



After selling Exeter International Airport last year for £60 million, Devon County Council has made available £48 million to enable hundreds of projects to take off. Here, *DevonTalk* features some of the initial beneficiaries from one-off cash grants in West Devon ...

### Youth services boosted in Tavistock

AROUND 1,700 young people aged 11 to 19 in the Tavistock area can look forward to a new venue developed in partnership with Young Devon.

A grant of £250,000 has been made for the delivery of a range of youth support services including positive activities to promote personal and social development, as well as services provided by the County Council's Youth Offending Team, Connexions and drug and alcohol services.

Tavistock County Councillor Roy Connelly said: "I am so pleased that part of the airport money will be used for youth services in Tavistock and its surrounding areas.

"This will make a major contribution to meeting the needs of young people. I applaud this imaginative initiative on the part of Devon County Council."

### Theatre group to get new kit

THE Phoenix Youth Theatre at Bridestowe will receive £5,000 to buy a movable stage, lighting, a CD player, props and stage make up.

The young people who make up the theatre group have found their self confidence, communication skills and self esteem have been increased through taking part in the performing arts.

# Cash for new roundabout is just magic

THE Sports and Community Centre at Lamerton, near Tavistock, has celebrated a welcome surprise – a £6,500 boost to buy new outdoor play equipment for young people.

The money – donated by Devon County Council from the sale of Exeter International Airport – has provided a roundabout for children who attend the Centre's play sessions.

The Centre also provides a range of educational and recreational activities for young people and adults, such as children's parties, play groups, pilates, yoga and

badminton as well as upholstery and needlework classes.

Local County Councillor Roy Connelly said: "The play equipment is desperately needed as some of the existing slides and swings are looking rather dated, so I know the parents and children will enjoy the new roundabout!"

Gerald Crump, the Centre's treasurer, said: "People come from far and wide to visit the centre as it is such a fantastic facility. The committee is made up of volunteer trustees and we very much rely on support from the local community."



Students at Okehampton College start work on the new community garden

### Garden will be a college workspace

A COMMUNITY garden is being created in the grounds of Okehampton College to encourage collaborative working between the students and the community.

An award of £50,000 has been made for the building of a permanent classroom and workspace. It is being designed by students from the college with the help of architect Tom Randall-Page.

### Encouraging exercise

ADULTS and children over the age of eight will soon have play and exercise equipment in Island Park at Hatherleigh.

The town has never had a play area for older children. Now £5,000 has been awarded towards the project and it is hoped that the equipment will encourage local people to take up more activities.

### Much warmer parish hall

THE Parish Hall in Germansweek has a new heating system thanks to a £3,150 grant. The old portable gas heaters have been replaced and the hall will now be able to be used throughout the year.

Extra use in the cold winter months will bring in much-needed revenue for the Parish Hall funds.



Young thespians from the Phoenix Youth Theatre

## £50k grant for innovative community shop and café

PLANS for an innovative community shop and café at Exbourne have moved a step closer to becoming reality after a £50,000 award from Devon County Council.

To be called The Burrow, the building will have an earth-sheltered design (see architect's drawing) that will complement the conservation status of the village and will be, as far as possible, environmentally sustainable.

The new shop and café will



become the heart of the community and will offer a range of services including internet access, sell local produce and rural crafts and provide support for the young, elderly, disabled and unemployed in the area.

Local County Councillor

James McInnes said: "The allocation of funds is a great start for the village to apply for funds from other sources. This community enterprise will become the heart of the area and the unique design is sure to be a local attraction."