

Wild Tipi - creating magic



Tim and Sam

Background

Imagine enjoying a scrumptious feast listening to live music, sitting at long wooden tables in a giant tent in the middle of a wood, with lots of sociable people and surrounded by garlands, fairy lights and a cosy log fire. This is the Wild Tipi feast night experience.

A Tipi (pronounced the same as teepee) is a giant tent with a conical tower supported by timbers, towering high into the sky. It can be pitched in many different configurations and multiple Tipis can be linked together to suit any size or type of event.

Wild Tipi was started in January 2017 by Tim Moore and his wife Sam. With 4 children they wanted to build a business where the family could be immersed in nature in all its glory. With Tim's background in construction and Sam's marketing expertise, Wild Tipi is a natural fit for the family who love to live and work in Cornwall.

"We are continuously amazed by how nature helps you switch off from the mundane and remember what is important in life. To us this is being with the ones that you love, make you happy and sharing good times together," Tim says.

Having an event in a giant Tipi means you can be close to nature and have a unique experience.

Driving home to Cornwall one afternoon Tim and Sam saw some Tipis in a field and this gave them the idea for their dream business. They purchased their first Tipi, of Scandinavian design, however to be able to transport it to events and create a bigger space they needed to purchase an additional Tipi and a trailer to transport it on.

This is where the Coast to Coast Local Action Group came in, helping Tim and Sam to secure a LEADER grant to help with this critical purchase. The grant helped them buy the second Tipi and a trailer and their business was ready to go on the road.

Tim said: "Without the LEADER funding there wouldn't be a business."

The Tipis are ideal for weddings as an alternative experience to a marquee, and with the connections forged by Wild Tipi they can offer a unique experience in an environment close to nature.

During December 2017 two Tipis have been erected in Cardinham Woods near Bodmin in Cornwall, creating a magical winter pop up restaurant to host fantastic feast nights to suit all tastes and pockets, ranging from a family feast night to a fine dining experience.



Tipi hire for weddings and events



Tipis ready for feast nights at Cardinham Woods

Wild Tipi now have 6 Tipis which can be linked together to create one of the largest outside venues in Cornwall. The plan is to do more feast nights in Cornwall to promote the business and to target the non-traditional wedding market.

Tim said: “We are about getting people out into nature; our current event is at Cardinham Woods but we also have contracts with the Forestry Commission at Cardinham, Natural England and the National Trust.”

The LEADER grant was a crucial step to help the business grow as they can now take the Tipis outside Cornwall. Without the trailer they could not be transported anywhere as they are 8.5 metres long.

For the feast nights Wild Tipi work with local caterers Pencoose Pantry and the generators are hired locally to power the lights and heaters. Music is provided by a Cornish duo, MacQuarrie and Toms, and all the products are locally sourced.

Labour for the feast nights is employed from the local area and next year Wild Tipi aim to take on another member of staff full-time.

Tim and Sam’s core values are helping people to be inspired by nature, to appreciate our environment, to love life, and be happy.

Tim said: “With a dedicated team we are able to hire bespoke spaces for weddings, parties, proms, festivals, corporate events, outdoor theatre, where opportunities are only limited by your imagination.”

Complete with open fires, wild flowers, fairy lights and lanterns, from the beach to the forests, Tipis are versatile and therefore perfect to hire for a wedding or special event.

Wild Tipi work with local businesses, producers and creators of magic and promise to deliver a bespoke event that will take your breath away and fill you with wonder.

Tim and Sam are passionate about protecting the environment and it is important that they source as many products as locally as they can, reducing delivery miles. The Tipi poles come from a sustainable forest management plan approved by the Forestry Stewardship Council (FSC) where new trees are replanted after being felled.

LEADER funding helped Tim and Sam at Wild Tipi fulfil their dream of building a business that can create unique events in natural environments, giving people a magical experience they will never forget.

Local Action Group Funding: £5,736

If you are interested in applying for LEADER funding visit www.localactioncornwall.co.uk

