
- Plastic coat hangers

And here’s what **cannot** be collected:

- Hard plastic like broken toys, large items.
- Supermarket carrier bags (take them back to the supermarket)
- Styrofoam takeaway trays (ask for your chips in paper instead!)
- Expanded polystyrene packaging (the stuff consumer electronics comes packed in)

Why bother?

Plastic pollution is plaguing the planet. Plastic doesn’t get broken down by bacteria, though it is slowly broken down by sunlight. Essentially, different plastics are made of a cocktail of proteins and other chemical components. The

biodegradable bits (sometimes soya) will eventually part company with the non-biodegradable but where chemicals like fluorine and chlorine have been used to form the polymers, these will never return to a natural source. This plastic just becomes smaller and smaller pieces until it is a powder - still toxic but now much easier for wildlife to eat or to leach into water courses and the sea, where it attracts and binds to other environmental pollutants.

Here are a couple of startling figures. In the Pacific Ocean an area roughly twice the size of France has become a 'soup' where plastic particles out-number plankton 6 to one. And from 200 billion litres of bottled water sold each year, only one in five of the plastic bottles are recycled.

But they all could be! So please join us and recycle your plastics.

If you want more information please contact:

Maggie Watson	01837 83499
Philippa Lausen	01837 83209
Marie Claude Mulcahy	01837 680145
Wendy Mondy	01837 680022

House Scouts

In my last article for DW I mentioned a WWII evacuee Sylvia Audley who stayed with the Earle family at Gerrydown Farm - she wanted to make contact with anyone who could remember them and pass on any news. One of our older citizens has offered to write to Sylvia, which is so lovely and Sylvia is delighted. So there is a happy ending to that tale, which started off as simple enquiry to the Winkleigh Society website www.winkleighonline.com.

Thanks to all who helped out with the heritage walk on Friday the 15th July, it was a great success and was the Winkleigh Society's contribution to Winkleigh Fair week.

You can view the digital and physical archive on the first Wednesday every month at the mini market between 9.00 and 10.30 am.

If you have anything for the archive or would like to help out with the House Scouts project, please do get in touch with **Janet Daynes** on; 01769 520326 or ace@acearch.org.uk



GIRLS AND BOYS COME OUT TO PLAY, a one act play in Devonshire dialect, was performed by the year 6 class on Friday 22 July in the village Hall to mark their rite of passage on their last afternoon as pupils at Winkleigh Primary School.

The play is set in 1792 and is about farm apprentice children who, away from adult supervision, play, imagine and reveal their stories and hopes for the future. The three milkmaids (Maya Leahy, Charlie Sibley and Jasmine Smyth) use turnips as balls and their milking stools as bats. Geoffrey, the reluctant bird scarer (played by Robbie Moore), seeks to aggravate them and interfere with their play but is quickly sorted out by Jack the gypsy boy (Sam Clark). Florence the scullery maid (Tamsin Nightingale) warns them of approaching adults and Caleb the shepherd boy (Guy Landon) is forever anxious about his sheep; but he, like the others, is desperately keen to go to that great kickshaw, Barnstaple Fayre. One of the milkmaids (May) is determined to track down her absent father who works the boxing booths there and Silvia needs to replace the mirror glass in the hand mirror left to her by her deceased mother.

The rest of the class, also dressed, as farm apprentices, act as an ensemble singing and chanting nursery rhymes, folk songs and hymns (when they are scared when Geoffrey breaks Silvia's mirror). They then transform themselves into Fayre performers and vendors while William Balkwill Western narrates John Gay's poem about Barnstaple Fayre.

How pedlars stalls with glittering toys are laid,
The various fairings of the country maid.

All the children put in bravura performances from the opening mime soundscape of a child (Morgan Bewes) waking up and operating a plethora of electronic devices which then segues into 1792, signified by bird song and the church bell tolling the call to start work in the fields. In the Fayre scene the children brandish morris sticks and perform The Three Hares Dance and for the finale, accompanied by Colin Andrews of Winkleigh Morris they gave a resounding rendition of the most well known Devonshire folk-song 'To Be A Farmer's Boy.'

When writing the play my intention was to make it as local as possible and I soon realised that standard English would not be the vernacular of the farm apprentices. I consulted Shirley Leahy and her parents and Margaret Hocking

and Deanne Whittaker (Moll and Poll) and, as a consequence, completely re-worked it.

As Community Governor at The Primary School I was keen to involve as many people as possible in putting on the play in The Village Hall and for the children to experience the magic of a full theatrical experience on a professionally lit stage and in full costume with authentic props. The newly revived Winkleigh Drama Group paid for the lighting and some costumes.

Elizabeth Turner (winner of Winkleigh's Got Talent) made a guest performance singing The Sweet Nightingale. Lorne and Alex Hamilton provided the lighting, Douglas Penny, Andrew Ware, Brian Holland and Sid Butt erected the stage extension and Wendy Oxborough, Jackie Simmons and Stephanie Allison provided costumes and stage management. Governor Margaret Miller and her husband Derek helped with props and front of house and moral support.

Nigel Hakes, year 6 tutor, worked tirelessly to bring off a genuine ensemble performance and the pupils did him proud. Best luck to them all as they begin their new school lives at secondary school.

Penny Griffiths

INTERNET ASSISTANCE

Every Wednesday morning, at the Mini-Market in the Community Centre, a Computer is available to help those who may not have a computer themselves, or who don't have a broadband connection, to:

- Look up information on the Internet.
- Send and receive email messages.
- Purchase articles via the Web.
- Get help on using a computer or with software such as Word Processors or Spreadsheets.

This service is free of charge for the first 30 minutes and costs £1 per half-hour after that. Jean Warren will be happy to help anyone who would like a little help.

The service is available from 9.00 to 11.00 am.

District Councillor's Report

We are now just nearly four months into the new council at Torridge, and councillors have been debating with officers what the priorities should now be. It may not surprise you that there are definitely some tensions and disagreements with some officers, but I am pleasantly surprised that among those councillors who engage in the debate, there is considerable agreement. Some councillors, unfortunately, do not take part. They either concentrate all their energies on their ward or believe that we might as “well save our breath to cool the porridge as central government and local authority officers rule the roost”.

The next few years will undoubtedly be difficult. Here in Torridge, we have had to find nearly £1 million budget savings for 2011/12. This will be painful but the further three years to 2014/15 are likely to be much more difficult as all indications are that the revenue budget of Torridge District Council will need to be reduced by a further £1.6 million. Not surprisingly, the remorseless cutting of funds – with no cutting of council tax – tends to demotivate some officers and encourages a culture resistant to change and innovation.

The main priorities that councillors wanted, which came out of a recent Strategic Plan meeting, were –

- Better support for business;
- Flexible and supportive planning;
- Encouraging “hubs”, such as village halls and community centres, in communities; and
- More affordable homes for local people.

To achieve these aspirations, councillors agreed that the best hope would likely come from the Localism Bill and a new Local Development Framework (LDF).

There are bits in the draft Localism Bill that I like and bits I don't, as it is complex, fascinating and probably creates more questions than answers. While the Bill talks about the importance of grassroots decision-making and “neighbourhood plans”, the draft Bill comprises 400 pages with 140 new reserve powers to central government. Nevertheless, we must take the positive bits – such as devolving decisions down to the grassroots and the importance of neighbourhood plans – to push for a greater say in decisions and how services are run in our area. Fortunately, Winkleigh has a history of stopping nonsense (such as the ludicrous WINBEG power station / experimental waste disposal scheme) and a Parish Council that is well capable of arguing its corner.

Replacing an out of date and ill-conceived Local Plan with the LDF has taken far longer than most of us thought. In 2007 we were assured that a draft LDF would be published in mid 2008, which would be adopted in 2009. Well, we are still a long way away, as the now abolished Government Office for the South West (GOSW) demanded ever more evidence (requiring very expensive consultants) and were forever stipulating housing numbers well in excess of anything achieved in the past. The GOSW was an arrogant organisation that has not been missed but it has meant that in the absence of the LDF that the Local Plan (LP) still takes priority with planners. In rural areas this has been particularly damaging. Developed a decade ago the LP not only stifles innovation and entrepreneurialism but also does little to enhance our environment. It assumed that farming, as we know it in the South West had had it. As food farming shrank land owners would turn to growing energy crops (miscanthus and willow) and the only new homes on farms in future would be holiday homes, (as it has turned out most of our farming land is unsuitable for economically growing energy crops and our uncertain climate has made holiday homes a risky business venture). The Local Plan also encouraged the building of housing estates in many communities that were not energy efficient, were not built using local building materials and certainly didn't add to local distinctiveness.

Hopefully, we will be able to develop a robust LDF, which should be available for consultation next year. It is a tragedy that it has been delayed so long but there is certainly a will among the majority of councillors to get things moving!

David Lausen - 01837 83209

www.davidlausen.org.uk

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And finally

Another mixed bag of summer weather! At least it was kind to us on the final day of Winkleigh Fair, which went very well in its new “in the field” location.

With the 750th Winkleigh Fair due to take place next year, the Fair Committee will need all the help they can get to put on a really fabulous show to mark this significant anniversary!

Really great to see our Pre-School getting such a glowing report from the Ofsted watchdog. A good result for a dedicated band of people.

It's time now to remind all you letter and article writers to sharpen your quills and fill the ink-pot (or whatever the modern equivalent is) as the closing date for the Winter Issue of Distinctly Winkleigh will be **Monday, 14th Nov 2011**.

It's also a good time to record our thanks to the unsung heroes in the delivery teams that ensure your copy gets to you as quickly as possible every quarter. They do a sterling job!

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WINKLEIGH SOCIETY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman	Graham Warmington	01837 83574
Treasurer	Alan Mulcahy	01837 680145
Secretary	Pat Cunnington	01837 83487
	Janet Daynes	01769 520326

The Society now has over 100 members. Membership costs £4 per person . This entitles you to vote at the Society meetings . If you would like more details, please contact Alan Mulcahy, our Membership Secretary, on 01837 680145.

Further information about the Society and what is going on in Winkleigh can be accessed online at: <http://www.winkleighonline.com>

NEWSLETTER TEAM

Peter Monkcom	01837 83452
Tim Rhodes	01837 83229
Alan Mulcahy	01837 680145

Contributions to the newsletter can be received as follows:
Articles are fine in printed form, but we can also accept PC disks or CDs in WORD format, or e-mail submissions .

Newsletter team e-mail: articles@distinctlywinkleigh.org.uk
Postal submissions: 8 Old Barn Close, Winkleigh, EX19 8JX
or Smythen Hill Cottage, Hollocombe, EX18 7QD

The Newsletter team is always looking for new members, please come forward if you would like to help in any way.

All information correct at the time of going to press . The views expressed in submitted articles and letters are not necessarily the view of the production team or the Winkleigh Society

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