

Touchstone

Surrey
Earth
Mysteries

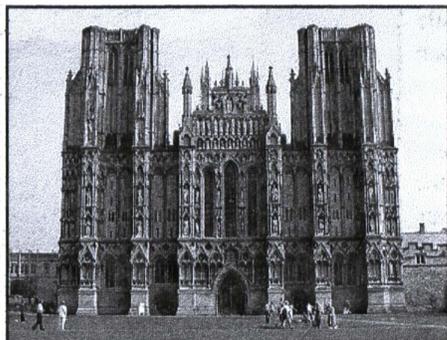


No. 85

April 2009

LEYS AT WELLS CATHEDRAL

I recently investigated a particularly interesting ley through Wells Cathedral with Pat Toms and Sheila Broun. Pat had recently read the book *The Hand of Man: Britain's History Decoded*, by Tom Brooks, which shows a number of spirals linking church sites in the west of England, apparently radiating from Wells Cathedral. Each segment of each spiral is a straight base line of an isosceles triangle connecting a third site, which is sometimes another church.



Wells Cathedral

The cathedral is by a major spring that gave the city of Wells its name, and excavations in the Camery Garden (the cathedral garden by the cloister) has revealed evidence from

Neolithic, Iron Age and Roman periods. There was a particular lot of Roman material and a mausoleum of this time was found, with evidence that there were other Roman buildings where the cathedral now is. There is a possibility that it could have been called Fontanetum in Roman times, though this is not certain. The ley we were following first runs in a north-westerly direction, across Worminster Sleight, a place with the frequently occurring "worm"

name where there is a legend of a dragon killed by Bishop Jocelin in the thirteenth century. The primary schools in the area produced a mosaic about the story in 2001 which is near the moat of the Bishop's Palace, very close to where the ley crosses.



The dragon mosaic

It then goes through a chapel in Dulcote now converted into a private house. There is another spring here, which is visible in a small grotto which has been created by the roadside - the water flows out of the rocks as



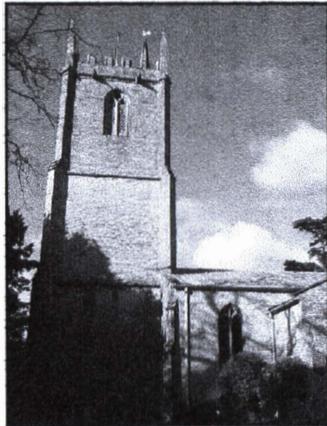
The grotto at Dulcote

a waterfall, and also powers a fountain nearby. The flow of water can be heard running under the road.

The line then continues through the Bishop's Palace at Wells, and goes across the cathedral adjacent to the Chapter House and the information centre which has been made in the undercroft beneath it. It seems to be one of three leys, all quite wide at 20 paces each and which seem to meet at a centre under the pulpit in the choir of the cathedral, where my dowsing rod spun. The other two leys are the one from Beacon Hill, Shepton Mallet described in an earlier issue, which runs along the north aisle

of the cathedral, and one at right angles to the one we followed, which goes from a tumulus at Whitnell Corner, along a mile of mean-following road, the cathedral, Hay Hill, skirting Fenny Castle Hill and going through the churches at Moorlinch and North Newton.

The line we followed then goes through the entrance to Wookey Hole cave to a tumulus on the Mendips, followed by five more across the plateau, and Shipham Church.



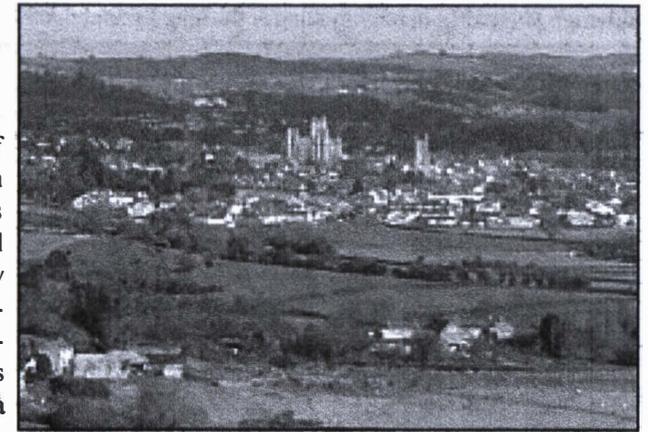
Wookey Church

We first visited Tor Hill in Wells; the ley runs across the lower slopes of the hill but not through the summit. The hill is covered with trees but when coming out of them on to Tor Street, Glastonbury Tor is visible in the distance. Then we went to the entrance of the cave at Wookey Hole, a spectacular place between a hill and a cliff, where it was picked up strongly and the place was felt to be very powerful.

Then we proceeded to the tumulus high on the Mendips, near Ebbor Gorge. This is easy to miss - in fact I have looked for it before but failed to find it. A stone wall crosses it and the hump can be seen in the undulation of the wall. Another tumulus appears to be located by the farm shed on the other side of the road. There are views from here as far as Brent Knoll and the Bristol Channel. At least two leys cross here; we then turned to follow another which goes to Glastonbury Tor; although it misses the tower on the summit it would have touched the church building attached to it before it collapsed in an earthquake.

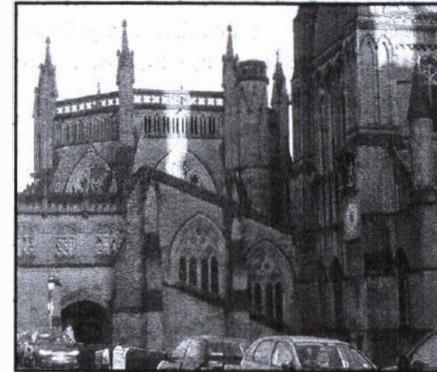
The line then goes along a coincident track between Easton and Haybridge, and Wookey

Church before reaching the formidable bulk of Ben Knowle Hill, a sheepfield slope which we climbed, getting a most remarkable view of the city of Wells from the summit, with the towers of St. Cuthbert's Church and the Cathedral clearly visible. It is halfway between the tumulus and Glastonbury Tor, which was visible from the lower slopes. This was powerful too, but Sheila felt it was a gentler energy than that at Wookey Hole, as was



The view of the City of Wells from Ben Knowle Hill

Wookey Church which we visited next. Wookey Church is a valley site next to the River Axe. We were interested to be told that there is a site of an earlier bishop's palace in the field adjoining it - the line would have passed through this too. The ley was measured here to be 16 paces wide.



The Chapter House by the Cathedral

We then returned to the Cathedral to visit the undercroft of the octagonal Chapter House and a history exhibition. This building is separate from the main Cathedral building. As we were leaving, Pat was intrigued to see an unusual basin-like piscina in the wall by the entrance, which had a sculpture of a recumbent dog with a bone in the bowl. The dog's face, eyes and mouth were indicating the location of an etheric influence, probably from underground geological

and water features. On a first quick dowsing survey - more needs to be done - the etheric "bubble" almost filled the room - it had a "tail" that extended out into the Cathedral about to where the the ley centre was found. Sheila seemed to get a strong feeling of a diagonal cross here. An ornate stone pillar rises in the centre of the Chapter House, which has been laid out around this etheric feature. On the first floor this pillar fans out tree-like. The Church Council convenes on stone seats set in the octagonal walls of the building - the edge of the etheric 'bubble' around the stone pillar.

The diagonal cross is a symbol of St. Andrew, to whom the cathedral is dedicated - there is also a St. Andrew's holy well here. But I realised visiting the cathedral later that the two leys also form a diagonal cross on the building. I picked up the other one when dowsing it then,

although I had forgotten it - looking at the map I found that I had drawn it some time before.



The Chapter House undercroft



The dog piscina

The Lovekyn Chapel & The "Triple L"
by Lionel Beer

2009 celebrates 700 years of the founding of the Lovekyn chantry chapel in Kingston. Not long after founding TEMS, I discovered an interesting alignment of ancient sites running almost West to East. The Lovekyn Chapel was found to be on this alignment, which was later confirmed by dowsing colleagues.



The Lovekyn Chapel

The chapel was built in the reign of Edward II and is the oldest building in Kingston. While several chantry chapels survived the reformation, this is thought to be the last surviving free-standing one in this country. It was built by London Road in 1309 and its history is worth retelling. Now Edward Lovekyn provided the wedding feast in Canterbury for Edward I and Margaret of France on 18 September 1299. The royal couple failed to

settle the final bill of 1000 marks (possibly £50,000 in modern money.) The elderly King Edward died eight years later. In lieu of payment, Lovekyn, asked his son, Edward II for permission to build the Chantry Chapel of St. Mary Magdalene. Letters Patent were sealed on 11 June 1309. Building work must have proceeded quickly as the first chaplain was installed on 23 March 1310. Edward Lovekyn died the same year, after which the chapel was neglected. In 1330, Lovekyn's younger son John, started restoration work. William Walworth (Walworth road?) a London businessman, married John Lovekyn's widow and made grants of land and buildings towards the chapel, appointing a third chaplain in 1371. So far so good, but Henry VIII's son Edward VI abolished chantry chapels in 1546.

I mention Henry VIII, as during the time he was married to Catherine of Aragon, he is said

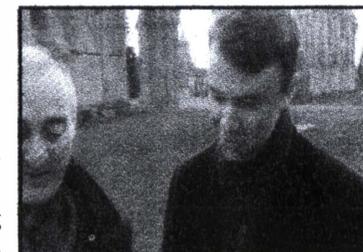
to have made three pilgrimages to the holy shrine of Our Lady at Walsingham Parva in Norfolk. The chapel in Kingston then stood empty between 1546 and 1561, while its endowments went to the Crown. Richard Taverner leased and maintained the chapel. In 1561 the bailiffs of Kingston petitioned Elizabeth I so the building could become a Royal Grammar School. When the new grammar school was built across the road about 1878, the Lovekyn chapel was nearly lost but fortunately remained in the care of the new school. Various events have been arranged to celebrate its survival. One to note is the free entry on Heritage Open Day, Sunday 13 September. I hope to arrange a special visit for members of TEMS, possibly on the day of the TEMS Summer Garden Party.

The "Triple L" so named by Eileen, famous for her discovery of the "E-line" stands for "Lionel's Ley Line." There is no precise mid-point, but based on work so far, the Chapel is near the middle. A key point at the western end of the line is Littleton Church, a site said to date back to Roman times. An important focal point is the Diana Fountain in Bushy Park, through which a north-south alignment goes through Fountain Court in Hampton Court and through churches beyond. The "Triple L" hits Kingston at the "Bishop Out of Residence" pub, which was the site of the Bishop's Palace. The next key site is the erstwhile St. Mary's (Saxon) Chapel, once the home of the Kingston Coronation Stone. It passes close to the Hall in Cleaves Alms Houses before passing the Lovekyn Chapel. Various other churches lie along its path but Merton Abbey is certainly worth noting. We have not attempted to trace the line beyond the Victorian dinosaurs in Crystal Palace Park at Sydenham. Maybe it is time to do some further work of this alignment?

There is a video of the Triple L line - A Kingston Ley - featuring Lionel Beer and members of the Travel and Earth Mysteries Society (TEMS) which he founded, available by sending a blank VHS video tape and return postage in stamps to the Touchstone address. Unfortunately it won't be able to be done before the middle of June as the video master archive is packed for a house move now, but it will be available then.

WILLIAM OF MALMESBURY AND TONY ROBINSON

Recently Tony Robinson, well-known for the *Time Team* archaeology series on television, presented three programmes on paranormal events that have had an impact on history or archaeology. One of these dealt with the case of Frederick Bligh Bond, an eminent architect and archaeologist who made significant discoveries at Glastonbury Abbey, seemingly following the advice of medieval monks at the abbey, communicating through automatic writing.



Tony Robinson and Tim Hopkinson-Ball at Glastonbury Abbey

With Tim Hopkinson-Ball, who has recently written the biography of Bond - *The Rediscovery of Glastonbury*, his life and work were outlined, with particular mention of a group of bones that were unearthed near the high altar position which

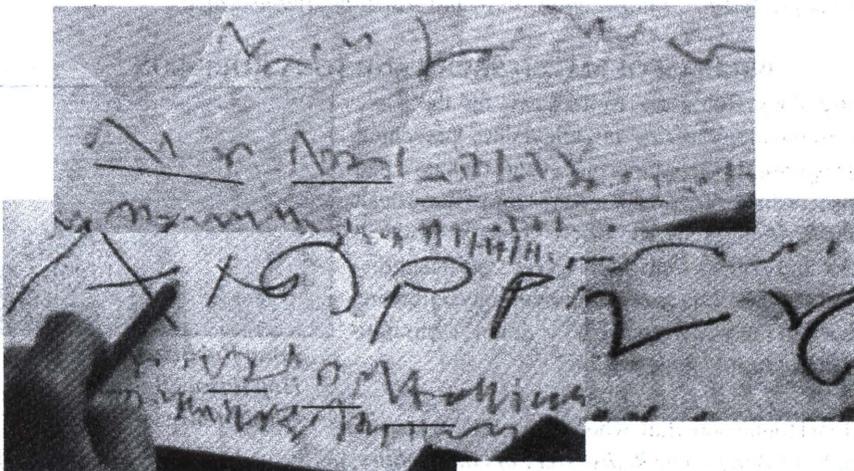
the writings had suggested were those of Abbot Whiting. He was the last abbot - hanged, drawn and quartered on Glastonbury Tor by Henry VIII for defying the royal authority. This was because these bones were known to be still in existence and venerated at Prinknash Abbey in Gloucestershire, and these could be examined to try to determine whether they were likely to be those of Whiting.

Dr. Mary Lewis, an osteoarchaeologist, went to see the bones, and found that there were human bones of appropriate size to have come from the same person, but two of them were animal bones from "a medium sized mammal". Not enough were present to determine other things, however - including the person's gender. But there did not seem to be cut marks of the kind that would indicate this violent death.

At the same time, Tony Robinson was trying out automatic writing with automatist Elleni Laine, with seemingly remarkable results, with regard to the bones and also some research done on early history of Glastonbury which we were assured was done after the sessions, and information unknown to Tony Robinson at the time. This is made even more so as, when I video-captured the automatic scripts (in sections as the entire script was never visible in entirety on the screen), there seemed to be very relevant parts which he had overlooked.

There were two sessions, with a question asked before the commencement of each. The first was, "Are the bones those of Abbot Whiting?" Tony did several lines of script, but the clearest and the only one he recognised seemed to say "A top pig". The question before the second session was, "What is the name of the medieval monk who communicated with Bligh Bond?" There was script on an upper line which at the time he thought said "emman wensom", and lower down a name - "Wallace", and underneath the word "Angel".

An Abbot not Whiting



A Tor pig.....not a man

Emmanuel Christ
Macedonia Wallace
Drawing of angel William
Angel

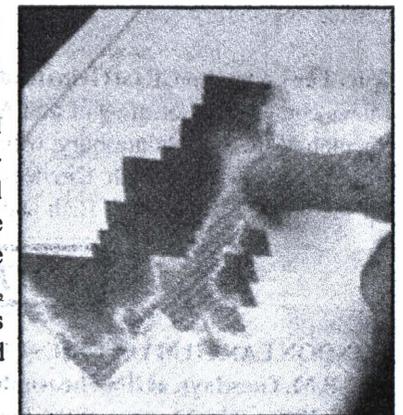


Then another member of the team apparently came up with an ancient history of Glastonbury written by William of Malmesbury, in which St. Patrick was said to have gone to Glastonbury in old age, and met twelve monks living as hermits there. He took one called Wallace up the Tor where they stayed for three months fasting and praying, when they had a vision of God which decided where to locate the abbey, dedicating it to Michael the Archangel.

So Tony thought the first word was "Emmanuel" (for the vision of God), and the words Wallace and Angel being relevant, particularly Wallace as he would not have thought of this as a name of a monk.

When examining the first script an upper line could read "An abbot not Whiting". Although there is no tail on the last letter of the second word, the line below could be "A Tor pig". Below this, there definitely seems to be "not a man". So in entirety it would read, for an answer to the question, "An abbot, not Whiting (and) a Tor pig, not a man. This seems to fit the findings.

Looking at the second script, I found that if the word was "Emmanuel" the rest of the word which had been seen by Tony as "Wensom" looked very like "Christ". In front of the "Wallace" seemed to be the word "Macedonia", and on the line above the word "Angel" there seemed to be a drawing of an angel followed by the name "William". Could this be identifying the sender - William of Malmesbury? The whole message would then read Emmanuel Christ, Macedonia Wallace, William, Angel. This also seems to fit the findings from the history of Glastonbury, except for the word "Macedonia" which seems anomalous.



Possible site of a sacristy revealed in a Bligh Bond script

They also did two other investigations to test the significance of the Bligh Bond messages. One was with an Early English expert, who seemed to find words in the scripts which would not have been in use at that time. In the other, geophysical equipment was used to see if there was the remains of a sacristy adjoining the north side

of the church, as one of the scripts stated, but which had never been excavated. There did seem to be evidence that a small structure had existed there.

LETTERS

from Norman Darwen, Lostock, Bolton, Lancashire:

I was intrigued to read Bob Shave's excellent piece on Surrey's Mormon Temple in 'Touchstone' no. 84, as I live only a few miles away from the similar temple he mentions at Chorley, south of Preston, Lancashire - officially known as 'The Preston England Temple'. As Bob notes, the temples are situated near major roads - in this case, right next to the M60, and as he also says, the lighting is striking.

When the Lancashire temple was first built in 1998, I drove past it one foggy November night, and the light on the white stone made it look as though it was made of candy floss - very striking. I do remember that before it opened there was an 'open day' for the local community, which I unfortunately missed, and that the local reaction was generally neutral, although one man did complain that the temple interfered with his television reception.

With regards to the location, it is worth noting that the temple is just visible from several sites on the western edges of the West Pennine Moors, and that as it stands atop the first high ground coming into Lancashire from the Irish Sea. Its white steeple - with golden angel on top - is again something of a local landmark (A nearby pub is called 'The Sea View' - from, the temple the view must be even better). I believe the location was chosen as Chorley provided many converts when the Mormon missionaries came over to England in the nineteenth century.

from Tony Charlton, Romford, Essex

I have come across mention of a St. Aldehem pilgrimage route from Douling (just east of Shepton Mallet) to Malmesbury, with seven ancient crosses. The other five are at Frome, Bradford-upon-Avon, Bath, Cirencester and Stoney Middleton. Some of the stones used for the crosses still exist in Bath and Bradford-upon-Avon.

NOTES AND NEWS

LONDON EARTH MYSTERIES CIRCLE MEETINGS

7.15 P.M. Tuesdays, at the Theosophical Society, 50, Gloucester Place, London.

April 28th - The Mystery of the Puddingstones and Other Megaliths, by Tony Charlton

May 12th - Leys and Saving their Precious Heritage, by Rose Heaword

May 26th - Evidence for Grail Legends in Fairy Tales, by George Wood

June 9th - Theosophy, the Perennial Wisdom, by Ron Wallwork

June 23rd - American Rock Art before the Red Indians, by Eileen Roche

July 14th - Open Forum and Social

TEMSMEETINGS

2.00 p.m. Sundays at Wimbledon (unless stated otherwise) - please ring 0208-544-9478

26th April Just how Sacred are our Sacred Sites?, by Ken Rees

31st May - A quantitative study of orgone energy using dowsing by Dr Roger Taylor

28th June - Field Trip in Hertfordshire, with Lionel Beer. Please ring 020 8979 3148

26th July - Summer garden party, 115 Holly Bush Lane, Hampton. Fossils as Magical Objects, by Neale Monks. Please ring 020 8979 3148

23rd August - The Buckingham Palace Ley, by Jimmy Goddard, at 'Weirside', off Frimley Road, Ash Vale, Surrey

27th September - NDEs and Other Phenomena at the time of Death, by Dr Peter Fenwick

25th October - Just Divine, by Keith Harmon. (Dowsing: audience participation required!)

29th November - To be advised

13th December - Christmas

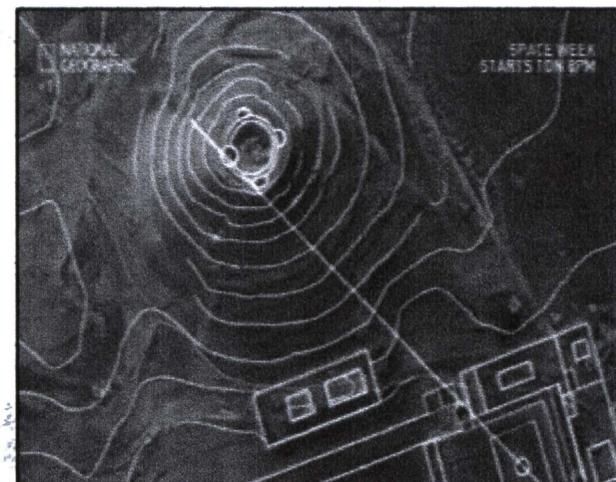
Party, 115 Holly Bush Lane Hampton. Please ring 020 89793148

King Herod's ley

We've had Queen Hatshepsut's ley and King Alfred's dowsing rods - now we have an alignment attributed to King Herod. He was the king of Judea who is most remembered for the story in the New Testament of the killing of all children under two, although the historian

Josephus makes no mention of this in his detailed biography of the king, despite chronicling other unpleasant things he did. But despite this dark side he was a talented architect, producing the port of Caesarea, the palace complexes at Herodium and Masada and a new Jewish temple.

In the TV programme *Herod's Lost Tomb*, on National Geographic channel, there is mention of an alignment at Herodium, discovered by archaeologist Professor Ehud Netzer: "Netzer knew that for symmetry and beauty Herod aligned structures with the four cardinal directions, but he also used axes, straight lines that passed through the centre of a complex. At Herodium the line joining the entire compound runs through the centre of the lower pool, through the triclinium to the mountain's eastern tower". He was sure that Herod's tomb, the location of which was not known, should be on this line, on the side of the artificial mountain made for the complex, and he found, among the rubble excavated there, pieces of three sarcophagi, all broken, one particularly well made and decorated red one which he



thought was Herod's, broken by a later Jewish group who occupied the site, who disliked him.

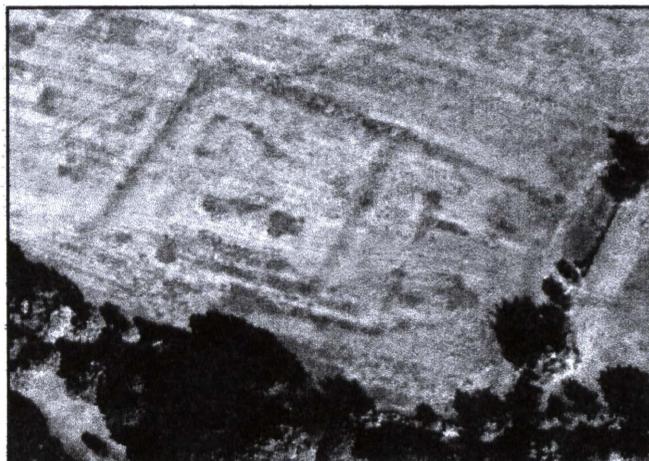
The Blackdown Scorpion

This fearsome beast straddles the Blackdown Hills, south of Taunton in Somerset, where my wife Doris is currently assistant priest at the six churches there. It is formed from the woods at the top of the hills, with one claw at Castle Neroche, a hillfort where there has been an archaeological dig recently, and the sting at Buckland Wood. Both claws seem very well formed. It is larger than most zodiac figures and if it is part of a zodiac it would be a very big one.



Roman road junction at Chertsey

There seems to be a junction of three Roman roads at Chertsey - the three are mentioned on three separate web sites, and all converge on the site of Chertsey Abbey, suggesting an earlier Roman presence there. All three have coincident ley associations, as has been found with most Roman road stretches. One is the road mentioned previously in *Touchstone*, the branch road coming off the Silchester-London road at Egham, and going through Thorpe to Chertsey. This is made up of several short stretches, one of which is the interesting subconscious sitting ley going through the Neasden Mandir and the Norrice Lea Synagogue, mentioned in the last issue. I recently followed the stretch from Stroude Road, Egham to Thorpe and Chertsey (followed by public footpaths) and noted the presence of banks most of the way.

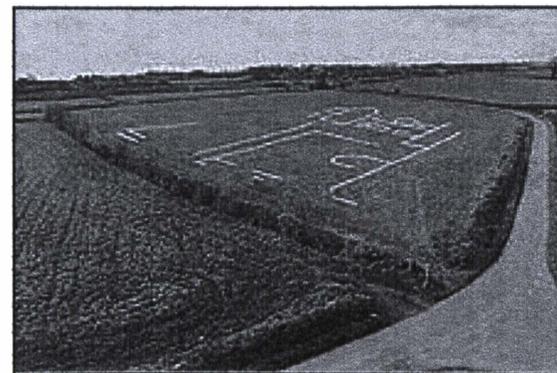


The cropmark on Abbey Mead, Chertsey, on the Multimap aerial photograph. This is very similar in pattern to the Roman villa in Tockenham found by Time Team in 1994.

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The second is one which follows Stonehill Road, Chobham and is mentioned on the Chobham Museum web site. It goes through a Roman finds "hotspot" at Graciouspond Road. This also points at the Abbey site, and extended as a ley points at the tumulus on Hampstead Heath visited by Tony Wedd on his first ley hunt, as well as going through several churches.



The Roman villa site at Tockenham, Wiltshire

The third is Ferry Lane, Chertsey, mentioned as a possible Roman road by Suzanne Gailey in an archaeological assessment of land at Pycroft Road, Chertsey. This also has a coincident ley described in an early issue of *Touchstone*, and also seems to be banked. It is in alignment with Church Path and Guildford Street to the south, and another coincident road between Laleham and Ashford to the north.

The three converge at Chertsey Abbey, and just north of this the Multimap aerial picture shows a cropmark which is extremely similar in pattern to the Roman villa discovered by Time Team at Tockenham, Wiltshire, following the noting of a statue of a Roman god in the wall of the church there. Nothing seems visible in the field currently, although the site is mentioned in the Surrey Historic Environment Record as having earthworks of unknown date. Full details on my website The Egham and Thorpe Virtual Roman Museum, <http://www.egyouth.fsnet.co.uk/romanegham>



<p>MEYN MAMVRO Ancient stones & sacred sites in Cornwall</p>	<p>Sample £2.20 Annual Subscription £6.50 from:- 51 Carn Bosavern, St. Just, Penzance, Cornwall, TR19 7QX. Web site: www.meynmamvro.co.uk *****</p>
<p><i>Earth Energies * Ancient Stones * Sacred Sites * Paganism * Leypaths Pre-history and culture * Megalithic Mysteries * Legends & Folklore</i></p>	<p>Also available: EM Guides to ancient sites in Cornwall, 'Pagan Cornwall: Land of the Goddess' & 'In Search of Cornwall's Holy Wells' 'Megalithic Mysteries of Cornwall' Details from the above address</p>

THE HIDDEN UNITY and BEGINNINGS

The Hidden Unity looks at the strange phenomenon of subconscious siting of ley points, and notes that places of worship, of all religions and all ages, tend to predominate on leys. The environmental and philosophical implications of this are discussed, and the apparent necessity of worship but irrelevance of doctrine. Two ley centres are given as examples, and investigated in depth - the Shah Jehan Mosque in Woking and the Guru Nanak Sikh Temple, Scunthorpe. There is an appendix by Eileen Grimshaw on the significance of the Pagan religion to this study. Illustrated with photographs, maps and line drawings. **£2 plus 30p p&p from the Touchstone address. Please make cheques payable to J. Goddard.**

Beginnings is about a series of potentially useful discoveries, mainly made by Jimmy Goddard over a period of about twenty years, but having some overlap with discoveries made by others. For various reasons, the investigations are all in their early stages, and some have not been continued. They include earth energy detection, natural antigravity, subconscious siting, ley width, and the solar transition effect. There is also a chapter on cognitive dissonance - a psychological factor which seems to have been at the root of all bigotry - scientific, religious and other - down the ages. The booklet is concluded with an account of the discovery of leys by Alfred Watkins. **£2 plus 30p p&p from the Touchstone address. Please make cheques payable to J. Goddard.**

EARTH PEOPLE, SPACE PEOPLE

In 1961, Tony Wedd produced a manuscript *Earth Men, Space Men*, detailing many claims of extraterrestrial contact. It was never published, and I had thought it was lost, though it has recently been located - Tony had given it to Timothy Good. To try to make up for the loss in a much more modest size, this booklet was prepared. As well as giving details of some of the more prominent contact claims, there are articles on the history of the STAR Fellowship and some of its personalities, evidence for life in the Solar System and investigation into extraterrestrial language.

£2 plus 30p p&p from the Touchstone address. Please make cheques payable to J. Goddard.

THE LEGACY OF TONY WEDD

This CD-ROM is an electronic form of the travelling exhibition Tony planned, using his voice, writing, photographs and drawings to illustrate his research and findings in the fields of flying saucers, landscape energies and lost technology.

£12 from the Touchstone address. Please make cheques payable to J. Goddard.

TOUCHSTONE is the newsletter of the Surrey Earth Mysteries Group. £2 for four quarterly issues from J. Goddard, 1, St. Paul's Terrace, Easton, Wells, Somerset, BA5 1DX. Please make cheques payable to J. Goddard. IF YOUR SUBSCRIPTION IS DUE AN "X" WILL FOLLOW THIS SENTENCE: