

Dates for your Diary

May

Tuesday, 23rd • 8:00pm • Hannaford Old Farm, New Bridge Dartmoor Profile Meeting

Preliminary discussion and planning session at Joanna Radford's home. For directions and details, ring Joanna 01364 631287 (see inside for further details)

Saturday, 28th • 12 noon • Rock Inn, Haytor

Volunteers Meeting & Walk to Haytor Quarry for BBC Music Live Acoustic Music Event Didjeridartmoor (@ 2pm)
A quick drink and update on activities at the Rock Inn, followed by a short walk and live music. Bring a packed lunch.

June

Saturday, 10th • 11am • Yellowmeade Farm, Princetown

Meet at Pump House Car Park map ref: SX568750. Walk to London Bridge. Shane Edgar will provide photographic tips en route so bring your camera and some film and a packed lunch.

Saturday, 24th • 12 noon • Okehampton

Visit to Museum of Dartmoor Life, pub lunch, short walk
Time to discover North Dartmoor and visit this respected museum.
Entrance fee: £0.70 per person (group discount). Plan on carpooling -- Nancy and Jackie will help match drivers and passengers. Ring: 01364 72044 or 01364 631483.

July

Saturday, 1st • 1pm • Belstone car park

Another photo walk with Shane Edgar - bring your camera, some film and a packed lunch. Cream Tea at the end!

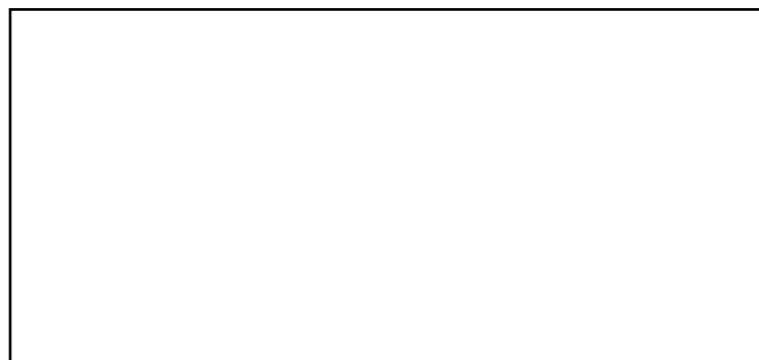
July 24-30 (M-S) • Higher Michelcombe

Moor Creators Sculpture Workshops with Carol Whibley
Drop in sessions to learn copper wire sculpture building and to help create the sculptures for this joint sculpture/photography project. (see inside for further details)

August

Aune Head Arts
High Moorland Business Centre
The Old Duchy Hotel
Princetown, Yelverton PL20 6QF
tel: 01822 980539 e-mail: aha@fsmail.net
http://www.adpa.mdx.ac.uk/rescen/rp/dartmoor

Image: Philip Guy Stevens (courtesy Peninsula Press)



Sat/Sun, 5/6th • time tba • Buckfast Abbey car park
Monks Path Walk. A 24-seater coach will collect walkers in Buckfast and transfer them (and their walking gear) to Buckland Abbey to begin this overnight walk. Walkers will arrive back in Buckfast on Sunday, 6th, late afternoon. (See story inside)

date and other details tba

Photoshop / computer image workshop with Shane Edgar as part of the Moor Creators project.

September

Sat 16 to Sun 24th • Arts Week

Information about this event, and our involvement, will appear in the next issue of the Update.

October

Tues 17th - Tues 31st • Dartington Hall

Exhibition of Moor Creators. Details in next issue.

November

Saturday, 11th • 12 noon • location tba

Meeting, walk, and pub lunch -- the last for 2000!
Details in the next issue.

We are probably going to organise a Dartmoor Quiz event during November - watch this space!

December

Date • time • location tba

End of Year Dinner, Dance & Dartmoor Quiz -- come dressed as your favourite Dartmoor character.

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Welcome! to the re-designed Update. Inside you'll find news on some major changes and further details on new projects and activities.

First, though, we want to thank all those who have been involved to date with The Dartmoor Project* -- for your enthusiasm, energy and support!

*One of the changes has been to add an 's' to The Dartmoor Project's -- to emphasise that there are many activities being co-ordinated by AHA on and about Dartmoor.

We especially want to emphasise that new participants and new project ideas continue to be welcomed. Your participation can be as involved or as casual as you choose, Please don't feel that you have to take part in all the activities -- or come up with an idea for a new project!

Why not join us for one of our walks and/or meetings? We usually begin or end at a Dartmoor pub (where sampling offerings from the menu and the bar is almost mandatory...); we're not exactly famous for the strenuous nature of our walks, either, so don't be put off by the thought of slogging miles across the heart of the moor (although anything is possible!).

We have been thrilled by the way several of the individual projects have taken off in the past few months. Along with Spring, lots of new ideas for projects and activities have arrived (although Spring seems to have retreated again!). Much of this new activity would not have been possible without the enormous leg-up South West Arts gave us last year with £5,000 seed funding. Their generous show of faith in our then-unproven project has made a huge difference in getting us up and running on a solid footing. The grant allowed us to invest in some video equipment, but more importantly enabled us to hire Jackie Parsons to help co-ordinate and develop the project as well

as investigate other funding possibilities. The results of Jackie's recent fundraising successes are outlined inside.

Money isn't the lifeblood of an organisation and we have been able to continue to operate as a low-cost, no-cost organisation, due to a number of very special volunteers. However, some cash is necessary to keep the things going -- so we're glad to see the project gaining recognition from the region's funders and from the Lottery.

At it's October meeting the Board of Directors approved Aune Head Arts becoming a membership organisation. The concept was also approved by those attending the Volunteers meeting in January, 2000. This is another step forward for us, and an important one in helping us offset some of the operating expenses. However, if you choose not to become a member, or are unable to due to financial constraints, this will not preclude your joining in on our activities. There are more details about the membership programme inside -- and, if you can, please become a member.

Aune Head Arts is short on members for our Board of Directors. If you feel you can contribute to The Dartmoor Projects by becoming a Board member (we meet between 3 and 4 times/year -- this isn't a particularly onerous duty). We especially need board members with entrepreneurial or business acumen! If you're interested please call us at 01822 890539, or e-mail us at aha@fsmail.net.

We look forward to a tremendous, busy, and productive 2000! Thanks for bringing us this far.

Nancy Sinclair & Richard Povall
founding members, AHA Board of Directors



issue 4 • 4/00

UPDATE

changes

As mentioned on the front page, we are now The Dartmoor ProjectS. This also seemed an appropriate time to give the Update a face-lift. While adding an 'S' may seem an insignificant change, it represents considerable growth and a more well-defined direction for Aune Head Arts Dartmoor activities. We think it is more reflective of our actual level of activity, and hope that in separating out each of the individual Dartmoor ProjectS it will be easier to explain our purposes.

The growth of activities which suggested this change is due to a number of volunteers who have come forward with marvellous project concepts. AHA will endeavour to support these projects and help make them happen. The Update (and the website) will continue to bring you information on these and other project activities.

Another idea which came up at the January Volunteers meeting was to produce a brochure describing The Dartmoor ProjectS and Aune Head Arts. The brochure is now in the works -- it will give some background into the founding of Aune Head Arts and the beginnings of the Dartmoor ProjectS, along with detailed descriptions of the new projects, and how to get involved. The brochure will also include a membership application. We hope the brochure will be complete by the end of May and on its way to you, we plan to produce enough copies in order to leave stacks in village stores, information centres, libraries and other gathering spots. If you know of someone we should send one to, please give us a ring or send an e-mail! 01822 890539, or aha@fsmail.net.

the new projects

Here are details on all the current projects -- read and wonder...

The Monks Path. This is the colloquial name for the transmoor path from Buckland Monachorum to Buckfast Abbey, so named because it was routinely used by monks travelling from one monastery to another, at a time when the monasteries were enormously powerful land owners in this area. Lynda Reynolds-Smith has been doing historical research into the Monks Path in preparation for the two-day walk along the route she will be leading in August. Along the way Lynda will provide a historical overview of the route and the landmarks along the way. The walk is scheduled for the weekend of the 5th and 6th of August. A coach will transport walkers to the start of the walk (£3 per person will cover the hire costs). We will be spending Saturday night at Nun's Cross Farm -- your overnight gear will be brought to you here. Numbers will be limited so give Lynda a ring soon if you're interested. 01364 642445

Dartmoor Profile. Local printmaker Joanna Radford is developing a collaborative printmaking/bookmaking project entitled Dartmoor Profile. She aims to use Dartmoor Profile to bring people together to make a handmade book based on participants' perceptions of Dartmoor. The finished product will be a book of unfolding pages containing writing and images. The images would be reproduced as handmade prints (etching, woodcut, linocut). Participants would either make their own prints, which Joanna would then produce in multiples, or she would be willing to take someone's drawing, painting or photograph and work with them to create an original print. The finished images can be up to 27" x 8.5" (68 cm by 22 cm). Writing can be poetry, prose, fact or fiction. Decisions regarding print type and printing methods will be discussed and determined by the participants. On the back of each of the fold-out pages there will be an outline of the various profiles of the Moor. A preliminary discussion and planning gathering is scheduled for Tuesday, 23rd May at 8:00pm at Joanna's home. If you would like to be involved with Dartmoor Profile, or need directions to

Joanna's for the meeting, please contact her on 01364 642445 or jradford@talk21.com

Moor Creators. This unusual project idea came from Shane Edgar and recently received support through the Millennium Festival Awards for All programme. Participants will work with local sculptor Carol Whibley to create five near life-size sculptures of the creatures which have helped to create the landscape of Dartmoor as we know it today, i.e., a man, a woman, a cow, a sheep, a Dartmoor pony. The completed creatures will be photographed in a number of locations throughout the moor -- as well as being digitally installed by Shane in a number of other locations. Spot the difference! The sculptures will be the centrepiece of a photography/sculpture exhibition during the Devon Arts Forum Conference at Dartington Hall on October 31st. Plans are being made for additional tours of the exhibition and a possible publication. If you are interested in becoming involved in the creating the sculptures or in the photography, please contact Shane on 01626 853931 or ring us at AHA on 01822 890539. Sculpture workshops will begin in July -- see back page.

Dartmoor Lives & Landscapes is led by Richard Povall and Nancy Sinclair. This concept for a digital archive of Dartmoor at the turn of the millennium was developed during the original planning of The Dartmoor Project. Over the next year or so, Richard and Nancy will be documenting people and places. Much of this documentation will be in the form of video/audio recordings of people talking about the Dartmoor they love, as well as footage of the not-at-all ordinary places that make up Dartmoor. We would like volunteers to get involved with us on this (no, you don't have to commit for the entire length of the project!). If you get involved, we'll provide free training in video, audio, and interviewing skills. Each team will make mini-documentaries about the people and places they choose, with some help from Richard and Nancy. If there's someone in your community who has special remembrances about Dartmoor, or who contributes in some remarkable way to the life of the moor, or if you just love Dartmoor and would like to help record its contemporary life, then contact Richard or Nancy on 01822 890539 or via aha@fsmail.net The project is awaiting funding decisions -- if we're successful with the grants it will begin in summer 2000.

Sounding Dartmoor is a collaborative project between AHA, the University of Plymouth, DA2, and TESE (Touring Ecology of Sound Environments). This project will record a selection of the sounds of Dartmoor. Local individuals will receive training in sound recording techniques and be involved in collecting the sounds. Dartmoor Sounds will follow the model TESE is using for a series of soundscape recording on the Islands of Lewis and Harris in Scotland. Sound identification (soundmark) cards will be arriving in your mailboxes soon -- your responses will help us identify the sounds which are unique to Dartmoor, or are part of what defines Dartmoor. For more information contact Nancy



at 01364 72044, project co-ordinator John Drever at J.Drever@dartington.ac.uk, or aha@fsmail.net.

news...

funding news

AHA was recently awarded £150 from West Devon Borough Council. This may not be a huge amount of money, but it is a significant award given the constraints of the Borough's available arts funding, and a 50% increase on last year's award. We are very grateful to the West Devon Borough Council for its continued support of AHA and the Dartmoor ProjectS -- and to Jackie for her work on preparing this successful application.

Jackie and Shane Edgar joined forces to write a grant application to Millennium Festival Awards for All Scheme (funded through the National Lottery). AHA has been awarded £4,960 to support the Moor Creators project outlined above. Good writing Jackie and Shane!

Again through Jackie's hard work (we'd be sunk without Jackie...) AHA has put in an application to the EC-supported Devon and West Somerset Key Fund for Dartmoor Lives & Landscapes (as a pilot-project for this community-development fund). We'll keep you posted -- we should know soon if we were successful!

membership

As mentioned on page 1, when the Board of Directors last met they approved AHA becoming a membership organisation. This will help to increase the income base for AHA and the Dartmoor ProjectS. Your membership fees will help organisation and project activities continue by enabling AHA to cover a minimal amount of part-time hours for project work. We hope that you will consider becoming a member if you are financially able -- however -- you will not have to be a member in order to take part in Dartmoor Project activities. Benefits of membership include continued copies of the Update, free attendance at workshops, and members-only days at some of our exhibitions -- as well as the satisfaction of knowing that you are helping keep AHA and the Dartmoor ProjectS active. We have deliberately set the cost of membership low to keep it affordable -- an application form is enclosed. If you want more (to give to friends and colleagues) please give us a ring on 01822 890539, or send an e-mail to aha@fsmail.net.

Please consider becoming a member of Aune Head Arts.

website

One of those things that needs volunteer help is the website (<http://www.adpa.mdx.ac.uk/rescen/rp/dartmoor/>). The website has suffered a bit from neglect as Richard's time seems to be continually squeezed by other demands. If anyone is interested in helping out Richard is more than happy to provide the necessary training -- you don't need your own computer, and you don't need to bring any skills other than enthusiasm. You will, of course, learn some valuable IT skills if you get involved. In return AHA will provide you with some free server space if you want to put up your own web pages after you're up to speed. With your volunteer support we hope to make the website a more dynamic part of The Dartmoor ProjectS. We would like to include breaking news, project updates, samples of ongoing work, and photos and video from the projects. If you're interested contact Richard at AHA on 01822 890539 or aha@fsmail.net

