



CHASE &
CHALKE
LANDSCAPE
PARTNERSHIP

Seeking Custodians for our Dark Skies

Did you know that 90% of people in the UK have never seen a truly dark night sky? In Cranborne Chase we are lucky to have some of the darkest skies in the south of England. So dark in fact that the whole of the Cranborne Chase Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty was designated an **International Dark Sky Reserve** in 2019.

But there is much to be done to maintain this important status, and we need your help.

As part of our **Chase & Chalke Landscape Partnership Scheme** we want local people to get involved in promoting greater understanding of our dark skies. This will be done by helping others to learn about planets and constellations, and by creating an awareness of the beauty of the night sky and the benefits dark skies bring to health and wellbeing, wildlife and the environment, even the local economy.

Become a Dark Sky Custodian

The second round of training for **Dark Sky Custodians** will start at the end of November 2021, there will be three 1 hour (approx.) workshops held online (via zoom) exploring the following:

Session 1:

What is a Dark Sky Custodian, why is ALAN so bad and a look at good lighting practice

Session 2:

Organising and conducting stargazing sessions

Session 3:

Security, Astrotourism and Accreditation; plus measuring how what we are doing is having an effect

Plus of course there will be a chance to learn more about the constellations, and to help conduct sky quality measure (dark sky) recordings.

There are plenty of activities to get involved with, so if you are passionate about our dark skies and would like to help us protect, enhance and promote them, join us for our **Dark Sky Custodian workshops**, starting at **7.30pm on Tuesday 30th November**. The second workshop will be on **Thursday 9th December** and we will finish the sessions the **week commencing 13th December**.

To register your interest please contact our Heritage and Community Engagement Officer, Rachel Limb – rachellimb@cranbornechase.org.uk