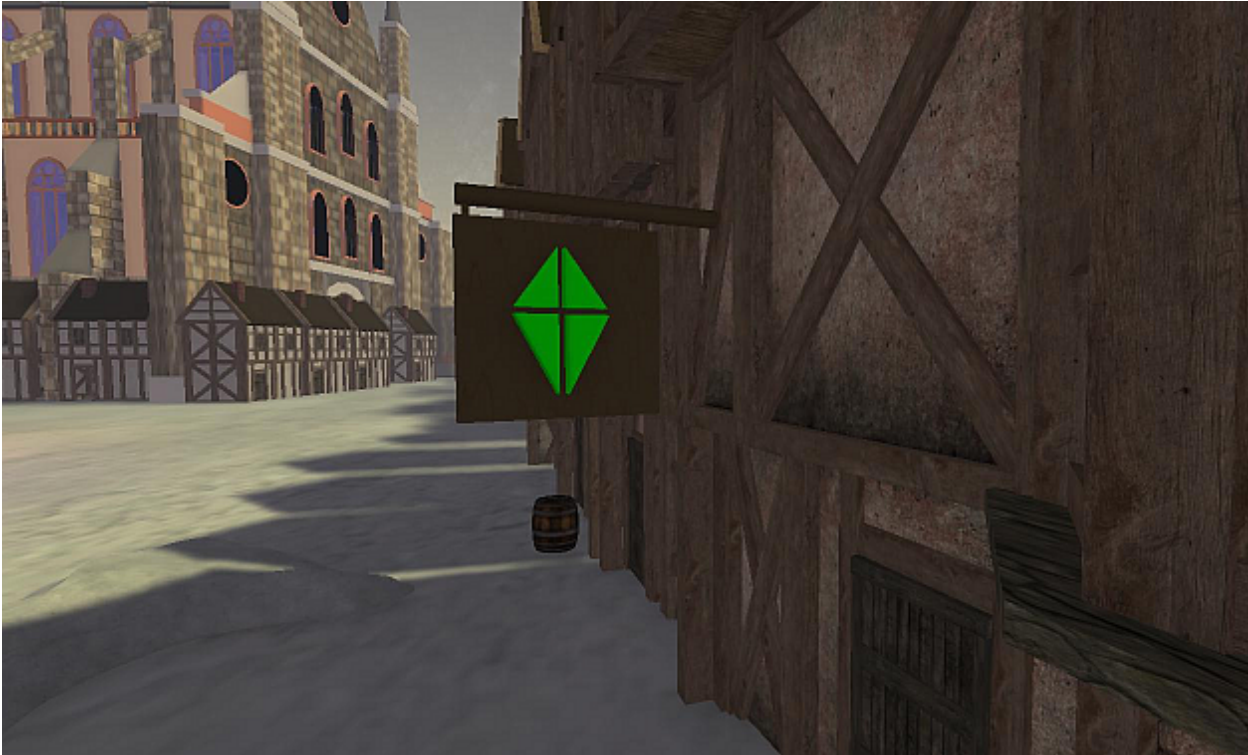


Newsletter for 11th Dec 2015

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NewsFromSignOfTheKite

Highlights: VarRegions, OSCC15, free mesh landforms and more...



Introduction

Welcome to news from Sign of the Kite. This is a new initiative FOR Kiteley residents BY Kiteley residents. No time to attend community meetings or read forums, blogs and social media? This is your concise weekly update on what's happening in Kiteley and the wider OpenSim community. Read it on the forum, get it in notecard form via the inworld group **Sign of the Kite** or from the inworld vendor at the landing point on Micrographia.

Got news of your world or group, an event, a recruitment drive, a newsworthy shop, product or promotion? Drop a brief notecard on avatar Graham Mills_2 inworld or PM Graham Mills via the Forum. All that's needed are 2-3 sentences with a title, URL and/or hypergrid address. All times in PDT, please, and nothing A-rated/NSFW.

Copy deadlines are 17:00 Wednesday for inclusion in Friday's news.

Sign of the Kite is not affiliated to or sponsored by Kiteley.

Kitely goes Var

Looking for your multi- or mega-region? As of 9th December these will be automatically replaced by VarRegions to improve compatibility with core OpenSim. This may affect OARs, terrain textures and landmarks. Otherwise it should be business as usual. See the Kitely blog for details. The update also fixed issues with searching for certain types of world name, speeded up loading of objects into the Contents tab when editing and added a large number of fonts to the OSSL-based drawing capability (OSSL extends SL scripting to allow scripts to draw and write on prims).

VarRegions (Blog): <http://bit.ly/1XYM5pd> Fonts (Forum): <http://bit.ly/1Y1QAza>

Kitely Residents Present at OSCC15

The annual OpenSim community meetup is now in its second year and attracted 270+ registrations with 100+ avatars inworld during most of the day. Ramesh Ramloll presented on the latest iteration of the sim-authoring tool RezMela which now integrates with real world maps. Ghaelen DLareh and Ruby ODegee presented an enchanting holoscene incorporating a Non-Player Character (NPC) and recorded voice of the poet Yeats. SUNY Empire State College educators gave a fascinating presentation on how they use Kitely for a range of educational activities ranging from training in film direction to biology. The Avatar Repertory Theater is based on many grids but deserves a special mention for their wonderful vignette drawn from *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Although it was too late in the day for some, Ann Cudworth led a visit to her Kitely world which relates to the forthcoming and eagerly awaited book *Extending Virtual World Design*.

Recordings: <http://bit.ly/1NDDUgA>

Free terrain mesh

Want to add interest to your terrain? Expert mesh creator Ozwell Wayfarer has kindly made available the lumps and bumps of his popular meshforms (think snowdrifts, for example). They're available free from his world or for 10 KC (minimum price) from Kitely Market. And yes, they're exportable and there's a seasonally appropriate snow texture among others.

Forum post: <http://bit.ly/1M0X8XV>

Work-in-Progress (WIP) meetup

The next show-and-tell meetup on Cookie II is at 13:00 on 13 Dec and is going to feature... zombies!?!

Details: <http://bit.ly/1XVV8fU>

Got an event in the coming week? Let us know and we'll add it here

It's Christmas!!



Love it or loathe it, the festive season is upon us and Kately Market has specially tagged items for Christmas, Winterfest and New Year. Have you decked your halls with boughs of holly? Can we see?

Here are some seasonal worlds to explore:

- Seanchai (Shandon Loring; also live readings of classic tales <http://bit.ly/1Y3aMkk>)
 - Christmas Island: <http://bit.ly/1NW1WFE>
 - Winter World: <http://bit.ly/1Y38VMm> (see picture above)
- 21strom (Zusa Ritt): <http://bit.ly/1RFso5R> (winter area with iceskates and snowzorbng)
- Intersections (Dot Matrix): <http://bit.ly/21PWpUZ> (winter area on Evensong via linking book; snowball fight, play cards, explore)
- Micrographia (Graham Mills_2): <http://bit.ly/1M3MUWN> (snow, free snow generator)

News from OSCC15: what next for OpenSim?

OpenSim is undergoing a major overhaul with donated code from Avination being merged into the core to give version 0.9 (yes, a major undertaking). This will improve vehicle physics, fix the default sit position issue and allow parcel-level privacy (useful for avoiding chat overlap). Multiple groups are working on web-enabled browsers. Presentations at OSCC15 showed how you could port

OpenSim content for viewing in Google Cardboard and run from SD Cards on the Raspberry Pi2. In other words, there's a lot going on...

Recordings: <http://bit.ly/1NDDUgA>

My favourite world is... Stuart



A Devokan storybuild, Mat Mahogany's Stuart is more than a touch mysterious and it's not always on the grid. It does, however, have a certain relaxing ambience, ideal if you just want to chill at the cafe. Thanks to Mat Mahogany and Paislee Myrtle whose NPC-alikes can often be found in the pub.

URL: <http://bit.ly/1XYSPmX>

Have a favourite Kiteley world or one you want to promote? Let us know and we'll include it here as part of a regular feature

Hypergrid Bucketlist: Romenna

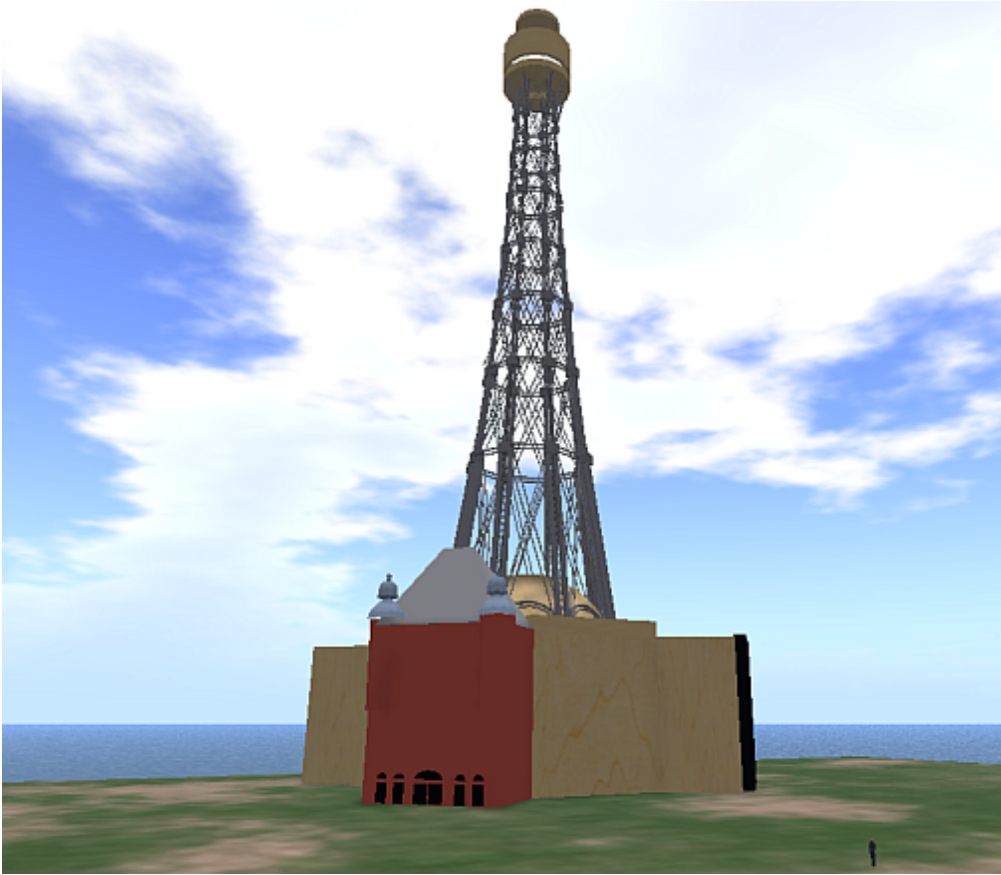


The Tolkien-inspired Romenna is an old but remarkably expansive city build on PMgrid. Don't take more than one friend – it can get laggy. Pro tip: As with all the best regions, it has an underworld as well. While it's easy to make a landmark, getting there for the first time may involve a few steps:

1. Use map search to find sanctuary.homelinux.org:8012:eld
2. Follow the orange arrows until your avatar collides with the rock hypergrid gate
3. Find the pmgrid gate (on the left, close to the back of the main group) and walk into it
4. On arrival on PMgrid, map search for **Rom21** and Teleport (you arrive in sea!).

Have a favourite non-Kitely region you'd like to share? Let us know and we'll include it here as part of a regular feature

Build-in-Progress: New Brighton Tower (Graham Mills_2)



Inspired by the Eiffel Tower this seaside structure in the north of England was the tallest in the UK when it opened in 1900. The tower was removed in 1921 but the ballroom and theatre were popular with American servicemen stationed nearby and the Beatles later played the venue 27 times! Many photos show the outside but the visual record of the interior is relatively sparse. The surrounding park housed fairground attractions popular with daytrippers travelling by ferry from nearby Liverpool.

Let us know about your Kately build-in-progress and we'll include it here as part of a regular feature

Learning to build

There are a couple of hypergrid locations that are fun to visit if you are just starting out (or even if you're just curious).

- Primland (Fleep Tuque): [grid.avacon.org:8002:Primland](http://grid.avacon.org:8002/Primland)
- Ivory City (Tosha Tyran and the late Lumiere Noir):
[sanctuary.homelinux.org:8012:ivory city 1](http://sanctuary.homelinux.org:8012:ivory%20city%201)

Do you have a tip to share with novice creators?

Behind Closed Doors

Not everything in Kately is open to the public. Do you have screenshots to share of beautiful or interesting locations you prefer to keep to yourself? Go on, make us jealous...

What's with the Sign of the Kite?

When the ability to read was the privilege of the few, the majority located shops, inns, etc on the basis of their exterior signs. And we like kites!

Production team: Dot Matrix, Serene Jewell, Graham Mills_2

This week's editor: Graham Mills_2

Thanks to forum and community meetup participants for suggestions

The web version is based on <http://www.tiddlywiki.com>