

The Big Green Gathering

Earth Energies & Divinatory Arts
2006



A review of the 'Earth Energies and Divinatory Arts' area at the Big Green Gathering 2006

Since 1994 **The Big Green Gathering** has developed into the main 'green' event in Britain, if not the world. It has showcased future technologies, alternative ways of life and inspired many town folk to adopt a more sustainable lifestyle. At the top corner of the Big Green Gathering lies a prominent arena of discovery that some never even seem to venture to. But once they've made their way past the avenue of 'Campaigns' and through the 'Alternative Media' field atop the final hill is what some might call a modern mystery school.



The Earth Energies stone circle



One of the crew grabs the camera

The Earth Energies & Divinatory Arts area is devoted to understanding the divinatory techniques and megalithic lifestyles of our ancient ancestors. With two main marquees showcasing talks and workshops from dowsing to crop circles and from astrology to megalithic science, the EEDA area covers many subjects that can often only be found at specialist conferences. World experts in megalithic studies, archeology and geomancy camp alongside popular astrologers, shamanic teachers and druidic bards to create a unique 'Conference in a Field' atmosphere. The two programmes run side by side for four full days from late morning to late evening with many films and multimedia presentations all powered by solar technology.

The whole field was a brimming cauldron of creativity and information. In the two beautiful tipi's behind the stone circle, the Sacred Man/Sacred Woman space held a full day of ceremony to initiate the two sexes into divine union. The Exhibition of the Universe from Blackpool had many big info boards explaining the exact working of the Universe and the guy who runs it, David Boyle, has sent a few shock waves through the establishment with his grand theories over the years.

New to EEDA this year was the Earth Space Cinema, set in an enchanted small quarry at the top of the Earth Energies field. At 2pm every afternoon a shamanic workshop took place in the beautifully decorated space. The quarry sloped down to the big screen where films such as 'The Secret', 'Blueberry' and the riveting documentary about psychic children – 'Indigo Evolution' were screened. In fact, 'The Secret' was shown every evening! Sue Stone, from the Positive Living Group in Bournemouth even did a talk about the film and how she has been using these manifestation techniques to great success over the years.

The Earth Energies and Divinatory Arts area has been running as long as the BGG itself. Twelve years ago Astrologer Steve Judd initiated the area that has been gaining credibility over its past ten festivals as an established earth mysteries event. Regulars such as Michael Glickman and Nik Kollerstrom alongside astrologers Roy Gillett and Jonathan Cainer have been with us since the earlier years of the festival. Every year new speakers and authors are invited to participate. Local writer Geoff Ward discussed his new book 'Spirals' and Louis Standen talked about the Galactive Superwave theory that is currently under the spotlight in cosmology. To check the full line up see www.big-green-gathering.com/index.php?pageid=15



Jonathan Cainer



Roy Gillett

2005 saw an authentically designed stone circle built in the top corner of the field, which is aligned to star systems and planets and many local sacred sites including Priddy Earth Circles and Stanton Drew stone circle. The designers John Martineau and Shaun Kirwan say *"Stone circles help remind people of the complexity and ingenuity of our ancient kin who built these incredible structures, that can predict solar and lunar positions, and energetically enhance the local environment"*. This year's event boasted a stone labyrinth that was candlelit at night and a fully lit avenue to the stone circle.

Since its inception the Earth Energies area has had four coordinators. Steve Judd ran the first three events when the field was shared with the healing area. Martin Rayment continued the format for a further two years and Steve Judd returned for one more in 2000. Joyphin Swan and Martin shared the responsibilities in 2002 and 2003. Martin is still co-coordinator with Hugh Newman, who has two events under his belt. Hugh told us *"To be handed the baton of one of the finest earth mysteries events on the planet, I hope I can continue in the footsteps of what has gone before me. Since the erection of the stone circle last year, we are truly beginning to notice the ingenuity and excellence of our distant ancestors, whose science, mathematics and earth magic underlie much of the subject matter of our line up of international speakers and authors. We must remember that any scientific or historical study before the Romans barely gets a look in. This is where events such as this come in to their own"*. Hugh Newman was also behind the Megalithomania conference that took place in Glastonbury in May and along with Shaun Kirwan and David Hatfield, he coordinates the earth mysteries project - Avalon Rising.



Crowds gather in the Moon Marquee



Nik Kollerstrom & Hugh Newman

The Sun Marquee tends to focus on the megalithic science, sacred geometry and earth energies, whilst the Moon Marquee delves into the various divinatory arts such as astrology, the runes and includes sound healing and druidic bard workshops.

On the Thursday afternoon, Hugh held a talk called 'Megalithomania & the Planetary Grid' that was divided in to 45 minutes for the talk & another 45 minutes for the 'Earth Energies' forum. Hugh took advantage of some of the other speakers who were also talking in the Sun Marquee to discuss what the next phase of action is to help our current society get a grip on what our ancestors were up to. The panel speakers included:

Edmund Marriage, who runs www.goldenageproject.org.uk became passionately involved, and his authority and knowledge had a major impact upon the 60 plus attendees. Edmund's research into Joseph of Arimethea and his travels through Somerset suggest Joseph and his family had longstanding commercial interests in supplying Mendip silver and lead to the Mediterranean world. The mining seams from which these metals were extracted run across the site of the gathering.

Stuart Mason is the coordinator of the Antiquarian Society (www.theantiquariansociety.com), a group who

study archeoastronomy and geomancy. He outlined some of the old rites and customs of the ancients, such as lighting beacons across hill tops on the Summer Solstice and how a revival of this is now up to our generation.

Richard Darlow from Brighton has written two books on Brutus (Brythos) the founding king of Britain. Richard drew on his knowledge of ley lines and ancient history in Sussex to emphasize a direction relating to how important group focus can be when trying to achieve goals (www.thecreativeuniverse.com).

Giles Bryant is the coordinator of Fountain International (www.fountain-international.org), whose work focuses on healing communities by working with earth energies. Founded by Colin Bloy in the 1980's, their work has spread across the globe and showed significant results. Giles felt the main thrust of earth energies research lies in the need to focus on understanding the effects of consciousness and its relation to earth energies.

Shaun Kirwan is a professional geomancer and co-editor of Avalon Rising. His geomantic research has led him to creating stone circles and sacred spaces and he firmly believes that we need to create new sacred sites and energy centres to stabilise and enhance the local and global environments, and raise human consciousness through awareness of Gaia and Earth Healing (www.avalonrising.co.uk).

Jake Ewen is a practicing musician and researcher into the metaphysics of Sound, whose studies of Cymatics and wave theory have helped shed light on the links between Sound and the formative processes of creation. The study of three dimensional wave harmonics help us understand possible principles at play in the morphology of earth's energy grid system. Acoustic archeology that has been pioneered by researchers such as Paul Devereux shows that ancient man was acutely sensitive to the importance of sound.



Jake Ewen explaining the Universe

The idea of the ancient understanding of earth energy and how it was manipulated by the ancients has recently come back into the spotlight as clues from the past continue to surface. Geomancy and dowsing were even popular in medieval times to find water and minerals (and gold). Today, the techniques are used to find earth energies and to help heal geopathic stress in houses and the landscape.

The main intention of the forum was to stimulate debate as to what exactly we are dealing with regarding earth energy. The discussion linked consciousness and the ley-lines, with Giles Bryant suggesting they are intimately linked – perhaps even the exact same thing; a global network of human consciousness mapped and linked around the earth. This is the underlying focus of Fountain International, which Giles currently coordinates. The founder Colin Bloy, was the dowsing teacher of Hamish Miller, who is now one of the most popular earth energies seekers following the acclaim of his ground-breaking book 'The Sun & the Serpent',

which was co-authored with Paul Broadhurst.

The Michael & Mary lines were under the spotlight. These two energy currents that weave around a central 'ley-line' that stretches from the tip of Cornwall to the Norfolk coast have been found to go over the sea in to St Petersburg in Russia. This then led to the obvious question – 'wheres the rest of it?' This global energy current, named the 'Rainbow Serpent', circumnavigates the entire planet going through Mount Kailas in Tibet, Uluru in Australia and Lake Titicaca in Peru. The evidence for a planetary understanding of earth energies and the connections to ancient sites was agreed upon by all the researchers, suggesting globalisation was prevalent in the distant past.

The forum came back to the centre of the debate– 'What can we do with all the research that is now available?' We seem to understand the sacred sites through archaeoastronomy, geometry and mathematics. It is as though mathematics is the language that travels through time. Other languages and alphabets are lost and forgotten, but not simple maths which is a Universal constant. For example, the pyramids of Giza and the megaliths of Britain hold many clues to the ingenuity of the ancients such as encoded mathematics and astronomy.



*The Antiquarian Society members:
Michael & Karen*



*After the sunset in the
Earth Energies area.*



*Louis Standen discussing
the Mayan Calendar*

The ancient use of earth energies was seen to bring fertility to the land and the harvests. The male and female energies that cross our land were once understood and worked with to provide the extra element that we overlook today with the sacred sites to help with this energy flow. It was also agreed that we need to get out on the land and give attention to these subtle currents to help the land and the sites flourish in the current climate. Another idea was that we need to literally rebuild the stone circles and henge's of Britain, so many of which have been pillaged for stone or otherwise scattered over the centuries. The Antiquarian Society have already been on the news in Sussex to get a menhir moved back to its original position in the landscape, so why not with the bigger structures such as Avebury and Stonehenge? One project that was agreed to get started on is the Wandlebury-Hatfield Loxodrome that was discovered by Christian & Barbara Joy O'Brien in the 1970's. This 26 mile line of megalithic stone that follows the M11 through Cambridgeshire & Essex has not to this day be recognised as significant by the archaeologist and historians. Edmund Marriage, the nephew of the O'Brien's, believes it is now our duty to get these obscure landscape artifacts back on the map and in to the public consciousness, even if it challenges the basic archeology dogma.

The forum ended with an analysis of more theories about earth energies and an understanding that many secrets of the ancients are evident in customs and rituals that have been long forgotten. The debate stimulated interest forming the basis for many other talks that followed a similar theme. Tor Webster, for instance, coordinates the Rainbow Serpent Project, and his travels around the world have helped to unlock some of the many secrets that are held by the native cultures. To keep up to date with Tor's journey visit www.rainbowserpent.co.uk.



The follow-up 'Earth Energies' meeting in the stone circle

The Earth Energies & Divinatory Arts area was more along the lines of an outdoor symposium than a festival, and a great place to network and share ideas and projects. The subject range was varied and catered for the most cosmic of minds. Singing and voice-work seemed prominent as the toning and yodeling (only joking) workshops never seemed to end. At one point the 'Earth Energies Panel' were having a follow-up meeting in the stone circle, and when it came to a close, were suddenly surrounded by Doug-King Smith and his 50 plus workshop attendees circling us with a loud, but harmonic Om bath. It felt like one of the secrets of the ancients was being revealed to us there and then.



The Juicy Love Nymphs Juice Bar – Tatiana & Jules

For those that find the Earth Energies and Divinatory Arts area, it is often hard to leave. From morning chi-kung sessions to meditating in the 'Peace dome' (that carries the Hiroshima peace flame) and on to late night cinema, the field was full of stimulating talks and workshops. Combined with the nutritionally focused juice bar and numerous 'happenings', leaving the field became near impossible. In fact, when wandering around any part of the festival, I almost felt lost and wanted to return to the homely feel of the Earth Energies area and its participants and crew. Perhaps the singing of the cosmic chord and the timeless geometry of the stone circle reminded me of the ancestors and the harmonic way of life that existed on these sacred isles those thousands of years ago. Just what were those ancients up too?



A review by the Avalon Rising team

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