Stolen Sundials

If a dial is seen which appears to match any of those listed below, please contact the Registrar of the British Sundial Society, John Foad, Register@keme.co.uk, 01622-858853.
Dials are listed by Maker, and then by Year.

Elias Allen

Maker etc: Elias Allen
Year: 1634
Dimensions: 206 octagon
Materials: Brass/bronze
Furniture: Maker, date, Inscr

Reported stolen in Oct 1997. Info to Tun Wells Police 01892 5110550 ref: BZ/3374/97. Inscr reads: "Elias Allen made this diall and gave it to the Parish of Ashvrst, Año Domini 1634". Note: correct date is 1634 not 1644 as reported elsewhere. Shows 4am to 8pm in 30, 15 and 7.5 min marks. Uses XII and IIII. Hour line pass through the numerals. Numbers read from inside the chapter ring. Dial believed to be referred to by Gatty,1890Ed, p456? (some doubt as to this reference). Set in cylindrical pillar. Replica now (2004) fitted. Refer SRN 5832.

Francis Barker

Maker etc: Francis Barker
Year: 
Dimensions: 230 x 230
Materials: Brass
Furniture: Motto, 8 pt compass

Motto on pedestal reads: "Non Numero Horas Nisi Serenas". The plate is aligned parallel to the building, so that, unusually, the gnomon does not lie on a centre line or a diagonal. Makers name in SE border - only 'Clerkenwell' now just legible.
Photos J Foad
Reported stolen October 2009.
Replica made and installed 1999. See SRN 4477. Shows 3am to 9pm in 30, 15, 10, and 2 min marks. Uses XII and III. Numerals viewed from outside the chapter ring. Inward and outward half hour lines with gap one third out chapter width. Lozenge ended on inward marks. 8 point star with intermediate single lines making a 16 point compass. All 16 pts lettered. Circle inside the chapter ring of scrolled design. On simple elegant stone baluster pedestal with square plinth and capital. This dial might have been from Orkney or Stockholm since the design latitude is 59 degs 12 min.

Shows 4am to 8pm in half, quarter and 5 min marks. Numbers read from inside the chapter ring. Negotiations in progress '98 to purchase replacement by same maker. Sadly not realised.

Dial reported by RS (14.1.00) to have been stolen, probably at the same time as the Corney and Bootle dials. Curious arc on dial plate bisected by the gnomon and calibrated in degrees(?). Shows 4am to 8pm in 30, 15, 10, and 5 min intervals. Mounted on red octagonal section pedestal with octagonal top and square plinth.
**J Bennett, Circa 1760**

- **Year**: 1760
- **Dimensions**: 200 diam
- **Materials**: Bronze
- **Furniture**: Various, not recorded

Reported Stolen 12.1.99 Theft reported to police by Vicar, Andrew Body. Solid triangular gnomon with arched rod support at its apex.

**Thos Crowe Wateringbury fecit 1798**

- **Year**: 1798
- **Dimensions**: 300 diam estd
- **Materials**: Bronze
- **Furniture**: Motto, maker, EoT

Motto reads: "Tempus ad lucem ducet veritatum". Names of churchwardens Charles Knell and Robert Foreman and of Overseers Richard Crow and Wm Townsend. EoT scale (Watch faster/Slower) type Min & sec for 5 day intervals. Two circles of names where it is Noon at the marked time (details in Vol 27). Shows 4am to 8pm in 30, 15, 5 and 1 min marks. Half hours marked by inward pointing 3-part flowers. Uses XII and IIII. Numerals read from outside the chapter ring. Solid sigmoidal gnomon with two half round side supporters. 8pt star at root. Ref; Invicta magazine June 1910, Bygone Kent Nov 1980 (inaccurate). Reported stolen in April 1981. Excellent photo in Volume 27; archived photo is of empty pedestal. Solid baluster pedestal with round capital and square base still exists. Replacement dial on this pedestal is SRN 5124.
Cities incl "Boston in New England", "Constantinople".


0178

Delander

Year 17xx

Dimensions 600 dia approx

Materials Bronze

Furniture 4 scales and EoT

Is believed to be misaligned. Heraldic device at S. Sun Altitude scale, Object altitude scale, EoT scale, Compass points, Shows 4am to 8pm in 30, 15, 10, 5, 3, 2 and 1 min. Mounted on stone pedestal 1200h. Pedestal slopes about 5 degs from vertical. Maker's name hard to read. Reported stolen on 27 October 2008. It was removed from the plinth which was not taken. Crime Reference SM 03899084.

3607

L E Dubois

Year 1858

Dimensions 300 across octagon estd

Materials Brass

Furniture Maker, date

Dial set into capital of an elegant vase shaped stone pedestal with acanthus leaf decoration around bulbous lower part. Octagonal base and top. Shows 4am to 8pm in 30 and 15 min marks. Uses XII and IIII. Numerals read from inside the dial. Sheet gnomon with sigmoidal rear edge. Hour lines drawn to a part circle at the gnomon root which has scroll décor within. Was in rose gdn till Sept '93, then on bowling green and finally on upper terrace near road from which it was stolen in Sept 2003. Broken pedestal (only) found later in Midlands.
Harris?

Design Lat is N5120. EoT Watch Faster/Slower scale, Shows 4am to 8pm in 30, 15, 10, 5 and 1 min intervals. Quarter and half hours in ring inside of numerals. Ten, five and one min marks on outer edge. Lozenge half hour markers (with full lines) between numerals. Two scrolls at South end. Small chip out of edge near 8am. Mounted on stone circular base in 2 tiers 930 and 750 diam. Supported by a wrought iron bracket holding 2 cherubs. [Scanned image taken by PP July 1990]

John Hasselhurst

An important dial clearly designed with its gnomon supporter. It is often suggested that such supporters were additions. This one is in the shape of an inverted horseshoe. Date (if it is that) is not now legible. Two asymmetrical circles as furniture. Shows 4am to 8pm in quarters; half hour markers have an inward pointing arrows. Split noon. Gnomon has edge blocks. Mounted by four hole fixing on octagonal stone pedestal with a square capital and double square plinth the one diagonally set on the other. Ref: 'Cheshire Churches' R Richards 1947. Reported missing, possibly stolen, January 2010.

Thomas Hogben

Simple engraved 8 pt compass rose. Inscr: "Ulcomb T. Hogbe Fecit". Shows 4am to 8pm in 30, 15, 10 and 2 min marks. Uses XII and IIII. Numerals read from outside the chapter ring. Fixed by three hole fixing. Sigmoidal gnomon. Mounted on modern carved pedestal, rectangular in section and with square capital 990h. Ref: Clocks Magazine, 17, 1, June 1994, p42.
Hollond

Reported in 2000 as missing believed stolen 'some years ago'. Shows 4am to 8pm in 30, 15, 10 and 5 min intervals. Ornamental bulbous pedestal 1190h with square top partly broken. Graveyard (not churchyard) contains grave of (sweet) Fanny Adams and a tapering square stone headstone 900-ish high with a recess in the top about 150 across which may have housed a dial. NB: (629/220 refers to plinth only).

B Martin, London

See "The Mathematical Practitioners of Hanoverian England: 1714-1840". Only few Martin dials are recorded. This is believed to be one of his last instruments.
**Maker etc**

**Thomas Ore**

**Year**

1776

**Dimensions**

200 square

**Materials**

Bronze

**Furniture**

"Latt 52 40?", "1776"

Mounted on preaching cross. Royal Commission on Hist Monuments, N Northants, HMSO 1986. Also reported by G S Grimsley, 481/025, w/o photos. Reported as stolen by Charles Aked, in telephone call 1/6/96. A descendent of Ore, a non member, took photos in mid 1990s showing 4am to 8pm with (in order moving out from the chapter ring) 30, 15 and 5 min marks, half hours marked by single lines with inward ended dot. Uses XII and IIII. (Roman) Numerals read from inside the chapter ring. Circular scales on square plate with four hole fixing. Solid gnomon with sigmoidal back edge and two triangular section supporters. Wear makes upper edge of gnomon look 'waisted'. Signature at South end, Lat & Date in gap in chapter ring - both to be read from inside. Cylindrical sandstone pillar on 4 block square steps with circular capital having name R Morgan inscribed around it.

**Maker etc**

**Ottery, Fleet Street**

**Year**

**Dimensions**

400 diam

**Materials**

Bronze

**Furniture**

Compass, Eq time

Reported missing, presumed stolen, Nov 2006. Attractive substantial bulbous pedestal of circular cross section, with fluted bulb. Mounted on two square steps on large millstone. Located within interwoven ring of trees (wisteria?) on lawn to E side of school.
A Sol Horometer by William Pilkington of Pilkington and Gibbs, sold by Wilkinsons of England, with only two made for the southern hemisphere, the other having been for Australia. Belonged to the Canterbury Hospital Board (Christchurch, New Zealand) and was given to the small local museum at O'Kain's Bay. Stolen January 2010

Originally made for Lat 52d 45m (that of King's Lynn). Time scale arranged around the centre of a break arched square. Half a 32 pt Compass at gnomon root with directions marked & two shields below. Shows 4am to 8pm in 15 min marks. On modern square section concrete pedestal 1073h. Dial reported as being stolen in 2002.

Leans 1 deg to North. Shows 4am to 8pm in half, quarter and 5 min marks. Numerals read from inside the chapter ring.. Uses IIII. Solid scalloped gnomon. Seen (though not reported on) by RS 1995 but now reported by the Vicar to have been stolen in that year. Replaced in 2000 by a Silas Higgon dial made for Lat N5230 instead of N5412.
**John Thwaites of London**

- **Year**: 1806
- **Dial and octagonal capital missing, presumed stolen since 1994. Octagonal pedestal and plinth (1200h) on square base with two brick steps up. Ref: The Parish Church of St Peter and St Paul Dymchurch and Kent Country Churches.**

**Edward Troughton**

- **Year**: 1822
- **Dial donated to the Church by mathematician Edward Troughton. Reported by RS as stolen between 24/12/99 and 30/12/99.**

**Charles Voysey**

- **Year**: 1898
- **A circular bronze dial with a distinctive gnomon cut to resemble a hook-nosed face. Reported stolen May 2009. Info to Surrey Police, 0845 1252222 and to contact@artsandcraftsmovementinsurrey.org.uk**
Watkins & Hill, Charing Cross

Motto (round top of plinth) reads: "Man is like a thing of nought: His time passeth away like a shadow". An unusual quatrefoil shaped dial designed to fit a tapering pedestal of same shape. High quality EoT scale. Dial has 30, 10 and 2 min marks. This dial was replaced with SRN 3210 in 1995.

Year 1847
Dimensions 369 diam
Materials Brass
Furniture 8pt Comp, EoT, date, motto

Richard Whitehead Fecit

Octagonal dial showing time from 4am to 8pm in half, quarter and eighth hours on scales inside the chapter ring and in minutes (with Arabic Nos) on outer edge. Strangely some of the actual hour lines on these inner scales seem missing [eg 6 and 7pm]. Inward (arrow with H form) and outward (line and dot form) half hour markers. Elaborate inner 32 point compass with all points named [eg SEbE] and on an adjacent (outer) scale with its reciprocal [eg NWbW] so as to give the sun's bearing. Compass designed to be used with vertical rod (not present) passed through holes in the gnomon and centred on the compass. Markers on either side of the main 32 points indicate the width of this shadow for accurate centring. Two scales further divide each of the 32 points into 4 and 8 intervals. A half division is provided outside these scales (to the inside of the dial) and marked by an inward line with a three dot arrowhead. Wonderful pierced gnomon with scroll pattern, the whole mounted on an excellent panelled octagonal stone pedestal which is slightly fluted and with no visible base. Design Lat N 54d 40m. Photo R Sylvester, extra photos supplied by F Evans, 2002.

Reported stolen September 2009.
**Johannes Williamson**

**Maker etc.**

**Year.** 1753

**Dimensions.** 170 x 170

**Materials.** Bronze

**Furniture.** Mottoes

Mottoes read: "Use the Present Time/Redeem the Past/For thus certainly, though' imperceptibly/The night of Life Approaches". E.M. Plate slopes 2 deg to E. Shows 4am to 8pm in 30, 15 and 7.5 min marks. Numbers read from inside the chapter ring. Noon gap. Scroll at gnomon root. Reported stolen in early 1997. Sadly replaced by garden centre dial! Last seen by RS 1996.

**I (John) Worgan**

**Maker etc.**

**Year.** 1695

**Dimensions.** 200 octagon

**Materials.** Brass

**Furniture.** Compass, maker

**Thos Wright**

**Maker etc.**

**Year.**

**Dimensions.** 380 diam

**Materials.** Brass

**Furniture.** Other scales, 16pt Comp

A most interesting shaped gnomon with an arched aperture and vertical rear edge. Mounted on an elaborate white circular section baluster pedestal complete with a figure of Father Time and a cherub. The moon dial 'reputation' arises from its appearance in a Children's TV series of that name some years ago. Dial reported stolen in 1995 and replaced by SRN 4144. Uses III and is read from the outside.

Heavily encrusted dial. Unusual solid gnomon yet with sigmoidal rear edge. Elegant white stone pedestal on square red tiled area. Shows 4am to 8pm in 30, 15 and 7.5 min marks - possibly also in 10 and 5 mins. Time read from within the chapter ring. Uses IIII. Place, initials and date all marked. Initials given as W above IB and RG. Ref: TaBois T(275-7). Reported by J Foad as missing some time before date of his report of Feb 2003.

An intriguing dial. Dial plate is cut out to leave a time ring and a centre four point compass. Other 4 points engraved on time ring. Rectangular depression possibly for a dedication plate. Part of time ring cut away. Hole in gnomon suggests earlier alidade for use with altitude scale. Shows 4am to 8pm in 30,15,10 and 2 min intervals. Alt in 10 deg intervals. Reported stolen 20th Feb 2002 by Chris Shepley - the owner.
Reported Stolen 1998. Motto reads: "I also am under authority" (see Matthew VIII v9, often used with a military connexion). Delineated in 15 m intervals and showing hours from 7am to 5pm. Memorial plaque below dial: "This dial and this lamp are dedicated in memory of Wolfram and Claude Guinness. Eternal rest give them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them". Local historian, Mrs M Cleare, Ascot 22086

Shows 4am to 8pm in quarter hours. Angle of gnomon recorded as 51 degs, length (slightly bent) 4 ins. Roman numerals. Date is installation date according to owner. Dial stolen June 2000, 3 months after recording. Transparency exists - held by WI.

Motto not recorded. EoT correction is by use of a graph. Dial donated by M&S staff at Basildon on the 100th anniversary of the business. Shows 5am to 7pm in 5, 10, 15 and 30 min intervals. Numerals read from inside the chapter ring. Solid sigmoidal gnomon. Mounted on square stone baluster pedestal with square capital and plinth. Under side of baluster is fluted with five flutes per side. Dial not replaced after garden 'update'. Council unaware of its whereabouts.

Dial reported by RS (14.1.00) to have been stolen. Probably at same time as the Whicham and Corney dials. Odd curve in gnomon and peripheral graduations seem unusually shallow. Shows 4am to 8pm in 30, 15, 10 and 5 min intervals. Red sandstone octagonal section pedestal, wider at top and bottom. Square plinth, weathered West face.

Shows 4am to 8pm in 30, 15, 7.5 and 3.75 mins. Uses XII and IIII. Numerals read from inside the dial. Noon gap with meridian line drawn in centre. Surface mounted open gnomon with curved supporter but without side supports.. Set on octagonal column panelled with gothic arches but with no especial capital or base. Stolen, together with its plinth, in October 2000, and replaced with a copy (see SRN 6377).
Semi circular dial on its own octagonal column 1830h to dial top. Shows 6am to 6pm in 30, 15 and 10 min marks. Uses XII and IV. Split Noon. Supported on an octagonal stone column with square base and top. Gnomon is in correct place despite appearances. [D Brown reported in 2004 that this dial has been stolen]

A circular bronze dial on a short mushroom pedestal, with lettering outside the dial. Stolen September 2009. Info to Sussex Police, 0845 6070999. Photo from local newspaper, from Ms J Jones.

Simple dial with hour lines drawn to gnomon root. Shows 6am to 6pm in hours. Uses XII and IV. No split noon line despite fairly thick gnomon. Set on red coloured tapered square section concrete pedestal. Plinth dated March 1948. Dial and pedestal originally from Langham near Colchester. Stolen 3 weeks after being recorded.