

The Newsletter of the Network of
Loyal Hunters

Issue 10 – Imbolc 2014

£2.50



COVER STORY – see page 3

The Newsletter of the Network of Ley Hunters

Issue 10, Imbolc (1st February) 2014

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The Network of Ley Hunters is an informal movement for all who are interested in leys and patterns within the landscape. This newsletter is available on annual subscription of £10 (or £20 if from abroad). This brings you four quarterly issues. Bank notes best! If you must send a cheque or postal order, please make it payable to L. Main.

Contributions are welcome for future issues. Please send 16pt typed 'camera ready' copy, single side A4. We have early deadlines because we are often away (on Pilgrimage).

BOOK NOW FOR OUR MOOT IN KENT

Saturday, 5 April 2014 (10:30- 7:30), Conference Hall, Seekers Trust, Addington Park, Kent ME19 5BL (Grid ref TQ655590) 45 minutes by train from London Victoria to Borough Green, then 10 minutes taxi. Speakers: **David Hughesman, Doug Chapman, Susan Sheridan, Philip Carr-Gomm, Dr. Manjir Samanta-Laughton, Yuri Leitch, Maria Wheatley & Laurence Main.** Tickets £30 each (cheque payable to L. Main, address above). Walks free (but bus fares payable) to be led by Jon Lord on Thurs 3, Fri 4, & Sun 6 April 2014. Accommodation includes Pretty Maid B&B (tel 01732-886445). Nearest campsite Gatehouse Wood (tel 01732-843062). Premier Inn and Holiday Inn also nearby. Borough Green Taxis (tel 01732-882020). OS Explorer map 148. Stay for a holiday or make a day trip. Meet other ley hunters. Hear top speakers. Visit stalls. **Book now!**

BOOK NOW FOR OUR ISLE OF WIGHT MOOT

Gary Biltcliffe and Caroline Hoare, authors of The Spine of Albion, have agreed to lead us on the Isle of Wight for our field trip Moot in September. We'll assemble on Thursday evening, 11 September 2014, so that Gary and Caroline can lead us for three days over the weekend. Then Laurence Main (author of three walking guidebooks to the Isle of Wight) has more to offer from Monday to Wednesday, 15-17 September, before we depart on Thursday, 18 September.

Send £20 to register now (cheque payable to L.Main, address on page 2). You will be sent more details. We intend to book our own bus and driver, sharing the cost between us. We'll settle on a base camp, but you could also hostel or stay in a B&B.

Walk old green lanes from the ruins of Cistercian Quarr Abbey following the Elen dragon line of the Belinus Line to the ancient Druidic harbour at Brading, visit Gatcome Church (time-slips and Knights Templars), the Needles, Carisbrooke Castle, the Longstone, St Catherine's Hill....



STOP PRESS!

Tea and biscuits will now be available at our Moot in Kent, thanks to the Kent Dowsers.



COVER STORY

The Michael current writhing through St Michael's Church, Brentor, Dartmoor, by Graham K. Griffiths

Except on rare occasions I only see earth energies against dark backgrounds – hence I only attempt to paint such on winter/ dull days. However, for Brentor I chose to go at night armed with six torches and, hopefully, the moon to light my palette. And 'yes,' there was the current snakily coming from the south and then exploding towards me through the north side of the church, akin to the outpouring of a furnace.

THE MELKARTH LINE by Yuri Leitch
(a speaker at our Moot in Kent)

A presentation about strange goings on and great alignments across the British countryside – the very famous ‘St. Michael Line’ that stretches across the land from St. Michael’s Mount in Cornwall to the Norfolk coast; the less famous but equally enigmatic ‘Somerset Parallelogram’ and the recently discovered ‘Melkarth Line’. Knowledge of all three, above mentioned mysteries, were revealed to the modern world via clues that were deliberately placed in the books of Katharine Emma Maltwood – the discoverer of what, she called, the ‘Temple of the Stars’; now better known as the Glastonbury Zodiac.

Katharine’s influences were many, and of her era – Theosophists, Antiquarians, Freemasons, Druidic Revivalists, members of the Hermetic Order of the Golden Dawn, the Slade School of Art and the Royal Academy, the Admiralty, Arthurian scholars and Anthroposophists! It is a complex web of many strands; all expressed within her writings. This mystical woman, during the 1920’s, commissioned the very first aerial photographs of Somerset and then put her findings into esoteric print.

Yuri Leitch is an artist and writer. A lad of the West Country (Cornwall and the Cotswolds) he has been a Glastonbury resident since 2001. 2007 saw his first book published ‘*Gwyn: Ancient God of Glastonbury and Key to the Glastonbury Zodiac*’ and 2013 saw the publication of the long awaited Maltwood Moot anthology, ‘*Signs & Secrets: of the Glastonbury Zodiac*’, of which he was the Editor. Visit www.yurileitch.co.uk for further info.

DODE IN KENT
“*The end of the line*”

Almost 25 years ago Douglas Chapman purchased the ruined Norman Church of Dode in a secluded valley in the North Downs of Kent. Although less than 30 miles from central London, it always was, and remains, a place apart.

Standing atop of a very small man made mound (this is not Burrow Mump or Glastonbury!) and aligning perfectly with a number of the Medway Megaliths including the Coffin Stone and Little Kits Coty, it is very much a place of local myth and legend.

Intrigued by the clear alignments in the landscape which either passed through or ended at Dode, Douglas has spent many happy years researching local “leys” and has spoken before to the Network of Ley Hunters.

This talk briefly re-introduces you to Dode but more importantly seeks to explain the effects that this special place has had on mankind in the past and the fascination, love and sometimes fear that it continues to hold today.

As a result of inter-reaction and observation of literally hundreds of people Douglas is convinced that sometimes unbeknown to them, many people (even sceptics) are drawn to Leys especially to terminal points. In particular he finds that the effect Dode has on many people is “quite astounding” This is an in-depth look at “The End of a Line”.

**Douglas
Chapman**
is a
speaker
at our
Moot in
Kent.



INVESTIGATING LEYS SINCE 1983
£4 for four issues from: 1, St. Paul's Terrace, Easton,
Wells, Somerset, BA5 1DX

A LOOK AT CERTAIN SACRED MOUNDS AND THEIR
CONNECTIONS WITH EDUCATION.

What are the special links between the ancient mounds of Eton, Winchester, Marlborough and Westminster? There seem to be curious connections between these four mounds... - even though one of them no longer exists. They are all connected to unique and significant places of education, colleges that have real links with leadership, law, and kingship. Very ancient tenets of ancient Druidism.

Susan has been researching these sites and their curious connections over a period of time and seems to have discovered an unusual and hitherto unacknowledged wisdom that she feels is important to recognize and research further. Are we still honouring ancient Druidism in ways that are not realized by most people - including those most involved?

Susan Sheridan MA is an Independent researcher, an actress and voice coach. She is the voice of Trillian in The Hitch Hikers Guide To The Galaxy Radio Show - Live! which regularly tours Great Britain. Her books and CDs on voice are on sale at the National Theatre Bookshop - and on her website:

www.susansheridan.com

Susan Sheridan will speak at our Moot in Kent.

PILGRIMAGE

by Laurence Main (a speaker at our Moot in Kent)

So what if leys and patterns in the landscape are real? To me, they indicate that the earth is alive and that we must act accordingly. Practice has shown me that it is good to walk pilgrimages along the leys and to pray and dream at sacred sites in the process. Walking the leys is a spiritual experience, bringing intense contact with the living earth. Our ancestors knew and valued this. Pilgrims were walking this land long before Christianity.

Be warned! Things happen to the pilgrim. By hoisting that heavy backpack and stepping out on those rugged paths, you are dealing with raw spiritual challenges. Death is no stranger. Ancient archetypes prove to be very real. Conventional comforts flee. You will be privileged with true rewards. I intend to share some experiences with you in my talk. These come from several long pilgrimages, including my 1404 mile walk from Callanish to London in 2004 and my Michael line walk in 2009/10. Hear the latest on the trek from Portland to Iona in the company of the children of Llyr: Bran, Branwen, and Manawydan. Consider a future adventure linking Glastonbury with Alfred Watkins...

* * * *

Laurence Main is the editor of the Newsletter of the Network of Ley Hunters (despite not having a computer!). He started writing for The Ley Hunter in 1980, when Paul Devereux was its editor. A contributor to many magazines and newspapers, he is the author of 50 walking guidebooks, including The Spirit Paths of Wales, The Old Straight Tracks of Wessex (with Paul Devereux), Walks in Mysterious Wales, Walks in Mysterious Oxfordshire, Walks in Mysterious Hampshire, Walks in Mysterious Wiltshire, Walks in Mysterious Somerset, In the Footsteps of King Arthur, and King Arthur's Camlan. He has dreamt on Carn Ingli for over one thousand nights and in other sacred places (including fasting for one week at the summit of Cader Idris). He has dowsed leys on TV and radio dozens of times. Laurence has also worked as the Assistant Secretary of the Vegan Society and holds a B.Ed. Degree from Oxford University (1973). He gives talks to groups all over the country.

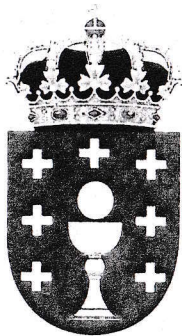
THE GALICIAN PENTAGRAM

by Merlina Rose

Galicia, or Celtic Spain, is a province in the North West of Spain. It feels so different to the rest of Spain, more akin to Brittany. It is lush and green with dolmens, menhirs, the oldest rock carved labyrinths in the world, the remains of Celtic settlements, its own Mt Olympia, a climate akin to that of Britain and its own language and culture. Here in this timeless place Christianity and Paganism mix seamlessly.

Galicia is best known for its capital city of Santiago de Compostella where the relics of St James are visited by thousands of pilgrims annually. There are several pilgrimage routes leading there from all over Europe, the most popular being the route from St Jean-Pied-de-Port in Northern France, known as the Camio Santiago (Way of St James) and nicknamed The Milky Way. Compostella itself translates as "Field of Stars". The route was once under the protection of the enigmatic Knights Templar.

The coat of arms of Galicia depicts the Holy Grail surmounted by a crown and surrounded by seven crosses. Legend has it that the grail was brought here en route to Britain. Some suggest that the circular disc above the grail may represent the sun about to set.



Whilst planning a trip to Galicia in Autumn 2011 I discovered a landscape pentagram. I had decided to spend five days touring followed by two days in Santiago de Compostella. As I plotted the five places I wanted to visit on Google Earth, I was amazed to discover that I had just drawn a substantial landscape pentagram. If it were contained within a circle, the radius of that circle would be 49 miles.

The northern tip, or crown, of this pentagram is **A Coruna**.

The eastern tip of the pentagram is **Lugo**.

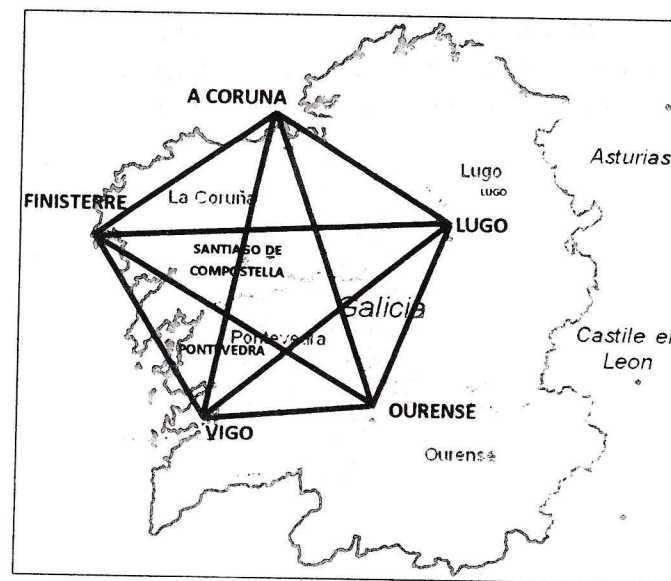
The south-eastern tip of the pentagram is **Ourense**.

The south-western tip of the pentagram is **Vigo**.

The western tip of the pentagram is **Cape Finisterre**.

Close to the centre of the pentagram is **Pico Sacro** (holy peak), a sacred mountain made of crystallised quartz.

Along the NE-SW line between A Coruna and Vigo we find the cities of **Santiago de Compostella** and **Pontevedra**.



Traversing the Pentagram in an anti-clockwise direction, we began our journey in Ourense where Samhain and Christian All Souls celebrations were taking place in the evening. Children dressed in spooky costumes mingled with church-goers and bathers relaxed in the outdoor thermal baths, the spa being the reason for the Romans founding Ourense. Later, when the tourists had gone to their beds, the locals partook of the Queimada, the traditional Samhain fire drink ritual.

The next day we headed northwards to the Roman walled city of Lugo, which was eerily quiet, being mostly closed for the bank holiday which follows the celebrations. After a night spent in a converted farmhouse in a lush river valley near a waterfall, we headed to the northern coast and A Coruna.

A Coruna was once the capital of Galicia before Santiago de Compostella. The Spanish Armada set sail from here and the city repelled the attentions of Sir Francis Drake. On the northernmost tip of the A Coruna peninsula is the famous Torre de Hercules (Tower of Hercules), the oldest lighthouse in the world, built by the Romans. We slept nearby in a hotel on the Avenue des Menhirs where a modern version of a stone circle, with square holes cut into the centre of each of the 12 menhirs, looks out to sea and a large Stonehenge-like sculpture stands atop the rugged coast in tribute to those people who died fighting for Galicia's freedom against General Franco.

Close to the Tower of Hercules is a huge mosaic compass rose, known as Rosa dos Ventos (Rose of the Winds). It is a tribute to each of the seven Celtic nations (Scotland, Wales, Cornwall, the Isle of Man, Brittany and Galicia) with the eighth mosaic being a skull and crossbones, which also appears on the coat of arms of A Coruna itself.

From A Coruna we headed for Finisterre. En route we stopped at the fishing village of **Muxia** on the Costa de Morte (coast of death), so named due to the large number of shipwrecks. This is one of the final destinations for pilgrims en route from Santiago de Compostella to Finisterre at the end of the Camino Santiago. On the rocky coastline a mile or so outside the village is a simple Basilica known as Santuario da Virxe do Barca (Sanctuary of the Virgin of the Boat). Legend has it that the Virgin Mary came ashore here in a stone boat to give encouragement to the apostle James in his preaching. This spot is a place of amazing energy and it is hard to envisage that a decade ago this area of coast was devastated when the Prestige oil tanker ran aground. Here too can be found a large rocking stone known as the Pedra de Barca (rock/stone of the boat). Pedra also translates as Peter, and one wonders if Mary's stone boat arriving here on the coast of death was actually an allusion to a Roman style coffin or St Peter's Boat, which is said to carry the souls of the dead across the celestial river (the Milky Way). Perhaps those very souls who had been sent on their way by the Queimada in Ourense three nights earlier.

Finisterre is said to be the most westerly point in Europe where the sun sets into the sea, although geographically speaking that point is actually a few miles up the coast.

Travelling around Galicia was like walking a labyrinth and arriving at Finisterre felt like reaching the top of Glastonbury Tor. Tired but satisfied Pilgrims sat on the rocks each having left their own little momento, a stone or another treasured item to mark their physical and spiritual accomplishment. From here the pyramid-shaped granite mountain of Mt Pindo, the Celtic Mt Olympia, can be seen across the water. It was in the fishing village of O Pindo at its foot that we spent the night watching the sun set into the sea over Finisterre.

Before returning back to the field of stars in the centre of the pentagram, we visited Vigo, the only place where I felt bad vibes and didn't care to linger.

In the Cathedral of Santiago de Compostella I felt an initial disappointment not to find the amazing energies I had expected. I then realised that Santiago is only the start and end of the Galician labyrinth. The centre is actually Muxia and Finisterre where the pilgrimage (and energy) reaches its peak and we contemplate the journey so far whilst having thoughts of re-turning homewards.

So we have the legend of Mary arriving in stone boat at Muxia, one of the most western points in Europe. In issue 8, Alex Langstone told us of the legend of St. Bega arriving in a boat at St. Bee's Head, the most western point in Cumbria. Two Goddess archetypes arrive by sea, after a seemingly impossible journey, at the point where land meets ocean and where the sun sets into that sea at the ends of the earth. Could these legends be allusions to female earth energy currents coming ashore?

Could there be any links between the two legends? Well, there is another legend linking A Coruna with Ireland, and it was from the Isles of Aran in south-west Ireland that St. Bega is said to have set sail across the Irish Sea to Cumbria. Legend has it that Broegan the Celt had a huge tower built at A Coruna (the Torre de Hercules) and from the top he could see a land mass. He sent his sons out to find this land mass, which turned out to be Ireland, a country that they duly conquered.

A further synchronicity is the fact that A Coruna was called "Brigantia" by the Celts. Brigantia is also the Celtic name given to a large part of northern England and the Brigantes were a tribe in Ireland. Brigantia is the name of the Celtic Goddess who became Brigid, later christianised as St. Brigit, and whose name may well be the base for the names of "Britain" and "Brittany".

So could (or should) all the energy that pours into Galicia along the European pilgrim paths travel across the Atlantic to Ireland and from thence to Cumbria, possibly even linking up with the Belinus Line, or Spine of Albion, carrying the souls of the dead on a never-ending journey northwards towards the celestial pole?



BOOK REVIEW

The Sun And The Serpent

Hamish Miller & Paul Broadhurst

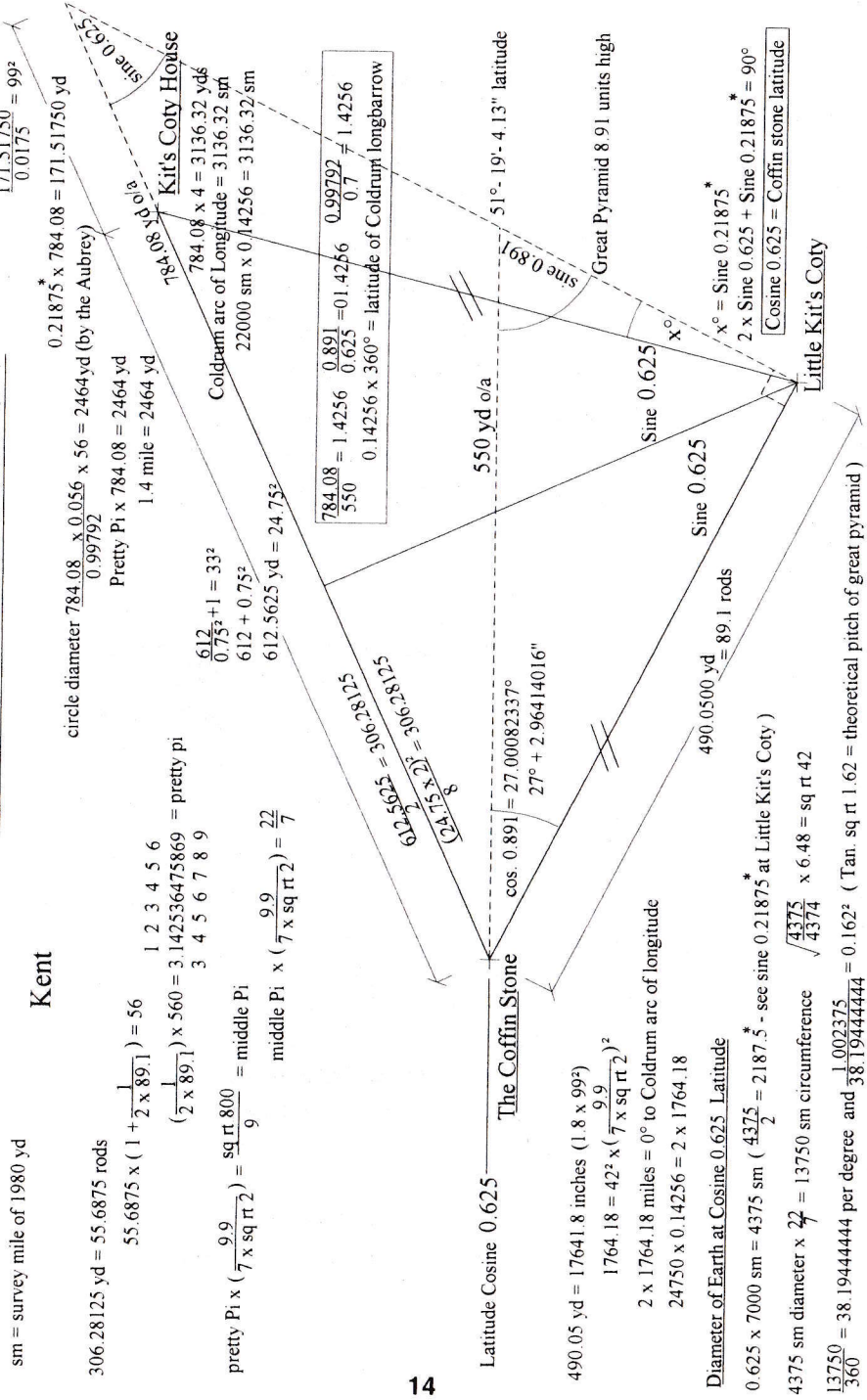
Publisher: Pendragon Press, Cornwall 1989, 218pp, paperback, b&w illus & coloured photos, ISBN-13: 978-0951518311



A ground-breaking work on our understanding of leys. The landscape alignment or *ley* known as the Michael Line (incidentally is the longest possible line that can be drawn from East to West on the British Isles) running from the east coast of Norfolk to the the aptly named Land's End in the far West of Cornwall on the British Isles, was already postulated by Jon Michell, however, the authors of this book made a brand new discovery: while walking the Michael Line, continually dowsing, and analysing the available data with an open yet skeptical mind, they discovered that quite definite *serpentine* currents appeared to twirl around the line on each side, forming currents, touching places with Mary in the place names, the other those with Michael, which seemed to indicate a male-female/yin-yang polarity about the central line. The book recounts their detailed journey along the the Michael Line, where they passed through such spiritually significant points as Glastonbury Tor and Avebury (largest prehistoric stone circle in the world) , and discuss the significance of the serpent in ancient and spiritual culture.

- Liza Llewellyn

The geometry of Kit's Coty House and adjacent stone structures (1.5 miles East of Addington) Kent



The originator of this must have been more than Genius. Considering the repetitive use of 0.21875 in both angle measurement and ratio of dimension while sitting on the latitude of cosine 0.625 and incorporating sine 0.625 into the design. Sadly, I only have the ability to find that which is there.

Brian A. Thirtle M R I C S ©
May 2013 (All rights reserved)

LANDSCAPE JOURNEYING

By Jill Smith

I have recently finished the first draft of a major book about my travelling of the Gipsy Switch journey nearly 30 years ago and of the landscape journeys which I made in the years leading up to it: years which were an enormous personal and spiritual journey bringing me deeply in tune with the living earth and sacred landscapes of Britain and the ancient ancestral spirits who were honoured by the people down through thousands of years. So I felt maybe I should share a little of that journey.

I had stirrings of a connection to the Neolithic and earlier in the '60s but the real awakening of ancient memory didn't really begin until the mid '70s when I was a performer of spectacular, celebratory ritual ceremonies at faires and festivals. For me, each performance was a story and a journey. Without realising it, the performances became a form of self-initiation into a deep forgotten relationship with the Earth, its rhythms and cycles and our interaction with the universe.

I was also making trips around the ancient sites of Britain with my then husband, initially to get to know them, but I found I needed to shape the trips into journeys with some purpose. I felt the sites weren't separate from each other but linked into a living network which once had humans as part of it as they moved through it, tending it and keeping the links alive.

I began to make gifts between sites, from one to another, feeling I was strengthening these forgotten links and bringing something alive again.

Going from sacred site to sacred site made me aware of how the human had once been a vital part of the relationship between earth and cosmos, keeping the balance of that relationship, but that we have pretty well lost this in the modern world.

For most of our existence as humans we were hunter-gatherers (or rather gatherer-hunters) moving through a landscape with which we had a deep physical and spiritual relationship. We were dependant on our knowledge of it: its physical features, its water sources, the life cycles of its plants and animals, but also having a deep spiritual connection, giving back as well as taking, tending and honouring it in a way which kept both it and us well.

In travelling their Dreaming Paths, made by the creation ancestors, this is what the Australian Aboriginal people did for tens of thousands of years and I am sure this is how our own ancient ancestors related to the landscape of Britain and that they also travelled Dreaming paths, teaching and honouring the land and cosmic movements through stories, songs and ceremonies, so that people and land were part of one whole.

In the Neolithic this must have begun to be lost as people settled, farmed and 'owned' land, no longer moving the natural cycles through it nor tending the natural sacred sites. They then must have needed to construct larger and larger megalithic sites to compensate for what they were losing, trying to find a different way of relating to earth and stars. Whereas previously there had been natural 'places of emergence' formed by the creation ancestors themselves, the humans now had to build places aligned to specific movements of sun, moon and stars so that they could still have 'bridges' to the realms of the ancestors – who maybe still sometimes returned to earth – and so that the spirits of the dead could return to the

ancestral homes in the sky. Maybe this was a shift from a natural belief system to organised religion with a hierarchy.

For myself, I became drawn ever deeper into the landscape, giving up spectacular performance, costumes – even family and home. I embarked on a series of landscape journeys, moving through the land and its sacred places, sleeping out at them throughout the year with no tent, linking the places by the path of my walking, taking gifts from one place to the next and learning my own land on a very deep level.

On my 'Awakening' journey in 1982, from Lands End to the Hebrides, I moved through ancient sites right up the body of Britain, walking a pilgrimage of several days to each site and staying with each for days more. This was one of the most intense times of my life. It seemed that each site became integrated into my own body and I into it, so I began to feel I had Britain within me and it had me throughout it. When I eventually lay on the brow of the Sleeping Beauty mountain on Lewis the journey became one with her body also. The land, the mountain and the human as one.

In the year-long Gipsy Switch of 1984/5 I circled the land as the sun moved through the zodiac, reflecting its movement in the sky as I and others moved on the land beneath.

When I moved to Lewis in 1986 the journeying changed, moving the cycles of the year round the same sacred sites year after year after year.

I am so glad I seized the opportunity to do all that journeying at a time in my life when it became possible. Now I am returned to Lewis and I tend the sites here as best I can. The land is still within me, and

all those places I touched in the past, so by tending one I feel I am tending them all and still in a little way keeping the network alive.

I believe it is vitally important that those of us who can, still travel these paths, being led to them intuitively, establishing deep relationships with place. We do not need to know what the ancient people did – their footsteps are still there to be walked in, their journeys re-awoken. The places will tell us what they need if we listen. It may seem very little in the external world but simple things done with awareness and intent can reflect in the greater reality.

Jill Smith, Isle of Lewis, June 2013.

PS. I am looking for a publisher for my book which is very much about the daily reality of actually making the journeys. Any ideas would be welcome.



Horse Mother of the Ancient Land by Jill Smith



Right: Jill in Virgo, Bury St Edmunds zodiac, 1980.



Below: Last September's Moot party in Cumbria, Mayburgh Henge, 9/9/13: (L-R) Richard Carder, Richard Williams, Lola Thomas, Anthony Rowland, Terry Little, Beate Weinelt, Christine Williams, Rob Farrah, Laurence Main, Judith Adams, Eve Elcoate, Tony Charlton, Dave Shead. Photo: Gabriel Blamires. Alex Langstone & Paul Atlas-Saunders joined the party later.



Keswick Moot September 2013 by Richard Williams



At Castlerigg Stone Circle with Rob Farrah, here explaining his findings from the investigations he has made at this site. How the stones relate to the landscape of Skiddaw, Blencathra, Helvellyn

and Great Mell Fell, and also how the stones relate to the Equinoxs and the Major Lunar Standstills. Rob's observations at this site are fascinating and the results of his work he is putting together for future publication.



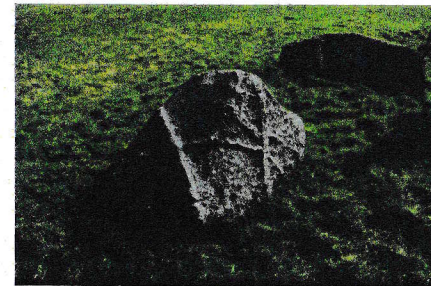
The recently erected Millennium Stone stands between King Arthur's Round Table and Mayburgh Henge. Here Rob tells us of the battle he had with the local authority regarding the sighting of this stone.

Inside Mayburgh Henge at the only surviving stone. Rob led us on a walk that he believed would have been a processional route from King Arthur's Round Table that allowed us to see the magnificence of the site as it opened up before us



Here at Long Meg and her Daughters, Rob concluded his tour. This the largest stone circle in Cumbria. It became clear to us all how significant the landscape was to our forefathers, as they were all in alignment with Blencathra.

Gabriel Blamires continued our tour to Gamelands stone circle, here there are 40 surviving stones of Shap Granite, and dates back to Neolithic times and is one of the largest circles in Cumbria



Oddendale Stone Circle where we had an open air lunch followed by a healing ceremony; a wonderful experience at such an ancient site, which may have been a meeting place for tribal leaders in prehistoric times

On our final day Alex Longstone and Paul Atlas- Saunders leading us on a Spirit Chase starting at St. Bega's Church, where we make some new discoveries which Alex and Paul are going to follow up, then around Bassenthwaite Lake to Castle How



Impressions of Iona

by Bob Shave

I was lucky enough to have the opportunity to join a group visiting the Isle of Iona, Scotland, for three days in July 2013. At the back of my mind was the memory that Iona featured in a ley investigated by Gary Biltcliffe [1], which has been walked, at least in part, by Laurence Main and Judith Adams [2]. Here are a few brief notes regarding my own impressions.

Background

Iona is known as the place where St. Columba landed from Ireland in 563 AD to bring Celtic Christianity to Scotland. It became a place of Christian pilgrimage as well as acquiring a reputation for having a deeply spiritual atmosphere. Is this atmosphere really palpable today? In my opinion the answer is yes, but not immediately. The most beautiful and powerful places on the island can only be reached on foot, over sometimes rough ground. Also the busier areas for tourism should be visited in the early morning when they are quiet and still. Then the special places will start to reveal themselves.

The way to Portland

The ley described by Gary Biltcliffe runs from Portland in Dorset to Benbecula in the Hebrides. Like the St Michael Line it is composed of a straight line with intertwined male and female lines. Judith Adams says this:

"The ley is Manawydan and is seen as a clear deep blue. The male current is his brother the king Bran and is a royal purple. The female current is their sister Branwen and is a sparkling gold. You can read their stories in the Mabinogion."

[2]

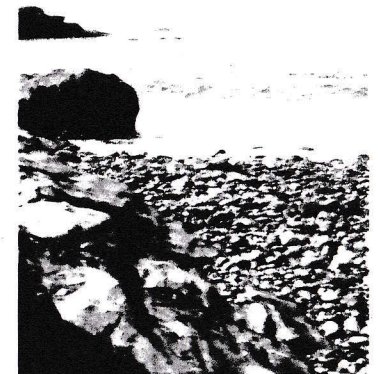
We will look again at these colours later, but for the moment we are interested in which points on Iona the line

might pass through. By chance I may have stumbled across this. Near the summit of Dùn Ì, the highest point on Iona towards the north end of the island, I took a photo of the view towards the abbey and noticed big hills in the distance behind it. (Photo on back cover.) These are the Paps of Jura, some 30 miles away. Google maps showed that in this direction also lies Portland. To be precise, a line from the summit of Dùn Ì to Portland goes through the western end of Iona's abbey, where the shrine of St Columba is situated. It continues over the island of Colonsay to the south-western edge of Beinn a'Chaolais, the westernmost of the Paps of Jura. Incidentally the highest mountain of this group is Beinn an Oir, 785m / 2576ft, whose name means Mountain of Gold.

Dùn Ì on Iona is not particularly high (100 metres) but it is a place of great beauty from which you can see over virtually the whole island. Moreover it has a calmness which makes you feel that you have left the everyday world behind, somehow lifted into another dimension.



**St Columba's shrine
and abbey**



St Columba's Bay

THE GOLDEN RATIO AND THE FIBONACCI SERIES

In more than one source we will find expressions such as ‘God Geometriser’, God as ‘Great Architect of the Universe’, ‘Sacred Numbers’ and ‘Sacred Geometry’. It would seem that in the act of Creation the Cosmos has brought into being certain numbers, proportions, angles and cycles as being fundamental to the construction and working of the material plane of manifestation. One particular number that is important to us for the construction of Platonic Solids is 1.618. It is found in a sequence of numbers from

1 onwards, and is known as the GOLDEN NUMBER, which is also known by the Greek letter ‘PHI’ (written as Φ). In relation to 1, that is 1:1.618, it is known as the GOLDEN RATIO or GOLDEN PROPORTION.

The Golden Proportion has many curious properties. For example, by adding 1 to Phi one obtains its square:

$$1.618 + 1 = 2.618 \quad [1.618 \times 1.618 = 2.618]$$

Leonardo Fibonacci, born in Pisa circa 1170, at the age of 21 learned of the Arabic methods of calculation. He subsequently studied, and wrote books on, number theory and mathematics. He discovered a sequence of numbers that would produce the Golden Ratio. In the sequence a number would be found as the sum of the two previous numbers in progression. This sum would then be divided by the number before it to give a ratio of 1 : 1.618.

Hence $1 + 2 = 3$; $3 / 2 = 1.500$

$2 + 3 = 5$; $5 / 3 = 1.666$, and so on.

The ratio settles down when it reaches

$$34 + 55 = 89; \quad 89 / 55 = 1.618.$$

All subsequent numbers produce 1.618, which is Phi in the Golden Proportion. See the Appendix for a fuller progression of numbers in the Fibonacci Series. In each progression it will be seen that the first number in each subsequent calculation will be 1, 2, 3, 5, 13, 21, 34, 55, 89, 144 etc. What is interesting in this series of numbers is that they seem to determine forms in the world of nature. Hence the Iris = 3 petals, daffodil = 2 x 3, buttercup = 5, delphinium = 8, ragwort = 13, corn marigold = 21, aster = 34, daisy family = 34, 55, or 89.

Coming ashore

St Columba reputedly landed on the south coast of Iona, on a stony beach known today as St Columba’s Bay. To approach this beach on foot (which is the only way), descending from the hills to find the landscape opening out and the beach with its central rocky peak in front of you, is to feel that you are approaching a natural landscape temple. Furthermore, when you arrive on the beach you find a treasure trove of coloured pebbles – red, green, plain, banded and speckled. Many of the speckled (granite) pebbles are the size and shape of large eggs, although, of course, much heavier. Whether St Columba landed here or not, it is easy to see how this beach could be perceived as a magical place.

The colours of Iona

Judith Adams’ description, quoted earlier, of the colours of the ley, made me re-examine my Iona photos. It was not too long before these colours could be seen bursting out of the photos. They can be seen on the back cover. The “blue” photo is the view of the abbey from Dùn Ì referred to earlier. There are also “purple” (flowers near the abbey) and “gold” (a plate inside the abbey).

References

[1] Gary Biltcliffe, *The Spirit of Portland* (2012 reprint), pp.132-135.

[2] Judith Adams, *Network of Leyhunters newsletter #1*, Samhain 2011, p.8.

*Bob Shave
Lammas 2013*

* * * *

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* * * *

Sunflowers, in relation to their seed whorls inside the ring of petals = 34, 55, 89, (clock-wise), 55, 89, 144, (counterclock-wise).

The Golden Ratio, Golden Proportion, or 'Divine' Proportion as it was sometimes known to the Ancients, is a ratio that occurs in a number of geometrical figures, such as the rectangle, equilateral and acute-angled triangles, and the pentagram/pentagon. In all of these figures the internal angles are significant and relate directly to the way the Golden Proportion manifests in a figure.

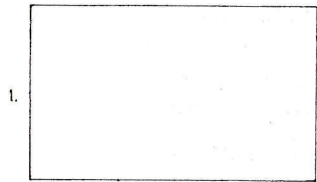
FIGURE 1

In geometry the Golden Section is often

expressed as a rectangle with sides of 1 to

1.618. This is known as the 'GOLDEN

RECTANGLE'.



1.618

The Golden Rectangle is derived from FIGURE 2

a square. In Figure No.6 'E' is the

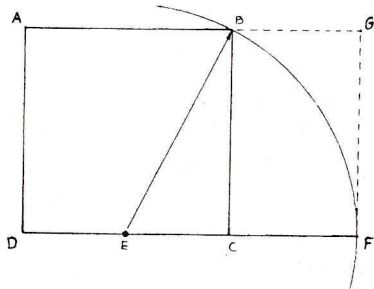
midpoint on side DC in square ABCD.

From pivot E draw a section of a circle

through B so that it cuts extended line

DC at F. AGFD is a 'GOLDEN

RECTANGLE'.



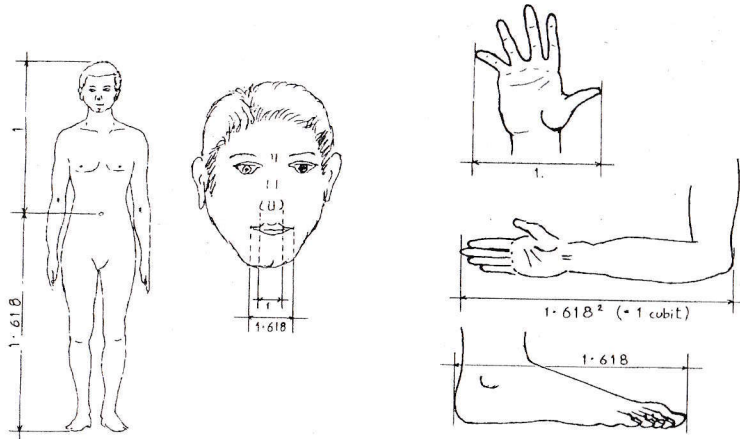
The Golden Rectangle was known to the ancient Egyptians and Greeks, who used its proportions in the design of their temples and other buildings as it was considered to be very harmonious and lent beauty to the design of such buildings. They actually considered the Golden Section to be Divine and many Geomancers today would consider it to be a fundamental part of what is known as SACRED GEOMETRY. The masons responsible for the design and construction of Europe's Romanesque and Gothic cathedrals knew about, and often used, the Golden section in the design of such. The ancient Egyptians and Greeks did not know of trigonometry, decimal numbers or the signs for addition and multiplication. They would have laid out their Golden Ratio with ruler and compass, as in figure No 2 above.

In his treatise *The Elements* Euclid in Alexandria in 300 BC dealt in detail with the Platonic solids. In this he showed how one could construct the Golden Proportion using compasses and ruler only. The term 'Platonic Solids' was not actually used by the ancient Greeks, who used the term 'Atoms of the Universe'. In the 15th c. Fra. Luca Paccioli, in the spirit of the European revival of the Classical world, took up the mantle of studying the Golden Proportion and Platonic solids. His writings show that he was familiar with Euclid. He showed how each of the Platonic Solids will fit into each other. Leonardo da Vinci, who was also fascinated by this subject matter, wrote a dissertation jointly with Paccioli on the Golden Proportion under the title of *Divine Proportion*. The dissertation was printed in 1509.

The human body is part of nature and is not exempt from having its parts being in relation to each other according to the Golden Proportion. This will only work out exactly of course in an idealised human template on the etheric plane, or if an average could be taken

of 'Humanity'. We are all individuals and bits of us might not conform to the ideal template! The following illustrations give some examples:

FIGURE 3



As stated above, the Golden Proportion crops up in a number of figures, such as rectangles, triangles, pentagrams, and also spirals relating to such. We will now examine some of these (the rectangle has already been dealt with above).

TRIANGLE:

The Pyramid of Khufu, the Great Pyramid at Giza, has the golden proportion integral to its design:

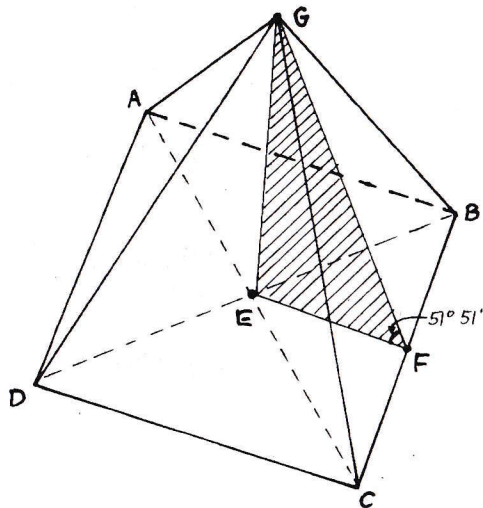


FIGURE 4

In the above diagram of the Pyramid angle EFG = 51° 51'

If EF = 1 then FG = Phi = 1.618, and

EG = square root of Phi = 1.272

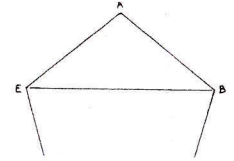
PENTAGON OR PENTAGRAM:
FIGURE 5

The pentagon and pentagram have

various parts that are in proportion to

each other in the golden ratio. In the

adjacent pentagon if AB = 1 then EB = 1.618.



In this diagram of a pentagram

FIGURE 6

BC : AB or CD is in the ratio of

1 : 1.618.

ZY is in the ratio of 1 : 1.618 to

XZ or XY.

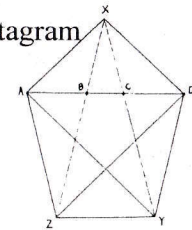


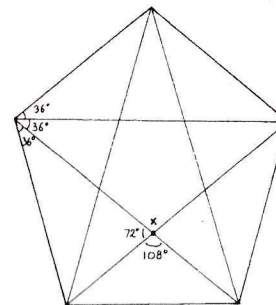
FIGURE 7

all internal angles

In this pentagram/pentagon

are multiples of 36°. The internal angles are

directly related to the Golden Ratio in





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figure 10.

$$36 = 6 \times 6.$$

Add all the numbers 1 to 36 together and they = 666.

In the diagram at point 'x', the angles are 72° (x 2) and 108° (x 2).

$$2 \times 108^\circ = 216^\circ; \quad 6 \times 6 \times 6 = 216$$

In the *Book of Revelations* in the New Testament of the Christian Bible, Chapter 14, verse 1, it is stated:

'I (John) looked, and there on Mount Zion stood the Lamb (Christ), and with him were a hundred and forty four thousand who had his (Christ's) name and the name of his Father (the Solar God) written on their foreheads (into the brow chakra)'.

Author's

interpretation in brackets

There are 2160 years in one Zodiac Age of 25,920 years.
144,000 divided by 216 = 666.666 recurring.

666 is the number of the **God of our Solar System** and is a Holy Number! (the 'beast' of Leo?) The fifth element, the Dodecahedron, has 12 faces that are in the form of Pentagons. In our part of the Universe it is the Solar Lord who overshadows and empowers the other four elements.

GOLDEN SPIRAL

With many multi-petalled flowers in nature, pine cones, and the spiral form in which some plants grow upward, a form of spiral is followed that can be created by the use of a Golden Rectangle or Golden

Triangle. This GOLDEN SPIRAL also seems to determine many other things such as the diamond shapes around a pineapple or the florets in a cauliflower, the shell of a hermit crab or the form of a wave breaking on a seashore. A spiral can be measured in the tightness or looseness of its turns. With a golden spiral if a straight line is drawn across the spiral so as to pass through its centre then the distance between each of two of three contiguous curves will be in proportion to each other that will relate to the golden mean.

Golden spirals can be drawn from golden rectangles, equilateral triangles and pentagons.

GOLDEN RECTANGLE:

The rectangle is divided into smaller and smaller golden rectangles, one within the other, in the order of – right – down – left – up – right – down etc.

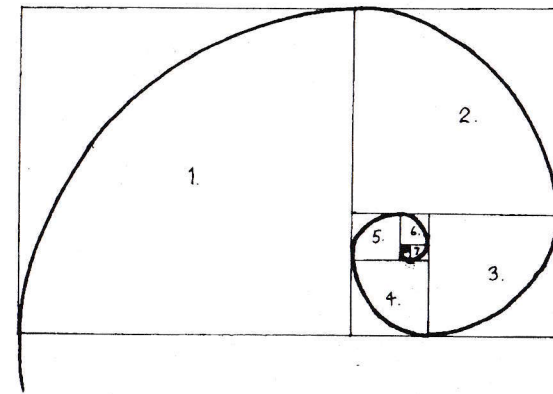


FIGURE 8

Sarah Vivian

Painting to Celebrate the Spirit of the Land

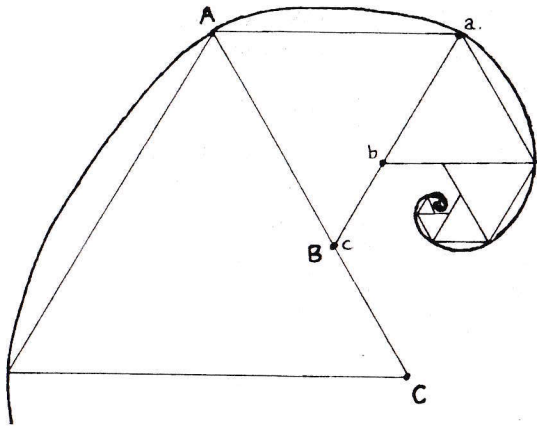
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FIGURE 9
TRIANGLE:

EQUILATERAL



Take one side of the triangle and divide it so that AB is in ratio to AC of 1 : 1.618. The short length AB then forms the

side of the next triangle.

Repeat continuously so that all

further triangles are wrapping

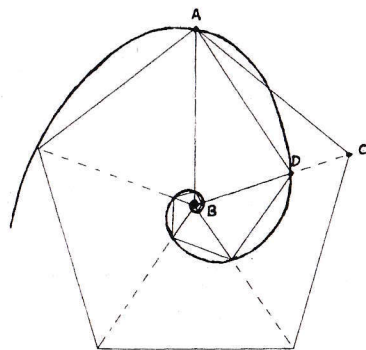
around each other in a spiral.

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PENTAGON:
FIGURE 10

Connect all 5 Apexes to the centre with straight lines. Divide



line BC into BD so that BD forms a ratio to BC of 1 : 1.618. Draw a line from D up to A. Triangle ABD will be an acute angle triangle where AB = AD. Repeat the process clockwise so that BD forms one of the two long edges of the next triangle. Continue so that each new smaller triangle spirals around the centre point B of the pentagon.

The Golden Proportion has been built into the following ancient or historical structures:

- Great Pyramid;
- Dome of the Rock Mosque, Jerusalem;
- Chartres Cathedral, France;
- Façade of the Temple of Athena, Athens.

But it is not only in architecture and building that we find the Divine Proportion, for it is found in Art and Music also. Leonardo da Vinci was known to use it in his paintings, and it was used to construct balance and harmony in the music of Grieg, Schuman, Bartok and Mozart.

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11.	$144 + 233 = 377$	$377 / 233 =$	1.618025751072(20 plus places)
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13.	$377 + 610 = 987$	$987 / 610 =$	1.61803 etc.....infinity ?
14.	$610 + 987 = 1597$	$1597 / 987 =$	1.61803 etc.....infinity ?
15.	$987 + 1597 = 2584$	$2584 / 1597 =$	1.61803 etc.....infinity ?
16.	$1597 + 2584 = 4181$	$4181 / 2584 =$	1.61803 etc.....infinity ?
17.	$2584 + 4181 = 6765$	$6765 / 4181 =$	1.61803 etc.....infinity ?
18.	$4181 + 6765 = 10946$	$10946 / 6765 =$	1.61803 etc.....infinity ?
19.	$6765 + 10946 = 17711$	$17711 / 10946 =$	1.61803 etc.....infinity ?

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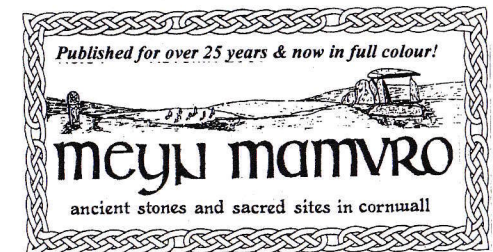
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