



# COUNTDOWN!

## **THE BURROW COMMUNITY SHOP AND CAFÉ TO OPEN SOON – THE COUNTRY’S ONLY UNDERGROUND SHOP**

The only underground shop in England, the new community shop and café in Exbourne, is to open next month, in the Queen’s Diamond Jubilee year . After more than ten years of hard work, fundraising, planning and building, the new shop and cafe will open on Monday, June 18<sup>th</sup> at 10.00 a.m. The Post Office facilities will open on Wednesday, June 27<sup>th</sup> at 10.00 a.m. The temporary shop in Exbourne Village Hall will close down for good on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> June.

### **Grand Opening Ceremony**

West Devon Member of Parliament Mel Stride will open The Burrow formally at 11.30 a.m. on Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> July. There will be jazz, free tastings of the local food on sale in the Burrow, food and drink and lots of photographs and fun! Watch out for further details in the media.

### **What’s available at the Burrow**

The Burrow will stock everything you expect to get at a well-stocked village shop, including newspapers and magazines, household goods, fresh fruit and vegetables, dairy produce, wines, spirits and tobacco, and local arts and crafts. But it will specialise in local food – local butter, milk and meat; cakes , biscuits

and pasties baked by local bakers, vegetables grown in and around Exbourne and Jacobstowe, and delicacies produced by local firms. Locally caught fish will be available on certain days.

The café will serve tea, coffee, and light snacks and refreshments, and there will be computers and printing facilities for those who want to use the internet.

## **Our new Manager**

Our new manager is Maria Weir from Brightley, who has wide experience in retail and catering. She is helping set up the shop as the build nears completion, and will be there to greet customers on June 18<sup>th</sup>. Bella Snook, who ran the temporary shop in the village hall so well, is moving to a new part-time job at Castle Drogo, which fits in with her other part-time job as Clerk of Drewsteignton Parish Council! We give Bella all our thanks and good wishes for the future.

## **The Build**

The following pictures show the way local builder Mark Hedges has brought the ambitious designs of Exbourne architect Steve Blakeman to fruition. There are more pictures available on our website, [www.theundergroundshop.co.uk](http://www.theundergroundshop.co.uk), and on the Exbourne and Jacobstowe section of the Hatherleigh community website, [www.hatherleigh.net/](http://www.hatherleigh.net/). Mark started the build in September last year, and completes it in a few weeks' time. Meanwhile local craftsman Mark Tungate is working on some of the shopfittings.





## **The Funding of The Burrow**

**The Burrow has been funded by generous grants from several organisations: The Big Lottery Local Food and Village SOS programmes, Devon County Council, the Plunkett and Trusthouse Foundations, the Tudor and Viscount Amory Trusts, Communitybuilding Fund and West Devon Borough Council. A very large contribution came from fundraising by the Exbourne and Jacobstowe Community Association (EJCAL), and local residents and businesses have made generous donations towards the fitting- out.**

**And remember – all profits from the shop will be reinvested in the community.**

### **Opening Hours**

**The Post Office in the Burrow will be open as follows:**

**Monday to Friday , 9.00 am to 5.00 pm  
Saturday 9.00 am to 1.00 pm**

**Full opening hours for the shop and café will be announced in due course.**

**As well as the services described above, it will also act as a collection point for dry-cleaning and prescriptions.**

## **The Café Space**

There will be exciting functions carried out in the café space, and it will be available for hire in the evenings. A full programme will be advertised shortly after opening.

## **Meanwhile, news from the temporary shop...**

### **La Dolce Vita**



Hardworking volunteers enjoyed the annual thank you event which was an evening of Italian food and fun in February, with lasagne, tiramisu and a challenging quiz.

**The Community Market and Big Breakfast** was held on Sat 10 December at the village hall featuring regular and guest suppliers, including Lovaton farm slow grown meat, Easterbrook Farm produce, West Country Woodland's eco Christmas trees, hand-made jewellery, home-made cakes, hand thrown pottery, and other seasonal specialities. Also, facepainting added to the sense of occasion!



**SEE YOU AT THE BURROW ON  
JUNE 18<sup>TH</sup>!**