

## Swinside Stone Circle

By AJ Noon

When you lie on these stones, they're surprisingly warm,  
And you can see how the stories have grown,  
For their silence and aura make druids take form,  
And the leylines make tracks of their own.

Known as Swinside stone circle, or Sunkenkirk,  
It's Neolithic to Early Bronze Age,  
A hundred years since the last field work,  
On what they think was a ritual stage.

'Axis Mundi', say some, the centre of their lives,  
With more than a thousand in the UK,  
There are fifty five stones *here* that still survive,  
And impossible to count, legends say.

Unlike Stonehenge, these blocks came from here,  
'Grey Cobbles', or porphyritic slate,  
No cranes or lorries to engineer,  
And move their incredible weight.

In the South-East corner, are two portal stones,  
And a path that leads who knows where?  
Speculation on these fills two mighty tomes,  
Do you have a theory to share?

There are plenty of circles, some quite close by,

But this is a secluded star.

If you're anywhere close, give it a try.

It's one of the best you will see, by far.