

Ide Times



This is the style just beyond West Town Farm - the path leads up to the old railway line.

JULY 2020

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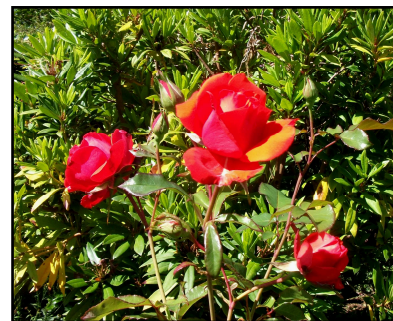
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JULY 2020



Restrictions are now beginning to ease and let us hope that life will soon be returning to some sort of normality. Exeter High Street was very quiet when I went there a few days ago with very few shops open. Some children are now back at school but only on a part-time basis, and it seems as if we can possibly have our hair cut again early in July! We extend our sympathy to those who have lost their jobs and are struggling to make ends meet, and to those who have been lonely and worried.

Articles for the August issue of the Ide Times should be sent to me Brenda Spivey by the 20th July - brendaspivey123@btinternet.com
Brenda Spivey (01392 275784)

USEFUL NUMBERS

Community Policeman: 101

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

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 am & 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 not be operating during the lockdown.

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

The bus is still running but you must wear a mask and only a limited number of passengers can travel.

IDE PARISH COUNCIL

ldevillage.org.uk

Ide Parish Council has, during lockdown, continued to hold meetings remotely via Skype; and members of the public may also attend remotely using Skype. If you would like to address or to follow the meeting, please contact the Clerk or the Chair by telephone or email at least 24 hours before the meeting to make sure you can make a Skype connection. See contact details at the end of this notice.

PLANNING: The planning committee met remotely by Skype on 28 May 2020 to discuss:

1. New applications

Weir Meadow:

20/00668/MAJ Land at NGR 289535 90312 Station Road IDE Change of use to recreational ground

20/00669/FUL Land at NGR 289535 90312 Station Road IDE Single storey sports pavilion and associated car parking

The planning committee commented on the village's long standing lack of recreational space and associated green infrastructure, citing the results of the public consultation exercise carried out for Ide's Neighbourhood Plan (made date September 2018).

The results of an earlier public consultation (2014) on this topic were summarised as follows:

"Regarding play facilities, most people believe they need improving. There should be more facilities for the older children such as a permanently accessible MUGA. Sports facilities are very inadequate. Almost everyone agrees that more are needed. Sports provision inspired strong views. Bigger schemes were also envisaged with a sports pavilion, new football pitch/running track that would go some way to providing adults and children with a venue for evening and weekend activities"

The made Ide Neighbourhood Plan has two policies that relate to the two applications in question, being **Policy IDE04 - Sports and Recreational Facilities**, and **Policy IDE05 – Weir Meadow**.

A pre-application consultation with architects David Wilson partnership and TDC planning officer Peter Thomas had helped shape the application. Two public meetings in February 2020 had shown strong support for the scheme. Many village groups have raised and donated funds to cover the professional costs of the architect, solicitors and associated fees to reach this point of a full planning application. Three members of the working group have also provided professional

reports needed to support the application, on a pro bono basis: Julian Perrett, ecology and environmental assessment; Stuart Brooking on trees; and Richard Cloke, flood risk assessment.

The Committee voted to support both applications.

2. Undecided Applications

20/00623/FUL – Stevens Farm Ide - Change of Use to Skip and Plant Park with associated hardstanding

Ide Parish Council voted to object to a change of the site's use to a skip and plant park on grounds of:

- the essential rurality of the area and environment as set out in Ide Neighbourhood Plan: the site is immediately adjacent to the Ide Gateway Enhancement Area.
- the farm is in an Area of Great Landscape Value [AGLV]
- the change would introduce an industrial, commercial character and precedent to this rural, village area.
- access to and exit from the site immediately off the roundabout is unprotected and presents a traffic hazard.

20/00621/MAJ Pynes Farm, Ide Conversion of four existing agricultural buildings to two dwellings, demolition of remaining barn buildings and replacement with eight dwellings including associated landscaping, parking and associated access works. It is consistent with the Ide Neighbourhood Plan, and the Parish Council supports the application in general, whilst raising significant concerns on details of the carbon reduction plan, the design and visual impact of the buildings, and road safety at the site entrance. **AWAITING A DECISION**

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

3. Decided Applications

20/00390/AGR HOLCOMBE BURNELL Springfield Bakers Hill Agricultural Storage Shed **GRANTED**

20/00469/FUL Maple House Old Ide Lane – Conversion and Extension of existing garage to form a granny annex. **REFUSED**

20/00203/FUL Cobbe House Station Road – Replacement of porch **GRANTED**
The next IPC Planning Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday 15 July 2020 at 6.00pm remotely by Skype

The next **PARISH COUNCIL** meeting will be held remotely by Skype, Wednesday 15 July 2020 at 7.30pm.

PARISH COUNCILLOR VACANCIES. There are two vacancies on Ide Parish Council. Please contact the clerk or chair for more information to apply for either of these posts.

Parish Council contact details:

Chair: 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

IDE'S UNUSUAL POST BOX

So what's with the post box by the car park? It's been encased in duct tape since January. Susanna Morgans and I, for Ide Post Office and Parish Council respectively, have been trying to get it re-opened. It seems that the postmen's key was mislaid sometime after Christmas; and instead of replacing the lock and key, Royal Mail decided to seal the box off. After several phone calls, three escalating email enquiries and, last month, a formal complaint, we heard last week that the box will be repaired and re-opened....in 25 weeks, just in time for Christmas.



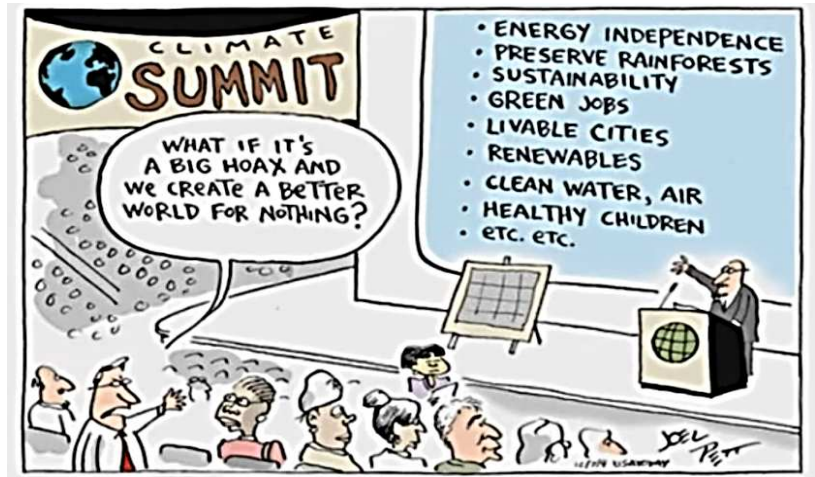
Nick Bradley
4.

The Future should be Green say Government's Climate Advisers

Lockdown has given us all time to think about the ways society needs to change. We now need to listen to and maybe discuss this with others to build up a consensus and an impetus for change.

In case you missed it, in a recently published report, the **UK government's climate**

advisers have urged that restarting the economy and getting people back to work after lockdown should focus on low-carbon work programmes. They said this would generate new jobs, protect the climate and ensure a fairer economy for everyone.



- People's homes could be made ready for winter and new jobs created through schemes to insulate houses, while tree-planting could begin and flood barriers be constructed.
- Fulfilling the UK's need for low-carbon infrastructure, from electricity networks to cycle lanes, and restoring peatlands, would create jobs in the short term, while government money could also be used to encourage advances in science and innovation that would reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the future
- **"Actions towards net-zero emissions and to limit the damages from climate change will help rebuild the UK with a stronger economy and increased resilience".**
- More measures were needed to help people continue to walk, cycle and work remotely after the lockdown eases, the committee said. Increased cycling and walking would reduce the strain on public transport while keeping down air pollution, which people have become more aware of during lockdown.
- The advisers also called for retraining programmes to equip people with skills such as installing low-carbon heating, energy and water efficiency, and flood protection for homes.
- Fairness should be a "core principle" of any recovery, they advised. "The crisis has exacerbated existing inequalities and ... the response to the pandemic has disproportionately affected the same lower-income groups and younger people who face the largest long-term impacts of climate change," the chairs wrote.
- "The benefits of acting on climate change must be shared widely and the costs must not burden those who are least able to pay, or whose livelihoods are most at risk as the economy changes. It is important that the lost or threatened jobs of today should be replaced by those created by the new resilient economy.

The committee's advice supports calls from other experts to "green" the economic recovery. **A group of leading economists, including the Nobel prize-winner Joseph Stiglitz, set out evidence that government spending on low-carbon and other environmentally beneficial activities would provide a bigger boost to the economy, in both the short and long term, than pursuing a traditional recovery that poured money into fossil fuels and ignored the climate crisis.**

So support for a greener future is growing. Will the government listen and act?



IDE COMMUNITY SHOP AND POST OFFICE

Beautiful Blooms, Bountiful Berries, Bangers & Burgers

The shop forecourt burst into colour in June when Susanna got the most amazing plants from New Leaf at Exminster. It is good that as a community shop, we can support the workers at New Leaf who are also doing their bit for the community with the people they provide work and support for. It was testament to Susanna's excellent taste in plants that they all sold so quickly that she had to go and get more.



The first week in June was Volunteers Week and we say thank you very much to all our wonderful volunteers, both young and old, long established or new to the shop, for the huge amount of work you do for us in so many ways. The shop would not be possible without you all – so many grateful thanks.

Ide is such an amazing place with so many wonderful people volunteering in so many ways to help others, more so than ever during the current crisis. It has been interesting to see people's generosity and willingness to lift others' boredom and provide something different for people to do with the donations that we have had on the shelves outside the shop during this time for people to take. A special thanks to Jane Rotinoff for keeping it all tidy and under control.

Another unsung hero is Carol Whitehart who does so many things for the shop that people probably don't even know - like wash the aprons, tea and cleaning cloths – and there are a lot of them as we do so much cleaning at the moment. She takes in deliveries if the shop is shut and locks the hall if we leave it unlocked! Likewise, Peggy who empties our food waste bin and puts the blue food caddy out every week for us.

It is the sensitivity and concern people have constantly for others that is so nice to see. Angelique has been going to Bookers with Carolyne and thought it would be a good idea to buy smaller packs of flour for older and single occupier households that might not get through a big bag – people are always thinking of others. It has also been so encouraging to see how full the shop foodbank box is getting each week as people think of others in need.

It has been amazing how much has been raised for charity by people buying the wonderful designer, one off face masks, made by another wonderful person doing their bit for others in the village, Janet Williams.

Bangers and Burgers have sold really well in June thanks to the sunny weather and all our burgers and sausages are local either from Kenniford Farm or Dart Fresh Produce.

The ice cream freezer arrived back in the shop just in time for the heatwave and has been stocked up with some new lines as well as the regular popular flavours. Due to the heat the shop has done a good trade in lollies and the ever popular local Langage ice cream, which is available in small single portion tubs as well as the larger sizes. We also stock Langage sorbets and the popular £2.25 Classic Ice Cream tubs in a variety of flavours.

Balls Farm Strawberries continue to go out as fast as they come in and we have some lovely meringue nests in stock to go with the strawberries and local Sutton Lucy Double Cream or Trewithen Dairies clotted cream for a quick and tasty dessert. And we now stock Jaffa Cakes!

Thank you to everyone for supporting the shop over this trying time and for your patience if there has been a queue – the best things in life are worth waiting for!

Zetta King

OPEN GARDENS MAGAZINE

Thanks to everyone who has contributed to the Ide Growers Open Gardens magazine. We have had hundreds of pictures, celebrating plants, flowers, pets...

Now comes the job of sorting it all out. Hopefully it'll be all done by the end of July. We won't be able to use all the pictures - but we will do our best to get as many in as possible.

Thanks again!

Mark Thomas (On behalf of Ide Growers)

THANK YOU - The young families of Ide would like to thank the kind person who has been mowing the village green and picking up the cut grass. We really appreciate your kindness. Many children and their parents have enjoyed being on the Green during all the fine weather - and we haven't had to scoop grass cuttings out of our washing machines!

MY LIFE IN LOCKDOWN by Charlotte aged 10.

My mum pulled me and my sister out of school two days before the school shut not because of summer holidays but a new virus called COVID 19. At first I was angry and sad at having to leave school but then I thought to myself that it would basically be like a big holiday.

We started (school) work on Monday and at first it was better than being at school because you could wake up late and do the work at whatever time you wanted, but that all changed. Fast forward 2 weeks and everyone is still at home but getting bored of the work and tired of doing the same old thing pretty much everyday. One of the upsides of that point was (1) having an amazing puppy Holly and (2) we got to go on a lot more walks.

Suddenly COVID 19 was out of control and the majority of the world was in Lockdown including us! That's what changed Lockdown from ok to utterly unbearable. One we couldn't go to our friends houses, we couldn't really go on walks together and it made life a whole lot harder.

Nothing really changed for the next 3 months except our teachers setting us harder work. The upside of having lots of spare time is getting to do lots of craft stuff. Although Lockdown has been bearable these past few weeks it has become quite hard with the year 6's going back and us year 5's having to find our own work to do. Also people have been talking of going back to school and the government reducing the 2 metres social distancing rule. It is getting to me and my sister quite a lot because as a family we have all become very close so I don't want to leave that. At the moment kids have been following the 2 metre rule quite well and if the government do change won't that just confuse us kids more?

Thanks for reading this - hope you enjoyed it. Charlotte Nichols age 10.

Dog Walking, Washing Cars, Mowing Lawns, Odd Jobs

Hi, I'm Josh I'm 13 and I live in The Hams, Ide.

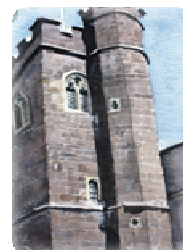
I love DJing and I am trying to earn some money to buy DJ equipment.

I am local, reliable and hardworking.



To find out more please email my mum at mynameisfiona@hotmail.co.uk

SAINT IDA'S CHURCH



Services

Ide, Shillingford and Alphington are still joining together for an 11am Service via Zoom and the St Michael's Alphington Facebook page. There is also a Wednesday evening Service at 7pm and daily prayers at 9am. If you would like the ID and password so that you can join any of these, please contact Mike Partridge on rev.mike.partridge@gmail.com or ring him on 01392 491476. It is not like attending a Service in church, but we have all got used to it.

Relaxation of Restrictions

The Church is now open for private prayer on Thursdays from 10am to 4pm. The pews and parts of the Church have been cordoned off but there are chairs at the front where people can sit for a time of prayer or reflection. There is hand sanitiser on the table at the entrance.

It is hoped that we will be able to have some Services in Church starting in July - perhaps two a month - but details have not yet been finalised.

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.

We hope that you are all keeping well - not too bored with working from home - and not too exhausted from gardening! It looks as if we are coming out of the lockdown with restrictions being relaxed but we still need to be careful and we must not forget that. We have been fortunate in this area - let us keep it that way.

Mothers' Union Caroline Luff is still sending thoughts for the day to Sue Campbell, who is kindly forwarding them to Ide MU members. If you would like to receive them, please contact Sue on 01392 252703.

Toddlers (and babes in arms) - Like most other groups, Toddlers will not be meeting until the coronavirus problem has ended. Sue Campbell

IDE MEMORIAL HALL



The hall is still being used by the village shop and they plan to continue doing so until August. It may be possible for organisations and individuals to hire the hall again from late August. This will depend on government guidelines.

HUNTSMAN ON THE HOOF


March 20th 2020 was a momentous day for the Huntsman and all pubs across the UK - it was the day that we were instructed to close to help in the fight against Covid-19. Whilst fully supportive of this move we have to admit that the closure was a sad event - wondering when we would see our friends and regulars again along with concerns about what this may mean for the pub and our staff in the long term.

Closing down the cellar (and yes, tipping some beer down the drain) was a disheartening experience - has the Huntsman's 400 year history ever experienced a shut down of this type and for so long before?

We were determined to keep busy and continue to offer food so 'Huntsman on the Hoof' was born - a takeaway food and drink service on Friday and Saturday evenings. It's all very socially distant - food is collected at allocated times from the pubs kitchen window in takeaway (and recyclable) boxes and bags. We are so grateful for the continued support for this service from villagers and some from further afield - thank you. We also ran monthly quizzes - virtually - and are able to continue to support our adopted charities, Age UK Exeter & Downs Syndrome Association through continued fundraising.

This enforced enclosure has allowed us to crack on with some decorating as well as revamping our outside space. We're looking forward to opening fully soon and welcoming you back - the takeaway service will continue when we reopen, allowing you to enjoy our food or drink in the pub, our beer garden or in your own home.

Colin Chapman



on the Hoof

TAKEAWAY (PRE-ORDER ONLY)
FRI & SAT 5.30-8.30pm 01392 272779

Burgers

All our Burgers are served with Lettuce, sliced Tomato and Dill Pickle in a Grilled Brioche Bun with Fries.

The Beater: Our 6oz Beef Burger with Salsa 8.95
The 12 Bore: 6oz Beef Burger with Cheese 9.50
The 4 Bore: 6oz Burger with Bacon, Cheese & Jalapeños 10.45
The Brace Burger: 2 6oz Burgers & Cheese 10.95
Blue Cheese Burger: 6oz Burger with Stilton 9.95
Butternut, Goats Cheese and Beetroot Burger with Sweet Chilli Sauce (v) 8.95
Southern Fried Chicken Burger with BBQ Sauce 9.95

Beer Battered Cod & Chips 9.95
Whole-tail Scampi & Chips 9.95
Beef Stew served with Sourdough Roll 8.95
Beef Chilli Nachos topped with Cheese & Jalapeños 8.95
Chicken Rogan Josh served with Rice & Poppadom 8.95
Vegetable Balti served with Rice & Poppadom 8.45

12" Thin Crust **Pizza** with Tomato & Mozzarella 7.95
Extra Toppings (Pepperoni, Ham etc available) 50p/1.00

JUBILEE CLUB

We had some welcome rain in the last weeks to get those plants growing. I think many of us have spent much time in the garden this year - an occupation which gives me much pleasure. Who would have thought way back in February we would still be social distancing come midsummer.

I hear of much praise for the work of the volunteers and the plentiful stock of items in the Community Shop. I would like to think eventually when life is more normal some good will have come from this strange time. Meanwhile take care and in Vera Lynn's words We'll Meet Again.

I look forward to when I can hear the chatter of all the members when we do meet. Please feel free to give any of the helpers a ring should you feel like a chat.

Jean Hoskin

FACE MASKS

Janet Williams has been busy since lockdown making face masks or face coverings as we are supposed to call them. They are displayed in the Community Shop and available free of charge but with donation requested for Hospiscare. So far thanks to everyone's generosity we have raised more than £300. The fabrics mostly come from Janet's stock and the brightly coloured African fabrics seem to be the most popular. Special thanks to everyone who has donated elastic which was unavailable for a while.

SEASONAL FRUIT AND VEG

Hurrah - it's broad bean time at last! When I was little, this little fella used to be the tough, buff, not-as-sweet-as-a-pea, most-unpopular item on the dinner plate (sorry Mum!). How things have changed since I have been fortunate to be able to grow my own. They are delicious eaten whole when small but even better when cooked gently then eased out of their little coats to release the shiny emerald jewels that make a wonderful risotto, pasta dish or mashed with garlic, chilli, lemon and mint on top of a toasted ciabatta – yum yum.

Other seasonal fruit and veg for June: Asparagus, Aubergine, Beetroot, Blackcurrants, Broad Beans, Broccoli, Cauliflower, Cherries, Chicory, Chillies, Courgettes, Cucumber, Elderflowers, Gooseberries, Lettuce, Marrow, New Potatoes, Peas, Peppers, Radishes, Raspberries, Redcurrants, Rhubarb, Rocket, Runner Beans, Samphire, Sorrel, Spring Greens, Spring Onions, Strawberries, Summer Squash, Swiss Chard, Tayberries, Turnips, Watercress (courtesy of the Vegetarian Society www.vegsoc.org).

Carolyn Tysoe

THE UPS AND DOWNS OF GROWING YOUR OWN FRUIT AND VEGETABLES

We grow runner beans every year at the allotment, the reason being is you simply cannot buy quality runner beans in a supermarket.

Beans love to be planted out in a sunny spot and have rich soil, we dig a trench and add a mix of horse manure and compost from our heap. That may mean you get even more weeds but it's worth it!

Karen and Clive



Linny's lament (or 'When the squirrel ate my strawberries')

When squirrels ate my strawberries I was very, very cross,
I know that in the scheme of things, 'twas no earth-shattering loss
BUT.....

I'd tended them and watered them and treated them with care.
I'd watched them grow, and then turn red- and they were O so fair!
I nestled them and nurtured them and showered them with love,
Looked forward to the taste of them like nectar from above!

O Strawberries, O strawberries!
Your smell, your taste, your look-
Now lost to me- damn squirrel thieves
You know not what you took!

So, I will place a little plaque
To mourn my berries red,
And I'll not brook the callous friend
Who laughed that they were dead!
But I will wave them in her face
When soon the next ones grow,
And leave her to her raspberries
That blackbirds fancy so!



Above is a photo of my carrots on the allotment. I listened to Monty Don on Gardeners World last year and he said to sow carrot seeds by broadcasting them instead of in rows. He said not to thin them or weed them so they are less likely to get affected by carrot root fly. They are normally attracted by the smell of the carrots. I will wait to see if it works! . Lin Black



Here is a picture of our raised beds, which form the mainstay of our veg growing. You can also see our fruit cage behind and pink fir apple potatoes growing in bags mid-picture. The main bed featured in the photo is the middle one of three. A couple of weeks ago, the false bottom fell through and so we now have the Sunken Garden of 40 High Street. Had it not been for the current restrictions, I'm sure it would have

become a main visitor attraction. Nigel Walsh

David Williams' vegetable plot. David says he finds it better to sow seed in pots in the greenhouse and then put the plants outside, rather than putting seeds straight into the ground.



The main theme here is protection against pests. I seem to spend as much energy on preventing animals and insects eating the produce as I do improving the soil. It feels like a battle at times. And I often lose! Liz Sharman



Roofing Felt

I learnt what I know about vegetable gardening from my Dad. He put little squares of roofing felt around seedlings to prevent the slugs from reaching them – it is too rough for them to cross. It seems to work but the tip comes with no guarantees! Janice Heath



IDE VILLAGE GREEN

There are many nostalgic accounts of life on village greens, with a pub, an oak tree, cottages, maybe a pond and most importantly the church. Our village green has the church and until comparatively recently just 3 cottages at the farther end. So, it was located on the edge of the village, almost completely in the countryside. This is unusual for village greens.

Looking at the contours, I think that Ide Village Green has been levelled, which explains the steep slope where it was presumably built up at the southern edge. Perhaps the green was fashioned from a bit of spare land at the edge of the village. So when was this done and why? Well, medieval villages needed a piece of flat land for archery practice called butts. These were usually located on the outskirts of villages and towns. Throughout this time large numbers of archers were in demand to supply the army needed to go off and fight the French.

Later on we associate village greens with the game of cricket but I don't think our green would have been suitable for this. Of course in many villages and towns dreadful punishments involving stocks and pillories would have been meted out in these public spaces. I hope such awful goings on did not occur in Ide, we will imagine the green to be the scene of only happy events such as maypole dancing and other social gatherings.



It is pleasant nowadays to see children playing on the green. It reminds me of my childhood days when you could go so high on the great swings with no worries about health and safety. The huge bonfire with fireworks to celebrate Guy Fawkes day was another enjoyable occasion shared by all villagers. A large circular race track for bikes was created by the boys where they competed against one another.

The southwest has fewer village greens than other areas of the country and so we should consider it a blessing along with the Fordland brook and the college, all special to Ide, and adding to the character of our village.

Typing out Sylvia's article, 'Ide Village Green' made me realise that although I had heard the word 'Butts' before, I didn't really know anything about them, and as it was pouring with rain and with nowhere to go, I did a quick Google search, which predictably turned into a long internet search. I then found my copy of 'A History of the People and Parish of Ide' by Donald Burnett and browsed happily through that.

I was reminded that in medieval times, when danger threatened, every able-bodied man was expected to come forward to defend their community or their country. Throughout most of these turbulent times the longbow was the weapon of choice.

The training required by an Archer to use the Medieval Longbow was extremely time consuming - it was necessary for them to develop the strength and stamina to draw the bow repeatedly. It is said that they could loose off as many as 12 arrows in a minute.

The skeletons of longbow archers are recognisably affected, with enlarged left arms and often bony outgrowths on left wrists, left shoulders and right fingers. Archers also of course, needed to become expert marksmen and to practise responding to the sequence of commands that meant they would send off their arrows synchronously in battle. The resultant 'blizzard' of flesh and armour piercing arrows must have been terrifying sight for their opponents.

It was the difficulty in using the longbow that led various monarchs of England to issue laws encouraging their ownership and practice. In 1252 the 'Assize of Arms' decreed that that every man between the age of 15 to 60 years old should equip themselves with a bow and arrows. A century later the archery Law of 1363 made it compulsory for Englishmen to practise their skills with the longbow every



Sunday. This law also abolished football 'and other vain games of no value! Other prohibited games included bowls, quoits, tennis....and we thought the restrictions of lockdown were harsh! I read somewhere that the archery laws have never actually been repealed but this appears to be untrue, which will no doubt come as a relief to all able-bodied men and boys in Ide, especially those who enjoy football.

Unsurprisingly, all this practising led to many accidents when people were hit by stray arrows, which presumably explains why archery butts were set up. Finally, in 1567 believing that Spain was about to invade, Queen Elizabeth ordered all parishes to draw up a list of able-bodied men between the ages of 16 and 60. Perhaps surprisingly considering the size of the village, there were just 31 names on Ide's list, 6 of whom were archers.

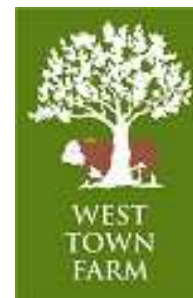
Thank you Sylvia for triggering a very enjoyable afternoon.

Ann Boyce



WEST TOWN FARM NEWS

As life begins to return to something close to normal, we've been coming up with ways to safely let people back on the farm. We want to be able to take advantage of the beautiful outdoor space we have here, while still complying with official guidelines. Keep an eye on our Facebook page as we reveal our 'Farm Picnic' ideas.



We are so thankful for the recent rainfall. Everything was becoming dangerously dry and the trees we planted back in February were really struggling. So much so that we had to take it in shifts watering them. They are all looking much stronger now with healthy looking leaf growth. We managed to make hay before the rains began as well.

Unfortunately, we've had a sad month in regards to the chickens on the farm. The fox got *all* of them. Such a shame. We are redesigning our chicken fencing and electrifying in hope to scare the fox off. We lost this battle, but we will win the war!

Our pigs have been moved into a bean field.

They are so happy and enjoying getting lost amongst the tall stalks. It's great for the pigs to have the space to graze.



The pumpkins and squash are growing nicely. Our Woofer Bonnie (who joined us just before lockdown) has been looking after them.

We are now stocking Taw River Dairy ice cream tubs. They are delicious and seem to be proving popular. Also, we have charcoal back in stock and our very own sausages and the usual cuts of Beef. All the necessary ingredients for a BBQ, ready for the return of the Summer weather.

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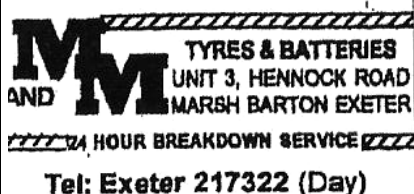
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