

# Drops of the Awen

NEWSLETTER OF THE PAGAN FEDERATION  
SOUTH AND MID WALES REGION  
COVERING WHAT USED TO BE DYFED,  
GLAMORGAN, GWENT AND POWYS.



No. 15 LITHA 1999

## EDITORIAL

Dear all,

Well, the solstice has well and truly come and gone, and already we are fast approaching Lammas, many apologies for the extreme lateness of this Midsummer issue - for an explanation please turn to the Co-ordinators' Corner.

Firstly a big welcome must go out to our new readers - those of the Hereford and Worcester area who are now included in our district (see Co-ord's Corner for details). We hope you all enjoy 'Drops' and will feel inspired to contribute to it. It would be especially beneficial if details of all moots and meetings could be included in our 'Round the Region' page - so if you are organising anything, or act as a contact, please let me know.

The last few months have been fairly busy as you can see from Mike and Angie's report, and from the reviews we have of some of the regional events that have taken place. The most recent was the Midsummer campout at Esgair Mill (a review of which will appear in the next issue of Drops), which many of you were able to come to and enjoy. Prior to the camp was the 'Lampeter Gathering' in March, a successful day of talks and workshops. Several of you attended the first gathering a year ago, and it was lovely to see you return and participate once again. Following this was the Earth Healing Day celebration in April, kindly hosted by Iain Steele in Powys. It's always great to get together with other likeminded individuals, especially in a region this widespread. If anyone out there has the urge to organise some kind of regional event - it will be well received! As Mike and Angie will explain, PF finances are a bit rocky at the moment, and the knock on effect means that we need to look elsewhere for funding for 'Drops' - all bright ideas, fundraising events, and donations welcome!!!! In the next issue we'll discuss some of the ideas that have so far been raised. For the moment 'Drops' will continue for at least the next year, but all feedback is welcome. We are hoping to get a 'Drops' website up and running in the next few months, not as an alternative, but as an addition to the magazine. More details in the next issue.

For now please note that the editorial address has changed. As mentioned last issue, I was in the process of moving house at that point. I am now happily settled, and surrounded by fields and sheep, so please fill my post box!

Have a glorious summer and joyful Lammas celebrations!

Bright Blessings, Karen.



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## CONGRATULATIONS

In the last few months at least two very special events have happened to some of our members. Congratulations are due to Claire who gave birth to a baby girl called Jessica on 18th April - many blessings to mother and daughter.

Blessings also go to Jenny and Davie who tied the knot (literally!) on 29th May - may your lives together be full of love, joy and happiness.

## "CO-ORDINATORS' CORNER"

Hi everybody and yes, it's our fault 'Drops' is late; quite a bit of news though, so please bear with us....

First of all, however, a "thank you" list: To I., for organising and lending us the 'Bach Dingle' for a wonderful and uplifting Earth Healing Day (sorry, "awareness" folks, but that's what it was...). The ritual, though simple, was inspiring (thanks D., for translation and Welsh reading), and lots of little trees are growing well;

To G. and M., who opened hearth and hearts again this year for the campout, which, as ever, was greatly enjoyed by all who could make it - and thanks to C., D., D., M., M., and Z. for fabulous workshops, and to K. & K., J. & D. for the Midsummer ritual. Altogether a magical time...

Apart from the usual 'hello and welcome' to new members, we would also like to offer a welcome to some 'old' new members - the Region of Hereford and Worcester! As part of District 'D' (S. & Mid-Wales is 'Db', Hereford and Worcester is 'Dc'), it fell to the District Manager to try to work out what to do when the Regional Co-ordinators for both N. Wales and H. & W. could no longer continue - he has added N. Wales to his Regional workload, and H. & W. to ours! So we apologise in advance for the odd inevitable hold-up, as between Steve and ourselves we now cover the whole of Wales, and every county bordering on or even near it! Of course, any region is only as 'lively' as its members, so if any of you have any moots/groups going, ideal for 'get-togethers', or news/views/articles etc., get in touch and share them with us!

News from the PF itself is that due to last November's conference not making the anticipated profit, things are not too healthy financially; so we in the Regions have had to look to ways of funding much of our own Regional Magazines. Mike and I are pleased to report that the (very small) camp-out profit was boosted by the sale of (good) 2nd hand books (a list of books still available printed elsewhere in this issue of 'Drops'), but we will need further events/fundraising ideas to continue indefinitely.....Please come forward!

Our district is now starting 'District Council Meetings', as the Districts in general are becoming more autonomous and devolving from Central. This is in general a good idea as several items are now being discussed at District rather than at National level, which means you can have your say (by post, or in person) and be listened to! However, this is still very much in the embryo stage and dates/venues are still being sorted out as we write this. For those interested in attending future meetings, a quick line or phone call to us should give you the information.

Which leads us on to the next 'news' - Mike and I are on the phone at last! We still welcome 'snail mail', but sometimes the phone can be so much quicker....Our number is 07747 858086, 'any and all are welcome to call'.

You may remember a debate over the past couple of years about the "Three Principles" of the Pagan Federation. Views were sought at all levels (some of the 'older' members would have had a questionnaire from our predecessors (60 sent out, 3 replies (!)) and have discussed it at various moots etc.) Now the PF have responded, as follows:

### "AMENDMENTS TO THE THREE PRINCIPLES":

"For the past year, a PF Council sub-committee, consisting of Prudence Jones (chair), Vivianne Crowley, Val Bannister, Jem Dowse and John MacIntyre, has been considering the question of whether the three Principles of the PF should be changed and, if so, in what way. Extensive consultations with members, and consideration of the views of non-members, led to the conclusion that, while the meaning of the existing principles was perfectly satisfactory, some modification of the wording was desirable. The sub-committee presented its report at the Council meeting on 12-6-99 and, following further discussion, the following were adopted as the new Principles by the two-thirds majority necessary for amendments to the Constitution:

1) LOVE FOR AND KINSHIP WITH NATURE. REVERENCE FOR THE LIFE FORCE AND ITS EVER-RENEWING CYCLES OF LIFE AND DEATH.

2) A POSITIVE MORALITY, IN WHICH THE INDIVIDUAL IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DISCOVERY AND DEVELOPMENT OF THEIR TRUE NATURE IN HARMONY WITH THE OUTER WORLD AND COMMUNITY. THIS IS OFTEN EXPRESSED AS 'DO WHAT YOU WILL, AS LONG AS IT HARMS NONE'.

3) RECOGNITION OF THE DIVINE, WHICH TRANSCENDS GENDER, ACKNOWLEDGING BOTH THE FEMALE AND MALE ASPECTS OF DEITY.

While acceptance of the three Principles is a requirement for membership of the PF, they are not, and are not intended to be, an authoritative definition of Paganism. They do give a broad indication of 'mainstream' pagan attitudes, and are useful in explaining Paganism to outsiders."

John Macintyre, who kindly provided us with this write-up, would like to thank all who contributed to the debate. We ourselves feel that few could argue with the revisions; while not materially changing the '3 P's', the wording has been clarified in a way that should make them acceptable to many more Pagans of all paths, especially 'non-Wiccans'.

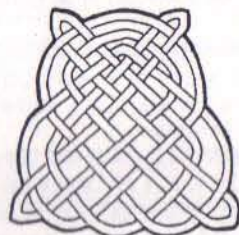
One last small news - Pagan Dawn may be a little late, as a new Editor still has to be settled.....Any offers?

So, with our apologies for the formality of the 'Co-ords Corn' this time (!), Mike and I would like to wish you all the blessings of the coming 'first fruits' - may all your endeavours bear good fruit!

Bright Blessings,

Mike and Angie Walters

THE ELEMENTS	FIRE	
EARTH	Moving	It wraps around me like loving arms
Solid and Stable	Dancing	Calming my nerves
Simple	Over grasslands	And healing my wounds
Holds me up	Over leaves	So I can sleep easy
And keeps me down	Over buildings	Like a baby in the womb
Reliable	Over tress	
Strong	Growing hotter	Katie Howard
The Oak tree stands proud	Growing faster	
Unwavering through the storm	Growing larger	
Hard work	Growing brighter	
With just rewards	It grins	
AIR	It cackles	
A cool breeze	It sways	
On a spring morning	It crackles	
Kites swooping and rising	Wild fire	
A song on the wind		
An idea voiced	WATER	
Intellect and knowledge	Cool and pure	
Cut grass and fresh fruit	Standing still and deep	
A deep breath to feed the imagination	Like and empty canvas	
And to question the soul	As the rain falls into it	
	In calm droplets	
	Leaving ripples where it falls	
	I step in	



## REGIONAL REVIEWS

### The Gathering (#2), Lampeter, Saturday 13th March

In 1998 a number of all-day events were staged around the Mid and South Wales PF-region. These events were designed to bring people together to meet, exchange ideas, celebrate and generally have a good time (and also to raise funds for Drops). Lampeter Pagan Society organised the Gathering (#1) with great success. The Gathering (#2) held on Saturday 13th March can be equally praised. The event drew many of the people who came last year, as well as many new faces from around the region. In addition, only in Lampeter on that day could you have been exposed to four high quality talks or workshops. Gareth's talk about candle magic took a broad approach about how we think about magic. He covered a range of issues about using magic with candles, including the practicalities of where to buy them. The second talk, presented by David, concentrated upon astrology as energy. Through the masterly use of a white board, David introduced a few of the principles that structure astrology. His talk ended the morning session, and everyone very hungrily went to the shared lunch. As always, everyone's generosity meant there was plenty to eat and leftovers for tea and the after ritual feast. The afternoon began promptly and Jen, a Lampeter postgraduate, presented a talk about Kali, a Hindu Goddess. This was change to the original programme and thanks to Jen for presenting at short notice. In all of the talks I found new insight and inspiration to engage with the different subjects further. The afternoon sessions finished with Ken's meditation and music workshop. In a heavily incensed and atmospheric room, blind-folded, home-made instruments, instruments, and people with all abilities, music was made. And still the day was not over. Many people stayed for the ritual, with a Spring theme. This was again performed at the Lampeter Pagan Society's own ritual site on campus. The society had been very busy that week preparing the site, making it ready for the event. Although I did not go, everyone from the Aberystwyth Pub Moot who went thoroughly enjoyed themselves and were very impressed. So thumbs up from Aber! The day finished with the Bardic circle and no doubt the sad moment of goodbyes. But can we hope for next year, the Gathering (#3)?

Simon Barrett



## The Gathering

This was my first time at attending the Gathering and I really didn't know what to expect. I was pleasantly surprised.

Taking place in the Senior Common Room at Lampeter University, with the early sun rays of the year shining in, the day felt very much like a Pagan retreat, a day made just for us.

Many of those attending had come quite far and I myself had come to Lampeter from Aberystwyth with my partner and two friends who drove us. As we arrived we were welcomed with tea, coffee or juice, and biscuits, and given a chance to catch up on old acquaintances or make new ones.

The first talk was on Candle Magick, a popular form of Magick which although familiar to me, I got many ideas from that had not occurred to me before. As well as our speaker providing much information, many others within the group came forward with ideas. The discussion that followed was inspiring and showed me just how knowledgeable and strong in their beliefs everyone was.

After a short break we had a talk on Astrology which I listened to with much interest, knowing little about the subject myself.

Lunch stood out in my mind because of the sheer abundance of food. There were pies, pasties, quiche, cheese, fruit, cake, and much more. It's amazing what can come out of group contribution.

In the afternoon my favourite talk took place, on the Hindu Goddess Kali. All I was told was new to me and I learned much. Our talker piqued my interest particularly with images and illustrations she brought with her, and the explanations she gave for the symbolism concerning them. Her anecdotes and the personal experiences she related added colour and more interest.

The ritual that ended the evening was well organised and put together. I really felt that despite the large number of us, we harmonised and connected well. This owed in no small part to those who led the ritual and had arranged it.

All in all the day was thoroughly enjoyable. I commend highly The Pagan Society at Lampeter for what they achieved that day. It is clear they had worked hard in order for the day to go smoothly and their energies were not wasted.

I had a wonderful day and look forward to the next one.

Liz Watkin

For those who are interested there are still some copies left of the booklet containing last year's talks: Graham Matthews - *The Green Man*, Elaine Howells - *Dowsing the Chakras*, Hilaire Wood - *The Goddess Brigit*, plus a copy of the Earth Healing Ritual. To receive a copy of this 25 page, black and white A5 booklet please send a £1 cheque made out to S. Barrett, and a stamped self addressed A5 envelope to: S. Barrett, 16 Vaynor Street, Aberystwyth, Ceredigion, SY16 2EM.

A booklet with this year's talks will be available in the near future.

## Earth Healing Day, Powys, Saturday 17th April

Hello and thank you to Powys and the Borders! On Saturday 17th April the regional Earth Healing Day was held 'somewhere' near Knighton. Kindly a Pagan Federation member had offered a piece of land to be the ritual site. It had recently been a cleared coniferous plantation and in the process of being restored to a deciduous wood. The site appeared to be badly scarred with remnants of trees and the obvious markings of heavy machinery. However, lulling in the bracken there was a certain peace. Looking down the valley its steep sides formed a 'V' with a stream running through the bottom and in the distance the rolling hills of the borders meeting between with the sun shining warmly. There was an opportunity to look round the land as the actual ritual did not begin until 4 o'clock. By four about twenty or so people had gathered. A small group from the local area exploring the Celtic tradition had prepared and conducted the ritual (with some help). The ritual presented an opportunity to meditate upon our own environmental concerns as well as affirming our collective intent to heal the earth. The ritual culminated in a very evocative spiral chant, raising our energy and sending it out. We stayed around after the ritual feasting together, getting to know each other and talking. Needless to say dragging ourselves away proved difficult (especially with the editor of 'Drops' who just knows too many people). For me, Earth Healing Day is not just embodied in the ritual but in the process of coming together regionally and also nationally. Earth Healing Day is about a recognition of how artificial our divisions are, especially when we divide according to parcels of land (and the dangers of those excluded imprinted at this time in the newspapers about Kosovo). We dismiss responsibility because it is not in our (so-called) back yard. What Earth Healing Day affirms, for me, is that we all share a planet that suffers because of these very divisions. And what a welcomed opportunity to visit a new part of the PF region, as well as the opportunity to meet those in the PF region sharing our border.

Simon Barrett

A review of the Midsummer Camp-Out will appear in the next issue...., but for now...

Dear Friends,

we would like to formally thank those of you who attended the Midsummer Campout for your warm friendship and a most enjoyable weekend....Also for two table knives (unmatched), a small vegetable knife, a box and cup (from Bridgend..) and a few items of food. The latter we regret we cannot return to rightful owner(s), but the items of hardware we are keeping safe (i.e. away from the children), against claims from those of you who left them. - Please note, you don't have to leave something so that you have to come back and fetch it; just pick up the phone - we're looking forward to seeing you all again.

Bright blessings,  
Graham and Margaret

## BUNNY HUGGERS UNITE!

When I wrote a similar article to this one, about animal welfare and its relationship to a modern pagan lifestyle, for another magazine some time ago, I was accused of being some type of raving Nazi veggie trying to force all pagans to eat lentils and nettle soup (sounds awful!). In fact my real purpose was, and still is, to highlight the sadistic cruelty inflicted on our animal kindred by human animals in factory farming, medical research, zoos, circuses, testing weapons and blood sports. Rightly or wrongly, I believe that this is something that pagans especially should be aware of as part of their belief system.

As regards the wider issue of vegetarian or vegan diets, this is entirely a personal choice and has never been, and I hope never will be, a prerequisite for a pagan belief or lifestyle. What however is a fact is that, at present, health factors such as BSE/CJD, e-coli, salmonella, research linking cancer and heart disease with red meat, and concern about factory farming methods are encouraging more people to change their long established eating habits.

I am quite happy to accept that if we time-warped back 10,000 years we would find our pagan ancestors happily munching mammoth steaks and hunting the last woolly rhino to extinction. Great, but this is not the type of society we live in today, or the type of paganism we are practising. We are living in the Microchip Age, not the Stone Age. As far as I am aware the average office worker does not go out after a hard day slaving over the word-processor to the local park to kill a deer for dinner. Word has not reached me of shamanic rites in Swansea for a successful shopping trip to Tesco!

Some of the old hunting magick still lingers on in a symbolic way in the modern Craft. However it needs to be viewed in the context of today's society and not from the atavistic perspective of the distant prehistoric past. Old Herne is still the male leader of the Wild Hunt and Diana/Holda still has her pack of hunting hounds. I can still invoke the Wild Hunter without hypocrisy. Why? Because his archetypal image represents the hunter of human souls who gathers in the dead and guides them across the alder bridge to the Castle of Roses.

As modern pagans teetering on the brink of the 21st century and living in the Western world we no longer have to go out and hunt down our dinner with spears, so therefore we also do not have to take these ancient images as literally as our prehistoric forebears did. They lived in a totally different society which we find hard to imagine and with a cultural ethos which is not our. Today the God and Goddess are more likely to be invoked as the protectors and guardians of abused pets and endangered species than as hunting deities in the old sense.

The old hunting rituals and ethos still survives among native peoples worldwide, but it is different again from modern methods of food production, which treats animals as consumer products, or the wasteful killing of animals for pleasure in blood sports. Ancient peoples offered prayers to the spirit of the animals they hunted for food and clothing. They also had a more symbiotic relationship with wildlife and nature which they recognized was 'red in blood and claw'. They did not think of humans as machines or animals as unfeeling, inanimate objects to be used and abused. The present-day foxhunter and badger baiter who hunts for a sick and sadistic pleasure cannot be compared with the ancient hunter who did it so they could survive from day to day.

I am puzzled by those who advocate a spiritual belief system based on the sacredness of life and respect for nature and Mother Earth, yet appear to ignore or condone the senseless cruelty inflicted on the Mother's creatures. There is something definitely odd and wrong here.

Michael Howard

For further information on animal welfare issues from a modern pagan perspective send a SAE to Pagan Animal Rights, 110 Geoffrey Road, London, SE14 1NU.

## TOTAL ECLIPSE OF THE SUN

On Wednesday 11th August Britain will witness a total eclipse of the sun for the first time since 1927, the next one won't be until 2090 so it is fair to call this event a once in a lifetime happening! Although total eclipses of the sun do take place about every 18 months at differing places on the earth, any one point on the earth will only be in the path of totality about once every 360 years.

A solar eclipse (in case you don't know!) happens when the moon lies between the sun and the earth, with the moon masking the sun. The moon and sun will appear to be almost the same size, this is due to the elliptical orbits of the moon and earth, which means that the apparent sizes of these heavenly bodies changes. Sometimes the moon appears smaller, and sometimes larger, than the sun. It is only when the apparent size of the moon is larger than the sun that a total eclipse can occur.

The path of totality will cover Cornwall and South Devon, but everywhere in the UK will witness a partial eclipse that will last for about two and a half hours. This PF region of south and mid Wales will see about 95 - 97 percent of the sun eclipsed, which should be pretty dramatic. If you are thinking about going down to Cornwall for the event be aware that you may experience many difficulties. For months now we have been warned that if you haven't got any accommodation booked, then forget it. But only a few weeks ago radio reports were saying that bookings were actually down with people deliberately staying away from the South West in August. Although this may sound encouraging, I would expect that on the day (or week!) the place will be packed, as those who are more likely to go see the eclipse (just to generalise a bit here!) will not be those who generally stay in hotels, those who get called 'New Age Travellers' for instance. So if you are going to go down there (and personally I am willing - or mad enough - to brave the crowds so that I can see the whole thing) make sure you leave plenty of travelling-time, and take plenty of provisions with you, and don't count on moving round Cornwall when you get there, unless you've got a bike!

Pagans in Cornwall are understandably concerned about the effect on their surroundings, especially the many sacred sites in the area. Just the sheer numbers of people who might turn up on the day and want to witness the eclipse from a sacred site could cause havoc, if not great amounts of damage. If you feel that you would like to be somewhere sacred on the day, it is probably best to contact the Pagan Federation who will put you in contact with members in the South West who have organised events.

By the time August comes around you will probably have heard/read more than enough about the eclipse, so I won't bore you here. Wherever you are, enjoy it! If you do want more information try these:

*Total Eclipse of the Sun in Cornwall and South Devon* by Pan Hine

*The RGO Guide to the 1999 Total Eclipse of the Sun* by Steve Bell

*Chasing the Shadow: Observer's Guide to Eclipses* by Joel Harris and Richard Talcott

*Guide to Solar and Lunar Eclipses* by Alex Vincent.

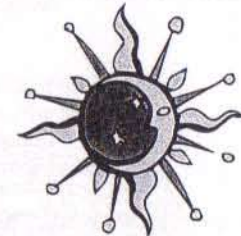
<http://www.eclipse.org.uk/>

<http://www.hermit.org/Eclipse1999/>

<http://umbra.nascom.nasa.gov/eclipse/99081/rp.html>

Lets just hope it doesn't rain on the day!

Diana Berry



## THREAD

When the Moon is full  
And the light is silver  
The air makes me shiver  
Awareness in the strange bright night of life and love  
A continuing unravelling thread ties us to the past and the future  
A fluttering embrace from our ancestors and our unborn children  
Within the circle of the earth and the great mothers arms

Lizzie Wilson

## Book Review

Matthews, C. (ed. 1990) *Voices of the Goddess: A Chorus of Sibyls*. Wellingborough, Northamptonshire: The Aquarian Press.

Sibyls, as Matthews says in her introduction, are mediators or channels for the voices of the gods. This edited collection combines the voices of ten women who express and communicate their lives as the voices of the Goddess. What I like about this, and also the other edited collections by Matthews, is its inclusiveness (although with a strong connection to the Fellowship of Isis which obviously acts as an important node of meeting). There are a variety of 'voices' from Britain to America, from Witch to artist, and from the light to the darker aspects of the Goddess expressed in their lives. Each one centres around the themes of how they came to relate to the Goddess, and what it means in their lives. As with other books I have reviewed, this connection with an actual living and breathing relationship rather than presentation of a system of beliefs is something I find deeply challenging as well as desiring to explore this further. I suppose this is the danger of such a book. The book presents ten stories of women who have been deeply transformed by their relationship with the Goddess and the aspects and archetypes they identify with. This often combines with various forms of activism and political projects. In part these are stories about 'great' women. Why not, it counters many, many more books about 'great' men. I am concerned that 'normal' women, and also 'normal' men seeking the feminine are lost, but the honesty of the edited collection makes connections and builds bridges. It is a book that is possible to relate to, than revere, and provides inspiration, not alienation. Overall a thoroughly good book, not about Sibyls, but of Sibyls - women who continue to mediate the Goddess in these very pages.

Simon



## GODDESS 2000 PROJECT

Goddess 2000 Project - "A Goddess on Every Block!" is a Grass roots community based Goddess art project. Thousands of pagans and others who honour the Earth are preparing to welcome the year 2000 by creating large goddess statues and paintings all over the country [i.e. the USA]. Groups in other countries are also participating. Full details are available at the official 'Goddess 2000 Project' Web site at [www.goddess2000.org](http://www.goddess2000.org)

This year, all over the world, pagan groups, circles, and solitary folks will be making artwork that celebrates and honours the Goddess and the Green Man. The project already has participants in Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Denmark, England, Finland, Germany, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, New Zealand, The Netherlands, Norway, Puerto Rico, the Philippines, Singapore, Scotland, South Africa, Sweden, Wales and the US. There are now over 156 contacts and co-ordinators in 26 countries.

This is the largest outpouring of Goddess Imagery seen in the past 3,000 years!

The official kick-off for this year long project was December 21st 1998. Already many people have responded, and statues are being made in wood, plaster, concrete, clay, paper, textiles and metal. Paintings, collages, murals and labyrinths are also being made.

Winter solstice 1999 will be celebrated with community 'Dancing the Goddess Home' Spiral Dances around the world, and the dedication of the 'Goddess 2000 Project' tributes to the Goddess. Original music, rituals and dances are being created especially for this event.

Sponsors of this event are: 'Spiral Goddess Grove' ([www.spiralgoddess.com](http://www.spiralgoddess.com));

'The Witches' Web' ([www.witchesweb.com](http://www.witchesweb.com));

and 'Circle Sanctuary' ([www.circlesanctuary.org](http://www.circlesanctuary.org)).

Please take a few moments to sing or say this Chant everyday, as this will greatly expand the energy and awareness of the 'Goddess 2000 Project', strengthen your connection with Goddess energy, and unite us as a global community.

### 'Goddess 2000 Project' Chant

We are the hands of the Goddess  
And to Her we offer these...  
Images made sacred  
By the spirit in our hearts

We are people of the Goddess  
In Her honour we celebrate...  
Joining together in community  
Pagan peoples of the Earth

We are the hands of the Goddess  
And to Her we offer these...  
Images made sacred  
By the spirit in our hearts

We honour Her in Asia,  
We honour Her in Africa,  
We honour Her in Europe,  
We honour Her in Australia,  
We honour Her in Scandinavia,  
We honour Her in South America,  
We honour Her in North America.

We are the Pagans  
Of the Goddess 2000  
Growing in numbers  
Every Day

We are the hands of the Goddess  
And to Her we offer these...  
Images made sacred  
By the spirit in our hearts

(Copyright 1998 Abby Willowroot, Goddess 2000 Project)

What Pagans are making...

We have heard from a number of Pagans working on the Project. Quite a few of you are working on large labyrinths. Many are making banners and quilts. A few are making metal sculptures. Statues and paintings still seem to be the most popular so far. Some Goddess Altars and Grottos are also being created by lots of Pagans. Some of these include fountains and cement Goddess statues and garden walls. Murals have also been started by a number of Pagans. The largest of these that we know about, is a two-story Virgin of Guadeloupe being done by a Pagan artist. Some great ideas have come from covens. One coven is making a quilt with each square representing a different Goddess.

I was recently made aware of this project and have just signed up as a co-ordinator in the hope that we could perhaps get something going in the South and Mid Wales region. Hopefully by the time the next issue of Drops comes out I will be able to give you more details of some kind of regional event. Some of the ideas mentioned in the above notes have a lot of potential and although the project is primarily American based I see no reason why we cannot celebrate the Goddess and God through artwork in this region. If anyone is interested in participating, or has any ideas, please contact me at the editorial address.

As I mentioned in the editorial, events and gatherings are great for this region, and I think this project gives us plenty of scope.

Karen



### NEW AGE CRYSTAL

As a mineral collector/pro prospector I am sometimes accused of 'raping the earth'. The only problem is that on my antagonists' persons or nearby in their homes, the telltale quartz crystal with artificial faces sometimes ground on one end will often be found if you look. Where, in that case, did they get them from? I think we should be told. John Mason

I'm an aching New Age crystal  
And I've had enough of that  
In a New Age shop in Bristol  
Stood by a soapstone cat

Purchased for practition in  
The healing of the wealthy  
Placed upon their sweaty skin  
It was me that felt unhealthy

Taken from my place of rest  
To cure your migraines, stress or fits  
Got to surface, washed and dressed  
New faces ground on broken bits

I'm an aching New Age crystal  
My lattice is quite sore  
I need a crystal healer  
Can I say any more?

### Book list.

All the below books can be ordered by post.  
Cheques/P.O.'s made payable to "A.Robbins", add £1.00 P&P.  
Flat 1, 36 Broad street, Ross on Wye. HR9 7DY.

#### Book & Author

RRP Our Price

<b>Practical candle burning rituals</b> - Raymond Buckland	£5.95	£2.00
<b>Scottish Witchcraft</b> - Raymond Buckland	£8.95	£2.00
<b>Working with your dreams</b> - Lyn Webster Wilde	£7.99	£1.50
<b>The magic of well-being</b> - Judith Jackson	£12.99	£2.00
<b>The healing power of dreams</b> - Patricia Garfield	£8.50	£3.00
<b>Moon magic</b> - D. J. Conway	£15.95	£3.50
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<b>Discover crystals</b> - Ursula Markham	£7.99	£2.00
<b>Practical pendulum book</b> - D. Jurriaanse	£3.99	£1.00
<b>Helrunar</b> - Jan Fries	£9.99	£3.00
<b>Concentration and Meditation</b> - Christmas Humphreys	£8.99	£3.00
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<b>Prime Chaos</b> - Phil Hine		£1.00
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<b>Birthsigns</b> - Molly Gowen and Lavinia Hamer	£5.95	£2.00
<b>Moon signs</b> - Sasha Fenton	£5.99	£2.00
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<b>E.S.P.</b> - Ingo Swan	£5.99	£1.50
<b>Fortune telling by tea leaves</b> - Sasha Fenton	£3.99	£1.00
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<b>Understanding crystals</b> - Neil Irwin	£3.99	£1.00
<b>Liber null &amp; Psychonaut</b> - Peter J Carroll		£1.00
<b>Liber Kaos</b> - Peter J Carroll		£1.00
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<b>Elements of Taoism</b> - Martin Palmer	£5.99	£1.00
<b>The Bach flower remedies</b> - Jucy Howard	£2.95	£0.50
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<b>Chaopopia</b> - David Lee	£10.00	£2.00
<b>Psybermagick</b> - P J Carroll		£0.50
<b>Pendulum Workbook</b> - Bote Mikkers	£9.99	£3.00
<b>Psychic explorer</b> - Jonathan Cainer & Carl Rider	£10.99	£4.00
<b>The Enochian workbook</b> - Gerald J & Betty Schueler	£13.95	£3.00
<b>To ride a silver broomstick</b> - Silver Ravenwolf	£13.95	£3.00
<b>Dictionary of dream symbols</b> - Eric Ackroyd		£2.00
<b>Goddess guide me</b> - Amy Zerner & Monte Farber	£17.50	£3.00
<b>Your body's energy</b> - Emma Mitchell	£16.95	£4.00

<b>Illustrated encyclopedia of dreams</b> - Anna Fornari, Emilio Rombaldini & Lynn Picknett		<b>£3.00</b>
<b>Feng Shui (The full kit)</b> - Lillian Too's	£19.99	<b>£5.00</b>
<b>How to meet and work with spirit guides</b> - Ted Andrews	£3.75	<b>£1.00</b>
<b>The moon and you</b> - Teresa Moorey	£5.99	<b>£1.00</b>
<b>The Deva handbook</b> - Nathaniel Altman	£10.99	<b>£2.00</b>
<b>Crystal vision</b> - Michael G Smith & Lyn Westthorp	£7.99	<b>£3.00</b>
<b>Your psychic power (and how to develop it)</b> - Carl Rider	£8.99	<b>£2.00</b>
<b>Moon</b> - Donna Rose		<b>£0.50</b>
<b>Witchcraft and Shamanism</b> - Chas S Clifton	£8.95	<b>£3.00</b>
<b>The Pendulum kit</b> - Sid Longren		<b>£1.50</b>
<b>Celtic lore and Druidic ritual</b> - Rhiannon Ryall	£9.95	<b>£3.00</b>
<b>Out of body experience in 30 days</b> - Keith Harary Ph.D & Pamela Weintraub		<b>£0.50</b>
<b>Spirituality and self empowerment</b> - Gloria Chadwick	£11.99	<b>£2.00</b>
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<b>Playful magic</b> - Janina Renee	£11.95	<b>£2.00</b>
<b>100 Great natural remedies</b> - Penelope Ody	£10.95	<b>£3.00</b>
<b>Introduction to Buddhism</b> - Eshe Kelsang Gyatso		<b>£2.00</b>
<b>The red fairy book</b> - Edited by Andrew Lang	£6.95	<b>£2.00</b>
<b>Astrology and the Tarot</b> - A E Thierens Ph.D	£4.99	<b>£1.50</b>
<b>The elements of Zen</b> - David Scott & Tony Doubleday	£5.99	<b>£1.00</b>
<b>Discover Tarot</b> - Emily Peach	£8.99	<b>£3.00</b>
<b>Hallowquest</b> - Caitlin & John Matthews	£8.99	<b>£3.00</b>
<b>History of Witchcraft</b> - Montague Summers		<b>£1.99</b>
<b>The finding of the third eye</b> - Vera Stanley Alder	£5.99	<b>£2.50</b>
<b>Dream interpretation (for beginners)</b> - Michele Simmons & Chris McLaughlin	£4.99	<b>£1.00</b>
<b>The dream workbook</b> - Robert Langs M.D.	£7.99	<b>£2.00</b>

One of our members in Swansea has set up a Welsh Pagans mailing list, and would like to invite anyone who is interested in joining to sign up. The description of the mailing list is as follows:

A list for - pagans of any path who live in Wales or the Marches - pagans of Welsh origin who live outside Wales - followers of Welsh pagan paths - anyone interested in Welsh folklore or Celtic spirituality.

Rhestr i - baganiaid o unrhyw lwybr sy'n byw yng Nghymru a'r Gororau - paganiaid Cymreig sy'n byw tu mas i Gymru - dilynwyr llwybrau pagan Cymreig - unrhywun â diddordeb mewn traddodau gwerin Cymru neu ysbrydoliaeth Geltaidd.

You can join this list by going to the following web page:

[http://www.onelist.com/subscribe.cgi/Welsh\\_Pagans](http://www.onelist.com/subscribe.cgi/Welsh_Pagans)

## ROUND THE REGION

It is always encouraging to find PF members actively involved with their spirituality, and willing to share with others. This space is for you! If you would like us to publish details/dates/venues of your group/society/moot/workshops etc. which you think would interest other members then don't hesitate to contact us for inclusion in Drops!

**ABERYSTWYTH:** Monthly Pub Moots. FFI email: [aberpagan@psynet.net](mailto:aberpagan@psynet.net)

**CARDIFF:** Contact David for details of regular meetings and moots - (01222) 529805.

**CARMARTHEN:** Sweat Lodges, held monthly in a secluded grove by woodland stream. All welcome, no charge. Enquiries to - J. Adams, c/o The Farmhouse, Marchoghywyn Fawr, Llanfynydd, Carmarthen, SA32 7UQ

**LAMPETER:** University Pagan Society, regular meetings, talks and workshops during term time. All welcome. For further details please contact K. Pierce c/o Pagan Society, Student's Union, Lampeter University, Lampeter, Ceredigion.  
email: [pn027@Lampeter.ac.uk](mailto:pn027@Lampeter.ac.uk)

**POWYS:** Discussion group/house moot hosted by Iain Steele in Felindre, Knighton, Powys. For details please ring (01547) 510343.

**SWANSEA:** Pagan social meetings, contact Ffred for details - (01792) 426506  
email: [manawydan@dtm.ntl.com](mailto:manawydan@dtm.ntl.com)

New - Pagan Society at Swansea University, for further information please email: [piglet@pagans.org](mailto:piglet@pagans.org) (and look out for posters round campus!)

**DROPS OF THE AWEN** is your newsletter, here to reflect your views, voice your opinions, and answer your questions - please use it!! To contribute please send a neatly written proof, typed script, or disc (Word for Windows version 6). We also need illustrations, stories, poems, helpful hints, news etc.....

Disclaimer: The views and opinions expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the editor, or the Pagan Federation as a whole. The Editor has the right to 'edit' all submissions as she sees fit.

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