

# Stones that Talk

2026 Exhibition  
by David Jackson



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*Avebury Solstice 2026*

*Elderbrook House, Nr. Avebury  
Winterbourne Monkton, Swindon, SN4 9NW*



# Stones that Talk

## Elderbrook House kindly allowed me to exhibit some of my art.

I have called this mini exhibition, **The Midsummer Solstice 2026. 'STONES THAT TALK'**

Latterly, I have had a fascination with standing stones and megalithic structures. This has taken me to Greece (see [www.art-amis.co.uk](http://www.art-amis.co.uk) for the exhibition currently in Ithaca, Greece), the Mediterranean and the west Atlantic coast.

Avebury is the largest stone circle in Europe, and in its day would have been far more impressive even than it is today. It is one of the most important prehistoric (2600–2400 BCE) ceremonial landscapes in Europe. Some compared Avebury Cathedral to Stonehenge's parish church in scale!

However, like all Mesolithic structures, you have to consider the length of time the stones, banks, and avenues have been standing. Like anything this old, it is difficult to imagine how the structures have eroded and how scientific analysis today leads to new interpretations of their date, purpose and meaning. As you look out from Elderbrook House, we have ancient trackways which span the whole country passing nearby (yes, extending over one hundred miles).

Looking at this small exhibition, you realise the whole western seaboard of Europe extending into the Mediterranean was the home of our Neolithic ancestors who lived and traded axes, furs, arrowheads, antler picks and semi-precious stones. Pottery and cow bones from the furthest parts of Scotland have been found near Stonehenge and Durrington walls.

The majesty of the Orkneys, Western Isles, the Lake District, Ireland, Avebury, Carnac, the Basque Country, Malta, Sardinia, all show evidence of a thriving economic culture at the intersection of hunter-gatherer to sustained agriculture.

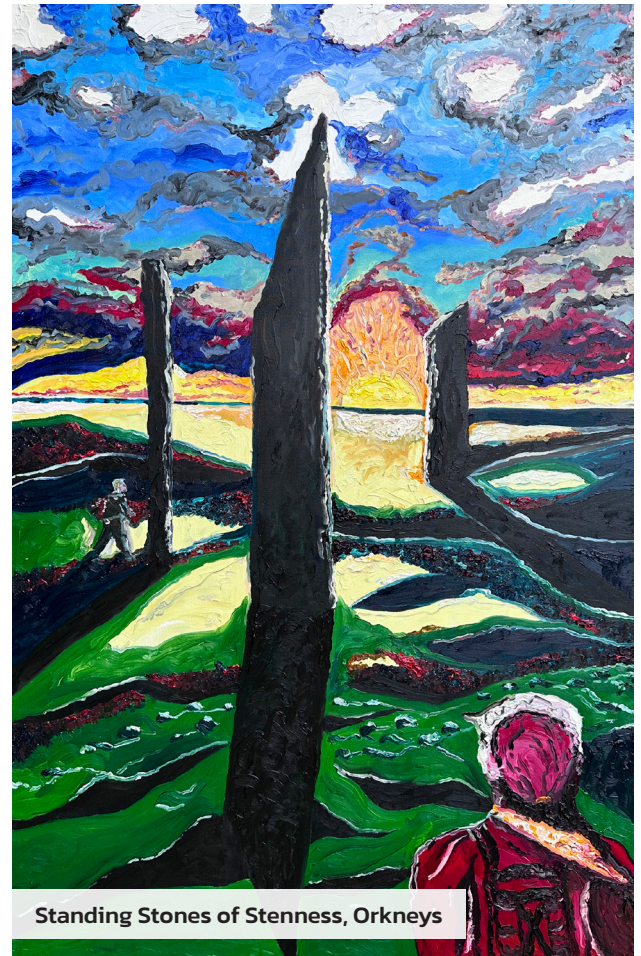
There is the emergence of a natural worship of the sun, stars and a link with nature we have somehow lost today. Hence, many people feel it necessary to reconnect with the past, as is evident at Avebury on the summer solstice.

Silbury Hill is the largest prehistoric mound in Europe, standing 40 metres high and constructed of thousands of tonnes of chalk. West Kennet barrow at about 3650 BCE pre-dates the Avebury henge and Silbury; it was a communal burial chamber used by generations.

The sanctuary at the end of a ceremonial avenue emanating from Avebury circle was thought to be a ceremonial gathering site.

Explore all the hidden gems in this sacred landscape, which is more akin to a connected city than you might think, similar to the Maya civilisation, much later in Mexico.

I hope you enjoy the art, which is only the beginning of your interest. You can feel the energy in the place, and this is why it is clear to me that the stones are talking, so let yourself drift away to the distant past.



Standing Stones of Stenness, Orkneys



**Summer Solstice 2026**  
**The Devil's Den on Fyfield Hill**

## The Devil's Den

It is a surviving Neolithic dolmen (the remains of a chambered tomb), consisting today of:

- Two large upright sarsen stones.
- An enormous capstone balanced across them.
- The remains of what was once a much larger burial monument.

Visitors often describe it exactly as "a massive stone resting on two uprights." According to antiquarian records, additional stones once surrounded it, but today the striking feature is the huge capstone and its two supports.



Swinside, The Lake District



Silbury Hill, Avebury

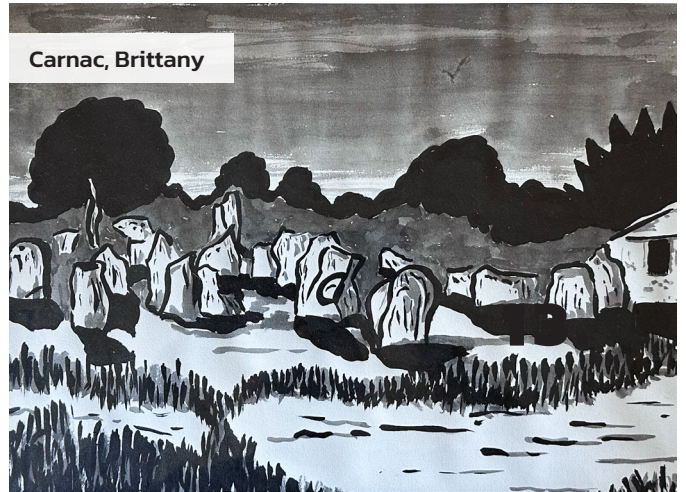
West Kennet Long Barrow



Carnac, Brittany



Carnac, Brittany







Kerzerho Alignments near Erdeven



Cairns near Carnac



Brittany

Menhir, St-Malo, Brittany



Kerzerho Alignments  
near Erdeven



Gavrinis Morbihan, Brittany



Menhir, St-Malo, Brittany



Kerzerho Alignments  
near Erdeven



# Know Oneself

By David Jackson

*The individual interacts every day  
Stops rarely to listen to oneself  
Many voices babbling want their say  
There is no real concern for oneself*

*Here today, and life's spark gone tomorrow  
What alternative theories are there for oneself  
Dancing round the pyre or sombre coffin, weep with sorrow  
As you contemplate the community that surrounds oneself*

*The world axis spins, and the circle of life forces  
Selfish religions are not complete for oneself  
Humanity's moral compass is easily swayed by many sources  
Trust in love, abstract still, it best nurtures oneself*

Think nought of the physical world without the other  
The torq unbroken of immortality suits oneself  
At the centre of life, souls giving energy, from your mother  
This is the binary completeness of oneself

How does this serve the whole, you might ask?  
How can infinite shape-shifting light help oneself?  
Like reality, metaphysics has its laws to take you to task  
Knowing these equations is paramount for one's self

The world we look upon today is at a dangerous junction  
At the natural level, we are all party to destroying oneself  
The answer lies deep in understanding the other half to function  
Believing in this soul-filled world will complete oneself

So, contemplating this other spiritual existence  
Essential homework for the unification of oneself  
Have no doubt, it will require much persistence  
The circle evermore, harmonious in all time, to know oneself

Not the end.

# Stones that Talk 2026

Thanks to Ben and Cody for exhibiting the art at their beautiful Elderbrook House.

From a spiritual perspective, consider who placed the stones where they stand.

What was the purpose, and how important were these great engineering efforts to the everyday lives of these Mesolithic builders?

It is difficult not to be impressed by the effort and endeavour that went into erecting the stone circle at Avebury, never mind the mathematical genius of various alignments to the sun and moon of various stones on the avenue.

Venerated and magnificent, you might say, are the remnants we see today.

Haunted by the ghosts of past generations of people who lived and died while celebrating the summer solstice or the shortest winter day, because it was so important for their survival.

Birth and rejuvenation followed by dark death of night as the owl hoots. Antlered shamans dance as fires and cattle are slaughtered in great festivals. Nature is raw, the cold can kill, disease can kill, birth can kill, life is precious, but so easily extinguished.

The stones stand as cenotaphs to jerk our collective memory back to the distant past.

There is much to ponder and contemplate in this human journey, much to admire and respect in these stones which will outlast most modern structures. Talking stones are benevolent.

David Jackson | Summer Solstice 2026

*An exhibition is also taking place in Ithaca, Greece which you might find interesting, see more at [www.art-amis.co.uk](http://www.art-amis.co.uk)*

