



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

Mike Owen

## Moments with Megaliths: *Vivianne Ancliff*

Vivianne discovered dowsing in a rather dramatic fashion (see below) which led her to formulate her own 'Principles of Dowsing'. She has also had a passion for stone circles since childhood, but one, the 'Nine Ladies' on Stanton Moor, Derbyshire proved to be impossible for her to find. This is hardly surprising since it is well hidden in a plantation of spruce. These were planted there to provide pit props for what once was a thriving mining community.

This Bronze Age circle consists of nine upright stones, less than a metre high, made from the local millstone grit. 'Nine' ladies is actually a misnomer since a tenth stone was discovered in 1977, it had fallen and was lying close by. The legend tells of nine ladies turned to stone for dancing on a Sabbath, a very familiar tale for this sort of circle. Vivianne speaks of climbing a stone which has convenient 'footholds' and metal handles. There is a small 'well' at the top of the stone which collects rainwater.

In 1999, on Millenium Eve, Vivianne and a party including her daughter, set out to find this Stone Circle. It was a bitterly cold day but the frosted trees lent an austere beauty to the site. Vivianne's daughter, dowsing rods in hand, led the party to the circle. Later, to keep her amused, it was proposed to play a game of 'hide and seek'



and during this time, Vivianne's daughter went missing. Despite searching and with it getting late, Vivianne, decided to use one dowsing rod and ask where she could be found, sure enough, she discovered her hiding in a sheep hollow. It was after this that Vivianne became a dowser.

**Dowsing Principle One: The greater the need, the easier it is to find what you are seeking. You are drawn to it.**

2002: Vivianne visited Stanton Drew, which is the second largest stone circle in the UK. Avebury being the largest. (Some members will remember our Field Trip to Stanton Drew in 2013 and described in a previous Newsletter. Ed). Again this seemed to be elusive but Vivianne felt she was 'intuitively' guided to it.

**Dowsing Principle Two: Trust your Intuition!**

Vivianne also went on to describe visits to

the wealth of archaeology on Bodmin Moor, including the enormous stones in Stannon Moor circle, which are slightly spoiled by the quarrying for china clay in the area; Iron Age stone walls constructed when, according to Vivianne, 'hunter gatherers' became farmers, to keep animals enclosed and Slaughter Bridge on the edge of the moor, where a 6th c stone is inscribed with the information that King Arthur slew Mordred as they fought over the river Camlan and supposedly where Arthur also received his final wound from Mordred's poisoned sword.

**Dowsing Principle Three: Don't research the legends or history of a site before visiting.**

History or 'His-story' can be very misleading. Best to keep an open mind and find out for yourself.

Vivianne does recommend the following books and DVD though:

*The Stone Circles of Britain and Ireland by Aubrey Burl*

*Gateway to the Heavens: How Simple Shapes Mould Reality and the Fabric of Your Being (Gateway Series) by Karen French*

*Diverse Dowsing – Beyond the Boundaries DVD directed by Hamish Miller*

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## Labyrinths

*by Jennifer Forrest in the December meeting and by Rosalind Briagha in January.*

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Labyrinths are extremely ancient and are believed to be, by those that are in tune with them, to be a meditative pathway, promoting inner peace and spiritual transformation.

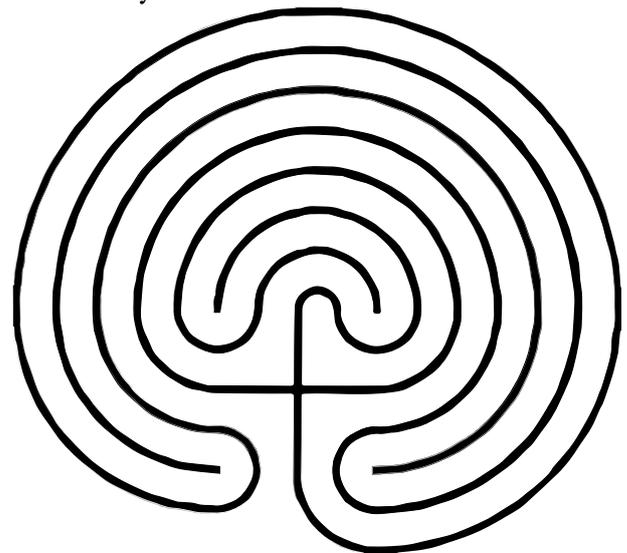
People walk 'one path' in, stop in the centre for contemplation, then turn, reverse their journey back out. Labyrinths are often mistaken as 'mazes' but for those that probably know from bitter experience, it's not possible to get lost in a labyrinth, whereas in a maze, especially the one at Hampton Court, people can get so disorientated they have to be guided out!

There have also been many different designs of labyrinths throughout history up to present day:

Classical: 3, 7, 11, 15 circuits, concentric, three pointed seed patterns, Roman, Medieval including Chartres and Ely (Cathedrals) and Modern Medieval in Chalice Well, Glastonbury plus lots more.

Jennifer informed us that Dr. Patrick Macmanaway believes they enable the walker to release unwanted energies as you walk to the centre and then gather more positive energies on the return journey. She spoke about experiencing this herself, after feeling 'low' following a 'house clearance', then walking a labyrinth, she felt much better.

### Cretan Labyrinth



Both Jennifer and Ros showed us how to draw a Classic 7 path or Cretan labyrinth found depicted on coins of the time, and famously related to the mythological tale of Theseus and the Minotaur. We were also given handouts (thank you John Taylor) depicting a Classic labyrinth which can also be 'walked' by your finger. It will still have the same effect. Go to <http://labyrinthociety.org/make-a-labyrinth> for an activated design showing you how to create one yourself.

In the December meeting, Jennifer assisted by several willing members created our very own portable Cretan labyrinth on a large plastic tarpaulin using tape. Then she invited us to dowse

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our energy levels before walking the labyrinth, then dowsing them when we came out. Most were very pleased to see that their energy levels were higher.

There was also a significant feeling of raised energy levels in the hall afterwards, which increased even more when Linda Griffiths, sang two of her own wonderful songs and then invited us to join in. What a lovely voice she has and an accomplished guitarist (*High time they were on You Tube Linda! Ed*)

In the January meeting, Ros spoke about the earliest labyrinths that have been shown as meander patterns found on a figurine in the Ukraine. They have been dated back to 15,000 BC and include 'Bird Goddess' figures. It demonstrated that early peoples were interested in the idea of following a path, moving to and fro or spinning which may have come from observations of the heavens.

An eagle's bone has been found in the area marked off with patterns showing a full Lunar year. The oldest 'Cretan' style labyrinth, was found in Sardinia, 4,500 years ago.

Later labyrinths such as the one in Chartres Cathedral, France are much more complicated, with 11 circuits. The faithful would shuffle round the whole design on their knees. It was believed that the whole journey would be equivalent to travelling to Jerusalem.

Many of us would have heard Sig Lonegren talking about the labyrinths in Sweden, particularly those found by the coast. Sig told us that fishermen would run around them, then jump into their boats and head off to sea. The idea was to shake off any demons that might follow them and spoil the fishing.

Sig believes that walking a labyrinth is a way of involving the left and right brain in a co-operative task. Walking in, uses the left brain in logic and reasoning and walking out brings in intuition, creativity and inspiration.

The left brain is also linked to the Sun, clockwise, rational whereas walking back through the labyrinth in an anti-clockwise direction, is opposite being more involved in 'otherworldly senses'.

He has also linked this movement to that of Mercury which seems to move in a forward or retrograde movement. Mercury is connected to communication and thinking processes.

Astrologers often advise you to expect problems with missing document or delayed correspondence when Mercury is in a retrograde movement. It's also best not to start anything new during this time.

Using this as our premise, Ros invited us to walk the labyrinth, with a specific problem or difficulty in our minds. The process is as follows :-

- Path 3 - Mental – bring the problem to mind, think about it, as you turn -
- 2 - Feel it
  - 1 - Physical reactions
  - 4 - Spiritual, experience the intuitive thoughts coming through
  - 7 - and Centre - God/Goddess or 'who' you aspire to, ask for help
  - 6 - Vision, create it in your mind, 'see' it
  - 5 - Manifestation
  - 8 - Goal

Before we started, Jennifer suggested that we each dowsed something personal to us, such as a ring, or a watch or even our pendulums and dowsed their energy. In the case of pendulums, it was easier to ask someone else to dowse them. They were then put on a plate and placed in the centre of the labyrinth. After we had all been round, we then dowsed our objects again and many found that the energies had been raised by one or two points if not more.

Later, Ros showed us how to do a partnership labyrinth dance which proved to be surprisingly exhilarating for all who took part.

## 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:

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|-----------------|---|
| 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 – 4:45pm | 4.45pm Extra 15 mins in summer to practice dowsing and for healing, as and when required. |
| 4:45pm – 5.00pm | Put chairs and tables away  |

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

2014

Sunday, February 23rd <i>Glastonbury &amp; The Welsh Grail</i>	Ian Pegler
Sunday, March 23rd Annual General Meeting ALL MEMBERS PLEASE ATTEND!	
Sunday, April 27th <i>The Belinus Line – down the spine of Britain</i>	Gary Biltcliffe
Sunday, May 4th International Dowsing Day	
Sunday, May 25th <i>Earth Mysteries &amp; Ancient Sacred Sites</i>	Tim Willcocks
Sunday, June 8th <i>Cenarth Falls &amp; Gwalchy Filiast</i>	Field Trip
Sunday, June 22nd <i>Sacred Geometry</i>	Richard Attwood
Sunday, July 13th <i>Paxton's Tower, Dryswlyn Castle and Llandeilo Well</i>	Field Trip
Sunday, July 27th Practise	
Sunday, August 10th <i>Margam Stones &amp; Stone Circle</i>	Field Trip
Sunday, September 7th <i>Manorbier Church *</i>	Field Trip
Sunday, September 28th <i>Dowsing for Health</i>	Mark Lange
Sunday, October 26th <i>Dance of the Sun and Moon</i>	Ros Briagha
Sunday November 23rd <i>Useful Dowsing Techniques</i>	Shaun Kirwan

\* The date of this field trip is under review at the moment!

## 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](mailto:rosbriagha@hotmail.com)

## SOCIETY CONTACTS

Chairman - John Seward <i>Mobile</i>	01834 814278 07974 105425
Treasurer - Jennifer Forrest <i>Mobile</i>	01437 890257 07890 586305
Secretary - Ros Briagha	01269 870175
Newsletter Co-Editors/Facebook	
Sandy Mather	01267 253547 / 07974 120922
Linda Griffiths	01267 281348 / 07900 564478
Public Relations & Press Officer	
Jennifer Forrest	01437 890257
Healing Group Leader	
John Seward	01834 814278
Website - Mark Lange <i>Mobile</i>	01239 614442 07817 064969
General Officer - John Taylor	01267 281706
General Officer - Vivianne Ancliff <i>Mobile</i>	01269 851291/ 07837 737387

## DOWSING SERVICES

John Seward <i>Healing</i>	01834 814278
Jennifer Forrest <i>Geopathic Stress Removal, House Clearing</i>	01437 890257
Mark Lange <i>Feng Shui, Bowen Techniques, Allergy Testing</i>	01239 614442
Ian Pegler <i>Wood-turned pendulums &amp; L-rod handles</i>	01970 623695
Sid Vincent <i>Dowsing Bobbers</i>	01437 764415
Glyn Williams <i>Reiki / Reflexology</i>	01267 235565

The above list of service providers is given without prejudice. In providing this list, the West Wales Dowsters Society makes no claim as to the abilities of the dowsters concerned. The Society will not accept liability of any kind, nor does it act as an Agent for any of the dowsters listed. It is the Enquirer's responsibility to enter into any contact direct with the dowster. The dowster is to be employed on a purely personal basis. The West Wales Dowsters Society is a Society affiliated to the British Society of Dowsters. It is not a requirement of either Society that members of the West Wales Dowsters Society providing these services become individual members of the British Society of Dowsters.

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