

THE LATEST NEWS FROM Shallowford Farm

making the difference



We wish you a very blessed 2015

Autumn Beauties

Suddenly the temperature dropped, the skies cleared and the mist hung in the valley. What a beautiful time this is as we walk the farm feeding the animals early in the morning. Such beauty, such majesty, such a blessing - to share with our friends from London. God's creation truly is a glorious thing!



The carpenters came



In November we were very blessed with a work party of talented men who came and gave their time over one weekend. As they all had good carpentry skills we gave them a wish list "...and it was so..." The farm was buzzing with activity as they measured, cut, drilled and hammered. Each carpenter worked with a labourer on different projects with great precision, good humour and much banter.

At the end of the two days the Gloucester Old Spot pigs had a sturdy dry floor in each pig arc, giving them a warmer and dryer place to have their piglets; we have a brilliant bridge over the leat allowing us easier access to the pond and the pump house now has a door.

We are so very grateful to Phil, Malcolm, Slavik, Antony, Craig and Mark.

Christmas at the farm

The team from Providence had been working hard to produce ideas for a tree to be decorated in the theme of a country. They chose the Caribbean, made the decorations and together we produced a beautiful tree to add to the Christmas tree festival in Widecombe church. Then followed a weekend of celebrations with neighbours and volunteers with the girls sharing their thanks with them all. We spent time searching for "Stars" around the field, in the Christmas story and within the group looking to reveal the truths about Christmas. It was a really blessed time as they shared with each other around the fire.



Penny's Ponies



Penny is a delight. She has been here for years, is very elderly and very big! Since Netty died this last summer she has been on her own so we have been looking to find her some friends that will be company for her as well as smaller and more manageable for our guests. We have been blessed with two small Dartmoor ponies on loan from Charlotte at Corndonford. They are very cuddly, happy to be handled and they love carrots. Penny is still very much in charge!

Christmas Piglets

How many piglets can you count?

Our two sows have just produced 20 spotty piglets! There are actually 15 in this picture – imagine the washing!

Her friend is outside in the arc but quite happy with her 4 larger piglets. You noticed, $15+4=19$. One didn't make it, shame.

The plan is to wean them at 8 weeks and then sell them on at the end of February.

Three have been booked already so get your order in quick!



We are now on the World Wide Web

We have been working for some time to get a website together so that we can share the work of the Shallowford Trust far and wide. Please look us up and send the link to your friends and family. As always we would value your feedback, support and encouragement. Many thanks to Darren for his help and patience with us over this.

www.shallowfordfarm.co.uk



Planning ahead into the New Year

2015 is looking to be a busy year with eighteen different groups planned to visit the farm so far. There is a great variety of ages and needs included in the schedule: young people from 11-14, older teens from 14 upwards, boys and girls groups, working parties, women's groups, lads adventure weeks, team challenge time for the football team, training weekend for the Providence House volunteers, family holiday week, the Farm Country Fair and Widecombe Fair, young

adults work place taster time, and so much more planned to happen. We really value your prayerful support with these groups, any time that you can spare to volunteer and of course there is always the financial need that we constantly search for.

The vision of a farm where we can accommodate our guests is moving on and the outline plans are now with the Dartmoor National Park planning dept. Please pray that they are well received and pass through the system swiftly.

FUTURE DATES

23rd - 25th Jan
Providence House

Young people
looking into the
New Year

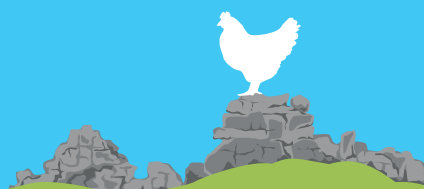
Thurs 29th Jan
7pm
Shallowford Prayer meeting

14th - 17th Feb
New visitors to the farm from Providence House

Thurs 26th Feb
7pm
Shallowford Prayer meeting

Prayer meetings at the farm

Following a year of prayer where we have seen great things happening, we have decided to move the monthly day to the last Thursday of the month rather than the Tuesday. I hope that you will be able to come and join this important time in the monthly calendar at the farm at the same time of 7pm.



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