



Ide Open Gardens A Perfect Day

more on pages 10-12

**AUGUST 2017** 

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# **AUGUST 2017**

July was a very busy and sociable month with the school fete, Twinners' BBQ and Open Gardens all attracting the crowds and raising money for worthy causes.

The steering group who have consulted and drawn up the Ide Development Plan have worked hard and now need all if us to consider the plan carefully so that we can make a properly informed response, which we will be asked to do in September- see page 3 for details.

More exciting news is that the long-awaited partial refurbishment of the village hall will start in September, details on page 3.

Items for the September Ide Times should be sent to Ann Boyce - email annboyce@talk21.com by the 20th August.

Ann Boyce (01392 213011



#### **USEFUL NUMBERS**

Community Policeman: 101

The Parish Church - Church Office 01392 662280 and leave a message. Congregational Church: Fiona Field 07736449790 mynameisfiona@hotmail.co.uk

M.P. Mel Stride: 02072 197037 melstride.mp@parliament.uk

Community Shop Opening Hours: (Tel. 410035)

Monday – Friday 8am - 12 noon and <math>3pm - 6.30pm

Saturdays 8am – 1pm Sundays 9am - 12 noon

**Post Office Opening Hours** 

Monday – Friday 9am – 11.45am and 3pm – 5pm

Saturdays 9am – 12 noon. Sundays and Bank Holidays CLOSED



IDE MEMORIAL HALL – to book the hall for your event/party please contact Carol Whitehart on 01392 213608.Please note that the Hall will not be available during September and October this year (see page )

The mobile library will not be in Ide in August - the dates are 31st July and 1st September.

# IDE PARISH COUNCIL idevillage.org.uk

The next ordinary meeting of Ide Parish Council will be on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30pm, to be held in The Hub, Ide Congregational Church, due to the building works in Memorial Hall. If you have any issues you wish to be considered for discussion, please bring this to the attention of one of the Councillors or the Parish Clerk at least ten days before the meeting so that it can be included on the agenda.

There will be an Extraordinary Parish Council meeting on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> August at 6.30pm in the Memorial Hall, held specifically for the council to discuss, amend, and approve the Pre-Submission Version (July 2017) of Ide Neighbourhood Plan.

# **Latest Planning applications:**

- 17/01093/FUL The Forge, Drakes Farm Single storey rear extension. Supported by Ide PC approved by TDC
- 17/01250/FUL The Old Mill, High Street Two storey rear extension. Ide PC Planning Committee objected awaiting decision
- 17/00002/FUL 1 New Whiddon Cottages, HalscombeLane two storey rear and single storey side extensions. Supported by Ide PC awaiting decision
- 17/01346/FUL Land off Polehouse Lane, Ide Erection of a temporary agricultural worker's dwelling Ide PC Planning Committee objected awaiting decision

If you wish to view and comment on these planning applications, please go to <a href="https://www.teignbridge.gov.uk/planning">www.teignbridge.gov.uk/planning</a> and search under the address or reference number provided above.

Next meeting of the Planning Committee: Wednesday20<sup>th</sup> September at 6pm at The Hub unless otherwise advised.

The meetings of the Parish Council and the Planning Committee are open to the public and you are welcome to attend. There is time allocated at the start of the meetings for public participation.

#### **New Parish Clerk:**

We are pleased to announce that Mrs Mel Liversage has been appointed as Parish Clerk and will take over from Rose Saunders in October.

## **Garden Waste Collection Service:**

A reminder that the current subscription period ends on 31<sup>st</sup> August. For renewals and new subscriptions, contact teignbridge.gov.uk/gardenwaste or phone 03300 882 834(renewals only)

## **Parish Council Contact Details:**

Chairman: Nick Bradley 01392 420616 ncabradley@gmail.com

Part-time clerk: Rose Saunders 01392 420461 <a href="mailto:ideparishclerk@gmail.com">ideparishclerk@gmail.com</a>
Cemetery administrator: Sarah Tiley 01392 217142 <a href="mailto:saraht61@btinternet.com">saraht61@btinternet.com</a>

# Ide Neighbourhood Plan

In September, all Ide parishioners, local businesses/landowners, together with Devon County Council, Teignbridge District Council, all local parishes, local city and town councillors, and numerous other statutory agencies will be receiving a letter inviting them to study the Pre-Submission version of Ide's Neighbourhood Plan, and respond to it using a Response Form.

This is officially called Regulation 14 (Google–Neighbourhood Plan Regulation 14 Consultation) and it is your opportunity to tell us what you think about the Plan's contents before submission to Teignbridge District Council.

An independent examination will follow which, if successful, will then be subject to a Parish-wide Referendum.

You will have 6 weeks from 9am, 8th September, to 4pm, 23rd October. 2017, during which you can respond using the Response Form, either electronically via email (ideneighbourhoodplan@btinternet.com), via the village website, or by post.

Hard copies of the plan will be at the Community Shop, in the 3 village pubs, both churches and the school. More detailed information will be contained in the letter you will receive in early September, together with the Response Forms. This notification will also be in September's Ide Times. Many thanks.

Chris Bishop, Chairman, Steering Group

#### **IDE MEMORIAL HALL**

You will be pleased to know that at long last work is starting to improve our village hall. In the middle of August the roof over the kitchen and toilet side of the hall will be renewed. This has been made possible by a grant from the Rural Aid Fund of Teignbridge District Council.

At the beginning of September the kitchen, toilets, etc. on that side of the hall will be stripped out and that side, part of which is below ground level, will be tanked to make it fully waterproof. Once that is done a new kitchen will be fitted and new toilets. The shutter over the serving hatch will be renewed and, we are assured, will be much easier to manage. Many of us have struggled with the old metal roller blind for years!

We have obtained enough money from grants and village groups for this work to be carried out. We are very grateful to Viridor, Devon County Council and the Open Gardens for their contributions. However, this is just the first phase. We are continuing to apply for money so that the main body of the hall can be improved. Any help or suggestions would be greatly appreciated.

This means that the hall will be closed during the months of September and October. The contractors have estimated that the work should be finished by the end of October.

Brenda Spivey, Acting Chair, Ide Memorial Hall Management Committee

# NEWS FROM IDE COMMUNITY SHOP AND POST OFFICE

HELP! We are asking for help to keep the outside of the shop clean and tidy - one less thing for the shop committee and current volunteers to have to do! Jackie Chadwick has very kindly started to clear the moss from the block paving but we need a volunteer to wipe down the paintwork and sweep the forecourt from time to time. As you know, we are always looking for new volunteers for the rota, but this would be ideal for anyone who doesn't want to work the till but still show their support for the shop.

Could you help? Please...

MILK: You have probably already noticed that we have changed our milk supplier again. We weren't happy with the delivery arrangements with Dunn's, so we now get our milk daily from J&R Foods (Best of the West) who also deliver our bread. The milk comes from Trewithen Dairy at Lostwithiel – sorry, not from Devon, but the next best thing! Let us know what you think!



ALLOTMENT GLUT: At this time of year we appreciate all your lovely surplus produce, donated to us to sell on cheaply for the benefit of our customers who don't have green fingers in the vegetable department. Apparently we are legally not allowed to pay you, but it's a wonderful way for you to share your spoils with the community. Thank you.

IDE OPEN GARDENS: We were pleased to sponsor this event – what a lovely day it was. Well done to all the gardeners for making it such a success! Thank you to those volunteers who sold the tickets on the day and who kept us open for a couple of extra hours. Lots of visitors to the village came in and admired the shop – and spent a fair bit as well.

FLOWERING PLANTS: Thanks to Liz Bishop for keeping us stocked with a lovely range of plants. It's not easy in the hot weather.

ARTHUR'S OF TOPSHAM: We are now placing an order just once a month – for items such as lamb steaks, diced or minced lamb; chipolatas; minced beef, stewing/braising beef. The next order will be placed on the morning of Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> August for delivery on Friday 4<sup>th</sup>.

#### But we have saved the best news for last!

No more charges for card transactions at the shop till with immediate effect! You will have heard in the news that new legislation is coming in 2018 that forbids businesses to levy a fee for using debit and credit cards. The shop has been charging 50p for any card transaction below £10 – this was levied to cover a genuine expense incurred by us and was a small portion of the amount we pay for the card machine facility. The shop and the Post Office benefit if you use the Post Office cash withdrawal service and pay cash at the till, but if you prefer to pay by card or Applepay, we won't be charging you.

# Ide School - End of Year Report!

We are all very proud of Ide School and I thought that many 'Ideites' who don't have, or no longer have children at the school might be interested in finding out what the children and the school have been up to this year, so this is a shortened version of the end of year message that I have just sent out to all our parents.

Wow, what a fantastic year we have had here at Ide School. We are continuing to work hard to ensure that we offer the best possible learning environment to the children and, with the support of FIS (Friends of Ide School) have achieved the following this year: a new sensory room, an extension of the ICT suite, an exciting library environment, learning behaviours banners and artwork in the hall, an improved quiet covered area, a new trim trail at the front of the school, a Lego table and new playground markings and signs. This improvement of the environment, both inside and outside, will continue to be action point for next year to ensure that we offer an exciting, interactive and fun environment to support the childrens' learning. Thank you to all involved and any suggestions for improvements and offers of help are always very welcome!

The children have enjoyed an range of visits and trips this year including, Plymouth Aquarium, West Town Farm, @Bristol, SS Great Britain, Great Potheridge House, Haven Banks, Exeter Museum and many more. The children have taken part in Christmas and end of term productions and sang in the church and for local residents. The children have gained a lot from these experiences and this broad and balanced curriculum is something we are keen to continue next year.

As well as trips out of school, the children have loved having visitors in school to further enhance their learning such as: South West Water, The Dogs Trust, Warburtons, The maths puzzles company, Splashbox theatre, visitors in assembly sharing their experiences and again, many more. If anyone reading this has any experiences they think the children would enjoy hearing about, please do get in touch.

The children have also had the opportunity to participate in many different sporting activities over the year ranging from athletics to swimming and abseiling to netball!

We are very proud to share our key stage 2 SATS results with you as the children have been amazing! In the maths, reading and grammar tests we achieved 93% in each compared to the national results of 75% in maths, 71% in reading and 77% in grammar. Our reading, writing and maths combined result was 85% compared to a National result of 61%. Well done to year 6 and all the team involved!

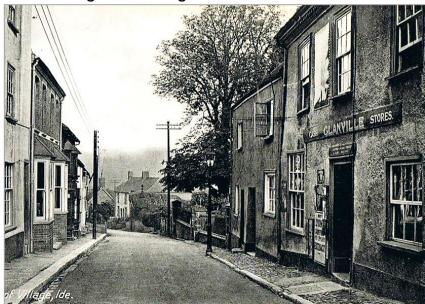
A huge thank you to everyone who has helped this year, your support and hard work adds much to the school and I am always overwhelmed with the generosity with which you give your time.

Sharon Tarr, Headteacher, Ide Primary School

It is not so bad being 80 - one compensation is the rich store of memories and comparisons in life as now and as it was in war-time when I was a child. The biggest change is how impersonal shopping has become and also it applies to how acquainted we were with fellow villagers. Now there are supermarkets, that's impersonal enough, but the internet is more so.

We knew well the interiors of the three village stores, plus a baker's and a butcher's. Just down the road was Saunders shop. Mrs Saunders - a busy mum, with four children demanding attention - attended the customers. We found her shop the most interesting, as she had a miscellaneous lot of items. Christmas time was especially exciting. I can remember a box of indoor fireworks and a little train set being bought.

Below Saunders shop was the Post Office, which was much smaller then, being only the one shop. Mrs Pearks ran it and the place was a mine of gossip and, of course, handling the post was an opportunity to keep an eye on anything interesting. I remember running in and customers clamming up - they were discussing something I shouldn't hear.



Opposite was Mrs Glanville's. This was a dark and cavernous place. You couldn't really see what she sold, it being ranged away against the walls back behind the counter in the gloom, not that there was anything there to be really excited about. It being war-time, we only ever bought basics - there was not much choice, or money, plus rationing!

Not a shop, but so familiar was the milkman, Mr Garnsworthy, up on the horse-drawn cart. An assistant doled out the milk from measuring cans. We went out with jugs to collect our milk. I assume that if you were not home you missed the milk or asked someone else to oblige. My mother always lamented that no-one picked up any dollops horses left - so good for the rhubarb! We nearly always couldn't pay for the milk right away and our mother would send us down to their farm to pay off some of the bill. Imagine that happening now!

Another shop down in Fore Street was Cox's, the baker's, which again was run by a woman. I remember farthing buns and they had a van that delivered. There also the atmosphere was dark and gloomy - lighting was not so bright then.

Lastly, we had our butcher. Being a vegetarian even back then, I felt distaste at the hunks of carcass and the great wooden block where Mr Burnett chopped up the meat. Meat being strictly on ration, one's entitlement was zealously guarded and offal was considered special being off-ration. I remember a neighbour saying 'Don't they animals have livers no more?'

So that was how we went shopping in Ide. It wouldn't do now - one can almost hear the incredulity and grumbles if a modern mum had to go out to get her groceries in such circumstances.

I can claim to be the first person to use the new box. The Royal Mail fitters were just clearing up when I arrived with my letter. This is an ironic honour as, many years ago, I kidnapped the old Victorian box when Drakes Farm was being demolished and connived with the builders to have it built into one of the new houses. The old box has now been sealed demoted to a relic and painted black but at least it is not lost.



# A date for your diary!

All are welcome to come to an evening of music in aid of Nayamba School on 16<sup>th</sup> September at Ide School Hall. Start 7:30pm. There will be a bar, band, raffle and an I auction of some great prizes. Please come along and enjoy a lovely evening whilst raising money for a very good cause. For those of you who don't know, Nayamba School is a charity school in rural Zambia; all proceeds raised by this and all fundraising for the school go directly to the school, which provides a free education for children who would not otherwise receive any. Nayamba School also provides a food programme for the children, giving each child a hot and nutritious meal every day. Tickets will be available form Ide Community Shop who are kindly providing the bar. You will also be able to purchase tickets on the door. Price of ticket and band to be confirmed, but it will definitely be a fun evening, so come along and bring **Dawn Chapman** your friends.

# SAINT IDA'S CHURCH

6th August	Trinity 8	9.30am	Holy Communion		
13th August	Trinity 9	9.30am	Morning Praise		
20th August	Trinity 10	9.30am	Holy Communion		
27th August	Trinity 11	8 am	Holy Communion		
_	There will be no 10am Service this month.				



Baptisms (Christenings), Weddings & Banns of Marriage - If you wish to make any enquiries about these please ring 07562 144439. This line is open from 1pm-4pm on Mondays and on Thursdays from 10am-1pm. For any other matters please call the church office on 01392 662280 and leave a message.

**New Rector** - We are delighted to announce that the Revd Preb Michael Partridge has been appointed Rector of Alphington, Ide and Shillingford. His institution by the Bishop of Crediton will be on Monday, 23rd October at St Michael & All Angels, Alphington, at 7.30pm. He will take up his appointment as our Rector from that date. Mike Partridge is currently Rector of Broadclyst, Clyst Honiton, Pinhoe, Rockbeare and Sowton so he is no stranger to Exeter.

**Mark Nightingale** - We are also very pleased to say that Mark has not yet left us and does not anticipate doing so until the middle of October, by which time he is confident that God will have guided him to the next stage in his life. We wish him well and are glad to have his assistance for a few more weeks.

**Ide Aloud** - A number of us enjoyed the Ide Aloud Open Rehearsal in Church on the 17th July and also the coffee and cake during the interval. Jane is to be congratulated on all that she has achieved with the choir.

**Maurice Manley** - Sadly we have to report the death of Maurice Manley, whose funeral will be at the Crematorium at 12 noon on the 1st August. Although he didn't live in Ide, he and his wife Norah were regularly attenders at Ide Church and members of Ide Gardening Club. Norah's ashes are in Ide churchyard. We have many happy memories of them both.

There will be no Messy Church this month, but we will start again in September.

Brenda Spivey

# IDE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

# **Preachers**

Date	11am	6:30pm
6 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Mr B Bunce	Mr D Edmonds
13 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Mr K Frobisher	Mr M Trigg
20 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Mr J Gooding	Mr L Mason
27 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Mr P Willer	Mr D Chips & Texas friend

There will be an Induction Service for Caroline Stott at Lapford on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> August at 2:30pm. Please see Jackie if you would like more information.

# The HUB@Ide

Sun 6 <sup>th</sup> Aug	All-Age service	5-6pm
Wed 9 <sup>th</sup> Aug	KFP – Joy and Laughter	11-2pm
Sun 13 <sup>th</sup> Aug	United church picnic lunch on	12:30
	the Green	
Wed 16 <sup>th</sup> Aug	KFP – Strength and Power	11-2pm
Wed 23 <sup>rd</sup> Aug	KFP trip to Farm	11-2pm
Thurs 24 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Coffee, chat and challenge	7-9pm

# All-Age service - 6<sup>th</sup> Aug 5pm:

The All-Age service in August will include a special ceremony for Mark and Fiona Field who are officially becoming members of our church after already being part of what we do for the past year. Everyone is invited to share in this special occasion, as well as to join us for the new style of service suitable for anyone of all ages.

# KFP:

Well, the Summer holidays is already upon us and children are going to need something to keep them occupied and socialising with friends during the weeks that lie ahead. Whilst we know you have a lot of beach trips or holidays planned, please pencil in and keep the middle 3 Wednesdays free to catch up at KFP. We've got lots of fun activities planned for little ones (and big ones too). Lunch is always provided with donations welcome, and it's a great way to break up the week, chatting with friends.

# Farm trip on Wed 23<sup>rd</sup> Aug:

Last year's trip was a great success, thanks to the generosity of Ruth and Roy who opened up their home (and hot tub) to all and sundry. This year, we hope you are all able to join us again...

But, if you're planning on joining us for the Farm trip to Spreyton on 23<sup>rd</sup> August, please do make sure either Jackie or Fiona know so that we can cater for you and ensure you have a space on the coach, should you need it

# Coffee, chat and challenge:

We're excited to have Adrian Butland lead us again for a session this month before we start up another course in September. Please do come along and join us for coffee, lots of nibbles and a chat about a Biblical topic.

# **Alpha and Discipleship Courses:**

We're planning to run another Alpha course soon as well as a 'follow up' discipleship course. So, if you are interested in investigating the 'Big question' of faith, or the meaning of life or you want to know what all the hype about the Alpha course is... Or, if you've done the Alpha course and feel you need to keep learning, discovering more about your personal relationship with Christ, and know that becoming a 'believer' is only the start of your journey as a disciple of Jesus, then please get in touch and we'll keep you up to date with when these courses are starting.

# **Contact:**

Fiona Field: 07736449790 or email: mynameisfiona@hotmail.co.uk

\*

# Ide Open Gardens

For the first time in 3 years, on Sunday July 2nd Ide Open Gardens took place. We had fifteen gardens taking part - ranging from cottage gardens full of character and quirkiness, fruit and vegetable patches to die for and flower beds bursting with colour.

It was a beautiful, sunny day - with the village full of visitors from around the county. Cake was eaten, beer and tea was drunk and gardens were admired. Altogether around £1500 was raised for community projects in the village and the homeless charity, St Petrock's.

A huge debt of thanks is owed to everyone who opened their garden and worked so hard to make them look so amazing. Most villages manage to open 5 or 6. We could boast almost 3 times that number - a testament to the good heartedness and green fingers of the people of Ide.

Last word goes to one of our visitors, Jenny Phillips, from the National Garden Scheme, who contacted us via Facebook:

"I just wanted to thank you for a lovely afternoon around the beautiful IDE gardens. There was a welcome in every garden! We consumed pimms, prosecco, tea, water and cake".

A lovely way to spend a day. Thanks all and special thanks again to the Community shop for sponsoring us!

Mark, on behalf of Ide Gardeners.







#### **AUGUST 2017**

The Northcott is 'dark' for August whilst essential maintenance is undertaken.

Looking ahead:

THE GRUFFALO by Julia Donaldson & Alex Scheffler

15-17 September

Presented by Tall Stories Theatre Co.

"A Monster Hit!" for all the family

WAIT UNTIL DARK by Frederick Knott

Presented by Original Theatre and Eastbourne Theatres

3-7 October

This story was made into a film starring Audrey Hepburn in 1967, and ranked as one of the scariest of all time.

AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS by Jules Verne

Direct from the West End

10-15 October

'Remarkable!' The Guardian. 'Highly entertaining!' The Times

**DICK WHITTINGTON** co-written by Steve Bennett & Tony Liddlington

2 Dec - 7 Jan 2018

A brand new show - Perfect sparkly treat for all the family!

Book Tickets at: www.exeternorthcott.co.uk

Box Office: 01392 72636

I am fundraising for my trip to Malawi next year volunteering in the school, hospital, orphanage and kindergarten. I will also be assisting with building a new class room.

If you have any odd jobs such as

Car-washing, path sweeping, dog walking, feeding pets whilst away or babysitting

Please contact

**Joseph Rice** 

on 07545 193537 or 01392 213571

#### JUBILEE CLUB

Strawberry Tea time for Jubilee Club members on July 26th at Longdown all the stops are pulled out for this annual event. The Guildhall Strummers turned out in force to entertain, they are a group who like to get together and make music. Many old favorites such as I`ll see you in my dreams, when the Saints come marching in , a special one for our Peggy and a hug! with Peggy Sue, and many more. It was good to look around and see people`s feet tapping to the music. The group donate their fee to the British Heart Foundation. After all that music it was time to feast on a delicious tea and strawberries and cream. It was a great pleasure to have Daphne King back at the club, thank you Jill for bringing her along ,also thank you to all the helpers who came along early to make preparations.

July 10th saw club members and friends set off for Dartmouth, time to have lunch on arrival before boarding a boat for a trip along the coast as far as Slapton. There was an interesting commentary as we sailed along seeing all the little coves and hidden beaches. The conditions were good with a calm sea. Just time for a very quick cup of tea or icecream before boarding the bus for the journey home. I heard several say it was one of our best outings, good to hear.

#### **DIARY DATES**

No meetings in August.

**September 4th** We meet at Longdown Hall for Bingo.

September 18th An Outing to be Arranged

Jean Hoskin

\*

**LONGDOWN GARDEN PRODUCE SHOW** - Saturday, 5th August, Longdown Village Hall. There are classes for flowers, fruit, vegetables, flower arranging, cookery, photography, and children's crafts. Entries to arrive between 10 and 11.15am - the Show opens at 2.30pm - entrance 50p.Detailed Schedules available from Sheila Friend 01392 811821 and Sue Mansfield 01392 811816.

\*

360 BUS TIMETABLE								
Ide	7.5	51	10.01		12.39	•	14.34	
Exeter Bus Station	8.1	13	10.20	)	12.58	•	14.53	
Exeter Bus Station	8.35	11	.15	13.	10	16.1	15	17.55
Ide	8.53	11	.33	13.	28	16.3	33	18.13

Stagecoach provide other services in this area. Contact them for up-to-date details. The Wednesday 360 and 361 buses enable Ide villagers to access Newton Abbot. Contact Devon County Council (Public Transport) for details.

# Ide Ladies versus The Inflatables

Quite a few months ago, Charlotte spotted this event **the 5K**Inflatable challenge at the Westpoint arena and put the word out if anyone was up for it.
Needless to say, fools that we are, we went for it!

Ide Ladies team was formed, Charlotte Ives,Paula Burton,Sharon Flemming, Claire Marrable, Liz Biddle and myself.



Once on board, I put it to the team if they were happy to use this event as a great opportunity to raise funds for a charity close to my heart, W.O.R.K (Widows and Orphans In Rural Kenya) a very small and effective, not for profit charity dedicated to helping people become self sufficient by supporting education, training and healthcare for widows and orphans in the Bungoma district of western rural Kenya. They were happy to go along with this.





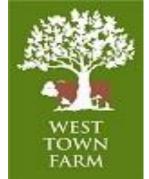
The day loomed eventually and thankfully not too hot! We were faced with the challenge of 10 giant inflatable obstacles spaced over a 5K distance. What ensued was the best hilarious and not without challenges time, pulling yourself up on ropes, sliding down, tripping, bouncing into each other, the odd accidental kicking incident and finishing off with a death slide of enormous proportions or leaping off into thin air and hoping for the best! A fantastic time well spent...plans are already afoot for the next challenge...

A big thank you to Ide for your kind sponsorship, those interested in supporting the charity please take a look at the website: <a href="www.work-kenya.org">www.work-kenya.org</a>

Philippa Kersey

# WEST TOWN FARM NEWS

Well...didn't August come around quickly? I don't know if I've stopped at all this month! D'Arts Fest was a success and was enjoyed by everyone, what a great festival! Such a lovely environment for all to relax in.



We've just finished our second wedding of the summer, with two more coming up in August. There is something very special sharing the farm with a couple on their BIG day...plus I get to eat plenty of cake and our delicious pork from the hog roast! No injuries reported from the barn dance, just a few sore heads the next morning. It was so much fun and our legs ached for about a week afterwards.

We've had a lot of educational visits over the past month or so, so the farm will feel very quiet over August without them. With our 'Natural Learners' last week we learnt all about our hedgerows. Did you know that there is almost enough farmland hedgerows to touch the moon. Just a mere 384,400km.

The farm team have been busy. Our silage is all wrapped and ready for the winter feed. The pigs have been moved into a bigger field and they were pretty happy about this. Andy went on holiday which meant that obviously a big group of cows escaped! Thankfully the whole team were on the case and got them back safely. Andy doesn't know about this so if everyone could just not mention it, that would be amazing. Our team is pretty large at the moment. We have four woofers from France and Switzerland. It's such a huge help having them here, especially in the summer. They've been tending to our pumpkins and all this rain and sun has made it an overgrown weed heaven....so plenty for them to do!

As ever, the farm shop is full of treats.. Why not try a pasture fed beef topside joint marinated in yogurt, turmeric, cayenne or mustard, seasoning, garlic and lemon zest and cooked on the BBQ. We are offering 20% off all our frozen meat this month so the perfect time to have a try.

Grace Barrington- Events and Meat Sales West Town Farm, Ide, Exeter, EX2 9TG T: (01392) 811257 | www.westtownfarm.co.uk

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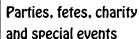
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