



THE
LEY HUNTER

T H E L E Y H U N T E R

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Editor : Philip Heselton; 12 Heathcroft Avenue, Sunbury-on-Thames, Middlesex.
Secretary : Jimmy Goddard; Wynchlands, Walton Bridge Road, Shepperton, Middx.

E D I T O R I A L

At last we have been able to publish the first edition of 'The Ley Hunter'. The Ley Hunter's Club was formed in 1962 and over the last three years we have not been able to do much in the way of expeditions, meetings, etc. due to the scattered nature of our membership, and so we have re-organised the Club to act as a sort of information centre to help members with their researches and to bring to notice any research that is being carried out by articles in the magazine and by research reports, the first of which should be ready some time in the autumn.

I am pleased to say that now Jimmy Goddard will be taking over as Secretary and all subscriptions, etc. should be sent to him. 'The Ley Hunter' will be issued four times a year, in April, July, October and January, and the cost will be 4/6 a year, or 1/3 for each issue.

The purpose of the magazine is to bring everyone who is interested in leys up to date with any research in this field, so if anyone has any particular interest in alignments or line of research, perhaps they could find time to send in a short article giving some details of the work they have been doing. I am sure that other members would be very interested in this, and we could, perhaps, publish one article of this type in each future issue of the magazine. We would also welcome letters commenting on the magazine and suggesting improvements. If there is some information concerned with straight tracks that you want, please write to the magazine. If we cannot help you ourselves, I will put your enquiry in the next issue of 'The Ley Hunter' and some other reader may be able to help you.

I am at present studying geography at Hull University, so that until the end of June my address will be : Needler Hall, Northgate, Cottingham, Yorkshire. Please send articles, letters and enquiries to me, but send subscriptions, etc., to the Secretary, Jimmy Goddard.

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H E R E F O R D S H I R E

This August, I will be staying in the Hereford area for a fortnight to investigate the leys in a small area between Hereford and Ross-on-Wye around Woolhope and Wormelow Tump. I am hoping to follow several leys on foot and take photographs of interesting points. If I find anything during these investigations I hope to publish a research report in September, but meanwhile I would be grateful if anyone who has any information about leys in the area, would write to me giving details. This would be very helpful. I expect that several members will be on holiday this summer. If anyone does happen to find anything interesting connected with leys, please write and let us know, and we can publish details in the magazine,

A L I G N M E N T S O N S A L I S B U R Y P L A I N

Salisbury Plain was one of the most densely populated areas in Britain during the Neolithic and Bronze Age, and for several years researchers have been finding alignments and patterns there which are different from those found anywhere else.

As early as 1900, Allcroft noted the fact that Stonehenge, Old Sarum, Salisbury Cathedral and Clearbury Ring align, but did not take this discovery any further. In his book 'The Ley Hunter's Manual' Alfred Watkins gives (p.33) a diagram of Camp alignments on Salisbury Plain, showing many examples of four camps aligning.

In 1946, K.H. Koop in his paper 'The Earliest Survey' mentions an equilateral triangle arrangement. He writes:

"Stonehenge, Old Sarum, and Grovely Castle form an equilateral triangle of six-mile sides, its centre being the oldest cross-roads of Salisbury Plain. This was first noted by Lockyer in 1908, and also by the Rev. H. Allcroft, but neither carried their investigations any further. As a matter of fact, extensions of two of the sides by $7\frac{1}{2}$ miles each way pass through other ancient sites: Sidbury, Clearbury, "Castle Ditches", Pertwood Down Crosstracks; while parallel leys through the N & S vallums of Yarnbury Castle pass through Stonehenge to Bulford church and through Woodhenge. These are crossed at exactly 90° by a line through the E vallum of Yarnbury from Potterne church to Barford St. Martin church. Further extensions of these lines seem to indicate a hexagon pattern of six such triangles centering on Grovely Castle and a second centering on Old Sarum."

At a Geographical Conference in Amsterdam in 1938, Dr. Heinsch delivered a paper entitled "Principles of Prehistoric Cult Geography" and in it he showed that certain angles of alignments are the same in both England, France and Poland, and gave examples on Salisbury Plain showing these angles. I hope to be giving a brief translation of this paper in a future issue of 'The Ley Hunter'.

I have found several alignments in the Salisbury area showing a parallel arrangement, which has been found in many parts of the country, at these angles from the N; 51° , 81° , 141° ; which are exactly at angles of 30° from each other, and they fit in well too with the equilateral triangle arrangement.

This is just a brief survey of the situation. I think that this area is one that should be studied carefully for leys, and I would be grateful to hear from anyone who has done any research on the area. I am in the process of indexing all the leys on the Salisbury 1" map, sheet 167, and I would welcome details of any leys, geometrical patterns, etc. that have been found in that area.

GEOMETRICAL ARRANGEMENT OF ALIGNMENTS ON SALISBURY PLAIN

Solid lines indicate the equilateral triangle pattern
Dashed lines indicate parallel alignments at 30° angles

Scale : 3 miles to 1 inch

This is only a rough sketch map and angles and distances are only approximate.



