

***Art, Ecology and the Economy* exhibitor information**

Chris Chapman

Photographer and filmmaker
Throwleigh

Chris has lived and worked on Dartmoor for over 35 years. A keen environmentalist, he works on projects that are of and about his home environs, because 'most issues that we are currently trying to address are on our doorstep, and by highlighting these issues through one's work, we can promote a better understanding'.



He is widely recognised for his photography particularly for the work in which he documented aspects of Dartmoor life. His photographs reflect traditional skills inherent in the indigenous population and emphasise the accumulation of knowledge associated with age and customs. Chris's work is represented in both public and private collections, including

the Victoria & Albert Museum, Arts Council England and the International Center of Photography in New York.

In his film of Dartmoor, *Wild River, Cold Stone*, made with Kate King, the people of the moor tell their story rather than a presenter. They approached the poet Alice Oswald, musician Seth Lakeman and musician Nigel Shaw to collaborate on the film. 'All of this was extremely important to us – no other outside resources were needed. The film was shot, edited and produced solely on Dartmoor'.

The making of *Wild River, Cold Stone* was supported by: Dartmoor National Park Authority, Dartmoor Sustainable Development Fund, Devon County Council, Duchy of Cornwall, Videotel, Devon Artsculture and The Dartmoor Society.

A new film, *Bovine TB – A Way Forward*, supported by local businesses and organisations, was released in January 2010. Bovine TB is an insidious disease that is spreading across the countryside at an alarming rate. The disease is costing the tax payer millions of pounds each year and threatening the livelihoods of many. The film tells the story of the effect the disease has had on two farms, one within Dartmoor National Park and the other in Somerset. The film bridges the gap between those who view the problem of Bovine TB as contentious and insurmountable, and those who believe that there is a way forward.

Art, Ecology and the Economy was shown at CCANW's Project Space in Haldon Forest Park and Duchy Square Centre for Creativity, Princetown, in two simultaneous parts in Winter 2010. It was supported by Arts Council England, Devon County Council and Greater Dartmoor LEAF, incorporating funding from the EU, Defra, SWRDA and LEADER.

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