

The elongated long-skulled people of Stonehenge

Talk by Maria Wheatley on Tuesday 9th April 2019

Write up by Gwynn Paulett, April 2019

Devon Dowsers were very pleased to welcome Maria back to Chulmleigh, as we had enjoyed her previous talks as well as those of her father, Dennis Wheatley. Maria had recently come across a reference to Devon Dowsers in one of his books.

Maria is one of those rare people who can talk for an hour with erudition and passion, barely drawing breath and without notes. This attempt to summarise the evening will fall far short of her talk on the night.

The focus was the Neolithic people of Wessex 4,000–2,500 BCE. Following a particularly challenging period of her life, Maria told us she took out a map of Salisbury Plain and map-dowsed for the site of a significant spiritual story. She repeated this a number of times, but on each occasion her pendulum indicated the same spot, which turned out to be a massive megalithic long barrow.

It would once have been a gleaming white barrow of chalk on the skyline. It was estimated that it was built of 430,000 cubic feet of chalk, 70 times the volume of a plain barrow, 15 times the size of long mounds, and the largest barrow in North West Europe. She had found red and brown ochre nearby.

Given the size of the barrow, Maria expected this to be a communal burial site, but in fact it had been built for just one person: a female who now resided at Cambridge University, or at least her skull did. Her skull was of particular interest given its length. Here was this one long-skulled woman all alone in a massive barrow, so what was her story? Maria wondered.



It had been determined that this “Neolithic Queen” had been murdered by a blow to the back of the skull, as had at least another 70–80 other Neolithic long-skulled people who had been found in long barrows surrounding the “Queen”.

These ancient British people had been wiped out. The women averaged about 5 feet tall and the men averaged around 5 feet 7 inches. They all had unusual jaw lines and long skulls. The barrows which they were buried in had been built in megalithic layers of soil and stone, which had been placed on top of the bodies, making them very hard to dig.

Interestingly, the barrows appear to have a lunar alignment, east to west. Maria's contention was that it was these Neolithic people who had an understanding of astrology and earth energies, setting out the ley energy system that was followed by Bronze Age people, then the Iron Age, Druids, and Christianity.

Maria pursued the elongated-skulled people through Malta, Egypt with King Tut, Sardinia and France. Were the long barrows solely about death she wondered, or did they have other hidden meanings? Their acoustic properties hinted at something other than just "death". The answer remains a mystery.

Around 2,500 BCE, the long barrows were sealed off by the early Bronze Age people who came from what is now the Netherlands. This was the beginning of a new culture, the Beakers. The Beaker people decommissioned the long barrows and buried their dead in round barrows, one for each person. Maria saw this as a big statement. A change in culture. Land was divided up, and farming began. Earth energies were understood and utilised in a sophisticated way in order to live harmoniously with Gaia.

Maria then touched on the Roll Right stones, the building of dolmens on geo-spirals and the extraordinary power of Isis pendulums; by which time some of our heads were spinning. Maria's passion for archaeology, her willingness to challenge the current archaeology hegemony, and her total commitment to dowsing as a way we could make the planet a better place, was truly inspiring.