

# CCANW

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

### **Jane Deane**

Textile artist

Princetown

Jane Deane is a textile artist working mainly in three disciplines: spinning, weaving and dyeing. She is based at The Duchy Square Centre for Creativity, Princetown. This has provided an opportunity to collaborate occasionally with other artists in other disciplines and has provided a new impetus for her work.



Jane has, for many years, been dyeing her fibres and yarns. She has become increasingly concerned at the impact of petrochemical dyes on the environment, both in terms of pollution and sustainability. Her practice has moved more and more towards the use of natural, low impact, sustainable and ethically-produced dyes. She is planning to support a

local grower who may use dye plants to underplant his commercial crop.

Wherever practical, she uses locally produced fleeces and fibres. Buying locally often enables the farmer to get a considerably higher price for fleeces than the Wool Board will offer and reduces carbon miles. In the current economic climate, Jane feels that farmers need all the encouragement they can get in order to keep the breeds of sheep that produce high quality wool. She would like us all to remember that England's wealth was founded on the mediaeval wool trade!

Jane considers herself fortunate to have access to top quality, West Country-raised fibre from sheep, angora goats (mohair) and cashmere. Every year she raises wild varieties of silkworms, allowing them to live out their natural life-span, and uses the silk for accent in her work.

*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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