



NEWSLETTER



SOCIETY FOUNDERS

Joy Austin

WEST WALES DOWSERS SOCIETY

CYMDEITHAS DAROGANWYR GORLLEWIN CYMRU

Affiliated to the British Society of Dowzers

HON LIFE PATRONS

Mike Owen

J Arthur George



Sunrise at Mitchell's Fold:
Photo courtesy of Ian Pegler

Megaliths of the Gwendraeth

by Ros Briagha

Ros never fails to interest us with the breadth of her knowledge on a variety of subjects. She moved to the area about thirty years ago and felt drawn to the Gwendraeth valley and the many megaliths she found there.

Ros believes that visiting these sites stimulates your energies and serves to 'awaken' the energies dormant in the stones themselves. 'They love to be touched' and acknowledged by us. She also believes that our ancient ancestors would have arrived by sea to visit and perform ceremonies around the stones. Due to the collections of bones around and under the stones, it's believed they would have performed 'sky burials'. The bones would then be interred for family to visit their ancestors at significant times.

The stones would have attracted all seafaring types, as 'the place' to visit. In fact, given the large amount of sites, some dating back more than thirty thousand years, it's possible that it rivalled Stonehenge on the 'to do' list!

Using some beautiful slides, Ros took us on a fascinating journey around some of the standing

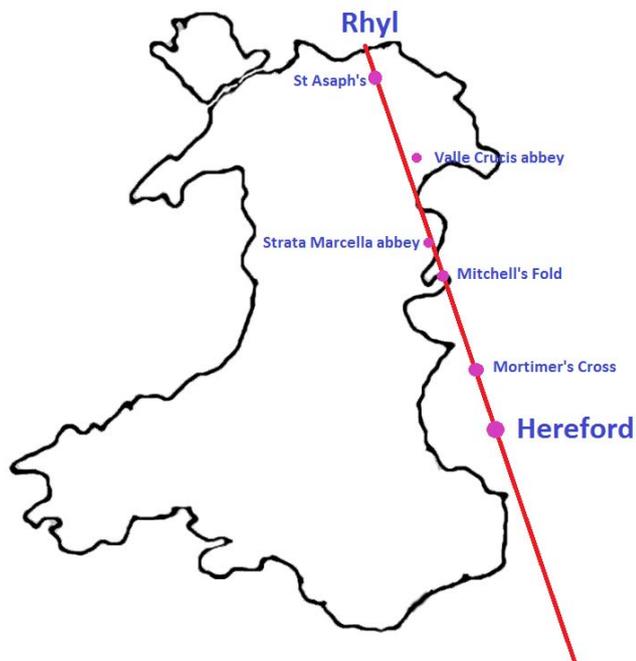
stones that mark the twenty mile alignment between Garn Goch Hill Fort above Llandeilo and down to the sea at Ferryside.

It was easy to agree with her view that the Gwendraeth is indeed a 'magical land' and there is no accident in the placing of sacred sites to represent a winding 'serpent', or the fabled Welsh dragon!

This may also have been significant in placing two chapels housing healing wells in the area (Capel Erlach and Capel Beguden visited by WWDS members in 2010)

Later we had the chance to dowse the energies of stones ourselves. Gaining permission, Ros brought in two stones from the Gwili river running alongside the hall. Placing them on mats she encouraged us to dowse the auras around the stones and the connections between them.

There was so much more fascinating information from Ros but unfortunately we cannot share it here. However, Ros runs tours to the Gwendraeth to view the ancient landscape and stones and you can find out more on her website: www.rosbriagha.org/magical_journeys/Magical_Journeys.html



Ian Pegler: The Sunline and how it connects with Valle Crucis:

by Linda Griffiths

Ian wowed us with a slide show and amazing technology using the free-to-download software 'Stellarium'. * He told us of how he had 'stitched' 100 photographs together to create a 360 deg. panoramic shot of Valle Crucis.

Ian started with a brief recap of his last talk about Valle Crucis, Cistercian abbey (1200 AD approx) near Llangollen. Valle Crucis is very possibly the site of an early 6th century Christian church, an early name for the site being Llan Egwestl.

He reminded us of the links to the Holy Grail and of the political connections between France and Wales in the Middle Ages. He said it's likely the nearby castle – Dinas Bran – was the model for the Grail castle in the Grail legends. 'Bran' is Welsh for 'crow', the old French for 'crow' is 'corbenic' and Corbenic is the name of the Grail castle in French legends!

Ian showed us how the footprint of the abbey is built to the 'Golden Ratio' of sacred geometry. He suggested the abbey might have been aligned astronomically, and using Stellarium, he demonstrated the path of the sun on the feast day of St. Bernard of Clairvaux showing how the sun went 'through' the (round) Rose window.

Then on to 'The Sunline' which is a long-distance ley; there are 3 elements to a ley – the possibility of the physical track or path, the energy lines

associated with it and the geometry of the location of the bearing relative to north.

The Sunline passes through lots of ancient sites and some parts of the track still exist, it's not just an energy line. Ian discovered he had found an extended version of a ley first discovered in the 1920's by Alfred Watkins who noted a Roman road now the A4110 (nr Hereford). Ian thinks the Romans built on older roads and that particular road is a lot older. Ian noticed an alignment of pubs, all of which were called 'The Sun'. The line runs from Rhyl to Hereford, although the pubs are not absolutely in a straight line, there seemed to be a pattern.

A few were to the east in the Vale of Llangollen (*probably just following the centres of population*), but to the west there's only one in Conwy, one in Hell's Mouth and one in Tenby, nothing like the number in the Welsh Marches. So, Ian wondered, "Why so many pubs called 'The Sun' in the Welsh Marches? How do we make sense of a ley where you have an alignment of pubs? – At the end of the day, nobody makes an alignment of pubs!"

Apart from 'Beer Energy' more likely is Ian's theory, 'people often build along a physical track'. Eventually the track fell into disuse, most disappearing but some of the old buildings and pubs left behind reflect the pattern of the road.

Using slides, Ian started at the Hereford end of the line highlighting the historical characters whose lives touched points along the line (*the same names kept cropping up – the Trevors, the Mortimers, St Martin of Tours, St Bernard of Clairvaux and the Templar connections*). Linking his discoveries to the Grail stories, Glastonbury and Valle Crucis and demonstrating the many places linked to battles and wars on the Sun Line.

The whistle-stop, but informative, tour included Garway where the house (*once a pub*) has a sign with the sun, moon, star and globe on it, a Templar church and signs of previous Templar activity around Hereford. He showed us photos of Dinedor Camp near Hereford (boasting the loudest 'Dawn Chorus' in 2 counties!) Hereford Cathedral and Mortimer's Cross, where the famous battle between the Yorkists led by Edward Plantagenet (son of Richard Duke of York) and the Lancastrians took place on February 2nd 1461. On the day of the battle, a parhelion or 'sun dog', appeared at dawn.

This is where ice crystals in the clouds give the illusion of 3 suns rising. Edward told his troops it was the sign of the Holy Trinity and it meant that God was on their side, they went on to win the battle, slaughtering thousands of Lancastrians. Edward took the sign of the sun as his personal seal. The pub sign in Mortimer's Cross has 3 suns on it, also the red rose of Lancastrians (*with a sword through*) and the white lion of Mortimer.

Because of this history, Ian has the theory that is why there are so many pubs called 'The Sun' in the Welsh Marches. Having discovered 116 locally Ian believes the pubs are showing the pockets of Yorkist support.

Next, and directly on the Sun Line is ' Wigmore Castle, the first stronghold of the Mortimer family who arrived with William the Conqueror. Then, the Iron Age hill fort, Brandon Camp, near Leintwardine. Ian also mentioned Clun Castle, situated slightly west of the line but seemingly strongly connected (*there is a magnificent mound there*).

Then came Mitchell's Fold stone circle and nearby Corndon Hill surmounted by a massive cairn. Chirk Castle came next with its links to the Mortimer family and the nearby mansion of the Trevor family.

Back to Llangollen now and Valle Crucis. The Sunline doesn't quite run through Valle Crucis but it does go through the 'Mother House' i.e. the place where the original monks came from. Thirteen monks left Strata Marcella near Welshpool to set up the monastery in the Horseshoe Pass.

It was interesting to hear how the various pieces of information Ian had come across were woven together forming links through history. He described the line as 'a typical Hamish Miller energy line', with two energy currents, male and female; and he has decided to call them Martin and Marcella – both names derived from the Roman god Mars, the god of war.

During the talk Ian pointed out more connections to war, saying that both castles of Owain Glyndwr are practically on the line and told us St Martin of Tours was the patron saint of soldiers, that near Dinedor camp there was a 650acre munitions factory and the Sunline goes right through Monkton Farley, east of Bath, where there was the largest ammunition store during World War 2, which was practically

an underground city. Even today there is a military link, with the church of the SAS in Hereford is dedicated to St Martin.

Ian found that several places on the line are aligned with 'Samhain' (Pagan festival) eg the 'Witch Stone' at Mitchell's Fold. He gave us a demonstration, using simulations with Stellarium, to show the path of the sun over Dinedor Camp, Mitchell's Fold and Corndon Hill.

It was fascinating to watch the sun or moon rising and progressing through the skies, and how they aligned with the various stones.

He was also able to show how the sun and moon make the same kind of progression through the Rose window at Valle Crucis at certain times – linking with feast days of St Collen, St Martin of Tours and St Bernard of Clairvaux. We sat and watched as eclipses were demonstrated as far back as 397.

Thank you Ian for an excellent afternoon – so much interesting information and not enough space to do it justice.

Ian Pegler's website: www.vallecrucisgrail.co.uk

Sunline: <http://www.ianpegler.co.uk/Sunline.kml>

Stellarium (*free astronomy software*):www.stellarium.org

Gutun Owain Astrology Manuscript <http://tinyurl.com/68wej5w> (*Gutun Owain was the astrological bard of Valle Crucis and one of his manuscripts survived*).

Early British Trackways by Alfred Watkins (*free download*) <http://kobek.com/british.pdf>

Annual General Meeting

We had a great turnout for this meeting, so thanks to all who turned up. Unfortunately there is not enough room to share all that went on in this issue.

All the Committee were returned unopposed. Annual subs and door price will remain the same. Due to a small error in the leaflet it will be available later than planned.

The website is doing well in the search engine rankings. John thanked all on the Committee and also those who perform other services, such as George with the raffle and Bob with the Library. Not to forget all the tea-makers.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Sunday April 22nd	<i>Jon Appleton</i>
The Goddess in the sky	
May 13th	Field Trip
Llanstephan Castle and Well.	
Sunday May 27th	<i>Sig Lonegren</i>
Archaeoastronomy*	
June 10th	Field Trip
Prescellis, Gors Fawr and Bedd Arthur, and Waldos Stone.	
Sunday June 24th	Dowsing Practise
July 8th	Field Trip
Avebury Stone circle.	
Sunday July 22nd	<i>John Billingsley</i>
The Mystery of the Head cult	
August 12th	Field Trip
Lampeter Mound.	
Sunday September 23rd	<i>John Seward</i>
Sunday October 28th	
Patrick Macmanaway? TBC	
Sunday November 25th	<i>Geoff Holder</i>
101 things to do with a Stone Circle*	

*The sacred sites of pre-modern cultures all over the world demonstrated evidence of an interest in astronomy. At our latitudes, they were mainly oriented to the rising and setting of the Sun or the Moon on significant days of the year - the Solstices, Equinoxes and the Celtic Cross Quarter Days. Sig will present evidence of this with a digital tour 'round our planet looking at ancient sacred sites from Mexico to Sweden, and with an emphasis on sites in the British Isles. Even more importantly, he will discuss why our ancestors were interested in these alignments.

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
2:00pm – 3:00pm	Talk by speaker
3:00pm – 3:30pm	Tea break
3:30pm – 4:00pm	Questions for the speaker
4:00pm – 4:30pm	Practice dowsing and healing, as and when required
4:30pm – 4:45pm	Put chairs and tables away

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Ian Pegler	01970 623695
<i>Wood-turned pendulums & L-rod handles</i>	
Sid Vincent	01437 764415
<i>Dowsing Bobbers</i>	
Glyn Williams	01267 235565
<i>Reiki / Reflexology</i>	

The above list of service providers is given without prejudice. In providing this list, the West Wales Dowzers Society makes no claim as to the abilities of the dowzers concerned. The Society will not accept liability of any kind, nor does it act as an Agent for any of the dowzers 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 Dowzers Society is a Society affiliated to the British Society of Dowzers. It is not a requirement of either Society that members of the West Wales Dowzers Society providing these services become individual members of the British Society of Dowzers.

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OTHER GROUPS

Stone Circle Creation, Rune & Tarot Readings, Birth Chart Interpretations, Astrology, (Carmarthen / Ammanford):

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