

Serpent Star

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



Imbolc 2023



Welcome, welcome, welcome to the Imbolc issue of Serpentstar!

Hello, hello! How's everyone doing?

Imbolc is a time when the earth begins to awaken from its winter slumber, and the signs of renewal are all around us. In a modern world that often disconnects us from the natural rhythms of the earth, Imbolc offers an opportunity to reestablish our bond with the environment. Whether it's tending to a small garden, taking a contemplative walk in a nearby park, or simply acknowledging the increasing daylight hours, Imbolc encourages us to be more attuned to the subtle shifts occurring in the natural world. Moreover, Imbolc fosters a sense of community and togetherness. In today's fast-paced society, Imbolc reminds us of the importance of gathering with loved ones, breaking bread together, and extending a helping hand to those in need.

While Imbolc has come and gone and the wheel now turns toward Alban Eilir, I hope that you all have the chance to enjoy this issue and take a moment to enjoy the longer and warmer days and the awakening of the earth from winter's slumber with writing from John, Sandra Greenhalgh along with beautiful artwork by Ceci Lee.

With all the love and blessings I can give,

- Sam /\

A reminder to everyone that SerpentStar has a YouTube channel, which hosts 2020's DDUDE talk series from Druids DownUnder. I'd like to see other videos from OBODies on there as well - they can either be linked to ones already on other channels, or we can arrange for you to send them to serpentstar.obod@gmail.com for upload. Get in touch if you have a bardic video or a short doco you'd like to share in SerpentStar.

Search 'SerpentStar OBOD' on YouTube to subscribe!

SerpentStar, Imbolc 2023

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

SerpentStar logo by Todd William Dearing.

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Enquiries via email: serpentstar.obod@gmail.com

All opinions expressed herein are solely the contributors' own.



OBOD in the Southern Hemisphere

Groves & Seed Groups

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

The Blue Mountains Seed Group

The Blue Mountains Seed Group holds regular public gatherings in Katoomba at the Blue Mountains Organic Community Gardens for the eight seasonal festivals of the wheel of the year. See our Facebook group for more information. This is open to anyone to come along, not just OBOD members. There are also private OBOD members only gatherings, but please come to the public gatherings to get to know the group first.

Email: thebluemountainsseedgroup@gmail.com,

Facebook: Friends of the Blue Mountains Seed Group www.facebook.com/groups/friendsofthebluemountainsseedgroup/

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 two new Bards and one relatively new Bard. 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, and we will be holding our first group Alban. Full moon meditations are conducted for peace and harmony. Email Debby at triskel@mweb.co.za for details.

Druid Pilgrim Grove

We are a grove of wayfaring and friendly OBODies who are happy to support those seeking to engage with pilgrimage as part of their druid practice. We have members around Australia and NZ. A number of us are happy to meet up with pilgrims as they travel close to us. Contact danuta@adruid.com. FB: Druid Pilgrim is a Facebook group that engages with people interested in exploring pilgrimage and druidry. It also acts as a 'Friends of' space for those interested in connecting with Druid Pilgrim Grove.

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

Macadamia Grove includes OBOD members from South-East Queensland and Northern New South Wales. 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: macademiagroove@hotmail.com

The Melbourne Grove

At present we are full to capacity for our seasonal celebrations, but we still delight in meeting and chatting with new members of the Order. Contact: Elkie: elkiwhite@gmail.com, Trudy: moondancer@outlook.com.au, 0409 186 316

Facebook: [Friends of The Melbourne Grove](https://www.facebook.com/FriendsOfTheMelbourneGrove)

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 Grove

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 - includes info/booking for the annual Southern Hemisphere OBOD Assembly.

[Southern Hemisphere Order of Bards Ovates & Druids Online \(SHOBODO\) Community](#) - Facebook group - a private group for Order members living in the Southern Hemisphere.

[Druids Down Under](#) - Facebook group - a group open to druids of any path in the Southern Hemisphere, Australia/New Zealand 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)

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

Druidenstein (German) www.druidry.info/das-magazin-druidenstein

Dryade (Dutch) <http://www.obod.nl/dryade/>

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 www.pagan-transitions.org.uk and complete the application form. Any suggestions on how the service can be improved are welcome.



A Piece of the Morning

A piece of the morning was stolen
By a bird with a thousand red teeth
Said creatures of land and cold water
“What will she hide it beneath?”

She took it to high desert in Chile
And consulted with Rabbit and Prawn
And feasted on cold cuts and mustard
Pieced together with midnight and dawn

The snakes of the air were affrighted
And the birds of the ocean were too
The mammals that flew weren't delighted
Because somehow the creatures all knew

Without the whole morning they'd suffer
As once only will come around time
So, they stole it back slowly and softly
And stitched it back into its rhyme

The next day was pleasant and radiant
And the bird was forgiven her fault
But time imperceptibly stuttered
I'm going back to go live in my vault

- John Jordan

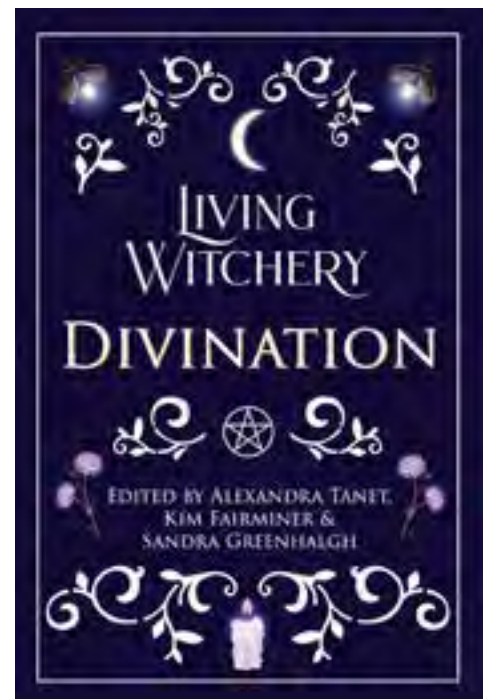
Excerpts from Living Witchery: Divination

- Sandra Greenhalgh

Divination with Ogham ('oh-am') is a wonderful method which connects you deeply with trees and plants. Ogham is sometimes known as the 'Celtic tree alphabet'. It first appeared on stone monuments in Ireland, England, Scotland, Wales, and the Isle of Man around the 4th century. Ogham symbols were chiselled across the sharp edges of the stones, designed to be read vertically from bottom to top. Usually the inscriptions recorded people's names, marked boundaries, or declared land ownership. Ogham was later documented in manuscripts from the 6th to 9th centuries, written from left to right.

In addition to these prosaic uses of Ogham, there are also accounts of Ogham being written onto sticks to send secret messages, and used for magic.

Ogham is not the same as runes. Ogham links to Celtic lore.



Scholars (and I confess to not being a scholar or academic in this field) are not in consistent agreement regarding the origin of Ogham, nor do they agree as to how or why it was created. While Ogham script was used to write Old Irish, Old Welsh, Pictish, or Latin languages and it is believed to have been modelled on Greek, Roman, or runic characters, no source has been conclusively determined.

So let us turn to 'The Ogham Tract from the Auraicept na N-Éces' ('The Scholars Primer') which provides us with a mythical explanation:

Now Ogma, a man well skilled in speech and in poetry, invented the Ogham. The cause of its invention, as a proof of his ingenuity, and that this speech should belong to the learned apart, to the exclusion of rustics and herdsmen...

Whence is the origin of the Ogham? Not hard. I shall speak firstly of the woods of the trees whence names have been put for the Ogham letters...it is from the trees of the forest that names were given to the Ogham letters metaphorically.

The first Ogham script originally only included 20 letters, arranged into four groups ('aicme', singular is 'aicmí') of five letters. Each letter consists of one to five straight lines, radiating out in different directions from the 'spine' or centre line. Later, five additional letters (extended vowels) were added, creating a fifth group – the forfeda or 'extra letters'. Each of these five groups is named after its first letter.

The B aicme includes B, L, V/F, S, N and has lines to the right (or bottom if horizontal) of the spine.

The H aicme includes H, D, T, C, Q and has lines to the left (or top if horizontal) of the spine.

The M aicme includes M, G, NG, ST, R and has diagonal lines across the centre line.

The A aicme includes A, O, U, E, I and has short lines perpendicular to both sides of the spine.

The forfeda includes EA, OI, UI, IO, EA, a variety of different symbols radiating from the centre line.



Before we knuckle down into some divination methods using the Ogham, it's important to understand there are a myriad of different Ogham systems available. While key source material include the 12th century Irish Book of Leinster, the 14th century Irish Book of Ballymote (In Lebor Oghaim), and The Scholars Primer, interpretations and translations of the materials vary significantly. Ogham systems themselves have changed over time, which adds to the complexities.

My favourite system was popularised by Robert Graves in the book *The White Goddess*, published in 1948. Graves aligns Ogham symbols with trees, plants and – now somewhat controversially – a lunar calendar. Unfortunately, Graves's poetic interpretations, which incorporate O'Flaherty's Ogygia concepts, have since been slammed by academics for their many inaccuracies. Just as unfortunately, scholars don't necessarily agree with each other as to a 'one true Ogham' which makes historical accuracy and interpretations even more difficult.

Each Ogham letter has a name (or multiple names) and meanings, and that's where things start to get interesting, as Ogham script is intrinsically associated with trees and plants. There's a hidden realm of meaning within the Ogham. It's an ecosystem of connections which flow between history, the natural world, folklore, language, craftsmanship, and Celtic cultures.

Imagine yourself walking through a forest, holding this book. Look at the trees and shrubs around you. See how the twigs connect to the branches which in turn connect to the trunk. Notice how they may overlap with those of other trees. Can you see the Ogham shapes within your surroundings? Not only can you observe the shapes of Ogham in these natural surroundings, the trees themselves are also keys to a myriad of mysteries. By walking in a forest – or a park – you are literally journeying within a living encyclopedia of tree wisdom and knowledge. This tree wisdom and associated lore can be successfully tapped into through a range of divination methods.

Creating your own Ogham set for divination

Ideally, an Ogham set is formed from wood or plant matter (even cardboard) though that's down to personal preference. Some people prefer to use stones, shells, clay or glass for their Ogham set, and those materials work just as well. Before creating an Ogham set, you may like to ask aloud for the agreement and assistance of Ogma the Sun-Faced. He is recognised as an Irish god (or warrior) of the Tuatha Dé Danann. Here's some words you can use:

*Ogma, skilled in speech and poetry.
I ask for your blessings and guidance, as I create this set of Ogham,
Wrought from the natural world.
May these Ogham be imbued with mystery and honesty.
A channel from the otherworlds to now,
Accurate and uncanny in form.
May they speak truly.*

The most common way to make an Ogham set for divination is to cut lengths of wood about 7-20 cm long and 1-5 cm thick, and then mark/carve the symbols onto the sticks. Carve a point at one end of the stave, or notch them to identify which end is up or down. The staves can then be protected with a coating of natural wax, oil, or varnish. You may like to only have 20 in your set, or 25 by including the extra five Ogham symbols of the Forfedá.

It's a magical process to create Ogham made from the wood of the actual tree itself, but that's not possible (or preferable) in all circumstances. Including wood from each corresponding tree is a consciously slow and deliberate act which can deepen your otherworldly connections with plant allies.

There are other ways to create a set of Ogham for divination. I love my set of ironbark Ogham discs. The symbols have been burnt into the wood, so I can feel them with my fingers, but painting or carving symbols works just as well. These discs can put up with a lot of knocking about, unlike staves which can be quite fragile, particularly if not stored carefully. As Miranda also suggests in the rune chapter, you should create a home to safely store your Ogham set. Some people name the container which stores Ogham sets a 'crane bag', linking to an old Celtic verse found in *The Book of the Lays of Finn*:

*The shirt of Manannan and his knife,
and Goibhne's girdle, altogether:
a smith's hook from the fierce man:
were treasures that the Crane-bag held.*

*The King of Scotland's shears full sure,
and the King of Lochlainn's helmet,
these were in it to be told of,
and the bones of Asal's swine.*

This excerpt is from the Ogham Chapter (by Sandra Greenhalgh) of the Living Witchery Divination book. The series is available in paperback from [Amazon](#), or in the [Etsy](#) store. - Sam



2023 Gathering

Hosted by
Wollemi pine seed group and
Western Sydney/Blue mountains seed groups

November 10 - 13 2023

Location: Glenrock Lagoon Scout Camp in Newcastle
NSW

For more information, contact Baden
0423 626 290
bonsaidruid@yahoo.com.au

-Photo credit: [Glenrock Scout Camp FB Page](#)



Member Businesses, Groups & Retreats in Australia/New Zealand

Animal Oracle by Vicki Minahan

After nearly eight years I am pleased to announce a project close to my heart has arrived with art by Helen Wells. Mountain Ash Animal Oracle is here. I grew up in The Strathbogie Ranges, Victoria, Australia and have been greatly influenced by both the environment and the lifestyle espoused by my parents and extended family. I currently live in Cockatoo, Australia, Victoria

With this book and accompanying cards I have incorporated family stories, autobiographical aspects, my spiritual experiences and scientific information for each animal. My hope is that this will help you to incorporate both the Apparent and Otherworldly aspects to aid you on your journey through life.



Pan's Script by Elkie White

Pan's Script, the book, was written over a period of sixteen years with the goal of providing people with accurate information about their birth data. The book is huge – nearly 400 pages – but costs only \$50, including postage within Australia. Only four copies left.

Pan's Script, the report: over the years, the book has spawned individualized reports further designed to help people understand and appreciate themselves. These 20+ page reports are based on your personal astronumerology. Whilst the book teaches people how to analyze birth data in general, your individualized report does all of the work for you: entirely personalized and excellent value at \$125.



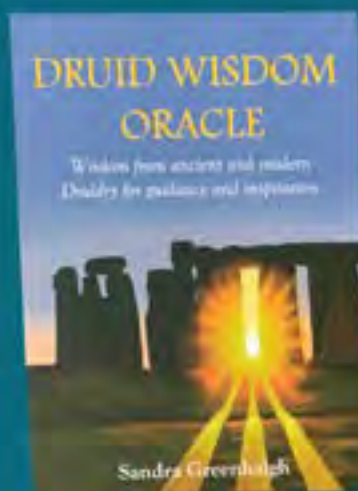
Pan's Script, the research project: a huge thank-you to the druids who have already participated, but to do us justice, we need more of you. To formulate a comparison with the other sample-groups that I have on file, I need at least 100 druids. In the future, I will write an article based on the findings, but no names will be mentioned. For those of you who send me your date of birth, place of birth, time of birth, and name given to you at birth, I will calculate and inform you of your Astro-Number Signature.

All enquires: elkiewhite@gmail.com

Druid Wisdom Oracle cards

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majorastrology22@gmail.com

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



Goddess of the Southern Land

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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

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M Adamson

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A Miller / P Gooding

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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

THE GREEN ALBUM

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!*



RAINFOREST TRUST®

Paul Salzman
Chief Executive Officer



Okapi

TUATHA DEA
WENDY RULE
SJ 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





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 practising 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

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

CREATIVE CRONIES

Astrological Moon Calendar & Diary



Our 2022 Theme is Spiritual Renewal & Our Collective Purpose

The Creative Cronies have been consulting the planets, creating and producing the moon calendar and astrological diary for over 30 years. Based near Kaitia, in the Far North of Aotearoa, they have a Southern Hemisphere focus, with inspiring art from women across the country.

They include in depth astrological guidance, moon phases, mayan calendar guidance, daily oracles in the diary, and gardening & fishing by the moon in the calendar.

This year explores each Zodiac sign's unique skills and talents and how each might contribute to humanity's collective purpose through these times.

You can purchase a 2022 Moon Calendar, Moon Diary (**LIMITED STOCK**) or a Companion Pack at:

<https://www.creativecronies.co.nz>

Instagram: @creativecronies



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 wwoof@sylvanius.net or 0429795002 to discuss options.



THE WHEEL OF SEGAI

The Wheel of Segais is a simple but profound template for understanding the nature of change, 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.

Over the last few years the Salmon has certainly been busy and a number of products from The Wheel of Segais are now available for 'treeful' living, life coaching and divination: the Personal Reader Kit and Way-Showing Cards for divination; Reader Training and Life Coaching online; and the latest offering, my book Living Treefully.



Living Treefully is a book for any person, organisation, group, team or relationship that has ever asked the question, 'Where next?' – a system for managing change and 'living treefully' in the seasonal ways that trees do. It can help to guide you and provide insight, no matter where you are in the journey of your life right now. I received this great review from Mandy Gibson:

Some months ago I received a review copy of this wonderful book - not only a companion to Pamela's ground-breaking Wheel of Segais divination method, but also a stand-alone system that can be used by a single person or group to really get at the heart of starting and working through a new project or life change. Living Treefully is a great metaphor for the ideas presented, being as it is a representation of the pure cycle of life – it also gives something to aim for, the energy and promise of new growth, the strength and stability of knowing your purpose, and the trust involved in allowing things to decay knowing they will feed the next cycle. It's a beautifully resented book too – soft and attractive illustrations, a fold-out Wheel of Segais diagram in the back and even the choice of paper is soft and comforting to the touch! So much love and care has gone into every page.

The Book is becoming really popular in the UK and I have just sent off my last books of the last printing and am about to receive the next delivery from the printer this week. So if you have been waiting for a copy, Living Treefully it is now available again.

For prices and how to order the book, The Wheel of Segais – Living Treefully or any of the other products go to the Wheel of Segais website www.wheelofsegais.com or send me an email at pamela@thewoolshed.com.

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

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

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And finally, the Wheel turns...

‘Whiporie’

Redemption and Protection
Spirit of Place
From the Ashes

Inspired by the regenerating forest at Whiporie, Northern Rivers NSW. This one took shape yesterday evening after I had spent a couple of days in the forest. Large expanses were very severely burnt during the summer bush fires 2019 -2020.

Lots of slender tea trees were lost, as well grass trees, eucalypts and other native vegetation.

- Cecily Vickers (Ceci Lee on FB/Messenger)



Artwork by wyverne ogma vynyian

At this time, our ancestors saw the Sun, the weak and helpless Child of Light, grow stronger day by day. The land still lies in darkness, but the rule of the darkness is challenged by the infant Lord of Light. Little by little, the skies grow light and the blessed Earth gives forth her first flowers, snowdrop and crocus, as promise of the Summer that is to be when all creation will rejoice in the One Universal Light.

This Feast of Imbolc is sacred to the Lady, the child-woman, the virgin who is known as Brigid and Athena and Britomartis and names without number. She it was who brought forth the Child of Light out of the Darkness in the darkest of the Dark Days. She it is who has nurtured the Child and now brings him forth as the new hope. She it is who has prepared the sleeping Earth to bring forth her bounty in the Summer which even here has its first beginnings.

Text sourced from www.druidry.org

**The deadline for contributing to the Beltane issue of SerpentStar is Sunday 23rd October
The Beltane issue will be released in the week of 20th November 2023
(just after the OBOD 2023 Assembly).**