

Member Newsletter #8: Spring/Summer 2019

Welcome to your Dartington Spring/Summer Member Newsletter. As always, we have lots of news and events to share with you. And now there is a hint of spring in the air, we are excited to share with you some of the work happening across the estate.

In this issue, we particularly want to tell you about a short term goal that we hope to achieve for a very special **Walled Garden project**. With this, and further special Member events coming up – including the start of **Member Mondays** (your very own regular networking event at The White Hart), the opportunity to take part in a **Moth Survey**, and the chance to find out more about Schumacher College at their **Virtual Open Day** – we think you'll find lots to interest you and add to your calendar in the coming months.

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Walled Garden Appeal

Over the next few weeks we hope to raise £12,000 to keep the historic Walled Garden in Dartington's Grade II listed gardens in use as a productive food growing area and educational space providing a local food source for businesses on the estate – and we hope you can help.

As many of you know, last year we rejuvenated the previously neglected Walled Garden and got it up and running once more as a productive garden, in keeping with the plans laid out by Dan Pearson's vision.

"What can be more wonderful than a garden door in a walled garden and not knowing what is beyond" **Dan Pearson**



The story so far

We've transformed this historic unused space back into meaningful use, creating a vibrant place to visit when you are on the estate.

Local market gardener, Sarah Coates, has worked together with a team of local volunteers to grow healthy and nutritious food – with garden-grown vegetables, seasonal herbs and edible flowers producing a kaleidoscope of colours, scents and flavours all year round.

This hugely popular project puts into practice Dartington's commitment to locally grown seasonal food, helping to engage and educate staff and visitors to the estate in the importance of seasonal locally sourced produce.

The kitchen garden provides a zero food miles source of produce for the restaurants and cafes on the estate, supporting Dartington's ambition to give customers the opportunity to eat food with a known provenance.

"At the Green Table, it is so important to us that we source as much food as possible from local suppliers and producers. The Walled Garden project is fantastic as it offers us a new food source right on our doorstep, and it has such a lovely link with the heritage of the Dartington estate." **Tara Vaughan-Hughes, The Green Table café**





How you can help

Our aim is to develop the Walled Garden to be self-sustaining over the next year, with all sales of produce being ploughed back into the project. We are some of the way there but need your support to give this project the boost it needs to get properly established, so that it can thrive long into the future.

Our ambition to raise £12,000 over the next six weeks will ensure that the work is fully funded for the next year, giving the team vital time to work towards the future economic sustainability of the garden. All work will add to the community spirit that has helped this project come to life.

Any contribution you can make, small or large, will be gratefully received. If you want to help, you can do so by [donating online](#), sharing [this link](#) or contacting us on 01803 847 027.

We'll keep you posted on the progress of the appeal and look forward to welcoming you to the Walled Garden soon.

[DONATE NOW >](#)

Members' monitoring of the River Dart



In February, Dartington Members were invited to dip their toes into a new collaboration with the Westcountry River Trust's **Citizen Science Investigations** programme. The programme trains people up and kits them out to monitor the health of their local water bodies – be they rivers, streams, ponds or estuaries. Everyone who signs up to the programme then records their results in an interactive map which covers water across the entire county.

Members spent the first part of the session learning about the waterscape generally, and why monitoring can be incredibly helpful, before heading down to the river Dart to do some active testing. I'm sure many of you will be pleased to know that the water at the swimming spot on our estate was found to be clean!

The Westcountry Rivers Trust have kindly provided Dartington Hall with two testing kits which will be hosted at the Visitor Centre on the estate, and can be booked out for use by anyone who has registered with the programme. We are very keen on establishing regular monitoring across the estate so if you would be interested in this, then please email csi@wrt.org.uk

Collaborating on these workshops is part of our current project to create a community charter for the River Dart at Dartington. If you're a fan of our local river but haven't heard about this project then [you can find out more](#)

here.

Member events coming up...

MEMBER MONDAYS AT THE WHITE HART

FIRST MONDAY OF EVERY MONTH, STARTING 1 APRIL, FROM 6PM ONWARDS



We're very pleased to be bringing you **Member Mondays**: an informal monthly get together for Members at The White Hart on the first Monday of the month.

Be it an after work wind-down, or a catch up with friends to kick-start your week, we've set aside a space at **The White Hart** just for you where you'll have the opportunity to casually network with other Dartington Members. So come along, enjoy a drink and a get together, and we hope you might make it a regular thing.

No booking required. Just turn up and present your Membership card for a special 'Members cocktail', on offer for just £5.

MEMBER MOTH SURVEY WITH BILL MACDONALD

SATURDAY 3 AUGUST



Following on from the popular member wildlife walk and river charter review events we held earlier this year, we are thrilled to be hosting a new wildlife survey event exclusively for Members, which will involve recording moths on the estate.

It will be an early morning start to survey the overnight traps, with a breakfast to follow at The Green Table.

Tickets will be limited, so please email membership@dartington.org to register your interest. We will keep all Members updated on the details of the event (which will be weather dependent) nearer the time.



Other events coming up...

Schumacher College invites you to their Online Open Day

Schumacher College, based within the grounds of the Dartington Hall estate, are hosting a **Virtual Open Day** online on **Friday 5 April** from 11am-2pm.

Register and join Schumacher College online for a unique online experience and learn more about the Schumacher learning community. During the Open Day you can watch videos featuring Stephan Harding and the Schumacher Growers, and learn more about the postgraduate programmes.

Please do pass on this Online Open Day invitation to anyone who is curious to learn more about the Schumacher College learning community.

[Register here to join us online >](#)



THE WHITE HART, 31 MARCH, 2019, 12 – 3PM



We're offering a classic, traditional family roast at the new look White Hart this Mother's Day - including a free glass of fizz for mum when two main courses are ordered. Make a day of it and explore Dartington's stunning gardens or the more extensive walking trails across the estate, or why not treat her to a film afterwards - **Fighting With My Family [12A]**, a warm comedy biopic, is on at our Barn Cinema at 2pm

To book a table please call the reservations team direct on 01803 847111 or email reservations@dartingtonhall.com

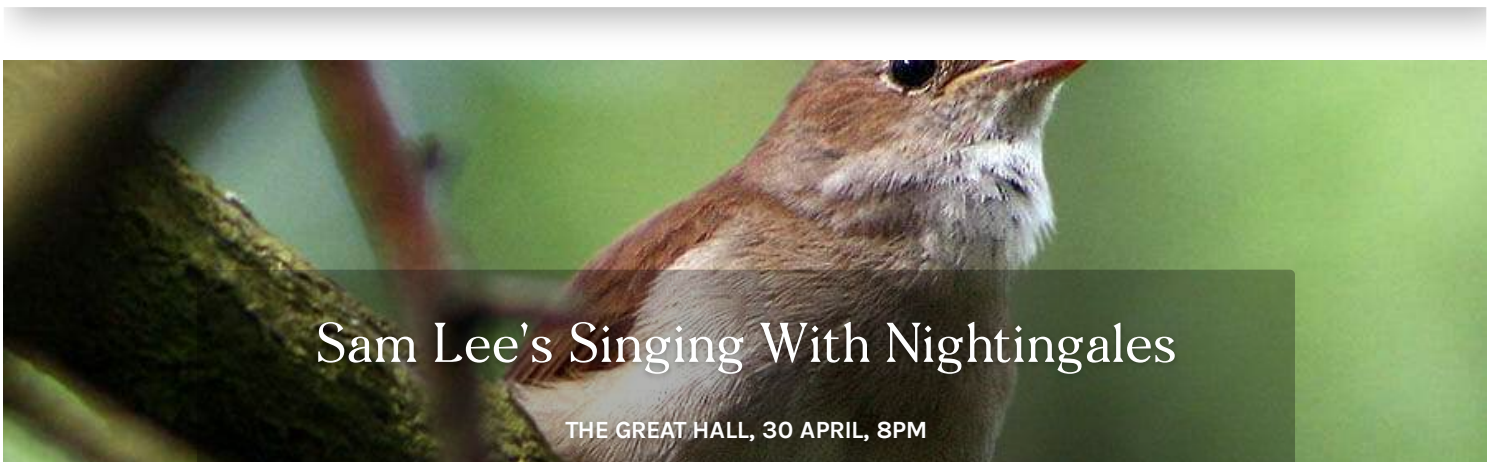


Woofers Wildlife Walk

THE GREEN TABLE, 3 MAY, 10AM

Join us on our first ever wildlife walk for dogs! Three expert guides - a wildlife specialist, and two dog trainers will be on hand to give you some top tips on training and managing your dog in countryside environments.

Spaces are limited - [book here >](#).



Sam Lee's Singing With Nightingales

THE GREAT HALL, 30 APRIL, 8PM



We're thrilled to be hosting a unique springtime concert where wild nightingales will be among the guest artists! Mercury Prize-nominated folk star Sam Lee brings his acclaimed show to Dartington, combining music and storytelling with a live streamed link to the woods, where the male birds sing their courtship song.

"Combining stories, music and folklore with a live broadcast from wild starlit woods, we can conjure a journey to where the nightingale nests, so that audiences can experience the timeless magic of nightingale song" - Sam Lee

[Click here to book >](#)

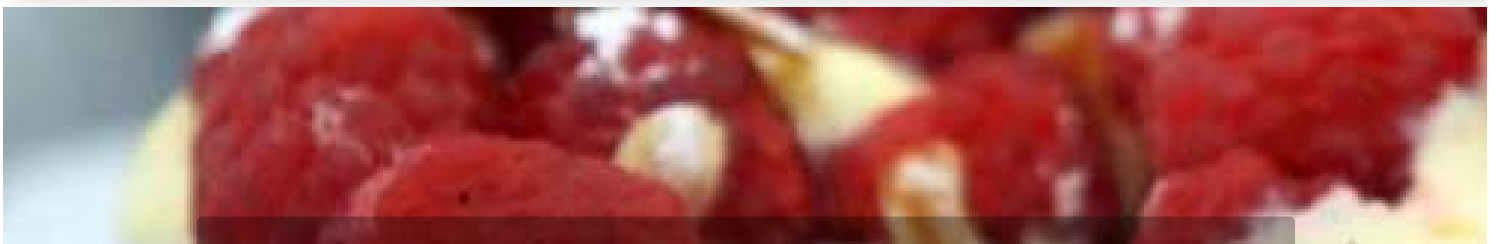


A David Walliams best seller adapted for the outdoor stage: help Ben's Granny to make her biggest heist yet!

Bring your blankets, chairs and picnics, and enjoy this fantastically popular family friendly performance, in the beautiful gardens at Dartington.

Suitable for children age 7+. Don't forget your 10{79560583362c74f5fdd4dfc2a8c00f056dfa59ea50e6cb7c86d5030cf0398bdd} Dartington Member discount too!

[Click here to book >](#)



Food Fair

THE SHOPS AT DARTINGTON, 26-27 MAY

Join us again for another fabulous Bank Holiday weekend filled with foodie fun for all the family.

Enjoy exciting cooking demonstrations, tantalising tastings, street food, a variety of stalls by local producers and of course, plenty of local food and drink!

With plenty of activities for both adults and children, including magic shows, pot-throwing, story-telling and live animals to meet, there really is something for everyone.

[Further information to follow >](#)

SUMMER CONCERTS

27 July – 24 August 2019. Thinking ahead to warm, summer evenings, cool drinks and great music, you can now explore our newly-released, Dartington International Summer School programme of over 90 vibrant concerts and events, featuring outstanding musicians and encompassing opera, jazz, orchestral, music theatre, gospel, film music, and more.

Dartington Members receive 10% discount on all 5:15pm and 10pm concerts (automatically applied during the checkout process).

[Browse all of the Summer School concerts and events here >](#)

Give the gift of Membership

Dartington Membership is a real gift with a difference. You can choose from individual or family options and choose whether to send the gift straight to the recipient or to yourself.

[BUY NOW >](#)

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

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Dartington Hall, Totnes, Devon, TQ9 6EL

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