



Slimbridge Dowsing Group Newsletter January 2021

Founded by Peter Golding.

Affiliated with the British Society of Dowzers



The Real McCoy

Welcome to our first Newsletter of 2021. I can't say I am sorry to see the end of 2020, a challenging year by anyone's standards. Although for those of you who celebrated the Solstice and are seeing the change of energies as we enter a new age, the end of the year seemed full of possibilities.

If we have learned anything during the last 12 months, it is the importance of connection, and where better than a group of dowzers to really focus on this in the coming months. When we were able to meet on a monthly basis, we were naturally drawn together just by being in the same place. We were trying to get back into that same place in September, but the world changed again! Now we have to learn to connect in new ways.

In December (postponed from Nov 11th), in collaboration with Malvern Dowsers, we put on our first Zoom talk - Graeme Green's "Here Be Dragons". It was informative and enjoyable, receiving a lot of positive feedback from those members who were able to join.

The committee spent a lot of time deliberating over how to hold a virtual AGM when the continued impacts of the lockdowns were being felt and we determined that it would prove to be too much of a challenge to hold in December. The Committee agreed to postpone the AGM until such time as, at least some of us, would be able to meet up in person.

I don't think we can have any confidence that meeting in person is on the cards in the near future especially with the fluid nature of tiers and lockdowns, so perhaps we can revisit the viability of holding a virtual AGM in the coming weeks as we learn to embrace the technology available to us to help with all kinds of connection, be that for talks and presentations, workshops or informal meetings where we can get together to replicate, as best we can, the way in which we were able to interact before, during and after our much enjoyed monthly meetings.

More on our proposed program for the first quarter of the year below. I really hope you will be able to join as many of these as possible and we will, of course, be able to make the recordings of the talks available after the event so even if you can't attend on the day, you can still enjoy the presentations in your own time.

In the meantime, we are looking to see if a newsletter each month would be of interest to you or to stick with the quarterly format. We would really appreciate your thoughts on this and any ideas and input you have on topics of interest to the members.

Paul

Chair

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Evolution not Revolution

Slimbridge Dowsing Group has always been very community focused with our interactions being face to face around our monthly meetings in a hall, our field trips and workshops. All of our transactions were carried out in a very manual way with minimal online presence, cash payments for memberships and meeting fees, personal visits to the bank to pay in our funds and a paper based system for recording our membership.

The impact of COVID-19 has been profound, changing almost every aspect of how we live our lives on a daily basis and as a group we have to consider how we too can adapt to this emerging reality. This began with the idea of the pilot Zoom talk back in September 2020 when it started to become apparent that a return to our old way of operating was not likely to be possible for a long time.

Our goal is to maintain that connection, that community spirit that embodies the group and to find new ways of working and engagement. We want and need to evolve to meet the challenges of the world we live in rather than popping up or replacing it.

The online talk in December was our first step and now set to continue and evolve, so please put the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month in your diaries and join us on our exciting new journey. This newsletter will evolve over time based on your feedback and contributions.

We are looking at how our finances are managed, the use of online services, card payment devices for when we're back in the hall and other solutions to manage our membership subscriptions.

We have already implemented a review of the Slimbridge Dowsters website and are starting to adapt our already amazing library into a much wider resource base for us all. Access to books, dowsing equipment, markers, guides etc.

We aim to achieve all of this whilst living within our means, we have already waived membership fees for 2021 and will not seek to increase our fees in the foreseeable future, but will be looking to invest our time and expertise into evolving our dowsing community group to adapt and survive in an ever changing world.

We will also continue to focus relationships and collaborate with other Dowsing Groups, building on the success of our collaboration with Malvern Dowsters in December. As our members, you are very much a part of this evolution, so please share your thoughts and ideas with the group and think about how you can contribute and participate in our evolution.

2021 Programme

We plan to begin the year with a programme of events on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month. On the second Tuesday we will hold a Zoom Talk with a speaker across a range of subjects and on the fourth Tuesday we plan to create a community based informal “Virtual” space for all of us to get together and connect, ask questions and help each other through the pandemic.

We will also look to offer some virtual workshops on an ad hoc basis. As always, we would really appreciate feedback on suitable topics to cover, offers of help or introductions to like minded individuals who would be keen to share their knowledge and expertise in this way.

Our booking at Whitminster Village Hall for the second Saturday of the month remains in place, so as soon as we are able, we will plan to continue with these meetings. It is impossible to speculate as to exactly how this will work out over time but we aim to be adaptable and evolve as necessary. We imagine a future where we combine face to face meetings with Zoom access to allow for everyone’s individual circumstances and preferences and hope that we shall be able to organise outside field trips in the meantime and have been working on some ideas which we will share more fully in our first informal meeting on 26 January.

We have already planned a field trip to the site of the Whiteleaved Oak, the 500 year old tree in the Malvern Hills which was destroyed by fire during the Spring of 2020. Those of you who attended will remember the very successful field trip to the Tortworth Chestnut and Tortworth Arboretum back in 2019. Seems so long ago now!



The Whiteleaved Oak as it was in Sept 2019 just before the fire and the “Bowl” below



We also have plans to visit the newly discovered round barrows at Coaley Peak (all four of them!!), the sacred land at Randwick with another set of recently discovered round barrows and the Processional Way all available to dowse.

Finally and if the lockdowns and social distancing allow, we have the opportunity for a weekend trip to Dartmoor to visit a recently discovered Stone Circle and Burial Quoit and to visit the Greywethers

and Fernworthy Stone Circles. More on that and the arranged accommodation options when we see more light at the end of the tunnel!



Grey Wethers Stone Circle

This is the Rediscovered Quoit / Burial chamber.

Why don't you dowse it from the photo and see what you get? (if you need a larger copy, Email Paul and he will send it).

Do let us all know what you find.....



January Programme

January 12 2021 - Dowsing - Our Community Connection - Paul Syrett



After such a difficult year in 2020 and the ongoing challenges of the global pandemic, we thought a good way to start the 2021 program would be to focus on dowsing and its many facets which we can apply in the ever changing world around us. This talk is based on the *Dowsing, Past, Present and Future* talk which Paul gave in February last year and has been updated to incorporate ideas on how we can use the art of dowsing, to navigate the challenge of a global pandemic.

Waiting room will be open at 7:15 and the talk will start at 7:30pm.

The waiting room is to help people with poor internet access or haven't done this before so we can help them join the meeting.

Please contact Paul for technical advice 07836 588027.

Join Zoom Meeting Link Below, then click on **Launch Meeting** then **Join From Your Browser**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89572215269?pwd=YTVZNlU1ZEdCN05QenpEVs9VQVRudz09>

January 26 2021 - Informal community Meeting - Via Zoom

We welcome input from members on topics for discussion. As this is the first of these meetings, the Committee would like to start with a Q&A session where members can put forward ideas and we can spend some time thinking about how we want our dowsing community to develop during these difficult times and into the future.

A Zoom link will be circulated closer to the day.

February Programme

February 9th 2021 - Re-embracing Kinship - Catriona McDonald



The practice of kinship then is not nature connection or forest bathing. It is instead a remembering of ourselves as an integral part of nature, but just that, a part. No more important or less than any other kind of life on the earth. It is a practice of heart connection....

Catriona has always felt most content when outside, surrounded by animals. She counts many animals both wild and supposedly domesticated, a good number of rocks, trees, flowers, the Teifi River and the night sky amongst her family and neighbours. Through encountering a disconnection between humans and the more-than-human life on the earth, in her animal osteopathy practice a quarter of a century ago, she began to uncover and develop a practical methodology for remembering her own kinship with life in its many forms. Sharing this with others is the work of her heart.

A Zoom link will be circulated closer to the day.

February 23rd 2021 Informal community Meeting - Via Zoom

This will be our second discussion forum and we welcome input from members on topics for discussion.

A Zoom link will be circulated closer to the day.

March Programme

March 9th 2021 Encounters With Detrimental Energy Leys - Barry Goldring



Barry intends to start by giving you his global view of earth energies, then describing his various encounters with detrimental energy leys (DEL's). He will finish by describing his latest findings on the weird behaviour of a new phenomenon he calls Multiple DEL's, and how this may indicate an upcoming change in earth energies. Also, look out for some hints on Esoteric Symbols - Barry's latest project.

Barry Goldring has been doing archaeological dowsing for about 20 years. He joined the Slimbridge Dowsing Group when it was formed in 2006, and was their treasurer for the first five years. Together with the late Peter Gibson, he got the Archaeological Dowsing Section organised. More recently he has been drawn into Earth Energies research. He has published a number of articles in the British Society of Dowsters magazine Dowsing Today.

A Zoom link will be circulated closer to the day.

March 23rd 2021 Informal community Meeting - Via Zoom

This will be our third community forum and we welcome input from members on topics for discussion.

A Zoom link will be circulated closer to the day.

Library / Resources

The library is a key membership resource which was actively utilised at our face to face meetings. Our plans to expand it into a centralised resource for more than just books took a back seat when we were no longer able to get together.

As the Pandemic continues to prevent our meetings, we plan to find new ways to enable members to access these resources and are also looking to expand the collection to allow members to share their own libraries where they wish to. As a first step, Paul is going to add his catalogue of books, numbering in excess of 500 to help expand our collection.

We can discuss this further during our first informal meeting on January 26.

Membership

As a reminder to all members with paid subscriptions for 2020, your membership has been automatically extended to December 31 2021.

For anyone reading this newsletter who is not currently a member, the annual fee is only £10 so please join us in 2021 for a year in which we will learn to make the most of one of the key tenets of dowsing - "Connection".

Contact our membership secretary Anna Howard for a membership form and details of how to renew your membership/join up. We have designed new membership forms to ensure that we are fully GDPR compliant and will be asking all members to complete the new forms in due course. More on this to follow.

Contact Us

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