

**CHEETHAM CLOSE  
STONE OVAL, TURTON  
HAS A SW  
ENTRANCE WAY.**

**M. Butler. 2017**

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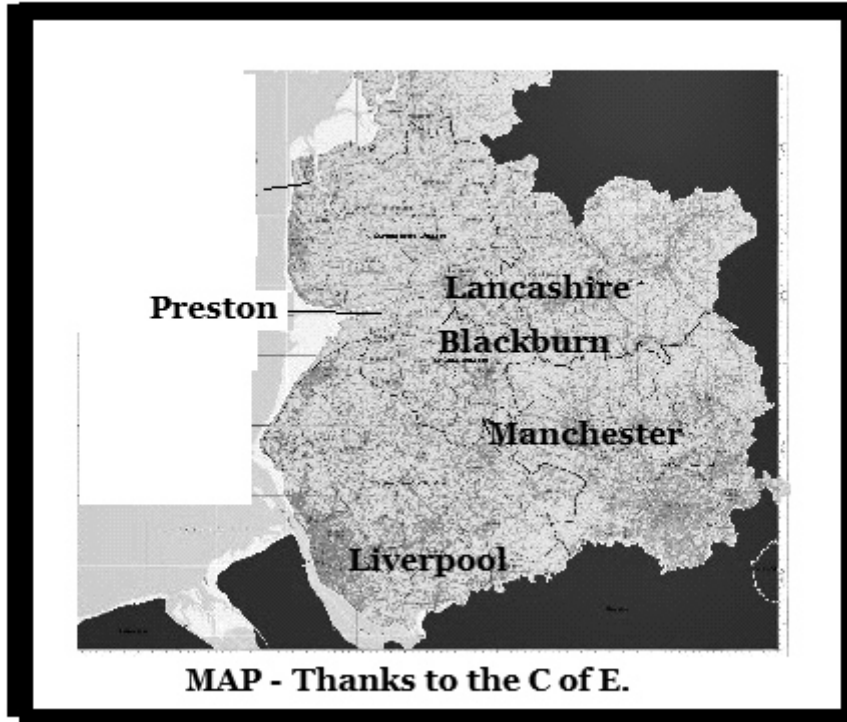
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**The external sources of information i use,are always referenced.**

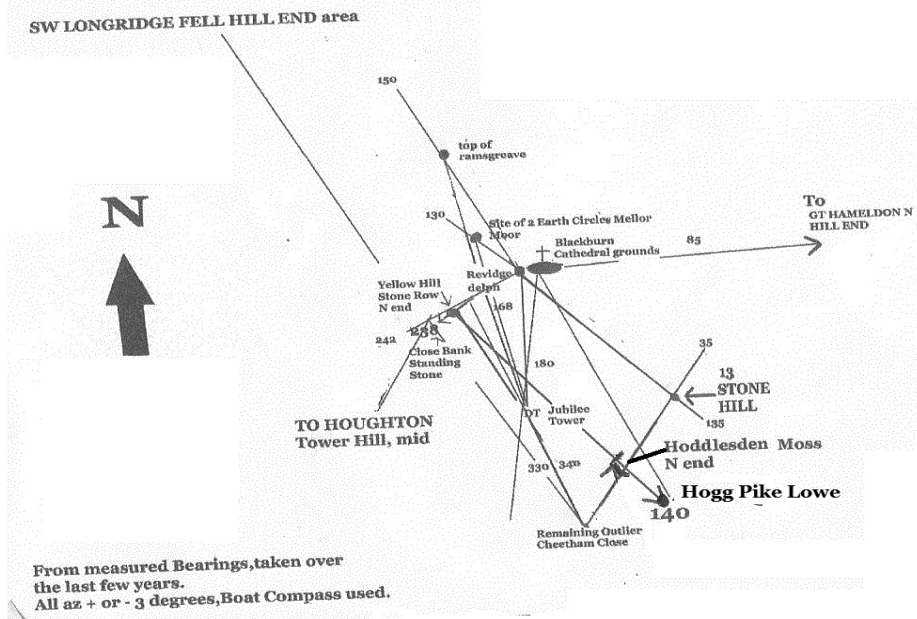
**With thanks to Mr John Billingsley , Mr Paul Bennet ,Mr Chris Aspin and Mr Thomas Greenhalgh.**

## INTRODUCTION



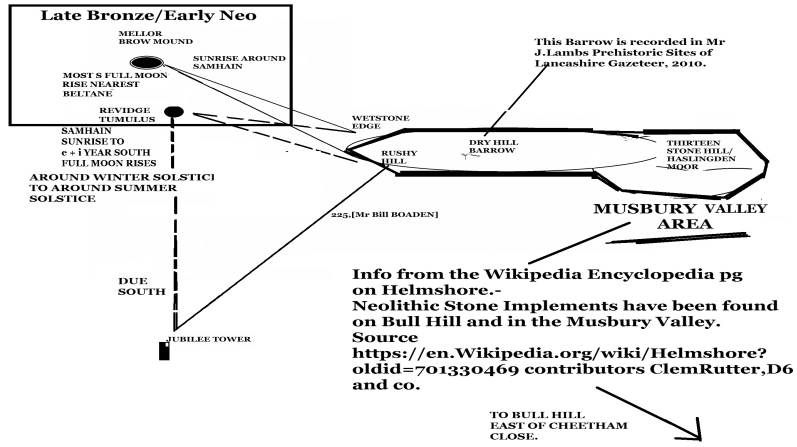
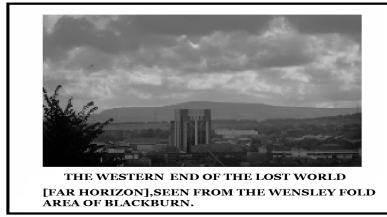
**MAP - Thanks to the C of E.**

**MAP of some of BLACKBURN AREAS Ancient Sites.**



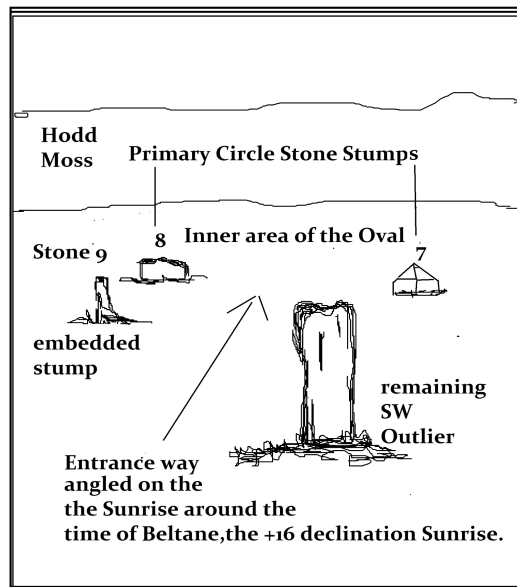
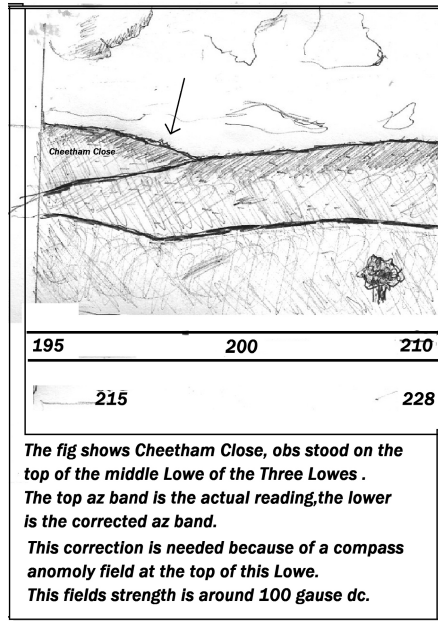
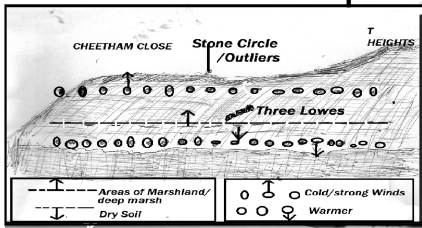
Map above showing Cheetham Close in relation to the Blackburn, Darwen, Haslingden areas.

# THE LOST WORLD, NE OF BLACKBURN, LANCs.



## PART ONE

Below LH - a simplified fig showing marsh areas.



Above sketch a clearer visulization for the Reader of the newly discovered SW "Portal" type Entrance way into the Oval Ring. This Entrance way, could also be

the remains of an Avenue, that led into the Ring.

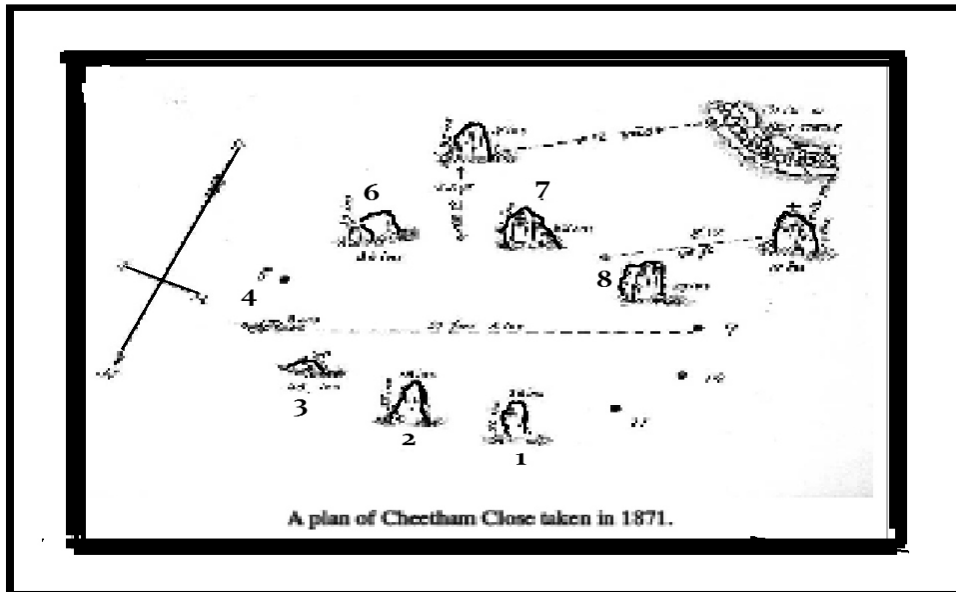
The story of this Stone Oval and two Outliers, has occupied my thoughts for the last ten years or so.

To begin with i randomly picked out Mr J. Dixons Journeys Through Brigantia, vol 11, from the shelves of Blackburn Reference Library, one day. The Book contains a wealth of local historic information. From this Book i was introduced to the remains on Cheetham Close. This information fascinated me, a Stone Circle, only a short Train journey away.....

### MR GREENHALGHS PLAN

The published Plans by Mr Thomas Greenhalgh, [1871] and Mr Fletcher, [1983], {which is Mr Greenhalghs Plan enlarged and "twisted" around so many degrees away from Mr Greenhalghs correct MgNorth line}, Mr Greenhalghs Plan a masterpiece of art and technical drawing, nearly. As will be explained shortly. Have the only easily available published Plans of The "Stone Circle" and two Outliers. The visit to Cheetham Close occurring during my on going reserchers into the Blackburn areas Bronze/Neolithic positional relationships.]

From my two visits, [2012,14] to the heights of Cheetham Close, over the past few years, i have been able to gather more positional details. [Indirectly, my main concern was to do an horrizon survey.] Lady Luck appears to have smiled on me, whilst up on the Close, giving me exceptionally clear days. After verification etc, i can present now a much more accurate plan of the stone oval and two Outlier sites, along with probable reasons why this exact location was chosen.



**Image above - a slightly thickened up  
Wikipedia image.**

THE FOLLOWING SECTION CONTAINS SHORT PIECES OF  
INFORMATION, FROM

TRANSACTIONS OF THE LANCS/CHESHIRE ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY, FROM  
1895, MADE AVAILABLE AND COPYRIGHT, FOR NON - COMMERCIAL USE BY  
GOOGLE SCHOLAR.

Above Mr Greenhalghs plan, originating from, i think, Major Gilbert French, and his chapter in Trans Ches/Lancs Society, 1895. All the correct inter-stone angles, [not holes], and Rings dimensions are either available by measuring of this plan directly, as long as you know the rings long central axis length [2 -7]. Mr Greenhalgh does not quote this length, only the width. This plan has the correct information encoded within it. For instance the small length dimension figure written to the right of Stone 8, stating the distance to the remaining Outlier, is written over the location of Stone 9. This may be an Unconscious data recording mix up by Mr Greenhalgh, as he appears to have "cranned" a vast amount of positional info into a small place, or may not. He also manages to draw the shapes of the stones, very precisely.

From reading the above 1895 Transactions, i am faced today, with the problem of



trying to explain why my plan of the ring and two Outliers differs so greatly. I interpret the phrase "perfect circle", in Transactions, used by these people, as another way of saying "It's a perfect [meaning all surrounding], ring of monoliths, therefore.

From Transactions - In 1850 Mr M. Dawes accompanied Sir Henry Dryden to the site. He reported 6 upright stones, varying from 1.5 ft to 4 ft high by 1 - 2 ft thick. Mr Dawes then says "judging by the relative distances of the remaining stones, 3 are missing".

There is another grey area from Transactions, in the first half Mr French creates an image of the ring stones having to be replaced back in the positions shown in Mr Greenhalgh's plan. This is not the case as Mr Greenhalgh explains in Transactions, pg 48, when he visited the site in 1871, just after the stones had been sledgehammered. "Fortunately they were not rooted up and their places can still be seen within the group." [He made the above plan, earlier in 1871, before being sledgehammered.]

From Transactions Sir Henry Dryden was the first person to draw/make a plan of this monument, in 1852. He saw six stones. Mr Greenhalgh recorded 7 ring stones and two Outliers. From BHO, a Tenant Farmer of Turton Tower, sledgehammered the ring, to stop people "visiting the situation." Sometime between Mr Dryden's visit and Mr Greenhalgh's visit.

This destruction in early 1871 could have been a reaction to the background atmosphere that the upper class had created, with their fixation on the Druids, throughout the 1800s. Particularly in this area of Lancashire, Mr Dryden's/Dawes' visit in 1852, may have started the build up, to Mr Greenhalgh's early 1871 visit. Using unknowingly maybe, phrases like Druids Circle etc. {the Transactions above, is full of this kind of talk}, and publishing them in Archaeological papers, etc.

## THE RING STONES

Dimensions read from Mr Greenhalgh's Plan -

STONE 1 26 by 24 inches

STONE 2 55 by 18

STONE 3 45 by 18

STONE 6 33 by 33

STONE 7 21 by 25

STONE 8 25 by 27

**STONE 1** just over half a metre square.

**STONE 2** Around 1.5 by half a metre.

**STONE 3** over 1 metre tall by half wide.

**STONE 6** just under a metre square.

**STONE 7** Around half a metre square.

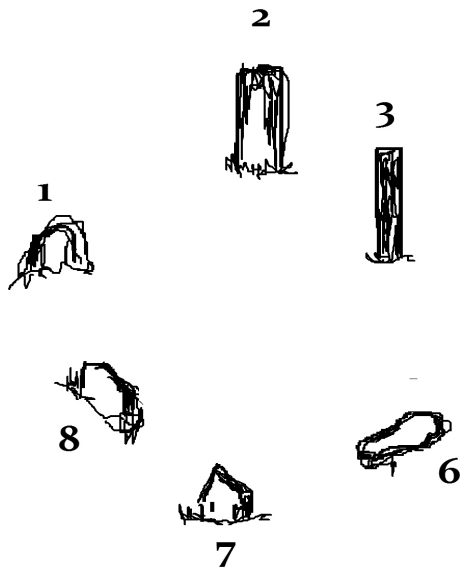
**STONE 8** Around quarters of a metre square.

On my first visit in 2012, in early April, we were still in the Winter season. A very clear day, but with snow and marsh everywhere, with a bitter windchill, up on Cheetham Close. Stone 2, lying flat on the ground now, is a huge stone, as Mr Fletcher described, in the 1980s. Stone 3, the same lying flat on the ground, but very different looking to Stone 2. This stone appeared to be very carefully shaped. Resembling a modern concrete Fence post in shape. The texture of the stone was not smooth and light, like stone 2, but mottled and darker. Just the top face and upper sides of stone 6 visible, similar texture to stone 2, as are stones 8 and 7, Stone 7, having the top worked into a pyramid shape.

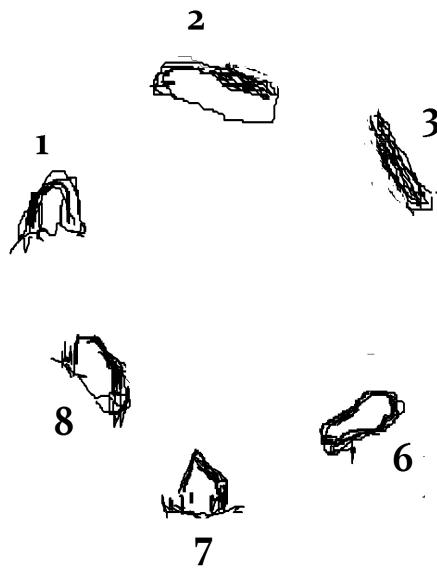
Below a Photo from 2014, showing part of Stone 1.



To simplify - from 1850 to early 1871 things remained near enough the same-  
[omitting Mr Greenhalghs Stone 4]



Later in 1871, up until today they look something like this-



PART TWO

# STONE 9

## Empirically verifiable reference point, Mg Norths location -

1a Notice stones 2 and 7, and their N/S positions.

In 2014, I located Mg North in the same location. [4d] [5e]

The Google Earth Satellite cannot see any Stone rings, [Oct 017].

Mr Greenhalghs Mg North location therefore is the known reference point I used.

STONE 9

For a reason not known, Mr Greenhalgh did not record Stone 9 in the correct place. [1a]

As we can see the Circle stone remnants are very low, Stone 9 can hardly be seen. [On the day of the Photo [3c] I tripped over Stone 9, grazing my leg, not expecting an embedded Monolith stump to be there.]

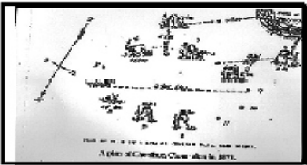
The surface of the land that the ring is on is very uncomfortable to walk on. With undulations that cannot be seen, because of the thick grass/marsh grass. This creates a sensation of disorientation to start with.

In Mr Fletchers survey he states "he probed Stone 9 to 1m under the soil."

So if there's 1m under the soil, there could be a metre or more

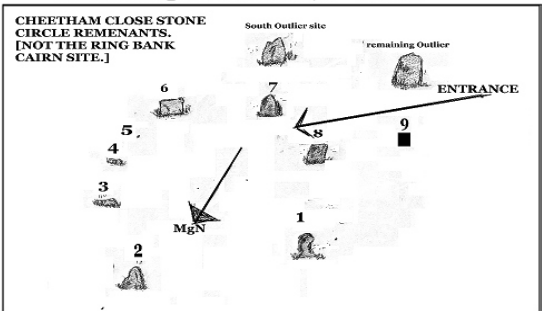
above ground. This stone like the others smashed down by individuals in 1870 and 1880 "and not previously recorded" by Mr Dryden ,Greenhalgh or French[Mr Fletchers Survey.]As can be seen in the Photo below Stone 9 stump can hardly be seen in the long Marsh grass.

Mr Greenhalghs 1871 Plan/Sketch of the Stone ring,two Outliers and Ring Bank Cairn Northern edge

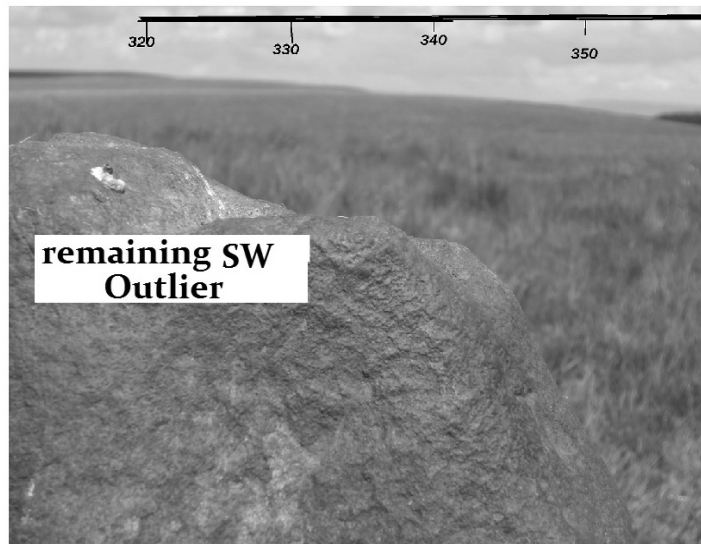
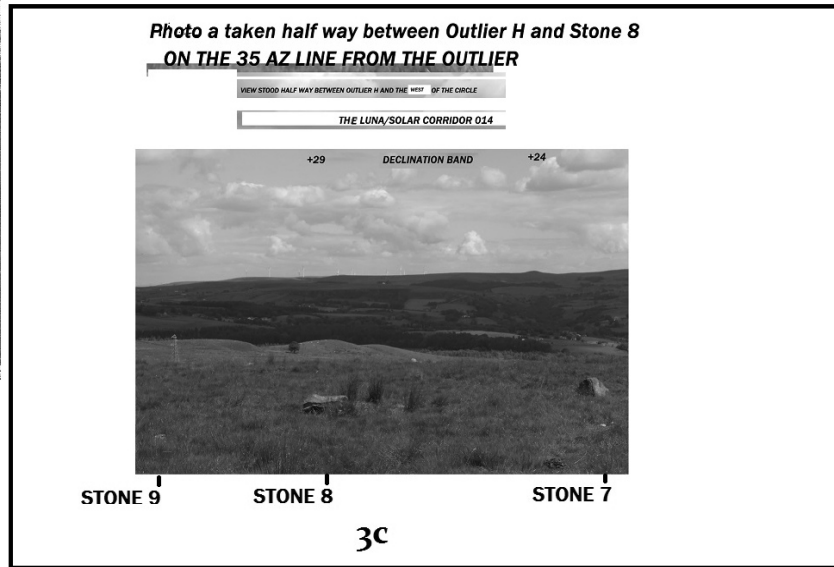


1a

Mr Greehalghs 1871 Plan,re - drawn.

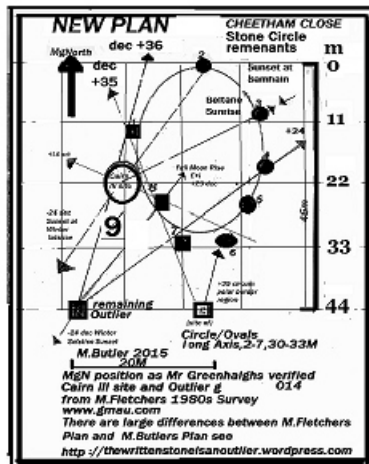


2b

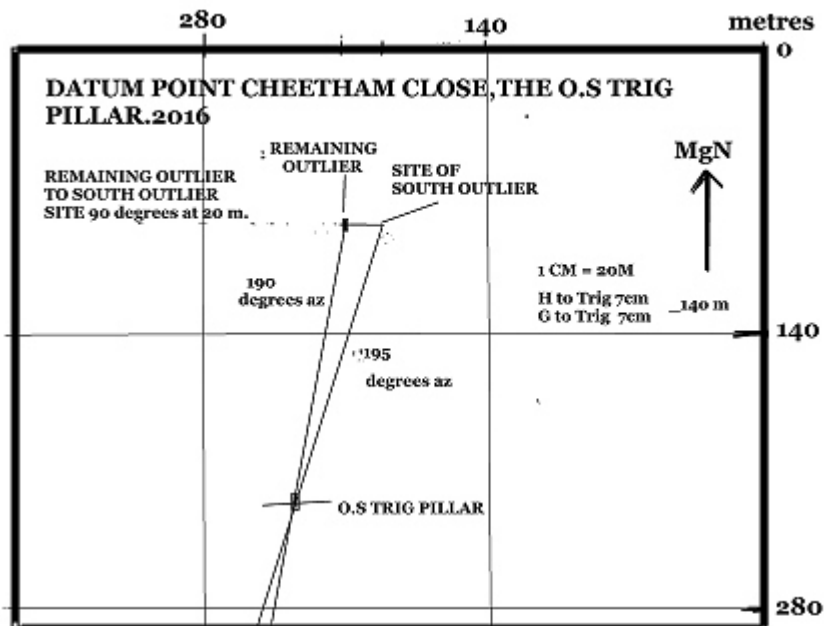


**4d**

**Positional info for the Stone Circle, 2 Outlier Sites and O.S Trig Point. CHEETHAM CLOSE**



5e



Measuring with a Protractor on Mr M.Fletcher's Fig 4\*  
 Cheetham Close site plan ;  
 outlier "g" is around 30 degrees from the O.S Trig Pillar,  
 outlier "h" is around due North from the O.S Trig Pillar.

\* [www.gmau.com](http://www.gmau.com)

So [2b], is Mr Greenhalghs plan/sketch, updated, showing that Cheetham Close Stone OVAL has a portalled SW Entrance.

The most well known northern Stone Circle with a SW portal Entrance way is at Long Meg and her Daughters.

## PIVOTAL LINES

The StoneOval and two Outlier sites PIVOTAL LINES -

- 1 Both Outliers to the Ring
- 2 Remaining Outlier to Primary Oval stone 8.to Thirteen Stone Hill
- 3 Both Outlier sites E/W

What came first ? As Mr Fletcher thinks maybe ,the remaining Outlier.So do i,but not as a Trackway marker,instead as a Backsight for the Thirteen Stone Hill line.The Stone Circle remenants on the summit of this hill,supplying a tangible reason for targeting this hill.What about this Full Moon set line ?,time and time again we see a concern for this Full Moon rise or set,at comparably aged sites across Britain, Europe and Egypt.Like the Sun at various yearly points the Full Moon at various yearly points,this e + i year,[once every 18.5 years],particularly in the dark half of that year,Full Moon rise and set points were singled out.Stood by the remaining Outlier,this Full Moon rise acts as a connecting principal,connecting the dead on Cheetham Close with the dead on Thirteen Stone Hill.All the dead being connected to this cold Moon.[We are dealing with a Funerary site.]

The chances of the remaining Outlier being randomly placed in this location,are of course 1 in 360.

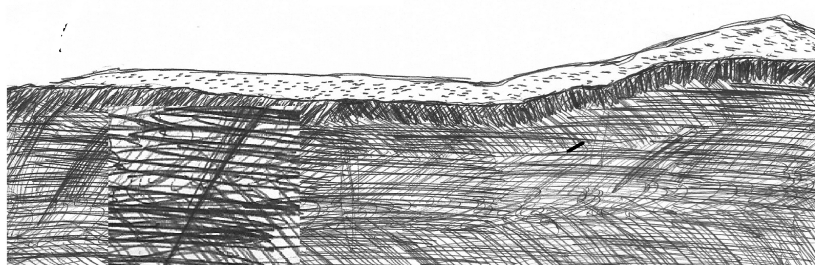
Thanks to the far seeing ability of a cheap Digital Camera,i made the following two sketches -



## Foreground hill line - Hoddlesden Moss

A is a magnified profile seen in B. 13 Stone Hill

\*



A



B

The order of construction may have started in the late Neolithic era, with the placement of the south Outlier, at 20m apart on the E/W line. Why? To make a basic season time keeper, that would have warned the people living around here, of the onset of the warm half of the year and the cold half. Similar to the Early Bronze Age Sphinx at Giza, Egypt, which, measured from the Google Earth Satellite overhead image, is built on the long axis of E/W, with the face of the Sphinx, looking East. From the two Outliers the Oval Ring was built, as shown the ring contains the approx width of the Circumpolar Region, above. [The Sun and Moon never appear in this region, a few star constellations circulate year after year, never rising or setting.] The line from the remaining Outlier to Thirteen Stone Hill, is for the e + i Full Moon rise, this rise line is marked in the mid ground by Primary Stone 8. Stood near Stone 8, or a bit further near the

central area of the Oval, the e + i Full Moon sets into Longridge Fell SW. Directly below this set point hundreds of metres below lies The Written Stone, which could be a fallen Monolith from the distant past, or could not be.

### THIRTEEN STONE HILL

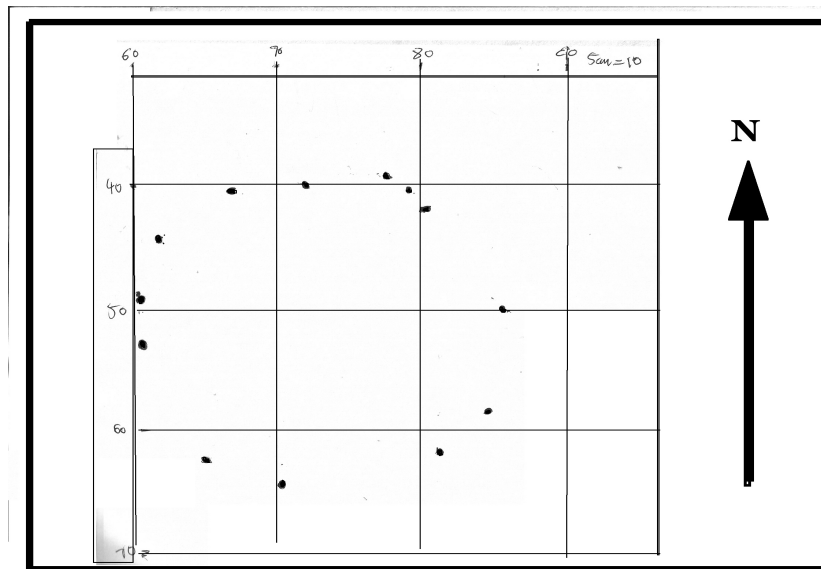
#### STONE CIRCLE REMANANTS

This ring of megaliths, sited just below the summit, is in a similar state to Cheetham Close. Mr C. Aspin of Helmshore Local History Society, employed Mr Ekersall, a professional Surveyor, to survey the stones, in the early 1970s, [Mr Aspin pers comm] which Mr Aspin placed in a Library Archive, [according to an old school friend, of Mr Aspin, Mr R. Hoyle, in Mr Hoyle's recently published Book MEGALITHIC MATTERS, publ by Matador, 2014.] Luckily, for us Mr Hoyle reproduces the Plan in his Book, the Plan is signed by Mr Fletcher.

Mr Austtieger also published a set of co - ordinates recently for the positions of these ring stones. These co - ordinates came from Mr Ekersall's Survey as well. From this set I then produced a plan.

From this plan I was able to compare Mr Fletcher's Plan. A similar story of twisting the circle stones plan away from the North line appeared, again in Mr Fletcher's Plan.

What about the real Plan ? here it is -



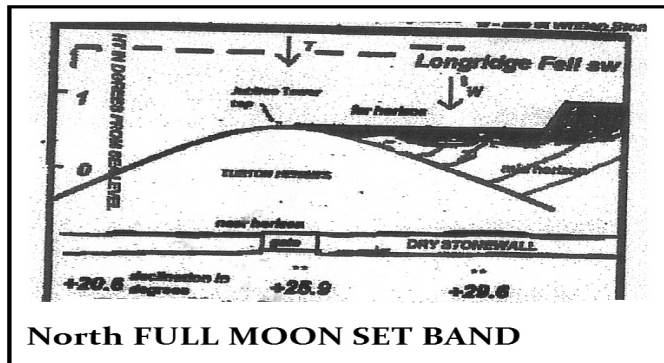
As we see a much more circular ring here.notice the two gaps NE and SW.

aline through the middle of these two gaps makes a central axis aligned on the Sunset around the time of Samhain,the - 16 declination Sunset.Or viewed from the opposite end the Sunrise around the time of Beltane.

Mr Aspin was very suprised when i informed him of the differences of Plans in the Archive

**CHEETHAM CLOSE continued**

**An empirically verifiable horizon profile**



**Stone 8 then is a Backsight for the above SUN/FULL MOON SETS.**

**The Written Stones location can be interpreted as a SET PATH MARKER STONE,obs from stood 2m NW of Stone 8.**

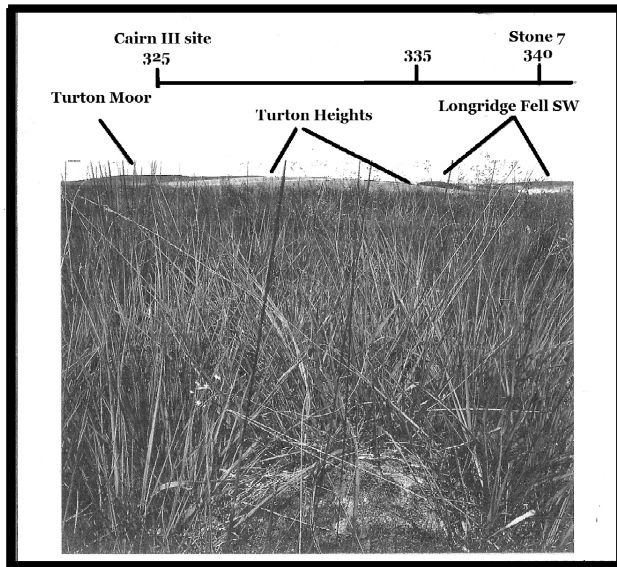
**Mr A.Thom visited Cheetham Close in the 1970s.He left folders of notes and plans at**

**Bolton Archive and Research Centre,they are - ZWL12 and ZWL14.**

**Of THE WALCH PAPERS**

Photo below - The view from low down,by the slab of stone,which is probably from the now non -existant South Outlier.[Mr Fletchers Outlier g].

This location calculated from Mr Greenhalghs Plan,not Mr Fletchers,in which the Outlier sites also are way off the actual locations.



**A SELECTION OF OTHER DETAILS COLLECTED FROM CHEETHAM CLOSE.**

JULY 2014 CHEETHAM CLOSE All AZ from Mg North +or -3 degrees,hts from

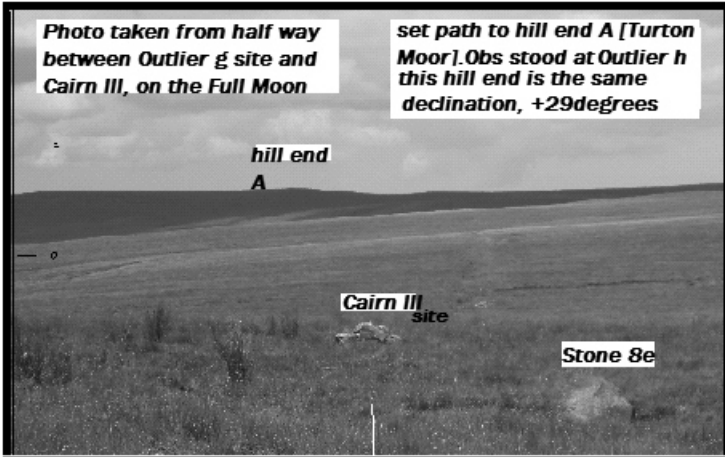


Photo taken from half way between Outlier g site and Cairn III, on the Full Moon

set path to hill end A [Turton Moor]. Obs stood at Outlier h this hill end is the same declination, +29degrees

SEA LEVEL  
for lat 53.30

Triangulation  
Pillar  
from Cairn III  
and Outlier  
h:195  
degrees  
from Outlier  
g site 190  
degrees

Empirically  
verifiable

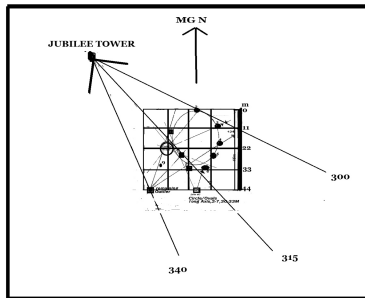
View of the Stone Circle crouched by Outlier h July 2014.

This whole area is covered in Marshland. Marsh Gas Lights would be expected to be produced here, from decomposing vegetation, see Mr J Dixons PENDLE A MYTHIC LANDSCAPE 2015.

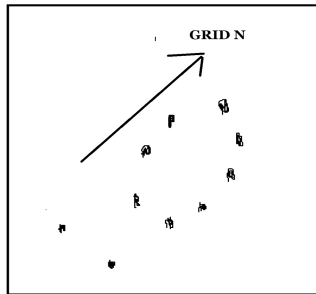
reference Outliers h and g [site], Stone 8e Cairn III from Mr M Fletchers 1983  
THE BRONZE AGE COMPLEX ON CHEETHAM CLOSE [www.gmau](http://www.gmau)

# CHEETHAM CLOSE TRIANGULATED TO JUBILEE TOWER

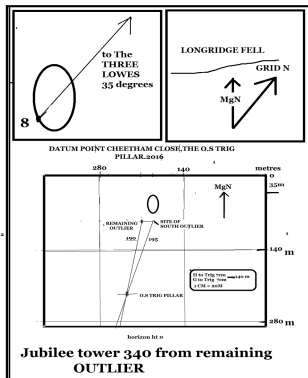
**CHEETHAM CLOSE STONE CIRCLE  
REMNANTS TRIANGULATED TO JUBILEE  
TOWER**



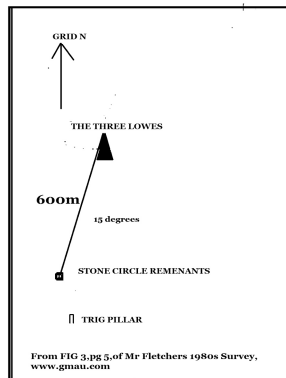
**CCSC location to GRID NORTH**



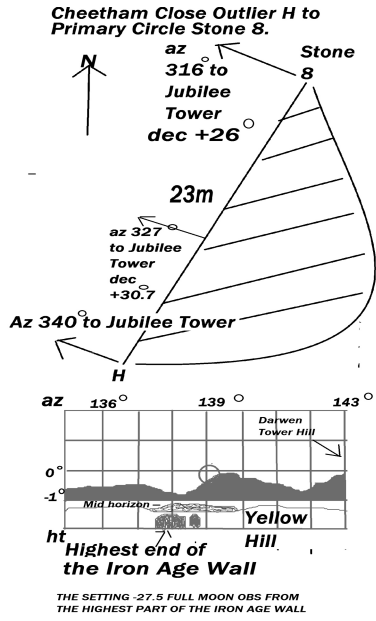
**ACTUAL POSITIONAL INFO**



**MR FLETCHERS POSITIONAL INFO**

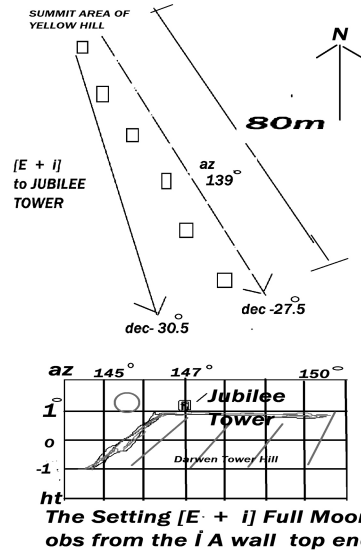


**Note - Stood around Stone 8, today, Jubilee Tower can only be seen by standing on tiptoes. Stood at the remaining Outlier, the tower is visible, both on clear days of course.**



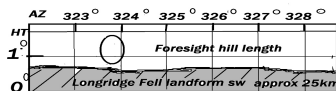
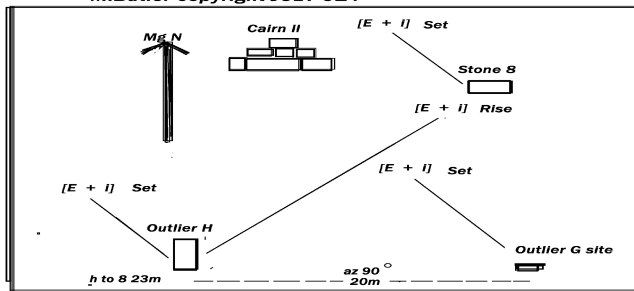
**BLACKBURN LUNAR OBSERVATORIES RELATED TO CHEETHAM CLOSE**

**The Southern length of an Iron Age Wall on Yellow Hill,sw Blackburn.**



Mr J Dixon Explained to me originally that the row of Monoliths on Yellow Hill was an Iron Age Wall.

**EVIDENCE OF A LUNAR OBSERVATORY ON CHEETHAM CLOSE**  
M.Butler copyright JULY 014



Profile, Observed stood by Stone 8 of the Stone Circle the Setting Full Moon [nearest Mid Winter Solstice] setting into Longridge Fell landform sw,dec +29.6 [E + I]. Lower down is the Written Stone Site. [Stone 8 being the Backsight]  
LAT around 53.30

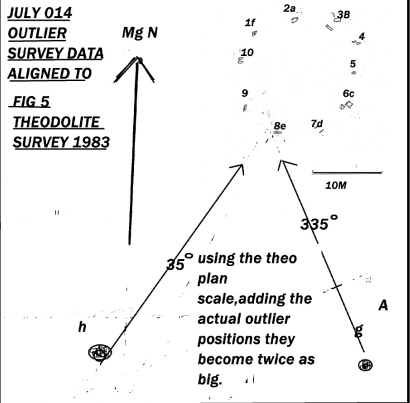
Plan showing the two Backsight Outliers.Cairn II site as a Set Path Marker, and Stone 8 as a Rise Path Marker.  
The Two Horizon Foresight Hill lengths for the above two,[Longridge Fell sw and Hoddlesden Moss] are also used by Revidge Tumulus [NW of Blackburn] for the same [E + I] Full Moon Set to SW Longridge Fell and South Cycle [E + I] Full moon Rise from Hoddlesden Moss. These Two hill lengths then were significant areas for the Cheetham Close builders and Revidge builders.

**Revidge Tumulus site pers com**

Mr J Dixon. Plan names from Mr Fletchers 1980s Survey, and Mr Greenhalghs 1871 plan,Mg north July 014 as Mr Greenhalghs.

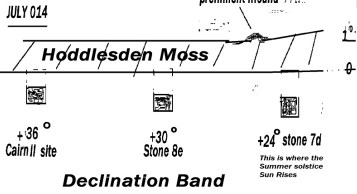


From Fig 5 Cheetham Close Site 1. Mr M. Fletchers Theodolite Survey of the STONE CIRCLE.

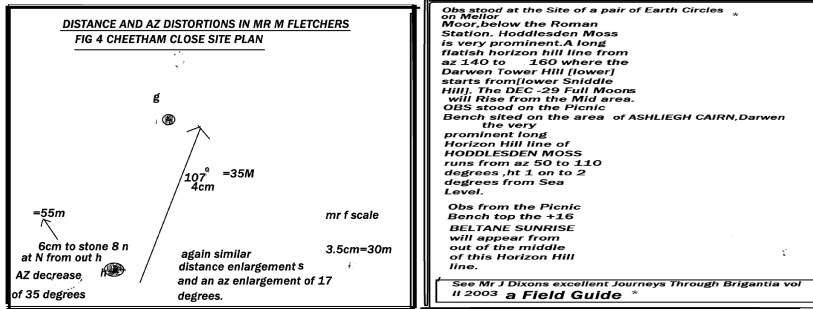


10m = 2.5cm h to g = 40cm, = 40m [using mr f theo scale] BUT ACTUAL WAS 20m

PROFILE TAKEN STOOD BY OUTLIER H



Outlier H



**VERIFICATION OF Mr Greenhalghs 1871 Magnetic North position, Mr Fletchers SITE 1, Fig 5 Theodolite Magnetic North BUT NOT Mr Fletchers Fig 4 Plan**

This Verification comes from information from the Results of Two HORIZON SURVEYS. One in 2012 the other in July 2014. The former from Stone 8 of the Stone Circle, the latter taken from Outlier H.

**WHY IS VERIFICATION NEEDED?**  
Because the two Outlier Sites H and G of Mr Fletchers Survey Hold Important positional Information.

As a comparison stood beside Stone 8 of the Stone Circle, any bearing taken will have 65 degrees added due to a dc compass anomaly caused by this Stone [a field around the Stone that distorts the N/S Field lines.] Probably due to Magnetised Iron Ore within the Stone.

## Triangulation Point JUBILEE TOWER or DT

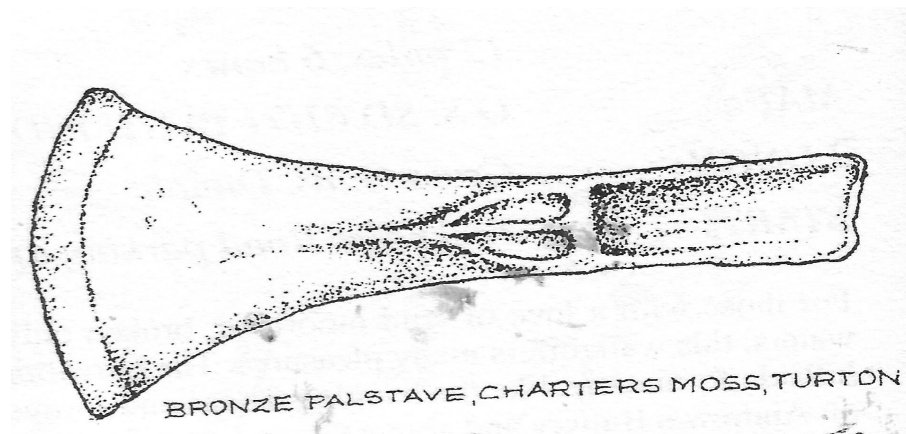
[short for Darwen Tower, the local name.]



# RING BANK CAIRN SITE

In Mr Dixons Book pgs 88 - 9, talking about this site, which was part of a Bronze Age village. He suggests that the people may have lived in the Ring Bank Cairn structure. I agree with Mr Dixon. These Ring Bank Cairns normally contain many Urn Burial cremations, he continues.

## Charters Moss



Again from Mr Dixons Book, different Bronze Age tools/weapons were found, while Pete cutting was being carried out in this area. Charters Moss is sited in a remote moorland area, SSE of Darwen. Palstaves, an Axe head and two Spearheads, loopheaded, one made of Bronze.

To me this sounds like these objects were thrown into the Moss, [Marsh] as offerings. I well remember as a young boy, [in the mid seventies] being driven through this area, by my Father, a few times. There were Conifer Plantations all around, but I still remember being able to see the Darwen Tower/Cartridge Hill landform, in the distance, from out of the Car window, at dusk time in Winter, driving up the main Bolton to Darwen rd. A cold and eerie place.

An arc of sites I can now perceive, stretching from Cheetham Close to Charters Moss onto Ashliegh Burial Mound site Darwen. This arc is doubled on the inside by adding the numerous Cairn/Tumulus sites, listed in Mr John Lambs Prehistoric Sites Gazetteer, that are spread along the length of Darwen Tower/Cartridge Hill. Does this group go any further South ?

The flat plain of land between the south ends of Winter Hill and SSW of

**Cheetham Close,Contains at the furthest Southern extremity,Red Moss.**

## **REFERENCES**

**Mr M.Fletcher THE BRONZE AGE COMPLEX ON` CHEETHAM CLOSE,TURTON:A  
NEW SURVEY,[www.gmau.com](http://www.gmau.com).**

**Mr J.Dixon Journeys Through Brigantia vol 11,a Field Guide,publ by Austtieger  
2003.**

**Mr John R.Hoyle MEGALITHIC MATTERS publ by Matador,2014.**

**Mr A.Thom ZWL 12 and 14 of the Walch Papers,held at Bolton Archive Centre.**

**[I have not seen the above notes by Mr Thom.]**

**BROADER ASTRONOMY/ARCHAEOLOGY,BACKGROUND,for all the details see -**

**Mr Clive Ruggles Astronomy in Prehistoric Britain and Ireland,Yale University  
Press,New Haven and London,1999.**

**Mr Alexander Thoms collection of writing.**

**Mr Robin Heaths A Beginners Guide Stone Circles,Hodder and Stoughton,1999.**

