

Sundials

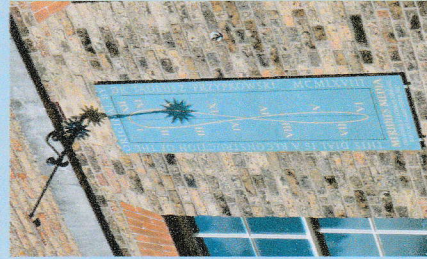
Originate in history and are still made today. They combine science and art. They are part of our heritage and therefore worth preserving. Old sundials provide material for historians and conservators. New designs offer challenges to makers and delight for owners.

The British Sundial Society

Founded in 1989

Aim:

To advance the education of the public in the science and art of gnomonics.



A Noon Mark sundial at The Old Royal Observatory, Greenwich, erected in 2012. Designed and created by BSS members. The shadow of the sunburst nodus crosses the figure 8-shaped analemma curve at noon GMT each day.

The British Sundial Society

is a registered educational charity with a national and international membership of all ages. Its small body of trustees meets quarterly to manage its affairs.

Communication

Website: www.sundialsoc.org.uk
Quarterly high-quality colour Bulletin and Newsletter.



Saxon Sundial at Bewcastle Cross, Cumbria. It is the oldest surviving English sundial.

Meetings

Spring: Weekend Conference and AGM in UK at a variety of locations.
Autumn: A one-day meeting in Newbury. All gatherings are great opportunities to see dials, learn from one another and form great friendships. Novices and experts are equally welcome at all meetings.

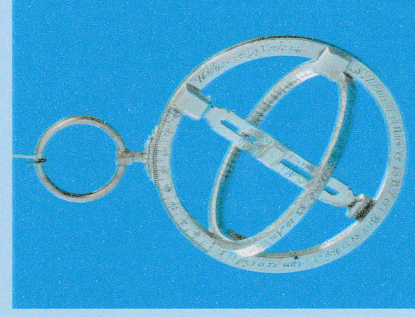


Human (Analemmatic) sundial in Somerset. Sundials of this type are popular in schools and public spaces because of their human involvement, large size and low risk

Education

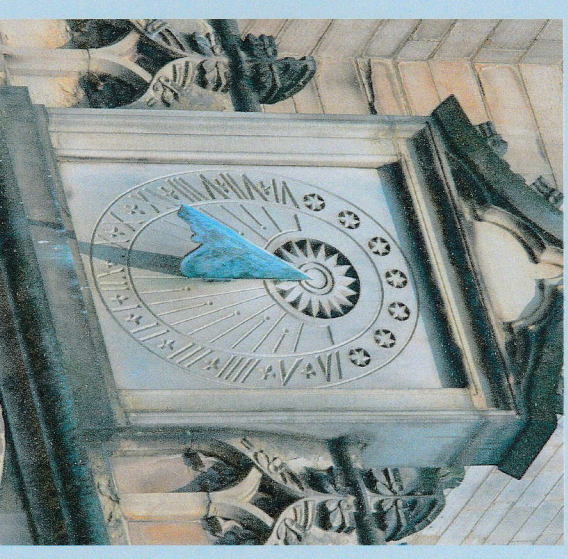
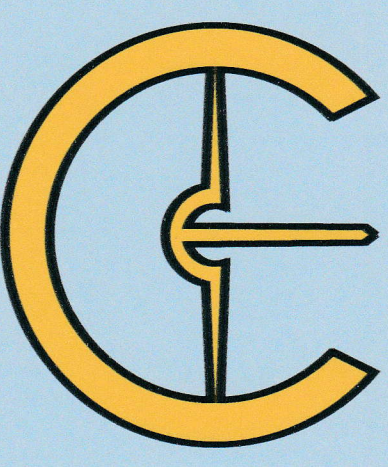
Educational material

- available free from the BSS website
- Speakers for clubs and societies
- available through the BSS
- Advice on projects and restorations
- available through the BSS
- Sundial design programs and data
- available from the BSS website



A Universal Equinoctial Ring Dial in silver by Henry Wynne, made around 1690.

The British Sundial Society



www.sundialsoc.org.uk

Publications

Bulletin: 4/yr with member contributions.
Register of sundials.
Glossary.
Biographical Index.
of British sundial makers.
Monographs such as:
The Double Horizontal Dial
The Equation of Time
Timekeeping in the medieval world

Membership

New members are always welcome.
Contact membership@sundialsoc.org.uk

Summary

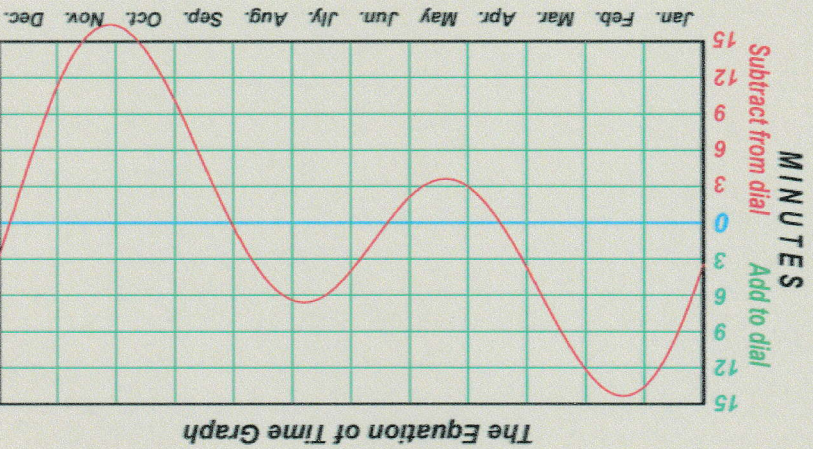
A well-established scientific society.
Wide variety of member interests.
Friendly and welcoming.
Centre of UK dialling expertise.
International membership.
Charitable status.

www.sundialsoc.org.uk

Registered Charity no. 1155688

Is the sundial telling the right time?

A sundial which has been correctly made and aligned indicates time by the sun. This is local apparent solar time. To obtain local mean solar time, use the correction curve below.
To obtain Greenwich Mean Time, apply the correction for the longitude of the sundial. When Summer Time is in force add 1 hour.



To read Clock Time from your Sundial:

1. Add four minutes for every degree of longitude to the West of Greenwich 0° (or your local Time Zone meridian)
- OR 2 Subtract four minutes for every degree to the East.
3. Consult the Equation of Time Graph and add or subtract the required number of minutes shown for the current date.

e.g. On 1 May a sundial at 3.5°W would have a total correction of +1hr 11min.