



Celebrating Humanity in the Landscape

21st April to 1st May 2018

Ten days of walks, talks, workshops, and the performing arts for you to connect with the Landscape and cultural roots of Dorset.

Google @CerneGiantFestival

Saturday 21st April

*10am- 1pm Wild Food? Wild Medicine!

The Granary, Nether Cerne DT2 7AJ (please book in advance max 12)



Take a walk on the wild side with medical herbalist Eleanor Gallia. Starting at the Granary, explore around the lakes of Nether Cerne learning about the medicinal, culinary, seasonal, and celebratory properties of nettles and other glorious weeds. As part of our foraging we will harvest nettles for the making of the May Day spring tonic ale at the afternoon workshop. *Wear appropriate clothing, footwear & gloves. No dogs please.* End the morning with nettle soup & herbal teas. Tickets £10. Beer, local food and herbal products

will be available for sale and for the rest of the afternoon.

*1pm onwards Brewing Nettle Beer

The Granary, Nether Cerne DT2 7AJ

The Cerne Abbas Brewery is rapidly making a name for itself with its innovative beers. Its Gurt Coconuts Rum Stout has won at several CAMRA festivals, and they've won two awards at two festivals! Continuing in this mode Vic Irvine, Head Brewer, will start this year's May Day brew at The Granary in Nether Cerne. It will include the traditional spring tonic, nettles. Beer will be on sale, both on tap and bottled. Ticket is £5, which includes a half pint of beer.



Sunday 22nd April

*2-4pm Feel Vibrant with Food Workshop

Feed the Soul, Godmanstone DT2 7AE (book in advance max 20)

Gluten free, dairy free, vegan, always organic.

Learn how to make a basic nut milk Brownie and build the most epic salad! We will explain our food philosophy, and you will be able to take home what you have made. End the afternoon with a cup of tea and a brownie. £25 all-inclusive.

*6.30pm 'Life in the UK Test' Pub Quiz

The Giant Inn, 24 Long Street, Cerne Abbas, Dorset DT2 7JF

Could you pass the 'Life in the UK Test' which those applying to be naturalised British citizens must take? It will be organised like a normal pub quiz with rounds, teams, and a raffle. On the plus side it'll be a team effort. On the minus side questions won't be multi-choice! The pass mark is 75% - will you manage it?! £1 per person. Preferably teams up to 4.



An asterisk * indicates funds raised will go towards the work in the community of village churches in the Cerne Valley. Tickets email still.family@virgin.net, via message on the Facebook page, Cerne shop, on the door if not sold out.

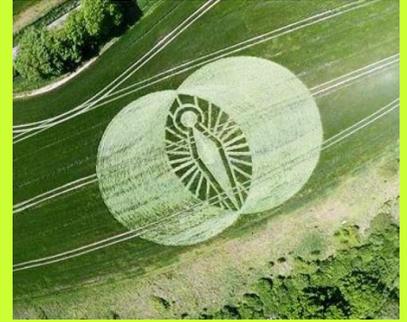
Tuesday 24th April

***7.30pm Cerne's Crop Figure**

Village Hall, Kettle Bridge Lane, Cerne Abbas DT2 7GY

For pagans it was the Goddess, for Christians it was Mary. While people all over the world were getting excited about it last May, the village scarcely noticed. People tend to either be extremely dismissive or intrigued about 'crop circles'. What is the rational response to them?

Jane Still will deliver this illustrated talk. She comes from a family of generations of scientists, including physics Nobel laureates. Tickets £3 + wine and soft drinks available at an extra charge.



Wednesday 25th April

***2.30pm Guided Walk in Minterne Gardens**

Minterne House, Minterne Magna DT2 7AU

Led by the Head Gardener and Henry Digby, this walk will tell some of the stories behind how the garden came to be as it is today. Learn about the Victorian plant hunters sponsored by the Digby family, and how an earlier Henry Digby turned a desolate windy valley into a paradise. *Please wear*

appropriate clothing and shoes/boots. Ticket £8, with the option of tea afterwards at an additional cost.

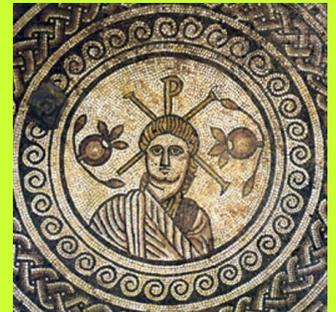
Thursday 26th April

7 for 7.30pm The Romans in West Dorset

Cerne Village Hall, Kettle Bridge Lane, Cerne Abbas DT2 7GY

What can we still see of the Romans who lived in West Dorset?

Steve Wallis is a senior archaeologist for Dorset County Council. A keen photographer, Steve is the author of several titles covering the local history of Dorchester as well as locations in Somerset and Hampshire. Admission for non CHS members is £3. Glasses of wine are also available from 7pm.



Friday 27th April

***7-10pm Ceilidh with Tatterdemalion**

Cerne St Mary's Church, Abbey Street, Cerne Abbas DT2 7JQ

The thrilling band Tatterdemalion will provide the music and the renowned Angela Laycock will call at this popular event. Soft drinks, wine, Cerne Abbas ale, cider and nibbles will be on sale. Tickets £6 adults and £3 children .

Saturday 28th April

***10am-1pm Needle-felting Nature (max 8)**

The Old Saddler Classes, 1 Duck Street, Cerne Abbas, Dorset DT2 7LA

If you can stab a needle into a piece of foam then you can needle-felt!

Aimed at beginners, you will be provided with all the materials and tools



you need to produce a sheep- or poppyfield- picture. Susie Thorpe will provide assistance and instruction. If you like, go for a walk and collect wool from bushes in the hills and then make it into a sheep picture! Or think of summer and make a poppyfield. Suitable for beginners, tuition given. Adults only, no children please. Tickets £25, which includes all materials & tuition.

***2pm Every Field Has a Story (part 2)**

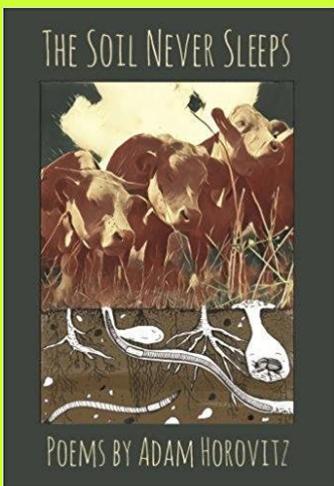
Manor Farm, Godmanstone, Dorset DT2 7AH

Renowned local storyteller and organic farmer Will Best will take us around some of the fields of Manor Farm. Will and Pam Best were pioneers in the commercial production of organic milk. This year Will is leading a short farm walk with an emphasis on cattle and pasture, during which he will be extolling the virtues of cows**t!.

Wear appropriate clothing and shoes/boots. Please do NOT bring dogs as some fields have cattle. The walk will end with afternoon tea back at the farm. Walk & afternoon tea £5 U18s FREE



***4pm The Soil Never Sleeps**



Manor Farm, Godmanstone, Dorset DT2 7AH

Parking behind the farm. Begins with afternoon tea at 3.30pm.

Performance poet Adam Horovitz will hotfoot it to Dorset from the Cheltenham Literary Festival to read poems from his recently published collection *The Soil Never Sleeps*. Last year he was the poet in residence of the Pasture-Fed Livestock Association and visited farms to write a celebration of pasture in poetry and prose. This was launched at the Oxford Real Farming Conference this year. In 2009 he was a poet in residence of the Glastonbury Festival. The poems will be interspersed by folk tunes played on the fiddle by Adam's partner Becky Dellow.

Becky's website <http://beckydellow.co.uk/about.html>

Adam's website <http://adamhorovitz.co.uk/blog/about-2/>

Connect with the land first with a walk around fields at Manor Farm (2pm), led by renowned local storyteller and organic farmer Will Best.

Tickets: afternoon tea & show £8 combined ticket walk, tea, show £10 U18s FREE

***7.30pm Kate Adie – 'Pheasants, not Peasants'**

Cerne St Mary's Church, Abbey Street, Cerne Abbas DT2 7JQ

An odd look at English country-dwellers and their particular love of the land. Tickets £8 (includes a glass of wine and canapés)



Sunday 29th April

***2pm Landscape, Flowers, and Butterflies**

Assemble at the Village Hall Carpark, Kettle Bridge Lane, Cerne Abbas DT2 7GY



Expert naturalist and conservationist Nigel Spring will lead an ambling walk along Giant Hill towards Minterne Parva. There will be lots of stops to look at wild flowers and other interesting wildlife, and Nigel will explain how the way the land is managed by humans affects which wildlife moves in. Nigel set up and ran the Kingcombe Centre for a number of years and is now a director of EUCAN, which coordinates conservation work in this country and Europe. *Wear appropriate*

clothing and shoes/boots. We will end at the church in Cerne Abbas, where afternoon tea will be served. Walk & afternoon tea £5.

*2-6pm Mindfulness with Natural Objects



Cerne St Mary's Church, Abbey Street, Cerne Abbas DT2 7JQ

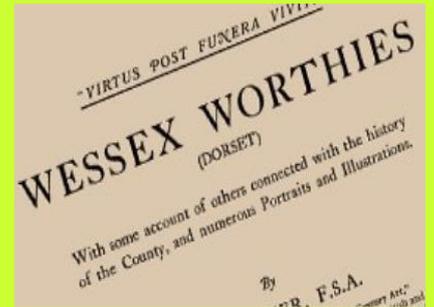
Open house at Cerne St Mary's to drop in and spend quiet time with individually guided meditations to reflect on your relationship with nature.. The NHS website has this to say about mindfulness: " It can be easy to rush through life without stopping to notice much. Paying more attention to the present moment – to your own thoughts and feelings, and to the world around you – can improve your mental wellbeing." The word mindfulness is a translation from a Buddhist word, but the concept is universal. In

Christianity it is called contemplation. Donation, with teas for sale from 4pm.

*6.30pm Celebrating Dorset in Word and Song

The Royal Oak, 23 Long Street, DT2 7JG Cerne Abbas, Dorset

A cosy evening event twixt beams and brass in the Royal Oak, with the New Hardy Players, William Barnes Society and a table heaving with food! Gather round a table, in one of Cerne Abbas's oldest pubs, for an evening of informal readings from Dorset writers and folk songs celebrating the landscapes and life surrounding us. Buffet dinner (donated by the Oak) with gluten-free and vegetarian options included. Ticket £7.50.



Tuesday 1st May

5am Sunrise on Giant Hill

Trendle, on top of Giant Hill and inside the Giant's enclosure



The Wessex Morris have been greeting the sunrise on 1st May for decades. The event takes place on the Trendle, a square earth-banked enclosure above the Giant's head, where there used to be a maypole. In recent years they have been joined by Cerne Abbas Brewery who give glasses of ale to thirsty revellers. This year we hope it will be an ale brewed during the Festival. The traditional spring tonic nettles will be the special ingredient! Another reason for making the effort is this is THE DAY each year we're allowed in with the Giant! For both this

and the Wessex Morris event below there is no charge but a hat is passed around for donations to Wessex Morris.

approx 6am Wessex Morris Procession & Dancing by the 'Oak

Timings approximate! The Wessex Morris scramble down the hill from about 5.45am, then process south along Duck Street to the square in front of the Royal Oak.

about 7.30am May Day at the Silver Well

To get to the Well go through the Cemetery at the end of Abbey St.

After the Wessex Morris have finished outside the Royal Oak we will have a short celebration of the season at the Silver Well in the Celtic Christian tradition. Open to all faiths, and usually well-attended by followers of pagan religions such as Druidry and Wicca.



Many thanks to all who are donating their time, talents, expertise, and resources to raise funds towards the work in the community of the churches of the Cerne valley.