



Member Newsletter #14: Winter 2021

Wishing a very Merry Christmas to all our Members this year!



WELCOME TO YOUR WINTER MEMBER NEWSLETTER

A warm welcome to your winter newsletter. We've lots of news and updates to share with you all – including a special Q&A coming up at the Barn Cinema this weekend, a Member B&B offer, and a sneak peek at the fantastic events and courses we've got lined up early next year.

HEADLINES

OUR TOTNES SHOP IS OPEN

We're sure many of our members are pleased to see the re-opening of our Totnes shop. This newly refurbished space serves as a box office, info hub and bookshop. You'll be able to renew memberships,

book cinema tickets, concerts, short courses and more. It also has a beautifully curated range of art prints, craft and artefacts.



We've been so warmed by the positive response locally, and encourage members to come down for a browse and say "hi" to Graeme and the team.... your members discount applies in store here too - yet another benefit to your membership now added!

Dartington Trust's Totnes Shop is at 42 High St, Totnes TQ9 5RY (on the corner of Market Square).

MILITARY VETERANS BREAK NEW GROUND IN DARTINGTON'S WALLED GARDEN

Dartington's Walled Garden has become a place of sanctuary for a group of military veterans.

Veterans Outdoors, a local charity that works to improve the mental health of people who have served in the Armed Forces has just completed a wellbeing project in partnership with the Defence Gardens Scheme and with the support of Dartington Trust.

Since September beneficiaries have been coming to the garden weekly to learn basic horticultural skills and to have the opportunity to spend time outside.

For some, the experience has offered an opportunity for respite from daily challenges. Susie, who served in the Army, said:

“When I come here it’s such a peaceful and a calming place. Whatever else is going on I walk in that door and I can just put everything else out of my mind for a few hours.

“It’s helped me re-think things and re-wire my brain for positivity. I know that when I’m here I’ve got a few hours of brain freedom.”

Aside from the veterans’ project, the Walled Garden continues to be a productive area, supplying fresh salad and vegetables to the Trust’s food outlets and to students.

Each beneficiary in the project gets a chance to choose which activities they want to be involved with, under the supervision of horticultural therapist, Jan Hornby.

[FULL STORY >](#)



AN UPDATE FROM OUR LEARNING PROGRAMMES

We now have over 100 students currently studying with us on [programmes at Schumacher College and Dartington Arts School](#), and a further 40+ will be joining us early next year. The start of our [MSc Regenerative Food, Farming and Enterprise](#) in January will be a significant moment for us; the fourth new degree to start at Dartington in the space of a year! This programme brings together much of the work we are already doing on the estate in terms of ecological food production (supplying the Green Table Café and White Hart), as well as the agroforestry, forest gardens, and other practices inspired by principles of permaculture and sustainable horticulture. A recent article in [The Moorlander](#) gives you a sense of where this course is coming from and the important role farming and food production has to play in our attempts to curb runaway climate change.

[Arts and Ecology](#) is another Master’s programme due to start in January. The programme, which began with our Ferment Festival a couple of months ago, continues to build momentum. The artists in residence who joined us for that festival are back here at Dartington this week in the gallery, and are holding an open studio until Sunday, open 11am – 6pm – [click here for more details](#). If you are visiting the estate, do drop in and have a chat with Lucy, Joana and Jim, and explore their work. (On the subject of Ferment, you can also [catch up on Sandor Katz’s talk in the Ferment festival](#) for free on our Youtube channel now too if you missed it!)

As well as degrees, we have been organising conferences, symposiums and events. We recently partnered up with Serpentine Galleries, The Royal Court and UCL for the [Black Atlantic: Sensing the Planet](#)

symposium, which saw a great number of people heading to Dartington to discuss decolonial thinking in the context of the climate emergency. There were thought-provoking talks from leading academics in this field, and you can read a full write up of the event on the ArtReview website [here](#).

If you are interested in Dartington's history, have a listen to [our latest podcast](#) with academics Dr Lise Butler of City University and Dr Anna Neima, author of *The Utopians: Six Attempts to Build the Perfect Society*, about the life and work of Michael Young and his lifelong connection with Dartington.

Finally, you can catch up on some recent things our learning community and alumni have been involved with during and in the aftermath of COP26 on [this blog page](#). As reported in the local papers, a delegation of students and volunteers in the learning community here made the trip to Glasgow for the COP26 Coalition and various other initiatives. Nigel Topping, alumnus of Schumacher College, was heavily involved too as the UK's Climate Action Champion. There's also [a recording of our Earth Talk, Young People Roar](#), with the Kenyan agronomist and youth activist Polly Njiri here in conversation with Jay Tompt, a Schumacher College **economics lecturer**, about what's next for young people and how we can all help to keep up the momentum that has built up around action on climate change.

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.

Please note that following the rise in Omicron cases, mask-wearing is now mandatory at most events and you may need a Covid passport or show evidence of a negative test to gain entry to venues. Please refer to each event page for guidance, and you can see what measure we're taking at the Barn Cinema [here](#).

ROSE PLAYS JULIE [15]



Friday 10th (includes Q&A) & Saturday 11th Dec at The Barn Cinema

Former students return to Dartington to present their acclaimed new film: film directors Christine Molloy and Joe Lawler (former theatre students at Dartington College of Arts) will be back in the Barn Cinema (where they “discovered Peter Greenaway among others”) this week for a special Q&A after the screening of their new film, *Rose Plays Julie*. **Hailed as a triumph by the likes of Mark Kermode, Empire and the Guardian**, the film is a taut psychological thriller about a woman in search of her birth mother.

As well as member discounts, we are offering 20% off tickets for students to come and hear from Christine and Joe in person.

[BOOK HERE >](#)

ENCANTO [PG]



Daily screenings from 17 – 23 December, at 2pm

For some family friendly festive fun, take the kids on a magical adventure to the charmed place of Encanto, where every child in the family is blessed with a unique gift from super strength to the power to heal - every child except one, Mirabel. But when she discovers that the magic surrounding the Encanto is in danger, Mirabel decides that she, the only ordinary Madrigal, might just be her exceptional family's last hope.

Member discount applies.

[BOOK HERE >](#)

A DARTINGTON CHRISTMAS CRACKER



Monday 13 December, Great Hall, 7pm

Dartington Community Choir, conductor Simon Capet, and The Playgoers Society of Dartington Hall, join forces for a Christmas concert of readings, music and carols with audience participation.

Be sure to stay for some mulled wine and mince pies at The White Hart after the concert.

Member discount applies.

[BOOK HERE >](#)

CHRISTMAS SHOPPING AT THE CIDER PRESS CENTRE

A promotional graphic for Christmas shopping at The Cider Press Centre. The background is a dark, textured wood with several wrapped gifts in brown paper and red ribbons. The text is white and green. The main title is 'Late Night Shopping & Christmas Markets'. Below it, the venue is 'THE CIDER PRESS CENTRE'. The schedule is 'LATE NIGHT SHOPPING EACH TUESDAY IN DEC UNTIL 8PM' and 'CHRISTMAS MARKET EACH SAT & SUN IN DEC, 10AM-5PM'. The location is 'DARTINGTON, TOTNES TQ9 6TQ' with the website 'dartington.org/cider-press-centre'. A list of items includes 'FOOD | ARTS', 'CRAFTS | TOYS', 'HOMEWARE', 'STALLS | MUSIC', and 'FESTIVE CHEER!'. There are several yellow stars scattered around the text.

Late night shopping, 14 & 21 December | Christmas Markets 11-12 and 18-19 December, 10am-5pm

Our independent shops at the Cider Press Centre are getting into the festive swing of things with their weekend Christmas Markets and Tuesday Late Night Shopping events up until the 21st Dec. Pop down on Tuesdays between 4-8pm with your members card and get 20% (double the usual discount!) from a wide range of departments.

Plus, for any members out of the area, we are also offering 20% off B&B room rates between 8th and 23rd Dec. Ideal for last minute jaunts to the estate for Garden walks, estate stumps and gift shopping trips ahead of the Christmas holidays. Just head to our [Courtyard Rooms page](#) and use the usual code when booking (you'll find this in your welcome pack, but do get in touch if you need help).

AND FINALLY...

A SNEAK PEEK AT 2022

New Garden partnership announcement coming soon!

We are very excited about a wonderful partnership coming up in January, which will provide our historic Grade II* Listed Gardens with some much deserved prestige in the horticultural world. More news will follow soon...

Sea Change returns

Dartington Arts are also delighted to announce that we will be working in partnership with Sea Change Festival next spring, and the line-up will include the incredible, Grammy Award-nominated musician Chilly Gonzales, who will be performing an intimate solo piano recital in the Great Hall on Thursday 26 May.

Tickets for Chilly Gonzales are available now via seachangepresents.co.uk



ALSO COMING UP IN THE NEW YEAR...

A few more highlights from our wide range of exciting short courses and events – and don't forget, as members you'll get a 10% discount!

Practical Resilience for Me, You and Us (eight-week online course, starting Thursday 6th January 2022)

Develop a set of practices to strengthen your capacity to deal with difficult situations that will equip you with the resilience you need to care tenderly for yourself, society, and the planet. A vital course for all change-makers and caregivers. ([Listen to an interview with the course tutors here.](#)) **Book by 3rd January 2022.**

[BOOK HERE >](#)

Moving Heaven and Earth, with Jonathon Porritt (five-day in-person residential course at Dartington, 14th – 18th February 2022)

What lies beyond COP26? Join seasoned environmental activist Jonathon Porritt and a group of fellow change-makers to explore the practical steps we can take to move our politicians and other key figures and organisations to action to halt climate change. This week will provide you with a framework to address one of the most urgent issues of our time in a positive and practical way. **Book by 3rd January 2022.**

[BOOK HERE >](#)

Sculpting from Life (two-day weekend in-person course at Dartington with residential and non-residential options, Saturday 22nd – Sunday 23rd January 2022)

Improve your observation skills and learn new clay modelling techniques with artist Elisabeth Hadley. The course is designed for those who wish to try their hand at something new, as well as experienced sculptors who want a challenge and some valuable time with experienced models in a large artist's studio.

[BOOK HERE >](#)

Soil Health, Food and Farming (five-week online course with a residential option for the last two weeks, starting 10th January 2022)

Explore how soils work and gain a thorough understanding of their relationship to the entire web of life that we all depend upon. This course is ideal for anyone looking to bring in regenerative thinking to their own current land projects, or who wishes to gain skills and knowledge to help them start working in this area. **Book by 4th January 2022.**

[BOOK HERE >](#)



We are also busy programming **many more music events for 2022** – more info coming in the New Year.

A winter highlight already on sale is acclaimed folk fiddle player Sam Sweeney live in the Great Hall on 19th Feb. Described by The Guardian as “The fiddler with the Midas touch”, Sam is a four-time nominee and one-time winner of the BBC Radio 2 Musician Of The Year Folk Awards.

[VIEW ALL LIVE MUSIC EVENTS >](#)



GIFT MEMBERSHIP

Dartington Membership makes a great Christmas gift too. You can buy a gift membership voucher online via the button below, **making sure that you choose ‘send to myself’ and entering your own email address where prompted.**

When you having completed your purchase, you’ll receive an email with the gift voucher details. Just forward this email on to membership@dartington.org before 17 Dec along with the recipient’s details and we will post it in time for Christmas!

[BUY GIFT MEMBERSHIP HERE >](#)