

Goddess Temple News

Imbolc 2017

Donations Welcome



*The Goddess Temple,
2-4 High Street,
Glastonbury, BA6 9DU
www.goddess temple.co.uk*



Working with Bridie, Brighde, Brigid inevitably invites you to have a look into the ways and traditions of the Celtic People. She was the great Goddess for the Celts and with them She travelled through a big part of Europe, as they were always on the run for the Romans, to finally end up in the far Western places of civilisation like Scotland and Ireland and even more so the Western Islands of these lands.

I love the many, many legends and myths there are about Brigid. They seem never ending and everybody has a little different way of interpreting and applying these stories. If you look to them from a Goddess perspective, you will find other truths and wisdom than when you listen to them in a Christian context and without a doubt the Druids will find other depths in Her tales.

One thing I have learned, journeying with Brighde, is that truth can be very fluid. The way I see Her, the way I hear Her call me, whisper Her wisdom to me, the way I feel

Her love and follow Her as She guides me, can be totally different to how somebody else perceives Her. Both ways can however be very true and hold a deep truth and connection for each of us!

It makes me wonder how the Celtic People perceived Her. Why was She so important to them, that they named so many places of nature, like rivers and springs, but also places of people, towns and cities after Her. Why did She speak to them especially?

I am not trying to presume that I am in any way an expert when it comes to Celtic history and tradition. These ponderings are just my truths, my interpretations. But when I try to travel back in my mind to those times, it feels to me that the Celts lived in difficult times. Trying to find a place to call home, to settle and live in peace, but again and again being driven away by the growing force of the Romans.

Maybe it was that Brigid inspired them to carry on whatever. I have a deep admiration for Celtic artwork and I tend to melt when I hear an Irish or Scottish jig. There is so much mystery and beauty in their creations, it really touches my soul. It feels profoundly uplifting, a real celebration of their deepest being. Could it be that through Brigid's inspiration,

the Celts could create home in themselves, wherever they were?

Or could it be that Brigid was their Beacon of Light? As great Goddess of Fire, the Fiery Arrow, Mother of the Hearth Fires, Keeper of the Flame, Patroness of Smithcraft; did She inspire them to see light even in the darkest places, to move through the difficult times in the conviction that there were better days to come? That somewhere they would find their home, a place to light their hearths forever?

I will probably never know why Brigid was so important to the Celts. But it is not hard to imagine, especially now at the time of Imbolc, that Brigid was and still is a Goddess of Hope. As each year we welcome Her into our homes, when we light the Hearth Fires from Her Sacred Flame, She brings back the light, She inspires us to start creating and celebrating beauty in life again, after being dormant and in the dark during the winter; Brigid invites us to come back home... to ourselves!

*Bright Imbolc Blessings!
Marion Brigantia, Priestess of Brighde
www.marionbrigantia.com*

**Priestess/Priest
of
Brighde Training**
Glastonbury Goddess Temple Teachings

A wonderful two year journey of healing, transformation
and reclaiming yourself as a Priestess or Priest of Brighde.

Starts 3-5 February 2017



with
Priestess of Brighde and Avalon
Marion Brigantia



For more information/booking:
marionbrigantia@outlook.com
www.marionbrigantia.com
www.goddess temple teachings.co.uk

Bridie, Maiden Goddess

The promise of Spring

by Dawn Kinsella, Melissa Mother,
Priestess of Avalon, Priestess of Rhiannon

February... can you feel it? That fresh energy of waking up as we notice the days staying lighter a little longer, lambs in the fields frolicking and the first of the snowdrops emerging their pearly heads through the frost to gladden the heart. How glorious to see flowers again! It seems so long since we were blessed with stem and petal growing randomly in their clumps amongst the bare trees. Mother Earth begins to hear the heart song of the sun, like a lover kissing the beloved so she may join him and languidly uncurl from winters sleep.

This is the time of Bridie, Maiden Goddess in her seasonal aspect of the land awakening. Danu, The old Woman of Winter and Solstice, ancient Caltech of stone who holds the energy of stillness and death, slowly gathers her cloak of ice and snow as she passes back into the Northern gateway, from whence she came. She makes way for the Maiden Goddess who strikes the land with her fiery staff, creating a shout in nature... 'wake up wake up!' The promise of spring is still a distant echo clinging to winters chill, but we are feeling the awakening even so... This is the time of Imbolc, a fire season on the great wheel, when the year is as young as a maiden and awakening. Imbolc means 'yews milk' and in ancient times our ancestors would bless the land with the first of the yews milk, asking the Mother Goddess for a fertile crop for the coming year. It is a time for all things beginning anew. Growth, manifestations that were perhaps seeded and dreamed of in winters dark, projects begin to take on the energy of form... all things can begin again.

This year we are blessed to have had our first Sacred Marriage of 2017 in the Goddess Temple at Imbolc. Fresh and sweet with promises of love eternal and new lives beginning together as a Sacred Couple. Matt and Amelie are the first couple to have, as part of their bespoke marriage, the sacred anointing ceremony on the eve of their marriage. A powerful ceremonial event with Priestesses and Priest of Avalon that brings the divine feminine and sacred masculine into alignment, culminating with the bride stepping into the role as priestess and anointing her husband to be as he takes on the role of her King Stag. This is based very loosely on the Heiros Gamos and is strongly associated with deep Magdalene energies. This ceremony focuses on bringing together the masculine and feminine in their sacred form. It is an alchemy of love, making the couple spiritually ready for their sacred marriage the next day and creating the invocation of the heart, the centre of love, here in Avalon the heart chakra of the world. For us as Priestesses and Priest, myself, Sharlea Sparrow and Trevor Nuthall, this is a great honour to hold this deeply sacred space for beloveds.

If you would like more details of this ceremony, please see our website, under Pre-Wedding Ceremonies, or contact Dawn Kinsella T: 0776 0775 733 / E: dawnkinsella@hotmail.co.uk

Emotional Healing Weekend

Friday May 12th eve, Saturday 13th, Sunday 14th
at The Goddess Hall, Glastonbury.

with Sue Quatermass, Priestess of Avalon.

Includes breath-work and body awareness –
to access and release fragments of life experience
and body sensations that live in us and through us
as emotional and psychological wounding.

£100 for the weekend (£50 deposit req.)

For further information and to request a booking
form please email: sue.quatermass@virgin.net



Goddess Temple Weddings Experience Day

by Dawn Kinsella, Melissa Mother, Priestess of Avalon, Priestess of Rhiannon

In the spirit of newness and all things beginning anew we are pleased to announce our Goddess Temple Weddings Experience Day – Saturday 11 March 2017.

We are offering all you Beloveds a magnificent weekend with us on a magical tour... a journey of love to give you a taste of your Sacred Pagan/Goddess Marriage experience... a whole day dedicated to the sacredness of love.

We will meet in the morning at Goddess House... an exquisite house with sacred rooms dedicated to Goddess, a space of deep relaxation and healing. There will be a tour of the house, sound bath and journey, followed by tea and cake. Then a beautiful walk on the Land with our Priest of Avalon and Head Wedding Melissa Trevor Nuthall. Trevor offers the 'Blessings on the Land' Walks for our couples and wedding parties, this is a very popular option that other couples have chosen as part of their marriage experience. Trevor is most knowledgeable of Tree lore and the Sacredness of the landscape of Avalon, the mysteries and symbolism in the land. This will be followed by free time for the rest of the afternoon. We then meet again for an evening in the Goddess Temple.

Come and experience the beautiful Goddess Temple and meet the Wedding Team as we greet you with bubbly and strawberries, as you relax on soft sheepskins and drink in the candlelight, allow the peaceful flow of loving energies to

enfold as we will entertain you with inspiring talks, wedding ideas for your complete wedding experience and a demonstration of our Handfasting ceremony. The Temple will be dressed in her wedding finery and you will get a real sense of how it will be on your magical day... This is a day to remember and inspire you.

This day is FREE of charge but there is limited availability, so please book your place. Contact Iona Jones: 0781 3082 195 / iona.jones@live.co.uk



Goddess House

Where are we now?

by Kathy Jones, Creative Director
Glastonbury Goddess Temple and trainings

It is ten months since we first opened our doors at Goddess House and began to offer our healing skills to the public. I am so grateful to everyone who has made this possible, who has given so much time and energy to making Goddess House such a beautiful healing space. Thank you to Angie Twydall, Mike Jones, Bee Baganz-Dickinson, Marion van Eupen, Olivia Church, Nandini Gibbins, Mandie Thorne, Marisa Picardo, Mary Bruce, Karen Hearn, Rachel Harris, Annie Sapsead, Anna-Saqqara Price, Stephanie Mathivet, Becky Johansson, Lorraine Pickles, Mohini Dasi, Ann Perelsman, Iona Jones, Gwyneth Robbins, Dawn Kinsella and all the partners, family and friends who helped us transform the House in the first months, and to all our helpful volunteer Melissas. Our world is so in need of healing at this time and we all wish to provide a Goddess-centred healing service in the truest sense of the words.

At the beginning we just dived in and began to decorate the building and set up the different workshop and healing rooms, without much preparation, but with a lot of Her inspiration. It has taken time

to see what the House needs to work properly, developing the systems and procedures which benefit everyone, so that we become the great loving Motherworld Enterprise we want to be.

Goddess House offers dedicated Healing Practitioners a beautiful Goddess-centred space in which to practice, with lovely healing rooms supervised by Olivia our House Weaver, who promotes all therapies and practitioners, organises House reception, marketing, payment and credit card facilities, money and room management. We have House cleaners, gardeners, group meetings, supervision, support and practice development. All these factors allow healers to practice their specialised healing therapies, to earn their livings as healers, and (for those who are) as priestesses.

The House costs each year are high as we rent the building and it is a new enterprise. We receive income from group room bookings and from therapist bookings. The Healing centre has some way to go in becoming self-sufficient, but we are optimistic that in the next year each therapist's personal client base will develop and grow with their experience. It is part of our plan to invite more therapists to join us, bringing their regular clients with them so that more rooms are booked more often and we are able to cover our costs. At the moment Goddess House is greatly supported in its development by the other successful activities of Glastonbury Goddess Temple.

We provide high quality healing therapies from experienced and qualified practitioners. Over the last ten months we have been building our healing team and are proud of the commitment and dedication of the people who are working in the House.

Our most popular therapy at the moment is Goddess-centred holistic massage, but we offer many different kinds of massage – Full Body Aromatherapy, Back massage, Swedish, Hot Stone, Lomi Lomi, Goddess, Womb, Facial, as well as Indian Head Massage and Reflexology. Two new massage therapies now on offer are Bamboo Massage, using rolling bamboo batons, with Nandini Gibbins, and Tui Na or Chinese Massage, which works with the meridians of the body, with Ann Pelsmaekers.

We also offer several different kinds of healing and energy work for the well-being and healing of the body, mind and soul, including Reiki, Deep Soul Healing, Crystal and Morgen Transformation healing. We offer herbal medicine with Mary Bruce and Talking Therapies, including Psychotherapy, Counselling, Life Coaching and NLP. There is also advanced Bowen Therapy, Ear Candles, Pampering Manicures, Waxing, and Life and Soul Path readings. What a feast!

Every so often we hold a Ceremonial Healing Day in Goddess House. People are led through a blessing of the elements of Air, Fire, Water and Earth and then receive healing in the Nolava Room, where three to four other people are healed at the same time by four to eight healers working with sound and energy. These provide powerful healings for people. The next Healing Day is 21st January 2017, then May 29th. From February 9th 2017 we are offering weekly Healing by Donation sessions every Thursday afternoon at the House between 1.00 pm and 4.00 pm. Do come and receive the healing you need.

As the Maiden Goddess returns to the earth at Imbolc we send you love and healing blessings from the Heart of Avalon.



Bristol Goddess Group

by Irene Buckingham, Priestess of Brighde



Hello everybody and Happy Imbolc !

We would like to introduce ourselves. We are the Bristol Goddess Group and currently we are : Lorraine Pickles, Vena Bunker, Michele Eve, Nikki Swann, Mary Tidbury, Anna Johanna, and Irene Buckingham.

We are, in the main, priestesses trained and in training with the Glastonbury Goddess Temple and/or are long standing members of Glastonbury Goddess Temple. We all live in the Bristol area. Many of us are Brighde priestesses. We are committed to serve Goddess, and to holding seasonal ceremonies that are Goddess based. Our first ceremony was for Samhain, and took place on the 4th November at the Wild Goose Studio in St Werburghs, which we will continue to use as our 'Pop Up Temple.' On both occasions we have managed to create together a wonderful sacred space. We distributed posters and flyers around Bristol, to make people aware of the opportunity to celebrate the ceremonies together. The turn out at both Ceremonies has been impressive, and we have had lots of positive feedback. .

Our second seasonal ceremony was the Winter Solstice Ceremony. The focus was on entering the stillness, along with the returning of the light. We have been lucky to have been joined for both ceremonies by the Bristol-based Marie France Riboulet, who has in the past played her beautiful harp music at Glastonbury Goddess Temple, where she has also been a Melissa. For the Winter Solstice Ceremony, Marie France told the story of the very first harp, and played some of her sublime harp music, and later accompanying us all in a Solstice version of Silent Night. Lorraine Pickles and Irene Buckingham shared their poems with us, and Michele Eve guided us in a wonderful Meditation about Peace, Healing and Stillness. (Michele has been active in the Glastonbury Goddess Temple for many years, is the organiser of the Temple New Moon Healing, and regularly takes part in the Ceremonial Healing Days.)

Mary Tidbury and Vena Bunker handed out Goddess Cards to everyone, which had a personal message from the Goddess, and we all reflected in stillness on the message. I believe at that moment, we all

could feel Her presence. At the end of our ceremony everyone was given a white candle – representing the coming of the light – and a spiced sachet, with the scent of Yule spices, – representing Mother Earth. A blessing was given by Irene, and the circle was closed, giving thanks to Goddess in all Her aspects.

After the Ceremony, everyone was invited to have mince pies and mulled apple juice, giving people a chance to get to know each other a bit better.

We have set the dates for the rest of the year which are as follows –

Imbolc – Saturday 28th January, Spring Equinox – Saturday 15th April, Beltane – Monday 1st May, Summer Solstice – Sunday 25th June, Lammastide – *summer break*, Autumn – Sunday 1st October, Samhain – Friday 27th October, Winter Solstice – Monday 18th December.

We are planning an open day/afternoon in the spring/summer, and also events such as healing circles, and talks.

We would love to see you at the ceremonies, do join our **Bristol Goddess Group Facebook page**. We all feel that because of its proximity to Glastonbury, Bristol is uniquely placed to forge links with the Glastonbury Temple, but at the same

time we are keen that the Bristol Goddess Group develop its own identity, by both serving the people of Bristol, and by exploring how Goddess reveals Herself within the Bristol area.



Goddess Temple Priestesses

♦ A New Website! ♦

We are a network of International Priestesses and Priests that have all trained with the Glastonbury Goddess Temple.

On the website find:

- ♦ Priestesses/Priests local to you
- ♦ Priestesses/Priests at your travel destination
- ♦ Use the Service Directory to search for:
Handfastings, Baby Namings, Therapists/Healers,
Funeral Care and Moon Lodges.
- ♦ Bespoke Ceremonies and Training Courses
 - ♦ Find Goddess Temples
 - ♦ Discover Goddess Events.

Find us at: www.goddess temple priestesses.com

Email: goddess temple priestesses@gmail.com

Imbolc Poetry

Bridie, The Maiden

The land is stripped back to bark and to bone,
No warmth to be found in this valley of stone
The serenade of winter a howling shriek
From an ancient crone on her mountain peak.

But deep in the darkness, in the slumbering earth
The quickening begins and starts to give birth.
The stirring of springtime in the midst of the cold,
The hope of new beginnings, as yet to unfold.

For here comes the Maiden, the daughter of fire
A goddess of Power who can heal and inspire
Who, turning her back on the harshness of North
Sings to the greenbloods, to bid them come forth

And rising with grace on the wings of a swan
She chases the coldness until it is gone
With Her weapon of victory, the fire of the sun
She secures her sovereignty and her reign has begun.

With a crown on her head and a sceptre in hand
She summons the life-force and striketh the land
And Her love runs outward to waken and stir,
For all the mother's children must rebirth through Her.

For she is the firstborn and mid-wife to all
From planets gigantic to atoms so small,
And She is the furnace in the heart of each star
The spark in the soul of all of us who are.

At the birth of the cosmos, the moment of Om,
It was her voice that echoed and broke into song,
For Inspired by her love and with the tenderest of cries
She sung the universe's first lullabies

For she was the Spirit over the primordial deep
Whose hand and whose voice and fiery heat,
Ordered the atoms into molecular form
Ever more complex so life could be born

And up through the ages, doula was she
Calling our ancestors to crawl from the sea
To come down from the trees and walk on two feet,
And in the times of The Ice Mountain, to make fire, for heat.

She has always been with us and guided us through,
For Bridie, the maiden, is faithful and true,
She is the Queen who quickens our hearts
Who offers us healing, growth and fresh starts

So I call to you my sisters and brothers so dear
And I tell you, most certainly, that the Maiden is here
She who sung the stars into place
Will, if you ask her, show you Her face

For she longs to comfort and hold you so near
To heal all your wounds and sooth away fear
To tell you that you are loved, so deeply, so true
Because you are beautiful, because you are you.

So All Hail the Maiden, lets merriment make
As we welcome the powers of wolf and of snake
And oh Swan Maiden, bless us we pray
With love and inspiration, now and each day.

Naomi Chambers, former Discovery Student

Bridee

Bridee Bridee shining white
Maiden Goddess heralding the light.
Wakening with feathers, flames burning bright.
Twinkling innocence with bells and delight
Gliding into spring in swanlike flight.

Bridee Bridee
Goddess of the hearth – the Celtic Way
We devote our lives to You on Imbolc day.
Sharing Your blessings in the words we pray.
Being Your healer in the world today.

Lynne Sedgmore – Priestess Healer and Temple Melissa

Emerging

I am emerging
Like a tender sprout emerging through the soil
Like the fragile butterfly emerging from its cocoon

I am emerging
Like waking from a winter's slumber
In a dreamy haze
Like the sun emerging from the horizon
Bringing a new day

I am emerging
Tender and fragile
Whole and strong
Fresh and awake
Ready to be who I am and show myself to the world

I am emerging

Elle Hull, Priestess of Avalon

Reclaiming the Path of the Sacred Bee Priestess

After six intensive weekends over one year, I am delighted to say that there are now six newly dedicated Sacred Bee Priestesses. They have learnt the way of the Hive, the gifts and the messages of collapse and dis-ease.

Each Priestess is taking their skills and unique ways out into the world. Here is a flavour of some of our projects:-

Education – for the younger generation and the general public

Art and creativity – a Bee Oracle deck to be released in 2017

Writing – a dystopia novel

Healing – a monthly Bee healing journey to include sound, meditation and movement.

Prayer – compilation of Bee prayers

Courses – New week long intensive in Glastonbury (April 2017) and Portugal (May 2017)

This has been a wonderful year of collaboration, creativity and wisdom. The bees are a template for the Motherworld! May this work flow out to where it is needed. Applications for the one year course, starting in April 2017 are being invited now.

Blessings in the Bees, may they rest over winter.

Angie Twydal

www.theblessed-bee.co.uk : angie@theblessed-bee.co.uk



Support the Goddess Temple

Giving Your Time and Energy

The Goddess Temple is open to the public seven days a week with volunteer Temple Melissas looking after the space while it is open. All kinds of people come to the Temple, some experiencing a Goddess Sacred Space for the first time, and many Goddess pilgrims who come to bathe in Her loving energy, to attend Ceremonies and Healing Days. We always need more volunteer Temple Melissas. If you would like to become a Melissa and can offer two or more hours of your time regularly to care for this beautiful sacred space. Contact Dawn Kinsella – dawnkinsella@hotmail.co.uk.

Become a Temple Madron

Make a monthly standing order donation to the Goddess Temple to help cover our regular monthly costs. Any amount you can donate will support the Temple. As a Temple Madron you will receive our Temple Newsletter four times a year, plus invitations to special yearly Madrons, Friends and Melissa days where Goddess speakers and presenters will delight and entertain you. Please see details on the Temple website: <http://www.goddess temple.co.uk/index.php/how-you-can-help>.

Donations to the Goddess Temple, details –
Lloyds Bank, The Goddess Temple, Sort Code 30-98-28,
Account No. 0583169.

Let us know your address for newsletters by emailing :
info@goddess temple.co.uk.

In Memory of Stephen Patten

At the time of going to press we are saddened to learn of the death of Stephen Patten, who died on 11th January. Steve was a well loved member of the Goddess Community, and he worked as a Melissa at the Conference for the last three years. Here he is (far right) helping to prepare the land for Conference. We miss you Steve, and our love and thoughts are with Michelle his wife. Sara his mother, and Clare his sister. *Lisa and Lorraine, editors.*



Soul Healing



Intensive Healing Course
Six 3-day weekends

With Priestess Healer **Kathy Jones**
March 31st-2nd April – Nov 10th-12th 2017

Learn to heal yourself, your friends and family. Enhance and deepen your natural healing abilities. Connect with your own and other people's deep soul journeys. Explore and expand your consciousness, the energetic worlds and the nature of reality.

Full details:

www.goddess temple teachings.co.uk

Glastonbury Goddess Temple, 2-4 High St,
Glastonbury, BA6 9DU

IICT Accredited Full Body Massage Diploma Course With Nandini Gibbins PhD



Six Weekend Training for beginners and those who wish to start a massage therapy career. Learn how to perform Professional Holistic Massage



Dates: 25th/26th March, 22nd/23rd April,
27th/28th May, 1st/2nd July,
9th/10th September, 21st/22nd Oct.
2017

Course takes place at Goddess House,
Magdalene St, Glastonbury BA6 9EJ

Further Info:

www.goddess temple teachings.co.uk

Goddess House

**Healing & Educational
Centre & Venue**

- * Goddess Healing
- * Aromatherapy Massage
- * Hot Stone/Bamboo Massage
- Herbal Medicine
- * Spiritual Counselling
- * Reflexology/Facials
- * Deep Soul Healing
- * Crystal & Sound Healing
- * Card Readings
- * Tui Na – Chinese massage

Tel 01458 899043
goddesshousehealing@gmail.com

Goddess Circle Dance

**4 day Easter intensive to celebrate Goddess
through dance round the Wheel of the Year
with Hildegard Moonfiredancer**

**10-13 of April 2017, 10:00-17:00 each day
Goddess Hall, Benedict Street, Glastonbury**



Dancing in a circle is a wonderful way of invoking and expressing Goddess in our body. In the circle we feel, held, loved and supported while experiencing Her everchanging energies of the seasons through dancing. The goal of this workshop is to enable you to share the dances with your community.

**more information: www.templedance.net
contact: avalontempel@gmail.com**