



The Parallel Community is a linking network and a platform where people can express and develop their positive contribution for change – human, social, ecological, creative and spiritual.

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Links in the Chain

Now more than ever we need to keep in touch. It's not that I'm 2,000 miles away from friends and family that makes me say this. It applies even in the small village in which I live. It's about keeping in touch with those in your circle, keeping common links alive and growing strength in your community, no matter how far and wide they are placed.

We are all going through various challenges and changes that are an inevitable part of the evolution of our society. Our feelings about these changes range from despair to elation and everything in between. Daily we are aware of not just our own but other people's experiences and uncertainties; and if you could just reach out a hand to hold and reassure them, it would offer the strength to persevere in our endeavours.

You can offer that hand in any number of ways these days. Picking up the phone and talking to someone is often the best way to communicate your support. But a text, email message or even a Facebook 'like' can sometimes bring the support you offer to the mind of the person struggling or in need of recognition; enough to know that someone is thinking of them and shares an understanding of their challenge. Writing a letter or sending a card can help; inviting them to tea or bringing a group of like-minded people together; all and any way of creating and sustaining links between common values is our best navigational tool right now.

We have been forging links between ourselves and others for years. Our circles grow far beyond family, friends and colleagues these days. People we have never met suddenly

become Facebook friends. We can be tweeted by half the world's population for hardly any reason at all. But the intimate knowledge that someone you know has actually taken the time to witness how you are and is empathetically connecting to you is worth its weight in gold. I see this as strengthening the global chain of new society and us all holding hands across the world, able to give a little squeeze to a hand here and there in need of a hug.

So even if I cannot help the efforts of rescuers in war-torn countries; or sit with a friend in hospital as they await treatment; or make a life-changing decision for someone who feels like they are between a rock and a hard place; I can do what I am able to do and let them know. I can create a link where there apparently was none, at a time when someone needs support, and keep that link alive to create a feeling of belonging. Belonging to a network, a community, a society, where we all hold hands (even virtually) and can communicate up and down the links for mutual support and eventually the greater good.

For that reason I've asked a friend who happens to have found himself in Nepal at the time of the Earthquake to write a piece for this Newsletter. Paul Wilkinson is making a film about Shamanic practice in Nepal and has turned his attention to the more immediate problems facing the land and the people at this time. He is doing what he can in a practical way and is asking for help in making his efforts effective. Please read his article and assist in whatever way you can. Many thanks.

Lynn Forrest May 2015



Positive News (www.positivenews.org.uk) is launching a community share offer, giving you the opportunity to own and direct the media you want to read. Together we can change the news for good. You can buy shares from 8th June to 8th July 2015 via www.ownthemedialog.org. A minimum of 50 British pounds will buy 50 shares.

Member Messages

If you want to contact any of these members, please write to info@parallelcommunity.com and we will send you their contact details.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED - We could use some local help at the annual cleaning of Treviscoe's Seed of Life pattern that is engraved in the earth between the stones of its stone circle. It involves taking out the small white stones, clearing the weeds in the trenches and putting the white stones back. Would you like to spend some quality outdoor time with like-minded folks and you don't mind getting down and low on the earth... then feel free to come join us! Please bring garden gloves, a trawl and something to sit on (knee mat). Oh yes, and if you are a weather shaman, please order some sunshine.



The dates are: **Sunday June 14th at 2pm** and on **Wednesday June 17th at 10:30am**.

Address: Treviscoe, Lelant Downs, Hayle, Cornwall TR27 6NP

Please let us know if you are planning on coming: 01736-740401 (Ba Miller) or via info@parallelcommunity.com (Nathascha Heijen)

PS did you know you can actually see the white Seed of Life pattern on Treviscoe with Google Maps? Link: tinyurl.com/o372wn3

If you would like to connect online use the Meeting Place. New people are asked to tell us something about themselves, and share the particular skills and talents they could bring to PC. The following were responses from the people who have recently joined. If you want to get in touch with any of them, get online and make contact. After all, that is the whole point of Parallel Community: to bring people together who are doing amazing work, and to make them realize that they are not alone.

Member Rob seeks assistance

"Hello! We are returning after 4 years in France to move to Dorking (UK) – all positivity welcomed for our search to find a 3 bed+ house rental"

Member Gael asks:-

"Does anyone know if anything exciting is going on in Suffolk/Norfolk this Summer?"

Brian, Ottawa, Canada

I'm here to share my vision of a much better world, indelibly tied to three energies: love of nature, source and each other.

Nicole Michelle, California, USA

I am an animating animist: both 2D & 3D animation.

Check out Brian Porter's internet radio show 'I Am Nature' on Wednesdays: www.freedomslips.com/schedule.htm

Member Kirsten shares:-

"If you haven't read this, do. It is so inspiring to see what people power can achieve. Well Done Frome!! I heard they are now focussed on becoming the first off grid town. PS: Spread the word to other communities who might not have caught this. ... Why not send it round the world?"

How Flatpack Democracy beat the old parties in the People's Republic of Frome

On 7 May, a small Somerset town voted against traditional party politics and gave a coalition of independents control of all 17 seats on its council. As the crucible of 'flatpack democracy', Frome is leading a small-scale political revolution – and it's one that is spreading. tinyurl.com/ksmsz3

Karen, AZ, United States

I have a background in biological science. I am interested in consciousness and meditation. I have been successfully self-employed in a business for over a decade. I am interested in helping to change the direction the world appears to be going due to the politicians and corporate leaders.

Jo, Berkshire, United Kingdom

Artist training to a be healer, some dowsing. completed Phd in arts practise presencing place: how we come to know and shape place through expanded arts practice which lead to making contemporary art informed by a lot of the above that took place in local places. I continues to make work in response to place at the moment developing work at the abbey, Sutton Courtney, a retreat centre, find ways of making art in response to energies in the meditation room (or that's my hope!) I also teach and run workshops for students and artists.

Jan, CA, United States

I am an enabler. I have been told I am a healer although I have not pursued a healing profession. I love herbs, plants and animals

Karen, NC, United States

I am a student of energy healing

Saila, Järvenpää, Finland

I am an aspiring healer taking my first steps. Physically in not so good condition, I have to say. I had a shamanistic encounter some time ago and was reassured that focusing on correcting things I don't like, would cause more resistance. So, your idea of building a bridge is very intriguing to me.

The vision of the founder of Parallel Community, Hamish Miller, was for everyone to come together, envision and build a kinder world based on mutual trust, respect and love for each other and for our beautiful planet. For that purpose we run two digital platforms where people can connect up: one is the 'Meeting Place' (www.parallelcommunity.ning.com) and the other is on Facebook (www.facebook.com/groups/parallelcommunity). We also publish a bi-monthly newsletter reaching approximately 2000 readers globally.

Mary, Port Waikato, New Zealand

I have a passion to create a new world for our children. I realise this can best be done by changing myself. I have interests in teaching, healing, gardening, Nature, food. but mostly people.

Jenny, Auckland, New Zealand

I don't think I have any particular skills or talents; however I suffer badly if I don't work with the earth. I have to keep my hands in the soil. It keeps me spiritually, physically, mentally and emotionally well.

From Religion to Reality: "One Ring to Rule Them All..."

The search for meaning in the world of religion

June 21st 2-5pm

40,000 years ago, across Europe and Asia, our ancestors felt the need to crawl deep underground, sometimes as much as a mile, braving the depths and darkness, to paint magnificent images on the walls of caves.

Why?



Six miles from Urfa, an ancient city in Southeast Turkey, stand the ruins of a megalithic temple called Gobekli Tepe. Built 11,600 years ago, before the Agricultural Revolution, before humans had discovered

how to grow their own food to support such an endeavour, it begs the question, **Why?** Six thousand years later, humans dragged stones weighing up to four tons, 140 miles across

England to build a monument called Stonehenge.

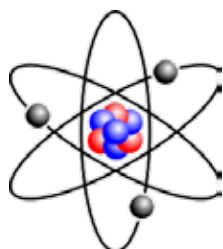
Why?

On an equatorial band circling the earth our ancestors felt the need to build pyramids.

Why?

Over the course of three thousand years no less than five world religions were born that are still a source of faith and practice to billions of people around the world.

Why?



Over the last hundred years scientists have probed deep into the nature of material existence itself, uncovering a wild and wacky quantum universe unimagined until our day. What they discovered has caused even the most secular of them to ask the question,



"Why?"

The great questions of humanity have been the same for as long as there have been humans around to ask them: **Who are we? Why are we here? What is our purpose? Is there more?**

This three-hour workshop will probe the history of our ancestors' search for answers. Drawing from the fields of comparative religion, archaeology, philosophy, literature and science, Jim Willis, a retired minister, author and college professor, will share results gleaned from a lifetime of study and practical experience. It won't provide all the answers, by any means, but in a gentle, fun, ecumenical, friendly and safe environment, Jim will offer suggestions and guidelines to help participants continue their own lifetime of study.



*****TICKETS in advance: £10.00**

Order online: www.crbo.co.uk/eventDetail.php?evGrp=289&evId=10339.

Or by Phone (01726) 879 500

Or at Local Box Offices: call in or buy tickets over the counter at one of the following local box offices:—

St Austell Bay Tourist Information; St Ives Visitor Information; Truro Tourist Information; Launceston Tourist Information; Looe Tourist Information; Bodmin Tourist Information; 'Bookends', Fowey; Falmouth Visitor Information; NT Welcome Centre Penzance; Portscatho Post Office; Liskeard Tourist Information; Roseland Visitor Centre, St Mawes; Heartlands, Pool, Redruth

About Jim Willis

After graduating from the Eastman School of Music, Jim Willis became a high school band and orchestra teacher during the week, a symphony trombonist on the weekends, a jazz musician at night and a choral conductor on Sunday mornings. The author of seven books on religion and spirituality, he has been an ordained minister for over forty years while working part-time as a woodworker and handyman, the host of his own drive-time radio show, an arts council director and adjunct college professor in the fields of World Religions and Instrumental Music. Upon retirement he moved to the woods, determined to confront the essential spirituality that has inspired humankind since the very beginnings of time. The result of this quest is chronicled in his book, *The Dragon Awakes: Rediscovering Earth Energy in the Age of Science*. In his words:—

I wanted to experience a passion strong enough to inspire me to move megaton boulders halfway across England. That is to say, I retired with an agenda. "Okay God, it's you and me. No church structures. No restrictions. No theology. No holds barred. Twenty-four hours a day. You are my only passion. You say you like a challenge? Bring it on!" Like Jacob of old who wrestled with God, I had one thought in mind: "I will not let you go until you bless me!" Imagine my surprise when God answered and did just that! And the answer was found in an ancient wisdom that would have been very familiar to our ancestors.

Report of the Beltane Ceremony at Treviscoe on May 1st 2015

by Ba Miller

Although the evening was threatening, the rain held off till the end of a lovely ceremony held at Treviscoe round the Seed of Life stone circle. Twelve folks arrived and joined Nathascha



and myself to celebrate the peak of the spring season/beginning of Summer when the earth energies here are at its most active. Certainly my garden and woodland was looking beautiful as we walked round in silence enjoying the carpet of bluebells, and other woodland wild flowers also brilliant coloured shrubs. At the Seed of Life we honoured the four directions and their related elements: Earth, Air, Fire and Water; thanking them for all their gifts without



which we would not survive. In the North, at the Earth element, each person was given a bright thread of wool to tie on to a tree branch to confirm their intentions and commitment to their dream for the year ahead. At the centre

point of the Seed we connected to our spiritual or Higher Self, where we listened to the guidance from our inner voice of wisdom for the months to come.

Each of us visualised with as much intensity as possible, a world in which their dream has already manifested and then we 'stepped into that reality', making it so. As we left the circle, the old tradition of jumping the fire followed, while a stirring drum beat was played by Nathascha. It proved great fun. As you jumped you



shouted out the things you wish to leave behind – a kind of cleansing. Or you could jump to reconfirm the things that make you happy, such as friendship, love and good luck. Finally we moved to the Hopi circle in the woods and sat round a warm fire in the centre

organised by John and Jill, our dedicated fire makers. We finished the ceremony by passing a crown of wild flowers, placing it on the head of the person sitting next in the circle and blessing them and wishing their hopes and dreams come true. The evening ended with shared food and a much-welcomed HOT drink.



Summer Solstice Celebration at the Seed of Life

June 21st 2015 – 7 for 7.30pm, Treviscoe, Lelant Downs, Hayle, TR27 6NP



Join us in celebrating the Summer Solstice. Midsummer is the time of full strength of the Sun, a joyful celebration of the maximum of light and energy. This year we will be accompanied by Jim Willis (USA) who will be doing a most interesting workshop in Marazion from 2-5pm and will offer a storytelling around the fire after the Summer Solstice ceremony.

All welcome, feel free to bring a friend!

This is a free, open air event. Donations are always welcome. Please be aware that there is uneven ground (designed by creative rabbits).

BRING: finger food to share, a song, poem or story is always welcome.

Clothing to fit the Cornish weather; we shall be outdoors for about 2-3 hours.

MEET: We meet at 7 for 7.30pm at the Hopi Circle in the gardens of Treviscoe.

ANY QUESTIONS? Please feel free to ask your questions by emailing info@parallelcommunity.com or phoning Ba Miller on 01736-740401

MORE EVENTS:

see www.parallelcommunity.com/events.html

Nepal's Recent Earthquake



Finding yourself amidst an international disaster is the very last thing you would imagine when you set out to record on film the ancient traditions of Nepalese Shaman. But that's just what happened to Paul Wilkinson recently. I know Paul from the many years he has exhibited his finely chosen Tibetan bells, Nepalese handicrafts and sacred artefacts at Mind Body Spirit events around the UK. He set out over a year ago to begin a project very close to his heart, that of making a film about the ancient shamanic traditions in Nepal still practised today. He was a good way through the project when the devastating Earthquake occurred; affecting both the people and the area he is filming in. Fortunately he

is unharmed but is a first-hand witness to the complete destruction and overwhelming despair of the current situation there, particularly in the more rural areas. His latest reports follow:-

"Filming is continuing at a fast pace. We filmed all through this month of earthquakes as well as doing all we could to assist people. The earthquake disrupts filming the shamanic series as all the shaman we've been filming outside Kathmandu have lost their homes. So we are first completing two separate documentaries: one on the shaman in the mountains and the other on Nepalese culture and its transformative role in assisting recovery."

"Paul Wilkinson and Susana Lopez are presenting an Earthquake update and fundraising appeal at Boudhanath stupa on Buddha's Birthday May full moon. Our Documentary film and Relief work continues! The last two weeks having been largely devoted toward trying to open a clear path for large scale aid to reach Nepal without government intervention or taxation. We are also trying to arrange for an Army of volunteers to collect all the abandoned tents from Glastonbury Music festival for the thousands of Monsoon-soaked families still sleeping out in the open here in Nepal. All assistance will be most welcome. You can also continue to fund our Direct action and buy essential tools, tarpaulins and other urgently needed supplies by donating money via my Paypal account to be found at paulcreativeearth@gmail.com. Thank you for your continued interest and assistance now that the media storm has left Nepal with its millions of homeless families behind. Thank you."

Paul X

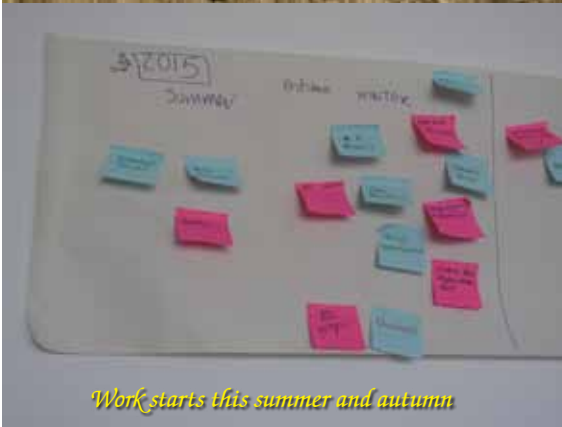
Huxhams Cross Farm, Dartington



The paler clay at the bottom is less fertile than the darker clay above

At the second workshop planning this biodynamic farm (with the help of permaculture principles), we examined different ways of making farm produce available, such as box schemes or a food hub (where customers order online and the order is fulfilled by a number of farmers); and settled the plan of vegetables and fruit to be planted in different parts of the farm.

See www.apricotcentre.co.uk/huxhams-cross-farm



Work starts this summer and autumn



Orchid growing in the meadow



Medieval hedge on the farm border

Sweat Lodge in Sweden

The tradition of Native American Sweatlodge is known to me but I've never actually experienced one – until now! What was a fascinating story from an ancient tradition has now become a part of my own experience and growth.

A couple of years ago, a friend in the village told me about her journey to Canada and the lasting impression a Sweatlodge had on her. Now as a Swedish person she is used to saunas but this was w-a-y out there by comparison because the Sweatlodge, a Native American ceremony, is a sacred and special thing. She promised herself then that she would bring Don the Cree Lodge Master and Pipe Carrier to our little village in central Sweden and create both the ceremony and the Lodge on her land. So last weekend, that is exactly what happened.



Word went out among friends and networks and seventeen of us gathered to share the task of participating in the ceremony and building the Sweat Lodge under Don's experienced and authentic guidance. Some of us had done this before, some of us were complete novices, including me. People came from Canada, UK, Sweden, Russia and the Sami lands to be part of this unique and very sacred inauguration. We cut willow, made offerings, bathed in the (very cold) lake, gathered rock, shared laughter and tears, cut coloured ties, lashed tree boughs together, smoked seven sacred pipes, hefted blankets rugs and tarpaulins, chopped wood and fetched water – all before actually experiencing the dark warmth of the Lodge which was to be our cleansing ritual.



Don carefully took us all through the sacred traditions of his Cree teachings, sung us prayers and songs, drummed and masterfully created the Sweatlodge ritual so that every one of us could participate fully, novice or experienced. The fire was stoked and the rocks were applied, then each rock was offered to the Lodge pit and pure water from the lake was splashed on in the ceremonial way. All the tradition and heritage, bringing us individually to our own Grandfathers and Grandmothers through the long history of those who have held this ceremony for thousands of years. Spirit heard our prayers and granted our wishes, we were cleansed, healed and renewed. We had stepped through a portal.

I can't tell you exactly what it has done for me. Only that it is an experience I will never forget. One that held all the magic and wonder of a child encountering Christmas for the first time and a deeply profound sense of coming home. I am changed, yet more myself. I have stepped up to the next part of my life with joy and I'm excited for the future. If you're ever at a crossroads, I can recommend this as a path to take. Come to Sweden and experience our Sweatlodge. We have one now created by an instant community of seventeen and a big bear of a Lodge Master. For All My Relations.

Lynn Forrest June 2015

Ley Lines & Ancient Sites - Guided Tour

1) Thursday July 2nd 2015

2) Sunday July 5th 2015

Celtic Inspiration and Ba Miller will take you to three special places in the Penwith peninsula of West Cornwall where we will trace and interact with the Apollo and Athena earth energy lines. Prepare to be amazed and have an adventurous go at dowsing yourself!

After careful consideration we have hand-picked three magical locations on the Apollo and Athena ley lines that will surely leave you breathless and inspired:—



1. Zennor Head

“Nature, or perhaps the Giants, had somehow contrived to mark the spot where Athena came ashore after her long swim in the Atlantic Ocean. She should have been tired after her journey from Skellig Michael but wasn't. She felt very lively and the dowsing rods indicated that there was a strong reaction with the land. This feeling is no doubt partly a product of those who inhabited the land for millennia and have left their marks wherever you look. But there is something even more ancient, a rapport with the rocks themselves.”
From: The Dance of the Dragon

2. Madron's Well

Madron Holy Well “is located in one of the most eerie and haunted woodlands in Cornwall; ancient gnarled branches creak and groan in the wind, and deep in the woods the holy well lies guarded by ‘cloutie’ trees festooned with rags, charms and other offerings left to invoke the miraculous healing properties of the sacred waters. We followed the old path to a ruined, roofless chapel with a granite altar and seats. The atmosphere within was one of deep calm; the sort of calm that strikes deep into the soul.”

From: The Dance of the Dragon



3. St. Michael Mount

“When we look at the Mount today, floating ethereally in its sheltered bay, it is easy to forget that the island is really a drowned mountain, part of a land that stretched as far as the Isles of Scilly. Dowsing the dimensions of the Apollo and Athena lines as they came together at the centre of the rocky platform we could feel the power rushing through; the exact place where the currents crossed seemed to create a vortex of energy that made the spine tingle.”

From: The Dance of the Dragon

Experiencing the ley lines

This tour aims to visit all three places by keeping to a strict time schedule. At each location you will have time to have a look around, take part in a guided meditation to get you into a receptive state in preparation for dowsing, and to get a feel of the particular earth energy line. After you have watched or taken part in dowsing in order to map where the line runs, a further deepening of the contact with the Spirit of Place and Line is offered during a shamanic journey. Then, you will witness the impact of human consciousness on the line. At the end of the day you will probably also have got a good sense of the different feel to the Apollo and the Athena lines.

Organisers

You will be guided by Nathascha Heijen who has been escorting tours to ancient sacred sites and leading shamanic retreats since 2004, and by Ba Miller, whom we lovingly named ‘the Grandmother of Dowsing’, and who was part of the original team that mapped out the Apollo and Athena lines from Ireland and across Europe to Israel.

An ‘Adventures on the Apollo and Athena lines’ tour ticket costs **£50**.

There's a special discount when taking both tours (‘Adventures on the Apollo and Athena’ plus ‘Musings on the Mary and Michael lines’ tour on July 5th): **£80**.

Payment details will be sent to you after registration. Registration via info@celtic-inspiration.com

More information on www.celtic-inspiration.com.

So what can we do?

The 18th Century philosopher Edmund Burke once said, "For the triumph of evil it is necessary only that good people do nothing".

Parallel Community reaches out to the do-ers in this world.

The future will be guided by determined groups of people getting together and using their innate talents in local groups and communities of shared interest, linked together.

Parallel Community connects people so that we know what each of us is doing and so that we can cooperate, each to our need and according to our abilities.



What do we do?

The core team keeps the community together and functioning. We run this website and we network offline too, stimulating and supporting circles within circles, sending out newsletters and acting as an axle to a wheel.

Members, you are the folks that make it move. You can do it in your own life, or form connections and groups to do it with larger numbers of people. New circles will be born and grow as new people come in, bringing new interests or influences from different areas and parts of the world.

We're not telling you what to do but we do ask you to let us know what you're up to so that we can let others see what you're doing via the website or through our newsletters. We seek to support you in doing what you're best doing, developing it, spreading it, and getting others to do it with you or help you out.



What can you do?

The main thing is, do what you feel called to do, what you came here to do. We all have a task or mission hard-wired into us. Now, more than ever, it is important to get on with it. To succeed, it helps to get together with others following parallel paths, to cooperate, share knowledge and skills and be friends. This way, everything that needs to be done will

be covered.

If you like Parallel Community, you can become a member. It's then up to you to make known what you're doing, what you can offer and, when there's a need, what you seek.

Find other members in your area or country, or in your arena of work and interest. With them, take initiatives to help move things forward, linked up with Parallel Community, which offers a wider context in which to work.

All this can be done via the Meeting Place on the Parallel Community site, or by email, phone, post or personal contact.

It's a matter of spreading the word, serving humanity, being creative, getting on with it and helping this world get back on track.



PARALLEL COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Please send articles, thoughts, poems, photographs, ideas, etc. to the address below, by post or email. The next newsletter will be coming out in September; the deadline is Friday August 28th. Please feel free to pass this newsletter on to any friends you think might be interested.

The Parallel Community, c/o Treviscoe, Tren crom, Lelant Downs, Hayle, Cornwall TR27 6NP, UK

info@parallelcommunity.com

www.parallelcommunity.com