

## The E-line Field Trip – Part 2

The weather was much kinder to us when a group of TEMS members met Eileen at Witley Station near Haslemere for the second part of our trip along the E-line, the widest and most powerful ley yet found.

We first walked to Wormley Church nearby, adjacent to King Edward's School, which is on the E-line. The current runs obliquely across the railway here and we picked it up by dowsing part of the way across the bridge and up to the church. Then we walked on to Wormley Hill, also on the line, and noted the terracing on the side of the hill, similar to the one the Lambton Worm is said to have wrapped itself round in Yorkshire. The legend of the Worm is preserved in the mummers play 'The Worm of Wormley Hill, or the Luck of Hydons Ball' which is performed by the Cuphill Morris each year on Mayday on Hydons Ball Hill not far away, also known as Cup Hill. The play is said to date from Elizabethan times, but was revived in the 1920s. 'Wee Jock of Enton Heights' is attacked by the Worm when protecting the 'Lady of Hambledon', and is revived by drinking from the Cup the Fairy Queen offers him.

Then we walked along the footpath there to the place where it curves round to be coincident with the E-line in a cutting, and we all dowsed for the width of the ley here, climbing on to the banks each side. It was found to be 77 yards



Wormley Hill terraces

wide, centred on the footpath, where it started to be coincident, running north of east-west. A compass anomaly was found at 11.45am.

We returned to the cars, and drove to the crossroads at Brook and along a stretch of road coincident with the E-line, where we picked it up by dowsing from the cars. There is an oval pond among trees on the line, similar to ones found further east along it, and two Victorian-type street lamps in gardens near the crossroads. In the investigations on the line in the early 1990s we had found several of these on it, but can offer no explanation for this. Also, a contiguous straight earthwork on the south side of the road, thought to be a field boundary, marked the E-line in the woods.

We drove on to the junction of the A3, and turned towards Hindhead to drive round the edge of the Devil's Punchbowl, a huge depression in the Surrey countryside.



dowsing at  
Ludshott Common

Passing the Youth Hostel sign we crossed the E-line again as it crosses the crater. Although it was too dangerous to stop here, we noted the pine clump on the ley visible on the hill the other side. Then we went to the Punchbowl car park where we had lunch.

Continuing from here to Grayshott, where the line goes through the lodge of Grayshott Hall (called Grayshott Spa on the notice by the gate) we found embankments on the line which I had originally thought could have been ancient earthworks, but these were found to be more likely to be field boundaries again. There were dragons on the gateposts of the Spa, and the E-line was measured to be 185 paces wide, at the corner of the road and along the driveway of the Spa at about 2pm. At Ludshott Common nearby, the E-line was checked again and found to be 135 paces wide.



Walldown Enclosure





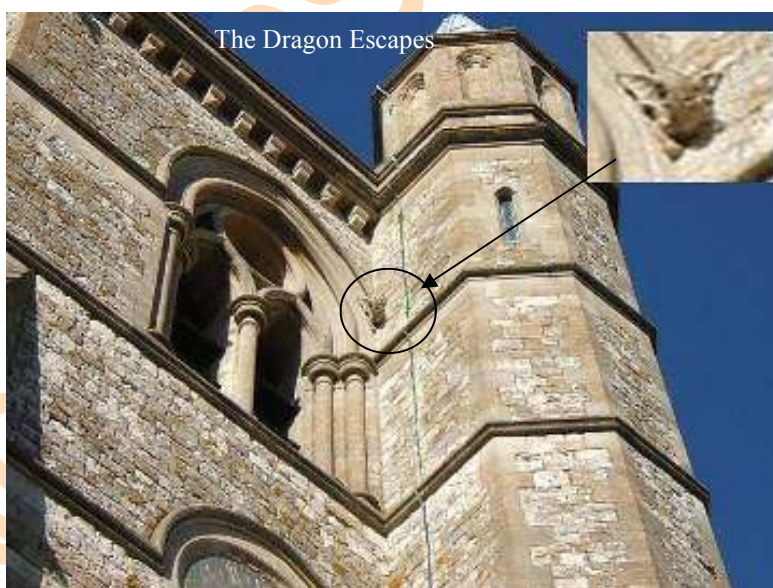
Cloistered memorial at Blackmoor

Driving on to Bordon, across the boundary into Hampshire, we passed the Whitehill crossroads on the line, and then went to the very impressive earthwork of Walldown Enclosure. This is a scheduled ancient monument, and the notice informed us that it was used in the Civil War, but 'could have had earlier origins'. The E-line was found to be 108 paces wide in three energy bands, and crossed into the rings, fairly close to the centre (this was unusual, as it usually skirts earthworks). An unusual feature on the horizon to the north east, a mound framed by two trees, was noticed on the line here. Two other lines were found crossing at the earthwork.

We continued from here towards Blackmoor, and noted a tumulus on the line on the edge of the wood by a field, and also the two Scots Pine sentinels further along the road. From here we went on to St. Matthew's Church,

Blackmoor, and dowsed the E-line running through it and through the unusual cloistered war memorial adjacent to it. The church history said the church was built in the 19th century, but there had been a small chapel nearby which it replaced. There was to have been a memorial with a poem on the site, but this was never put there (although the poem was quoted in the history) and it was not clear where it was. We thought it was likely that the war memorial was the site, however, as its courtyard was eastward facing and had an apparent apsidal end. This would have meant the earlier church was also on the E-line; there was also a drinking water fountain there, as we found on the E-line further east during the early work.

The vicar at the church, Rev. Hughes, was inter-



The Dragon Escapes

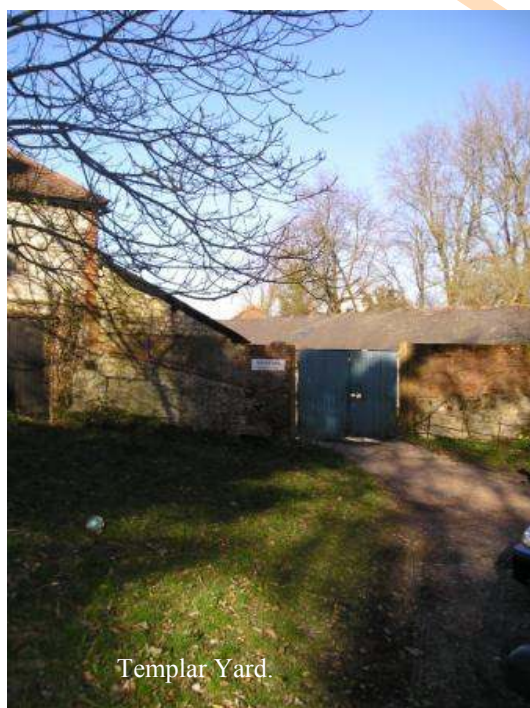
ested in what we were doing, and told us that in addition to the gargoyle dragons on the top of the tower, there was another which had been 'displaced' and could be seen running down it. He also asked if we could dowse for entrances to a space under the church, which we did, finding the original coal hole and steps down.

We then went on our final visit of the day, to Temple Yard, originally a Templar site on the line, from where we could see St. Matthew's tower and far views. From here we went on to Selborne, where Gilbert White wrote the famous *Natural History of Selborne*, where we had tea.

Thanks particularly to Rick Gibson for his various observations during the day: finding the compass anomaly, noting the mound horizon feature, systematic work at Walldown and finding the other lines, and theorising about the Punchbowl being a volcanic crater on the line of the E-line suggesting an earth fault underlies it.

**Jimmy Goddard**

More pictures at <http://ph.groups.yahoo.com/group/temsmail/photos/>  
And look for Eline Field Trip Part 2



Templar Yard