

THE RUNNING OF THE DRUID NETWORK

The founder and current Head is Emma Restall Orr (Bobcat), full time priest, teacher and writer. Making the decisions that affect the Network as a whole is a Committee, all of whom are accessible through the website or the office. Beyond the Committee is an ever increasing team of staff (around 60) who organise projects, events and web pages.



All staff offer their skills and energy on a voluntary basis, working within the essential Pagan ethic of personal and community responsibility, respect and honesty, and as autonomously as is feasible.

A not-for-profit organisation, the environmental and social ethics of the Network are strong. Using recycled products and recycling, working with an ethical bank, the Network operates in as ethical a way as is possible.

HOW TO SUBSCRIBE

It is possible to join The Druid Network in two ways. Paper-Free is a web-based subscription, costing less to both you and the Earth. It allows full access to the website, including the members' database and forums, with all correspondence with the Office by email. Postal subscribers receive a quarterly 4-page newsletter, giving recent news and events (also available as a PDF online). Postal subscription allows individuals to access information and contacts from the database through



the Network Office by correspondence. (Postal is only available within the UK.)

The Network's International Pricing Policy may look strange at first glance. Instead of translating the subscription fee into other currencies, the cost has been adjusted to reflect the average local income and cost of living. In this way, equality and affordability can be offered to those within the Druid tradition all over the world. Please see the Subscription flyer for current prices. Concessions are available.

For further information please send an SSAE, international reply coupon or email address to :

THE DRUID NETWORK

Inspiration and Honour

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An Introduction to THE DRUID NETWORK



A new generation of Druid organisation, The Druid Network is a sacred gathering ground for an ancient spiritual and religious tradition.

Rooted deeply within the heritage of the British Isles, Druidry has evolved naturally over millennia, adapting with the ever-changing dynamic that is the relationship between the people and the land.

As Druids face the challenges of the contemporary world, The Druid Network celebrates the continuation of this ancient tradition. Offering the opportunity for Druidry to present itself openly once again, the Network creates a forum for Druidic philosophy, theology and its spiritual and religious practice, revealing its foundation as critically relevant to the modern age.

Like an ancient and sacred well, the Network offers a rich and wakeful blend of inspiration and information. Yet this is not only found in the words presented as articles or ideas on the website; for words written can gently lose their relevance. In the spirit of the oral tradition that lies as a foundation of Druidic heritage, the power of The Druid Network is in the encounters

it enables between individuals: people walking together upon the same path seeking understanding and inspiration.



Making tangible the growing web that is the global community of modern Druidry, the Network celebrates Druidry as an ancient yet still-valid and vibrant religion of the land and ancestry. It honours the diversity found within the tradition, welcoming animists, polytheists, pantheists, mythologists and more. Through its international

directory of Orders, Groves, Gorseddau and other groups, the Network supports those in Britain and around the world who are reaching to understand, honour and celebrate the sanctity of nature. Through land, seas and skies, the ancestors and all humanity, each group finds their own distinct expression rooted in locality and individuality.

The Druid Network is a member of PEBBLE, the Public Body Liaison Committee for British Paganism.

INSPIRATION AND HONOUR

THE WORK OF THE DRUID NETWORK

The key aim of the Network is to inspire and inform, expressing the beliefs and practices of this ancient religion and its flow into modern Druidry, for individuals of both the Druid community and beyond. Sharing inspiration, the Network's website is an important medium, with pages exploring theology, belief, ritual and mythology, encouraging contributions from those beginning on the path as well as respected priests, teachers and writers.

Promoting personal responsibility, the website gives guidance about the environment, ethics, civil liberties and peace campaigning, exploring each idea's relevance to Druidry. This ensures that each step taken is honourable and a part of spiritual devotion.

The Directory lists Orders, Groves and Gorseddau around the world, while the Sacred Sites pages look at ancient temples, sacred monuments and places of



ritual. A Bardic section presents poetry, stories and art, showing the creativity of the Druid community.

The Events listings are comprehensive, and there is information on courses, workshops and teachers of Druidry. It offers learning material (free of charge) that can be shared in groups or explored alone. One section gives book and CD reviews, another profiles key individuals (priests, teachers, writers, musicians, academics and artists) working within or inspired by Druidry, ancient and modern.

The Network supports other not-for-profit organisations such as The

Mistletoe Foundation, charity fundraiser The Lammis Games and the 'Spear of Lugh' Eisteddfod, the Druid Camp, the Moontide Retreat, and the Gorseddau at Avebury, the Uffington White Horse, Beacon Hill (Leicestershire) and Stonehenge.

Encouraging the development of Druidry around the world, there are pages based in the USA, Canada and Australia, areas in French, Portuguese, Spanish and Dutch. The Welsh area is the most comprehensive Cymraeg Druid site on the internet and an Irish Gaelic area is in the making.

At the heart of the Network is the database of its subscribers. Easily accessible as a resource on the website (with all personal details in a password-secure area) or through the Network office, this enables every individual within the global community to share their skills, interests, teachings and specialisms

in whatever way they would wish. Within this secure Members' Area of the website, there are also topic-based forums on the wide variety of topics found in Druidry. So is the tradition as a whole enriched and personal paths drawn deeper as members share their wit and wisdom freely.

The essence the Network is summed up by the words INSPIRATION and HONOUR. For one can ponder on theology, history and philosophy, but the Network's measure is taken, as is that of the Druid tradition, by every step made, every footprint left behind, and each relationship made upon the road.

PROJECTS AND SPONSORSHIPS

Understanding the importance of community, the Network is not just about the website. It does ongoing work through its Tree Planting and Conservation Fund, has been involved with the Woodland Trust's Trafalgar Project and planted trees in Southeast London with Trees for Cities.

The Network's favoured course, however, is through its Environmental Project Support scheme, sponsoring small local projects that directly express reverence for nature.

The Network promotes the tradition through holding stalls at Pagan and green conferences and providing speakers and teachers. In 2008 it will be hosting its own major conference. Its Sponsored Learning project invites small local groups to apply for Network funding to help pay for workshops and events.

The Network actively works within interfaith, encouraging dialogue and shared inspiration. Its online Market Place and 'acorns' exchange system supports creativity and ethical trade.

THE ORDER OF THE YEW

At the core of The Druid Network is the magical cauldron that nourishes its soul: The Druid Order of the Yew. Open to all members of the Network, the Order acts as a witness to each individual member's personal dedication to Druidry, ensuring and supporting the expression of these beliefs through action and behaviour. More



about the individual member's path than the work of a collective, the Order is an organic and magical connectedness of

those who have utterly dedicated their lives to the study and the practice of this ever-evolving tradition of the ancestors. Its pages lie within the secure area of the website, together with members' Statements of Dedication. The Order gathers in spirit to share meditation at every Dark Moon, and as a physical community a few

times a year, to share teachings and ritual: gatherings based upon mutual respect, dedication and honour.

A RESOURCE FOR THE DRUID COMMUNITY AND BEYOND

The Network aims to be a resource for all who are seeking to understand the Druid tradition, as well as those interested in other religions based on reverence for nature and ancestry, simple natural spirituality and ethical living. Membership is open to all who would accept its Druidic principles of honour and respect.

As an international database of individuals, Groves, Gorseddau and Orders, the Network itself is emphatically

not an Order. An organisation with a religious foundation, it offers its resources to members of all Druid Orders and to those who belong to none, inviting each and every individual to contribute to the whole. The Druid Network itself is an expression of the sacred song of the tradition, the reverence and celebration sung by the collective voices that make up this ever-growing global community of that which is modern Druidry.