



devon culture

Dan Coxon of the year old Dartington initiative Devon Artsculture, is proud of what he and colleagues have already achieved in one year. "But," he says, "the project won't be resting on its laurels in 2006. The economic importance of the cultural sector has at last become widely recognised, and you will see Devon Artsculture becoming an integral part of creative enterprise work locally, growing the art, craft and music industries of our region."

Devon Artsculture is bringing an exciting range of opportunities to the County's creative industries. This £1million plus progressive programme supports all types of creative businesses in rural areas of Devon, and is a partnership between Devon County Council, Beaford Arts and Dartington Plus. It is supported by a grant of more than £500,000 from the European Regional Development Fund. The success of its first anniversary reception at the Great Barn, near Ashton, proved that Devon Artsculture is now a driving force in Devon's arts economy. Over 100 practitioners attended, together with senior representatives from Devon County Council and Culture South West and key personnel from the other cultural industries throughout Devon and beyond.

A range of outstanding practitioners had volunteered to entertain guests in a representative showcase of work across the art

overleaf >



a Devon Artsculture premiere

new year honours

Dartington's potter, **Marianne de Trey** (right), received a CBE in the New Year's honours for services to the arts. "I only knew about it shortly before the New Year," says Marianne, "and I have no idea who recommended me. People have been wonderful: I have received many cards and good wishes, and even been stopped in the street in Totnes by well wishers."

Marianne says that she is the only remaining founder member of the Devon Guild of Craftsmen, this year celebrating its 50th anniversary since its creation in 1956. For a long time the Guild existed in the form of an annual summer exhibition, until with the majority of members wanting a permanent home for the Guild, the capital was found to buy Riverside Mill at Bovey Tracey some 20 years ago.

The Guild is now the South West's largest contemporary craft centre with work selected from over 240 designer/makers, many with national and international reputations. A registered charity with educational

aims, it promotes public appreciation and awareness of crafts to maintain the highest standards of craftsmanship. In addition to exhibitions and



associated events, it undertakes a large number of artist residencies in schools and colleges throughout the area reaching over 3000 children annually.

Marianne will be holding a retrospective exhibition at Riverside Mill in 2007. The date celebrates 60

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devon artsculture

forms. These included the premiere of a collaboration between two exciting talents: Samuel Yeboah, Ghanaian drummer now based in Totnes, and Malawian born dancer Andigwa, now based in Bideford. This spellbinding performance promised to be the first of many appearances together.

Artists from the burgeoning arts community on Dartmoor displayed a range of interesting work including the dynamic young sculptor Matt Chivers and his two "mentees". The enterprising couple Peter and Sue Bennett, who have benefited from Devon Artsculture's seminars, are now re-opening their Studio Gallery near Chagford to show their photography and poetry.

RAMP, whose latest range of attractive domestic ceramics were displayed at the event, have successfully relocated from London to Devon, where Devon Artsculture has helped them consolidate their business.

Practitioners spoke of their appreciation of the organisation's diverse activities. The opportunities to connect with other artists have encouraged groups of like-minded and complementary practitioners to create artistic communities where, until now, many have felt isolated.

Chairman of Devon County Council, Cllr Des Shadrack, said of the celebration at the Great Barn, "The range of artistic talent on display was truly outstanding. I wish you well for the future. There is now common

acceptance that the arts can be a key driver in respect of economic regeneration, so your work is of increasing importance."

Small businesses, start-ups, individuals and creative freelancers can all take advantage of the programme's work. Qualifying businesses benefit from a bespoke package of support with the result that Devon Artsculture's work is as diverse as the artists who have signed up. Professional and business development is taking place through seminars, workshops and surgeries, marketing support and advice, a multi-functional website, networking sessions, mentoring and practitioner led project work, and performance events, exhibitions and sales are supported. "The only thing that we don't do," says Dan, "is give out grants."

At the end of its first year Devon Artsculture can celebrate all this, including that 500 plus creative businesses have signed up, projects with young people set up, and in excess of 50 rural touring events and workshops supported. In addition the last year has seen three documentary films by young and talented local film makers commissioned.

In the coming year beneficiaries can take advantage of an expanded seminar and workshop programme, with the addition of a national 'trade show' bursary scheme, rural touring opportunities in partnership with community organisations such as Villages In Action and Village Voice, and an international cultural exchange programme. Also available will be enhanced support for young and

emerging artists highlighting the arts as a viable and realistic career path, working with some of the County's leading sixth form 'arts' departments, and the development of a new community festival for Totnes with Devon Artsculture as the facilitator and driving force.

Matt Griffiths, Development Director of parent body Dartington Plus, says, "Devon Artsculture has got off to a fantastic start in its first year, working very quickly to offer a range of support services to artists based in rural Devon. We are looking forward to further growth, particularly in terms of raising Devon's national profile as a hugely creative county and working with the developing Arts Park project at Dartington."

some events for 2006 supported by Devon Artsculture:

26 May for two weeks: **exhibition** by 15 artists and crafts people, RHS Rosemoor Gardens :

Beaford Arts 40th anniversary celebrations:

special programme of activities; plus a new, versatile outdoor space where artists can work together and, in the summer, performances can take place.

6 -16 September: The inaugural Totnes Festival:

a celebration at this exceptional centre and its environs kicks off with a **food and drink festival (6-7 September)**.

Events are also coming up throughout the county organised by individual artists covering a variety of innovative crafts. Details: www.devonartsculture.co.uk; **Dan Coxon, Communications Officer 01803 849375; d.coxon@dartingtonplus.org.uk**

marianne de trey cbe

years since Marianne's arrival at Dartington in 1947, when she and husband Sam Haile took over the pottery and 'cabin', both built by Bernard Leach before the war. With the sudden death of Sam in 1949, Marianne resolutely carried on with the pottery, producing domestic earthenware. Taking on student apprentices, she worked first in slip decorated and tin-glazed earthenware, then stoneware and, more latterly, in porcelain with lustre and celadon glazes.

Among her students were Colin Kellam, Andrew Hague and Jennie Hale. Some of her apprentices have returned to see her to tell her how helpful she was to them, how,

although quite 'tough' with them at the time, later in life they appreciated how necessary that was if they were going to make a living at it. She speaks particularly warmly of Colin Kellam. Whilst working with her he built a wood kiln that they used for some years.

Marianne, of course, is very sad that the pottery is closing just as her life's work is being celebrated. But her own workshop will remain, as well as the area where Bernard Leach originally worked. "The Dartington estate," she says, "has been a wonderful place to live and work. Throughout the years I have been witness to a variety of stimulating events, and it's because of that I've stayed and worked here."

One of these events was the International Conference of Craftsmen in Pottery and Textiles held at the Hall

in 1952, attended by crafts people from Europe, Africa and Japan, mostly at Bernard Leach's invitation. "It was remarkable for me – especially as I met Japanese potters Hamada and Yanagi for the first time."

As well as next year's exhibition at Bovey Tracey, another is to be held at the Bristol Guild, initiated by director, Ken Stradling. "Ken was one of my first customers in around 1950. Later he was brought to Dartington when the Cider Press Centre needed a consultant."

Although she admits that she doesn't take part in as many events as she used to on the estate, Marianne has said before that 'a potter never retires' and this award, a prestigious recognition of her work and influence, might help to ensure that she doesn't!



sounds good at colston hall

Another initiative that started under the Trust's Dartington Plus department's umbrella, is South West Sound. Their third community music convention takes place this year from 24 to 28 April 2006 in Bristol and at Dartington.

This unique, five-day event mixes guest speakers, seminars, workshops and networking to provide almost 1000 delegates with practical and strategic skills, professional development opportunities and the chance to share ideas and forge new contacts. The event attracts speakers and presenters working at the cutting edge of their field, who provide nationally significant examples of best practice. Contributors to this year's convention include musician and composer Evelyn Glennie, Glastonbury Festival founder Michael Eavis, BBC Radio 3 broadcaster Stephanie Hughes,

Jazz Summers of Big Life Management, Professor Paul Robertson of Music Mind Spirit, and the Undertones frontman, Feargal Sharkey.

South West Sound is the definitive music event for people working throughout the music world, including musicians, educators, promoters, agents, directors, programmers and community groups. This year, South West Sound is taking place at Colston Hall, Bristol, as well as its original home of Dartington Hall, with live music and showcases being held on both sites. Adrian Bossey, Head of Enterprise at Dartington Plus and the event's organiser, explains, "Following the huge success of South West Sound in Devon in the last two years, we are now working with Colston Hall to reach more of the musical community and to welcome more organisations from across the industry, in order to inform, advocate

and develop the music economy in the South West of England, across all aspects of professional practice."

Graeme Howell, Director of Colston Hall, said that they are immensely pleased to have the opportunity of working in partnership with Dartington Plus to bring the definitive South West music conference to Bristol. "For anyone in the music world, this event is not to be missed."

Ian Smith of The Edge Music Project in Plymouth, a delegate at the 2005 convention, found the three days of South West Sound he attended, the people he met and the seminars he took part in, truly outstanding. "The benefits to me as a musician and music educator are already tangible," he says.

The Dartington aspect of the event takes place over three days from 26th to 28th April, with concerts each evening in the Great Hall and nightly music showcases by local bands and artists taking place at KEVICC. A series of music-related films will also screen in the Barn Cinema. Again from Adrian Bossey, "We are very keen to enable people in the South West, who often work in geographically isolated areas, to be able to meet together and find out more about what's out there."

For more details on the South West Sound 2006 programme, or to book a place, visit www.southwestsound.org.uk.

arts park update

The recent market research phase of the scoping study, which looked at the need for an Arts Park at Dartington, came up with positive results. There is a good demand for a unique rural enterprise scheme of this nature, partly due to: the need for facilities for the rapidly growing creative sector; better support in order to develop; the area is already a creative hotspot; national and regional strategic agendas that point to creative incubator development at higher education institutes (HEIs), and the need for intervention in rural areas.

Various consultations, surveys, and research took place to establish the strengths and weaknesses of this concept. On the plus side: the existing infrastructure at Dartington with its reputation for creative business support, innovation, and excellence in the arts; links with the education sector at all levels; access to land and buildings suitable for conversion; commitment to green policies; an

inspiring rural location; proximity to a town centre and intercity rail connections, and that the estate fits in with current national and regional strategic developments.

The scheme could also increase the number of graduates choosing to stay and work in the area, attract creative entrepreneurs to relocate, encourage better links between higher education and creative industry across the South West, and enhance Dartington's profile as a strong business and enterprise centre. Other findings were that the immediate area is seen as a successful rural crescent with the hotspots of Dartington and Totnes; that there are over 8000 creative businesses in Devon, employing 21,000, a quarter being established in the last five years; 15% of the population have moved to the region for quality of life reasons, and markets and purchasing are predominantly local.

The highest rural levels of creative employment, it was revealed, are in the South Hams. Facilities for the Arts Park should include units for both start up

and established businesses, shared front line resources, a public cafe, public art, Broadband, legal advice re intellectual property and copyright, IT support and financial advice. Parking was seen as critical!

The market research identified that creative businesses often feel isolated so would relish the chance to work together as a creative cluster. It also identified current weaknesses at Dartington, i.e. existing buildings require expensive adaptation; estate tenants, in contradiction to green policies, are mainly dependent on car transport; the obvious risks in a new business venture; and a rural based 'incubator' is largely an untested concept.

In summary, the market research carried out by ABL Cultural Consulting, overall identified a strong need for Dartington Arts Park. The next phase of the scoping study will look at building options, IT infrastructure and Business Planning to raise capital funds for the first phase.

Now, watch this space!

new book from schumacher

Schumacher College's **Stephan Harding**, publishes his new book, *Animate Earth*, in March.



In *Animate Earth* Stephan Harding (left) explores how Gaian science can help us to develop a sense of connectedness with the world.

His work is based on a careful

integration of rational scientific analysis with our intuition, sensing and feeling - a vitally important task at this time of severe ecological and climate crisis. Stephan replaces the cold, objectifying language of science with a way of



speaking of our planet as a sentient, living being, rather than as a dead, inert mechanism. In this sense, the book is a contemporary attempt to rediscover anima mundi (the soul of the world) through Gaian science, whilst assuming no prior knowledge of science.

Animate Earth argues that we need to establish a right relationship with the planet as a living entity in which we are indissolubly embedded - and to which, in the final analysis, we are all accountable. The book inspires the reader to connect with a profound sense of the intrinsic value of the Earth, and to discover what it means to live as harmoniously as possible within a sentient creature of planetary proportions.

This is what reviewers have said:

"*Animate Earth* represents systems science at its best... gives a whole new dimension to what 'environment-friendly' really means." Jonathon Porritt

"This is a wonderful and beautiful book, a teacher's treasure." James Lovelock

"Stephan Harding is one of the few people who knows how to link the science of Gaia with the spirit of Gaia... A brave book." Professor Peter Reason, University of Bath

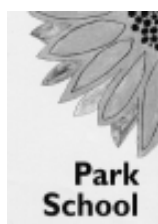
college audit success

The Dartington College of Arts has been awarded the highest level rating in its recent Quality Assurance Agency (QAA) Audit for Higher Education, the equivalent to the OFSTED inspection in schools. This significant achievement will assist in the College's bid to have its own taught degree awarding powers.

correction page 4 of the Dec '05/ Jan '06 Estate newsletter, re the graduation ceremony, features a photograph of Kristine Stiles and her former tutor Professor Gustav Metzger, not, as stated, Rob la Frenais. Gustav himself was honoured in 2001, returning for the graduation ceremony ever since.

trees for air miles

The Dartington Hall Trust has introduced a new trees for air miles scheme. Any member of staff can volunteer to donate £1 for each hour of air travel, whether the trip is made for business or pleasure. Donations by staff, or others, can be made via www.dartingtonhall.org.uk - fundraising, or via Joanne Crocker on 01803 847000.



News from **Park School**

Jerry Hawley-Higgs,
Teacher in Charge,
writes

The first crocuses are just appearing here at Park School. The bright yellows and purples emerging from the cold, dark earth reminding us that spring is once again returning.

It is often truly wonderful to see young children growing and learning, exploring their worlds and their relationship to the wider world. This can really only flower in the right conditions in much the same way as a plant can only grow when given the right amount of water, soil and sunlight. Children too, need a rich, supportive environment. They also need understanding, which means adults

who are able to put aside their own worlds and step into the world of the child. They need unconditional acceptance for who and what they are and they need an environment where they can explore and learn about the world. They need opportunities to express themselves and to be heard. They need room to run, exercise, play games and have fun. Here at Park most of these conditions are met most of the time and it is wonderful to see how much joy and growth there is when this occurs.

Last term we studied the Egyptians with the older children. This culminated in a fantastic performance in the Hexagon building near Park School. It was wonderful to use this space again that was used before the alterations. It was also great to be able to use all the sound and



The first crocuses at Park

light systems that are now in place. Around 150 parents and friends attended the event and we even made a DVD of the play.

Right at the end of term Father Christmas visited and gave all the children presents and we had a successful Christmas Fayre with lots of craft-making stalls, a raffle and lots of good food to eat as well as performances by children and parents.

Lescaze lives!

William Lescaze, the Swiss-American architect responsible for the Modernist buildings on the Dartington Hall Estate, would have been pleased to know that 70 years after local prejudice of the 'un-Englishness' of his houses in Torbay, put a stop to his part in a housing development, another has recently been built there in his style and won a prestigious award for it! The house on the Churston estate, was the winner in the 'Best Small Home' category of The Daily Telegraph Homebuilding and Renovating Magazine Awards 2005.

Peter and Betty Jolley, who live in what was the first house built on the estate to Lescaze's design - the 'show house' - have built themselves a new home in the garden in a similar style. Architect Daniel Metcalfe of local practice BBH Chartered Architects, was assigned the project. He completed his Masters' dissertation on Lescaze from the University of Bath, visiting the Dartington Hall Trust Archive for research in 2001. He was very excited when he was given the opportunity to take this further in building a brand new house for the Jolleys in the 1930s Modernist style.

Ten of Lescaze's houses were built at Churston and of those, only six as they were originally intended. After 1935, Louis de Soissons, architect of Dartington's Huxhams Cross and Broom Park estates, worked on the Churston development. He was joined in 1958 by Oswald Milne, architect of several buildings on the



Betty and Peter Jolley with their new Modernist home

estate, including Foxhole, and together they populated the road down to Broadsands Beach with pitched, rather than flat roofs. A new community stretching to nearby Elberry Cove, with shops, garages, a private lido and club, and a luxury hotel all designed by Lescaze, was not realised. Had it been it may well have been one of the most ambitious Modernist housing developments in Britain.

Not content with just living in Modernist houses, the Jolleys also spend time at Lescaze's first Dartington commission, High Cross House, where they are volunteers!

Footnote: The original show house, home of Peter and Betty Jolley, is on the market for £325,000. Details: 01803 842663.

If you would like to be a volunteer at High Cross House and the Archive, contact the Editor.



Part of Lescaze's design for Churston (The Dartington Hall Trust Archive)

purpose and values

The Dartington Hall Trustees recently updated their purpose and values statement. Dartington is defined as an international centre for the generation and application of new ideas in the arts, ecology and social justice.

A fuller statement of this in the next newsletter.

sustainability charter

The Trust has introduced a sustainability charter as follows:

'The Dartington Hall Trust recognises the reality of a growing environmental crisis with significant social and economic implications. The Trust will respond to this issue through its own programme of educational and research activities, notably Schumacher College, Eco-Watch and its woodland management and habitat schemes. It will also endeavour to improve its own practices as a Trust and within each department in terms of environmental, social and economic sustainability.'

With effect from the new financial year, each department will set targets for improving sustainability. In addition an audit is to be commissioned, to find out how sustainable the estate currently is, and, therefore, assist departments in setting realistic and effective targets in future.

mission statement

A number of plans are currently on the boil at Dartington, or being progressed, and in dealing with these developments, The Dartington Hall Trust have identified a number of strategic aims to measure progress against for the next two years.

These are: to create a national centre of excellence in music and the arts; to set up a rural arts park to support sustainable employment for creative talent; to inspire new thinking founded on an ecological world-view; to expand the range and scope of research utilisation in social justice services; to develop a residential fellowship programme; to support a third craft education service at Dartington; and to encourage sustainable land use projects on the Dartington estate.

Practical measures are also being put in place in order to realize all this.

letters

to the editor

early memories

I found the latest edition of the newsletter very interesting. I came to Dartington as a pupil when I was ten, the term before the School moved into Foxhole (1932 or '33), so was one of the first pupils there. I remember making the curtains for my room with Bridget Edwards, as we were allowed to choose our own material. I was there until 1938, as was my sister Cleone who'd joined me in about 1936, when she was in the Boarding Houses. We left then as my parents bought a new house and felt they couldn't afford the fees. I then spent two years at a girls day school while Cleone had lessons with a friend whose mother was a teacher. She always longed to go back to Dartington, so after taking her School Certificate, returned. She was there when all the American troops were there and recollects having to go to Buckfastleigh to fetch some medicine as she was the oldest pupil, so the article on Dartington in the war was especially interesting for us both.

I also have memories of the Jooss Ballet, and also of doing book binding up in a room at the Hall in the tower and still have the book I made.

I was also interested in the article about robins as I was one of the pupils who took part in David Lack's observations.

Pamela Milward, Dawlish

Do you remember this American from 60 years ago?



Cornelius Joseph Doyle
Great Neck, Long Island, New York,
stationed England, WWII, Airforce



trace my Dad?"

Can anyone help, please?

Ann Cripps, Trustee, Dartington Rural Archive

Editor: Please note that the Dartington Rural Archive is quite separate from The Dartington Hall Trust's own Archive, based at High Cross House. The DRA are now above the Tourist Information Centre, adjacent to Morrison's car park, Totnes. www.dartingtonruralarchive.org.uk, 01803 865578. The Dartington Hall Trust Archive www.dartingtonarchive.org.uk 01803 864114.

Cornelius J. Doyle (right)

It was very interesting to read the piece in the Estate Newsletter about the Americans who were here 60 years ago. By chance I met a group of Americans in the Seven Stars in Totnes (who wanted to play with my spaniel 'Winston'). I asked them why they were in Totnes and Denise Felice told me that she was trying to trace her father who was here in WWII. As it was just before Christmas and they were only here for a short time, I offered to help via our Rural Archive and mentioned the piece in the Trust Estate Newsletter and promised to send one to Florida.

I have sent Denise a copy of the Estate Newsletter and quote from her e-mail, "It was a pleasure to meet you and speak with you. It really made my visit very special. My Dad meant the world to me and I love being connected to his past, especially the WWII era of which he spoke and sang so often. Here is my Dad's info and photographs.

"His nick names were Connie, Joe, Sunny, his air force dog tag 32625025-T43-43B. His parents were born in County Kerry, Ireland and moved to NY, America before his birth. My Dad married an Italian lady and had three children. Heartbreakingly, my Dad died in 1963 when I was 7 years old. As life goes the Italian side of the family did not like the Irish side and via court battles took us away from my Dad's side of the family. When I became 30 years old my cousin located my address and united my siblings and me back with my Dad's side of the family, but unfortunately many of his relatives have passed away and much of the family history has been lost. I am trying to locate Dad's three letters sent from England to home to his Mom during WWII. I put them in a safe spot during the hurricane season (Denise lives in Florida and had her roof blown off). I can't find them now. In the letters he mentions watching the movie 'Lassie Come Home' and his walks in the countryside. Would it be possible for the historical society to

environmental crisis

Another way of looking at the environmental crisis: our food supply is totally reliant on annual plant cycles. For instance, apple trees produce one crop a year no matter where in the world they are grown. There are not limitless amounts of fresh food available, let alone discussions on local production, time of harvest, etc. The plant's ability to produce viable open pollinated seed is a natural cycle under threat. It takes the plant significant time and energy to produce 'good' seed. This means if I am selecting and sowing my own vegetable seed and the supermarket shelves empty overnight, someone who raids my walled garden for food will not distinguish between seed for next year's planting and survival, or the immediate need for the next meal. How secure is your food supply?

Mary Bartlett, Dartington Hall

playgoers celebrate

The Playgoers Society of Dartington Hall celebrates its 60th anniversary this year with a number of events. Their ever popular summer Shakespeare production will be *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, taking place on the Private Lawn from 16 to 24 June. The play, directed this time by Leon Winston, was also their first outdoor garden production in 1974.

Other events include the rehearsed readings of two new works, and a celebration at Bogan House, Totnes, from 15 to 18 February, featuring excerpts from plays presented by the Society between 1946 and 1975. The Society was formed in December 1946, with members drawn from the locality, as well as from the estate, with performances in the Barn Theatre.

Membership/events: 01803 868486
www.playgoers.co.uk; playgoers@virgin.net,

tribute concert for larry

A concert was given in November last in the Great Hall in memory of Larry Hayek who died suddenly on 15 July 2004 on his 70th birthday. Larry, a great supporter of the arts at Dartington, was a member of the Arts Society and also of the Dartington Community Choir. His widow Esca, remains strongly involved with both organisations.

The Hayeks' daughter, Catherine, and her former teacher, violinist Nona Liddell, gave outstanding performances at the concert of the double violin concertos by Bach and Vivaldi. They played under conductor Simon Ible, with the Ten Tors Orchestra, the South West's foremost professional chamber orchestra. The leader was Malcolm Latchem.

The orchestra also performs new music, and included in the concert was *Whispering, clamouring*, a new work by Jonathan Pitkin, three of whose most recent works were broadcast on BBC radio 3 in 2004. Jonathan had been teaching at the College of Arts that day and some of his students were present in the audience.

obituary

Barbara Jewell died on the 29 November, aged 96. Barbara came to Dartington in 1929 as a shorthand typist, then after the war took over the management of the Dartington Hall Retail Shop at Shinnars Bridge (the building now houses Tridias). At the time of her retirement in 1976, the April *Dartington Voice* noted that she made the shop 'in terms of return on capital invested, the most successful investment the Trust have ever made in local enterprise'. She kept up her shorthand as minutes secretary from 1945 for the then Dartington Hall Cattle Breeding Centre, carrying on in this role after her retirement.

From Trustee, Kate Caddy
I was very saddened to hear of Barbara's death. For me, it is a sad fact that I am probably the only Dartington Hall Trustee who not only knew Barbara, but also who knows and values highly the unique and lasting contribution Barbara made to the Trust: I'm quite convinced that without Barbara's earlier initiatives and flair we would not have our current good fortune – the Cider Press Centre.

My first memories of Barbara go back to the very early 1960s, when as a pupil at Aller Park it was the greatest treat of the term to be taken to the teashop at Shinnars Bridge. The



l-r: Barbara Jewell receiving 25 year long service award from Dorothy Elmhirst, Foundation Day 11 June, 1955 (Photo: The Dartington Hall Trust Archive)

best-ever scrambled eggs and the roaring log fire are indelible memories. We were an unruly and scruffy bunch of youngsters and I have to say that, at the time, we were quite scared of Barbara – we rarely came across adults who demanded of us good manners in the company of others!

Later, the Retail Shop drew me like a magnet. I was a big fan of the dresses designed by Laura Ashley, at that time young and unknown, which Barbara had so shrewdly purchased.

From Marianne's pots and Dougie's bowls to the rush matting and Dartington Tweed rugs, as a teenager I bought presents at the Retail Shop and, later furnished my homes. Barbara's 'eye' for the well-crafted, the unusual and the tempting, was unique and, to me, inspirational and irresistible. And she was no longer scary! Quite the opposite, she was both friendly and interested in how I was doing in the big wide world and always refreshingly straightforward in her outlook.

In more recent years, when coming across Barbara in Totnes or at Dartington events we would enjoy a few moments of reminiscence but she was always, like me, keener to talk about the present and the future. And, my goodness, what a fit and feisty older lady she was – once again, an inspiration. I will greatly miss our encounters and will always be grateful to have known Barbara – a truly remarkable woman.

George Little writes 'a few thoughts about Barbara and how she influenced our lives at Dartington'

I remember what a kind welcome she gave me when I started

employment with the Dartington Hall Trust in 1946. With my colleague, Harold Crimp, I used to be invited regularly to supper at her home in Maudlin Road. I visited her regularly at her office, either at the Central Offices, the Shinnars Bridge Tearooms or the Retail Shop, to collect the minutes of the meetings of the Board of Management of Dartington Hall Cattle Breeding Centre, as Barbara was the minute taker at the quarterly meetings for nearly 50 years. My boss, Jock Currie, was the secretary to the Board of Management, and my task was to prepare for the quarterly meetings. It was hard work getting the minutes in time because of all of Barbara's other work.

I worked with Barbara on various voluntary committees in the village and on the Estate. For both the Dartington Hall Estate Committee and the Sickness and Benevolent Fund, there were regular spring and autumn sales, to raise funds for retired employees in particular. Barbara was a great organiser, and even with failing health in the '90s, turned up with regular contributions to the various stalls - and to buy. On the Parish Council she did good work for parishioners, it was a great disappointment to her when she was not re-elected after her four year term on the council, as she was not well known by Dartington parishioners - in contrast to the Estate.

Barbara was very proud of her home in Week, the Old Church House, which had been one of the feoffees' properties. She brought it up to date and I recall many committee meetings held there, with Barbara's accustomed hospitality.

garden charity days

The Dartington Hall Gardens will be open in support of the National Gardens Scheme on Sunday, 21 May and Sunday, 11 June, with donations going to this scheme.

Gardens Manager, Graham Gammin, is also organising a guided tour of the Hall and Gardens on the morning of Sunday, 25 June, in aid of the 'perennial' charity, Gardeners Royal Benevolent Society. Like the NGS this is a charity that was very close to Leonard and Dorothy Elmhirsts' hearts, back in the days when it was known as 'Gardeners Sunday' and this year will be the charity's 50th celebration.

cider press centre opening times

The Cider Press Centre reopens its doors on a Sunday from the 26 March, *Mothering Sunday*. Opening times will be 10.30 to 17.30. The Sunday opening continues until Christmas.

Entertainment is laid on again during the school half term from Saturday 18 to Saturday 25 February.

Look out for the new restaurant currently under construction!



Schumacher College wednesday open evenings

15, 22 February;
8, 15, 22 March;
26 April; 3, 10 May

Courses

5-24 Feb Development: Holy Grail or Poisoned Chalice? Hugh Brody, Vandana Shiva, Arturo Escobar

Explores the notion that society moves from a 'primitive' state of 'under-development' to a more desirable state of modernity, encompassing capitalism, representative democracy and industrialisation, and the diverse movements which are resisting being 'developed'.

5-24 March Food, Health and Society Colin Spencer, Aileen Robertson, Tim Lang, Patrick Holden, Cinzia Scaffidi

Looking at the relationship between food and power throughout the history of civilisations, and examines nutrition, health and food policy in modern times, including world issues and the role of the government in tackling food and health issues.

dartington arts/dartington plus **EVENTS**

ICEBREAKER CONCERT Tue 28 February, 8:00pm, Studio 1, £7.00, Concessions £6.00, Students & Young People £5.00.

JAMES LOVELOCK - AN ART AND ECOLOGY LECTURE Fri 3 March, 8:00pm, Barn Theatre, £6.00. (see below re book signing)

DAVID OWEN NORRIS & SONNERIE - MUSIC IN THE ROUND CONCERT Tue 7 March, 7:30pm, Great Hall, £12.50, Concessions £11.50, Students & Young People £5.00, Family (2 adults, 2 children) £17.50, One adult, one child £12.50

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE - GENTLE GIANT Thu 9 March, performance at 7:00pm, family workshop at 5.45pm, Sat 11 March, performance at 10.30am, Ariel Centre, KEVICC, Dartington. Based on the book by Michael Morpurgo, Gentle Giant is an enchanting new opera for children (aged 7+) and adults to enjoy together. Children must be accompanied by adults! £7.50, Concessions £6.50, Students & Young People £5.00, Family workshop £3.00 per person

GOB SQUAD - ILLUSTRATED LECTURE Mon 13 March, 8:00pm, Studio 1
Gob Squad start their week long residency with an illustrated lecture, drawing on eleven years of producing, making and performing collective art. £6.00 to public; Students free

RICHARD RODNEY BENNET - A CABARET PERFORMANCE Sun 19 March, 7:30pm, Great Hall, £12.50, Concessions £11.50, Students & Young People £5.00.

ORCHESTRA OF THE SWAN - A CLASSICAL CONCERT Wed 22 March, 7:30pm, Great Hall. One of the country's leading composers, Errollyn Wallen and cellist and singer Matthew Sharp are helping the young people of KEVICC to create new music and present it with Orchestra of the Swan and Dartington Arts. £16.00, Concessions £15.00, Students & Young People £5.00

BRITTEN SINFONIA and JOANNA MACGREGOR - BACH MEETS MOONDOG Wed 11 April, 7:30pm, Great Hall. The Bach Meets Moondog programme is a revival of Britten Sinfonia's 2003 tour Art of Fugue, in collaboration with Joanna MacGregor. £20.00, Concessions £19.00, Students & Young People £5.00

GAVIN BRYARS - A CONCERT AS PART OF SOUTH WEST SOUND Wed 26 April, 8:00pm, Great Hall, £12.50, Concessions £11.50, Students/Young People £5.00

POLAR BEAR - A CONCERT AS PART OF SOUTH WEST SOUND Thu 27 April, 8:00pm, Great Hall. £12.50, Concessions £11.50, Students & Young People £5.00

SHOW OF HANDS - A CONCERT AS PART OF SOUTH WEST SOUND Fri 28 April, 8:00pm, Great Hall. £15.00, Concessions £14.00, Students & Young People £5.00

ORCHESTRA OF THE AGE OF ENLIGHTENMENT - CLASSICAL CONCERT Thu 4 May, 7:30pm, Courtyard. £16.00, Concessions £15.00, Students & Young People £5.00

FRITJOF CAPRA - ARTS AND ECOLOGY LECTURE Wed 10 May, 8:00pm, The Barn, £6.00

TANGO SIEMPRE - NEW DIRECTIONS IN TANGO Fri 12 May, 8:00pm, Great Hall. A radical new collaboration between the acclaimed tango ensemble Tango Siempre and some of Europe's most innovative creative musicians, including saxophonist Gilad Atzmon and drummer Steve Argüelles. £12.50, Concessions £11.50, Students & Young People £5.00

VERONIKA SHOOT - PIANO RECITAL Sun 14 May, 7:30pm, Great Hall, J S Bach, Haydn, Mendelssohn and others. £7.00, Concessions £6.00, Students & Young People £5.00

COMMUNITY CHOIR - BERLIOZ AND KODALY Sat 20 May, 7:30pm, Great Hall, Berlioz's first large scale work, the mass Messe Solennelle, and Kodály's brilliant and extrovert Te Deum. £12.00, Concessions £11.00, Students & Young People £5.00

KOKORO - EIGHT CENTURIES OF MUSIC Mon 22 May, 8:00pm, Great Hall. £12.50, Concessions £11.50, Students & Young People £5.00

Dartington Plus www.dartingtonplus.org.uk; Dartington Arts www.dartingtonarts.org.uk
Box office 01803 847070, and for the cinema programme

european film support

Colin Orr, the Trust's Film Programmer and Barn Manager, has secured the Dartington film programme being recently accepted onto the Europa Cinemas initiative, which includes only 33 cinemas in the UK. Europa Cinemas provides core funding to support the film programme, provided that an annual target of 520 screenings is maintained, with 25% devoted to children's films produced from EU countries outside the UK. The organisation is a Pan-European support network for cinemas.

The articles and opinions in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the policies of The Dartington Hall Trust.

special author event

Professor James Lovelock

Environmental scientist, James Lovelock, discusses the difficult message of his new book, *The Revenge of Gaia*, which explores how we have pushed Gaia beyond the point where self-regulation is possible, thereby risking the existence of our world. Now, he argues that the only route is to embrace and develop new technology. Organised by Totnes Bookshop, the book will be on sale in the Roundhouse, coinciding with his talk in the Barn Theatre on Friday, 3 March at 8pm. Price £16.99, published by Penguin Allen Lane, James Lovelock will be signing copies.

News/Letters/Small ads.

Editor, Yvonne Widger,

c/o High Cross House, Dartington Hall
T 01803 864114 F 01803 867057
email: y.widger@dartingtonhall.org.uk