

news letter



Issue No. 68 **June/July** 2006

Have you ever wondered what really happens at Dartington Hall these days? Some people think it's just a nice place for a walk in the gardens and a drink, some think it's an arts college, some think it does music... To find out what we really do and are planning to do, come along on our Open Day on Saturday 1 July

Saturday 01 July
12:00pm - 4:00pm

▲ **Dartington Hall Estate**

▲ **Totnes Bookshop**

For full programme details please visit the website www.dartingtonhall.org.uk or call 01803 847136

On Saturday 1 July Dartington is holding an open day to invite the local community to experience Dartington's activities and find out what our exciting new plans are.

Free Events Programme by departments of The Dartington Hall Trust, to include:

- ▲ exhibitions
- ▲ kids activities
- ▲ film screenings
- ▲ live performances
- ▲ guided tours
- ▲ showcases
- ▲ workshops



Dartington Open Day 2006

Programme

12:00 – 12:30pm **Opening Event: Forecourt, Dartington Hall** Spectacular performance by Kagemusham Taiko, an Exeter based Japanese Drumming Company. James Cornford, Chairman of The Dartington Hall Trust, opens the event

12:00 – 4:00pm **Dartington Hall Courtyard** Collect a programme from the **main information point**. Individual stands will showcase different departments of The Trust and related independent activities

12:00 – 4:00pm **Open Day Questionnaire** Answer questions about Dartington's activities and be entered into a prize draw on the day

The Place

12:30 – 1:30pm; 1:30 – 2:30pm **Elmhirst Centre Tours - Dartington Hall** Look behind the doors of the Trust's main offices housed within what used to be the family home to both the Elmhirsts and the Champenownes. To include a guided tour of the rooms, art collections, personal stories of the past and historical photographic exhibition.

12:00 – 3:00pm **Archive, Collection and Publications at High Cross House:**

International Modernist house; includes paintings and ceramics, and a timeline exhibition of Dartington's history

12:00 – 4:00pm **Dartington Property Showcase** An exhibition of Dartington's property, services provided, skills and projects undertaken, with photographic documentation of recent work

12:30 – 2:00pm; 2:00 – 3:30pm **Garden Tours** Learn about the history, horticulture, landscape design, sculptures and wildlife on a guided tour of the Hall Gardens.

The Arts

12:00 – 4:00pm **Film: Archive Screenings** Barn Theatre

Dartington Archive Films run throughout
12:30 – 2:00pm **Kids: Shadow Puppetry Workshop** Dukes Room Kids aged 5-11 can make and try out their own shadow puppet.

2:30 – 3:30pm **Arts Park Question Time** Ship Studio There'll be time for questions following a presentation on the development of an Arts Park

12:30 – 1:30pm **Global Harmony** provide a vocal workshop in the Tiltyard

12:00 – 4:00pm **Devon Artsculture** Roundhouse. There will be a display of 2D artwork and a workshop by **local professional artist/s**

12:00 – 4:00pm **The Round House Café** open for refreshments.

2:00 – 3:30pm **Craft Education Centre** Find out about bookbinding and printmaking with Mary Bartlett, Michael Honnor and their students

Ecology

Schumacher Video Screenings

Activities will revolve around introducing adults and children to deep ecology

12.30 - 3.30pm Staff and students **show visitors around**

1.00 p.m - 3.30pm

Video of regular teachers, Fritjof Capra, Satish Kumar, Stephan Harding and Brian Goodwin, answer the same seven questions relating to the **key issues of our time**

2.00 - 3.00pm **Stephan Harding** introduces his recently published book, *Animate Earth*

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dartington open day

programme continued

and leads some deep ecology exercises in the grounds.

2.00 - 3.00pm **Julia Ponsonby**, author of *Gaia's Kitchen*, speaks about the principles that underpin the food served at the College.

1.00 p.m - 3.30pm Student **Tom Carnac** demonstrates **traditional green wood working** techniques, making charcoal, using a pole lathe, and making furniture; with a display of his chairs. Meanwhile **Children** can get involved in practical artistic and creative exercises with volunteer **Ros Hilton**

Woodlands & Conservation

12:30 – 1:30pm; 2:00pm – 3:00pm **Estate Walks** Join Dave Barker for a guided walk starting at the Hall and ending at the Cider Press Centre and vice versa

Social Justice

1:00 – 3:00pm **Storyboard Exhibition Blacklers** - home of **Research in Practice & Research in Practice for Adults**

Dartington Accommodation and Catering Services:

11:00am – 11:00pm **White Hart Bar & Restaurant open**

12:00 – 2:00pm Lunch with specials and daily menu

2:00 – 5:00pm Afternoon baguettes and soup

6:00 – 9:00pm Dinner with specials and daily menu

Beverages and snacks served at all times

12:00 – 4:00pm **A Dartington Wedding** Visit the Solar and find out what a 'Dartington wedding' offers, including canapés and wine tasting

12:00 – 4:00pm **Guided Tours of Bedrooms & Conference rooms** Tour these facilities with a member of the DACS team: information from their stand

2:00 – 2:30pm **White Hart Generation Game** White Hart Patio Be one of six to take part in a chef's demonstration on how to make one of the White Hart's signature dishes, create the best dish yourself and win a meal for two at the White Hart.

2:00 – 3:00pm **White Hart Wine Tasting** Enjoy canapés when you take part in tasting a selection of wines in the Solar

Dartington Trading

9:00 – 5:30pm **Cider Press Centre** Extra entertainment for all ages around the site, with promotions, freebies & tastings

Other Activities on the Estate

12:00 – 4:00pm **Performance, films and exhibition** by Dartington College of Arts students at Lower Close and The Gallery

Dartington Plus

1.00 - 2.30pm **SaMS - Saturday Music School Summer Concert** Aerial Centre (KEVICC), Ashburton Road, Totnes

11:00am – 5:00pm **Park School: Strawberry Fair** Visit the strawberry fair celebrating the School's 20th Anniversary.

SPARC: 12:00 – 4:00pm Junk Workshops Contact SPARC for full details

&

3:00 – 4:00pm

Cutting of the Open Day Cake & Tea Party

Private Garden Enjoy tea and celebration cake, compliments of Dartington, made by White Hart chefs for this first Dartington Open Day. The cake will be created from a design by the winner of the best designed cake competition at Dartington Primary School. Pimms will also be on sale as part of this event.

The Dartington Consort (supported by Dartington Plus and made up of Dartington College of Arts & King Edward VI Comprehensive College students) provide the music whilst you relax in this special part of the Gardens

4:00pm **Big Screen: Quarter finals of the World Cup** Ship Studio Watch the match on a big screen with or without the England team!

This programme is subject to change, and the day will also include other events, including more music and story telling

Transport

Free parking available.

Plus on the day **Bob the Bus** provides a **free shuttle service** on the estate.

Pick up points: Dartington Hall, Blacklers, Park Road, High Cross House, Foxhole, Schumacher College, the Cider Press Centre

bernard's studio

It has been a hugely busy year of expansion and projects, at the Cider Press Centre. Managing Director **Andy Christian** writes

Way back in the early 1930s Bernard Leach the potter wrote to Leonard and Dorothy Elmhirst. He suggested that Shinners Bridge would make an excellent place for artists and craft workers to sell their work to passing motorists! This advanced thought was followed by the establishment of a pottery, a retail shop, artist's studios and a restaurant. Eventually, in 1977 the Cider Press Centre as we have come to know it was opened.

By opening the new restaurant **MORE** and by expanding **Bazaar** and **Glass** and by surfacing the overflow car

park we have made the biggest changes since 1977.

At the end of June we will be reopening the old Dartington Pottery shop as The Studio. Kate Higham, jeweller will have her workbench there only feet away from where Bernard's wheel sat in the 1930s. She will sell her work there alongside 20th and 21st century studio ceramics (including Dartington Pottery from Grayshott) and ceramic and jewellery books.

The building is being given a much needed tidy up by Estate Services, but all of the original aspects are being preserved. We have even found the enamel lampshade that hung over Bernard's wheel and we are putting it back.



Bernard Leach at Dartington
Photo: The Dartington Hall Trust Archive

literary world at d a r t i n g t o n

The popular literature festival, **Ways With Words**, returns to **Dartington Hall** this year from 7 to 17 July, when some of our most revered writers visit Dartington.

Peter Boyden, Creative Director of the Eden Project will give the Dartington Hall Trust lecture speaking on *Eden - The People's Paradise*. He tells how fresh ideas in the arts, ecology and social justice are generated.

In the 1970s and 80s, Peter spent 15 years as a senior manager in the music and publishing industries before becoming a director of Comedia, a creative consultancy working across the cultural policy spectrum. Developing an expertise in creative and social enterprise, with particular emphasis on the performing arts, he founded a company Peter Boyden Associates. As Managing Director he led major projects with organisations across the voluntary and cultural sectors, here and in Europe. Clients included NGOs, central and local government, national charities, environmental groups, wildlife trusts, opera companies, festivals, galleries, museums, regional theatres and symphony orchestras.

In 2000 he produced the Boyden Report for Arts Council England on the future of regional theatre, which triggered additional government investment into the sector of £25 million per year.

After working more recently as a long-term consultant for the Eden Project, he was appointed last year as Eden's full time Creative Director. Working with Tim Smit, he has responsibility for integrating Eden's creative and social programmes and for its development as a creativity-driven social enterprise. As Eden moves into its second five years, the scale of the challenge reflects the extent of the opportunity.

The talk, chaired by Dartington Hall Trust's Chief Executive, Vaughan Lindsay, is in the Great Hall at 5.30pm on Friday, 7 July.

Kate Adie is just one of some amazing speakers who will be appearing at the festival. She will tell the deeply moving stories of the courageous and extraordinary lives of orphans around the world; Melvyn Bragg discusses the books that he believes changed the world; Anna

Massey talks about her life in television, film and radio; Simon Hoggart entertains on *Round Robins*; Jon Snow interprets the world situation today, and the wonderful Jim Broadbent (*above*) talks about some of his acting roles.

A poetry festival, *Voice*, is held within the festival, and there is a new *Write On!* section for those wishing to improve their writing skills, learn how to approach publishers and gain other writing advice.

Dartington connections

James Lovelock talks on 8 July, on *Running out of time: The Revenge of Gaia*. Lovelock, a contributor to Schumacher College courses, launched the Gaia hypothesis in 1979, when he was confident that with care the earth could survive. Now, with global temperatures growing steadily higher, he explains why in his opinion we have gone beyond the point of recovery.

11 July, is labelled Resurgence Day when several 'Schumacher College people' participate, including Stephan Harding, resident ecologist at the College, Satish Kumar, Programme Director and Colin Tudge, a visiting scholar. Satish Kumar is also editor of the Resurgence magazine, now in its 40th year, and in his talk *The Resurgence of the Human Spirit*, addresses some of the challenging issues of our time.

Stephan Harding, author of a new book *Animate Earth*, speaks about the possibility of reversing the consequences of our destructive relationship with the world in a talk labelled *Science, Intuition and Gaia*.



Peter Boyden, Creative Director of Eden Project



Food production expert, Colin Tudge (*below*), talks on *Feeding people is easy - if only we went about it properly!*, and Green MEP for South East England, Caroline Lucas speaks on *A Planet Under Pressure*.



Matt Griffiths, director of Dartington Plus, joins John Carey and Zoe Anderson for a lecture *The Value of Art* on 12 July.

The Dartington Hall Trust's art collection includes several paintings by the late artist Ben Hartley. Bernard Samuels gives a lecture on Saturday, 8 July as part of the *People and Places Day*. *Pigs Must Eat On Sundays - The Notebooks of Ben Hartley* will be an illustrated talk. Bernard, retired director of the Plymouth Arts Centre, will introduce the audience to the world of Ben Hartley and his affection for the everyday world around him.

Also part of *People and Places Day* is a film showing about controversial Irish dramatist Sean O'Casey. The O'Casey family moved to Totnes in the 1930s so that the children could attend the progressive Dartington Hall School. Now daughter Shivaun O'Casey, has narrated and directed her own film about her father. She introduces *Sean O'Casey - Under A Coloured Cap* about the life and work of her father, at the Barn Theatre on 8 July, at 1.30pm. Stephen Bristow chairs.

Introduced by Roy Hattersley, this is the 15th year that Festival Directors, Kay Dunbar and Stephen Bristow, have staged the event.

Tickets and information: 01803 867311; wayswithwords.co.uk

A Day in the Life of Craft Education

Katy Hockings, editor of the Trust's monthly Staff Bulletin, took a look at what actually happens in another of the many and varied activities at Dartington. Katy's findings are reprinted here:

It's easy to assume all that happens at the Craft Education Centre is classes in bookbinding and printmaking. Whilst the classes are the core of what Michael Honnor and Mary Bartlett do,



the relationships, links, projects and opportunities they have created as part of their work go a lot further than that. Over the thirty years they have been involved in craft education at Dartington, they have achieved a great deal.

It is clear from talking to them both that Mary and Michael are passionate about what they do. Their energy and enthusiasm is exciting and inspiring. The many projects and connections they have achieved from their base behind the Old Postern is testament to the time, effort and commitment they give to what they do. Close links have been developed with local schools, with

classes for primary and secondary students and for teachers as well.

Students at Schumacher College regularly participate in bookbinding classes, and a number of successful joint projects, like the Flower Book, a copy of which is on display in the Victoria and

Albert (V&A) Museum in London, show the range of what is possible from their collaboration.

Mary's and Michael's role spans from teacher to those who have never participated in these crafts before, to mentor, tutor and provider of facilities for others with varying degrees of experience.

Mary is an active member of the Society of Bookbinders, which sets the standards for her field of work. She regularly takes part in events and writes many articles for their various publications. She has worked with an extraordinary range of people, including Alice Oswald on producing editions of her *Dart* and *Tree Ghost* poems.

As well as being an active printmaker, Michael is a painter and his work is regularly on display in the Thackeray Gallery in London. As practicing artists, Mary and Michael



Above: Michael and Mary sewing a book from the London International Festival of Theatre; left: students on a printmaking course

bring a vast array of experience, both new and old, to what they do. At the heart of what they do is the provision of opportunities for anyone, of any age and any background, to participate, practice and produce work of high quality. Whilst that can sound daunting, Michael is quick to point out that it is often the novice printmaker who produces the best work! It is also a great way of meeting new people.

What is written here only touches the surface of Michael's and Mary's knowledge and background. There is so much more to talk about, like those who come to bookbinding classes to restore books for local museums, how they both came to be involved in craft education at Dartington, and not least the fascinating history of the wider craft education provision on the estate in the early part of the Trust's life, based at Central Offices at Shinnars Bridge.

If you are interested in taking part, printmaking and bookbinding classes run in term time. Day and evening classes are available. Classes are suitable for everyone, from complete beginners to those with many years of experience. Leave a message with Switchboard 01803 847000 and Michael or Mary will get back to you.

a binding exhibition

College of Arts Library Manager, John Sanford, is currently staging a bookbinding exhibition in the library.

John writes:

Thanks to Mary Bartlett, the printing and book arts collection at the Dartington Craft Education Centre is truly fabulous. The College Library is proud to be able to exhibit a small part of it. It's been well received by the students, many of whom are interested in issues surrounding text, type, and the written word. Letterpress printing is a bypassed technology that many of the students have never seen before. We are very grateful to Mary and The Dartington Hall Trust for making the exhibition possible. The exhibition runs until mid July.

John Sanford, Mary Bartlett & exhibition



keynote music convention

Katrina Hurford of Dartington Plus, reports

Those of you that work in and around the courtyard may have noticed a flurry of activity in the last week of April (or seen Matt Griffiths strutting his stuff on BBC Spotlight!). It was all due to South West Sound, the South West's annual week-long music convention, which included keynote speeches by the likes of Michael Eavis and Evelyn Glennie, guest presentations, workshops, short courses, networking opportunities and live music performances.

South West Sound is organised by Dartington Plus and it is easily the largest project the partnership delivers. Across the week there were 650 delegates, 40 sessions and well over 80

bands performed! The event takes six months each year to organise and promote and the process involves extensive input and support from all the Dartington Plus partners (The Dartington Hall Trust, Dartington College of Arts and King Edward VI Community College).

The aim of the convention is to grow the region's music economy by supporting, developing and informing the South West's music workers across all aspects of professional practice, including musicians, educators, singers, composers, producers, music technicians, artist

managers, promoters, industry bodies and community groups. The creative industries constitute a significant contribution to the economy of Devon and the South West and it is part of Dartington Plus' job to help grow that contribution. South West Sound is a part of the D+ strategy for achieving that goal.

This year – the event's third - has



above: Evelyn Glennie; left: Matt Griffiths with Michael Eavis, right

been the most successful to date: attendance was good with a 100 to 170 delegates attending each day, the content and live music was really well received, the atmosphere felt great and feedback has been very positive.

A new development this year was to hold the event on two sites in the region to enable us to widen access and participation. In addition to Dartington, South West Sound also took place at Colston Hall in Bristol, allowing us to reach more of the musical community and to welcome more organisations from across the music industry. The strategy worked well and produced a bigger profile both throughout the region and nationally, so we'll look to develop the split site format in future years.

Lastly but not least, a big thank you is due to DACS and Sound & Vision for their help in making the event such a success.



excellent business award for DACS

The Dartington Hall Trust has just won the 'Winner – Highly Commended' category for its Dartington Accommodation and Catering Services (DACs) at the national Business Excellence Awards for the UK's hospitality, leisure and tourism sectors.

This is the first time that the British Hospitality Association has organised the event, which recognises world-class standards of excellence and has been designed to reward those businesses which have done the most to sharpen their competitiveness and increase their productivity.

DACS entered the '£1 million plus' turnover category and received the "Winner - Highly Commended" award for turning the business around, moving from a £340,000 loss in 2002/

03 to a £170,000 profit in 2005/06, chiefly through an intensive three-year management development programme.

Adam Powell, General Manager of DACS, takes up the story: "We operate a 51 room hotel and conference centre here at Dartington Hall and employ 140 people at our busiest times of the year. As well as all the major events which local people will know, such as Ways with Words, the Antiques Roadshow and the Dartington International Summer School, we also host smaller events, such as weddings, conferences, seminars and meetings on a daily basis. In addition, we operate a commercial gastro-pub, the White Hart – itself an award winner in its own right - which takes a maximum of 120 for lunch and dinner every day of the week, year in year out.

"In 2003 we set about changing our methods of work by empowering the individual heads of department, allowing them to manage and take personal responsibility for their part of the business as if it were their own. We also made them accountable for the financial aspects of their own area of activity and this soon began to turn our business around.

"This award is really recognition of the fantastic hard work done by all the DACS team. I am really proud of what we have achieved and the fact that our efforts have been recognised nationally, putting us amongst the very top of the UK's best conference facilities.

"And the icing on the cake is that we are now operating a new restaurant, MORE, at the Cider Press Centre, a project which recognises our skills at running establishments successfully and profitably."

children's nature



On a most beautiful May evening, nine children and a few parents were led from the Gatehouse, down Warren Lane towards Staverton Ford Plantation, by Dave Barker, our Estate Warden.

Within a few minutes of entering the woods, Dave asked for some "hush". The cacophony of human voices was stilled – and replaced with the melodic chatter of birds. The group was silent, and perhaps a little awestruck at the amount of bird life we could hear. Many have commented that one can hear more bird song in a British woodland than in a tropical rain forest! As our silence came to an end, a most amazing transformation happened, which lasted for the rest of the evening – our children became more interested and inquisitive. Dave's encouragement to use "all the senses when in woodland" had clearly begun to sink in...

Our nature trail took us through a mix of coniferous and broadleaf

woodland, where we spoke about the incredible bio-diversity that exists in Dartington, and the challenges we need to face in order to protect this rich inheritance.

Picnics are good fun! But especially when combined with glorious weather, a river bank, and a couple of bottles of white, chilled to perfection, by the River Dart. (many thanks to Tom Stevens for this one - and his Heath Robinson endeavours in rigging up a wine cooling "lobster pot affair" all fixed on to the end of a rope). Very hungry children meant there was not too much to clear up afterwards!

Fully refuelled and restored, our guided walk continued... Among so many highlights, it is difficult to get across the true delight of the whole evening. I know many of the children found wonder in a badger latrine! A near obsessive search for almond tasting pig-nuts found underground, and standing still under some huge Norwegian Spruce, are mentioned. So too, an unscheduled trip for the kids in the back of the pick-up – a real "wind in the hair" experience! But, I guess for all of us, seeing and gently



Dave Barker with estate children

stroking two dormice while in North Wood rounded the evening off to perfection.

It was the American Naturalist, John Muir who said..."I only went out for a walk, and finally stayed out till sundown; for going out, I found, was really going in".

Many thanks to Dave Barker for his enthusiasm, and ability to communicate the wonders of the natural environment, that is all around us in Dartington. His leadership on the evening brought the whole event alive. Who says you can't work with children and animals!?

creating a good image

Qualified archivist, Heather McIntyre (right), is leading an 18 month project at The Dartington Hall Trust Archive, to preserve and catalogue Dartington's photographic collection. The Esmee Fairbairn Foundation provided a grant of £45,000, Mercers' Charitable Foundation £3000, the Pilgrim Trust £5000, SWLAC £900, Friends of Dartington £5000, and Aurelias Charitable Trust £2000 to enable the project to go ahead. The Friends of Dartington are generously providing support funding together with some of the volunteers who are assisting with the project.

The first stage is to survey all the images held in the archive, which consist of around 40,000 photographs, negatives and slides. Once assessed for signs of deterioration and damage, all the images will be scanned onto a computer and the originals packed according to archival standards, to ensure they are preserved for the future. New computer equipment, including a terabyte of storage space,



has been purchased as part of the project and will mean that high quality copies of the photos will be readily available. All images will be entered onto the Archive catalogue and will eventually be accessible via the Archive's website. Dartington is extremely fortunate to have secured funding in order to be able to undertake this project.

Heather, who has a BSc in Human Sciences, and an MA in Archives and Records Management, says, "The survey has uncovered many links within this eclectic photo collection, and I am really grateful for the help the volunteers are giving to carry out this task. I'm looking forward to working with them further throughout the year."

young indian musicians at international summer school



From 22-29 July Summer School welcomes for the first time SAMYO, the UK's first national South Asian Music Youth Orchestra and TARANG, a new ensemble of young musicians over the age of 18 trained in both traditional North Indian (Hindustani) and South Indian (Carnatic) music styles. They will be taught by some of the leading performers and teachers in Indian music today, Ganesh & Kumaresh, a violin duo and Debabshish Bhattacharya on slide guitar, as well as SAMYO's director of music, the Carnatic vocalist Manorama Prasad.

Ivor Stolliday

former Secretary, The Dartington Hall Trust, **reviews**

The Arts at Dartington

A Personal Account by **Peter Cox**

Dartington makes too much and too little of its past. Too much, in that some past glories are summarised almost to the point of tedium in its brochures, reports and public documents, sometimes with 'facts' that may not stand too much scrutiny. (I know. I wrote some of them. Mea culpa) Too little, in that, perhaps inevitably in a place committed to current work and that which is new, those who live, work and study here seem so unaware that they too stand on giants' shoulders. It is the paradox of a place that is now old, and has history, but which sees itself as newly minted and of the modern –while 'modern' itself has now slipped into history. It faces forwards, as it should, but an occasional glance in the rear view mirror might help the driving no end.

In his preface to Peter Cox's large (400 page) and immensely detailed personal recollection of the Arts at Dartington, the current Chairman of the Trust, James Cornford enjoins the reader to "start with the index". That is sound advice, for the index reveals at once just what a remarkable array of diversely talented individuals was drawn to Dartington, whether for days or years, and what a legacy they left. Peter Cox is in a better position than almost any other to tell the story of their engagement with the place. He was there, and was a key actor in much of that story.

Peter Cox came first to Dartington as Europe was falling under the shadow of looming war in the late 1930's. He worked at Dartington from 1940 until his retirement in 1983. He had various jobs, including that of principal Arts

Administrator, in a Dartington that was structured very differently from now, but it is his role as what he calls 'the Founder-Principal' of Dartington College of Arts which concerns much of the book, and for which he may be most remembered.

That the College, now by far the largest activity at Dartington, exists at all, has survived repeated threats, yet flourishes today, is in no small part a result of the continued passionate efforts of Peter Cox. The College had origins of which most now are probably unaware. It was a full department of the Trust, giving practical education in the Arts, and with the great majority of its students going on to teacher training. It was a private venture, and had no place in the structure of public higher education. It was very small, intimate and special. Yet it was never safe, either intellectually, as it pursued an innovative agenda and approach, or financially, as it outgrew the resources of the Trust that had given it birth.

Under Peter's leadership a steady transition was made to the world of public funding, first via "assisted status" from the County Council, and then later with the development of the College into a fully-fledged part of the Higher Education system – a process which may be completed only when it can award its own degrees. The Trust was always a party to these changes, but perhaps never quite realised that it had lost control of its own venture. Trust and College have since enjoyed a relationship characterised by support, friendship and occasional interludes of furious frustration and vile bad temper.



Peter Cox Photo: Humphrey Sutton 1975

This is a lively place.

Despite the Trust's support, the College, Peter's remarkable creation, has always been in jeopardy. Successive governments and their agencies have sought, from 1974 on, to reduce the 'unit-cost' of higher education by rationalising into larger institutions. Dartington has somehow managed to defy the accountancy arithmetic. It has done things differently, and gained a useful reputation as an exception and a special case. It has been able to do so not only because officialdom has, at times, given up on the attempt to understand the unique set of relationships with the Trust, but because, at some level, there has been an awareness, even if only implicit, that what Dartington as a whole brings is something precious, not found elsewhere. The students of today should be aware of that, and of Peter Cox's part in its creation. This book is recommended to them, so that they may know where they are, and why it, and they are here.

The Arts at Dartington, A Personal Account by Peter Cox, 2005. Price £9.95. ISBN 0-902386-22-0. Distributed by The Dartington Hall Trust Archive, High Cross House, Dartington Hall, Totnes TQ9 6ED. Also available at Totnes Bookshop and the Cider Press Centre.

<< opposite SAMYO

Traditionally, Indian music presents a small ensemble of up to five or six musicians, but unusually SAMYO performs with up to 20 young talents on stage. SAMYO is unique in presenting the diverse styles of Indian music together with the performers born and brought up in the UK. Because of their ability to understand and play both Western and Indian Music, the orchestra has developed into an exciting phenomenon never heard before! There will be an intensive retreat for study as

well as the opportunity to integrate with the Western classical music courses offered by Dartington.

Following recent performances in Gateshead, London, Manchester, Liverpool, Bedford and Ulverston, SAMYO performs at 5pm on Wednesday, 26 July in Studio 21 at Dartington, complementing a series of performances by their tutors throughout the week entitled *An Introduction to Indian Classical Music*. Don't miss this unique opportunity!



Dartington International Summer School: 22 July to 26 August. All courses culminate in concerts, open to the public. Box Office 01803 847070

Photos: South Asian Music Youth Orchestra



The final performance of the Playgoers Society of Dartington Hall's presentation of Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, takes place appropriately on Midsummer's Day, the 24 June, after starting on the 16 June.

What more magical way to spend an evening than in the beautiful surroundings of the Dartington Hall Gardens, where sound effects never fail to include song birds and as the night closes in, the call of an owl? Not least of course is the play itself and Shakespeare's language. And perfect for children too!

For the Playgoers 60th year they have chosen this comedy with the heart of the play set in nocturnal woods of mystery and mischief, where anything can happen and does. There

high cross house

Opening hours

2 May to 27 October

Tuesday to Friday: 14.00 - 16.30

Plus 25 July - 1 Sep:

10.30 - 12.30; 14.00 - 16.30

Group visits by arrangement at other times.

The Dartington Hall Trust Archive

at the house is open to researchers by appointment year round. 01803 864114; high.cross.house@dartingtonhall.org.uk; www.dartingtonarchive.org.uk



well reveals all

The well at the Cider Press Centre has revealed its true worth. John Stainton, Finance & Operations Director of the Dartington Trading Co Ltd, a department of The Dartington Hall Trust, descended the well on Saturday, 27 May for charity.

John collected the coins that have been thrown down there over the past year or so, bringing up between £250-£300 worth, which will be donated to Bidwell Brook School and the Tsunami Disaster Fund.

The old well of the former Shinnars Bridge Farm was refurbished a few years ago.

are headstrong lovers and well meaning artisans looking to rehearse their play. But in this fairy world of Oberon, Titania and Puck, all who enter the woods are changed by magical events of frenzy and confusion.

Picnicking is allowed by The Dartington Hall Trust for audience members prior to the performances, from 6pm in a designated area of the Gardens. Alternatively the White Hart Bar and Restaurant opens for meals from 5.30pm before each performance, with a 10% discount for Playgoers' ticket holders for main meals that night. To book 'phone 01803 847111.

Performance on 19 June is in aid of MacMillan Cancer Support.

Box Office: 01803 847070.

broadcasting playgoers

Members of the Playgoers Society took part in a broadcast on BBC Radio Devon on the 29 May. *Anywhere to Anywhere* written by Joyce Holliday, was adapted for radio by Playgoers member, Sarah Welsh, who also co-directed it with Jo Loosemore. Playgoer members made up the cast of the play, which explores the experiences of women pilots during the Second World war. Taking part were Penny Grove, Mavis Jones, Debbie Plummer, Sarah Thomson, Steve Grove, Brian Lethbridge and John Parker.

Dartington College of Arts

annual degree show runs from 16 to 24 June. Festival 06 will showcase students work in Music, Theatre, Fine Art, Writing and Choreography.

16th - 24th June

Performance, Sound, Text, Installations, Multimedia

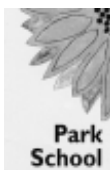


www.dartington.ac.uk/festival06

This year is Park School's 20th

Anniversary and a Birthday Party celebration is to be held on the afternoon of Saturday, 1 July. This is combined with their usual Strawberry Fayre and interested people are invited, including those who have had connections with Park, or with Dartington Hall School, in the past.

See also the entry in the Open Day programme at the front of this newsletter.



dartington arts/dartington plus

EVENTS

Margaret Wheatley gives an Arts & Ecology Lecture 'The Power of Chaos'

Wednesday 14 June, 6.00pm Barn Theatre Meg Wheatley looks at the implications of new discoveries in biology, chaos theory and quantum physics for management, business, leadership and personal life. Tickets £6.00

Playgoers Society of Dartington Hall present A Midsummer Night's Dream

Fri 16 - Sat 24 June (exc Sun 18), 7:30pm. Private Garden - Great Hall if wet Tickets £10.00/£8.00, Concessions £9.00/£7.00, Students and Young People £5.00

The Logothetis Ensemble present The Logothetis Project

Tue 27 June, 8:00pm, Studio One Anestis Logothetis works simultaneously in the auditory and visual domains, so that each score has accompanying drawings. A rich, satisfying tapestry of sound with images projected above. Tickets £7, Concessions £6. Students/Young People £5.

Dartington Open Day

Saturday 1 July, 12:00pm - 4:00pm Dartington Hall Estate. See front page.

Westcountry Storytelling Festival present A Storytelling Feast

Sun 27 August, 8:00pm Great Hall Stories, music and song bring the best of the modern renaissance of storytelling, offering a rare opportunity to see and hear some of the most acclaimed storytellers under the one magnificent roof. Tickets £12.50, Concessions £11.50, Students and Young People £5.00

Southwest Camerata & Bexley Youth Choir

Thu 31 August, 7.30pm Great Hall Some of the most talented young musicians of the South West region perform an eclectic programme of well-loved classical and popular pieces. Tickets £7.00, Concessions £6.00, Students and Young People £5.00 **Box Office 01803 847070**



news items - letters - to
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The contents of this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the policies of The Dartington Hall Trust.