

dates for your diary

Please note walks begin at differing times and that some walks are on Sunday.

February

Sunday 2 • 10am • Postbridge Village Hall • Project Launch
River Dart Artists' Book (details elsewhere in this issue). Meeting ends at 3pm so bring a packed lunch, or plan on purchasing lunch at local pubs or village shop. RSVP to Joanna Radford on 01364 631 287 or jradford@talk21.com

Sunday 9 • 10:30am • Walk

Meet in front of the HMVC in Princetown. This high moorland walk will take us to South Hessary Tor, Crazywell Pool (swimming optional...), along parts of the Devonport Leat, Black Tor and thence across the B3212 to Leedon Tor for a return to Princetown along the former railway route. Some bits of potted history will be provided en route. Bring a packed lunch and something warm to drink. 4+ hours, including breaks. Expect tufty bits, boggy bits, wind (and as it's near Princetown - rain & possibly fog!). Leaders: Lynda Reynolds-Smith and Helen Flint. info: Lynda on 01626 834397 or lynda.reynolds-smith@teignbridge-pct.nhs.uk

Friday 14 • Deadline

Artist applications due on or before today for Focus on Farmers (www.focusfarmers.org.uk)

March

Sunday 16 • 11am • New Bridge • Walk

Meet at New Bridge carpark for a walk along the Dart and through the woods to Holne Bridge. Plan on some wonderful opportunities for artmaking on this spectacularly scenic walk (weather permitting). Bring a packed lunch. 3+ hours including breaks. Leader: Joanna Radford. info: 01364 631287 or jradford@talk21.com

8th March to 6th April • Exhibition

Dartmoor Sensing at Plymouth Arts Centre, 39 Looe Street, Plymouth. (Located

between the City Centre and the Barbican; close to Bretonside Bus Station.)

Exhibition hours: Monday to Saturday 10am to 8:30pm and Sunday 6pm to 8pm

phone: 01752 206 114, **email:** arts@plymouthac.org.uk, **web:** www.plymouthac.org.uk

April

Saturday 12 • 11am • Walk

Meet at Belstone Village carpark (SX619936) for a lovely walk starting along the spine reaching from Belstone Tor to Oke Tor (good views into the moor). Then descend to follow Steeperton Brook along the Gorge where there are numerous spots for picnicking, artmaking and moor gazing (and, weather permitting, some great pools for paddling...). The return route follows the outward track of last summer's Great North/South Walk along the Taw Plain. Bring a packed lunch. 3 to 4+ hours depending on breaks. Walk Leader: Nancy Sinclair 01822 890539 or nancy@auneheadarts.org.uk

May

Sunday 4 • 2:30pm • Bluebell Stroll

Meet at Furzeleigh Cross, Hennock. On the boundary of the National Park (SX830801) on the 1" map — not shown on the 2.5" map. Short walk of less than 3 miles, about 1.5 hours with a couple of short steep climbs to look at the bluebells — which we hope will be at their best this weekend. Good opportunities for art making and moor gazing. Bring a snack. There is very limited parking, so please try to fill your cars. Phone Frances on 01626 853121 if you have a seat or need a seat. Walk leader: Frances Kline.

Saturday 17 • 10:30am • Cross Furzes • Walk

Meet near Cross Furzes at the brideway to Lamb's Down (SX700666). The parking area is small, so car pool if possible. A walk with fantastic views (and a bit of climbing...). After a gentle stroll across Lamb's Down we will proceed up to Pipers Hill and across to Ryder's Hill (highest point on the South Moor). Then down the Mardle to the local beauty spot of Chalk Ford. Then — an option of return routes: 1) if everyone is feeling fit we can descend to Scoriton, thence to Combe, then climb back to meet the track from Lud Gate and return to Cross Furzes — or — 2) if everyone is ready to head home we will return direct from Chalk Ford up to Lud Gate and Cross Furzes. Good opportunities for art making and/or moor gazing. Bring a packed lunch. 3 to 4+ hours (depending on return route). Walk leaders: Sally Cottis and Mike Power. info: 01364 643424.



Aune Head Arts

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The Old Duchy Hotel
Princetown, Yelverton PL20 6QF
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Philip Guy Stevens (Image courtesy of Andrew Stevens)



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UPDATE 13 AUNE HEAD ARTS

january 2003



River Dart Book

Joanna had a major funding success for her book project in December — receiving 100% of her request from the Tarka Country Millennium Awards (congratulations!). The project is moving forward and almost all the places for participants have been filled — Joanna is very pleased with the enthusiastic reception.

There will be a public project launch meeting and workshop (open to all) at Postbridge Village Hall on Sunday, 2nd February from 10:00am to 3:00pm (bring a packed lunch or food is available at nearby pubs or the village shop). Joanna will be demonstrating printmaking techniques during the workshop and there will be an opportunity for people to experiment with making prints.

Please let Joanna know if you plan on attending the workshop (01364 631 287 or jradford@talk21.com) — also, should there be snow or ice on the day of the workshop, ring Joanna for an alternate meeting location.

focus on farmers

We are so chuffed — AHA received £35,000 from our bid to the Regional Arts Lottery for the Focus on Farmers project (through South West Arts). We have heard there were numerous applications in the same round so we are feeling especially pleased to have received the funding. AHA has several goals for the project: to enable artists to create a series of new artworks focusing on Dartmoor; to provide early-career artists an opportunity to develop their work under the guidance of an established artist; to give exhibition visitors a unique view of the realities of contemporary farm life.

So now we're looking for artists to apply. There will be three lead artists (mid to late career) and three apprentice artists (early career). Selection criteria for the lead artists will centre on the strength of their past work, their enthusiasm for working collaboratively and their ability to work sensitively with the farm families. We are not specifying particular artforms, though we suspect that successful candidates are likely most to be multi-skilled and working across artforms. The apprentice artists must have some demonstrated background in a specific artform or artforms and show an interest in working experimentally.

Lead artist applicants should send a letter of interest, a brief artist's CV, and up to three samples of work. Applications will be accepted from artists residing anywhere within the UK.

Apprentice artist applications should send a brief CV, tell us a bit about what kind of artistic career you wish to pursue, and examples of your work to date. Applicants residing on Dartmoor and in the surrounding region are especially encouraged to apply, however, applications will be accepted

from residents of Devon, Cornwall, Dorset, Somerset, Gloucestershire, Wiltshire and Bristol.

All applications are due on Friday, 14th February. Post them to: Aune Head Arts, c/o Court Gate Cottage, Harbournford, South Brent, Devon TQ10 9DT. **BEFORE APPLYING please visit www.focusfarmers.org.uk for further details about the process and for a project schedule.**

Dartmoor Changes

Richard Povall and Andy Stevens are developing a new project for AHA: *Dartmoor Changes*.

Over the course of 12 to 15 months, we will record every single (ringable) peal of bells on Dartmoor. At current reckoning, there are 29 towers with peals of six or more bells. Not all have an active team, and Andy will bring together a team of experienced ringers who will help us out when necessary. Ultimately, we'll produce a two CD-set (comprising an audio CD, plus a CD-Rom) The CD-Rom will contain additional material about bell-ringing, the towers we have recorded, and the people who were involved in the project. We'll also be talking to members of communities whose churches have peals, and what their sound means to the local community. We also hope to work with Marcus Virgette and Jonnie ??? who will produce a video piece concurrent with the recording process.

We should know sometime in March whether our fundraising efforts have been successful.

Annual Dinner



the AHA Dinner

Moorish provided a delightful atmosphere for a very scrumptious and visually stunning meal during AHA's 2nd Annual Dinner on the 29th of November. This event looks to become not just a trend, but a tradition. The talented Pat Flemming provided provocative accompaniment to the pre-meal gathering on her acoustic guitar and various other instruments — giving a higher than usual tone for an AHA event. During the pre-dinner period folks were also able to interact with three of the sound sculptures created during the Dartmoor Sensing workshops in summer 2002. Dinner was illuminated and enlivened as the Ashburton Carnival paraded past in all its glory (of course it was careful planning on our part which enabled this...). The tone deteriorated post-dinner as we attempted our first Dartmoor Quiz — never again. We had forgotten that our usual crowd consists of curmudgeons and pedants, not to mention the odd Dartmoor expert. It was more panto than quiz, but a lot of fun was had by all (and we really HAD researched the answers — it's all down to interpretation...). Generous donors provided some rather nice prizes for the raffle: a two for one dinner at Moorish,

AHA Membership

Memberships are valid for the calendar year (January to December)

New memberships received in November or December run until end of the following year. Please make cheques payable to Aune Head Arts and allow 2-3 weeks for processing. Send to: AHA, c/o Court Gate Cottage, Harbournford, South Brent, Devon TQ10 9DT

- £5 Under-16, unwaged, single parent, conc.
- £8 Single full membership
- £10 Family membership
- £30 Organisational membership
- £250+ Dartmoor Angel non-expiring membership

Date _____

Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Telephone _____

E-mail _____



Mike & Caroline at the AHA Dinner photo: Pat Flemming

Recent AHA Walks

In **November** Juliette Rich led a robust walk (as it turns out) from her home at Wingstone Farm up to Hound Tor where the local hunt was preparing for their meet (I won't go into the discussions that ensued amongst the AHA walkers... Suffice it to say, many and varied opinions were expressed!). As John Stuart was amongst the group he happily snapped photos of clapper bridges to add to his growing collection — we all posed on the clapper across the Becky Brook. We lunched in glorious sun, perched on rocks below Black Hill. And that's when we made our mistake... The original plan was to follow a direct route back to Juliette's post-lunch; but as it was such a lovely day she suggested that we might want to lengthen the walk a bit by heading over Trendlebere Down to follow the old track along Becky Brook and up to Becky Falls (and I do mean UP to Becky Falls) and a return via Manaton Village. Never trust a walk leader who smiles as they suggest an alternate route... While we all agreed the detour was very lovely — we hadn't actually anticipated a climb which was more suited to mountaineers or (in our case, hands and knees). On the other hand the detour enabled John to bag a few more clappers and I'm certain we all slept well that night (despite the aches and pains...).



Amazing discoveries on Andy Stevens' walk. photo: Shane Edgar

Andy Stevens led one of his multi-faceted magical history tours for the **December** walk. As the walk began near the Postbridge Post Office Andy told us about the last mounted Postman in England who rode the Postbridge circuit (and Andy just happened to have along a photo of him on his horse). The high point of this walk (which included a lot of fine drizzle and some outright serious rain)

was a visit to a reproduction Bronze Age hut. It was a magnificent structure — a sculpture in its own right. We all felt much happier about Bronze Age living conditions after experiencing the spacious, warm, wind and waterproof interior of the hut. From there we had a quick chat with Christine Coaker at Runnage Farm about their various diversification schemes and then it was onward to the site of the Gypsy caravan on the banks of the Walla Brook where Andy and family had summered when he was a bit younger... and the mystery clapper bridge (John was thrilled). Then we had a quick look at the ancient farmstead at Pizwell before a hasty return through the mud to warm ourselves with food and drink at the East Dart Hotel. Phew! There was still one more episode to the walk — Paul Sharman showed slides taken at specific locations across Dartmoor and got us to complete a survey about the level of 'wilderness' the images suggested. This was part of a degree programme Paul is working on and he has promised to keep us posted on the results.

Nancy led the **January** walk which started in warmth and sunshine along the banks of the Erme in Ivybridge and turned into mud, cow dung and fog — what fun we have! Frances Kline has provided her impressions of the walk: Leaving Ivybridge on a good mild morning for the Farmers' Market we shuddered past the beanstalk chimney, scrambled under the viaduct where the Giant Vertigo now lurked unseen and went briskly through the

woods along the Erme to the challenge of mud below Wilkey's Moor. A cascade of sheep in spate at King's Barn and we were brisk again until amoeba fog ingested us as we came onto Hanger Down. Wind and rain in our faces as we picked our way through the boggy bits until fog-forced to follow the wall for a rising half-mile over cattle-churned ground (graded '+'). Fortified by a brief lunch stop in what passed for shelter under the wall, we ventured to trespass through a gateway of liquid mud to emerge from the cloud onto the welcome track and downhill all the way. Thank you Nancy for an excellent walk, marred only by my decision not to keep a spare pair of dry trousers in the car. (Editor's note — I didn't see what Frances drank with her lunch when huddled under that wet stone wall in the mud and rain, but I'm suspicious about its alcoholic content...).



our fearless leader arrives home

Walk Grading

When we developed our grading system for AHA walks last year it seemed such a good idea. Ahem! Turns out that everyone has differing interpretations of the various gradings... Then there are the walks that start out all innocence and light and suddenly turn ratty (like the November stroll with Juliette that turned into mountain climbing and the January amble up the Erme that became torture by mud, fog and rain). Each walk description will now have contact info for the walk leader so that you can ask them about what to expect. AND — AHA asks that you come prepared by wearing suitable clothing for the changing conditions on the moor. Bring extra clothing, gloves, hat, waterproofs, a good packed lunch, a drink (something warm to drink in winter) so that you will be warm and comfortable in wet and windy winter conditions and adequately screened from sun and heat on those occasional warm summer days. And — why not have a look at the proposed route on the OS 1:28 map prior to the walk to get a sense of the terrain to be covered.

AHA Memberships

It's that time of year — all AHA memberships expire as of 31st January. Our thanks to all you who have remembered and renewed already! If you've a post-holiday memory lapse, now is the time to get our your chequebook — or — you can set up a Standing Order and use your precious brain cells for other things instead! A Standing Order form is enclosed, or can be downloaded from www.auneheadarts.org.uk/dartmoor/membership.html

If you're not yet a member of AHA — why not start off 2003 by becoming part of a growing group of folks who are dedicated to developing high-quality contemporary arts projects on Dartmoor. Or, perhaps you're more interested in stomping about in all weathers with odd and unusual people once a month... We've something for everyone — so become a member of AHA and have a bit of fun while helping us continue to underwrite our programmes, events and activities. Want to know more? Ring 01822 890539, email info@auneheadarts.org.uk, or check out our website on www.auneheadarts.org.uk.

AHA Needs a Studio

AHA has a high quality video and sound studio — but it's in a temporary location and needs a permanent home! In the temporary studio we did the editing and sound work for *Dartmoor Lives & Landscapes*, and it was used extensively during the final editing of *Dartmoor Sensing*. It will also be used during the *Focus on Farmers* and *Dartmoor Changes* projects. It has the potential to provide a modest source of earned-income for AHA through low-cost rental to artists and not-for-profit organisations. We feel it is important to provide a rurality-based studio for artists in Devon.

We need a space with 24-hour access, electrical power, heat and a loo — and it has to be dry as computers don't react well to damp! It doesn't need to be very large — approximately 15' x 15' would be fine. Of course, we can't afford to pay much — perhaps £75 or so per month including electricity (so we're looking for a bit of a patron saint here...). The studio should not be noise intrusive and would not have more than 1 to 3 people using it at any one time, though there may be the occasional workshop session. We'd be good neighbors!

If you have a suitable space, or know of one, please give Richard or Nancy a ring on 01822 890539 or email AHA on info@auneheadarts.org.uk.

Equipment Rental

AHA has the following equipment available for rent by *current members* (at extremely competitive rates). If you would like to rent any of the equipment, please contact AHA on 01822 890 539 or via email on info@auneheadarts.org.uk. The equipment is for use on non-commercial work only. Tuition is also available by prior arrangement, for an additional £10 per hour.

2 Mini-DV professional camera kits @ £20/day or £5/concs

1 Mini-disc recording kit @ £10/day (£3)

1 Wireless recording kit @ £20/day (£5)



Ollie Parsons

AHA Order Form

Please make cheques payable to Aune Head Arts. Send to: AHA, c/o Court Gate Cottage, Harbournford, South Brent, Devon TQ10 9DT

Lives & Landscapes video

___ VHS @ £10 ___ DVD @ £15

Dartmoor Profile CD Rom*

___ CD-Roms @ £10 each

* will run on most PCs and Apple Macs with CD drive

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED

£ _____

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____