



Dark Mirror



Mabon (Autumnal Equinox) 2016

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Behind the Mirror

Welcome to the Dark Mirror Autumn Equinox Issue - this edition celebrates the period between Mabon and Yule. The cover shows our dark mirror amongst the symbols of the Lughnasadh games; horse, crown, spear, champion's cloak and harvest apples.

The editor welcomes news from local moots about their events and activities, directly or via their RC. News from our local moots encourages others to join and demonstrates just how active the pagan community is in this region, so please share your news. Thanks to all contributors to this issue.

Blessed Be
Harvey – DM Editor

Dark Mirror submissions

Dark Mirror (DM) is read by Pagan Federation District Members and most likely many other Pagans. The aim of the Dark Mirror continues to be to reflect the work of the local PF (PFDCI) and its members, illuminate news and events in our area, and to provide a platform for local pagans to share their thoughts, poems, prose, stories, recipes, craft items, views, and articles of general pagan interest. Articles can be ca 3-4 pages of A4 (inc. images). The editors' decision is final.

Send your submissions in any digital format to the DM editor via email
DarkMirrorMagazine@gmail.com or by mail to:
Dark Mirror c/o PF DCI, Torcroft, Commons Lane, Shaldon, TQ14 OHN.

Copy deadlines

Please get your articles in by the deadline and the editor will do his best to get them into the newsletter that aims to be with members by the relevant festival.

ISSUE	DEADLINE
Spring Equinox (Ostara)	21st February
Summer Solstice (Litha)	21st May
Autumn Equinox (Mabon)	21st August
Winter Solstice (Yule)	21st November

PF Members only advertising

Please note that we now offer FREE THREE LINE advertising entries to members

Disclaimer

Dark Mirror is the District Newsletter of the Pagan Federation - Devon, Cornwall and the Isles (PFDCJ) and is only available to members of the Pagan Federation. The views and/or opinions expressed within this publication are not necessarily those of the editor, printers, PFDCI or the Pagan Federation. Mention within this publication should not be seen as an endorsement of any events, meetings, moots or products, and no responsibility can be accepted by us for such items.

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District Managers report

A Few Words from Your District Manager – Maia

As Mabon arrives and the wheel turns to Samhain, the Autumn days are definitely here. The wind has turned, the evening dew turns to morning mists, the birds have changed their tunes and many are now fleeing to warmer climes. A wonderful feathered sonorous symphony flew over my home yesterday as at least eight formations of more than a 100 geese energetically called to each other as they passed by heading towards the afternoon sun. I ran out shouting 'Goodbye! Goodbye!' (maybe it should have been "Hello! Hello!"), and I heard young grandchildren in the neighbour's garden excitedly copying my heartfelt call. Little pagans in the making I hope.

For so many of us at this time of Summer's End, it is a time of goodbyes to friends and family as children go back to school, to pets and livestock, to wildlife both travelling on, through or just burrowing in. Finally, we bid goodbye to the abundance of summer as we clear the die back of flowering and fruiting plants, trees and shrubs, and the vegetable plot. The joy is from the collection of the harvest if we are lucky to have our own gardens, or from the woodland or hedgerow, or with others generosity. We know it is time to return the leftovers to Mother Earth for all she has given to us, which in turn is used for the new life in the spring. It is often a time of sadness, with the return to darkness and the anticipation of the cold but also we learn acceptance, coping strategies and, as Pagans, we never ever give up hope as we know that nature's rebirth is a fact, not speculation.

It has been a fabulous year for Pagans in Devon, Cornwall and the Isles. We have more moots than ever, and those we have are so active we are spoilt for choice. Read the Moots Reports later on in this issue to find out about some brilliant local events, and if you have not sent one to the Editor this time PLEASE send in something for next time. It is so good to read about district activities and so inspiring for all the local organisers. Our main 2016 PF events of Conference and Picnic were extremely well attended and enjoyed by all. Dates for 2017 will be advertised shortly. Tickets for Conference 2017 are usually on sale from Samhain 2016 so keep an eye on the website front page.

Other district events were plentiful and fabulous with WELCOME on every doorstep from indoor moots to outdoor celebrations. Facebook and the power of event invites has changed our world without a doubt, and do remember to let us know and we can help by adding events and contacts onto this newsletter and our website. It is so good to network in the south-west Pagan Community. Pagan Dawn is evolving slightly (with respect to advertising) and more news about that will be shared after I have heard their report in the next PF Council Meeting in London, which I will be attending shortly.



I close with something I recall from my childhood story time with Robert Louis Stevenson.

"Sing a song of seasons! Something bright in all! Flowers in the summer. Fires in the fall!"

Summers End Blessings

Maia, District Manager Devon, Cornwall & Isles dci.dm@paganfederation.co.uk

News and events

Cornwall

RC report Cornwall – Eve

Reflections on a Cornish Summer Traffic Jam

Greetings from the western end of the British summer traffic jam! Traveling at this time of year can be very slow and frustrating. Sometimes, waiting at the end of my road (not so many miles from Lands End) I wonder where all the cars crawling west are actually going to go. Surely, there isn't enough room for all of them as the land narrows towards those final cliffs? I entertain a vision of cars dropping like lemmings into the sea. It seems like everyone is on the move, everyone has exciting plans, places to be, people to visit, experiences to tick off.

For twenty first century British holidaymakers, August is holiday time; a time to spend the money and annual leave they have earned. In a way, for many, this is their harvest. They are gathering up golden memories to sustain them through the long dreary working year ahead; memories of families and friends, shared times of happiness.

Harvest means many different things to different people. It can be a harvest not just of the physical season but the season of our lives as well, not just grain and fruit but love and friendship and knowledge; harvests to sustain not just our physical bodies but our minds and spirits. Those less tangible harvests have also required work and dedication, perhaps not muddy hands and sore backs, but other equal effort.

I wish you all joy and delight of your own personal harvests, whatever they may be, in this golden time of the year.

Eve

PS If you want to share in a (real) hill walk, check out, (in this Dark Mirror), the details of the “Mabon in the Moor” event, which is being organised by Liskeard Moot.

Devon

RC Report Devon - Michele

All the Devon moots are busy and eventful. Some moot news can be found in this issue, plenty of other group information can be found online on Facebook, please check moot listings for details.

I am pleased to report that the Taw and Torridge moot in North Devon is starting to pick up more members. There has not been an established group in the Barnstable area for some time but this fledgling moot continues to run steadily onwards.

The main news of course is our splendid picnic. During the eventful 'Creative Crafts' Alanna treated us to flute playing and poem, accompanied by Gary on the deerskin drum. Alanna said that since enrolling with OBOD she wanted to rekindle her musical abilities to help people connect with the natural world through playing and composition. Furthermore:

"Playing at Lammas for me was a way to reap the harvest that I sowed earlier in the year when I started to nurture my new ambition. The evening before the picnic, a snippet of tune turned up in my head. In less time than it takes to make a Lammas loaf I had a tune and a harvest poem to go with it. Gary patiently helped with the rhythm and agreed to play with me for the picnic.

We had a lovely day and really appreciated the chance to share in such a supportive and friendly

atmosphere. Gary particularly appreciated being 'volunteered' to help with overseeing the games. Thanks for giving us the opportunity to share this experience. Peace and best wishes, Alanna and Gary."

We have a great community with wonderful Pagan people who are willing to lend a hand and be part of this far-flung region. Days like the Lammas picnic and our Spring Conference really bring out the strength, joy and family atmosphere. At the Hurlers stone circles, we can be with our Ancestors and celebrate with them also.

Bright Blessings
Michele

Teignbridge Moot News

The Teignbridge Moot are pleased to announce that the September 19th moot is a talk by the Cryptozoologist Richard Freeman titled: 'Dragons more than a myth?' October 17th has a talk and demonstration on Stav (Runic Martial Arts), November 21st is a healing workshop run by Steve Wills and December 19th will be the Yuletide Pagan quiz night run by Mariya and Pete

B.B. and Awen from
Elaine and Mariya

Devon Pagan Communities – Exeter – News

Our Moot has moved back the Cowick Barton, now that the original venue is no longer under threat of closure, and we've changed the day to Tuesday as that's the quietest evening -- no karaoke or noisy people in the pub and we have a wonderfully quiet private room where we can perform ritual or meditation.

We also held a couple of outdoor Moots/Rituals during the summer, one on Dartmoor at Lughnasadh and one on a secluded beach near Brixham..

These were well received and we hope to do more.

In October we're doing a series of handicrafts-themed Moots in the run-up to



Samhain (see forthcoming events), and if these prove popular we plan to do occasional handicrafts Moots regularly where people can make their own Goddess figurines, incense blends, candles or similar.

Natalie & Heather



Lammas Picnic and Lughnasadh Games 2016

Minions 2016

Vibrant sunshine ruled the day! The moorland was dry underfoot, the air clear, and the brilliant splendour of the sun, golden, radiant, in short a glorious day and not too hot. Over 50 people attended the picnic and games this year. As always I take the opportunity to gladly welcome the people who have come together to foster our Pagan community. Alan of the Cornish Mystery School aided me in the tradition of 'Crying the Neck' so honouring the harvest grain and those who work to provide our food. Nigel, one of our honoured Champion of the Goddess, and I offered invocations to Lugh, Patron of our picnic. Let the Games commence!



Overall, 40 competitors took part over the four challenges. Gary kindly volunteered to help Harvey run the events. We also had other helpers in the shape of the young and energy filled children who did a great deal of running around and a Frisbee chasing dog. This year's Lughnasadh Games winners were as follows; the Welly Boot Hurl, Joe, Mike and Alanna; the (very difficult) Discus Challenge, Richard and Nigel; and the Skilful Quoits won by Evan (visiting from Bulgaria).

Creative Crafts this year was bursting with talent, Freda arranged a short play about

John Barleycorn asking several picnickers to play the parts.

The tale of John Barleycorn (by Freda), who, having grown and ripened then suffered at the hands of the reaper, carter, thresher, malter and miller (an extract):

'His colour sickened more and more,
He faded into age;
And then his enemies began
To show their deadly rage.'

But as the narrative said:

'Behold what mystery is there,
For twice do Earth and Water fair
And twice do Fire and sweet Air
Transmute Sir John.'" (Freda Wills)

Alanna played the flute and eloquently spoke a seasonal poem accompanied by Gary on the drum.

Elaine's wrote a witty poem about our event (Lammas Dogerel), and Steve sang and played guitar, wow!



Lammas Dogerel (by Elaine)

"Oh happy day of Lammas
And Lughnasadh games and feast,
Our Pagan picnic shared with friends,
With a sacred ritual at the end.

And in between, we'll try our best,
To gain dominion at Minions
In welly-wanging, quoits and Frisbee,
Or best baked bread or corn doll pretty.

And if we're lucky, as we shall be,
We'll have some fun-time in the sunshine.
We'll honour First Harvest, at the Hurlers,
Share our bread, renew our friendships.

So here's to our Lammas Pagan Picnic!" (Elaine)"

The playoff was between the winners of the first three games and those (who wanted too) from the Creative Crafts, as we really could not decide between them. In the end, Lugh the Many-Skilled and the Harvest Goddess chose Joe as Champion and Alanna as Her representative in the ritual.

As is customary picnickers are always ready to step up and take part in the rituals, I am glad to say we had many highly enthusiastic members of the younger generation this year. As it is a public ritual, I always give out words to focus the direction, to help those who feel a little stumped but want to join in and also to keep the ritual balanced.

At this point, I must confess some of the ritual text comes from or ideas are inspired by Glennie Kindred's book 'Sacred Celebrations'. (I highly recommend her book for moot leaders, or getting your spirit-self back into the seasonal cycle. At times modern life is just so overwhelming, inspiration is sorely needed, and we are blessed by access to vast plethora of Pagan writings.)

The ritual begins by participants taking handfuls of oats then walking the bounds of the Hurlers middle



stone circle lead by Harvey processing the Lughnasadh Sun hobby-oss. Then our circle of celebration condenses around the central stone. The circle was made by the joining of hands, and the Elements called with honour to watch over us.



Sylvia sang the 'Sun King' chant by Raven Moonshadow. (An audio file is available online)

"This is the wake of Lugh the Sun King, He lost his life on the Solstice day;
This is the wake of Lugh the Sun King, He steps into the dark and guides the way.
O tell me why, o tell me why, Tell me why must the clouds come to darken the sky."

We called upon the Gods and They came and spoke with us, the Champion made an offering of grain to the Goddess and the Earth. Harvey and Eve blessed

the bread and ale and we shared this simple feast. Ending this part with the chant "Hoof and Horn".

For those of you who enjoyed Harvey's wonderful tasting bread this year the recipe was adapted from Nigel Slater's 'Rosemary and honey bread for cheese'. Harvey used half spelt flour, rosemary, apricots and cranberries.

The Lammas Picnic ritual always has a space for and welcomes other offerings from community. Cornwall RC Eve spoke succinctly concerning the many skills of Lugh and his place of honour within the Tuatha de Dannan and the Irish Magical Tradition. In parallel, I spoke a little about the Northern Vanir deity Yngvi Freyr, the sacrificial Golden God. The poem I read honouring the God Freyr as Corn King read came from this site www.northernpaganism.org.

Joe this year's Champion of the Goddess spoke from the heart about our gathering and the profuse joy of celebrating as community brings. Then Harvey read the beloved and traditional poem, 'John Barleycorn must Die'. As per usual, we joined in on the more bloodthirsty words, and on the subject of death, both calling out his name with honour for his sacrifice then serving him 'barbarously'.

Farewell and Thanks, May the Circle be open but forever unbroken. Thank you all for attending and helping to make this celebration special. Thank you to everyone for volunteering, for taking part in the Games and the Ritual, a special thanks to Richard for taking photos. For those folks who could not make it due to other engagements I must say you missed a damn fine gathering but we felt your absence and hope to see you next year!

Bountiful Harvest Blessings! Michele RC Devon



Articles

Mirror myths and superstitions – Alan Jones, Cornish School of Mysteries

We often get some interesting questions directed to 'The School' from interested parties who found our contact details via the website. We thought it might be interesting to share some of these questions and the answers we tried to provide.

Here's an interesting question.

"I would like to know more about the myth of breaking a mirror gives you seven years of bad luck, where did this originate and was there a mirror god in any culture ever?"

And an answer

So from my initial 'reflections', pun obviously intentional, here are some thoughts....

Before mirrors came along any reflective surface was said to be magical. The idea of capturing a person's reflection may well have been akin to the notion of capturing someone's soul, or personality whichever mystical construct was the most relevant.

There are numerous ancient myths about Gods and Goddesses looking into still pools of water to see what the future may hold. The magical 'tradition' of scrying comes from this idea.

Scrying is a form of divination where the prophet gazes into a reflective surface to see the future. Some say that it was Queen Elizabeth I's magician and astrologer John Dee who made scrying popular, but it was firmly part of magical practices well before his time.

Mirrors and other reflective surfaces also have been attributed with the idea of deception. Magicians' deceptions are 'done with mirrors', but in story we have the mirror featuring in the stories of Narcissus and Snow White.

Interestingly mirrors are also seen as being transformative. There is a magical practice of sitting in candle light and meditating upon your reflection in a mirror. The low light levels and the properties of human visual perception mean that after a short while the image will change. It can appear that the looker has become someone else. This idea of 'transfiguration' is well represented in spiritualist practices.

So mirrors have been seen as gateways between the material world and the world of the spirit, or of the world of the future. Hence breaking a mirror will have an effect on the future (or fate) of the person who breaks it OR it will allow access of spirits from the 'other side' into this world.

Other mirror superstitions (collected out of interest)

1. To see your reflection in a mirror is to see your own soul, which is why a vampire, who is without a soul, has no reflection.
2. If a couple first catch sight of each other in a mirror, they will have a happy marriage.
3. If a mirror falls and breaks by itself, someone in the house will soon die.
4. Any mirrors in a room where someone has recently died, must be covered so that the dead person's soul does not get trapped behind the glass. Superstition has it that the Devil invented mirrors for this very purpose.
5. In another version of the same tradition, it is suggested that anyone else who has admired his or her reflection in the mirror risks losing his or her soul, because the ghost of the dead person will take it!
6. Before mirrors, in ancient societies, if you caught sight of your reflection or dreamt of it, you would soon die.

7. Someone seeing their reflection in a room where someone has recently died, will soon die themselves.
8. Babies should not look into a mirror for the first year of their lives.
9. Actors believe that it is bad luck to see their reflection while looking over the shoulder of another person.
10. To see an image of her future husband, a woman is told to eat an apple while sitting in front of a mirror and then brush her hair. An image of the man will appear behind her shoulder.
11. A mirror framed on three sides means a witch has used it to see over long distances.
12. Ancient Chinese believed that mirrors frighten away evil spirits who get scared when they see themselves and, if the mirror was broken, the protection was lost.

Gods and mirrors.

The name Tezcatlipoca, the Aztec God, is literally translated as 'smoking mirror'. In one of the stories Tezcatlipoca impersonated a god named Titlacauapan in order to shame Quetzalcoatl into getting drunk enough to rape his sister. He then showed Quetzalcoatl's true image as a feathered serpent in his 'smoking mirror' and shamed him into exile with the Mayan Gods in the underworld.

Tezcatlipoca is often considered a rather sinister character, more like Seth or Loki. It is suggested that his cult consisted of sorcerers and he was venerated by thieves, murderers, adulterers, and others who needed night to cover their misdeeds.

Quetzalcoatl is a very ancient god known to the Mayas and ancient Teotihuacan ruins. He is often depicted with a mirror in his chest. He was Lord of Healing and magical herbs, known as a symbol of thought and learning, of the arts, poetry, and all things good and beautiful.

Lord of Hope and Lord of the Morning Star, he has been likened to England's King Arthur, both of history and myth. According to some ancient sources a series of nine different Toltec kings succeeded the original man/god all calling themselves Quetzalcoatl.

When linking the stories of Tezcatlipoca and Quetzalcoatl we notice there is a little discrepancy.

The feathered serpent image does not seem to sit with the notion of a beneficial God. This is perhaps because in the Tezcatlipoca stories we see a rival God attempting oust a respected God (hence the trickery). Quetzalcoatl's association with the feathered serpent is interesting.

The quetzal bird, native to the western area of Guatemala and Mexico, was regarded as the most beautiful bird and called Quetzaltotolin, meaning 'most precious'.

The symbol of the feathered serpent was Quetzalcoatl, meaning not just feathered serpent, but 'most precious serpent'. Quetzalcoatl is not the feathered serpent but the one who emerges from the serpent as Venus rises from the morning horizon. Herein lies another link to mirrors, the 'Morning Star' and the Goddess Venus are linked to mirrors and reflective surfaces.

One last point. In Biblical tradition we are all considered to be 'made in God's image' - in some sense then we are reflections of God. This notion of creation being a mirror image of the creator is an essential theological component of many traditions.

Alan Jones



Forthcoming events

Mabon on the Moor

Inviting all moots in Devon and Cornwall to

'Mabon on the Moor'.

Saturday 17th September 2016.

Meet at the Jamaica Inn between 5.00pm and 5.45pm. Jamaica Inn is at Bolventor, 10 miles west of Launceston, 10 miles east of Bodmin on the A30 and is signed

Walk to the top of Tolborough Tor - a walk of about a mile, not too tough, but wear stout shoes

Bring with you drums and torches to light at the summit where there is a fabulous view of the western skies and a Bronze Age burial cairn keeping vigil over the moorland facing towards Bron Willeni and Rough Tor.

Short Mabon ceremony and farewell to the sun. Sunset will be at about 7.20pm.

Return to the Jamaica Inn for food and refreshment - the manager will reserve a space for us in the restaurant area.

More information to individual Moots will follow, plus instructions on how to make a very simple but effective torch.

Please come to this wonderful wild place and celebrate with the ancestors a farewell to the sun and welcome the Old Bone Mother to her season.'

For more information please contact Alli on 07840295635

Museum of Witchcraft and Magic (MWM)

Glitter and Grave dust: Halloween past and present

An exhibition at the Museum of Witchcraft and Magic, Boscastle

Running throughout 2016

Like it or loathe it, Halloween is here to stay! It is a night of contradictions: a night of glitter and grave dust. But is it Pagan or Christian, ancient or modern, spiritual or commercial? Is it a time of diabolic fiends, of scary ghosts and awful ghouls or a sombre time to commune with the ancestors? Is it a harvest festival with sacred symbolism of apples and nuts or a night of complete meaningless trash fuelled by endless sugary sweets? Is it a false construction of a mythical past which never existed or an instinctive yearning after something beautiful and poignant that has been brushed aside by the forces of modernity?

One thing we can say for certain about Halloween is that it is a time of mystery and imagination. A time of darkness when strange things can happen. In whatever guise it takes, October 31st seems to have always been seen as a special time when impossible things become possible, where imagination lets loose, where spirits roam the earth.

We all know the symbols and motifs of Halloween (grinning pumpkin lanterns, ghosts, witches, cats, skeletons) and we all know what we are supposed to do (bob for apples, go trick or treating, watch horror films) but few understand the origins of this most mysterious of festivals. There is even confusion over the name itself with many Christian evangelicals condemning Halloween as Satanic while forgetting that the name itself means "Holy Evening".

Halloween is a night of inversion, a night of freedom, a time to have some fun before the long darkness of winter. It defies categorisation, it inspires improvisation, it does not belong to any one religion, nation, culture or age group. It appeals to the darker side of ourselves and the darker side of life while offering a release from the mundanity of modern life. It is a chance to connect with our primordial selves, to reawaken our childishness, to put the thrill back into life. Halloween is more popular than ever and this exhibition seeks to explore its history and appeal. Come and explore the magic of Halloween!

The exhibition includes:

- A History of Halloween (a timeline of October 31st from ancient times to today)
- The Magic of Halloween (people used to predict the future on Halloween, this area of the exhibition explores the different methods used and includes a film showing different divination techniques being used)
- Pumpkins and Halloween (a look at the legend of Jack O'Lantern)
- Halloween customs throughout the British Isles - a map exploring different regional variations some Christian, some Pagan, some a blend of both!
- Witchcraft and Halloween (including Halloween in witchcraft trial records and methods of protection from witchcraft traditionally taken on October 31st)
- The taste of Halloween (modern sweets and more traditional foods such as Soul Cakes)
- Halloween costumes (photos of costumes through the ages, a Skekler costume from the Scottish Isles and more modern Devil and pumpkin costumes)
- Halloween in popular culture (including books, films, TV series and events such as Salem's Haunted Happenings)
- Samhain (objects and rituals to explore modern witchcraft practices)

To coincide with and augment this exhibition:

Museum will be holding a day of talks on October 15th at the Wellington Hotel.

Key note speaker: Ronald Hutton "The History of Halloween"

With papers by:

Mogg Morgan "Sky Religion in Ancient Egypt: Halloween?"

Dorothy L. Abrams "Ancestor Ritual at Samhain"

Bekki Shining Bearheart "Witches, Shamans and Ancestors, OH MY!"

Tommy Kuusela "How to learn magic by going on a year walk"

Louise Fenton "Trick and Tourist Treat: Halloween in New Orleans"

Judith Noble "Beyond Halloween"

+ Evening drinks, nibbles and entertainment from 8pm

Tickets £25

Price includes admission to conference, evening social event and entertainment, as well as entry to the Museum on Saturday or Sunday.

Places are limited and pre-payment is essential to book your place. Contact the Museum to book a place: museumwitchcraft@aol.com

All Hallow's Eve at the Museum



On Saturday October 29th, the Museum will be holding its third annual All Hallow's Eve Dark Gathering which includes Dark Morris dancing, a lantern procession, a visit by various 'Osses' who perform a traditional pwnco ceremony at the Museum door, fire dances and a candlelit evening at the Museum. This year promises to be bigger and better than ever, have a look at last year's event here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u6w5lV6WYY4>

For further detail of this and other events check out the MWM Blog
www.museumofwitchcraft.blogspot.co.uk

Other events

Devon Pagan Communities – Exeter – Forthcoming events

Here's our schedule from Modron to Samhain. All take place in the Monks Room, Cowick Barton Inn, Exeter at 7.30pm.

20 September: Modron Open Ritual

An Open Ritual to mark Modron, followed by a social so we can all eat, drink and be suitably merry!

27 September: Reiki Talk

A talk by Reiki Master Su Luffman explaining what Reiki is, how it works, and how it interrelates with other forms of energy magic/healing.

4 October: Clay Crafting

The first of our pre-Samhain Craft Month Moots... come along and make your own Goddess figurine, Green Man, candle holder or whatever else you fancy in pottery. No prior experience necessary, we have two experienced potters on hand to provide guidance, all clay, tools etc provided. Whatever you make will be fired in Heather's kiln and returned to you in time for Samhain.

11 October: Incense Workshop

The second of our pre-Samhain Craft Month Moots... a bring-and-share workshop aimed at sharing knowledge about incense and oils, and their uses in ritual, healing, purification and so on.

18 October: Full Moon Ritual & Social

This is mainly a Social Moot, but since it's only 36 hours or so after the precise moment of the last Full Moon before Samhain, it seemed a good opportunity to also include a Perdi Chun (full moon) ritual to help us get ourselves spiritually and magically ready for Samhain -- and/or to do anything else you feel like doing with lunar energy (healing, for instance).

25 October: Samhain Candles

The last of our pre-Samhain Craft Month Moots... come along and make one or more decorated Pagan-themed candles for your altar!

We'll have to take the Pointy Hat round for a contribution for materials for this one, but I don't think it'll come to more than a couple of pounds each, and hopefully it'll be a fun occasion where everyone gets to make something personal and magical for their own Samhain ritual or some other magical use.

If people could give us a vague idea of who is likely to be bringing their own candles to decorate, and who would like me to provide plain candles, that would be a big help.

1 November: Samhain Open Ritual

It's the big one folks! Samhain rolls round once again, the Veil thins, so it's time to remember our Beloved Dead and celebrate the Turning of the Year with an open ritual and a chance to eat, drink and be merry.

Our Moot day falls within 24 hours of "actual" Samhain this year, and what's more, Samhain itself coincides with a Kàli Chun (dark moon), giving it an extra magical charge. The resident ghosts at the Cowick Barton have been invited too.

Natalie & Heather

Druid Order of Tamaris

Regularly hold rituals on both sides of the border, some are family friendly. Their base is in Plymouth and can be contacted via their public Facebook group.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/42727913048>

Editor's note: if you know of or are organizing a Pagan event in Devon, Cornwall or the Isles, then please let me know as soon as possible before the date. Remember that the Dark Mirror comes out quarterly (see submission dates). Of course, you can then tell us how well it went and we'll include it under 'News'.



Moots

Cornwall (Kernow)

Betwixt Moot (Redruth, Camborne, Truro, Falmouth)

Meets on the 1st & 3rd Mondays of the month. FFI contact Ann: 01872 863970

Bude Moot

Meets the 1st Tuesday of the month in the Conference Room at the Parkhouse Centre, Ergue Gaberic Way, Bude, EX23 8LD. Tea or coffee provided or vending machine. We ask for a £2 per person donation to cover room hire. Meet from 7pm to start talks/ceremonies at 7.30pm.

FFI Contact Lisa at budemoot@lchambers.co.uk or Debbie@specialdaysinspecialways.co.uk

The Dolmen Grove Ivy Moon Moot

Meets on the 1st Wed of every month, 7.30 pm, St Austell area. We hold talks, workshops, have outings and celebrate the Sabbats. Options to attend Camps, Larger Rituals, Stonehenge access & Samhain/Yule Ball. Friendly like-minded people, all spiritual paths welcome.

FFI contact: Karen tel: 077411 177 185

FB page: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Ivy-Moon-Group>

Liskeard Moot

Meets 2nd Thursday each month, 7 for 7.30pm, The Long Room, The Public Hall, West Street, Liskeard PL14 6BW. FFI

FFI Contact Alli or Dave on 07840295635 or email alli_99@hotmail.co.uk

Facebook group: www.facebook.com/groups/271716272934061

Ros Pagan (Pagan Wheel)

Camborne based Moot. Meets the second Tuesday of the month, 7.30pm, at the Camborne Community Centre, (South Tce, TR14 8SU). Pagans of all paths – or those just interested in finding out more – very welcome. Meets for talks, discussions, rituals and outings. We ask for a donation of £2 to help cover the cost of room hire. Refreshments provided. The Community Centre is close to bus and train links, has a large car park and full disabled access.

FFI contact Eve on dcj.cornwall@paganfederation.co.uk for more details.

Fraddon Moot

First Tuesday of the month, 7.30pm. Meets at the Blue Anchor Inn, Fraddon, just off the A30. Pagans (and seekers) of all paths very welcome. FFI contact Lou on: fraddoncoven@hotmail.com

Penwith Pagan Moot

Now holding four rituals a year and hoping to restart monthly meetings in 2016. FFI contact – Dave on tarewaste@yahoo.co.uk

Website: www.penwithpaganmoot.co.uk

Devon (Dumnonia)

Devon Pagan Communities

a friendly and lively discussion, sharing and support network for Pagans from any and all paths in the Devon area. We hold weekly Moots at 7.30pm every Tuesday at the Cowick Barton (Monks Room), Exeter. FFI please either check the DPC Facebook group:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1691622644418864/> or contact natalie@dawnmist.org.

Plymouth Pagan Moot

Held on the second Saturday every month, aims to get back to nature and to have fun. Family orientated so children welcome, as is any one from any spiritual path. Moots will be held outside when the weather permits.

FFI email Spanish.chick@hotmail.co.uk

Please visit our Facebook group <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1600854500172058/>

South West Devon Moot

Meets in the Stoke area of Plymouth, held on 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm. We are a friendly moot run in a private house in the Stoke area of Plymouth.

FFI contact Patrick on 07964565338 or 01752 338292 (evenings) email pdq.mears@virgin.net or find us on Facebook. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/paganfedplymouth/>

Tavistock West Moor Pagans

Contact us for information on planned seasonal rituals. Email Michele westmoormoot@gmail.com

Please join our Facebook group <https://www.facebook.com/groups/277029935661700/>

Taw and Torridge Moot.

Meets 3rd Monday of every month at Torridge Arms, Torrington EX38 8BX. 7.30pm for 8pm start. Open to all paths. Please be aware landlady knows it as a Folklore and Antiquarian group. A copy of Pagan Dawn will be on the table. FFI Minerva on oldcrone24@gmail.com

Teignbridge Pagans

Meets on the 3rd Monday of the month at the Old Rydon Inn, Kingsteignton, 7.30pm.

FFI check out the Facebook group <https://www.facebook.com/groups/203242459794674/> or email Elaine leiane@hotmail.co.uk

Three Moors Pagan Moot

Three Fold Pagans meets every 3rd Thursday of the month, at The Highwayman's Inn, Sourton, nr Okehampton, all are welcome. FFI please call Shadowlea on 01837 659656

<https://www.facebook.com/Okehamptongathering>

Torbay/South Devon Pagan Moot

The Torbay Moot group is a long established eclectic group of like-minded pagan people. We meet at the Noble Tree in Torre Torquay on the first Thursday of the month, 7.30 -9.30 pm. We meet for open celebration, study and have an invite only women's moon group. FFI Tania

email taniakennedy67@hotmail.com

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/370597919466/>

Totnes Moot

Meets every 4th Thurs of month, in the red wizard café, 4 Apple Lane, High St, Totnes, Devon, TQ9 5SQ. From 6:30pm for a 7pm start. FFI Facebook

https://m.facebook.com/groups/members/search/?group_id=1514258918890054

Swan Shield Moot

Meets on the first Wednesday of every month 7:30pm - 10pm. Come along and join in the fun of the Swan Shield Moot held at The Monkey House Soft Play Cafe, Brunswick Place, Dawlish. Children are welcome to attend some of the moots and make use of the play equipment the café has to offer. Tea and coffee is available with a small donation towards a local cause or charity. The Swan Shield Moot aims to provide an opportunity to forge friendships with other like-minded people of all traditions and backgrounds. A place to learn new skills and crafts and find out about things you never even realized you were interested in! All are welcome. FFI mirealms@gmail.com

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1136136679770200/>

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Maia Messenger –email: maiamessenger@yahoo.com

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Temple of the Sun and Moon: Contact us for bespoke Celebrations of Life and Rites of Passage, Oracular Consultation, Shamanic and Magical practices. Michele and Harvey, templesunmoonoracle@gmail.com.

Counselling

Tamar Counselling. Help and support with many of life's problems from a counsellor with a pagan perspective. Based in Bude/Holsworthy. Contact Steve Merritt on 07855 998890, email me via website, www.tamarcounselling.co.uk where you can find further information.

Retail

Mystical Crafts & Gifts - A great selection of pagan & wiccan items including essentials and an exciting choice of gifts including lots of fair trade items.

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Wise Old Crow, Bude, Cornwall for all things wicca, pagan and esoteric

www.facebook.com/wiseoldcrow . Sue Clarke www.sueclarkereadings.co.uk www.wiseoldcrow.com

Museum of Witchcraft and Magic

Details of opening times, online shop and other interesting info can be found on the Museum website.

www.museumofwitchcraft.com

The Harbour, Boscastle, Cornwall PL35 OHD Tel: 01840 250111

Cornwall School of Mystery and Magick

The latest newsletter from the Cornish School of Mystery and Magick

(<http://cornwallschoolofmysteries.co.uk/>) lists current activities and future events. It can be downloaded here

<https://gallery.mailchimp.com/8b4deb991eb99baf86ccce211/files/lammas2016.pdf>



Who is who locally

Pagan Federation Devon, Cornwall & Isles

District Website www.paganfederationdevonandcornwall.co.uk

District Enquiries dci.dm@paganfederation.co.uk

District address for All Postal PF DCI c/o, Torcroft, Commons Lane, Shaldon, TQ14 0HN.
correspondence

Your PF District Officers

District Manager:

Maia Miller: dci.dm@paganfederation.co.uk 07747016220

Regional Co-ordinators:

Devon: Michele dci.devon@paganfederation.co.uk

Cornwall: Eve dci.cornwall@paganfederation.co.uk

Isles: Oak Leaf dci.isles@paganfederation.co.uk

Newsletter Editor

Contact Harvey DarkMirrorMagazine@gmail.com

District Conference

Contact the organizer dci.dm@paganfederation.co.uk

Interfaith officers

All areas dci.dm@paganfederation.co.uk

District webmaster

Contact Charles charles@cadgwith.com 0800 787 9208
<http://www.cadgwith.com/>

National Website: www.paganfed.org

Local Contacts are listed under 'Moots' (section above).



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