

NEWS FROM WINKLEIGH FAIR – COULD THIS BE THE LAST FAIR?

Firstly, a message from the Chair:

“I make no apologies for beginning this news report with something of a downbeat flavour. You will know that Winkleigh Fair relies entirely on funds raised from events and sponsorship from you, the residents and businesses in Winkleigh. Although we have had very good support for major events such as the D-Day Darlings at Christmas and the Quiz Night earlier this year, it is somewhat counter-balanced by very low attendances at the recent Cinema evening (23 people) and the Race Night (25 people). The income from these events at best broke even with the outlay meaning that there was little or nothing to put into the coffers for Fair Week in July. This is such a sad thing. Given the time and effort that your Fair Committee expend in arranging and delivering events that we think you would like it is a little soul-destroying when events are poorly attended. We, as a Committee, are happy – and so willing and keen - to keep working towards putting on the best Fair that we can for you and we hope that this year’s programme will be, if not quite as full, certainly very attractive and exciting BUT..... looking forwards into 2019 we really need greater support for events that we arrange so that we can make this happen for you. I will be pushing out an email to as many businesses in the village area that I can think of in order to try and secure sponsorship deals for the Fair. I am more than aware that business generally has suffered in recent years from austerity measures and the like, but every little donation will make a real difference. OK, grouching over (but not forgotten!) so let’s move on to more positive things. Kay Aston, Chairman”

On Sunday 10th June we are holding a **summer Garden Party** for all residents in the magnificent grounds of the Court Castle in the village. I am sure that many of you will never have been there so here is your opportunity. It will run from 2pm until 5pm and will cost £10.00 per ticket – so what do you get for your money?

Cream tea:	Scones, cream and jam. Hot drinks.
Live music:	Peter Aston , folk singer and guitarist from the band “Cottage Industry” and DJ on Forest FM Radio Winkleigh’s own Ossie Mustafa – a guitarist who, in the 1960’s, played alongside legends such as Fleetwood Mac and Georgie Fame (now, you didn’t know <i>that</i> did you?) Becky Neale – flautist from Dorset

Entertainment: Be astounded by table magician and Entertainer of the Year 2017,
Martin Gardiner

There will also be a pay-bar.

This has all the makings of a great afternoon, and huge thanks go to Tilly and John Kimber who are allowing us to use the grounds for this Fair fund-raising event. You will have seen the posters around the village and online at Winkleigh Online and Winkleigh Fair Facebook page. So, **call me or Kay on 01837 83248** to book your places and in order that we know how many people we will need to cater for. Please bring your own picnic chairs. **We are also seeking some strong volunteers to assist with lifting and shifting equipment up to the Castle on the day before – Saturday 9th June and for breaking down after the event. Don't be shy – give us a call. More people will make the job so much easier.**

So, the Fair week will very soon be upon us again and we have something for everyone. Events start a little earlier than usual on **Friday 6th July** – but what a start it will be! You will have seen the **D-Day Darlings on ITV's Britain's Got Talent** and, at the time of writing, they have just got through the first round. Fingers crossed! They will be at the Village Hall on 6th to perform their brand-new musical story show "Hooray for Hollywood" for us. A glittering musical story set in the 1920's and 30's featuring the music of classic Hollywood including such iconic songs as Top Hat, Puttin' on the Ritz, Let's Face the Music, Cheek to Cheek, Singin' in the Rain and many more. The show will begin at 7.30pm but **BOOK EARLY via me and Kay on 01837 83248** as this event will be very popular. The cost will be £10.00 for adults and £5.00 for children. Once again, £1.00 from every ticket will be donated to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.

Other events as we go through the week will include:

Saturday 7th July – Clay Shoot at the Sports Centre and the Fair Quiz Night at the Village Hall

Sunday 8th July – Formal opening of the Fair with the crowning of the **Fair King and Queen, Ryan Mack and Jasmine Coles**, entertainment from Winkleigh Morris Dancers, parade from The Square to All Saints Church for the Fair Service and all followed by Vintage bus travel to the Teddy Bears picnic at the Sports Centre.

Wednesday 11th July – Vintage Car evening in The Square and Craft exhibition in All Saints Church.

Thursday 12th July – Children's cinema evening in the Village Hall – details to be announced.

Friday 13th July through Saturday 14th July – Children's art competition and adult's art and photography exhibition in the Community Centre. Winkleigh Society are inviting children of the Parish to create works of art – all genre considered, painting, drawing, sculpture – and entries should be

Winkleigh-inspired. There will be two prizes for each age group, 5-8, 9-11 and 12-16. The intention is that selected works will be reproduced and used as street art along Townsend Hill and Torrington Road (this might even slow the traffic down a tad!) The Society is also inviting adults to exhibit any work of art or photography at the Community Centre. All items may be delivered to the Centre between 9.30am and 11.30am on Friday 13th July or delivered to Alan Jacobs at Belle Vue, Park Place, Winkleigh (directly opposite Mid-Devon Motors) but please call him on 01837 83895 beforehand.

Saturday 14th July – Fair Day – A whole raft of activities and games will be going on during the day for children of all ages. Full details will be contained in **the programme which will be dropping through letterboxes in early June** but watch out for the alpacas who love to meet children, the doggy/pooch parade (just for fun) and don't miss our evening live music featuring the well-known Abba tribute band **"Take a Chance on Us"**. The stage this year, again provided by Lorne Hamilton, will be situated in The Square itself and the band will perform two sessions between 7pm and 9pm. Now this is something that you can dust off your 70's and 80's clothes for!

Congratulations to Summer Jones, 11 years old from Winkleigh Primary School – her picture has been chosen by the Fair Committee to adorn the front cover of this year's programme. Well done to her and thanks to all those who submitted entries.

Summer's winning entry:



The usual roads in the Village will be closed, and parking prohibited, on Sunday 8th, Wednesday 11th and Saturday 14th July under the authority of Devon County Council and we thank residents in advance for their understanding and co-operation. Full details will be posted well before then to give people the opportunity of making alternative arrangements if they need to.

Many exciting and delightful things to look forward to but if you think that we are not putting on the things that people want to support then tell us the types of event that you consider might be more popular. Please support the Fair Committee by coming along and doing your bit to help secure the Fair for the future. Believe me, it makes all the preparation and hard work well worth while when we look at a full Village Hall!

Tony Aston, Treasurer

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