

Ide Times

IDE CLIMATE TALK

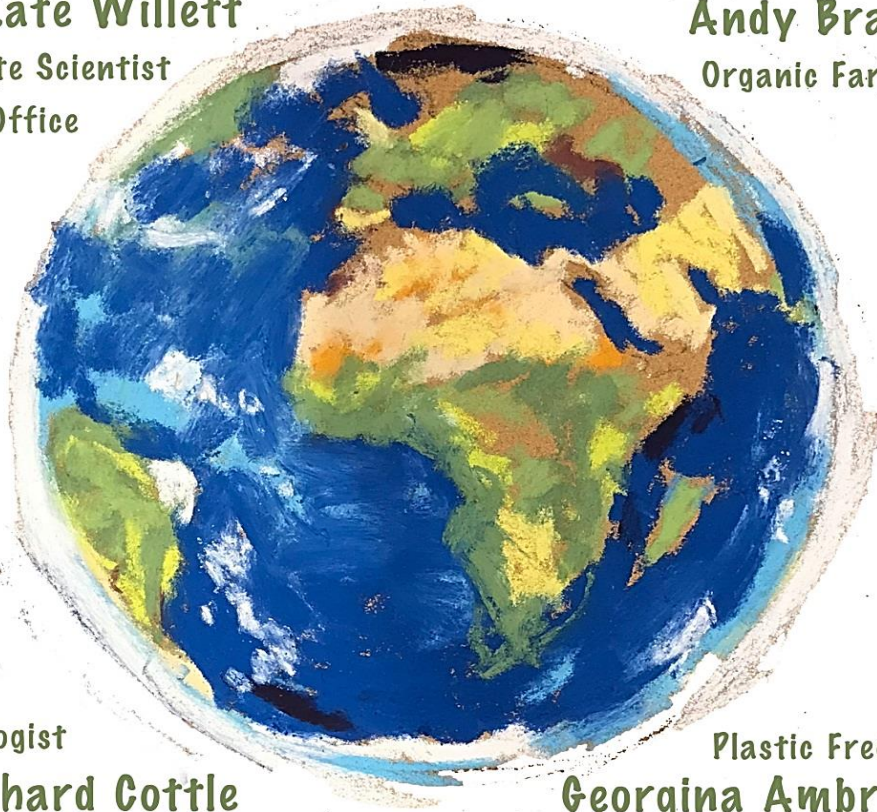
Join us for talks & discussions on climate issues facing us all

Dr Kate Willett

Climate Scientist
Met Office

Andy Bragg

Organic Farmer



Ecologist

Richard Cottle

Plastic Free Ide

Georgina Ambrose

Wednesday 12th February 7.45pm

Ide Memorial Hall

Refreshments - Time to share ideas - Q&A - All welcome

Organised by ICEG - Ide Climate Emergency Group

More details about this important meeting on page 7.

February 2020

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February 2020

We are all rather desperately in need of some good news currently and so I was sad, actually quite irritated, to see that the exciting new **Earthshot** project announced by Prince William and David Attenborough was almost immediately and completely drowned out in the 'media storm' surrounding the (to my mind relatively unimportant) decision made by some other members of the Royal family. If you missed it (and most people I talk to did) you can find out more on page 7.



Fans of John Cleese will also find some good news in the Northcott Theatre pages. What a lot of good productions are on in February.

But, however else you plan to spend your time this month please do try to make time to join us for the

Ide Climate Talk on Wednesday 12th February

Ann Boyce

Please send items for the March Ide Times to Brenda Spivey by the 20th February brendaspivey123@btinternet.com Tel: 01392 275784

USEFUL NUMBERS

Community Policeman: 101

The Parish Church - Rev Mike Partridge 01392 491476 07751 725306
rev.mike.partridge@gmail.com and leave a message.

Congregational Church: Jackie Chadwick jacky.c@talktalk.net

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

Community Shop Opening Hours: (Tel. 410035)

Monday – Friday 8am – 12 noon and 3pm –

6.30pm Saturdays 8am – 1pm

Sundays 9am - 12 noon

Post Office Opening Hours

Monday - Friday 9am - 11.45 noon &

3pm - 5pm Saturdays 9am - 12 noon



***** **IDE MEMORIAL HALL** - to book the hall for your event/party
please contact Carol Whitehart on 01392 213608.

The Mobile Library will be in Fore Street, Ide, from 11.45 am to 12.30 pm on Monday, 10th February.

IDE PARISH COUNCIL

idevillage.org.uk

SANDBAGS AND SALT

In the event of flooding or ice and/or snow problems, a supply of sandbags and salt are stored in the portacabin in the carpark. The keyholders are Pete Bishop, 78 High Street, 07717785760; Mark Thomas, 1 Station Road, 01392 459594; Paula Burton Perret, 14 High Street, 07970960789.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Weir Meadow Recreation Ground: Two public meetings are to be held on **Saturday 22 February at 13.30 and Wednesday 26 February 2020 at 19:30.**

The proposed layout plan for the Meadow, which is available now on the village website at the postings for the November 2019 parish council meeting, will be presented for discussion along with two other key issues: Why the Northern Fields are part of the project, and raising the funds for buying the land. The meetings, which will follow the same format and are scheduled to give village residents maximum opportunity to attend one of them, will be chaired by Nick Bradley and provide an opportunity to hear the parish council's proposals, ask questions and comment on this exciting development for the village. Next Working Group meeting, Monday 24 February 2020, 7pm, The Hub. Chairman Stuart Brooking: stufoot28@talktalk.net

Pynes Community Orchard: Some generous donations have allowed the group and volunteers to plant 72 new fruit trees, and some winter pruning has been undertaken. The issue of a disputed dismantled railway strip is close to resolution, and once resolved we will be able to proceed with the Option to Purchase Agreement. We have a fundraising prospectus ready for distribution once the agreement is signed with the Church Commissioners. Next working group meeting is on Tuesday 3 March at 6pm at The Halt, 1 St Ida's Close. Chairman Peter Cloke: peter_cloke@btinternet.com.

Climate Emergency Working Group meetings are held at 3 Cobbe House on the first Wednesday of each month: next meeting 5 February 2020, 7.30 pm. Chairman: Andy Swain andy.swain.council@gmail.com

Minutes of the Pynes Orchard, Weir Meadow and Climate Emergency Working Groups are published on the Ide Village website. idevillage.org.uk

Planning Applications:

New applications – 19/20457/8 LBC 42 High Street Ide Replacement of single storey rear extension

Updates on current applications

18/01024/MAJ Springwell Nursery Ide Erection of a new Garden Sales Area Building including Café Restaurant, Storage Warehouse, New Public Car Park Area. **STILL AWAITING A DECISION.**

19/01896/ Ide Blacksmith Cottage, 1 Fore Street – single storey extension. Refurbishment of existing rear extension including new doors and windows, and re arrangement of existing PV panel on roof.

Decided Applications

19/1947/FUL IDE Land at NGR 290972 090078, Polehouse Lane – erection of a grain store. **GRANTED**, conditional on submissions to be made concerning the power supply to the building, in line with local Climate Emergency policies. The next meeting of the **Planning Committee** is on Wednesday 18 March 2020 at 6pm in the Hub, unless otherwise advised. To view planning applications, go to www.teignbridge.gov.uk/planning and search using the address or reference number.

The next **Parish Council** meeting is in Ide Memorial Hall on Wednesday 18 March 2020 at 7.30pm.

Meetings of the Parish Council and its Planning Committee are held in public and you are welcome to attend. There is time allocated at the start of the meetings for public participation. If you have an issue you would like the council to discuss, please contact the chairman or another parish councillor. Requests for items to be considered for inclusion on the agenda should be made at least 14 days before the date of the meeting. The first ten minutes of a Parish Council meeting are open to the public to raise possible items for future meetings; or to comment on items on the agenda for that meeting.

Parish Council contact details:

Chairman: Nick Bradley, Smallridge House, The Green, Ide, EX2 9RT 01392 420616 ncabradley@gmail.com

Clerk: Mel Liversage, 20 Little Johns Cross Hill, EX2 9PJ 01392 259024 ideparishclerk@gmail.com

Cemetery administrator: Sarah Tiley 01392 217142 saraht61@btinternet.com

Pyne's Farm - Housing Development

A public meeting is planned in the village on the evening of **Thursday the 26th of March**, at which the Church Commissioners agents will present their plans for the site.

Full details to follow.



Happy New Year from all committee members, volunteers and staff at your local community shop and Post Office.

We hope that you all had a wonderful festive period and are now enjoying all that a new year brings.

Despite the rather wet and stormy weather lately, there seems to be some signs of spring in the air. Catkins are swaying in the trees, snowdrops are dancing in the breeze and daffodils are peeping through the ground.

With a new year and all its possibilities, have you made a new year's resolution or promise? Perhaps, to eat more healthily. February 10th is World Pulses day! Pulses such as beans, lentils and chick peas are all a cheap, high protein, low fat source of fibre, vitamins and minerals. And here at the shop we have lots to tempt and inspire you.

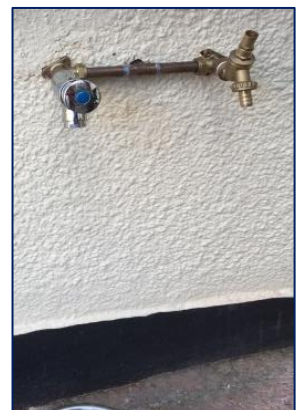
Possibly you feel that this year is the year you want to give something back to your local community. Your local community shop is run entirely by volunteers and we would love to have you come and join us in any way you can. Do you have some spare time to help in the shop, stock shelves, cleaning or one of the other many vital roles?

If you would like to become more involved in your local shop then please do get in touch: **davidfrankwilliams@icloud.com** We would love to hear from you.

A date for your diary in the month of February, is of course Valentines day. In the shop you will find some beautiful cards and gifts to give to that special person in your life. 2020 is a leap year, will there be any marriage proposals by our female residents?



At your local community shop we are committed to try and be more eco-friendly. To that end, in conjunction with the village hall we have installed a drinking water tap outside the shop. Please do feel free to top up your reusable drinking bottle. Soon we will be on the 'Refill app' a group dedicated to promoting reusable bottles and free water to the public and reducing the use of single use plastic.



News from Ide School



As part of our journey as a **Sugar Smart school** and also in our efforts to learn more about how we can help our environment, Chestnut Class (years 5 and 6) were visited by **Warburtons**. They learnt about the history of the company, how their products are made, how to be hygienic in the kitchen, how to make a healthy and balanced sandwich and how to reduce food waste. □□



Willow and Elm (years 2,3 and 4) enjoyed their first session with **Exeter Chiefs** this morning. They are looking forward to working with them every Tuesday.

The Tackling Health



sessions are part of a nationwide programme delivered by Premiership Rugby Clubs across England. The key aims of the project are to improve young people's understanding of what constitutes healthy eating and a healthy diet and to increase levels of physical activity.

We are still rather urgently in need of volunteers to listen to individual children read, So if you have 30 minutes or more free most weeks, please get in touch with me, Alice Purcell (admin@ide.devon.sch.uk)

IDE MEMORIAL HALL

There is now a tap just outside the hall for people to fill their drinking bottles or refill the dog's drinking bowl. It is a small contribution to help reduce the amount of plastic we use. Just before Christmas we had the paintwork in the hall touched up. Obviously we expect there to be some marks and chips with the hall being used regularly, but we will endeavour to keep it in good repair.



John Smart kindly acted as Treasurer of the hall for many years. Sadly he died in October. I took over as Treasurer over two years ago when John's health was failing. Is there anyone who would be willing to take over from me? Carol collects the booking money, so the Treasurer merely needs to do the banking, keep the records and be able to produce an end of year account.

The cost of hiring the hall is £8 per hour during the day and £10 an hour from 6pm onwards. There is a flat rate of £25 for children's parties. If you are having a large family celebration, why not hire the village hall, which has an excellent kitchen. To book the hall please contact Carol Whitehart on 01392 213608.

Brenda Spivey (brendaspivey123@btinternet.com)

JUBILEE CLUB

It does seem a long time ago I was writing the Ide Times report, here we are, the sun is even shining today and the days getting longer. Way back on December 2nd we had bingo, Tony our caller.

On December 16th it was party time. To see the cheery faces of the Ide Schoolchildren arrive to sing certainly set us in a

festive spirit. They sang songs with a Christmas theme, Bells ring out for Christmas, Joseph was a carpenter, Away in a manger, to name a few and for a finale an encore was requested. Thankyou Sue and the children. Well follow that! It was time for the club helpers to entertain, Nora set the scene with a ditty she had written, Christina had been busy writing a potted pantomime, the Golden Ball incorporating several stories, Goldilocks, Snow White Dick Whittington and we even had a frog and a tortoise. No words to learn Liz was the narrator. It was fun for us and I think everyone enjoyed it. Tea followed Marge cut the Christmas cake and Gordon proposed a toast to the club.

We were all back to meet up on January 13th with bingo which was followed with a committee meeting making plans for the coming year. Doreen had a special birthday to celebrate with flowers.

On January 18th several members went to see Dunsford pantomime, more good fun.

Jean Hoskin

Diary Dates

February 10th. Ladies Laughter Brenda Loosemoor

February 24th. Recycling

March 9th. Storybook Dad's. Brian Smith

CLIMATE and ECOSYSTEM EMERGENCY

Do please join us at the **Ide Climate Talk** on Wednesday 12 February at 8.45pm in the Ide Memorial Hall.

All are welcome to this free public event organised by Ide Parish Council's Climate Emergency Working Group (CEWG).

There will be a talk by Kate Daniels, Met Office climate scientist, followed by discussions about local action that the CEWG can help organise. We have some ideas about how to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and make other environmental improvements locally - we'd love to share these with you and hear yours too.

There will be a basic bar selling local beer and cider as well as tea and coffee.

Hope to see you there

Jenny Lundh CEWG

The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge have announced a global prize to tackle climate issues, pledging "a decade of action to repair the Earth". Five winners will receive a prize every year between 2021 and 2030.

The cash prize will be for individuals or organisations who come up with solutions to environmental problems.

Prince William said the world faces a "stark choice" to continue "irreparably" damaging the planet or "lead, innovate and problem-solve". The announcement was made in a video narrated by Sir David Attenborough posted on social media (see [earthshotprize.org](https://www.earthshotprize.org)) The veteran broadcaster and naturalist said the prize would go to "visionaries rewarded over the next decade for responding to the great challenges of our time".

The prize is set to launch officially later in 2020 - a year that will also see the Convention on Biodiversity in China in February and the COP26 Climate Change Conference in Glasgow in November. A series of challenges will be announced, aimed at finding at least 50 solutions to the "world's greatest problems" including climate change and air pollution.

More than 60 organisations and experts were consulted in the development of the prize. The challenges will be rolled out in 2020 and will then renew each year, for a decade - to stimulate the spirit of the race to the moon, but this time in the service of the earth. Indeed the prize's name is inspired by former US President John F Kennedy's "Moonshot" - when he set a goal in 1961 to land American astronauts on the Moon before the end of the decade.



CLIMATE and ECOSYSTEM EMERGENCY

The need to really start looking after our planet is of course being tragically demonstrated in Australia. Although the bushfires have largely disappeared from the Newspaper headlines, the fires are still burning.



We survived New Year's Eve in Mallecoota sitting in a small boat. There were four of us and my sister's beautiful Dalmatian puppy, and we were scared for our lives.

The fire brought whipping winds, bursts of thunder, lightning strikes and, very briefly, rain. There was an eerie quiet, punctuated only by the anxiety-provoking but reassuring sound of sirens. There were gas blasts, houses toppling and trees crashing or exploding.

The fire produced deafening, apocalyptic roars that will stay with me forever. Our hearts were racing. As oxygen levels dropped, there was a palpable fear that we were all going to be asphyxiated **Lucy Knight, Gunning, New South Wales**

I am devastated for my country, the tragedy of the loss of lives, homes, incomes, for the pain and suffering of millions of wildlife and livestock and the ecological destruction.

Yet our prime minister still persists in selling coal to India by opening up new mines, which require massive quantities of water, when farmers are shooting cattle in nearby drought-stricken areas. I'm in despair at what we leave for future generations.

Helen McKewin Adelaide Hills

CLIMATE and ECOSYSTEM EMERGENCY

Something We Can Do!



One in eight people in the UK go hungry every day, yet an average family wastes £700 worth of food every year.

Photograph: Jonathan Hordle/PA

Total food waste in the UK has fallen by the equivalent of 7% per person over the past three years, but individual households should still be doing more to reduce the 4.5m tonnes of food waste, the government's waste advisory body has warned.

The volume of food waste generated in the retail supply chain, the hospitality sector, and in homes stood at 9.5m tonnes in 2018, down from 10m tonnes in 2015 and 11.2m in 2007, according to a detailed study from the Waste and Resources Action Programme (**WRAP**).

So we are moving in the right direction but UK households still waste 4.5m tonnes of food a year that could have been eaten, worth £14bn.

Marcus Gover, chief executive of WRAP, said: "We are in a new decade and have just 10 years if we are to honour our international commitment to halve food waste. This really matters because it is untenable that we carry on wasting food on such a monumental scale when we are seeing the visible effects of climate change every day, and when nearly a billion people go hungry every day.

Ide Congregational Church – February 2020

What's happening this month

Sunday Services are held at 11am and 5pm each week. Our speakers this month are:

February	11am	5pm
2 nd	Ken Harris	All together Praise
9 th	Leonard Mason	Des Gardiner + Holy Communion
16 th	Michael Trigg	All together Praise
23 rd	Brian Bunce	To be confirmed

Other activities

Thursday 6th February from 10.30am – Coffee Morning

Coffee Morning On Thursday 6th February we will be holding our monthly Coffee



Morning starting at 10.30am. Coffee or tea and cakes are

provided free of charge. Do come and join us for a cuppa and a chat. Everyone welcome.

Thursday 13th February at 7pm – it's time for DDD



On Thursday 13th February at 7pm we will be meeting together at the Church for Des's Delightful Discussions. A time for coming together to look at the Bible. Everyone welcome

Friday 21st February from 6.30pm – 8.30pm its 'Download' time



On Friday 21st February from 6.30pm – 8.30pm its gaming night for KS2

Bring your iPad, laptop, Kindle, etc, along (no age-restricted games allowed).

Tuckshop available. Games console will be provided. Entry with permission slip only (available on the door).

Thursday 27th February at 7pm – it's time for CCC

SAINT IDA'S CHURCH

2nd February	4 before Lent	9.30am	Holy Communion
9th February	3 before Lent	9.30am	Morning Praise
16th February	2 before Lent	9.30am	Holy Communion
23rd February	1 before Lent	8am	Holy Communion
		10am	All Age Service
26th February	Ash Wednesday		



Baptisms (Christenings), Weddings & Banns of Marriage - If you wish to make any enquiries about these please email weddings@alphingtonstmichaels.org for weddings and banns of marriage at Ide, and christenings@alphingtonstmichaels.org for baptisms at Ide, or you can ring 01392 491476.

Sweaty Church

Our Children & Families Worker, Lucy Williams, will be doing Sweaty Church in Ide Village Hall on Friday, 7th February, from 6-7.30pm. There will be some fun exercises for all the family, a bible discussion and drinks and refreshments.

Toddlers - meets every Tuesday morning during Term-time in Ide School Hall from 9.30 to 11am. All small children are welcome including babies. It is a chance for children to play together and for the adults to have a chat and a cup of tea or coffee.

The Christmas Tree Festival and Festive Tea were a great success. Our thanks go to all the organisations and individuals who provided decorated Christmas trees. There was a lively and interesting range from the Community Shop one with money, tiny newspapers, and pretend stamps on it and shop produce and parcels surrounding it, to a tennis ball tree, and the Cricket Club tree decorated with little cricket bats and plastic ducks. The Festive Tea was enjoyed by a large number of people, who were able to admire the trees and stock up with jams, pots of bulbs, books, etc. from the different stalls.

The trees provided a seasonal backdrop to the two **Wreath Making** sessions on the day after the Festive Tea and was enjoyed by a number of people who proudly hung their home-made wreaths on the front doors. Thank you Mary for organising this.

On Christmas Eve the church was packed for the **Christingle Service**. Lucy, with help from Kate, dressed a number of children up as angels, shepherds, wise men and, of course, Mary and Joseph. They then took part in the Nativity scene, which was read out by Mike Partridge. The Service ended with the children receiving their Christingle oranges. Our thanks go to the willing band who made up the Christingle oranges a day or two beforehand.

Well, the Christmas decorations have now been put away and the grey wet days have turned into bright frosty ones. The daffodils are in bud so Spring is on the way.

We also have a wedding to look forward to - as Mike Partridge and Lucy have announced that they will be getting married on the 3rd April and the ceremony will be at Alphington Church at 4pm.

We wish them every happiness together.

Brenda Spivey



Mothers' Union is an international movement with around 4 million members in 84 countries.

Welcome to another year! Our little group will try to continue to meet for fellowship, when possible. Sadly at the moment our number is even more depleted as Anne Bragg has fallen and broken her hip. We wish her well and a steady recovery.

We will meet on Feb 19th for prayer group, and a discussion on what Lent means to us. Offer of a home would be good!

Sue Campbell



Exeter Cathedral
Sat 22nd Feb 2020, 10-4.30

**A festival of thought and action
to join up faith and our environment**

Panel discussion + Workshops including:
Biodiversity, Climate Science & Adaptation
Creative Responses, Direct Action, Energy & Travel
Engaging MPs, Food, International Perspectives
Theology, Worship

**Keynote Speaker - Rt Revd Nick Holtam
Lead Bishop for the Environment**

£8 to cover speaker costs. U16s free
Please book here (and for more details):
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-big-green-event-tickets-86794132587>

The keynote speaker will be Bishop Nick Holtam, Lead Bishop for Environmental Affairs, with workshops on:

- Biodiversity & Conservation In Our Churches** – David Curry, 'Living Churchyards' Lead
- Climate Science & Adaptation; The Risks, Opportunities and Takeaway Solutions** – Luci Isaacson, Diocesan Environment Officer (Truro) & Director of Climate Vision
- Community: The Urgent Need To Work Together** – Br Clark Berge SSF, Guardian of Hilfield Friary
- Direct Action** – Jess Nicholls, Fridays For Future & Liz Dunbar, Christian Climate Action
- Energy, Travel & EcoChurch** – Caroline Pomeroy, Director of Climate Stewards
- Food** – Roger Cozens, Rural Development Consultant for international NGOs, governments and local food group
- International Perspectives & the 2020 Lent Book** – Sue Willsher, Senior Policy Advisor, Tearfund
- Lobbying & Influencing Decision Makers** – Jill Stone, Deputy Head of SW, Christian Aid
- Theology** – Prof Chris Southgate, Professor of Christian Theodicy, University of Exeter
- Worship** – Revd Andy Dodwell, Vicar in Barnstaple Mission Community & Ecochurch Champion

Please note that this needs to be booked – via
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-big-green-event-tickets-86794132587>



You may remember that last summer the Ide Mighty Hikers (Rachel Herbert, Angelique Nichol, Lucy Gillett, Alison Creasy, Alison Webber and Laura Bell) put on their walking boots and undertook the Macmillan Mighty Hike, walking 26 miles along the Jurassic Coast in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support. We organised a number of fundraisers which all you lovely folk supported to smash our £1500 sponsorship target. Well, we are at it again, and this time there's a Bee Team! In September Jo Jeffery, Cheryl Haddy, Selena Morgan, Natalie Sheen, Sophie Caunter and Jo Barker are joining the challenge and the 12 of us are taking on the Wye Valley, hiking from Chepstow to Monmouth. In order to reach our sponsorship target there will be some more fundraisers – look out for **Screen on the Green** in June and – wait for it- **pig racing**! To start things off, however, we will be holding a **pancake brunch in Ide Village Hall on Saturday 15th Feb.**

Look out for posters and FB posts for further details.

BANG BANG!

6-15 February

JOHN CLEESE makes his stage writing debut with a hilarious new adaptation of this classic comedy – a delicious blend of French farce and *Fawlty Towers* based on *Monsieur Chasse!* by Georges Feydeau.

A hilarious new production made by Exeter Northcott Theatre, directed by Daniel Buckroyd – much mirth and sublime silliness! (Mr John Cleese does not appear in this production – he wanted to, but we wouldn't let him!)

JOHN CLEESE

9 February

A charity performance.

Join **Daniel Buckroyd** in conversation with **John Cleese** about life, laughs and live performance.

The money raised will enable the Northcott to bring excellent productions to Exeter, make quality work in Devon, offer vital support to emerging artists and life-changing opportunities to young people.

TROJAN HORSE

19 February

Trojan Horse was a local story that hit the national press, accusing 'hardline' Muslim teachers and governors of plotting extremism in Birmingham schools. Adapted from the real-life testimonies of those at the heart of the UK Government's inquiry, critically acclaimed theatre-company LUNG investigate what really happened. *Trojan Horse* is the story of a community torn apart by racial division, 'British values' and the culture of Prevent.

★★★★★ – WhatsOnStage ★★★★★ – British Theatre Guide

LOST IN MUSIC – ONE NIGHT AT THE DISCO

21 February

Get ready to recreate the magical 70s and go on a musical journey straight to the heart of disco!

THE JIVE ACES BIG BEAT REVUE

22 February

Britain's Got Talent semi-finalists, **The Jive Aces**, explode onto the stage in their trademark yellow suits and vintage style for their "Big Beat Revue" show. "*True Showmanship!*" – Daily Telegraph

"*The Jive Aces have to be one of the most entertaining and multi-talented acts around. Brilliant musicianship combined with a madcap sense of fun on stage. Simply Sensational!*" – The Stage

NIGHT OF THE LIVING DEAD - REMIX

An Imitating the Dog and Leeds Playhouse co-production

25 - 26 February

"*Imitating the Dog is not only a company without imitators, it is currently without peer*" – The Guardian

FAWLTY TOWERS DINING EXPERIENCE

27 – 28 February

This globetrotting and truly quite legendary Australian show continues to tour the world – and is back in Exeter by popular demand!

SHOWSTOPPER! THE IMPROVISED MUSICAL

29 February

Spontaneous musical comedy at its absolute finest – direct from the West End and now heading to Exeter!

A brand new musical comedy is created from scratch at each performance of this award-winning show as audience suggestions are transformed on the spot into all-singing, all-dancing productions with hilarious results. These incredible performers are guaranteed to impress as they create shows packed with drama, dazzling dance routines and catchy melodies – it's just all made up on the spot!

★★★★★ *'So polished, it defies belief.'* Daily Telegraph

★★★★★ *'If this is what improv can do, you wonder why anyone bothers writing anything down.'* The Times

★★★★★ *'Achingly funny... Worth seeing again and again.'* Time Out Critics' Choice

CIRQUE BERSERK!

3 - 8 March

Britain's biggest theatre circus spectacular visits Exeter Northcott for the first time!

360 BUS TIMETABLE

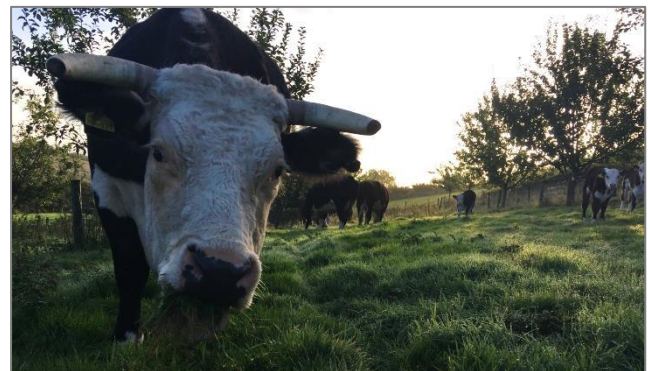
Ide	7.51	10.01	12.39	14.34	
Exeter Bus Station	8.13	10.20	12.58	14.53	
Exeter Bus Station	8.35	11.15	13.15	16.15	17.55
Ide	8.53	11.33	13.28	16.33	18.13



A very happy 2020 from all at West Town Farm to all. We had a lovely festive staff meal in our very own classroom space here at the farm. We made a slap up meal for all our staff, family and friends using West Town Farm meat and Shillingford Organics veg. Delicious!

However, being a working farm, there isn't much of a break over the festive season! Andy and the team have been soldiering on through the very wet and rainy past few weeks. The farm is absolutely sodden and the farm staff are soaked and muddy. It's been relentless.

We've been preparing for our annual inspections. TB testing and Soil Association organic certificate. Both of these fall within a week of each other. We always hit the ground running in January. Let's hope February brings a bit of time to plan for the year ahead. The calendar is busy with lots of exciting events/educational visits/weddings.



Kate returns from maternity leave this month so we'll be planning some tasty pop -up dining evenings.

Treefest2020 went really well. We planted just over 6000 trees. Had a fantastic team of people, lot's of tea and cake to help us on our way.

The shop still has a couple of gammon joints left if you didn't get to purchase one over Christmas. You'll find the freezer full of the usual suspects as well. Please note Taw River Dairy has put the price of milk up. It'll now cost £2.80 a bottle (with £1 refund when you return the bottle).

Farm sale

'Due to a change in farming policy, we are having a farm sale where we are selling about half our cattle and some farm machinery. This will be on Wednesday 26 February. Apologies to you all for any inconvenience caused with extra traffic on that day.'

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