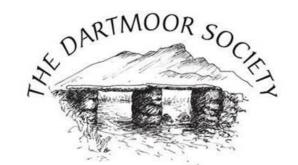The Dartmoor Society Conference 2021

Hallowed Turf: Perspectives on the Conservation of Dartmoor's Blanket Peat

Charter Hall Okehampton, Friday 12th November
from 9.30am - 5pm

Chairman: Keith Bungay,
Former Chief Executive of Exmoor National Park

0930   Arrival: refreshments available

1000   Welcome by Alan Endacott, Vice Chair of the Dartmoor Society
1005   Chairman's introduction to the topic and speakers

1010   **Adrian Colston** Centre for Rural Policy Research, University of Exeter, former National Trust
Manager for Dartmoor and Manager for Wicken Fen.
Dartmoor: the vegetable mould and the inveterate swamp.
The tale of 're-wetting' the mires and why different stakeholder groups make the project so complex and controversial.

1050   **Richard Brazier** Professor of Earth Surface Processes and Director of the Centre for Resilience in Environment, Water and Waste (CREWW).
Understanding the ecohydrological structure and function of Dartmoor's peatlands and how they respond to peatland restoration.

1130   Coffee/Tea break (20 Minutes)

1150   **Morag Angus** South West Water Manager for the South West Peatland Partnership.
Practical Peatland Restoration on Dartmoor and the South West.

1230   Questions and Discussion

1300   Buffet lunch (60 minutes)

1400   **Kevin Cox** Chairman of the RSPB Council in the UK, former chair of Devon Birds and former trustee of the World Land Trust.
How peat can save the planet - the positive impact of peatland restoration for climate and nature.

1440   **Martin Gillard** Historic Environment Officer, South West Peatland Partnership
(Exmoor National Park Authority)
Peatland restoration and the historic environment: protection, mitigation and enhancement.

1520   Afternoon tea/coffee and cakes (20 minutes)

1540   **Geoff Eyre** 'Heather Doctor', Upland Peak District Farmer, Engineer and Agricultural Merchant
Pioneering methods to regenerate bare peat and the challenges of long term renewal versus 'Flavour of the month' politics.

1620   Questions, discussion and summing up
1700   Close