



NEWSLETTER



SOCIETY FOUNDERS

Joy Austin
J Arthur George

WEST WALES DOWSERS SOCIETY

CYMDEITHAS DAROGANWYR GORLLEWIN CYMRU

Affiliated to the British Society of Dowsers

HON LIFE PATRONS

Arthur Bebbington
Mike Owen

COULD THIS BE YOUR LAST NEWSLETTER?

Subscriptions were due on April 1st!!! Please send cheques for £12 (kept for another year) to:
Jennifer Forrest, Crabtree Cottage, Moorland Road, Freystrop, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire, SA62 4LE



I was deeply saddened to hear of the passing of Rob Hemming, I know he will be a great loss to the Society.

I learnt a lot from him, as everyone else did, he was easy to work with and had a great sense of humour but was always ready to give advice and help to a beginner.

Please convey my sympathies to all.

Regards to all,

Mike Owen.

(Hon. Life Patron by email)

This specially extended newsletter is dedicated to our much loved and respected Founder Member, Rob Hemmings, who sadly passed to the other side of life on Tuesday, April 13th, 2010 aged 79 yrs.

See further tributes, photos and memories to Rob in later pages.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – SUNDAY MARCH 28TH

We'd like to thank all 23 members who took the time and trouble to attend the AGM which proved to be an interesting meeting.

The minutes for last year were passed unanimously and all Committee Members were returned unopposed. New to the Committee is Vivienne Ancliffe (General Member).

Mark Lange has agreed to take on our website from Chairman, John Seward who has been operating it very successfully since its inception. (*You've got big boots to fill Mark but I'm sure you're up to the challenge! Ed*)

John thanked all members for their support in the previous year stating that without them, we wouldn't have a club. He also thanked Committee Members for their hard work behind the scenes. Sadly John informed us that Founder Member Rob Hemmings was back in hospital and it was resolved to hold a healing circle following the business of the AGM. It was also decided to send him a card to wish him a speedy recovery.

Apparently he was still healing other patients and their visitors!*

The Treasurer, Jennifer Forrest received special mention for the capable way she kept the books and Ros Briagha, Secretary for getting a great bunch of speakers to come and entertain and inform us. Also thanked were George Cooke for going out to car boot sales in all weathers to find books for the raffle each month and Bob Pitts for sorting out and administering the Library.

Linda Griffiths and Sandy Mather received praise for their dedication to producing a lively and interesting newsletter and calendar and also, together with John Taylor for making the tea and clearing up each meeting.

Jennifer said the accounts were very healthy and it was proposed to keep the subscription and entrance fee at £12 and £3 respectively. This motion was carried. Ros gave a tantalising glimpse of possible speakers for next year and spoke about the forthcoming field trips to the Holy Wells in and around Llandarrog accompanied by Philip Cope who has written the book on this subject and also spoke to us this year.

Sandy and Linda said how much they enjoyed producing the newsletter but asked for some more help in the kitchen in order for Sandy to complete her notes on the speakers. We're glad to say that several members offered to help on an ad hoc basis.

Linda also requested that members send in their photos for the next calendar.

John Taylor said he enjoyed helping out and making the tea but insisted on rinsing off the suds before drying up J

Later after a lively discussion with many constructive comments from the members plus a beautiful healing circle for Rob, there was a scramble to dowse for the many crystals that John and Jennifer had cunningly placed around the hall.

*Sadly as you now know, Rob never managed to leave the hospital. Despite his positive belief that he would be back at the next meeting, he caught the hideous bug MRSA and it took all his strength and determination from him. (*See further for member's memories*)

VALLE CRUCIS AND THE HOLY GRAIL – Ian Pegler

We are very proud to announce that we have a published author in our midst, Ian Pegler, former Newsletter Editor and member for many years has written a book with the title above. (*See availability below, Ed*)

Ian kept us all enthralled as he told the story of his teenage fascination with the 'Grail Story' culminating with his recently released book on the subject. His talk was accompanied throughout by some beautiful slides of Valle Crucis abbey and surrounding areas. Member's appreciation was very audible through the variety of 'oohs and aahs' as the slides changed.

Ian allowed us to re-trace his steps as he outlined his research including his dowsing at Valle Crucis abbey near Llangollen. He believes that there was an earlier Celtic building there, perhaps a church wherein, it is possible, that the 'Holy Grail' was kept for a time. He backed up his claims by quoting early poetry by medieval Welsh bard, Guto'r Glyn referring to the 'Grail' and also several ancient symbols such as the 'bee' and 'fleur-de-lis'. Ian then whetted our curiosity further by throwing in the enigmatic order of the 'Knight's Templar' by showing a picture of a possible Templar grave at the site and also the mysterious presence of a 'Koran' which was discovered in the Abbey walls. The bee symbol as was later pointed out in the many questions that followed was also a symbol of Christ and St. Bernard of Clairvaux also used it, St. Bernard being another link to the Templars.

Later Ian demonstrated a website called a Stellarium whereby it is possible to view a map of the stars at a given location in real time, or what it would have looked like in the past or even what it will look like in the future! Ian is at present researching material for his next book using this site. (<http://www.stellarium.org>) Thanks very much Ian for a fascinating talk and we look forward to a possible trip to the site next year which Ian has very kindly accepted our invitation to lead.

'Valle Crucis and The Grail' by Ian Pegler is published by Llanerch Press ISBN 978 1 86143 154 6.

It can be purchased from Ian's website: <http://www.vallecrucisgrail.co.uk> or from Amazon: <http://www.amazon.co.uk/Valle-Crucis-Grail-Ian-Pegler/dp/1861431546/> or £12 + £1.40 p&p from Ian Pegler at 22 Erw Goch, Waun Fawr, Aberystwyth, Ceredigion, SY23 3AZ, tel (01970) 623695

(I can thoroughly recommend Ian's book as a very good read and worth every penny of £12. He backs up his claims with painstaking research but all the while keeping the information light and easily absorbed. If you love all the mystery surrounding the grail with some fascinating snippets of Arthurian and Templar history sealed with a dose of dowsing then you must get it and find out for yourself! Even if you're not an aficionado there is still the dowsing. Ed)

R.I.P ROB 1931 - 2010

You are and will be sadly missed!

'It was a tribute to have known such a man as Rob - a true natural and Master of the Art of Dowsing. Rob will live on in the memory of those who knew him, and in the memory of those whom he has helped over the years by means of his craft'. Stephanie Dakin (former member).

It was very gratifying to see 23 of our members at Rob's funeral at Llanelli Crematorium on Thursday 23rd April. It was also very moving to note that all donations were going to West Wales Dowsers.



We also had a mention in the Funeral Service (see below) and the family invited us to join them later for a buffet at The Stag in Five Roads. Thank you to all who came to say Goodbye to Rob. Below are some snippets of the remarks made by the Officiating Minister, Revd. John Talfryn Jones on the family's behalf.

'He was possessed of an iron will, in fact, some might say it was stubbornness at not wanting to change his ways but saw he was sensitive to his environment and acted accordingly'

'He had a tremendous gift in that he was able to channel the energy of his surroundings which resulted in him becoming an expert at dowsing' 'Rob was one of three brothers, 'a fair-haired gifted lad' who began to recognise his gift at a very early age' (*His brothers, Alf and Les, verified his story of starting his dowsing in hospital by finding*

other children's toys Ed.)

'He was a founder member of West Wales Dowsers and the club and its activities were very important to him'

'He became a farm labourer, and then went to work for a coal merchant later starting his own business in that line. After selling the business he was then able to buy his own farm (something he'd always wanted to do)'

'He moved in 1975 and bought another farm in Five Roads, Llanelli'

'Rob, was a remarkable person who went on to found a dynasty with a son, daughter, 6 grandchildren and 5 great grandchildren' (Attaboy Rob! Ed)

'His dear wife, Gillian, passed away four years ago to this very week!'

TRIBUTES TO ROB

By Chairman, John Seward

'I regarded Rob as a very, true friend. He was very talented but always presented this in a simplistic manner. He was truly a 'fair-haired, gifted lad' but he believed we all had these gifts within us and often would look at me quizzically when I couldn't get the results he was getting!

He also believed that the more we 'tapped' into these energies, the more adept we would become at using them - or simply put 'Use it or Lose it!' Rob used his gift, 24/7 he always had his pendulum to hand. In fact, I know he used to watch the news and say 'Don't believe that pal!' then he would dowse it and confirm his first feelings.

I believe he didn't need to use the pendulum or rods at all because he was a natural and largely untaught apart from the old gypsy woman who helped him. His latest achievement was in map dowsing the path of Mary's journey to Wales in response to Megan Wingfield's, author of 'The Welsh Chakras', findings.

Later I was present at a spiritualist meeting when a trance medium confirmed this totally independently without any knowledge of Rob's dowsing. (Reported in an earlier newsletter, Ed) Rob was always a very active member, I remember him chatting away in the tea break, or watching from the back. Once he's made his adjustment from the physical he will probably be back here again keeping a watchful eye on us!

MEMBERS' MEMORIES OF ROB

Rob hardly ever missed a meeting or a field trip until he became too ill. Even then, I remember going along to a National Trust estate with John (Seward) to dowse why water was flooding one of their cottages.

We couldn't find the cause exactly but I drew up a plan and John took it to Rob in hospital to map dowse. He got out his pendulum and soon found out the reason and we were able to inform the National Trust Estate Manager. I also remember how sensitive he was to bad energy lines and would complain of feeling sick and having a headache if he had to stand on one for any time'. *Jennifer Forrest, Treasurer*

One of the first talks I attended at the WWDS was Rob's and I remember being absolutely fascinated with his story. How he began dowsing whilst hospitalised with smallpox

for 6 months at two years old. The nurses would ask him to find lost toys and once he indicated that a doll was by a window but the nurses couldn't find it. Later the caretaker found it out in the gutter beneath the window! He often warned me about the bad energy line in here (Bronwydd Hall) and later whilst attending a Wedding Feast, I witnessed several napkins being set on fire at the table that was sat on this line!' *Ros Briagha, Secretary*

I was very sad to hear about the passing of Rob Hemming. It is rare that one comes across a dowser with over 70 years of experience, a real gift and a complete absence of the kind of egotism that you sometimes get from some of the "names" in our world. It is one of the sad ironies of the dowsing world that the ones with a real gift tend to keep quiet about it and don't put pen to paper and then all that experience gets lost- now it's happened again. I will miss him' *Ian Pegler former Newsletter Editor by email*

Rob, Mike Owen and I were dowsing some Celtic stones at a church. Suddenly, Rob rushed out of the church and we found him hugging a yew tree in the churchyard. He then stamped his feet and shook himself thoroughly apparently he had found really bad energy coming from the stones. He felt that some very evil people had changed the energy of the stones and I recalled feeling more than usually cold at that end of the church' *Vivienne Ancliff, Committee*

Although I don't count myself as an expert dowser, far from it, I very much valued the patient tuition Rob gave me on field trips. I remember the visit to Talley Abbey last year when I was elated to pick up the same energies as Rob. In fact they were so strong, when I held up my dowsing rod above my head it whirled like a helicopter blade and almost lifted me off my feet. I could feel Rob's approval as he and I trod the ancient paths of the sacred into the little chapels and was fascinated to learn that there had even been dastardly deeds at one of altars! I will miss his help but will endeavour to make him proud one day!' *Sandy Mather, Co-Editor, Newsletter*

I was very disappointed on the day we did the Labyrinth Dance outside. I was unable to take part because of excruciating pain in my back. I came back inside and Rob saw me leaning over a chair, bent double. He came straight over and asked me what was wrong. I explained about the pain and he put two fingers on the exact place that was hurting and almost immediately I could feel the pain easing. I stood up and it was gone!' *Sonia Foreman, Member*

Oh dear, that is sad news. He was a real character and as you say could have passed on so much more to people but it was not meant to be. It won't be the same without him, that's for sure' *Chris Williams, Member by email*

During this meeting we also had a Remembrance Table for Rob (see below). Members were able to write down their comments about Rob which we will collect and put them into a file to give to the family.

It was also possible to give personal donations to WWDS, in memory of Rob. Please don't worry if you would like to do this but missed the meeting because we will set up the table again next time.

If you are unable to attend but would like to donate then please send your donations, cheques payable to West Wales Dowzers, to Treasurer Jennifer Forrest (address on front page). It's intended to include some more memories to Rob in later editions of this newsletter.

YOUR COMMENTS ARE NEEDED PLEASE!

As always during the saddest of times there is a little ray of sunshine and it seems that Rob's family will be giving us all of his dowsing equipment and books.

It's possible we will be holding an auction of his effects to raise further funds for the club. Also, due to the donations coming to us as well, the Committee feel we should mark Rob's death by having an annual Rob Hemming Cup competition.

The idea is that one member will be selected each year for special service to the world of dowsing or to the club. They would keep the Cup for one year and then return it the following year. The Cup would be awarded at the AGM as it's around this time that he passed. Please let us have your views on this or any other ideas you might have to spend the money in his name.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS FOR 2010

Sunday May 9th
Field Trip - *Holy Wells in Carmarthenshire*

Sunday May 23rd
Ros Briagha - *Astronomy and Astrology of Stone Circles*

Sunday June 13th
Field Trip - *Peter Hill's Farm in Brecon*

Sunday June 27th
Peter Golding - *Experiences of a Lifetime Dowser*

Sunday July 11th
Field Trip *The Abbey at St. Dogmaels*

Sunday July 25th
Peter Hill - *Different Dowsing Tools*

Sunday August 8th
Field Trip- *Gower*

Sunday September 26th
Karl-James Langford - *Prehistoric Facts from Legends*

Sunday October 24th
Dowsing Practice

Sunday November 28th
John Seward - *Dowsing for Health*

**Please note that owing to Megan's illness it is unlikely she will appear. The committee will give you further information as it arises.*

OTHER GROUPS



Stone Circle Creation, Rune & Tarot Readings,
Birth Chart Interpretations, Astrology,
(Carmarthen / Ammanford):
For enquiries, contact
Ros Briagha on 01269 870175 or e-mail:
rosbriagha@hotmail.com

Please send all submissions for future Newsletters to: Sandy Mather, Gwelfryn, Llanpumsaint, Carmarthen, Carmarthenshire, SA33 6BP, or via e-mail to: sandymather@gmail.com

If e-mailing an article, please use RTF or Microsoft Word .DOC format, whichever results in the smaller file-size, and if possible please scan the file for computer viruses. E-mail submissions are preferable to typed or hand-written articles. Articles should be kept fairly short.

E-MAIL ADDRESSES

We are trying to build up a list of members' e-mail addresses so that in future, members who wish to receive newsletters and other communications electronically will be able to do so.

If you wish to opt in, please send Sandy Mather your e-mail address, and state whether you would like to receive the full version (with pictures) or the reduced version (without pictures) sandymather@gmail.com

SOCIETY CONTACTS

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Linda Griffiths
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PR & Press Officer *Jennifer Forrest*
01437 890257

Water Divining & Site Works Group Leader
Rob Hemming 01554 811369

Healing Group Leader *John Seward*
01834 814278

Website *John Seward*
01834 814278

General Officer *George Cooke*
01269 860830

General Officer *John Taylor*
01267 281706

General Officer *Vivienne Ancliffe*
01269 851291

Members shall be expected to abide by the following Code of Ethics:

*In relation with clients, patients and others, they shall act in good faith in accordance with the highest standards of personal integrity and uphold the good name of the Society. *Being mindful of their responsibilities to others they shall avoid and discourage sensationalism, exaggeration and misleading statements.*They shall not use their membership of the Society as evidence of their qualifications or abilities as dowsers.

DISCLAIMER

The views expressed by the Editor and other contributors to this Newsletter are their own and are not necessarily those of the West Wales Dowsers Society.

The Editor maintains full discretion and power in respect of material to be published in this Newsletter. The Editor's decision will be final unless a dispute concerning a specific item is referred for arbitration to the Committee.

DOWSING SERVICES

NAME: TELEPHONE:

Arthur Bebbington 01646 600394
Site Works (drains, pipes and cables)

Robert Hemming 01554 811369
Dowsing Services: Water, Minerals, All Site Works, Geopathic Stress etc.

John Seward 01834 814278
Healing

Mark Lange 01239 614442
Feng Shui, Bowen Techniques, Allergy Testing

Ian Pegler 01970 623695
Wood-turned pendulums & L-rod handles

This list of service providers is given without prejudice. In providing this list, the West Wales Dowsers Society makes no claim as to the abilities of the dowsers concerned.

The Society will not accept liability of any kind, nor does it act as an Agent for any of the dowsers listed.

It is the Enquirer's responsibility to enter into any contact direct with the dowser. The dowser is to be employed on a purely personal basis. The West Wales Dowsers Society is a Society affiliated to the British Society of Dowsers.

It is not a requirement of either Society that members of the West Wales Dowsers Society providing these services become individual members of the British Society of Dowsers.

INDOOR MEETINGS

Due to the slight increase in the cost of hiring the hall, indoor meetings will be slightly shorter than before. As a rough guide, the structure of the meetings will be as follows:

1:45pm	Doors open
2pm - 3pm	Talk by speaker
3pm - 3:30pm	Tea break
3:30pm - 4pm	Questions for the speaker
4pm - 4:30pm	Practice dowsing & healing, as and when required
4:30pm - 4:45pm	Put chairs and tables away
4:45pm	Meeting ends