



Gylden Magick

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Samhain 2022

PRACTICAL MAGICK & UNIVERSAL ENERGY FOR EVERYDAY LIFE

Editor's notes

by Gylden Fellowship

Welcome to **GYLDEN MAGICK** – the spiritual magazine from [Gylden Fellowship](#) that spans both traditional and newer pagan beliefs and practice.

Dear readers of **GYLDEN MAGICK**,

This edition marks the end of the pagan year. The magazine is a little shorter than usual, due to ongoing vision problems on the part of the editor. But there is the start of a series of soapbox discussions, considering social topics. There's also a look forward to Samhain.

October is the **Hunter's Moon** and Samhain is sometimes known as the **Feast of Winter** – more about that later. Altar colours are black, orange, red brown or gold.

So, 31 October is **Samhain** and we've included some seasonal blessings. Other notable dates for diaries in

October are **Leif Erickson Day** on 9 October, **the Festival of Lights in Brazil** on 10 October, **United Nations Day** on 24 October, and **Allen Apple Day** on 27 October in Cornwall. The latter one is notable for divination and fortune-telling in relation to romance. Don't forget **9 October** for the **next full moon**.

Our website has a new collection of tales from the **Storyteller – Tales of Magick and Wonder** - with another book due for publication in November. There'll be more poetry due from **Nicola Ison and Rebecca Granshaw**.

This issue also features appropriate matters for the **Feast of Samhain**, as well as celestial forecasts, sacred occasions and magick.

Our crystal expert, Charlie, turns her attention to rubies and Mark considers time crystals.

But no ads – after all, we're like a pagan public library and all the information is free.

In past years, we would be frantic with preparations for various fayres or events, but not so in 2022. We will catch-up with friends and look forward to the return of all the festivals, camps, fayres and markets in a post-covid world.

Thank you for all your feedback and many blessings.

Gylden Fellowship admins

For more info, why not join [Gylden River LRC](#) or [Gylden Fellowship](#) groups on Facebook today and see our archives or new briefings? I'm reminded by the admins that **Gylden Fellowship has an Instagram account** too, if you wish to follow it.

Contents: Samhain 2022

Crystal clear: rubies by Charlie Foreverdark	Pages 3-5
Sacred art: Celtic art for Samhain collated by Gylden Fellowship	Pages 6-8
Soapbox: paganism and the cost of living by Nick the Witch	Pages 9-10
Forest bathing update by Joanna Bristow-Watkins	Pages 11-12
Looking towards Samhain by Nick the Witch	Pages 13-14
Samhain prayers and blessings by Nicola Ison	Pages 15-16
Time crystals by Mark Sharpen	Page 17
Folklore: Littlecote House by the Storyteller	Page 18
Photos: autumn at Rye Harbour Nature Reserve by Sussex Wildlife Trust	Pages 19-20
Poetry by Rebecca Granshaw	Page 21
MBS – events: Wandering Witches' Fayre	Page 22
Celestial forecast for September by Joanna Bristow-Watkins	Pages 23-27
Gylden contact info	Page 28



Crystal clear: rubies

By Charlie Foreverdark

Time to send greetings to another regular author to **GYLDEN MAGICK** – **Charlie Foreverdark**. Charlie is a noted blog writer and participant in many online crystal and gemstone events.

Typically associated with passion, love and wisdom, **rubies** are one of the most popular gemstone choices for jewellery today. Discovered 2500 years ago in India, ruby is one of the traditional cardinal gemstones (together with amethyst, sapphire, emerald, and diamond). The term, *cardinal gemstone*, refers to the historical (and continued) use of these five gemstones by royalty and for religiously significant purposes. The word, **ruby**, comes from the Latin - *ruber or rubeus* - meaning red. I have composed the following blog full of all the fascinating factoids that I uncovered about the beautiful red stone.

A ruby is a red-hued variety of the oxide mineral, **corundum**, comprising of the two elements, aluminium and oxygen. In its purest form, corundum is colourless. Trace elements that become part of the mineral's crystal structure cause the variations in colour. Other coloured varieties of gem-quality corundum are called **sapphires**; however, sapphires are coloured by impurities of titanium, iron, and aluminium oxide. Chromium is the trace element that causes the red of a ruby. The strength of colour depends on how much chromium is present: the more chromium, the stronger the red. Corundum specimens that are light pink tend to be referred to as pink sapphires, and the name, **ruby**, is reserved for only the deeply rich red specimens. The range of reds vary within the individual deposits and locations. Traces of iron tend to create a darker, duller and more brownish red. Chromium can also cause *fluorescence*, so rubies will naturally fluoresce under UV light.

Ruby is the most significantly valuable variety of the corundum mineral specimens. Top quality, highly saturated rubies can command the highest per-carat price of any coloured gemstone. The most uniform and highly saturated rubies are referred to as **Pigeon's Blood** rubies and it is particularly rare for rubies of this quality to appear in specimens of over 5 carats. The most renowned Pigeon Blood rubies typically form in marble. Marble hosted rubies acquire their intense red colour owing to the particularly low iron content of marble. In other locations, rubies can be found in basalt rocks, which have higher iron content. The iron content within the chemical make-up creates darker and less intensely coloured stones. Higher iron content also masks the fluorescence.



Rutile inclusions are common within rubies, and can even increase their value. Beautiful star rubies are formed when light is reflected or diffracted off fine parallel fibres or needle-like inclusions of rutile/hematite. This causes an occurrence known as **asterism** in which three or six-point stars are visible in the stone.

Rubies mined from specific parts of the world (such as Myanmar) have been found to have a bluish-purple secondary colour – they are **dichroic**, meaning that when light enters the translucent stone, it will be split into two distinctive colours. In order to enhance the red beauty of the slightly purple rubies, jewellers will often set them in yellow gold as it neutralises the bluish tones, allowing the stone to appear even more impressively red. White gold or platinum tend to be better choices for contrasting the more yellow/orange-toned rubies.

Today, like many other stones (including sapphire, aquamarine, tanzanite, amethyst, citrine, blue topaz, blue zircon and tourmaline), most rubies in the jewellery market will have been heat-treated to improve their colour and clarity. When it comes to jewellery, heat treatment is generally considered to be an acceptable part of the processing. In fact, unheated natural stones are rare and can command prices up to 70% higher than the heat-treated examples. Some lower quality ruby specimens are even treated using a type of flux or an oil that fills and masks any fractures and cavities. Responsible marketeers will always disclose any procedures that the finished piece has undergone.

Rubies are exceptionally durable, and highly resistant to scratching. Their durability and beauty make them perfect for daily wear, and, thus, a popular choice for jewellery. **Scoring a 9 on the Mohs hardness scale**, rubies (and sapphires) fall just shy of diamond – the perfect 10. Unlike diamonds (which are graded according to a strict system of letters), coloured gemstones such as rubies aren't graded using any kind of objective system. Instead, gemmological laboratories use master stones as a reference point for hues, tones and saturations of new specimens.

Since 1908, it has been possible to create synthetic rubies within a laboratory. Whereas natural rubies are formed under the Earth's crust over the course of 20 million years, the lab-created versions are synthesized under much quicker controlled laboratory conditions. Synthetic rubies have the advantage of being cheaper than natural rubies. They also tend to be produced without the flaws that are inherent within natural stones. From a chemistry perspective, the lab-created rubies have identical chemical properties to the natural stone. Like all things, the appearance of rubies is ultimately subjective. To some people, lab-created rubies look unnaturally perfect and are devoid of the character that is present in an earth-created gemstone. To others, the lack of natural flaws and inclusions may appear an advantage.

As with most gemstones, the market is saturated with fakes and knockoffs. Unlike synthetic (lab-created) rubies, fakes will typically made from materials such as glass or from cheaper gemstones. These are chemically different from genuine rubies (whether naturally occurring, or synthetically grown) and won't have the same level of strength or a convincingly similar appearance. Scratch testing is a reliable way of ascertaining if your stone is the genuine article or not.



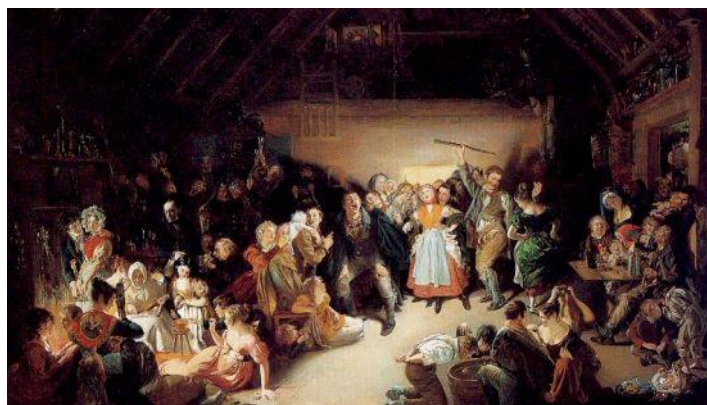
1. Rubies are mentioned four times in the Christian Bible (though red gems were sometimes referred to as carbuncles). In Exodus 28:17, carbuncle was one of the stones in the High Priest's breastplate. A comparison is made between the value of wisdom and rubies in both Job 28:18 and Proverbs 3:15. And then, "the price of a virtuous woman" is said to be "far above rubies" in Proverbs 31:10.
2. In the ancient language of Sanskrit, ruby is called **ratnaraj**, which means king of precious stones. The ancient Hindus believed that those who offered fine rubies to the god, Krishna, would be granted rebirth as powerful emperors.
3. In Myanmar (formerly Burma), a source of rubies for many centuries and the location of the incredible Mogok ruby mines, ancient warriors believed that rubies bestowed invulnerability in battle. However, it wasn't enough to just wear the rubies or carry them into battle. Instead the warriors participated in rituals where rubies were physically inserted under their skin and deep into their flesh, making them a part of their bodies, and supposedly granting them the power of invincibility.
4. In the Middle Ages, superstition decreed that rubies contained the power of prophecy. People believed that rubies would supposedly darken in colour to warn of impending danger, then lighten again once the peril had disappeared.
5. Historically, red spinel was often mistakenly called ruby, as it can look very similar and is often found within the same mineral deposits as rubies. However, red spinels can now be identified using some relatively simple gemmological tests. Spinel was referred to as the great impostor of gemstone history and some of the most famous rubies (and indeed sapphires) featuring in crown jewels around the world are actually spinels. Unlike rubies, which are made of corundum, spinel is composed of magnesium aluminium oxide. However, as it forms in the same rock matrices and under the same geological conditions, it is entirely unsurprising that ancient gem traders were unaware that spinel had a different chemical composition and would subsequently misidentify the stone. There are famous examples of spinel being misidentified as ruby, including a 170-carat bright red spinel named **The Black Prince's Ruby** and also the 361-carat Timur Ruby which was presented by the East India Company to Queen Victoria in 1851.
6. In 1973, Queen Elizabeth received a ruby tiara containing 96 rubies that had been presented to her as a wedding gift from the Burmese people.
7. To commemorate the 50th anniversary of The Wizard of Oz, Harry Winston created real ruby slippers set with 4600 rubies; a reference to the magical ruby slippers whose heels Dorothy clicked thrice to return to Kansas.
8. The world's LARGEST ruby currently resides in The Grey Art Gallery in New York. The original stone it was carved from weighed in at an impressive 30,090 carats! It was purchased and then carved by none other than Mark Mothersbaugh, who fellow punk-rockers might recognise from the line-up of rock band, Devo.

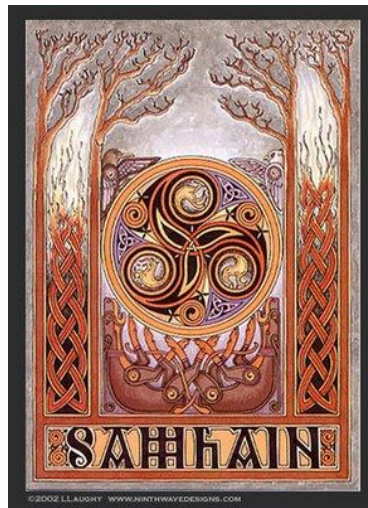
As with the majority of his artwork, the artist, Mothersbaugh, intended to create pieces that were anti-authority and anti-establishment - pieces that questioned and satirised the self-seriousness of fine art and jewellery. His enormous carved ruby, **entitled Kusturd**, was designed to be subversively mocking of the types of people who would usually buy these absurdly large gems. Motherbaugh reasoned that the people with enough money to buy such highly priced rare items were often mobsters, members of drug cartels, Russian oil executives or other people who had acquired their money by nefarious means. So, Mothersbaugh deliberately carved the extravagant rare ruby into...a chunk of excrement! He then opted to disguise it as a scoop of ice cream, by placing it into a highly polished bronze cone! He disclosed in an interview with *VICE* that his intention was that, "Whoever owns the world's largest ruby, would have had to buy a turd to get it!" So, the largest ruby in the world is technically a piece of crap! That's a thing you know now!

Gylden
Magick
Samhain
2022

Sacred art: Celtic Samhain

Collated by Gylden Fellowship







Paganism and the cost of living

Written by Nick the Witch

This is one of our new series for the new pagan year. It's really a soapbox or polemic piece, but there'll be lots of controversial stuff later on. If you wish to comment, please get in touch via Facebook, Instagram or email. Cost of living issues and concerns over energy bills or housing affect many of us. Although our pagan paths may lend themselves to some savings in kitchen or herbal magick, this piece focusses on three main topics – overpricing, fraud and cheats.

Let's start with **overpricing**, as this applies as much to seasoned pagans as newbies. Yes, I know that supply problems have pushed prices up, but some traders take advantage by increasing their stock prices even further. I collect crystals and fossils – and some products cost way too much. It's worth shopping around for crystals and beware of a bargain piece of, say, Herkeimer diamond, which is actually a bit of Himalayan quartz. On that subject, if you're hoping to save money at the moment, I'd advise not buying carvings or stones from foreign traders. Nothing to do with xenophobia, but shipping costs from India, Namibia, the USA, Australia or China, to name a few, can be extortionate! And, the waiting time for such pieces may run to several months. I think that it's quite reasonable for anyone to check on shipping costs and delays, before buying something online or in an auction.

Do you really need to spend £140 on a staff or £250 on a wand with crystal inlays? Well actually, no you don't need to spend anything like this and the **best wands** are those that you make yourself, because you can personalise and put some varnish on them for very little cost. Also, if you've picked the wood, thanked the tree (left an offering) and decorated the wood, the wand is only for you. Take a piece of wood about 12in long or so and off you go. A good staff need not cost more than about £50, robes about £60 if handmade for you, some crystals are very cheap and a wand is free! If you feel that you really do want to buy some stuff, such as an athame (knife), wand, robes or crystals, there's quite a few mind, body and spirit fayres starting up again in 2022 – so, it's worth testing the market. **Any new group** that you join on Facebook or meetup for pagan networking, which tries to sell you stuff is probably not a bona fide group, but may be a disguise for a business.

It's hard to draw a line between **frauds and cheats**, but both prey on victims who are trying to gain spiritual wisdom or new insights. **Pyramid selling schemes** aren't new, but they mutate over time. In 2019, a wave of **mandala looms** started to appear in the pagan/ occult market, mainly on social media, that target younger folk. A scheme called *loom circle or fractal mandala* saw people promised £1280 from a £160 investment. It's an old-fashioned scam re-packaged for a new generation.



A pyramid scheme generally starts with one member recruiting two others, and so on.

The scheme asks participants to pay £160 up front with the promise of making a return of eight times that amount. Typically, in a pyramid scheme, you pay to join. The scheme relies on you then recruiting other people to join up and to part with their money as well. For everyone in the scheme to make a profit, though, there needs to be an endless supply of new members. In reality, the number of people willing to join the scheme, and

ultimately the amount of money coming into the scheme, will dry up very quickly. Pyramid schemes are not sustainable and are often illegal.

Training is another source of potential wealth for cheats. Anyone can claim to be an expert on almost anything. There are accredited bodies out there, namely the British Academy of Crystal Healing, the National Institute of Medical Herbalists, Affiliation of Crystal Healing Organisations, etc. **Ask an expert to show proof of competence.** Some umbrella bodies can help with guidance on local gatherings, namely the Pagan Federation, the Children of Artemis, the Druidry Network or UK Heathenry.

It's worth noting too that some so-called spiritual healing organisations **disguise themselves as community interest companies**, but still charge for training or counselling via linked contractors or other locally-based businesses, such as farms or estate agents. It is worth being a bit savvy about a company where the accounts or director identities don't ring true. And don't forget that such beginnings can masquerade as a cult in reality.

One very important thing to note about training, particularly so-called **pagan camps or festivals, is that you must check out the organisers beforehand.** Of course, there are tricksters who run events with no real idea of the knowledge being offered, but also these events can attract predators who relish the chance to prey on vulnerable people under the spurious heading of healing or mystical wisdom. Best thing really is to go to events or camps that are organised by mainstream pagan bodies or local moots in which you already have friends.

This is not an idle warning, as I've come across camp organisers that are really just sexual predators. Actually, thinking about it, our advice can also run to closed covens and moot rituals that are unnecessarily tactile. If you're vulnerable or your group contains disabled people or children, any event or campsite organisers should hold **enhanced disclosure certificates with the DBS** (just like teachers really) and we'd suggest you check this in advance. That goes for speakers and volunteer helpers too – better safe than sorry!

Anyway, back to the cost of living and **cheats**. A particularly nasty and distasteful incident brought my attention to a company/ trader working in the field of self-improvement training. I'll not name and shame, but suffice to say that it's near to me in SW Surrey and we'll call it AA. What AA did was to take the money from a friend of mine for a course of intensive nutrition, exercise and well-being.

The course was not cheap, running to thousands of pounds; my friend signed the contracts and paid the fees. Then she fell very ill and was unable to take up the training - this has been a common occurrence over the last few years. Anyway, she contacted AA, asking for a partial refund of the fees on the grounds of illness and was met with a blank refusal. AA said that, as my friend had paid their fees and signed a contract, they were entitled to keep all her money despite her not taking the training! My opinion is that this is not ethical business practice, poor customer care and a cheat. I'd warn you to **not sign anything** until you're happy with the terms and conditions. Moreover, I would have taken AA to the local trades descriptions officers, but that's me and not my friend, who's been so ill.



Forest bathing update

By Joanna Bristow-Watkins, Harmony Healing

October in Britain features the full splendour of autumn colours with an array of brown, red and golden yellow mixed with the remaining green as trees shed their leaves. Nature is truly remarkable; this process eliminates environmental toxins which have collected, and trees do it to protect themselves. In winter sunshine, water would continue to evaporate from the leaves, and should the ground water freeze, the tree's water supply would no longer be guaranteed. Hence, the plant produces phytohormones and directs them to its leaf stalks. These hormones cause a corky layer to form, then the leaves fall off. This cork prevents pathogens such as fungi or bacteria from penetrating. Furthermore, without leaves, should it snow, the tree will not have to bear the additional weight of snow on the leaf surfaces, and wind will pass through with less likelihood of damage.

This month is the ideal time to harvest chestnuts, conkers and apples and, on the allotments, we have many seasonal vegetables including broccoli, leeks, turnips, potatoes, kale, plus squashes, such as pumpkin. The month provides plentiful supplies for apple bobbing and pumpkin carving, which became associated with Halloween, celebrated on the 31st. We also have two separate sets of Meteor Showers, the Draconids (peaks 8th/9th) and the Orionids (peaks 20th/21st).

The month of October was named after 'octo' meaning 8th in Latin, as October was the 8th month when the year started in March. To the Anglo-Saxons, October was called **Winterfylleth**, or the "winter full moon," because winter was said to begin on the first full moon in October.

Despite the title, forest 'bathing' only involves water if it rains! We will be immersing ourselves in the woodland atmosphere, taking our senses for a meander among trees, and you will learn how to enhance your perceptions and slow down to focus on what could easily be missed. We end with a 'treelaxation', and aim to leave you feeling deeply relaxed and rejuvenated.

Forest Bathing is an evidence-based wellbeing activity. Spending time in woodland has been shown to boost our immune system for 2-4 weeks, balance blood pressure, reduce stress and cortisol levels, blood sugars, anxiety and rumination, as well as improve sleep, memory, concentration and creativity.

Our first October event is Jo's talk on Wednesday 5th at the Guildford Institute, where you can join in person or online for £5. **Forest Bathing: Finding Harmony In Nature**. Bookings via [Guildford Institute Website](#).

We have nature connection forest bathing events on Sunday 9th (Shere), which can be extended to whole day, below, Thursday 20th (London SW20) and Wednesday 26th (Tadworth).

Special All-day Event, Sunday 9 October - Connecting with the Moon Cycle & Full Moon Forest Bathing, 9.30-4.15

Our new 2-part event in Shere involves a morning indoor workshop looking at how aligning our lifestyles with the moon cycle can benefit us, followed by a break for lunch, then a 3-hour forest bathing nature connection session. Each part can be booked separately, for £50 and £40 respectively, or both for £77. Find out more and book at the [Harmony Shop](#) 🍏🍷 When we have the right clothing and footwear, usually

plenty of layers, and a spare, we can happily stay outdoors for hours. Even longer if we take a hot drink and a snack!

Kosmon Sanctuary, Walton-on-the-Hill, Tadworth (nr Epsom/Dorking)

Wednesday 26 October, 11.00-14.00, £35 Book at the [Harmony Shop](#)

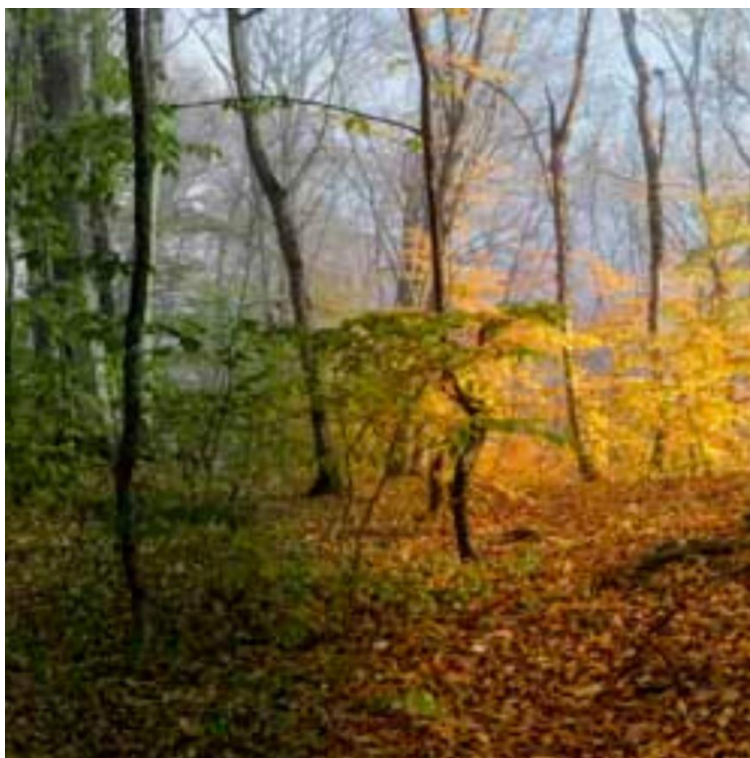
We will take you on a 2½-hour journey through the private ancient woodland of the charming Kosmon Sanctuary. Featuring 22 acres of private woodland, the undulating ground and rich variety of trees in the beautiful ancient woodland offers ever changing vistas and surprises. This is a new venue for us. Immerse yourself in the healing elements of nature and connect deeply with all your senses.

Harry Edwards Healing Sanctuary, Burrows Lea (near Shere)

Sunday 9 October, 13.15-16.15 Full Moon Session, £40 (£77 with optional morning Moon Workshop, see Special All Day Event headed section above for more details). Book at the [Harmony Shop](#) We will take you on a 3-hour journey through the private semi-ancient woodland of the lovely Harry Edwards Healing Sanctuary. Immerse yourself in the healing elements of nature and connect deeply with all your senses.

Cannon Hill Common (SW20)

We will take you on a 2½-hour journey through this little-known London conservation park area. Cannon Hill is located between the town centres of Raynes Park and Morden, in the south western corner of Merton



Looking towards Samhain

By Nick the Witch

Although celebrating any of the sabbats in a group or open ritual can be inspiring and reaffirming, one of the attractions of worshipping as a solitary is that you can customise your ritual in your chosen setting. The article below gives some ways in which a solitary can choose to decorate his or her altar, select a deity, use or edit a blessing and some magickal activities.

Samhain Blessings to one and all - may those who have gone before walk with me at this time and share their wisdom.

Interestingly, All Hallows Day was part of the pagan festival too and started at sunset on the evening of Samhain. The Roman Catholic Church used to celebrate All Saints' Day for saints and martyrs on 13 May, but the date was moved in the 8th century, to *coincide* with the pagan festival.

The meaning of Samhain

For the Celts, Samhain marked the end of the agricultural season (end of summer) and the beginning of winter: it was the time of year when the gates between this world and the next were open. It was a time both of communicating with the spirits (honouring the dead) and a time of divination or scrying, when the ancestors could be called upon for advice. The whole belief that underpins Samhain is death and transformation

Samhain was a key festival in Ireland, because of the widespread belief that all manner of supernatural beings were roaming the land – not only the spirits of the dead, but also færies, goblins, etc. People did not tend to walk out at night on Samhain and it was also a time of peace – no fighting or violence was allowed.

In magickal terms, Samhain is the start of a new year and a time for releasing negative thoughts or closing matters or beginning new projects. Examples might include writing off a debt, closing an account or running an audit. It is the wisdom of the Crone that prevails at Samhain: asking for guidance, paying respects to departed ancestors and celebrating reincarnation.

Altar decorations

First things first then – remembering what Samhain is all about, the altar should be one that honours the ancestors and it could include photos or mementoes of relatives or friends that have passed on. The list below gives an idea of the diversity of altar adornments.

1. Good **incense** for Samhain could be sandalwood, wormwood, sage, myrrh or patchouli.
2. Typical **crystals** might include onyx, jasper, bloodstone, obsidian, bloodstone or jet.
3. The **altar cloth colour** should be one of black, orange, red brown or gold.
4. **Seasonal decorations** might include apples, coloured leaves, nuts, oak leaves plus acorns, pumpkins or squashes. The jack-o-lantern is not necessary for an altar, but could be placed on a step outside the home.
5. **Herbs or plants** might include cinnamon, bay leaf, cloves, ginger, rue, sage, pumpkin seeds, nettle or pine needles.

As a solitary (hedge witch) for many years, I would say that it's probably better to prepare some sort of **ritual foods** or feast in advance. If you have younger children in the house, the ritual area needs to be closed, but there is no harm in explaining the meaning of Samhain and offering up a family prayer for the ancestors. This hedge witch also gave in to popular fads and prepared a chocolate blancmange spider for the kids on Samhain for a few years!

There's loads of **food and drink** that can be used as part of a Samhain ritual feast, including the following:

- a) Apples or apple dishes
- b) Nuts, which represent reincarnation
- c) Cider or mulled cider with spices or mulled wine
- d) Pumpkins or pumpkin bread or seeds
- e) Potatoes, turnips or corn
- f) Gingerbread
- g) This was a traditional meat festival, as many livestock would be slaughtered in late October/ early November and every part used to sustain a family through winter – even using the fat to make lamp oil or tallow. So, a good meat to use is pork or similar.

It's not common, but a plate of food could be left outside the home for the souls of the dead; I can't do that myself due to foxes, mice, etc around our house, but placing a candle in the window or burying apples/ nuts in the soil are also expressions of respect for the dead.

Samhain activities

Much of the magick depends upon the type of pagan pathway followed. As a solitary witch, I'd be looking toward Cernunnos or Ceridwen as part of my ritual, but other **deities** could include Hecate, Arianrhod, Bast, Hades, Persephone, Hel, Loki, Arawn or Anubis. This not an exhaustive list, but any deities that are believed to be part of death or the otherworld are welcome. Likewise, animals that are reputed to be linked with Samhain are stags, owls, bats, crows, cats and herons.

The **tools** needed for the ritual are the usual suspects: cauldron, black candles, broom, a crystal ball or tarot deck and, perhaps, a magic mirror. I'm not sure whether a Ouija board is vital for the ritual, but it could be useful. As to **the ritual** itself, every solitary has his or her own way of calling in the Guardians and opening the portals. The focus here is honouring the dead, asking the ancestors for guidance (perhaps by tarot interpretation), divination or scrying or past life recall. Here are some magickal things that could be done:

- a) Candle magick
- b) Divination of any type
- c) Astral projection
- d) Mirror spells
- e) Casting protection for the family or home
- f) Contacting spirits of those who have passed on
- g) Creative visualisation
- h) Past life regression
- i) Deep crystal meditation for remembrance.

Some solitary practitioners are strong on costumes and this is fine for ritual magick. Others tend towards craft skills, such as carving jack-o-lanterns, making masks, drying herbs, etc.

Samhain prayer

By Nicola Ison

Here is a [Samhain blessing](#) that you could use or adapt for purpose: you'll need to cast a circle first to contain the summoned spirits and light a black pillar candle beforehand.

*Let this flame blaze through the night,
Bringing both wisdom and great insight,
At this special time and in my sacred space,
I request my ancestors come to share my place.*

Here's an Irish blessing for Samhain

*This is the night when the gateway between
our world and the spirit world is thinnest.
Tonight is a night to call out those who came before.
Tonight, I honour my ancestors.
Spirits of my fathers and mothers, I call to you,
and welcome you to join me for this night.
You watch over me always,
protecting and guiding me,
and tonight, I thank you.
Your blood runs in my veins,
your spirit is in my heart,
your memories are in my soul.
With the gift of remembrance.
I remember all of you.
You are dead but never forgotten,
and you live on within me,
and within those who are yet to come.*

Here is a thought for [Samhain blessing](#) that you could bear in mind.

*If you could see your ancestors, all standing in a row,
There are some of them, perhaps, you wouldn't care to know.
But there's another question which requires a different view,
If you could see your ancestors, would they be proud of you?*

We are all part of one universal community – the power of family extends to all. In *Gylden Fellowship*, we invite each of you to take a candle on Samhain and hold this thought.

FOR THE FORGOTTEN DEAD

This candle is for the people out there, some in our community and others around the country who are buried with no headstones or markers, eg:

- Old people in care homes or hospitals with no families.
- Homeless people who greeted us to or from work, from whom we bought the Big Issue.
- Lost children who ran from home and died who knows where.
- Those who wandered our streets with mental health issues and who died unknown and ignored.
- All those who died from violence or neglect and now lie in unremembered or untended graves.
- And all those too numerous to mention.

These are the **Forgotten Dead**, whose spirits we pay tribute to, even though we do not know your names. Accept my candle tonight for you – the unknown, the unwanted, the unloved of our community and be at peace for a while.



Time crystals

By Mark Sharpen

A time crystal is a state of matter in physics, similar to a gas, a liquid or a solid. However, these latter states of matter all behave differently to each other on our planet – and there have been many other types developed, such as super-fluids. A time crystal is developed, using a quantum computer and preliminary research was published in July 2021.

Any other crystal, such as a diamond or a ruby, has its atoms arranged in repeating patterns in space. There's three dimensions of space and a fourth dimension - time. So, some physicists wondered if a crystal's atoms could be arranged in repeating patterns in time. In practice, that works something like this. A crystal is created with its atoms arranged in one state – when the crystal is exposed to a laser, those atoms can change into another state and then go back, in a continual process - all without actually absorbing any energy from the laser. That's no small feat, as it alters the second law of thermodynamics. That law states that the amount of entropy (disorder) always tends to increase. Think of it like a vase, teetering at the edge of a table. The universe wants to push that vase over and make it shatter across the floor. To piece it back together, you have to put in the energy.

Time crystals are a new idea, having first been theorised in 2012, by Nobel-winning physicist Franck Wilczek. The theory was not accepted by everyone; in 2016, physicists at the University of Maryland were able to construct a crude time crystal from a collection of ytterbium atoms.

The research in 2021 was based on experiments done via a quantum computer, which operates at an atomic level. Quantum computers allow physicists to work with particles or atoms over distance and to perform multiple tasks at once. By arranging particles in a quantum computer's processor, it's possible to literally study systems of tiny particles as if they are building blocks. That's a powerful ability, and it's not something you'll see much in the non-quantum world.

Working on a very small scale, the scientists in 2021 were able to make their own time crystal. They could take atoms, rearrange them and then pulse them with a laser to drive a time crystal. That setup has allowed researchers to create a larger time crystal than any time crystal before it. While many previous time crystals were short-lasting and unravelled within a few back-and-forth flip cycles, the scientists behind this latest time crystal effort have been amazed at the stability of what they've created.

“The thing that is most exciting here, for me,” says one of the scientists, “it’s a demonstration of using a quantum computer to really simulate a quantum physics system and study it in a way that is really novel and exciting.”

So, could these time crystals indeed lead to a new wave of embryonic time machines? It's unlikely, but they might help make quantum computers become more robust. Engineers have struggled for years to create something that could serve as memory in quantum computers; some equivalent to the silicon that underpins traditional computers. Time crystals, physicists think, could serve that purpose. And this experiment is also a demonstration of the power of quantum computers to do science.

Tales for darker evenings: Littlecote House

By the Storyteller

This tale comes from Wiltshire. **Editor's note:** the latest collection from the Storyteller, *Tales of Wonder and Magick*, has been published on the **Gylden Fellowship** website and is free to download. Readers can also find a collection of ghost stories, *Winter Chills*, from the website.

The story of the Littlecote House ghosts relates how a local midwife (Mrs Barnes, from Great Shelford) was woken late one night in November 1875 and offered a large sum of money if she would attend to a woman who was in urgent need of her services, but she had to be blindfolded. She agreed and was taken to a big house where she was instructed by a masked man to deliver a baby to a masked woman. The baby, a boy, was safely born whereupon the masked man grabbed the child and threw it on the roaring, open fire and held it there with his boot until it was dead.

The midwife was devastated, but as she made a final check on the progress of the mother, she had the presence of mind to tear a piece of cloth from the bed curtains. And as she was led, once again blindfolded, down the steps of the house, she counted them one by one. The poor midwife kept her silence until, on her deathbed, she revealed the terrible secret to a local magistrate.

Immediately, suspicion fell on Wild Will Darrell of Littlecote House. It was even suggested that the mystery masked mother might be his sister and that Darrell himself may be the father. The number of steps up to the manor agreed with the number given by the midwife and when a search was made of the house, in one bed-chamber a hole was found in the bed-curtains that matched exactly the piece torn out by the midwife. Darrell was arrested in 1586, but it was said that there was not enough evidence to convict him and he walked from the court, a free man.

But there is a higher law and it is a matter of history that Wild Darrell was killed when he was thrown from his horse while hunting in 1587 at a spot now known as Darrell's Stile. His twisted spectre has been seen both at the scene of his death and in a bedroom in the house itself. But Wild Darrell is not the only Littlecote house ghost. In 1970, a journalist saw the figure of a midwife carrying a baby in the haunted bedroom. He rushed to fetch his camera and when he returned, the figure had vanished.

Editor's note: Wild William Darrell was connected with several scandals and the house's resident ghost story. His father had left the house to his mistress Mary Danyell, but William Darrell was able to recover it when he came of age in 1560. He spent lavishly, left his debts unpaid, and went to law with most of his neighbours, acquiring enemies in the process.

Autumn at Rye Harbour Nature Reserve

By Sussex Wildlife Trust, more details from www.sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk.



Golden plovers



Sea aster bee



Swallows



Bush-cricket



Merlin



Sea campion

Poetry

By Rebecca Granshaw

It's funny how allowing the All that is to show up, be felt, creates the space needed to move to the next step.

In allowing, I learn when to be still, when to move, what to feel, how to feel. It creates just the next step - not three.

And I'm relearning how to love living in this space of allowing and alignment.

It's not that easy and is totally out of this world!

It seems backwards, but is actually forwards.



The Wonderful



World Famous

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2022

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FAYRE

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Spellbinding,
Magickal
Creations*

Live Music

Cafe



COWPLAIN
Activity Centre

Saturday
5th November

FREE ENTRY

10am ~ 3pm



Celestial forecast for October

By Joanna Bristow-Watkins

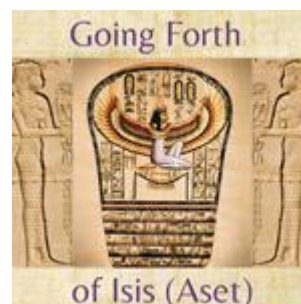
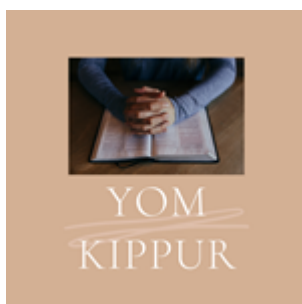
October in Britain features the full splendour of autumn colours with an array of brown, red and golden yellow mixed with the remaining green as trees shed their leaves. Nature is truly remarkable; this process eliminates environmental toxins which have collected and trees do it to protect themselves. In winter sunshine, water would continue to evaporate from the leaves and, should the groundwater freeze, the tree's water supply would no longer be guaranteed. Hence the plant produces phytohormones and directs them to its leaf stalks. These hormones cause a corky layer to form, then the leaves fall off. This cork prevents pathogens, such as fungi or bacteria from penetrating. Furthermore, without leaves, should it snow, the tree will not have to bear the additional weight of snow on the leaf surfaces and wind will pass through with less likelihood of damage.

This month is the ideal time to harvest chestnuts, conkers and apples and, on the allotments, we have many seasonal vegetables, including broccoli, leeks, turnips, potatoes, kale, plus of course squashes such as pumpkin. The month provides plentiful supplies for apple bobbing and pumpkin carving, which became associated with Halloween, celebrated on the 31st. We also have two separate sets of Meteor Showers, the Draconids (peaks 8th/9th) and the Orionids (peaks 20th/21st).

The month of October was named after 'octo', meaning 8th in Latin, as October was the 8th month when the year started in March. To the Anglo-Saxons, October was called **Winterfylleth**, or the "winter full moon," because winter was said to begin on the first full moon in October.

During October, we have a plethora of international festivals such as **World Mental Health Day** (10), **World Food Day** (16), **International Day for the Eradication of Poverty** (17) as well as Thanksgiving in Canada (10). We can also look forward to two annual Egyptian Festivals **Going Forth of Isis** (6) & **Isia** (28) and Roman **October Horse** (15) annual commemorations, plus the Pagan Festival of **Samhain** (better known as Halloween) on 31st.

It's Vegetarian Awareness Month throughout October, which ends with [World Vegan Day](#) on 1 November, marking the end of that month of celebration.



Tuesday 4 October (2022) is **Yom Kippur** (Day of Atonement), which is the Jewish day of repentance, probably the holiest and most solemn day of the year. In Israel, it is an annual holiday. There's no public transport, no form of media communication and all businesses and shops are closed. It takes place on the 10th day* of Tishrei, the seventh month. In the Western Calendar, this means it will occur between 14 September and 14 October.

[Wednesday 5 October](#) is part two of our Introduction to [Essene Angelology](#), Harmony Healing Interactive online evening course, 7.30-9.45pm UK time (GMT+1), offering UK & USA friendly hours.

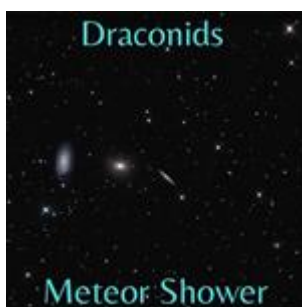
Learn how to commune with the Weekday and Planetary Guardian Angels and invite them into your life on a daily basis. Even if you are already familiar with the angelic realm, discover how to strengthen your connection with

channellings, affirmations, colours, crystals and planetary symbols. Connect with Melchisadec and Pistis Sophia, the Essene Guardians of our Planet Earth and the Constellations.

Cost is £66 including a personal chart detailing three of your personal Essene Guardian Angels (based on your date of birth) plus 4½ hours of mentoring. Book at the [Harmony Shop](#). This is a stand-alone unit, but also comprises ½ unit towards [Egyptian Alchemy Healing RSE Level 1](#). Held remotely on Zoom, see [Harmony Shop Events](#) for details of the individual modules and the entire RSE 1 package.

Friday 7 October, though some sources say 10 October, is Going Forth of Isis (Aset) in Egyptian Tradition.

Apparently, her heart is pleased on this day, because the heritage is granted to her son, Horus (Heru). On this special day, a specially selected team of priests and/or priestesses would commence a procession to take their most treasured image or statue of Aset (Isis) to another temple, with many planned stops en route. At each stop, a sacred rite would be performed by the priests/ priestesses and often divinations would be offered. When the final temple destination was reached, the image or statue would be placed in an honoured location and a joyful festival celebration would ensue.



Saturday 8 & Sunday 9 October, is the Draconids Meteor Shower. The radiant point for the Draconid meteor shower almost coincides with the head of the constellation, Draco the Dragon in the northern sky. That's why the Draconids are best viewed from the Northern Hemisphere and, surprisingly, in the early evening soon after dusk. Draco has been known to spew forth many hundreds of meteors in a single hour. In 2022, the Full Moon (on the 9th) will hamper viewing. See [Earthsky Website](#) or [timeanddate.com](#) for more.

Sunday 9 October, Special Event: [Connecting with the Moon Cycle & Full Moon Forest Bathing](#) - connect with the Lunar Cycle Morning Workshop (£50), afternoon Full Moon Forest Bathing (£40): all Day Price = £77

Morning Workshop (09.30-12.30) Harness the Power of the Moon for Health, Wealth & Wellbeing. Human beings have always been fascinated by the moon and its power to influence so much of what happens on our planet.

Afternoon (13.15- 16.15): Nature Connection Forest Bathing Session on this day of the Hunter Full Moon which peaks at @ 21:54, but the Full Moon Energy will be palpable. Book at [harmonyinnature.uk](#)

Sunday 9 October is the Hunter Full Moon @ 21:54. Between this date and the next New Moon is considered as a good time energetically for detoxing the body.

Sunday 9 October is our [Full Moon Unity Consciousness Meditation](#), 19.30-21.30 UK time. During this session, we connect with other like-minded people and together we work through a mindful chakra balancing process using colours and etheric crystals, with the aim that all participants will experience a degree of unity consciousness. Participants all receive a deeply healing experience. Cost to participate is £20 by online BACS payment (small admin fee added for PayPal). This activity serves as a good taster of Joanna's work in general. For more details and to book, see [Harmony Shop](#).



Monday 10 October is World Mental Health Day. Initially, it was an annual activity held by the World Federation for Mental Health (WFMH), but World Mental Health Day has been observed since 10 October 1992. It's now officially commemorated every year on 10 October and this year's theme is mental health in an unequal world. This year's theme, as set by the World Federation for Mental Health, is making mental health and wellbeing for all a global priority: see [mentalhealth-uk.org website](https://www.mentalhealth-uk.org) for more.

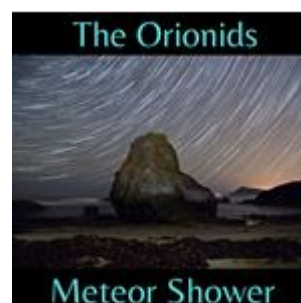
Monday 10 October is Thanksgiving Day in Canada, sometimes called Canadian Thanksgiving to distinguish it from the American holiday which is the 4th Thursday in November (this year, it's Thursday 24 November). Canadian Thanksgiving occurs on the second Monday in October. It is an annual Canadian holiday, celebrating the harvest and other blessings of the past year.

Saturday 15 October is the Roman celebration of October Horse being the Ides of October. The October Ides featured a two-horse chariot race on the Campus Martius.

Sunday 16 October is World Food Day: a global event to increase awareness, understanding and year-around action to alleviate hunger. This day, declared by the UN General Assembly, aims to heighten public awareness of world food problems and strengthen solidarity in the struggle against hunger, malnutrition and poverty. The theme for [World Food Day 2022](https://www.worldfoodday2022.org) is **Leave NO ONE behind**.

According to the promotional website, in 2022 we still have a climate that won't stop warming, rising prices, international tensions and conflict. Ongoing pandemic anxiety is affecting global food security. It's time to build a sustainable world where everyone, everywhere has regular access to sufficient nutritious food. No one should be left behind.

Each year, on **16 October**, [Concern Worldwide](https://www.concernworldwide.org) joins organisations around the world in commemorating World Food Day, marking the day the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) was founded in 1945. Concern Worldwide, whose motto is tackling hunger, transforming lives highlight some incredibly worthy causes on their website.



Monday 17 October is the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty. The observance of the [International Day for the Eradication of Poverty](#) can be traced back to 17 October 1987, when over 100,000+ people gathered at the Trocadéro in Paris. This was the location where the Universal Declaration of Human Rights was signed in 1948, to honour the victims of extreme poverty, violence and hunger. They proclaimed that poverty is a violation of human rights and affirmed the need to come together to ensure that these rights are respected. These convictions are inscribed in a commemorative stone unveiled on this day. Since then, every year on 17 October, people of all backgrounds, beliefs and social origins have gathered to renew their commitment and show their solidarity with the poor. This year, they are focussing on Gaza where over 40% of the population are unemployed and over 80% of people in Gaza rely on international assistance, simply to meet their basic needs.

Thursday 20 October is the part two of Harmony Healing Virtual Workshop: [Violet Flame of Ament \(Level 1\)](#), 19.15 - 21.30 (UK time/GMT+1 = UK & USA friendly evening hours), £88, which completes on Thursday 10th November. See [Violet Flame of Amenti](#) page for details and to book. Missed sessions are recorded so late applicants can be accommodated. 3 x 2.25 hour evening course, worth 1 unit towards the RSE Level 1. Held remotely on Zoom.

Thursday 20-Friday 21 October is the peak of the Orionids, which is the most prolific meteor shower associated with [Halley's Comet](#) and lasts 15-29 October. The Orionids are so-called because they appear to come from, the constellation, Orion. In some years, meteors may occur at rates of 50-70 per hour. This year, close to the New Moon on the 25th, it's likely to be good viewing. In 2022, the annual Orionid meteor shower is expected to rain down the greatest number of meteors before dawn on 21 October, perhaps as many as 20 meteors per hour. The hours between midnight and dawn on the mornings of 20-21 October may offer a decent sprinkling of meteors as well, and you might see some anytime in October or early November (overall duration is 26 September-22 November) if you have a dark sky for viewing. See also [EarthSky website](#) where you will also find more details about the event.

Sunday 23 October is the chosen date for restarting the annual [October Plenty Festival](#), traditionally held in Southwark on [London Bankside](#). In the past, this autumn harvest celebration would begin on the Bankside, by Shakespeare's Globe and would feature a mix of ancient seasonal customs and theatre with contemporary festivity, joining with historic Borough Market, Southwark. The procession would normally feature a *Berry Man* - an autumn version of the *Green Man* but covered in fruits and foliage, plus a *Corne Queene* effigy comprised of wheat, barley and grain with apples and root vegetables supplied from the Borough Market.

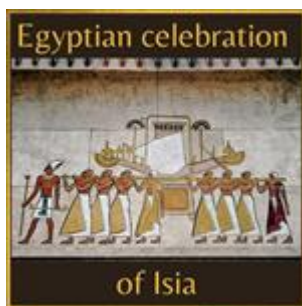
Tuesday 25 October @ 22:57 is the New Moon.

The [New Moon Abundance Ritual](#) should be carried out within 24 hours after the New Moon. It needs to be after the New Moon because the moon should be waxing (getting bigger again) to carry the manifestation energy. There are video instructions on my [You Tube Page](#).

***Tuesday 25 October is the start of [New Moon New Vision; Lunar Cycle Alignment Programme](#).** This lunar cycle applies the transformational properties of spiritual alchemy to help you feel rejuvenated and purposeful about the rest of the year, via the creation of a Vision Board. It's a special one lunar month empowerment and attunement programme combining the solar & lunar balancing with various ceremonies throughout the month. The next Moon Alignment Programme begins with the New Moon on the 25 October and culminates with the New Moon on 23rd November. This takes in the Pagan Festival of Samhain (31 October, also known as Halloween).*

Friday 28 October is the Egyptian celebration of Isia, marking the 7 days that Aset (Isis) spent searching for the body parts of Asar (Osiris) following his death and dismemberment by his brother Set. This culminates on

Thursday 3 November with Hilaria when she resurrected him by re-membering him; no doubt contributing to the definition of our word remember, meaning to recall someone from memory.



Sunday 30 October is the end of the Summer Daylight Saving Time in 2022, so the UK clocks go back an hour at 01.00 hrs (Saturday night).

Monday 31 October traditionally marks the end of the harvest and the beginning of the Celtic and Pagan New Year. Samhain is Irish-Gaelic for 'the Summer's end', and is pronounced 'sow-in'. Samhain represents the death of the summer sun god, Lugh. This festival celebrates Nature's cycle of death and renewal. This is traditionally known as Halloween. Samhain is one of the four Gaelic seasonal festivals; along with Lughnasadh, Imbolc and Beltane.

In the Northern Hemisphere, Samhain heralds the beginning of Winter, when the world starts to darken and the days are getting shorter; the dark half of the year and the demise of the sun's uplifting influence. The crone, personified as Cailleach - the Queen of the Winter - was reborn on every All Hallows Eve, returning to bring the Winter and protect animals through the coldest months. She turned to stone on Beltane Eve, Beltane being 1 May.

Acknowledgments

Celestial Forecast is compiled by Joanna Bristow-Watkins of Harmony Healing, the original is published at Joanna's [Monthly Celestial Forecasts](#). It is created using many sources but notably the [Moonwise Calendar](#) and Lia Leendertz's annual *Almanac*. Whilst considerable effort is made to ensure accuracy, this is not an exact science and sources are sometimes contradictory!

These monthly Celestial Forecasts (CF) are generally uploaded to the Harmony Healing website a fortnight ahead and are sent out to the main mailing list and CF subscribers a few days before the main month starts.

For past issues of Gylden Magick magazine, please contact us:

Our email: @GyldenFellowship

Our website: www.gyldenfellowship.co.uk

On Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/gyldenpaganfellowship/>

