

Mave Marian, The Sherwood Dowser

ADVENTURES OF A SHERWOOD DOWSER PART 3 - HUCKNALL ST MARY MAGDALENE AND BYRON'S GRAVE

A few days after communicating with the poet Byron through a portal in a Yew Tree at Newstead Abbey (see Adventures of a Sherwood Dowser Part 2) I decided to try to use the portal remotely by simply visualising it. It worked and I was given the message, "Meet me at my grave tomorrow". Portals and spirits are something very new to me, in the past I have clung to the pseudo-scientific subject of earth energies and drawing straight lines on maps where I felt on safer ground, but after a year of Lockdown Zooms where I was connecting with people who have all sorts of amazing talents, I was keen to expand my horizons and delve deeper into the more spiritual side of dowsing.

Despite wanting to be buried with his beloved dog at Newstead Abbey, Byron (1788-1824) is buried in the Byron family vault at the Church of St Mary Magdalene, at Hucknall, around 2.5 miles south of Newstead Abbey. So, the following day that was where I headed for. I had dowsed what time to arrive so was non too happy to find a service was about to start in the Church and I couldn't gain access the grave for another hour.

Since my appointment with Byron had been delayed, I decided to do a bit of earth energy dowsing around the graveyard to see if I could find the Alignment or Ley that I had plotted on the OS map as connecting Annesley Old Church to Hucknall Church and several other locations (see Adventures of a Sherwood Dowser Part 1). I did find a Ley going through the Church, but it turned out to be coming from the wrong direction and couldn't be the line I had drawn on the OS map. However, I was able to confirm that while the service was taking place energy started to flow along the Ley that I had found effectively turning it into what Dowser's term an "Energy Ley". So perhaps there had been good reason for me to arrive early after all.

As the service was drawing to a close, I sat in the shade under a lovely Holm Oak tree to cool off and was amused when a Churchwarden approached me and said, "Are you the lady who is waiting for someone to show her around the Church?". Little did she know how true that was, but that someone was the spirit of Byron.

The Byron family Vault is directly below the Chancel of the Church and covered with a wooden box. The (Energy) Ley I had found outside ran right through it. Here, I connected with Byron again. He showed me the various memorials erected to him that formed part of a Byron Heritage Trail and repeated the message he had given me at Newstead Abbey - "History hath much misunderstood me, I ne'er craved any of this". He told me he didn't want to be buried here and begged me to take his remains back to Newstead. I had to explain that I wasn't Lara Croft and couldn't just go tomb raiding

and put his bones in my backpack. He relented and instead asked me to return to Annesley Old Church to help him find his beloved Mary, by which I assumed he meant his childhood sweetheart, Mary Ann Charworth, who had been the heiress to Annesley Hall and the Charworth estates.

Back at Annesley Old Church Byron showed me where he used to walk with Mary and told me that contrary to history's claim that Mary did not return his affection, the truth was that her family didn't wish them to marry. Byron said that Mary's spirit was trapped in the ruined Annesley Hall and asked me to help release her, which hopefully I did.

Since I had found myself back at Annesley Old Church, I decided I may as well do a bit more earth energy dowsing. However, at that moment a group of ramblers turned up. Being rather hot and bothered, I wasn't in the mood to explain what dowsing was to a group of walkers so headed for the Beacon Tree at the other end of the churchyard and sat beneath it out of sight. While I was sitting there, I decided to play Tim Wheeler's "Gayatri Mantra" on my phone and was delighted to find that the (Energy) Leys radiating from the Beacon Tree immediately sprang into life as if someone had flicked a switch and turned the generator on. It felt similar to how the one in Hucknall Church yard had transformed during the service earlier that morning, but this time more powerful.

The ramblers eventually rambled away, but my freedom to wander around wagging sticks and flapping my arms around was soon curtailed again when two ladies arrived, one of them dragging a bright orange wheeled suitcase behind her. They disappeared purposefully into the ruined Church. I sat under a Copper Beech tree for a while wondering what on earth was going on and remembering the newspaper reports I had read of "witchcraft" being practiced in the area. I wondered if I should leave before I was turned into a toad or worse. Eventually curiosity got the better of me and I peered through one of the window holes to find a photo shoot was in progress. The model had long red hair and was wearing a beautiful maroon goddess-style velvet dress, making her look like the traditional depictions of Mary Magdalene from whose Church at Hucknall I had just come.

When you put out to the universe that you want to learn about something new, be it Portals, Spirits or "Beacon Trees", the universe often seems to rearrange itself so you will have the opportunity to learn these things, albeit in unexpected and cryptic ways that often involve you being on the look-out for synchronicities.

The captions below the photographs tell the story of my adventure and the Earth Energy research that I did in more detail.

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<https://dowsingsherwood.wixsite.com/website/dowsing-sherwood>



IMAGE 1 - The Church of St Mary Magdalene at Hucknall is on the site of a former Saxon Church and its oldest parts date from 1180. It is thought that around 1050 a clearing was made in Sherwood Forest for the erection of a hall, built 200 yards south of the present church tower. The hamlet, in a forest clearing of tall oaks, became 'Hall in the Oaks', and in the Anglo-Saxon language an oak was 'ock', becoming 'Hockenall', later Hucknall.

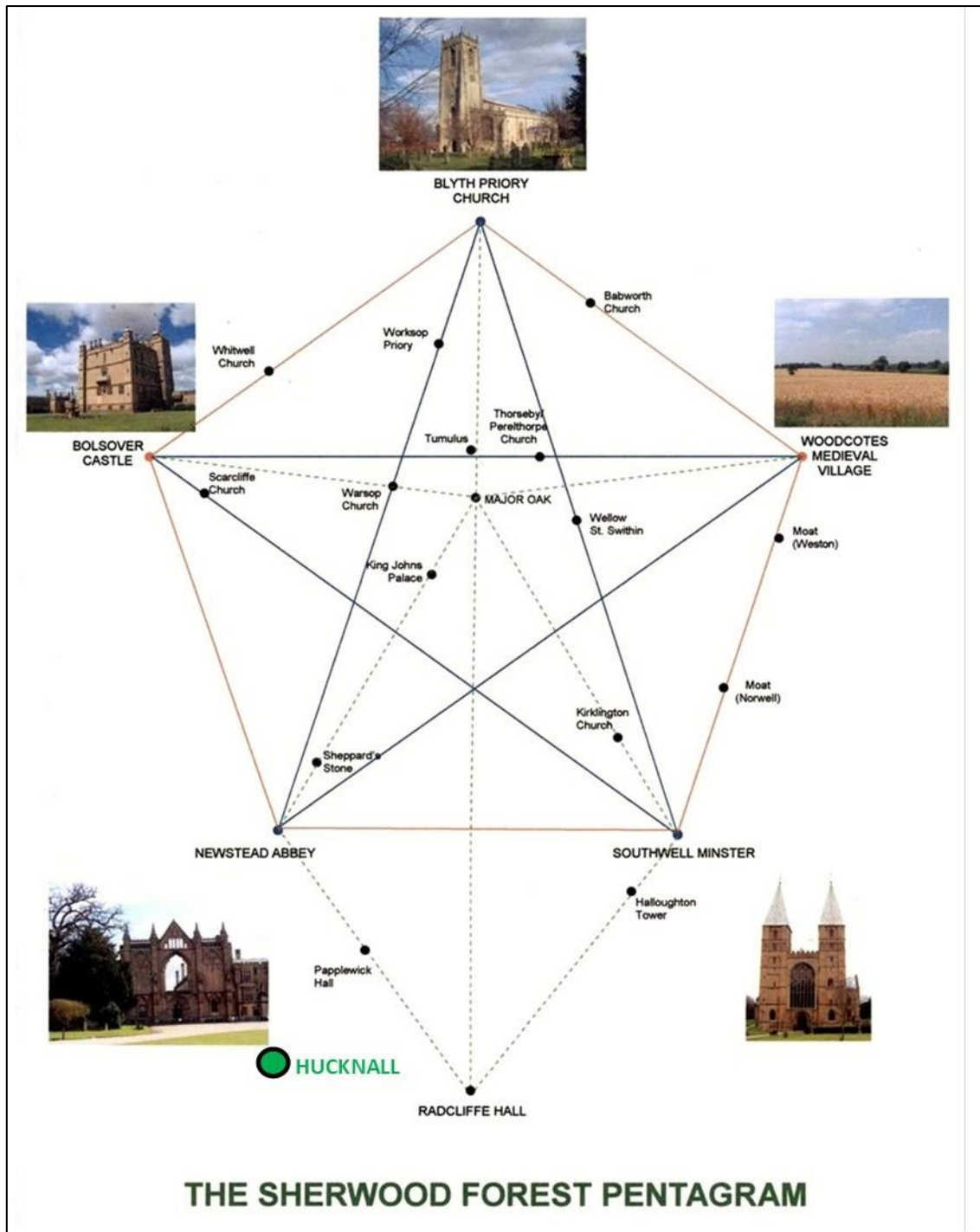


IMAGE 2 - The Sherwood Forest pentagram with Bolsover Castle in the west, Blyth Priory Church in the north, Woodcoates deserted medieval village in the east, Southwell Minster in the SE and Newstead Abbey in the SW. The Major Oak, which is the guardian tree of Sherwood Forest, is in the centre. The green circle shows the location of Hucknall around 2.5 miles south of Newstead Abbey.



IMAGE 3 - Part of the information board outside St Mary Magdalene Hucknall showing how proud the locals are of the Byron heritage. However, Byron's spirit told me "History hath much misunderstood me, I ne'er craved any of this". I later found that his memoirs had been burned shortly after his death, so his side of the story has never been told.



IMAGE 4 - The (Energy) Ley came across the marketplace car park (left) and through this tree to the NE end of the Church. It was running in a straight horizontal line one metre above ground level. It entered the Chancel of the Church at a protruding right angle in the stonework. It felt like a tube or cable around 5cm in diameter and initially had no detectable energy flowing along it.



IMAGE 5 - The (Energy) Ley entered the Church from the NE and flowed diagonally across the Chancel and right through the wooden box that had been made to cover the entrance to the Byron family vault.



IMAGE 6 - After exiting the Church near the south door, the (Energy) Ley continued into the graveyard heading SW. It passed through several trees and monuments maintaining its height of one metre above the ground. It passed diagonally through this square-based monument (centre) entering at one right-angled corner and exiting at the opposite one as shown in the insert.



IMAGE 7 - During the Church service I found the (Energy) Ley expanded in width. From an initial 5cm in diameter at rest it became around 50cm diameter, ten times its former size. I could detect energy spiralling around the core which hadn't previously been there. I counted 2.5 loops to the spirals which translated as 2 bands either side of centre when dowsed in 2D at ground level. There seemed to be two spirals within it flowing in opposite directions (shown as red and indigo here). It appeared that a combination of prayer and hymn singing had energised this normally dormant Ley to turn it into what Dowisers call an "Energy Ley".



IMAGE 8 - The (Energy) Ley passing through St Mary Magdalene at Hucknall from NE to SW. Unfortunately, the wrong direction for the one I thought might have been coming from Annesley Old Church, but interesting to dowse, nonetheless.

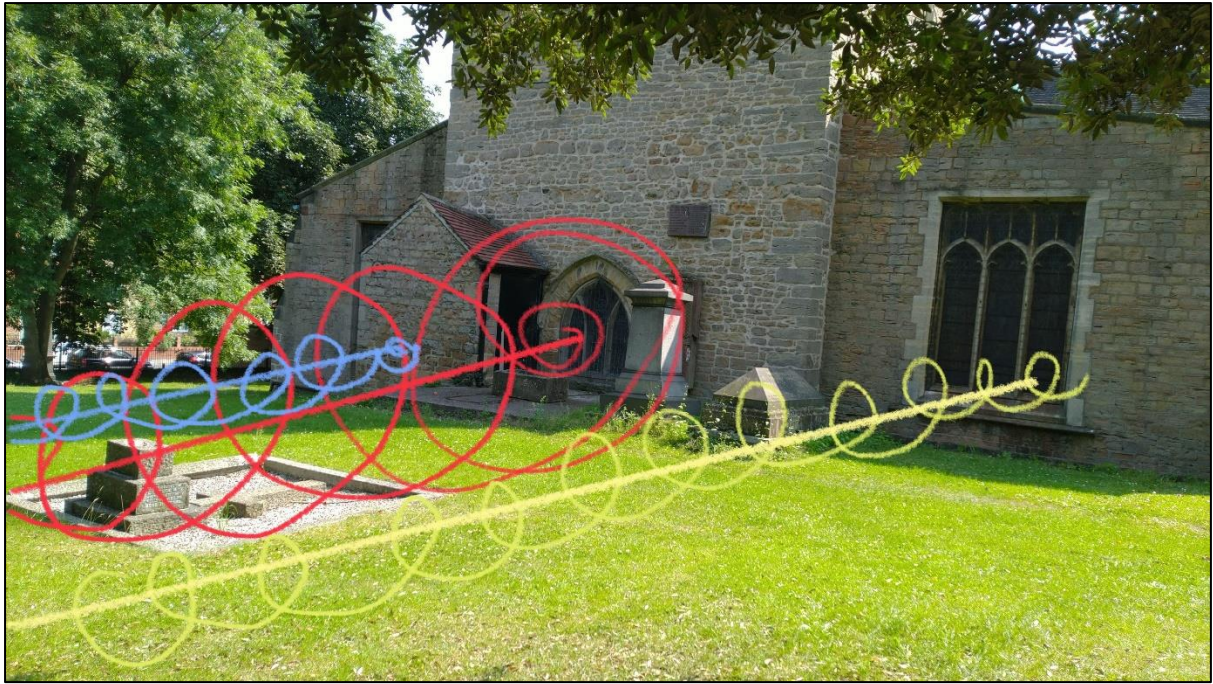


IMAGE 9 - As I sat in the shade of a Holm Oak tree, I became aware of a spiralling Energy "Dragon" Current flowing out of the west end of the Church. These differ from Energy Leys as they weave a meandering path whereas Energy Leys are straight. It was comprised of one central current (shown here in red) with an 'attendant' or what Adrian Incledon-Webber calls a 'shepherd line' at either side of it (blue and yellow). This was therefore effectively three spiralling energy currents working together as one with the energy in the centre being wider and more powerful than that at the edges.

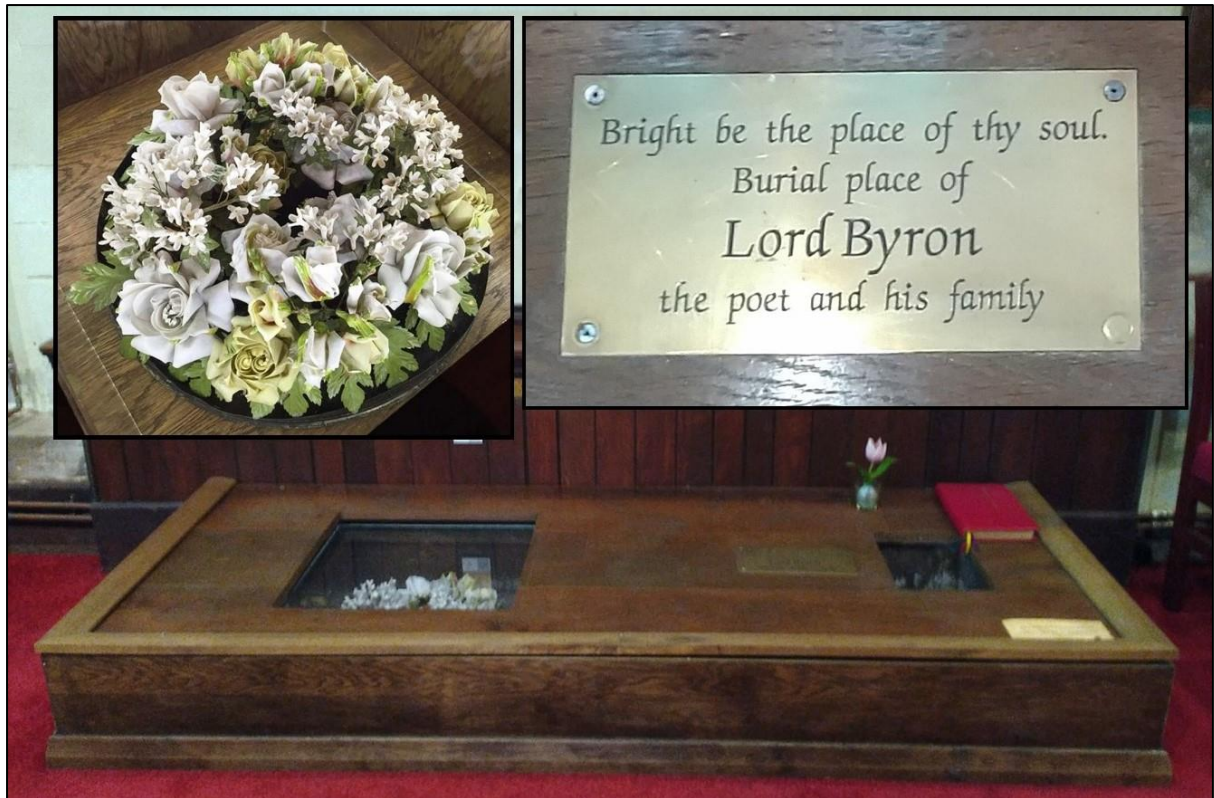


IMAGE 10 - The Byron Vault lies beneath the Chancel and this wooden box with brass plaque has been placed above it. Inside is displayed a ceramic copy of the wreath used at Byron's funeral. The glass spy hole on the right looks down onto Byron's coffin. Here the spirit of Byron connected with me once more and asked me to take his bones back to Newstead. Once he realised that I couldn't do this he asked me to meet him back at Annesley Old Church and help him look for his beloved Mary.



IMAGE 11 - Byron's first love was Mary Ann Charworth (1786-1832) who was a distant cousin two years his senior and the heiress to Annesley Hall. He dedicated several of his earlier poems to her. However, Byron was merely a boy Lord at the time who had not yet made his name as a poet and had inherited a ruined estate together with his Great-Uncle's debts, so Mary's family were understandably looking for a more suitable union for her.



IMAGE 12 - The fire-damaged Annesley Hall with the SE corner of Annesley Old Church graveyard on its high mound to the right and a possible entrance to a crypt or cellar below. Byron told me how he and Mary used to walk together in the grounds and amongst the graves. Annesley Hall is said to be one of the most haunted buildings in Nottinghamshire. Hopefully it now has one less ghost.



IMAGE 13 - When I played Tim Wheater's "Gayatri Mantra" the (Energy) Leys coming from the Beacon Tree at Annesley Old Church expanded even more than they had during the Church service at Hucknall. What was initially a 5cm diameter hollow tube became 100cm wide (20 times its initial width) with spiralling energy inside it. It seemed that the sort of healing music created by sound healers such as Tim Wheater is more powerful as far as earth energies are concerned than that generated by a Church service.



IMAGE 14 - This image of the Triple Goddess energy amongst the trees reminds me of how the three spiralling energies in the Dragon current worked together as one (see Image 9). The figure in the bottom right also reminds me of traditional depictions of the Mary Magdalene archetype (who is often depicted as pregnant) and also just happens to look exactly like the model in the photo shoot at Annesley Old Church.

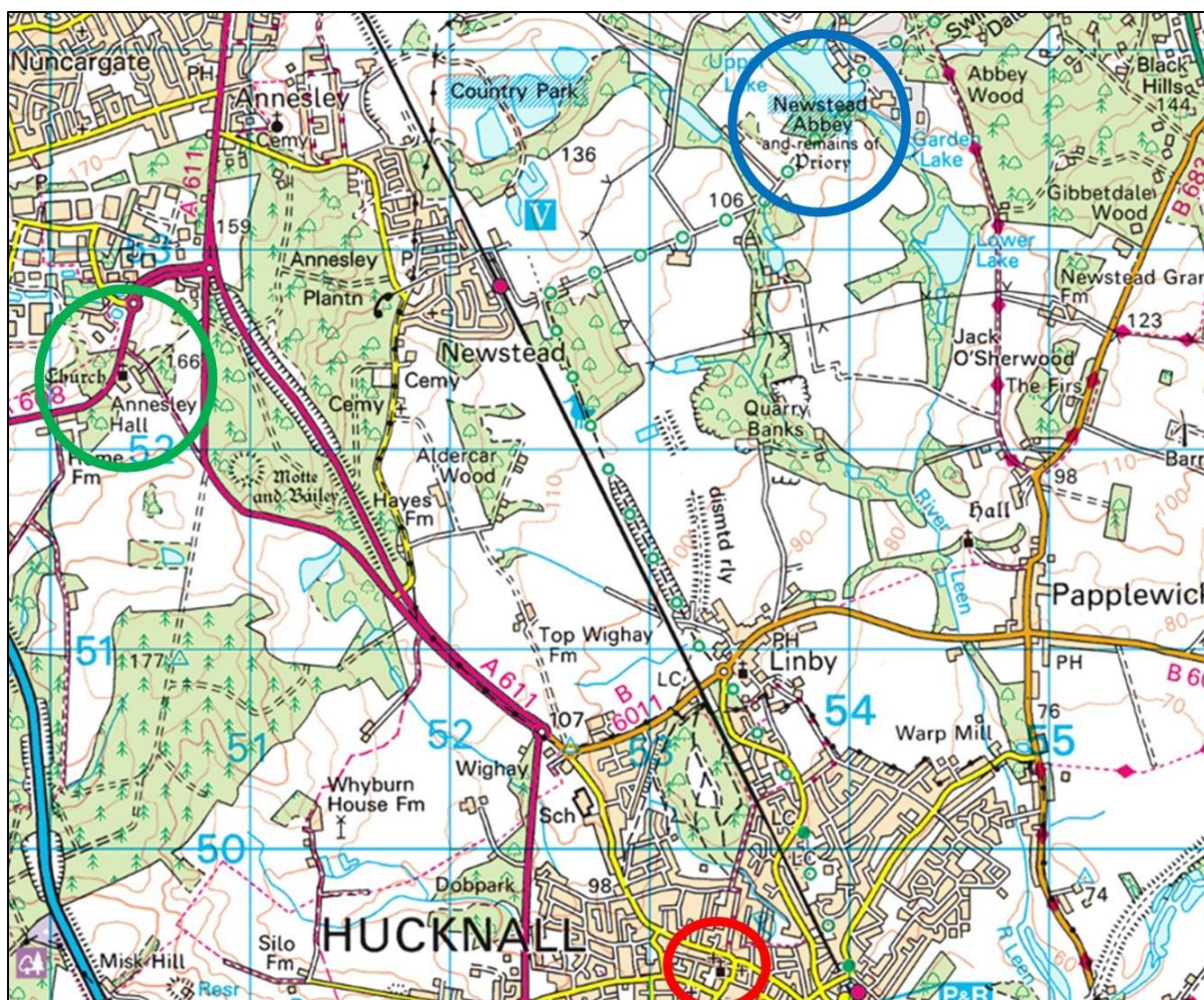


IMAGE 15 - Ordnance survey map showing the location of Hucknall Church (red circle) relative to Annesley Old Church & Hall (green circle) and Newstead Abbey (blue circle).

Grid Reference SK 53205 49458

GPS Co-ordinates 53.039444 N -1.206389 W



IMAGE 16 - My original project was to explore the Earth Energies in significant locations around the Sherwood Forest Pentagram, but it seems to have turned into a magical mystery tour led by the spirit of the Bard of Sherwood. Be careful what you ask for when you make your desire to learn about new things known to the universe. Once you open a portal to look inside a Beacon Tree you may find yourself in a dowsing Wonderland and if you turn around quickly enough you may even spot a rabbit and a dormouse taking tea with a Hatter.