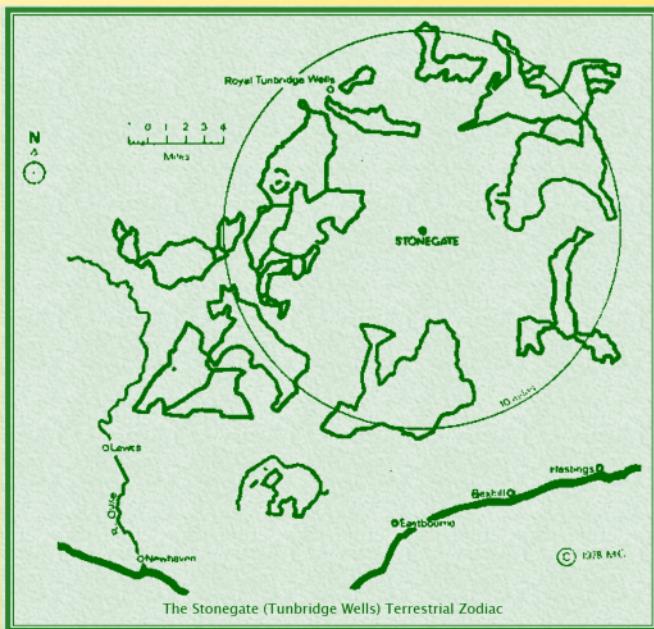


The Sussex Zodiac

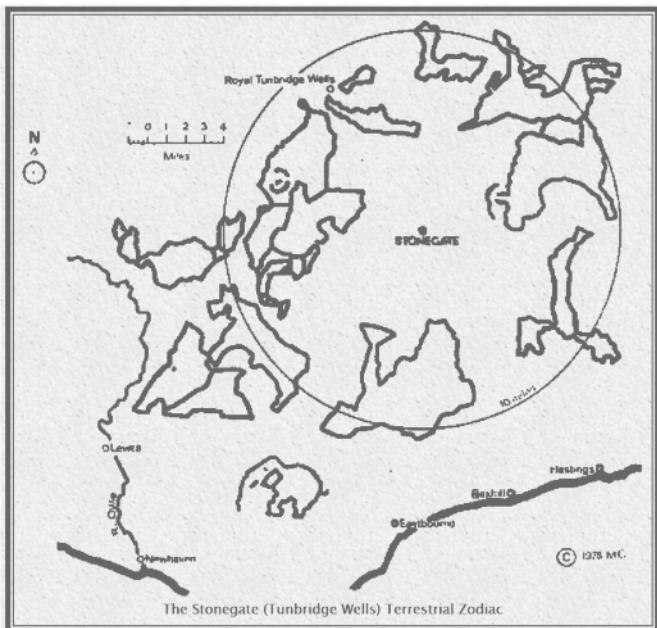


By
Mike Collier

The Sussex Zodiac

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THE TERRESTRIAL ZODIAC is one of the places where earth mysteries and strange phenomena meet and wink at each other. Those whose personalities are dominated by cynicism will sneer at the concept/phenomena out of hand. But such unconsidered criticism should be ignored. Reality is relative and so strange in places that to dismiss things without consideration is to live in ignorance and illusion. The earth mysteries - strange phenomena - paranormal fields lie at the edge of reality. Those who familiarise themselves with their contents may well gain a better grasp on reality, in total.

Ed. The Zodiac and its signs is Scriptural, His story written in the sky and reflected on earth.

Mr. Collier has spent several years researching this zodiac on the map and in the field with the dowsing rods. His research so far is not definitive but is probably the beginning of a life time's work. It is published here for the first time.

The Zodiac

"The secret source of Avalon's mystique, the bubbling fount of all its legends, the magnet that drew so many saints, kings and pilgrims, is all the more mysterious for being invisible". This is the Glastonbury Zodiac, claimed by it's discoverer, Katherine Maltwood, as at once the oldest and biggest of Britain's antiquities. This great goemantic circle of giant effigies, ten miles across and thirty miles round, has so far been totally ignored by cautious Establishment archaeologists. It is Too Big to be Seen, Too Good to be True:

Modelled in relief by hills and lesser contours, outlined in part by streams which follow these round, the effigies are essentially natural - yet the outlines have been completed by man through the ages, by roads, paths and canals and embellished by tumuli, ramparts and lynchets at the nodal points. Preposterous! Maybe, but there on the map are the twelve signs of the zodiac in correct order in a circle....

I can think of no better introduction to a piece on these rather elusive signs than the above, written by Mary Caine in "The Glastonbury Giants or Zodiac" (An Arthurian Reflection) - ((Glastonbury - edited by Anthony Roberts)).

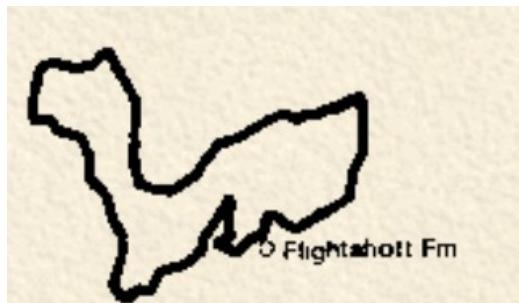
When Mrs Maltwood discovered it half a century ago, she equated the figures with the Arthurian legends and suggested that the circle was the original Round Table. Since then other zodiacs have been found, at Pumpsaint in Wales, Nuthampstead in Hertfordshire and Kingston in Surrey. There is literature available on these by Lewis Edwards, Nigel Peninck and Mary Caine respectively. There are also others that have been written about, albeit some of them rather tentatively.

It appears that we have one in Sussex, overflowing into Kent and not far from the Surrey border; roughly twice the size of the Glastonbury circle.

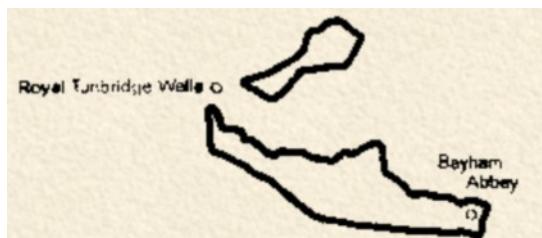
It is twenty miles across and virtually on the same latitude, centred around the village of Stonegate. (A pin was put into the map at Stonegate and another at Glastonbury and a line between them actually went through Stonehenge).

However, do not regard this as too accurate, it is merely a point of interest). The zodiac stretches from Danehill in the west to Bodiam in the east and from Hellingly in the south to Tunbridge Wells in the north.

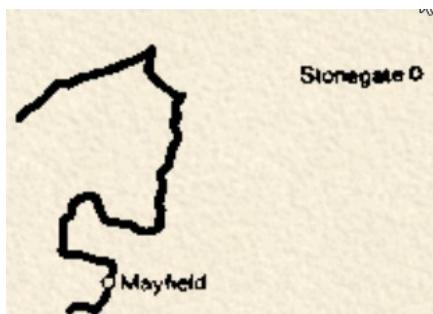
It should be noted that there are some very significant place names, a real phenomenon that does occur in this and associated 'earth mysteries', for want of a better phrase.



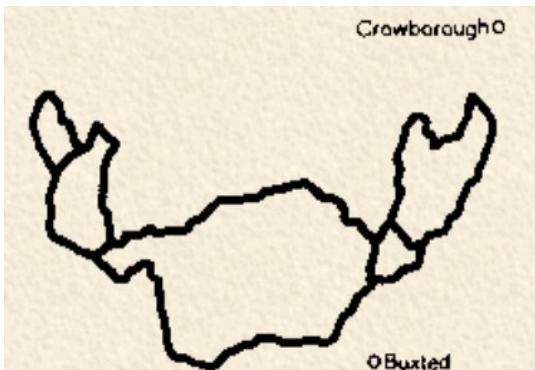
AQUARIUS: As at Glastonbury, the phoenix. Flightshott farm nearby.



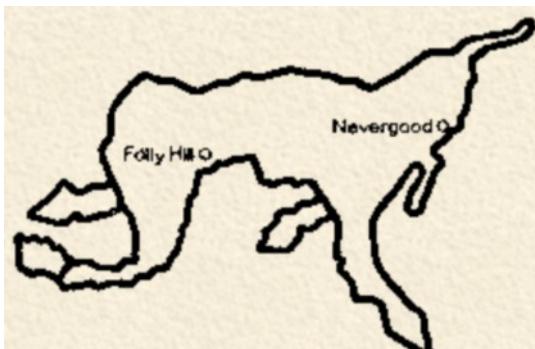
PISCES: A whale with the lovely Bayham Abbey at its mouth and Jews Wood in its belly. There is another fish attached.



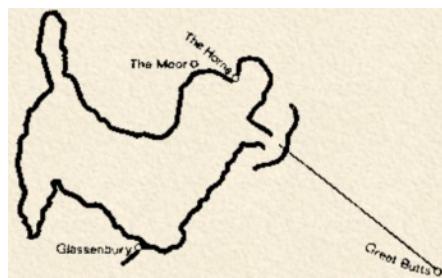
TAURUS: At Mayfield an outline of just head and hoof. This is common amongst some zodiacs instead of the whole animal.



CANCER: Here is a superb outline of a crab; this is very significant as so far not one has emerged on any other zodiac.



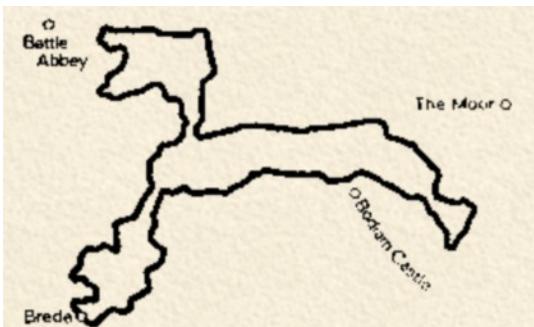
CAPRICORN: The figure associated with Pan and the earthy side of Nature is the goat-unicorn and has a satyr-like look and position with a virile appearance. Nearby is Mount Easy. This extraordinary figure has a shortage of churches and contains an H. M. Detention Centre and the incredibly named Worms Hill, Folly Hill and Nevergood.



SAGITTARIUS: The front of the figure is incomplete owing to lack of research; after all, someone once said that a zodiac contained a lifetime's work. It appears to be a Centaur, or mounted Archer, firing an arrow. Right on the head is the name The Horns which may put this in the sphere of Cernunnos but in Glastonbury it is the Arthur Figure. If the arrow is fired it hits a chapel where the map says Great Butts. Surely like Ramslye and Lions Green these place names must be beyond coincidence.



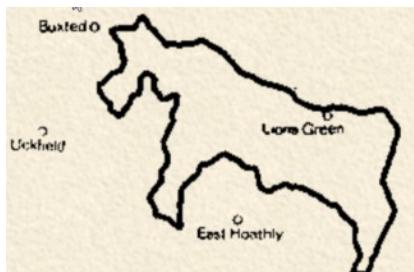
GEMINI: A giant sitting in a boat. The boat in these cases is usually named the Argo Navis, certainly there is Argos Hill nearby. In the body of the boat is Skippers (of the boat) Hill, Sleeves Wood on the arm and the aptly named Cross-in-Hand where the hand is holding a cross of some description.



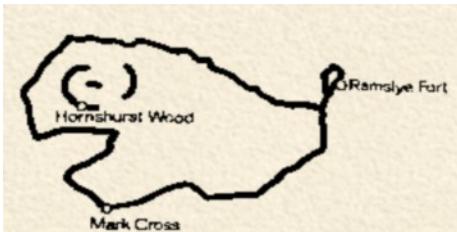
SCORPIO: An outline of the Scorpion; a water sign with the watery Bodiam Castle adjacent. As befits the death sign, it is near to the site of the Battle of Hastings.



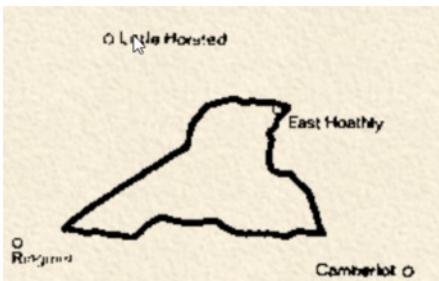
Lions Green Where there used to be Stone Lions



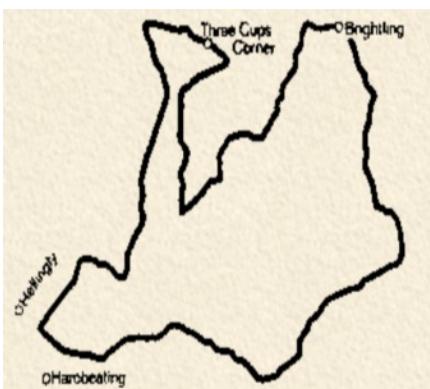
LEO: Lion's Green is in this figure with two stone lions outside a large house and lion named houses nearby. In spite of this it really looks like a hound rather than a lion; in a Babylonian zodiac this would have been so. It is worth remarking here that some of the Leo signs in the other zodiacs do not look very leonine either.



ARIES: A sitting ram with the head looking southwards towards the sea. It's tail is formed by an ancient site at Ramslye where there is the rocky formation High Rocks, well worth a visit. The horns are marked by circular paths in a wood called, of all things, Hornshurst Wood.



LIBRA: Usually represented by a dove in the middle of the circle instead of the scales but here appears to be absent. This sign was, after all, a late arrival, in Caesar's time by the Romans, and grew from one of the claws of the Scorpio. Perhaps the crow below Scorpio is something to do with this.



VIRGO: The same as in most other zodiacs, the goddess is holding a sheaf. She has been associated with a hare and here, nearby, is Harebeating. The lower part of her outline appears to be near the top of a crow's head between her and Scorpio, note the nearby town of Crowhurst. There is a precedent for this as there is a crow in the Hebden Bridge Zodiac. What is the significance of the name on her sheaf, Three Cups Corner?



Left: High
Rocks
(Ramslye) in
Aries



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