

## Sea users are invited to help safeguard marine life

FISHERMEN, sea anglers and divers are being invited to join a new group to safeguard the region's undersea habitats and marine wildlife.

The Finding Sanctuary partnership and Cornwall Council have formed the Cornwall Marine Protected Area Group to help plan marine conservation zones off the coast of Cornwall.

The zones are new marine protected areas being introduced under the forthcoming Marine and Coastal Access Bill.

Their purpose is to safeguard the region's undersea habitats and marine wildlife, and to help ensure the long-term sustainability of marine resources in the region.

Together with groups from Devon, Somerset and Dorset, the Cornwall group will provide advice and feedback to the regional Finding Sanctuary steering group.

Tom Hooper, Finding Sanctuary's project manager, said: "Recommendations on where marine conservation zones should be sited will be taken at the regional level by the Finding Sanctuary Steering Group, but we need to have local suggestions and knowledge, together with ongoing feedback to ensure marine conservation zones are well planned and therefore have stronger support from local communities - that's where the Cornwall group comes in."

For more information, call Samantha Davis on 01736 369817 or e-mail sdavis.seafishes@cornwall.gov.uk. Applications should be sent by July 24.

## Council wins award for sustainable energy project

GREEN-MINDED Devon County Council has triumphed in awards that recognise the best sustainable energy projects in the county.

It won the local authority award in the Ashden Awards for Sustainable Energy 2009.

Its Renewable Energy for Devon (RE4D) scheme aims to kick-start green rural regeneration by stimulating supply and demand for renewable energy.

The project has led to 109 renewable energy installations in small businesses and community organisations, and a further 18 in domestic properties.

These have a total installed capacity of more than 2 megawatts, cutting about 1,300 tonnes of carbon emissions.

The Ashden Awards judges said: "Devon is rooting renewable energy firmly in the economic realm, and showing that green measures contribute to sustainable business - a particularly important message in the current economic climate."

Melanie Sealey, the scheme's project manager, said: "With many sparsely-populated rural areas in the county, where most of the employment is provided by small businesses, the promotion of renewable energy makes good sense both for the environment and the local economy.

"We hope that the success of this pilot programme will catalyse similar action in the rest of the South West."

Devon County Council launched RE4D in 2006 to create jobs and cut the carbon footprint.

# Water-inspired project for dancing in the streets

An American choreographer has been spending a month in the Westcountry creating a site-specific dance project. Stephan Koplowitz explained the Liquid Landscapes project to Su Carroll

IT takes a visitor to make you say things in a different way, and American Stephan Koplowitz is more than happy to share his excitement about being in the Westcountry.

He is thrilled to discover that Seymour House in Devonport, Plymouth, has a camera obscura - they are a personal obsession of his - and he is fascinated by the way in which Sir Francis Drake was the first man to bring a water supply from the moor into the city.

And the fact that the Pilgrim Fathers set off for America from the Mayflower Steps in Plymouth hasn't passed him by either.

But Stephan is no ordinary tourist. When he looks at these locations and the iconic Smeaton's Tower, busy Armada Way and The Great Barn at Buckland Abbey, he sees them through the eyes of a choreographer.

He is sending more than a postcard home, this visitor is creating dance pieces that will be performed at eight sites in and around the city of Plymouth and elsewhere in Devon with his TaskForce company.

The Liquid Landscapes project - which began last year in Los Angeles - is, to quote the literature, "a response to the extraordinary resource that shapes our environment from water access and rights driving the economy in Los Angeles, to the landscape of Plymouth and its community connected by the sea".

Stephan is famous for putting dance where you never thought dance would go, with large scale public art performances in New York's Grand Central Station, the British Library and the Natural History Museum.

He is bringing the second phase of his international outdoor dance project, Liquid Landscapes to Devon, as part of Dartington's mission to develop exciting new art work outside the walls of the Dartington Hall Estate.

**'Art can be made out of anything. There's no right or wrong about art-making'**

He has been working with professional performers in his own company as well as locally, and will work alongside local artists.

The first performance is tomorrow at The Tiltyard, Dartington, and the week of daily events culminates next weekend in promenade tours of the Tinside Lido in Plymouth.

The shows are all linked by the theme of water.

"We're carrying on from Los Angeles last year," says Stephan in a break from his packed rehearsal schedule. "It's all about water and water related stories."

In Los Angeles, water has a political dimension. At the beginning of the 20th century, engineer William Mulholland transformed the desert with the 233-mile Los Angeles Aqueduct which took water from the Owens Valley in Central California to the city.

It effectively drained Owens Lake within 20 years and started the California Water Wars, the inspiration for the storyline of the film Chinatown.

"Water is a vital part of the global economy. It's an issue that everyone needs to be aware of. Without water the economy of Plymouth would not exist.

"One of the things that I believe as a site specific artist is that on some level the site is just the starting point. You can see the site in a new way, even if it's a site you know very well.

"It's not my motivation to create something new from the place that I'm at. I have the site give me my instructions. Some sites do that with their history.

"I did that with the Great Barn at Buckland



TaskForce dancers rehearse Liquid Landscapes on the streets of Plymouth (top), in Armada Way (below) and on The Hoe (left)



Abbey, the home of Sir Francis Drake. In this case I felt the need to immerse myself in history. One of the pieces of information I found was that he was one of the people responsible for bringing water to Plymouth.

"He was the William Mulholland of Plymouth. They were two men who had a certain amount of wealth and means.

"And coming here, I learned a lot of things about Smeaton's Tower. Essentially, it's a lighthouse on The Hoe and on some level you don't really need to know more than that... but I did find out that the design of it became copied for all other lighthouses.

"Some place I approach the work visually, and in some place historically. Every site calls upon different levels of research. I get a real sense of a city from walking around.

"Plymouth reminds me of some towns in Long Island which is near New York City with its



working class population and its tourist population and it's sense of history.

"Plymouth has this energy and it's great that we are going to be part of that community and that we will make our work on site at these places."

Stephan and his dancers have spent three weeks in Devon on a tight schedule of daily rehearsals on location and in the studio.

Daily performances start tomorrow and include film documentaries at the University of Plymouth and a show at the Barbican Theatre. The theatre's artistic director Mark Laville said they were really excited about Liquid Landscapes.

"Stephan Koplowitz is going to shake-up the city, bringing pioneering public dance to the streets and people of Plymouth," he said. "We expect big crowds and lots of buzz throughout the city."

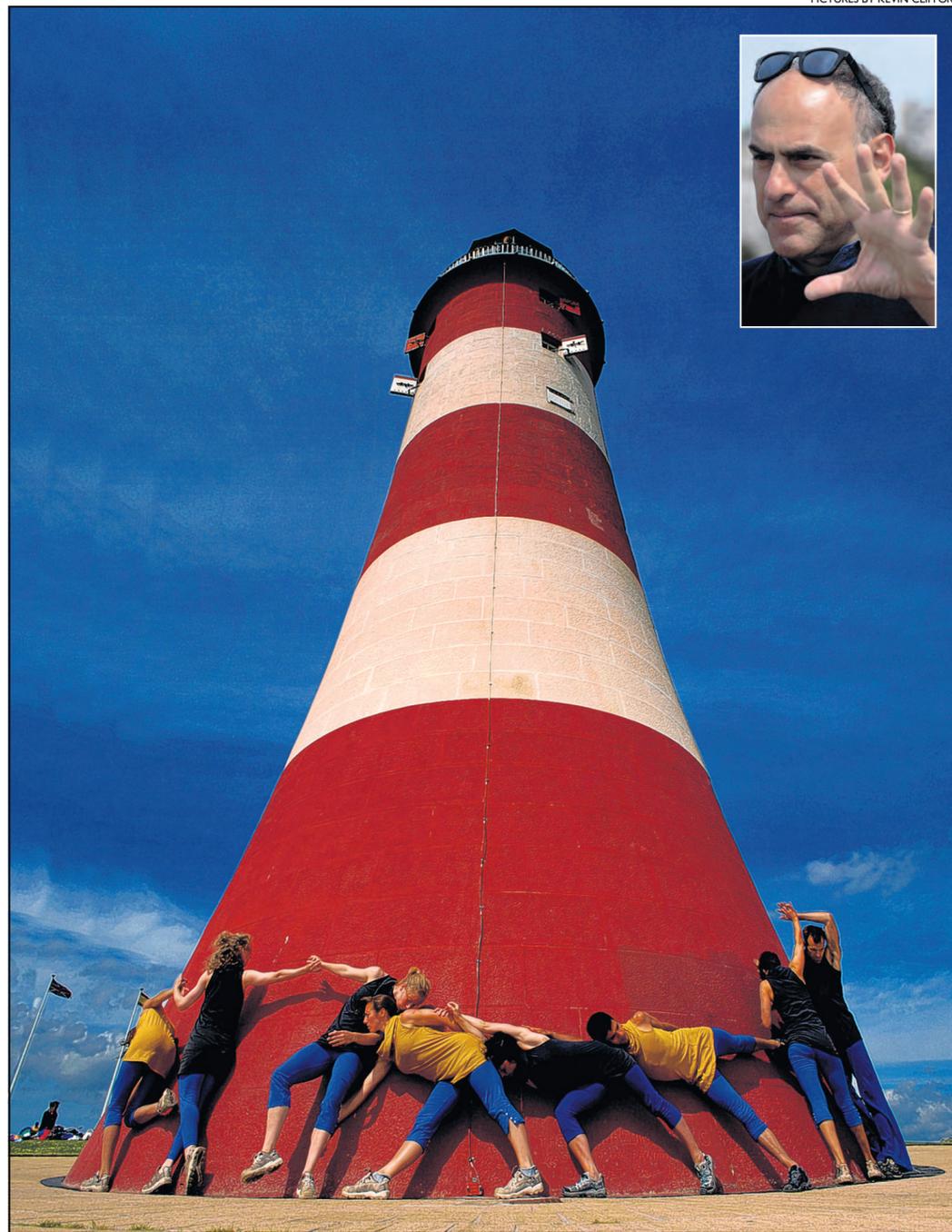
Stephan says he loves to do site-specific work,

even after more than ten years. "One of the reasons is that I just love being able to make work out of what people consider their daily life.

"The act of making art and artists is often, on some level, misunderstood. But we think about all the same things that workers in a factory think about - family, job security, whatever. We just manufacture what we make in different ways.

"Art can be made out of anything. There's no right or wrong about art-making. It's exciting. It's a chance to play. In the end that's what we're doing. That's what creativity is. It's play."

● For more information on the performances, see panel (right) or visit [www.dartington.org/arts/taskforce](http://www.dartington.org/arts/taskforce) where you can see video footage of rehearsals. Liquid Landscapes is part of Plymouth Summer Festival, Dance-ing Devon and Respond!, an RSA initiative to highlight the arts' engagement with environmental issues.



Stephan Koplowitz (inset) has been rehearsing his dancers at Smeaton's Tower on Plymouth Hoe

## Coming soon to a street, lido or theatre near you

TASKFORCE are staging a week of performances in Dartington, Buckland Abbey and Plymouth, most of which are free.

**SATURDAY JUNE 20**

TaskForce collaborates with dance artists from University College Falmouth for a promenade performance that explores Dartington's unique Tiltyard and its historical water connections. *Dartington, Times at 3.30pm and 5.30pm. Limited on-site parking.*

**SUNDAY JUNE 21**

Interdisciplinary artist Dan Faberoff is involved in a performance that highlights the architecture of the Great Barn at Buckland Abbey, home of Sir Francis Drake, the man who brought fresh water to Plymouth, and now National Trust. *Buckland Abbey, Yelverton at 1.30pm and 3.30pm. Free parking but normal National Trust admissions apply (£4.20 adults, £2.10 children, NT members free).*

**MONDAY JUNE 22**

There will be a screening of two original dance

shorts created during last year's TaskForce USA - Kid Galahad Karaoke and Chinatown: Watermark (inspired by locations from Roman Polanski's film, Chinatown) plus a short documentary on the project in America, footage from the Plymouth rehearsals and a question and answer session with Stephan Koplowitz.

*Jill Craigie Cinema, Roland Lexinsky Building, University of Plymouth at 7.30pm. Tickets £5 (concessions £3): 01752 585050.*

**TUESDAY JUNE 23**

A camera obscura in Devonport, Plymouth, is part of a multi-site performance in different locations. Every half an hour, a small audience inside the camera obscura in Seymour House will be able to see the dancers some distance away. Performances are every 30 minutes. *Seymour House, Mount Wise, between 3pm and 6pm. You must reserve the free tickets online at [www.dartington.org/taskforce](http://www.dartington.org/taskforce).*

**WEDNESDAY JUNE 24**

TaskForce moves into Plymouth City Centre

and their first performance is down the centre of Armada Way, starting at the Cophorne Hotel and working down to the sundial.

*Armada Way, 1pm and 5pm.*

**THURSDAY JUNE 25**

Visual artist Ella Huhne will work with TaskForce to create a performance in and around Smeaton's Tower on Plymouth Hoe to mark its 250th anniversary year.

*Smeaton's Tower, Plymouth, 1pm, 2pm and 3pm.*

**FRIDAY JUNE 26**

Guest Helen Snell, a paper artist, will be involved in the performance to highlight the iconic status of the Mayflower Steps. *Pilgrims Point, The Barbican, 12pm, 1pm*

In the evening you can see TaskForce Remixed at The Barbican Theatre at 8pm. Tickets £5 (concessions £3): 01752 585050.

**SATURDAY/SUNDAY JUNE 27/28**

The week ends with a unique promenade tour of Tinside Lido on the Hoe. *6pm on both days.*

PICTURES BY KEVIN CLIFFORD



## Dame Ellen to talk about her record round world voyage

WORLD renowned sailor Dame Ellen MacArthur is returning to Cornwall to break the silence on her record-breaking achievements.

Dame Ellen, famed for her round-the-world travelling exploits, has agreed to come and speak at Falmouth's National Maritime Museum Cornwall.

It will be the first time she has spoken publicly about her life since her world record-breaking circumnavigation of the world ended just outside the maritime museum in 2005.

Dame Ellen said: "I'm really excited about coming back to Falmouth, which holds so many great memories for me. I received an unbelievable welcome there when I completed my round-the-world voyage in 2005 and this will be my first visit since that day.

"The National Maritime Museum Cornwall gave us a lot of support then, and we're really grateful that they are doing the same again, this time in aid of the Ellen MacArthur Trust and our Round Britain voyage."

The celebrated sailor will be recounting stories about her amazing and varied experiences at sea, as well as talking about her work with the Ellen MacArthur Trust.

The Ellen MacArthur Trust and the Round Britain project are raising funds to ensure more young people can enjoy sailing and regain their confidence as they recover from cancer.

The lecture is due to take place on Monday, August 31 at 7pm. Call 01326 214546 for tickets.

## Mini drivers to do end-to-end run dressed as hippies

TWELVE car owners will celebrate the Mini's 50th birthday next week by driving 1,000 miles to John O'Groats - dressed as hippies.

The 2009 Mini Run, where 24 drivers in 12 Minis drive from Land's End to John O'Groats, will be the 11th annual drive raising money for charity.

The Small Cars Big Hearts group from North Devon Mini Register is raising money for Children's Hospice South West and hopes to raise enough to pay for and equip a new Messy Play Room being built in Cornwall. It has already donated £36,000 to the project.

Event organiser Terry Baker said: "I absolutely can't wait. I work all year for this. It's a real chance to meet some real friends."

This year's Mini Run sees a peculiar twist as drivers dress up as hippies and decorate their vehicles with flowers and logos from the era.

The 1,000-mile journey will take five days, with the drivers departing from Dartington Crystal, Torrington, North Devon, at 10am on Monday, June 22 and heading for Land's End to start the journey to Scotland. They hope to arrive at their final destination by Friday lunchtime.

The drivers will travel 250 miles a day but once they reach their destination, they face a 900-mile return journey.

The group has raised more than £260,000 over the years, of which £220,000 has gone to Children's Hospice South West.