



Member Newsletter #13: Autumn 2021

All the latest news, events and more




WELCOME TO YOUR AUTUMN MEMBER NEWSLETTER

With the cooler season upon us, here at Dartington there's a sense of renewed energy as our September influx of students settle into life on the estate, and we begin to plan ahead for activities and events that bring the important work of our charity to the forefront of the estate.

This includes [Sensing the Planet](#) - a unique symposium that gathers decolonial thinkers, artists and activists for a weekend of talks and workshops. The event represents the launch of [Black Atlantic](#) - a new cultural project between a number of leading UK cultural institutions that lives at the intersections of race, art, ecology and climate justice.

Plus there's a member's guided tour of the Schumacher gardens, wonderful winter events to look forward to, and much more.



NEW SHOP TALK

Last month saw the opening of our all-new Welcome Centre Shop, with an exciting new range of products and beautiful displays. We caught up with Annabelle Cruickshank, Dartington's Merchandise Manager and buyer behind the range to find out more...



Above: Annabelle Cruickshank in the Welcome Centre Shop

What's your background in a nutshell?

After studying Fine Art at Manchester I worked at the V&A for over 20 years, first as a Researcher before moving to the Retail Team and holding the position of Senior Buyer from 2015- 2020. I managed the constantly evolving product ranges for the Main Shop and created ranges for an extraordinary exhibition programme at the Museum, including shops for blockbuster exhibitions such as Alexander McQueen: Savage Beauty, Fabric of India, Winnie the Pooh: Exploring a Classic, Frida Kahlo: Making Herself Up and Christian Dior: Designer of Dreams.

I moved to Brixham with my family in April 2020 and am thoroughly enjoying the switch from an urban existence to one of sea, river and moor.

What drew you to work at Dartington?

For me, good retail is all about storytelling, the idea that you can articulate an archive or idea through the thoughtful development and sourcing of products and books. Dartington is a complete gift to this approach. With its incredibly rich history and the current ambitious programme, there are so many stories and threads to explore.

What is the inspiration behind some of the new products in the shop?

I wanted to create a range that used archive material from Dartington but that would also reflect the activity taking place at Dartington now. I am fascinated by the Elizabeth Peacock banners in the Great Hall, and amazed by the extraordinary patterns she created almost 100 years ago. We have carefully redrawn these bold designs and created some new products, including a Dartington Tote featuring the banners representing Education and Orchards. We have also worked with renowned wood engraver John Lawrence to reproduce a print he made here in 1974, it is incredibly intricate and shows many different aspects of Dartington life... I am still spotting new details in it!

Who was your first customer?

The shop opened on September the 16th and fittingly our very first customer was Greg Parston, Chairman of the Board of Trustees at Dartington, who bought one of the Elizabeth Peacock organic tote bags.

What's selling like hot cakes?

We are selling lots of greeting cards, the photograph of Lightness Exercises in the gardens from 1936 seems to be a favourite. Also doing well is a notepad featuring blank postcards so you can create your own! The cover features a newly commissioned portrait of the garden by Plymouth based artist William Luz.

Alice Oswald's book Dart is also selling particularly well.

What's the quirkiest item you have in the new shop?

This probably has to be the Golden Spade from Japanese brand Niwaki, it is incredibly strong but surprisingly light - and golden of course! It is the perfect special present for the gardener who has everything.

What's your favourite item in the children's section?

Definitely the pocket swing. I love the idea you can carry this in your bag, always ready if a likely looking tree branch appears. I think parents will be keen on this one too!

The whole range will offer some great Christmas gifting options, and don't forget that as members you get a 10% discount on everything in the new shop and at the Cider Press Centre too.

What else can members look forward to seeing in the shop soon?

We are delighted to soon be selling two exclusive limited edition artist prints, which have been created especially for Dartington and are inspired by the landscape here. One is by painter Anthony Garratt who has his studio at Dartington. The other is by the incredible printmaker Tom Hammick, created during his residency here in the summer. These will be going on display in the Welcome Centre in the next couple of weeks!

To reserve a print or find out more please email hello@shops.dartington.org.

SPECIAL MEMBER OFFER ON LIMITED EDITION PRINTS



Anthony Garratt

Giclée print with archival pigment inks on smooth, matt 230gsm paper.

Signed, limited edition of 100

80 x 60cm

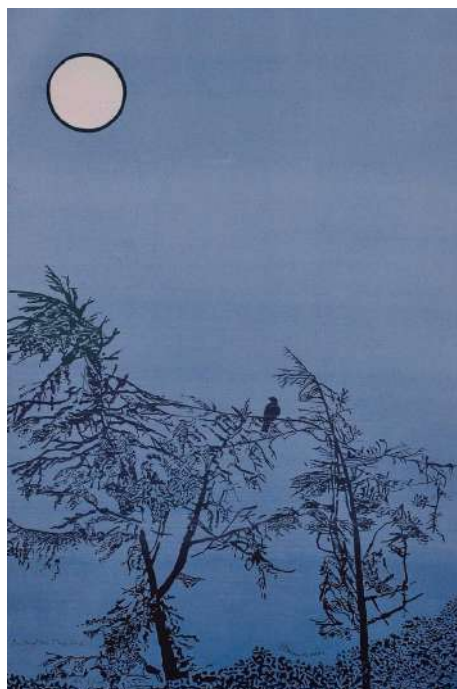
£95 unframed

Members price £85.50

The artist has created a fictional painting of Dartington, a highly saturated, utopian view of the landscape and river. A striking modernist building, 'The Residency' is relocated to the banks of the Dart where it is surrounded by lush foliage, implicit of growth and renewal.

Anthony Garratt is a painter and installation artist working from his studio on the Dartington Estate. He is a tutor at Newlyn School of Art and runs short, experimental painting courses at Dartington.

This print has been carefully reproduced from the original painting in acrylic, oils and spray-paint on canvas.



Dartington Moon Bird, 2021
Tom Hammick

Signed edition of 100 variable woodcuts
91 x 60cm
£480 unframed
Members price £432

A bird, high up in a tree, blends with the tone of the foliage, against a moonlit sky. Silver ink mixed with prussian and violet blues emulate a range of early evening and twilight atmospheres.

This artwork was created by Tom Hammick during his residency at Dartington in the summer of 2021. Profits from the sales of this print will contribute to the ongoing Arts Programme at Dartington Trust.

A SHORT UPDATE ON OUR THRIVING LEARNING PROGRAMME

This September we've seen over 60 students joining three programmes at Schumacher College and Dartington Arts School on our Master's programmes, Ecological Design Thinking, Regenerative Economics and Poetics of Imagination. In the latter course, **we are delighted to have Alice Oswald joining Martin Shaw to teach on the programme**. Meanwhile, our Engaged Ecology students are now through the taught part of their course and turning their minds to their final projects or dissertations.

In January we look forward to a new cohort joining us on new courses including the MScs in Regenerative Food, Farming and Enterprise and Holistic Science at Schumacher College, and two exciting new programmes at the Arts School in Arts and Ecology and Performance Practice. We'll be hosting an **Open Day** on 8 Oct for any prospective students and you can find out more here.

Finally, it's Schumacher College's 30th anniversary this year, and as part of **a range of celebrations and initiatives** to mark the milestone, we launched an essay competition in collaboration with Resurgence and Ecologist magazine. We received nearly 250 entries from all around the world, **and now the results are in – find out more here**.

HIGHER EDUCATION AT DARTINGTON >



DARTINGTON AN AGROFORESTRY 'LIGHTHOUSE'

We are very excited to announce that the Dartington Estate is taking part in a pilot project for the government's new agri-environmental scheme to encourage farmers to manage their land in a more sustainable way.

ELMS – the Environmental Land Management Scheme – is due to be fully rolled out by 2024, but test sites to evaluate the delivery of the scheme have been launched. ELMS will replace schemes currently available under the European Union's Common Agricultural Policy.

Many farmers and landowners, such as Dartington Trust, will see their income reduced in a phase out of annual farm subsidies. However, under the new scheme English farms will receive financial reward if they demonstrate high levels of environmental stewardship.

Rafael Pompa, gardens, conservation and land manager at Dartington Trust said this represents a good opportunity to incorporate the work that has been done at Dartington, and acknowledged work achieved so far by the Trust – such as [the agro-forestry research partnership with Luscombe Drinks, The Apricot Centre, Old Parsonage Farm, and Salthouse & Peppermongers](#).



“We are taking part in these really important conversations with key organisations and government ministers and help to shape the policy landscape” he said.

“It’s very good news that Dartington is at the forefront of the environmental policy design discussion, and it is an additional step towards Dartington becoming an agroforestry lighthouse.”

The environmental scheme will be made of up three schemes or standards for which farmers can apply for financial support; the Sustainable Farming Incentive, Local Nature Recovery and Landscape Recovery.

COURSES AND EVENTS

We've picked out some of the key highlights coming up below, but make sure you check out our [full events listings](#) too. And don't forget that your members discount applies automatically during checkout on applicable events. Look for the 'members discount' message on event pages, and refer to the [member benefits](#) page to see what's available.

BLACK ATLANTIC: SENSING THE PLANET



29 – 31 October 2021

Tickets can be booked for either the full symposium or individual half-day sessions (member discount applies).

Sensing the Planet is a 3-day interdisciplinary gathering to discuss how art and culture can confront some of the most important challenges of our time. The event is part of **Black Atlantic – a new decolonial arts partnership** between Dartington Trust and a number of other leading UK cultural institutions including Serpentine, the Royal Court Theatre and UCL's Sarah Parker Remond Centre (for the study of racism and racialisation). The project aims to strengthen the role of arts and culture in advancing social and climate justice.

Sensing the Planet will highlight issues of race and environmental harm as well as the role played by the UK, and of the south-west of England in particular, in histories of slavery, empire and climate breakdown. It will also champion the role of interdisciplinary culture in imagining new futures built on principles of sustainability and justice, bringing together leading decolonial thinkers, artists and activists including headline speakers Paul Gilroy, Ruth Wilson Gilmore, Alexis Pauline Gumbs and Philippe Sands QC.

Confirmed artists include Barby Asante, Forensic Architecture, Ingrid Pollard, Tabita Rezaire, Jason Singh and Zadie Xa. Additionally, activists will attend from collectives including Black Lives Matter UK, Wretched of the Earth, Decolonising the Curriculum, Plane Stupid and Racial Justice Network. A group of 4 writers brought together by the Royal Court Theatre will also attend and there will be live performances from Shifa, Pat Thomas and Elaine Mitchener.

Alan Boldon, our CEO, says “Black Atlantic is a major initiative and a vital part of us examining our past and present, hosting programmes and events addressing major societal issues of prejudice, racism, inequality and inequity”.

[FIND OUT MORE AND BOOK TICKETS HERE >](#)

MEMBER EVENT: SCHUMACHER GARDEN TOUR WITH HEAD GARDENER COLUM PAWSON



Friday 15 October 4pm

Free

Members are invited to take a guided tour of the gardens and growing areas at Schumacher College with head gardener Colum Pawson. The afternoon will include a walk around Henri's Field and will give a flavour of the work our students are involved in, and an indication of how food on the estate is being grown and harvested.

Why not head over to [The White Hart](#) for a delicious supper afterwards – and enjoy our locally grown food first hand? (Member discount applies.)

Tour spaces will be limited, so book ahead now.

[BOOK HERE >](#)

GRADE II* LISTED GARDEN TOURS CONTINUE



Elsewhere on the estate, our Garden tours will continue to run every Wednesday at 11am until the end of November.

Tours are free: simply book your free gardens entry as members on the relevant day, and you'll see options to add tour tickets.

[BOOK HERE >](#)

Rosemary Griggs, one of our very knowledgeable tour guide volunteers, recently published her historic novel set in sixteenth century Devon. With a nod to Dartington's history, *A Woman of Noble Wit* is inspired by the life of Katherine Champernowne, a remarkable woman who was the sister of the first Arthur Champernowne of Dartington.

Paperback available to order through all good bookshops and will be on sale at our Totnes Book Shop when it opens, or you can order online. [Find out more here.](#)

BARN CINEMA



Bond is back!

Join us at the Barn Cinema for Daniel Craig's last outing as 007 with daily showings until 14 October. Perfect for that rainy day activity and don't forget your member discount applies here too.

[BOOK HERE >](#)

CHRISTMAS SHOPPING AT THE CIDER PRESS CENTRE



Late night shopping, 7, 14 & 21 December

It's 12 weeks until Christmas, and if you're planning on shopping at the Cider Press Centre this festive season, pop these dates in your diary for late night Christmas shopping, with our Christmas market and shops open till 8pm.

Our Christmas fair weekends at the Cider Press Centre will also be running 10am – 5pm every Saturday and Sunday throughout December.

AND FINALLY...

MEMBER OFFER – LIMITED TIME ONLY

Parlez-vous francais? Learn French on the Dartington Estate with 10% member discount...

Alliance Francaise is based at Space Studios on the Dartington Estate, and offers group and individual French lessons for people of all levels. With sessions based at either Dartington, Exeter or online, you can study French with highly qualified native speakers at a pace that suits you.

Take a test to discover your level on their website here and then sign up to start lessons in September or January. There's now a special 10% discount on offer for members of Dartington if you book before the end of November 2021 – simply contact them by phone to book on 01803 714309 or email admin@allianceexeter.co.uk.

GIFT MEMBERSHIP

In a time when we all need to look after our health and mental wellbeing, Dartington offers the space, community and creativity to really lift people's spirits. Membership starts from £25, and includes Gardens access, a huge range of benefits, exclusive events and more – a real gift with a difference.

[BUY GIFT MEMBERSHIP HERE >](#)