

## Member Newsletter #5: Winter 2017



### Welcome

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Thank you for supporting the Dartington Hall Trust this year and joining us at many of the activities and events held here.

In this winter issue, you'll find plenty of seasonal activities, from shopping to parties and Christmas shows, plus a look to the future in the events we've lined up for 2018 including a private screening of the acclaimed documentary 'Demain', and a discussion and demonstration from the Trust's new Food and Drink Director, Oliver Rowe.

Our Queen's Marsh appeal is gathering momentum, and we are moving forward in our development of the new wildlife and wetland habitat there. There's still a long way to go though, and we hope you will feel inspired to support our project.

As always, we love hearing from you and welcome your feedback. This way we can continue to improve our relationship with you and tailor content and events to your interests. Please email your thoughts to [membership@dartington.org](mailto:membership@dartington.org)

**Wishing you a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year**

### In this newsletter:

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**Member Conversation Reviews.** Find out what happened when Michael Honor invited you into Dartington's printmaking studio, and how former Dartington schoolboy Graham Fenn entertained Members with anecdotes – and insight into his current career as a stone carver.



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**Member Events coming up in 2018.** Including an event with our new Food and Drink Director Oliver Rowe, a special screening of the French Documentary film 'Demain' at The Barn Cinema, and a spring-time wildlife walk around the Dartington Hall estate with Estate Warden Mike Newby.



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**Christmas at Dartington.** A roundup of what's on offer this festive season, including our Christmas Fair at The Shops, our flagship family theatre production, and special benefits only open to Members.



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## Member Conversation Reviews

### Behind the scenes at Michael Honor's Printmaking talk and workshop

In October a number of Members were treated to a talk and free workshop experience from Dartington Hall's Printmaker Michael Honor.

Michael shared his self-taught knowledge and passion for printmaking and how it has evolved over the years: "Printmaking is a rewarding process. It's full of surprise and there is hardly anyone who tries it that doesn't like it. You don't have to be an artist to create something beautiful in printmaking. It's about experimenting with materials and colour and, in a way, takes you back to childhood. Printing ink is quite like playing with golden syrup, which is why I think people love it so much."

Michael presented some of his dramatic landscape paintings that adorn the walls of the Thackeray Gallery in London, which has been showing Michael's works for many years. He is known for painting outdoors on large-scale sheets of aluminium, and his favourite places to paint are on the beaches of Devon.

Feeling inspired to create, Members were then given the opportunity get their aprons on and learn by doing at Dartington's wonderfully well-equipped printmaking studio on the Dartington Hall estate, where Michael has been teaching for the past 42 years as part of Dartington's Craft Education Programme.

Everyone worked together to create some lithography of their own, producing a large scale piece of art in little more than an hour, and each Member took a piece of their lovingly made creation home.

For those interested in a Printmaking Workshop with Michael Honor, he runs termly courses and you can find out more by emailing him at [michaelhonor@gmail.com](mailto:michaelhonor@gmail.com)



### Off The Peg

If you would like the opportunity to see and buy some of the art being produced at the printmakers workshop, there is an annual open weekend exhibition and sale called 'Off The Peg' which is **this Saturday 16 December and Sunday, 17 December, from 11am at the printmaking studio.**

It's an opportunity to view and purchase original pieces for a donation to charity. This year all proceeds from the sales will go to Luck of Birth, a charity originating in Totnes working with refugees in Greece.

The artwork will be displayed strung across washing lines, amongst the fascinating equipment and printing presses. It's an ideal opportunity to buy a rare and original Christmas present literally off the peg!

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### Memories of a Dartington education with Graham Fenn at High Cross House

There was a full turnout at High Cross House in November, where Members were invited to hear from ex-Dartington exchange pupil Graham Fenn, whose education at Dartington led to his life-long interest in Art and Design, and his current career as a stone carver.

Landing on the impressive Dartington Hall estate in 1969 from a mining town in Yorkshire, Graham regaled Members with memories of great teachers and open learning. He felt privileged being immersed in this modern 'School of Art', where they encouraged expeditions and new learning. Inspired, Graham developed a yearning to work with stone, and Members were shown a selective exhibit of his most recent carvings in alabaster.

It was a wonderful opportunity to hear from Graham, with the conversation set in one of the Trust's most iconic Modernist buildings, and there were one or two unexpected reunions that made the event a little extra special too.

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### Could you host a Member Conversation in 2018?

We are always on the lookout for Members with interesting stories to tell, skills to share and connections with Dartington. If this sounds like you, please get in touch. Email [membership@dartington.org](mailto:membership@dartington.org)





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## Coffee – it's personal!

This December, Members have been getting clued up on coffee, taking part in Barista Training sessions run by The White Hart at Dartington Hall. Small groups discovered all about beans and the skill of coffee making, including creating latte art and lots of tasting and testing along the way. By the end of the sessions, Members had made their own perfect cup of coffee to enjoy along with a festive mince pie.

If you missed the opportunity to come to one of the Barista Training sessions, please email [memberships@dartington.org](mailto:memberships@dartington.org). With enough interest, we would be happy to organise additional dates in the New Year.



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## Member Events coming up in 2018...

**February** – A fun demonstration and talk about the future plans for the food and drink offering at Dartington, with our new Food and Drink Director, Oliver Rowe. You can find out more about Oliver Rowe in [Our Living Community feature](#) ⇒

**April** – A special screening of the popular French Documentary film 'Demain' at The Barn Cinema, Dartington Hall estate, followed by a Schumacher Lunch at Higher Close.

**May** – A spring-time wildlife walk around the Dartington Hall estate with Estate Warden, Mike Newby.

Dates for the above to follow in the New Year.

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## Christmas at Dartington

### The Shops at Dartington Christmas Fair



Join us for the Christmas Fair this weekend at The Shops at Dartington. There will be carol singing, gin distilling, cooking demonstrations, a food marquee plus children's entertainment.

You'll have the opportunity to watch live demonstrations, from the intricate art of glass engraving, to pottery making. You can purchase their handmade creations for your loved ones and be sure you'll have a truly unique gift with a story.

What better way to spend your time Christmas shopping, where you can take advantage of your wonderful 10% Member discount too!

[Find out more about this event here](#) ⇒

### Member Special Offer





Members are invited to an exclusive 10% off our Boxing Day Dinner and Dance and New Year's Eve Gala Dinner on the Dartington Hall estate. This includes a six-course dinner in the Great Hall, followed by live music from The Drat Pack. Specific dietary requirements can be catered for.

**Boxing Day Dinner and Dance.** Member price £40.50 (Normal price of £45 per person). [Download the menu here \(pdf\)](#).

**New Year's Eve Gala Dinner.** Member price £80.10 (Normal price of £89 per person). [Download the menu here \(pdf\)](#).

To book your place at either of these two seasonal events at Dartington Hall, please contact the reservations team on 01803 847150, or email [reservations@dartington.com](mailto:reservations@dartington.com) quoting your '10% Member offer'.

**On now and throughout December...**



...brought to you by award-winning local theatre company, The Wrong Crowd, in association with Dartington Arts. Tickets are on sale now.

The Girl with the Iron Claws is a dark fairy tale, which shares its roots with Beauty and the Beast. Stunning puppetry, bewitching music, deft humour and a touch of snow combine to dazzling effect in this coming-of-age tale to enthral audiences young and old. [Click here to find out more about this event =>](#)

The show was recently selected as **the top pick of the week** in the Guardian's Guide to events this December. **"This Nordic version of Beauty and the Beast is a real pleasure...terrific puppetry."**

**Members will be entitled to concessionary rates for any showing up until 30 December. Simply book in person at the box office or telephone 01803 847070 (concession rate is not applicable to online bookings).**

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## Give the gift of Membership

Have you considered giving the gift of Membership to someone this Christmas?

Contact us **before Tuesday 19 December** with your request and we will ensure the Member pack is sent out to you in time for Christmas.

Simply telephone 01803 847 514 between 9am and 5pm, with the recipient details, and we can take payment over the phone. Or you can purchase the membership online [here](#) and then email us at [membership@dartington.org](mailto:membership@dartington.org) to inform us that this is a gift, advising where you would like the member pack to be sent to.

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## Support us through your online shopping this Christmas

Did you know you that you can support our **Queen's Marsh campaign** while doing your Christmas shopping online? Shop with any of over 3,300 well-known retailers via the easyfundraising website and a percentage of what you spend is passed to The Dartington Hall Trust at no additional cost to you. [You can find out more and register to support us here.](#)

Huge thanks to all of you that have donated to the Queen's Marsh fundraising appeal so far, it has only been possible with your wonderful support. Grants and in-kind gifts from suppliers, along with your generous donations, mean we have now raised over two thirds of the funds we need. You can [see how well our fundraising is going and perhaps make a donation here.](#)

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**“Dartington is not one thing,  
but a complex unity of activities.”**

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