

# Our Engagement Programme

Dartington Hall Trust

We have been inspired by the support from the community for a new Dartington project and we listened to what you told us at our Open Space sessions in 2015 and 2016, and our Open House event in 2018. We have responded by bringing forward smaller projects like the Green Table café, Deer Park, biomass project, children's natural play area and campsite, beginning work to revitalise our beautiful gardens, expanding our arts and craft programmes, and continuing to support innovative land use and conservation projects across the estate.

Once we have key elements of our funding plan in place, we will start the bigger projects. We are planning lots of events this autumn to keep you up to speed with our work to revitalise the estate including:

#### Open House 02

High Cross House, Dartington Estate  
2-3 Nov 2018 (09:30-16:30)

A weekend of talks, previews and events designed to engage with our community about our forthcoming plans

#### High Cross House Tour

High Cross House, Dartington Estate

Take a tour of one of the UK's most important Modernist buildings and meet the architects who will undertake this fascinating renovation

#### Dartington Live Dress Rehearsals

First chance to see the new Dartington Live seasonal programme of performance and music to run through late autumn and beyond

#### Future of The Shops at Dartington

The Café, Dartington Shops  
2-4 Nov 2018 (09:30-16:30)

A chance to see some of the drawings and ideas for transforming The Shops at Dartington

#### People Make Dartington

The White Hart & The Green Table

25 Oct - 7 Dec 2018

A preview of a new exhibition of photographs showcasing the remarkable community of makers based on our estate

Keep an eye on the website for details.  
Some of the events listed above will be exclusive to Dartington Members, but most will be free and open to all.

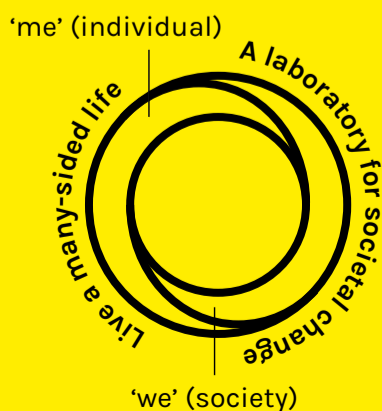
[dartington.org/future](http://dartington.org/future)

## Our Foundation

The Dartington experiment began in 1925 when visionaries Dorothy and Leonard Elmhirst bought the crumbling estate and began to explore how a place could change the world – attracting some of the greatest artists, educators and political philosophers of the 20th century in the process. Important British institutions, including the NHS and the Arts Council, emerged and ground-breaking experiments in land use, farming and education took place.

The Elmhirsts understood that the world and its people are complex. There are many sides to every story and to every human being. It is only in embracing complexity that we can start to solve problems. We need environments that encourage our whole being to flourish, in connection with nature and each other.

This extraordinary project is now being reinvigorated for the 21st century.



# Dartington is Changing

Our bold new vision for the future of the estate

Our Strategy For Transformation

## The New Dartington Project: A Manifesto

Our 1,200 acre estate will become a place of radical experimentation, a model of rural regeneration, and a centre for progressive ideas and innovation. We will welcome visitors and build a living and working community.

Over the next 5-7 years:

- Our events programme will bring people together – to delight in and learn from artists, educators, makers and each other.
- Our buildings will be a hub of enterprise, creativity and community – rewriting the rulebook to develop the estate sensitively, sustainably and inventively.
- Our land and woods will be a source of inspiration – exploring how to grow food sustainably and conserve our environment.
- Our learning and social justice programmes will innovate and explore new models of teaching – providing 'learning by doing' for a new generation of change-makers.

With your help we will create the Dartington we have all been waiting for.

# A Few Of Our Forthcoming Projects

For opportunities to learn more and get involved in these projects as they develop, keep an eye on [dartington.org/future](http://dartington.org/future)



## Shops

Reinvigorating the Elmhirsts' original vision of rural employment and regeneration, our concept for The Shops at Dartington is for a table top of our region's artisan food, drink and crafts: a showcase that is Devon in flavour, where star brewers, butchers, bakers, potters and furniture makers will feel at home.

An exhibition showing some of our ideas and plans for change at the Shops will be open to the public 2-4 November at the Café at the Shops. Our aim is to better reflect the rest of the estate as we increase food production and celebrate our successful craft and making community.



## Land and Farming

We aspire to position our estate at the forefront of experimental land use: an exemplar of diversity and rural regeneration. That emphasis continues with a second 5 year Land Use Review, with agroecology as our focus. Following the completion of our most recent programme, Land Use Review 2 will seek to continue the innovative approach that marks The Dartington Hall Trust out as one of the most progressive land stewards in the UK.



## Barn Cinema & Café

In the mid 1930s, one of the 20th Century's most influential architects and a founder of the Bauhaus Movement, Walter Gropius, came to Dartington – one of the many connections the Elmhirsts fostered with progressive artists and performers fleeing Hitler's Germany. Along with fellow architect Robert Hening, he helped transform the barn into a theatre. Now it is the Barn Cinema, a proudly independent, award-winning cinema in an extraordinary setting.

We want to transform the Roundhouse (the current café adjacent to the cinema) into the Barn Cinema Café, a new foyer cafe serving locally sourced food.



## Gardens

When we spoke to the community at our various open events held over the last few years, it was clear that the gardens are one of the most treasured parts of the estate for many people. We want to protect this magical place and improve the areas around it. So we are working with one of the leading landscape designers of our time, Dan Pearson, to gently restore them to their full potential. Dan's presentation of the masterplan is available to view on our website and is a wonderful way to understand how this precious asset will be revitalised over the years to come.

We will need support from our Members and supporters in order to do everything we want to do, and to fulfil our commitment to keeping the gardens free and open to all.



## High Cross House

High Cross House is one of the most important early Modernist buildings in the UK. Designed by American architectural pioneer, William Lescaze, it was built as a home for the legendary headmaster of Dartington Hall School, William Curry. We are bringing it back to life as a Learning Lab with plans to host educators from around the world as they explore new models of learning.

We have begun initial work, with support from specialist heritage architects, to understand the complexity of restoring this building. We are committed to securing the funding to allow us to start work soon.



## The White Hart

The White Hart, sited in the 14th century kitchens of the Great Hall, was once a thriving pub on the estate – a cosy place for a drink and a bite to eat. We plan to bring this once-loved institution back to life as a key part of the experience of staying at our hotel and eating on the estate. Already the White Hart is changing. Our new head chef, Eamon Fullalove, has designed a menu which epitomises our ethos of celebrating local, sustainably produced, seasonal food.

In 2019 we will start the refurbishment process taking account of the feedback we received during Open House 01, which called for a better thought-out, warmer and friendlier space.



## Dartington Hall Hotel

At the heart of the estate, next to the Great Hall and the Private House where the Elmhirst family once lived, is Dartington's courtyard hotel with its distinctive and individual rooms. Staying in our small hotel is a chance to experience the beauty and understand the ethos that created this unique place.

In 2019, we hope to refurbish the courtyard hotel, working with ancient building restoration specialists. The 1925 restoration of the medieval hall and surrounding buildings was revolutionary for its time. Our aim is to follow the same approach, combining the highest quality restoration with creativity and innovation.



## Homes and Communities

Working with South Hams District Council, Historic England and Dartington Parish Council, we hope that the emerging Local Plan will offer us an opportunity to build up to 300 homes across our estate. Our plans will respond to local needs and offer the very best in rural community building. We will work with experimental architects, builders and the people who plan to live in the homes to create innovative and sustainable places.



## Foxhole

The Foxhole campus, the site of Dartington Hall's famously progressive school for over 50 years, is to be restored and developed as a home for education and enterprise. The first step in creating our new multi-disciplinary learning campus is relocating the School for Social Entrepreneurs to Foxhole to create an enterprise start-up facility.

We are exploring how to develop the rest of the complex as a new home for Schumacher College – placing it at the heart of a truly innovative learning environment incorporating our arts, craft and social justice programmes.

The building needs a great deal of work to restore it to its former glory and a full programme of design is currently underway.



## Whitney-Elmhirst Centre

The founders of the original Dartington experiment, Dorothy and Leonard Elmhirst, lived in the building next to the Great Hall, known for many years as the Private House. Our plan is to transform this into a space to explore and interpret their exceptional lives and legacy, showcasing the family's art collection, and much more.

Over the next year, we will be experimenting with how we bring this centre to life and make it a vital and relevant resource for our community, as well as a way to understand the importance of the Elmhirsts' work during their time at Dartington Hall.