

FAMILY FUN FARM IS BACK ON TV



SEASON'S GREETINGS:
The 45-year-old is back with an autumn series

'TERROR' VIDEO: Iqbal

Plea to attack city hall

AN Islamist extremist's video showed London's Royal Festival Hall with the message "attack, attack", a court heard.

Shehroz Iqbal, 28, is accused of encouraging terrorism by posting the mobile phone footage to a group of like-minded friends on WhatsApp.

Kate Wilkinson, prosecuting, told the Old Bailey that Iqbal was "volatile and prone to act in his extremism".

On March 11 he visited the Hayward Gallery on the South Bank, near the Royal Festival Hall.

He spent about an hour and-a-half at the art attraction and made the video for mates called From Dark To Light.

Ms Wilkinson said: "It was a calm video, it was short and its message was clear."

Iqbal, of Ilford, east London, denies encouraging terrorism.

A second charge relates to a propaganda video showing Islamic State fighters in 2015 and a dead body.

The trial continues.

STAR
A LIBRARY book, 57 years overdue, has finally been returned by a crafty bookworm who dodged a fine at Middlesbrough Central Library due to the coronavirus.

BURST

Spit job is jailed

AN angry man was Tasered in the testicles after spitting at police.

Officers used a battering ram to gain entry to Gary Bidmead's flat after he locked himself in.

The 47-year-old, who had been out drinking, was Tasered first in the chest, then in his testicles.

Bidmead, of Chesterfield, Derbys, who admitted assaulting emergency workers, was jailed at Derby Crown Court for four months.



Pictures: SAM RILEY



Jimmy's a tonic!

SAY what you like about guinea pigs – at least they always abide by the rules.

"The Groundhog Inn has been sticking strictly to the 10pm curfew," confirms Jimmy Doherty, who's built a little pub for the guinea pigs on his Suffolk farm. "And yes, they've all been following the rule of six."

Autumn At Jimmy's Farm, which starts tonight on Channel 4, is the follow-up to the series he made in the spring, showing us how his place was coping in the early days of lockdown.

The work was tough, especially with a skeleton staff and the sudden lack of visitors seemed to have freaked some of the animals out.

"The sheep, goats and donkeys, they're used to seeing lots of different people," Jimmy explains. "They're used to being petted and fed."

Village

"Our donkeys even come to recognise our regulars, so when we had to close to the public they looked particularly miserable."

Lockdown did have its plus points, mind. For one thing, Jimmy and his team could catch up on jobs they had been putting off. Revamping that guinea pig village (they like places to hide) featured high on their to-do list.

The result? Five highly desirable new houses ("I've even given them little wheelie bins outside..."), plus a church, hospital, castle – and yes, that guinea pig pub. "Oh, and we've also given them a circus now," adds Jimmy. One



THE MIKE WARD INTERVIEW
JIMMY DOHERTY
FARMER

creature the public won't be seeing, now they are back, is Jerry the alpaca.

"He's now the king stud at a breeding farm in Essex," Jimmy reveals.

But then some people may be glad to see the back of this creature – especially Jimmy's pal Paul.

"Paul's farm has lots of turkeys," he explains, "so I lent him Jerry to protect them. Alpacas make very good bodyguards."

"Unfortunately, Jerry head-butted Paul and broke his nose."

Also known for playing up, as regular viewers will recall, is Steve McQueen. Steve is a meerkat, so-named because he's forever breaking out of the enclosure, albeit rarely on a motorbike.

But the promising news is he may have mended his ways. "Steve seems to have given up trying to jump the fence," Jimmy reports. "The dominant female is going to give birth to a litter, so it seems he has a reason to stay home."

So does this mean he's finally accepting his domestic responsibilities?

"Well, let's see what happens when they're born, shall we?" suggests Jimmy. "Let's see if Steve sticks around."

● **Autumn At Jimmy's Farm starts tonight at 8pm on Channel 4.**

