

Isis Moon

Volume 2

Spring 2009

Special Dates

JULY

6: Full Moon Gathering at Botanic Park
7: Full Moon at 6.52pm
31: Imbolg

AUGUST

5: Full Moon Gathering at Botanic Park
6: Full Moon at 10.25am
6: Wicca Study Circle
15: Hekate's Supper Ritual

SEPTEMBER

3: Wicca Study Circle
4: Full Moon Gathering at Botanic Park
5: Full Moon at 1.32am
22: Spring Equinox and Temple's observance

OCTOBER

1: Wicca Study Circle
3: Full Moon Gathering at Botanic Park
4: Full Moon at 4.40pm
17: Egyptian Goddess workshop
24-25: Bealtaine Camp
31: Bealtaine

NOVEMBER

3: Full Moon @ 5.44am
5: Wicca Study Circle
21: Dark Goddess workshop

DECEMBER

2: Full Moon @ 6.01pm
3: Wicca Study Circle
12: Temple's Year End BBQ

For more information, please contact:

Temple of the Dark Moon
PO Box 2451
Salisbury Downs SA 5108

Email: darkmoon@ace.net.au
www.templedarkmoon.com

Greetings and Welcome

Greetings everyone and welcome to this special edition of "Isis Moon", an informational newsletter outlining what the **Temple of the Dark Moon** is offering for the remainder of this year. Despite Winter being upon us, the Temple has been busy organising a variety of events for the coming months.

To answer the increasing enquiries received about Wicca and magick, from August this year and continuing on the first Thursday evening of each month a **Wicca and Magick Study Circle** will be held until the end of the year. Within this circle, the emphasis will be placed on two vital elements that cannot be gained through the reading of books or submitting to an on-line "chool – that being practical and ritual.

Two Goddess workshops will be held towards the end of the year. In October a day has been set aside to enter the realm of the Pharoahs as we look at and work with various **Egyptian Goddesses** – from the familiar ones of As't (Isis) and Ma'at, to the not so familiar. In November, a special **Dark Goddess** workshop will be held. Throughout this day we will be working and exploring the realms of Goddesses as diverse as Persephone, Pele, Oya, Lilith, Baba Yaga and Hekate.

Speaking of the Goddess Hekate, this year a special ritual and supper will be planned around Her special August date. Positions to attend **Hekate's Ritual and Supper** are limited so you will need to reserve your place quickly.

The Winter **Full Moon Gatherings** have also commenced at the Botanic Park and despite the cold weather, it is a delight to see not only familiar faces returning but also a number of new faces eager to honour the Gods with like minded people.

After much success of the Mid Winter camp, the Temple is planning a **Bealtaine Magickal Retreat** just prior to the commencement of the South Australian fire ban season. Details of this camp, together with all other events is covered in more detail inside.

Despite it being Winter, the **Temple of the Dark Moon** has already planned events for the rest of the year until our closure for the Summer break. I hope that amongst what we are offering, you may find something of interest.

Blessings – Frances
High Priestess

Understanding the Mysteries of Wicca

When Gerald Gardner published "*Witchcraft Today*" back in the 1950s, it is doubtful that he could have dreamed of how popular Wicca would become, especially in the last 10 years. With the increasing number of books, it is little wonder people are getting confused as to what Wicca actually is. Add to this the fact that most of the information available is actually written with little, if any, reference to the Southern Hemisphere.

Since its formation in 1999, the Temple of the Dark Moon has been striving to amend this by offering various workshops, courses and even lectures.

Commencing on the first Thursday evening of the month from August 2009, and running until the end of the year, the Temple of the Dark Moon will be holding a monthly "**WICCA AND MAGICK STUDY CIRCLE**" for those wishing to learn more about the practical side of Wicca and creating magick.

Each month participants will not only be schooled in the basic philosophies that form the foundation of the Wicca religion, but

Catch the Temple of the Dark Moon's High Priestess, Frances, speak at the **Australian Wiccan Conference** – held over the weekend of 18-19 September 2009
<http://2009.wiccanconference.org/>

under the expert and experienced eye of the Temple's own High Priestess, will gain invaluable personal experience with respect to ritual structure, designing specific magickal rites as a solitary as well as when working with others, raising energy and the various forms of healing, concepts of spellcrafting, making talismans and amulets, and much more.

WICCA AND MAGICK STUDY CIRCLE

First Thursday evening of each month
 7.30 pm to 9.30 pm
 Starter Fee: \$20.00
 Monthly Investment: \$10.00 or \$5.00
 plus AWL donation

The aim of the "**WICCA AND MAGICK STUDY CIRCLE**" is also to demonstrate through practical means, aspects of ritual and magick creation that cannot be taught from reading a book or subscribing to an on-line school.

Further, participants of the Study Circle will also be given the opportunity to participate in private Sabbats, Esbats and other events run by the Temple's Inner Court. There may also be the opportunity for participants to actually join the Temple in 2010.

A "starter" fee is required to be included with the registration form. This assists in the preparation of a "starter pack" for each participant that will include the Temple's 30-paged booklet entitled "Practical Wicca" as well as other materials to be used within the course. A monthly charge of \$10.00 or \$5.00 with a donation to the Animal Welfare League will be charged each month.

Positions are limited and registrations close 24 July 2009.

The Goddess and The Goddess House

Since the 1970s there has been an increasing awareness with respect of Goddess spirituality, and not before time! The Divine Feminine has been forgotten about for far too long, in particular in our Western culture. However, She remains available to those who seek Her.

The Goddess House

holds devotional services to honour the Divine Feminine as well as various workshops. Naturally therefore, we are delighted to announce the following two workshops that will be taking place.

On Saturday, 17 October 2009 **The Goddess House** will hold a special one day workshop on **EGYPTIAN GODDESSES**. Spend the day discovering their age old myths, working with and honouring many of these grand ladies who are still popular today. Throughout the day we will be looking at and working with at least eight different Egyptian Goddesses – these will include As't (Isis), Ma'at, Hathor, Nut, and Nephthys just to name a few.

personal transformation and self empowerment. Throughout the day six Goddesses from various mythologies and cultures will be brought to the forefront, their myths and stories discussed, as we use their power and energy to help reshape our lives for the better.

EGYPTIAN GODDESS WORKSHOP

Saturday, 17 October 2009
10.30 am to 4.00 pm
Investment: \$100.00

Both these workshops are designed to be interactive and fun. Participants will be presented with a bound booklet to assist them further with their personal journeys in working with the Goddess and self transformation.

Discounts available of members of the **Temple of the Dark Moon** as well as students of the Wicca and Magick Study Circle.

A 15% discount is also available if both workshops are booked and paid for in full upon registration.

DARK GODDESS WORKSHOP

Saturday, 21 November 2008
10.30 am to 4.00 pm
Investment: \$100.00

MORE GODDESS INFORMATION

Various articles that have been written for "Insight" magazine about the Goddess can be found on **The Goddess House** page of the **Temple of the Dark Moon's** web site.

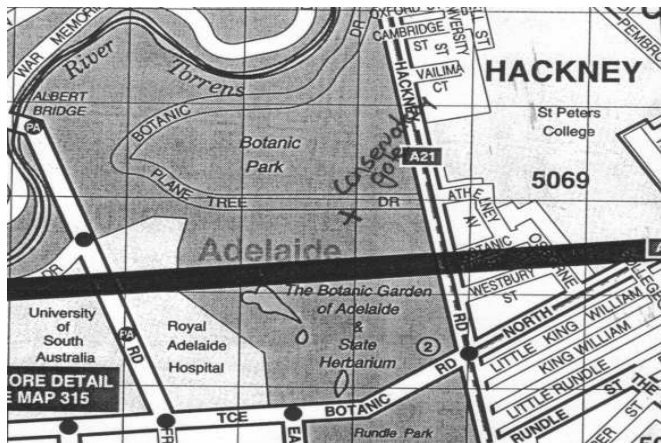


Just following the November dark moon, on Saturday, 21 November 2009 it will be time to look at and work with various guises of **THE DARK GODDESS** as a means of

Join **The Goddess House** Yahoo group
http://au.groups.yahoo.com/group/Goddess_House/join

Full Moon Gatherings

The **Full Moon Gatherings** are held in the beautiful Botanic Park (where Womadelaide is held) during the Winter months. The meeting place is by Conservatory Gates –



about 300 metres up Plane Tree Drive from Hackney Road (see map).

We meet from 7.30 pm and move into the park around 7.45 pm to set up the circle. We commence just prior to 8.00 pm as the ritual will take just approximately 40 minutes.

If you arrive after the ritual has commenced, please wait patiently outside the space until the ritual leader “cuts” you in. This is to avoid disruption to the ritual and disturbance to the other attendees.

Dates for all public Full Moon Gatherings in 2009 are:

- Monday, 6 July at 7.45 pm
- Wednesday, 5 August at 7.45 pm
- Friday, 4 September at 7.45 pm
- Saturday, 3 October at 7.45 pm

These Full Moon Gatherings are free community events that the **Temple of the Dark Moon** has been holding since March 2004. Additional information about these Gatherings can be found on the **Temple of the Dark Moon's** web site:

www.templedarkmoon.com.



Hekate's Ritual and Supper

On Saturday, 15 August 2009, a day held most sacred to the Great Greek Goddess of the Underworld and the Crossroads, the **Temple of the Dark Moon**, together with **The Goddess House**, will be hosting a special ritual and supper in honour of this magnificent Goddess.

A ritual especially designed to invoke and honour this Great Goddess will commence at 5.00 pm. This will then be followed by a Greek inspired feast, contributed by all participants.

Investment: \$5.00 registration fee (to help cover the cost of facilitating this event).

Participants to also bring a Greek inspired plate to share (details provided upon registration) and a can donation to the Animal Welfare League.

Registrations close 1 August 2009. Limited places available.

Contact the **Temple of the Dark Moon** for more information.

Course/Workshop Registrations

All courses, workshops and selected events mentioned in this newsletter are held the **Temple of the Dark Moon's** covenstead which is located at Parafield Gardens (within walking distance from Bus Stop 37, Salisbury Highway). As the covenstead is located at the rear of a private residence, details are provided upon registration.

All workshop registrations must include a minimum \$50.00 deposit with any outstanding balance to be received no later than two weeks prior to the commencement date to enable the production of booklets and other materials.

The **BEALTAINE RITUAL AND CAMP** will be held at an old farmhouse located 10 minutes

drive from Lobethal in Mt Crawford forest. As there will be limited numbers available for both daytrippers as well as overnight attendees, please register your interest promptly to save disappointment.

Bealtaine Celebration Ritual and Camp

Over the weekend of 23-24 October, just prior to the commencement of the South Australian Fire Ban season, the **Temple of the Dark Moon** will be holding a Bealtaine Celebration within the beautiful Mt Crawford forest.

These celebrations will include a Bealtaine ritual, craft making for children and adult alike, forest walks, feasting (both lunch and dinner options), as well as traditional May Pole dancing, and much more.

Daytrippers, feasters and overnight stayers are welcome, with the cost starting from \$30.00.

Fun for the whole family in a beautiful, natural surrounding.

Payment must be received by 9 October 2009.

Limited number of positions available.

Contact the **Temple of the Dark Moon** for more information.

REGISTRATION FORM

Please complete and return to:
Temple of the Dark Moon
PO Box 2451, SALISBURY DOWNS
SA 5108

Name:.....

Address:.....

..... P/Code:

Contact Phone:.....

Email:.....

- Wicca & Magick Study Circle:** \$20.00 enclosed.
- Hekate's Ritual & Supper:** \$5.00 enclosed.
- Egyptian Goddess workshop:** \$50.00 deposit/\$100.00 full payment.
- Dark Goddess workshop:** \$50.00 deposit/\$100.00 full payment.
- Bealtaine Ritual and Camp:** Please send me details.
- Please send me information on further workshops or courses.

Cheques/money orders to be made payable to "F. Billingham".

Temple of the Dark Moon

The Temple of the Dark Moon was established in 1999 in **Adelaide, South Australia** in order to provide accurate information on Paganism (in particular Wicca and Wytchcraft), and magick, as well as occultic arts and metaphysical practices. This is done through a variety of workshops and courses, all of which have been the result of substantial research and experience from many years dedicated to these practices. What sets the Temple of the Dark Moon aside from other groups is that wherever appropriate, the information contained in all workshops and courses has been specifically adapted with the **Southern Hemisphere** perspective in mind.

The tuition offered by the Temple of the Dark Moon is a combination of Alexandrian-based Wicca, traditional Craft and ceremonial magick. The Temple's Inner Circle also explores other Pagan and occult workings with the view of providing each member with as much personal experience as possible.

The Temple of the Dark Moon's founder and High Priestess is **Frances**, who has studied various aspects of Paganism, metaphysics and the occult for nearly 20 years. She has been initiated as a Wytch and Priestess as well as being trained in ceremonial magick. While she still acknowledges the foundation provided by both these traditions, her current drawing is towards what she classifies as "progressive" Wicca, as well as fulfilling her role as a Priestess of the Goddess.

Frances has been contributing articles to various publications since 1998. In March 2002 she was asked to regularly contribute articles for Australia's No.1 spiritual lifestyle magazine, "**Insight**" magazine and has appeared as guest editor on two separate occasions, October 2002 and August 2004. An article on the Southern Sabbats can be found in the 2008 "**Llewellyn Witches Calender**" with other articles having appeared in a range of other publications including "**Witchcraft Magazine**" and "**Spellcraft**" (Australia), "**Rainbow News**" (NZ), and "**The Cauldron**" (UK), "**The New Witch**" (USA) and "**Traditions Magazine**" (USA).

In addition to her writing, Frances appeared in the local Adelaide newspaper, "**Sunday Mail**" in July 2002, with respect to an article on Wytchcraft and Paganism, and in January 2005 she appeared in "**The Age**", a Melbourne-based newspaper, as well as local paper, "**The Messenger**". In March 2003 she was invited to speak at the **New Zealand Pagan Festival** as well as leading the opening ritual with Chief Druid, Philip Carr-Gomm. She returns to speak at this conference in 2010.

Frances has been actively involved in the Adelaide Pagan community since 2000 when she took on the role as secretary for the **Pagan Alliance Inc (South Australia)**. At the 2006 AGM, she resigned from the Pagan Alliance Inc, however she remains an active member within the Community, focusing on her teaching, writing and inter-faith communication.

The Temple of the Dark Moon believes ...

- › We are all heading towards the same goal (that being spiritual enlightenment) although on different paths, and therefore respect and tolerance for all religious practices should be given.
- › Everyone has the right of free will and therefore we are responsible for our own actions.
- › That respect and love of nature as Divine makes ecological awareness and activity an important factor.
- › That with the proper training and intent our minds and hearts are capable of performing all magick and miracles we are ever likely to need.



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A percentage of all moneys received by the Temple of the Dark Moon goes towards supporting various ecological and animal protection organisations such as the Australian Conservation Foundation and the World Wildlife Fund, as well as child sponsorship through World Vision.

The Temple of the Dark Moon also supports Trees Please! by planting trees each year and in August 2004 became a sponsor of Witches Voice, an international networking organisation for Pagans that offers invaluable information and resources free of charge.