SERPENTSTAR

A newsletter of The Order of Bards Ovates and Druids in the Southern Hemisphere



SAMHUINN 2019

Welcome to the Samhuinn 2019 issue of SerpentStar!

Hello All

Whoa what a whirlwind! For many of us the first half of the year leading up to Samhuinn has been a flurry of catching up with old friends and meeting new ones, long long roads and airports. Things are starting to settle down now and I'll be catching up with our overseas guests from both Assembly and the Windharp Seed Group camp to ask them if they'd like to contribute to a 'travellers' edition at Imbolc. For Samhuinn we have some lovely poetry, stories and images to share, very much a Bardic Circle of sorts. Enjoy, and blessings and good rest to you all.

In peace Mandy / | \



SerpentStar, Samhuinn 2019

SerpentStar is a free, volunteerproduced online newsletter for members of the Order of Bards Ovates and Druids in the Southern Hemisphere.

SerpentStar logo by Todd William Dearing. Cover image by Sandra - Macadamia Grove. Watermark images courtesy freepik.com and druidry.org. All other images provided by the authors on the corresponding page, unless otherwise credited.

Submission guidelines and subscription info are available from serpentstar.druidryaustralia.org/about

Follow us on Facebook - search "SerpentStar"

Enquiries via email: serpentstar.obod@gmail.com



OBOD in the Southern Hemisphere

Groves & Seed Groups

The following are groups currently listed on OBOD's official Groves & Seed Groups List for 2018 and have consented to have their information included in this list. Other groups run by OBOD members are listed in the Advertising section.

Brisa del Sur

We are a Seed Group called 'Brisa del Sur' (Southern Breeze) from Rosario, Argentina, and we are writing to introduce our group and share with you and the Order the fulfilling experience and wonderful learning we have had as a result of our journey along the Druid Path. You can contact us at southernbreezesfellowship@gmail.com and you can see our profile on Facebook www.facebook.com/Southernbreezesfellowship

The Cradle Seed Group

The Cradle Seed Group is based in Johannesburg, South Africa. The Group currently has only one Druid and three Bards 'in the making'. One area of focus is exploring other spiritual philosophies and understanding the synergies. Other areas of focus are to 'convert' traditional Ogham into the indigenous South African trees and also to understand and use indigenous medicinal plants and trees. All the eight yearly festivals are celebrated, all in solo as we are spread through South Africa – Johannesburg in Gauteng, Haenertsburg in Limpopo. Full moon meditations are conducted for peace and harmony. Email debby@triskel.co.za for details.

The Golden Wattle Seed Group

The Golden Wattle Seed Group are an OBOD Seed Group in Adelaide, SA. We hold ceremonies for the Wheel of the Year, nature walks, meditations and other rituals for peace and for the land. If you would like to get in contact with us, email us at golden.wattle.seed.group@gmail.com or connect with our Facebook 'Friends of' page: search Friends of the Golden Wattle Seed Group (OBOD).

The Grove of the Summer Stars

The Grove of the Summer Stars (Pukerua Bay, Wellington, New Zealand) celebrates the eight great Seasonal Festivals throughout the wheel of the year. Each of these Druid festivals is held as a community festival and meeting point for diverse creeds and cultures to honour the turning of the year, and give thanks for its abundance. The Equinox and Solstice festivals are open to all while the four Quarter Festivals are for Grove members only. We meet at The Woolshed/Grove of the Summer Stars at 11am on the nearest Sunday to the particular festival, except for Beltane and Samhain which are held at night. Lughnasadh is held on the Sunday during Druid Camp even though it is a little early, ie the third week of January (Wellington Anniversary weekend). On the day (or night) people can bring stories, poems, songs, dances, readings and insights etc to contribute to the theme. The ceremonies are followed by potluck feasting to which everyone contributes. Contact: pamela@thewoolshed.com

Macadamia Grove

Welcomes and is inclusive of South-East Queensland and Northern New South Wales OBOD members who wish to join in with any activities. We celebrate the eight festivals of the year, and organise other events depending on members' interests. As Brisbane is a central meeting point most of our events are held close to the city, often in the bushland of Mt Coot-tha. Non-members with an interest in Druidry are able to attend some rituals by prior arrangement. Contact Sandra: macademiagrove@hotmail.com

The Melbourne Grove

Welcomes all OBOD members (local, interstate and overseas) to its seasonal celebrations. Family and friends may also attend with a member and receive a warm welcome. In 2019 we will be celebrating the seasonal festivals on the following dates: Lughnasadh – Feb 3, Autumn Equinox - March 23, Samhuin – May 4, Winter Solstice - June 22, Imbolc - July 28, Spring Equinox - Sept 22, Beltane – Nov 3, and Summer Solstice – Dec 21. If you would like to join us please send an email to Elkie at elkiewhite@gmail.com or Khe-Ra, barbwitcombe@hotmail.com

Middle Earth Fellowship Seed Group

Tauranga, NZ. Also Medieval village, Medieval craft camps, Medieval dance and Border Morris dance. Contact Yvonne yjames@balnacoil.xtra.co.nz.

Silvereyes Seed Group

Perth Hills & members throughout the South West. Email: ghriancu@iinet.net.au

Song of the Eastern Sea Seed Group

Situated on the Central Coast of NSW, we invite OBOD members and guests to join us as we celebrate the eight festivals of the Wheel of the Year and explore nature and Druidry together. We have a number of projects in the planning, including a Sacred Grove planting, working on environmental issues as a group, and supporting our local community. Contact Chris at chris@druidryaustralia.org

The Windharp Seed Group

Based in the Adelaide Hills in South Australia and named after the She-oak or Casuarina, also known as a Windharp. She-oaks are known as windharps because of the mystical sound they make when the wind breathes through the knotted leaves - a soft music like that of the Aeolian Harp. We are a learning group who gather to celebrate the eight seasonal rituals of the wheel of the year and study together. We also hold various shared events and ceremonies that non-members are able to attend. Contact Tamzin Woodcock or Adrienne Piggott windharpseedgroup@gmail.com



Wollemi Seed Group

Nestled between the mountains and the sea, Wollemi Seed Group covers Newcastle, Lake Macquarie and the Greater Hunter Region. Rich with flowing rivers, fields and natural beauty, we meet fortnightly to explore the depths of the Bardic and Ovate paths. We meet for each of the festivals, and invite all interested in Druidry and the love earth to join us. For information, contact Rollick on 0423 626 290 or bonsaidruid@yahoo.com.au

Useful websites for SH OBODies:

www.druidryaustralia.org - A central online resource for druidry in Australia.

Druids DownUnder - Facebook group - a closed group for druids of any path, in the Southern Hemisphere and Australia in particular.

Don't see your group or website listed here? Send a listing to serpentstar.obod@gmail.com and spread the word!

OBOD Worldwide

www.druidry.org - Official site of the Order of Bards Ovates and Druids

www.druidcast.libsyn.com - Direct download and shownotes for DruidCast (or subscribe via iTunes)

Facebook Groups - OBOD Friends (open to members and non-members, discussing general topics) and Order of Bards Ovates and Druids (closed group for members of the Order).

Publications

Touchstone (HQ) Sent free to all members taking the course, and once you have finished receiving course material you can subscribe separately. Touchstone is only available to members of the Order.

Contact Penny touchstone@druidry.org

Druid (USA) www.druidmagazine.com

Druidenstein (German) www.feuersprung.de

Dryade (Dutch) www.obod.dds.nl

Il Calderone (Italian) issuu.com/ilcalderone

Menhir (French) issuu.com/obod-menhir/docs

Ophiusa (Portuguese) www.obod.com.pt/ophiusa.htm

Pagan Transitions

Pagan Transitions was created over 12 years ago to help pagans create meaningful and beautiful funeral rites which reflect the spirituality of the person who has passed through the Gateway, and offer support to the bereaved.

As well as templates that can be adapted to suit individual funeral requirements, and a selection of reading material and poems, there is also a list of Pagan Funeral Celebrants who can create and lead the funeral rite for you and arrange everything with the Funeral Director. Pagan Transitions is a volunteer-run free service.

If you are a Pagan Funeral Celebrant and would like to be listed please visit *nmm.pagan-transitions.org.uk* and complete the application form. Any suggestions on how the service can be improved are welcome.

We Will Meet Again

And suddenly
You're not here in the flesh anymore.
You've returned to the form
I'd been used to before.
You now are red hearts and blue thumbs
Your laughter is but a silent emoji
A laughing, yet fleshless,
Soundless face.
How am I to know the glint in your eye

How am I to know the glint in your eye
When all I have are black letters
On a white screen?
Familiar full names ringing the bell
To tell me you see me in that world too
Friends without fleshed faces

Without body

Without form
Without arms reached out to comfort

Without eyes met Without moments of silent sanctuary. It felt strange to see you in flesh at first Only days earlier

When your realness had been lost
In that text world for so long.
I'd mistaken your identity
For a function of my phone.
But now the lack of realness stings

But now the lack of realness stings
I already miss your faces
I already miss the tone of your voice
I miss the conspiratorial whisper
I miss the loud joyful jokes

I miss the silly voices
I miss the serious intensity

I miss your poetry, story and song
I miss the excitement and wonder...

As you slip back into that limited form

As I slip back into the world I knew before I will do my best to remember you all To remember your eyes Your smiles Your love Your kindness Your caring And I know we will meet again.

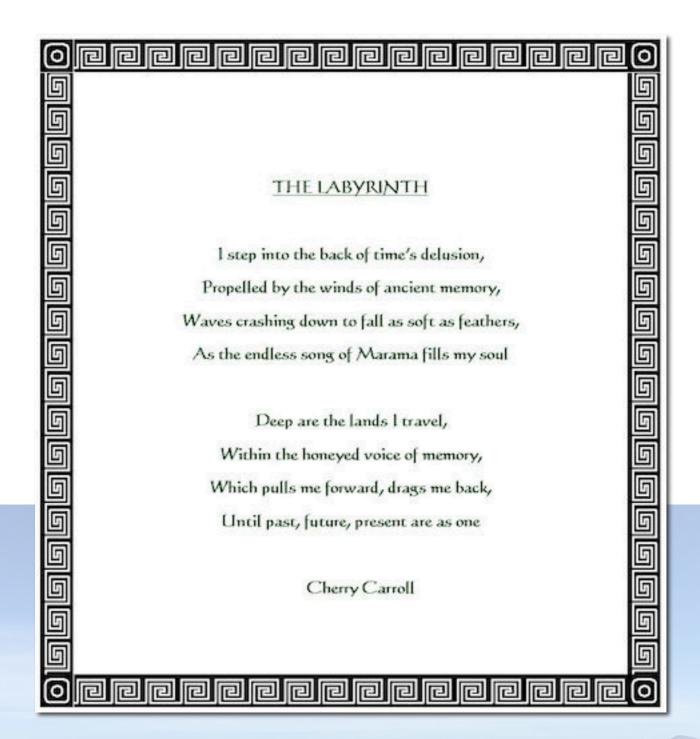


Poetry/Prose by Julie Brett

Pic by Mandy Gibson

The Song of your Heart

Tell me the song of your heart dear ones. What poetry lies between the beats? What dance is waiting in your limbs? What tune waits in your lungs to be sung to the sky? How many stars twinkle in your eyes? How many tears have you shed in laughter? How many times have your footsteps kissed the earth in your wandering? What pattern does the the light of you sketch across space and time? Tell me the story of your soul dear ones. What catches your breath? What catches your eye? What moves your spirit? What touches your soul? What do you reach for in the darkness? What lights you up and what stokes the fires in you? What has taught you truth and grace and love and compassion? What has taught you to be brave? What has taken your hand to lead you on mysterious untrodden paths? What dance does it speak through you? What music lifts your spirit and soars with you in life's highs or takes you deep under the waves of wisdom? Let's dance that we might share our stories together. Dance so that they might be told as one. Intertwining, weaving together, each dance our own yet danced with all, united. Let's sing the songs of our hearts dear ones. Let the melodies drift in the star-lit night, mingling with the calls of owls, the whispers of the wind, the voice of magic. Hearts sung. Stories told. The dance forever dancing.



DATE CLAIMER

COUNCIL OF ALL BEINGS



IN THE BEAUTIFUL BUNYA MOUNTAINS SOUTH BURNETT QUEENSLAND

Date 13th, 14th and 15th September 2019

More than ever before we need to stand together to mourn what is lost from our World, to speak for all that is suffering and stand united in our love for the planet.

This will be a weekend of experiencing a deep connection with the Earth and all its beings and receiving joy, clarity and direction, which will empower us to act on behalf of the Earth.

For full details and bookings

Contact Cherry Carroll

E mail nimueart@bigpond.com

I stand resolutely at the line, arms wide and waiting

As you approach my love my heart beats faster, how beautiful you look in the sunshine, your eyes dancing like stars.

This moment has been worth waiting for and I feel your strength mix with mine as I dissolve into your warm tender embrace.

Two hearts are now one and two souls that have stood apart are now united, intertwined for eternity.

Cathy Stillwell 2/04/19



The Poet's Lot

A Poet and story teller I be
Feeling deep, uncommonly
Since stirring Cerridwen's pot,
Endured her chase
Through every place
And many forms besides
Till thrice was born
Before and beyond
Far northern dawn

With magic of metaphor
Now weave and spin
The song of tender Taliesin
The reader soon discovering
By lines that lilt and rhyme
Inner and outer the same they be
According to cosmic regularity

A Poet needs must be true, and Walk the path of a willing few Paying homage to 'The Great Art' By always scribing from the heart Thus lines do chime and ring, Calling strong and true Above Life's daily din "Come all; Partake of Cerridwen's stew!"

Victoria Jewett

Reflections on A bathering

Reflections on a Gathering (SHOBODA19) By Michael Vlasto

How beautiful the rain that falls,

As silver crystals on the ground.

The sun it shines a hero's light,
On illuminations to be found.

Nights of peace, as clouds drift by,
Memories of hands held high.

Dreams soft and pure,
Of un-torn fabric, mythic lore.

Light as it shines on every one,
As oaths dissolve within.

Trust is there for evermore,
Seen through the eyes of kin.

Whisper of an apple as it falls,
Is a promise cannot be lost, only found.

Look! The Lordly ones are gathered round.

The gathering was a powerful one, with many from Oz, many from Aotearoa. All were likeable, none antagonistic. The powerful presence of Philip, Stephanie and Eimear added huge potency to all circle work - their peace and focus helped everyone to achieve new levels within themselves. From the power of chants, to the awareness of a greater circle, where external sound did fade. So the importance of each sound, phrase or sentence uttered radiated a power to change people. As it was supposed to.

There were initiations of all grades, so the numbers swell. I wonder if the effect of the hundred monkeys is approaching(!), as concepts wrestled with in private for so many years now are common realisations shared by all. Or, in other words, this crazy mad speed-'Me-ism' of mainstream 'ordinary' life is now being balanced by a rising energy of caring, sharing and moral awareness of ethics - within action and reaction. Once again, as in the 60s, youth is beginning to stir and look at, "I will not do that, as I believe it is wrong. I will do this, as I feel it is right for the good of all." So we will learn how to move immovable problems!

The beauty of the Assembly was not only all this internal stuff being done by everyone, it was being done in an atmosphere of deep happiness, making it so much easier to move mountains.

The weather was warm, the winds were wild. We stood on cliffs and looked out over the sea at sunset to the West, as a small isle vanished into the mist. We walked a labyrinth to the sound of a drum beat. We watched a spinning wheel of fire circle the group in honour of Lugh. We listened to high tales of the children of Lir who were turned to swans, songs of beauty sung by Ladies of Power. We watched babies take their first step. There were workshops on the Grail, pilgrimage, making herbal medicines, storytelling, poetry, the Wheel of the Year, sound healling, the Cauldrons of Poesy, divination - such a rich soup we made.

So we shared the goodwill of the Gods, with the un-torn fabric of the Tribe. So those who see no beauty, hear no wisdom, or raise their hand against their brother, will have no power over us.

ame

easter circle were external sound of each sound, phras

Queensland Ogham Poem (Pt 1)

Birch = Norfolk Pine

Tall and straight, a ladder to climb

With bright green scale of reptile, Norfolk pine

Gives the best view of the surrounding land

Rowan = Jacaranda
Abundantly blooms at the warm of year
Jacaranda's purple flowers carpet the ground
And quack mouthed castanet seed cases can be found

Alder = Poinciana

Poinciana's flowers flaming red leave long flat beans

With fast growing wood that gives good spreading shade

And cut boughs left will try to sprout at the seams

Willow = Willow
Willow, willow, rivers friend, wise old pale wood
With medicine contained in leaf and bark, as friend
Catkin soft buds, curtains whisper in the wind

Ash = Silky Oak

Silky oak is tall and strong, forest guards

The finest wood of wavy grain in forest looms

With ferny fronds and ample nectar'd yellow blooms

Hawthorn = Paperbark
Paperbark loves soggy ground, with flaky skin
Makes letters and good wrapping paper fat or thin
For roasting fish among the embers when they're dim

Oak = Gum

Gumtrees live most anywhere, so many types can blue the air

The eucalypts phenolic oils, a softer wood

With leather leaf, koalas make their home there

John Jordan (Stay tuned for Pt 2 in the Imbolc edition...)



The header image for the Aotearoa section of SerpentStar has been created by Glenn Conroy, who writes: "The image is comprised of several elements that are of special meaning to members of the Grove of The Southern Stars; Matariki, (seven sisters constellation), pounamu, (greenstone), ti kouka (cabbage tree), and of course Kapiti Island."

A WHEEL OF PEACE By Pamela Meekings-Stewart

This is a very sad time for us in Aotearoa New Zealand, in Australia and for thousands around the world, as we reel from the effects of the horrific terror attack on two mosques in Christchurch and the bombings in Sri Lanka and try to help each other find a place of equilibrium where we might find peace.

Deep within the still centre of my being may I find Peace Silently within the quiet of the Grove may I share Peace Gently within the greater circle of humankind may I radiate Peace.

And, thinking about radiating Peace, I was reminded of a conversation I once had with a wonderful opera singer who was putting together a performance of 'Songs of Peace and War'. She said that she had come to the understanding that the opposite to war was not peace but creation. She said that she perceived Peace as passive and that while prayer, mediation and sending Peace were no doubt extremely important, we had to find ways to create Peace.

So I asked the tree and I asked the Salmon of Wisdom and using my four favourite seasonal tree words - Initiation, Emergence, Maturation and Manifestation - I offer the Wisdom of the Wheel as a Path to Peace:

Initiation: The seed beneath the soil. We are frightened by these violent events and we hide in our own dark but within our seed, a spark of potential is lit and we become aware that we are not alone. There are others like us wanting to help. Breaking free from the hull of our fear, we reach out, we hold hands and we emerge into the daylight.



Emergence: Vulnerable but determined, just like the emerging tiny plant, we are nurtured by the spring rain of love and with each raindrop we experience more love, send more love and grow and grow in our numbers, join with more hearts and hold more hands, standing strong and brave in the love of the many. In the growing warmth and light of the sun we open to how we might best serve the harvest of the fruit of Peace.

Maturation: The blossom that has protected the growing fruit of Peace has fallen away and the tiny fruit must now shed all that does not serve its ultimate goal of best possible harvest. This is the time to 'pinch out the laterals', to examine our own hearts and words to ensure that we not only speak peace but that we create peace; that we bring the rigour of our own intellect to examination of our judgmental thoughts and biases; that we resolve to no longer silently shrug away an inappropriate joke or comment from a friend or colleague; and that we speak up and out rather than retreat to the comfort of 'She'll be right'. This is the 'NO' of maturation. Courage is required, courage to weather ridicule, loss of face and exclusion from groups where we longer 'fit'. Self-determination is the goal, bringing forward our genuine, brave, beautiful, peaceful, authentic self.

Manifestation: When we shed blame, judgement, prejudice, hate and fear, the way we might best manifest Peace becomes clear. We ask those in need what they most need from us, not presuming that we know best. We ask our own hearts what we most need and seek healing. We embrace diversity and stop judging people as 'not us' because they are different. We open to learning and communicating. We refuse to be afraid. We trust in our own essential peacefulness and that of others. And there it is! – the beautiful, rich, juicy, enriching, nourishing fruit we call Peace. An act of creation.

Gently within the greater circle of humankind may I create peace.





The Wheel of Segais The Wisdom of the Four Seasons as a Divination Tool

A big thank you to all of you for your patience while we did our second production run for the Wheel of Segais Personal Reader Kit. The reprinting took somewhat longer than we had anticipated but the good news is (trumpet sounds)...

The Wheel of Segais Personal Reader Kit is now available again! The printing has been checked, the fabric Wheels, hazelnuts and pens tested, the boxes packed and we are all ready to receive your orders once again.

If the **Wheel of Segais Personal Reader Kit** is unfamiliar to you, there is lots more information on my website - http://www.wheelofsegais.com/ - and you might like to check out this wonderful divination tool by having an online reading with me to get you started.

And if you would like to learn a little more about how this seasonal metaphor and 'thinking like a tree' can be used to understand the cycle of all things, be it a project, an intention, a goal, a life purpose, a relationship, a business etc, you might like to take a look at this live video I did for 'Tea with a Druid' a couple of weeks ago which I call, 'Living Treefully'. It includes a short meditation that you might enjoy: https://www.youtube.com/watch?vesphYwzemtfM

THE WHEEL OF SEGAIS READER TRAINING

The Wheel of Segais Reader Training already has a number of students and Graduates in America, Australia, the UK and New Zealand.

f you are interested in taking the **Wheel of Segais Online Reader Training** you will first need to purchase a Personal Reader Kit.

If you already have a Personal Reader Kit then you can purchase the Reader Training course straight away and start your Reader journey. Videos and more information about the Reader Training and its content can be found at:

https://www.wheelofsegais.com/be-a-reader/

You can sign up for the Training through Global Spiritual Studies – https://globalspiritualstudies.com/product/the-wheel-of-segais/. Prices are in \$USD.

- Download seven recordings to your device: \$279
- Seven recordings stored on a USB flash drive: \$290 (includes postage worldwide)

If you are a New Zealand resident, the good news is that you can save on international currency transfer fees by paying in \$NZD. Email me for \$NZ prices and bank account details – pamela@thewoolshed.com

As the seed is nurtured and the Wheel of Segais unfurls its tendrils around the world, I hope you will consider taking the next step with me to becoming a Wheel of Segais Reader. Let us use the wisdom of Nature to grow our dreams and the dreams of others from Seed to Harvest.

WHEEL OF SEGAIS COURSES

In New Zealand I run one-day facilitated workshops for up to 20 people and also run ongoing monthly courses following the 12 streams that flow from the Well of Segais: Transformation, Openness, Affinity, Passion, Commitment, Alignment, Identity, Discrimination, Ripening, Healing, Harvest and Reflection.

The next one-day (10-4) workshop will be on Sunday 2nd June 2019 here at The Woolshed and from there I will ascertain when is the best time to begin another series of monthly workshops. These will be in addition to the Reader training although they will use much of the same material. I am also exploring the possibility of making these monthly workshops available online for those of you in other countries or out of town.

In the meantime, I will be travelling to Australia in April 2020 and the UK and Europe in May/June 2020 and I am keen to run one-day Wheel of Segais workshops while I'm away. If you would be interested in attending one of these please register your interest. If you would like to organise a one-day workshop for me (promotion, venue, admin, etc) then I would be happy to offer you a place for free.

I look forward to hearing from some of you very soon.

Yours on behalf of the Salmon of Wisdom. Pamela

The **Wheel of Segais** is a simple but profound template for understanding the innate nature of the universe and our place within it. It allows us to perceive all that we are and all that we need as we experience the turning of the wheel of the year - the Four Seasons, the 12 streams or stages and the Well of the Salmon of Wisdom, the Well of Segais itself, in the centre.

If you would like a reading or a life coaching session in person, you can contact me at pamela@thewoolshed.com, 0272068876 or 2399234.

Cost: \$40

Out of town or in another country?

Book an online reading or Life Coaching Session through my website – www.wheelofsegais.com



Update of the History Project, Samhuinn 2019

The History Project is Changing Hands...and on the way to becoming a book!

At the New Zealand Assembly, I handed Sandra a USB containing everything I have collected from you for the history project. There are seventeen completed questionnaires, one Grove history and one Seed-Group foundation story, plus a few other interesting bits and pieces. We also have some information about the UAOD in Victoria, South Australia and Western Australia.

With a huge 'Thank You' to all who have participated so far, and to those planning to do so in the near future **Elkie**

Message from Sandra - submissions for the Australian Druidry History Project will close at the end of May. For a copy of the questions or to send your completed response, please email Sandra at macademiagrove@hotmail.com



The 19th OBOD Southern Hemisphere Assembly UPDATE By Elkie

The Melbourne Grove is looking forward to hosting the 19th OBOD Southern Hemisphere Assembly, from Friday April 24 to Tuesday April 28, 2020, at Gilwell Park, Gembrook.

The last one we hosted was in 2010 and around thirty to forty people came along. We still have many fond memories of the time we shared.

This time we can offer sixty places, but they are filling up fast, and so if you want to come and haven't booked yet, please go to the Druidry Australia website and do so asap.

Dates: Friday April 24 to Tuesday April 28 2020

Place: Gilwell Park Adventure Centre, Gembrook, 54 km east of Melbourne CBD

Further Information:

Facebook: get yourself onto the Friends of The Melbourne Grove page

If you are as excited as we are about this, you will find the Booking Form on the Druidry Australia website: www.druidryaustralia.org soon, if not already.

We are limiting the number of bookings to sixty, so don't wait too long!

Questions can be directed to Elkie: elkiewhite@gmail.com or Narine: dr.narine@bigpond.com



Spiral Dance's latest album 'Land and Legend' is now available.



Goddess of the Southern Land

Serpent Energy

Wickerman / Landlord's Daughter

Song of the Trees

The Sheringham Mermaid / Bay of Soles

The Children of Lir Soul's Gateway King Orfeo

Dark Days and Heys / Tampered Twilight

Elen of the Ways

Mallee My Mother

A Piggott

A Piggott

A Piggott / P Gooding

A Piggott

A Piggott / P Gooding

A Piggott
M Adamson
Traditional

A Miller / P Gooding

A Piggott

Wyverne Ogma Vyvyan

Featuring:

Damh the Bard on Track 1 & 11
Wyverne Ogma Vyvyan Track 11

To order go to:

http://www.spiraldance.com.au

or for more information:

info@spiraldance.com.au

EGREENALBUM

Tuatha Dea and Nightsong Studios Presents:

THE GREEN ALBUM is a collaborative concept album featuring Tuatha Dea, Wendy Elizabeth Rule, SJ Tucker, Sharon Knight, Winter Jp Sichelschmidt, Celia Farran, Bekah Kelso, Ginger Doss, Damh The Bard, Kellianna Girouard, Spiral Dance, Spiral Rhythm, Murphey's Midnight Rounders, Brian Henke and Mama Gina LaMonte. It's a musical plan of action. An Independent musical compilation created by a consortium of like minded Muses, Musicians and Songbirds from all over uniting as a global Tribe to raise awareness, celebrate and give something back to Mother Earth! All these amazing artists will be offering one gift of song, either NEW or never before released specifically for this Album, and themed toward the universal concept of 'Green'! All of the Artists have banded together, and partial proceeds from every album sold by the collaborators will be donated to Rainforest Trust, a Global Green Charity doing amazing work around the world!

THE GREEN ALBUM and all the artists on this compilation project are proud and honored to announce our association and partnership with this wonderful organisation. 25% of all (That's ALL 14 artists) sales proceeds from this project will be donated to Rainforest Trust! This amazing group so profoundly echoes the sentiments of this project, and has been putting them into action for 27 years. PLEASE spread the word and get involved!

http://www.thegreenalbum.net/about.html https://www.facebook.com/greenalbum/?ref=hl

Direct downloads available from http://www.thegreenalbum.net/home.html or you can buy a physical album via http://www.spiraldance.com.au/?CDs_and_Downloads___Ordering_Spiral_Dance_CDs



RAINFOREST TRUST®

Hero

The Green Album

donated a gift to protect 1,817 Acres of Balanga Forest Reserve in the Congo

This gift assists Rainforest Trust and our local Congolese partner to establish Balanga Forest Reserve, safeguarding crucial habitat and providing a future safe from poachers for the Congo's magnificent and threatened wildlife, including the African Forest Elephant, Okapi, and Bonobo

Issued June 20, 2016

Thank you for your commitment to biodiversity. Together we are saving rainforest acres, forever!



Dr. Paul Salaman Warrenton, VA 20187 • (800) 456-4930 • www.RainforestTrust.org Okapi

TUATHA DEA WENDY RULE SI TUCKER BEKAH KELSO **GINGER DOSS** KELLIANNA DAVE THE BARD SPIRAL DANCE SHARON KNIGHT/ WINTER S

CELIA FARRAN BRIAN HENKE MAMA GINA **MURPH'S MIDNIGHT ROUNDERS** SPIRAL RHYTHM

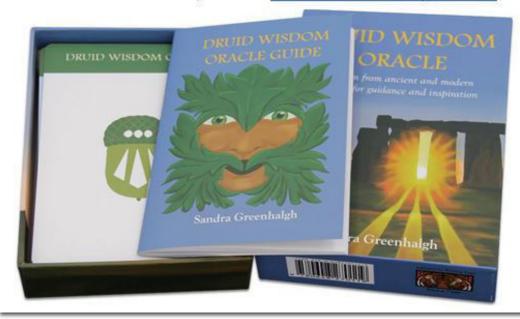


Member Businesses, Groups & Retreats in Australia/New Zealand

Druid Wisdom Oracle

Sandra, an Australian OBOD Druid-grade member, is delighted to share that the brand new, limited edition Druid Wisdom Oracle is now available on Etsy.

For more information, please see the Etsy site, or visit Sandra on Instagram @druidwisdomoracle or Facebook as Druid Wisdom Oracle Cards, or email druidwisdomoracle@gmail.com



Advertising in SerpentStar is free for all OBOD members in the Southern Hemisphere. If your business, event or club is related to our druidry practice, you can advertise on these pages for as long as you require. Submission guidelines are available from **serpentstar.druidryaustralia.org/about**





Anam Cara Soul Space

Readings, Tarot, Astrology, and Sacred Plant Essences with Fleur Grant

Greetings and Kia ora, my name is Fleur Grant and I am a student of OBOD and a practicising tarot reader, astrologer, and sacred plant essence practitioner.

My connection to Spirit has been active for as long as I can remember. I have always been blessed to receive messages, and this ability has been passed down my family line from my Anglo-Irish grandmother, who possessed second sight. I have good reason to believe my Irish ancestors, who left Ireland after one of the large famines, were descended from ancient Druids.

The land of my birth, Aotearoa New Zealand, has provided me with a deep appreciation of the native forest here, and my communion with nature has been further developed through training as a plant essence practitioner. Plant essences contain specific healing properties that shift emotional and traumatic patterns. There are even essences that can shift DNA patterns that have travelled down family lines. This is an exciting area of work, as it ties into the scientific discovery of epigenetics, which is confirming what ancient cultures have always known, that trauma can be hereditary. For instance, there may be a pattern of betrayal and heartbreak in relationships that have travelled down the ancestral bloodline. As Druids, we work with our ancestral inheritance, and it is now possible for us to clear negative hereditary patterns and receive our divine inheritance.

Astrology is an ancient tool which allows us to map the potential of a soul and look at key strengths and challenges. Most people are familiar with Sun Signs, but you are more than just your star-sign! Based on your time, date and place of birth, natal astrology explains the map of the Zodiac for your individual birth, and the position and relationship of all the planets and signs that make up your personality and potential. I also provide updates of full moon and other major astrological patterns for New Zealand and Australia on my Facebook page.

Tarot (I use Rider Waite and the Druidic Tarot) is an amazing tool for Divination. Tarot is my first port of call for

questions about relationship insight and decisions.

Anam Cara is an old Gaelic term which means 'soul friend'. Here, at Anam Cara, I work with you in integrity, openness and non-judgement, using the ancient tools of tarot, astrology and sacred plant essences to help you make decisions, clear emotional and hereditary blocks, and move forward with confidence.

Readings are available in person in Auckland, New Zealand, or from anywhere in the world using Skype or Messenger.

Please visit my website anamcarareadings.com and follow my Facebook www.facebook.com/anamcarareadings













Fully qualified civil/funeral celebrant, and authorised marriage celebrant, with a professional background in customer service and publications writing/editing, and a personal background in performance and community education. If there is any skill needed to write, deliver and make your ceremony special, you can be assured that I have it...or can make it happen.

experience – each ceremony will be individual to your needs and personality, including research into special moments and traditions that you and your loved ones will

Based in Tamborine, QLD but willing to negotiate travel. If you'd like to know more please don't hesitate to get in touch.

0413 593 609



Amanda Gibson

Qualified Civil Celebrant

Weddings, Commitment Ceremonies, Vow Renewals, Baby Namings/Blessings, Funerals and Life Celebrations, Home and Business Blessings, Life Transitions and









Creating meaningful ceremonies and lasting memories

Pamela Meekings-Stewart

Registered Marriage and Civil Union Celebrant New Zealand

l'offer Druid, pagan and alternative spirituality marriages, hand fasting and civil union ceremonies working with couples to create their own unique ceremony.

As a Druid and committed to a spiritual life, the work is important to me. Couples continue to ask for my services and very much appreciate the gentle spiritual aspect of the ceremonies I help them put together.

I am also able to arrange contact for weddings and civil unions at Stonehenge Aotearoa in the Wairarapa with myself as Celebrant.

Marriage and Civil Unions are the only ceremonies that require a legal, registered Celebrant. However, I also craft and perform many other forms of ceremony and blessing:

Namings (children and change of name); Birth Blessings; Vows of Recommitment; Entering The Wisdom Years - Croning (women) and Sageing (men); House Blessings; Blessings and Invocations For Passing Over; Funerals and Burial Blessings



Tying the knot
Two lives entwine
Tying the knot
Two families entwine
Binding our futures together

Contact: pamela@thewoolshed.com

Thewoolshedretreats.co.nz Tel: ++64-4 2399234



Need some time out from your day to day life?

Want to escape the City and experience the Outback Heart of our ancient land?

Interested in helping with a permaculture self-sufficiency project and learning new skills?

Experienced WWOOF host, and OBODie Ngatina, and her family, would like to invite members seeking a time of retreat to consider their home in the Northern Flinders Ranges (SA).

- The stunning ancient landscape and vast starry or moonlit nights are perfect for contemplation and fostering a connection with Spirit of Place.
- Experience living in an heritage listed small town (pop. 20) in a remote location
- Private accommodation in an historic inn first built in the 1870s
- Visit places of significance in the deeply powerful Flinders Ranges
- Help with an arid lands permaculture project learn skills for self-sufficiency
- Flexible arrangements either WWOOF for full food and board or be more autonomous as suits your needs.

For more details about our home and project visit http://casaindomitus.wordpress.com or contact Ngatina on wwwoof@sylvanius.net or 0429795002 to discuss options.



And finally...



Artwork by John Jordan



Samhuinn...was a time of no-time. Celtic society, like all early societies, was highly structured and organised - everyone knew their place. But to allow that order to be psychologically comfortable, the Celts knew that there had to be a time when order and structure were abolished - when chaos could reign. And Samhuinn was such a time. Time was abolished for the three days of this festival, and people did crazy things - men dressed as women and women as men. Farmers' gates were unhinged and left in ditches, peoples' horses were moved to different fields, and children would knock on neighbours' doors for food and treats...

But behind this apparent lunacy, lay a deeper meaning. The Druids knew that these three days had a special quality about them. The veil between this world and the World of the Ancestors was drawn aside on these nights, and for those who were prepared, journeys could be made in safety to the 'other side'. The Druid rites, therefore, were concerned with making contact with the spirits of the departed, who were seen as sources of guidance and inspiration rather than as sources of dread. The dark moon, the time when no moon can be seen in the sky, was the phase of the moon which ruled this time, because it represents a time in which our mortal sight needs to be obscured in order for us to see into the other worlds. The dead are honoured and feasted, not as the dead, but as the living spirits of loved ones and of guardians who hold the root-wisdom of the tribe.

Text sourced from Druidry.org

The deadline for contributing to the Imbolc issue of SerpentStar is 25 July 2019.

The Imbolc issue will be released on 1 August 2019.