

SERPENT STAR

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



Lughnasadh 2025



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

Why, hello! I hope everyone's doing well!

Summer is still blazing away up here in Meanjin, but there are subtle ways that the season's turning even now; the days are slowly getting shorter, the wattle has bloomed and gone, the temperature is (slowly) dropping and the humidity is feeling less soup-like to exist in. I know I'll be glad to get to the transition that Autumn brings, and so will a few of us here in Queensland!

The end of January and into February brings more than summer's peak—it's the celebration of Lughnasadh, the midpoint between the Summer Solstice and the Autumn Equinox. Traditionally a time of feasting, community, and gratitude for the first fruits of the harvest, This time of year invites us to pause and reflect. In a year that has felt long and fast (even though the year has just begun), this moment offers a much-needed opportunity to take stock of what we've sown and what's yet to come.

Lughnasadh, named after the Celtic god Lugh, reminds us that we, too, are works in progress. It's a chance to appreciate what we've grown and to consider where we still need to tend. It's a ritual of thankfulness—not only for the fruits of the present but for the lessons of the past. In a world that often moves too quickly, this festival calls us to slow down, to reflect, and to gather with those around us. As we stand at the threshold of autumn, let's remember that the harvest isn't just about abundance—it's about the work, the waiting, and the growth. Lughnasadh offers a moment of renewal: a chance to appreciate where we are, honor our efforts, and plant the seeds for what's to come.

We have a wonderful issue for your reading pleasure, including articles and other pieces from Rafayard, Tina and Brenda, with a much-awaited astronumerology report by Elkie! So settle in and enjoy, and I'll see you all again at Samhain!

Bright blessings,

- Sam /\



A quick callback to Beltane 2024 for the Macadamia Grove, where we had a Bel-pole!

SerpentStar, Lughnasadh 2025

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.

Cover image by Rafayard, taken during the Druid Gorsedd in Cooringal Grove.

Watermark images and page artwork courtesy of Adobe Stock and <https://druidry.org>

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Follow us on Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/SerpentStarOBOD>

Enquiries and submissions via email: serpentstar.obod@gmail.com

All opinions expressed herein are solely the contributors' own.

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, music or a short doco you'd like to share in SerpentStar. Search 'SerpentStar OBOD' on YouTube to subscribe!

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](#)

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

Celebrating the seasons in a cycle around Melbourne,

Contact: Elkie: elkiewhite@gmail.com

Facebook: [Friends of The Melbourne Grove](#)

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)

International 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



Pagan Transitions

Pagan Transitions was created over 15 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 Wassail For The Trees

May your trunk grow sturdy
May your roots go deep
May your branches grow wide
And be shelter so sweet

May your buds bear flowers
May your flowers bear fruits
Through the seasonal tapestry
Of the land, soil and root

The warp and the weft
Of the threads that are woven
Twisted and formed
With the vision we've chosen

Peace to the East,
Peace to the West
From celestial realms
May this grove be blessed

Peace to the South,
peace to the North,
From the rich fruitful earth
May these trees grow forth.

From the voices of mycillia
To the sounds of the sea
To the singing of birds
And the humming of bees

Peoples and worlds
And communities of light
Bear witness to this
Sovereignty of life.

- Written during the Druid Gorsedd, Cooringal Grove 2024

Australian Druid Gorsedd, Cooringal Grove, Alban Eiler 2024

With Trudes, Dean, Cait, Danuta, Michael, Sarah, Raf and Carole

Over the course of 10 days leading up to the Spring Equinox, eight Druids from across the land gathered at Cooringal Grove in South Australia, to work deeply with the theme of peace. Peace within ourselves, our communities and the wider world.

Together we wrote a peace ritual, and under a lunar eclipse and the full moon, we sent our prayers and blessings far and wide across the land, sea and sky. As we stood together in a circle under the night sky, lit up by our handmade mullein candles, the golden orb of the moon rose up over us and we chanted our intentions and sent out our blessings.

We all felt there is a great need at this time for this work and we had answered a call to be here.



The Western gateway to the Peace Grove



Dowsing and ley lines

We meditated daily, each Druid leading a meditation as we worked with the cosmic mysteries, looked at our own healing and how together we can be of service. There was time for learning, reflection and rest, music, fresh food from the garden and from the sea and because we had two birthdays, way too many French pastisseries!

One task was to plant a Peace grove and at the start of the week we dowsed, set the inner circle and starting planting trees up on the hill. The Grove is nestled within a space surrounded by she-oaks, mallees, wattles and hakeas. The new trees have their big guardians all around them and it is quite protected. Trees were planted and named with a copper label. We planted for Druids who have passed, ourselves and Druids who couldn't be here but wished to add their thread of connection to the Peace Grove. On Alban Eiler, locals came and planted trees also and after the ceremony we blessed the grove as the sun went down, lighting up the mistle-toe in the Western gateway. We wrote a Wassail for the trees which was sang many times over the course of planting.



The full moon peace ritual

Over thirty trees were planted and together with little she-oak saplings already growing, there are about fifty trees in the grove. May it be a wonderful legacy and sanctuary of peace for years to come.

Over the days of the Gorsedd, people shared their offerings, readings, divination and dowsing, earth energy work, sound healing, Bach flowers, candle making, Arthurian talks, a beautiful lustral was created, oil blends and such generosity and wisdom was shared by all. We held an initiation in the new Druid Grove and had rich conversations around various fires and in the kitchen whilst we helped Dean, the master chef, create cauldrons of abundance! Druid business is hungry work!



The full moon ritual

Before we knew it was the closing ceremony, and we were bidding each other farewell. Cooringal has been a host for assemblies in the past, in the early days, but they are now too big for our little farm. We can however continue to host Gorseddss and look to a biennial event to answer the inner call to walk gently, and work deeply on our quest for peace, love and light throughout the whole world.

Many blessings,
Rafayard



The Peace Grove

Wanderhome RPG: An independent report

- by Tina Merrybard

Wanderhome is role-playing game that was instantly attractive to me because of the gentle, nature-loving, Druidy feel to it. The game takes place some time after a great rebellion in which an evil god-king was overthrown by the people. Now the land, known as The Hæth, is recovering. This has become a kind world in which you trade for your needs, and in which all know the cost of unchecked, uncaring power. The people you meet, known as Kith, enjoy being able to maintain a connected community and always welcome wanderers. I just love the feel of this game. It lives in my head as a happiness even when I am not playing it.

In Wanderhome, everyone chooses and plays an animal character, a Kin, who has a certain role (known as a playbook.) You could play a Caretaker, who finds and rehomes small and forgotten gods as you journey, or a Dancer, or a Shepherd of bumble bees, or a Mohtender of the moths which carry the mail, or a Ragamuffin with a twirling-skirt and a poking-stick, and so many other wonderful beings. There is a such a sense of healing and exploration in just working through the questions and choices the playbooks offer as you build your character. To me, the beings we create have a strong sense of being spirit walkers in an inner landscape that is created communally and which lives beside my own as another healing and teaching inner place to visit.

So, what do you do when you have created this wonderful character? Well, you can travel across the land of Hæth, enacting the role you have chosen, and meeting other beings along the way. You can go to strange and wonderful places and perhaps celebrate seasonal festivals there. I really love the Seasons and the Natures, which are the places you can journey to. All of these places, people, seasons and festivals can be built by using the prompts in the book. Eventually, your character might find the place where they want to stay, and you will take up a new animal and playbook and leave your old one living happily ever after in a welcoming community. How lovely is that?

In what way might your Wanderhome game session play out? You won't be heroes killing monsters and getting treasure as in so many games. Instead, you could each have a goal, or a shared goal, for wherever you have travelled to, such as to see a great wonder or find a lost item. You might want to meet an old friend or learn of the local legends. You may want to trade skills for goods, or dance in diaphanous robes at a festival. (As my own Shepherd, Romney once did and which I then drew.) Each of the Kith and Natures you come across can be played by the person chosen to be a Guide for that game, or if you choose to play without a Guide, anyone can pick up their information and play them instead. The treasure of this kind of play comes in the deepened connection between you and your real life friends even as their characters bond, and in creating and enjoying small and large wonders and events as you travel.

One time, our Grove made our midsummer ritual fit into the game and had it by the beach with a whale actually holding the West then spraying everyone on shore with water, followed by a grand feast! Our Grove's Wanderhome characters have met in a winter seaside town and sat by a cosy fire drinking tea and soup, and it is as if it was us there. We now have two-layered memories of our friendships. This is the beauty of role-playing games, and of Wanderhome especially.

If you play solo, you can do so by journaling as your character, or you can write letters to a friend, real or imagined. I have done this and find it very meditative and peaceful. I have two characters who write back and forth, one an artist and one a poet, which encourages me to incorporate both art and poetry into my letters. Our Grove has also passed letters back and forth between our characters. You can use tarot cards to decide on what happens next or you can allow the flow of creativity the game encourages to just go where you will.

I do recommend this game for druids, and for friends, and for families too since it is so very gentle. I hope you decide to give Wanderhome and the wonderful world of role-playing games a try!

The free playbook kit to try the game is available at: <https://possumcreekgames.itch.io/wanderhome-playkit>

The beautiful book itself can be found at: <https://possumcreekgames.com/pages/wanderhome>

Or in PDF here, and it is currently part of a Palestine support bundle that costs only \$10 along with over 500 other indie games: <https://possumcreekgames.itch.io/wanderhome>

Guide to using Tarot for playing Wanderhome solo is here: <https://teasugarsalt.itch.io/the-wanderhome-key-to-the-tarot>



Romney the Shepherd doing a dad dance with his Ragamuffin ward, at the festival of the season of Gateling in which everyone wore diaphanous robes and did a joyful moon-dance - Illustration by Tina Merrybard

The Astronumerology of Druids

Sample size: 100, 45 men and 55 women, all born in the 20th Century with the exception of four representing the early history of druidry. At 49%, Gen X was most highly represented.

Pan's Script is Geocentric and Tropical, (seasons based), with Whole-Sign Houses: symbolic and comprehensive.

Numerology revealed that the Date Path, Consonant and Birthday Numbers of the druids were not significantly different to any other sample of 100 people from various walks of life.

Vowel Number 3 appeared more often in the Druids Sample than any other. The Vowel Number encodes a longing coming from the soul, and the longing of the soul encoded in Vowel 3 is to feel a part of a group of like-minded people. With 3 as the Vowel Number, druids want to know the contentment that comes with being able to share their ideas without the fear of being personally criticized. Vowel 3 encourages people to exercise their imagination and share what comes to them. The soul-quality encoded in Number 3 is joy.

Name Numbers 11 and 12 appeared more often in the Druids Sample than any other. Our names impact our etheric body, which is the energy-body closely wrapped around the physical. The vowels align with the astral body, and the consonants, the physical. The three together - Vowel, Consonant and Name - comprise the motivational mix behind the ideals encoded in the date of birth. Name Number 11 accompanies the drive to express inspired ideas. Druids with this Name Number are motivated more or less consciously by futuristic forces. As if the next generation is seeking a voice through them, such druids are attuned to a distant drum-beat.

Name Number 12 accompanies the drive to renew something. Druids with this Name Number are motivated to dedicate their lives to an ideal and want to add a fresh approach to this ideal. Druids whose names resonate with Number 12, have well developed powers of perception, granting them the ability to see things from many different points of view. Fact and fiction can merge here and produce some sparkling creativity. By uniting the abstract and the tangible, the ideal and the practical, over a period of time something of lasting value can emerge. Such druids can help people to see the world in a completely different way.

Growth Number 7 was highest for the Druids. At 25%, that's one in every four of us. The Growth Number resonates with the First Name given at birth. Even if a person never uses it, their First Name is a part of the matrix of vibrations that hold their subtle bodies together and identifies who they are. Thus, the First Name subconsciously stimulates inner growth and development. When the First Name reduces to Number 7, inner growth and development comes through finding one's personal truth and living that truth. Although '7' is somewhat of a solitary number, it is only by navigating 'truth' within the arena of their personal relationships that druids with Growth Number 7 develop beyond where they are now.

The Druids had more Intensity Numbers than all other samples. To have an Intensity Number within the name requires that one Number alone be above average. When an Intensity Number turns up it suggests a very strong focus in the area that the Number represents. Intensity Number 4, which was the most frequent in the druids sample, places the emphasis on integrity.

One in five druids have Maturity Number 9. When the ideal of the Date Path and the vitality of the Name combine, the personality comes into its own. Because it takes time and effort to develop these core aspects of your numerology, their combination has been called the Maturity Number. Maturity Number 9 encodes 'the humanitarian' as a personality type. Humanitarians are predominantly social, energetic, confident and drawn to social causes. Natural leaders, they thrive in interactive environments. Adept at mobilizing people for a just cause, they care deeply about the people around them. Whenever humanitarians are working on a project, it's typically concerned with the betterment of others. Wherever it appears in a person's numerology, Number 9 represents the quest to understand the meaning of life and necessitates full participation in life in order to do so.

Patterns of Intelligence revealed by the Numbers showed that 43% of Druids have Self-Intelligence (Worldly). Not necessarily extraverted, this was a common pattern in the 20th Century. Because I don't have this type of intelligence, I looked to a druid friend who does have it and asked what it meant to her. She said, "On a good day I can stand in the centre, feeling the energy of my own identity and then put myself out there to feel the energy of those around me. This helps me to act with compassion towards others and allows me to put myself in their shoes".

The Number Patterns revealed that 40% of druids are introverted and 60% extraverted, which was the norm pre the 21st Century. There were no extremely introverted druids and only one extremely extraverted. Moving effortlessly between introversion and extraversion are the ambiverts. 77% of druids are ambiverts, which is the norm for people born in the 20th century. This would seem to be shifting in the 21st century.

Astrology revealed that the Moon Phase at birth, the Houses of Mars and the Moon, were not significantly different to any other sample. Nor did aspects related to the Sun and to Mars stand out from the others.

The Moon in a Cardinal Sign appeared in 49% of the druids horoscopes, which is much higher than any other sample. In particular, the Moon in Aries, which was double the random score. Cardinal Signs initiate action, giving humans an intrinsic need to move things forward. An Aries Moon is the most dynamic of all of the Cardinal Signs. It signifies a person whose emotions are bold, passionate, and assertive. Such druids have a strong sense of independence and thrive on excitement and new experiences.

Venus in Leo scored slightly higher in the druid sample. Close behind were the LGBTQ+ samples. Venus in Leo is dramatic, creative, generous and distinctly social. This is a warm-hearted, proud, and demonstrative placement for Venus.

Mars in Gemini was a stand-out for the druids. Easily bored, Mars in Gemini druids need to continually change pace to keep their energy levels up. More than most people, Mars-Gemini people have a physical reaction to boredom so that when something catches their attention, they become a powerhouse of energy. When they get angry, they tend to use words as their weapon. They talk things through, energetically. Debates are a Mars in Gemini forte, enabling druids to draw on their sharp wit to win arguments. Those whose overall charts show more reserve, will only display such qualities when they are fired up about something. Mars in Gemini has much nervous energy which can successfully be channelled through their hands: through arts & crafts, a musical instrument, puzzles and games. Mars in Gemini helps druids to adapt to change, and some will even thrive on it.

More findings are turning up in the astrology, but I want to complete the work of comparing horoscopes with all of the other groups of people before commenting on them.

Aries-I

It was in their combination – Astro-Numerology – that the biggest finding appeared, specifically, in the Astro-Number Signature. A whopping 31% of druids have an Aries-I Signature: that's almost one in every three druids. The average calculated from a total of 2000 charts is 18%, making this a highly significant finding. Aries and Number 1 initiate.

Aries-time corresponds with the spring equinox, when the joeys emerge from their mother's pouches. The image of the young kangaroo emerging from the pouch reminds us that a druid with an Aries-I Signature must move forward from the comfort of being an 'unknown' to the vulnerability of taking their place on the stage of life. Exercising the power to direct one's own life is precisely the aim of the Aries-I Signature. Aries-I as an embodiment of spring represents a time when underground shoots arise and jostle for a place in the light of day. In human beings, this creates pioneers in all walks of life. Naturally self-willed warriors, who are prepared to fight against any limitation to self-expression; they want to see others taking initiative and performing to the best of their ability too.

Aries-I being the most self-motivated of the signatures, these druids naturally resent anyone curtailing their freedom to act. As trailblazers, they need room to move. A mature expression of the Aries-I signature is the 'spiritual warrior'. As such, a druid can become a channel for the birth of a unique and inspired idea. The word most appropriate for their output would then be 'seminal'. An Aries-I Signature means being constantly on the go and makes sitting still virtually impossible. With willpower second to none, once a person with this Signature sets themselves a task nothing stops them. Whatever obstacles beset their path; they courageously find a way around them. Correlating as it does to the young child, the Aries-I signature tends to make a person guileless. Such druids simply want to get on with life.

Acknowledgements: This article would not have been possible without the 100 druids who shared their birth data with me.

Article by Elkie White, facebook: Pan's Script, email: elkiewhite@gmail.com

Karakia to self-regulate, gifted by Mero Irirapeti 2021

Hā ki roto

BREATHE IN

Hā ki waho

BREATHE OUT

**Kia tau te mauri
e kokiri nei**

SETTLE THE MAURI THAT
STIRS INSIDE OF ME

**I nga piki me
ngā heke**

THROUGH THE UPS
& THE DOWNS

**Ko te rangimarie
tāku e rapu nei**

IT IS PEACE THAT I SEEK

Tihei mauri ora

Member Businesses, Groups & Retreats in Australia/New Zealand



Animal Oracle by Vicki Minahan

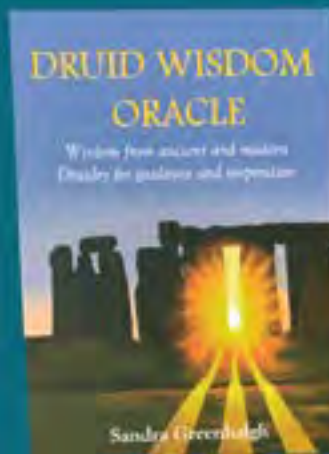
After nearly eight years I am pleased to announce a project close to my heart has arrived with art by Helen Wells. Mountain Ash Animal Oracle is here. I grew up in The Strathbogie Ranges, Victoria, Australia and have been greatly influenced by both the environment and the lifestyle espoused by my parents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



Druid Wisdom Oracle cards

Available on ETSY
<https://www.etsy.com/au/listing/687481261/druid-wisdom-oracle>



Byrningtyger@gmail.com

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www.druidalchemy.com.au

Pan's Script, Astronumerology, by Elkie White

Pan's Script, the Book will help you to understand yourself by teaching you how to analyze your birth data: your date, place and time of birth and the name you were originally given. Instead of selling yourself short, astronumerology encourages you to embrace your full potential. Available from Balboa Press and Amazon.

Pan's Script, Individualized Reports: Whilst the book teaches people how to analyse and interpret birth data in general, your individualized report does all of the work for you: entirely personalized and outstanding value at \$125.

Pan's Script, Ongoing Research: To formulate a comparison with other groups that I have on file, I'm seeking the birth data of 100 druids. Thanks to all of you who have already participated, I'm close, and hoping that by year's end I will have an article for SerpentStar based on the findings. If you would like to participate, please send me your date of birth, place of birth, time of birth, and name given to you at birth.

All enquiries: elkiewhite@gmail.com





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For more information and to purchase a copy of 'The Trees Speak', and prints of the tree spirit paintings, visit the website: thetreespeak.co.nz

THE WHEEL OF SEGAIS

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.

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

OBOD Member Celebrants

Australia & New Zealand

Pamela Meekings-Stewart

Registered Marriage and Civil Union Celebrant
New Zealand



I offer Diva, pagan and alternative spirituality marriage, hand tying 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 (choose 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 outdoor weddings and civil unions in beautiful locations 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:

Naming (children and change of name), **Birth Blessings**, **Vows of Commitment**, **Entering The Wisdom Years - Coming of Age** (women) and **Sealing (men)**, **Blessing**, **Blessings and Ceremonies 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@thenewzealand.com
Tel: +64 274 241111

Anne Conroy

REGISTERED CELEBRANT

My celebrancy is heart centred for those looking for someone who can genuinely support individuals and families when the need arises, in a relaxed and caring manner, in the Celtic tradition.

Regardless of the type of ceremony and its level of complexity, you can be assured of respect, empathy, deep listening, compassion, and creativity, along with a healthy dose of humor.



www.ritualcelebrant.co.nz
Ph: 021 781 873
E: anne@ritualcelebrant.co.nz

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It would be great for us to work together, as I am here in your service to make the ceremony unique to you, so don't delay, get in touch today.

Mentoring is my passion as it's about relationships and all things in life to do with relationships. I assist you in moving in the direction that helps you. I'm Big on Self Care and found that this is the foundation for all aspects of moving through life in a harmonious way and being your best self.

Mentoring & Wise Guide Services

+61 (0)493 043892
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And finally, the Wheel turns...

The World Is Too Much With Us

- William Wordsworth

The world is too much with us; late and soon,
Getting and spending, we lay waste our powers;—
Little we see in Nature that is ours;
We have given our hearts away, a sordid boon!
This Sea that bares her bosom to the moon;
The winds that will be howling at all hours,
And are up-gathered now like sleeping flowers;
For this, for everything, we are out of tune;
It moves us not. Great God! I'd rather be
A Pagan suckled in a creed outworn;
So might I, standing on this pleasant lea,
Have glimpses that would make me less forlorn;
Have sight of Proteus rising from the sea;
Or hear old Triton blow his wreathèd horn.

Also known as Lammas, or First Harvest, the name of this festival as Lughnasadh is Irish Gaelic for “Commemoration of Lugh”. Some authors give the meaning as marriage, gathering or feast (in the name of) of Lugh. The meaning remains basically the same: Lugh is the Deity of Lughnasadh, and there is a feast. Although Lugh gives his name to this festival, it is also associated with Lugh's foster mother Tailtiu, who is said to have cleared the way for the introduction of agriculture in Ireland, thus linking Lughnasadh to the land and the harvest.



Artwork by wyverne ogma vyvyan

One of several historic sources for the four Celtic fire festivals Imbolc, Bealtaine, Lughnasadh and Samhain is the early medieval Irish tale “Tochmarc Emire” (The Wooing of Emer), which is part of the Ulster Cycle. In the form we know it today it was written in the 10th or 11th century CE, but it is safe to assume that this tale – like so many others – contains a much older nucleus.

The tale narrates how the hero Cú Chulainn is courting Emer. He receives several tasks to fulfill, one of them being that he must go without sleep for one year. As Emer utters her challenge, she names the four major points of the Irish-Celtic year, as they are also mentioned in other Irish sources. Doing this, she does not use the solar festivals, nor Christian ones, which were certainly well known and established by the 10th century. Instead Emer chooses the first days of each season.

Text sourced from www.druidry.org

The deadline for contributing to the Samhain issue of SerpentStar is Thursday 24th April 2025

The Samhain issue will be released in the week of 1st May 2025.

Bright blessings, and see you next time!