



Image: Illustration by Ned Asta for 'Faggots and their Friends between Revolutions' (1977)

**S.L.A.G. 2023 CALL:  
CROWNING OURSELVES AND OUR  
BLOOMING COMMUNITY  
at Paddington Farm, Glastonbury  
4th - 14th May 2023**

Registration opens on Saturday 8th April - more info below!

YooHoo!

The Faeries are called to the Spring Love Awakening Gathering, on the sacred land and waters of the ancient lands of Glastonbury, to celebrate Beltane, the height of spring & coming of Summer!

At Beltane, the fieriest and most lively festival, with myriad traditions and rituals associated with it across the world, we will spread our fresh tendrils like new springing vines awakening from the warm Earth towards the rising sun. We will open our hearts like blooming flowers to the buzzing energies of the queen bees, we will begin forming delicious fruits, ready to swell with love. We will frolic in the green wood, dancing like the reborn mayflies and laze amongst the daisies: calves with bellies full of milk. Our Lover Earth has woken, let us be with them, give thanks, celebrate and be merry!

We come back home to Paddington Farm on the slopes of the Tor to bring our own

manifestations of Summer and prepare ourselves for a gathering ripe with many opportunities for ritual and celebration.

As the moon blesses us with their full celestial opulence, let the manifestations flow through your crown out into the universe and allow the booming co-created Faerie heart to embrace you in your own individuality.

We have been given an amazing opportunity to tap into the magic of Earth with an exclusive two hour booking at the White Spring.

While the coronation of a new king & queen consort will be happening we wish to co-create a Crowning of all the May Fae Queens, Kings, and Non-Binary Monarchs within us all.

Let us bathe in the cleansing water and crown each and every faerie, past and present, in the Queerness that is Life on Lover Earth.

So we gently invite you to start thinking about your own royal selves, your most opulent expressions of your regality; how would you celebrate your sovereignty over yourselves? and your bond and responsibility to our planet home?

As the organising team tippy-tap the keys for this call, we are struck by the fact that we may be one of the first openly Queer communities to have this space in the White Spring. This is an amazing opportunity to bring our Faerie magic into this ancient space, unite the shrines of Bride and Cernunnos and celebrate the neglected but sacred non-binary spirits of the Land...

#### DIVERSITY PLACES:

We know the Radical Faeries to be an identity that is available to claim by anyone, and in many ways cannot be defined. In the spirit of this diversity, we wish to welcome in people who do not identify as white and those of other marginalised genders and identities.

Whilst we are committed to and learning about radical inclusion of people of marginalised identities, we recognise that white, cis men at the moment make up a majority in the Faeries and we seek to continue to broaden the diversity of our Queer community.

We recognise that how we do this is a work in progress and we don't always get it right – we welcome all energies working towards greater inclusivity. This gathering especially welcomes women, trans Faeries, Faeries of colour, and Faeries with disabilities (see below for access information). In order to promote diversity, a quarter of places at the Gathering will be reserved for those who identify on the booking form as belonging to these groups, which can often be marginalised by the dominant culture. We respect the right to self-identify.

When the majority of places are filled (first come, first served), there will be a waiting list and a cut-off date, when we will let Fae on the waiting list know if they have a place or not.

## HOW CAN YOU CONTRIBUTE TO SLAG?

If you would consider helping to take a lead or co-coordinate one or more these teams then please get in touch:

- Kitchen deities
- Welfare
- Safe space
- Finances & Fundraising
- Sex positivity & Love temple
- Hot tent
- Wood and fires
- Site décor
- Heart Circle organising
- Recycling and composting
  - Entertainment including Music, performance, DJ, Cabaret

Any other offers of time, support, skills or assistance of any kind is greatly appreciated. Feedback from previous years Spring Love Awakening Gatherings are also welcome.

## SEX, SUBSTANCES AND CONSENT:

We aspire to embrace sex positivity in the gathering. This doesn't mean that there is any expectation around sex. It primarily means working towards a positive attitude about sex and embracing all aspects of sexuality, placing an importance on consent. On a practical level this means that, in the private areas of the venue any consensual sexual expression is welcome. For a connected, present, and heart-centred Gathering, we ask that any use of mind- and behaviour-altering substances such as alcohol be kept very low-key and conscious. This is not a ban, but a call for consideration of how our behaviours impact on those around us. This consideration might look like drinking from mugs, not wine glasses, being aware of our own limits around intoxication, and honouring that this gathering is not the place to push those limits.

We ask that if anyone really feels the need to use such substances, such use is discrete and they are not offered to others, as this can be problematic for some, for example those in recovery.

## ACCESS:

Unfortunately, the building is not wheelchair-accessible, and the area around the farm is often muddy, also dark at night, so care is needed with mobility. The Classroom space is 40 metres from the main house, across an uneven car park,

and up five steps. Our outdoor kitchen is also accessed across the car park. We also hope to hold some spaces under cover in the camping field, which may present access challenges. As Faeries we have a culture of caring for each other and helping each other when we can – this also is work in progress in terms of offering assistance to those in need, and the accessibility of our venues.

Much of the non-camping accommodation options are upstairs, though we have a handful of single/twin rooms allocated for those who need a ground floor option. These are limited in number and allocated on a first-come first served basis.

We will also hold in honour a 'quiet space' at this gathering, where Faeries can take time to themselves in comfort and privacy. This will be located in the Longhouse on the ground-floor.

Discussions of accessibility concerns are always encouraged. If you would like to talk in more detail about the access issues of the farm; ways your needs might be able to be met or anything else, then please get in touch.

#### HOW TO PAY:

For the whole gathering, we ask each faerie to contribute £250-300 for hire of the farm, food and firewood.

As faeries we are radical in our approach of No One Turned Away For Lack Of Funds (NOTAFLOF) – we want you to come and we don't want financial hierarchies to prevent your spirit from joining us!

This means that if you genuinely cannot afford to pay the full contribution, you are encouraged to pay what you can; the deficit will be made up by the generosity of other faeries – a wonderful initiative that we must treat with the utmost respect. We encourage the principle of GAYABAGS (Give As You're Able But Always Give Something).

We also have the ADAFAE policy (Additional Donations And Finance Accepted Enthusiastically): if you can give more than the suggested contribution, please do, and share your love!

Please pay in advance via PayPal or bank transfer, using the reference in the format SLAG23 [your name], e.g., SLAG23 J.SMITH.

If you want to pay in installments, add "1st", "2nd" etc to your reference.

Paypal link: [www.paypal.me/albionfaeries](http://www.paypal.me/albionfaeries)

please select "Paying Friends or Family" rather than "Goods or Services", so that we don't get charged a fee.

Bank: The Co-operative Bank

Account name: FaerieUK

Sort code: 089299

Account number: 65488214

IBAN: GB75 CPBK 08929965 4882 14

Bank Identification code: CPBK GB22

The Registration Forms will be available from 8th April, so keep your eyes peeled on your email inbox!

Love,

Acorn, Gloria Gayer, Mackerel Sky, Magpie, Mauve, Shuffle, Unicorn

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