

# Feeling homesick? Then call in the dowzers

by Catherine Kalamis

**Spring cleaning time is just around the corner and, despite the hard work in store, having a good old clearout can be deeply therapeutic. But if your house is making you ill, then maybe it needs more than just a facelift - it could be time to call in the dowzers.**



It's odd. When Clive Silk leaves his fabulous 20-room beamed farmhouse and stays elsewhere for any length of time, he feels fine and full of vigour. But at home, despite the wonderful surroundings, he suffers disturbed sleep and an overwhelming tiredness.

It's even odder to invite someone into your home who eerily comes up with an explanation, and a potential solution, for Clive's long-term problem. And it also takes a giant leap of faith.

Richard West is a professional dowser. And if you think dowzers simply perform their ancient art to find water, think again. He also claims to find what's known as geopathic stress lines - which, he explains, are 'faults in the earth's energy field caused by excavations or through natural forces such as underground flowing water'.

According to the UK-based dowser, the earth's 'energy field', which is partly geomagnetic in composition, radiates from the earth in a series of grid lines relating to the magnetic north and south poles. They apparently run skywards - yet cannot be seen or physically felt by most of us - although their impact can be reflected in poor health. But with the right equipment - a pair of dowsing rods - they are apparently detectable.

Woe betide if you fall in the path of a damaged line. According to the dowser a bad energy line can suppress the immune system. And a susceptibility to ME, cancer, epilepsy, MS, insomnia and exhaustion or even constant migraines, may all be worsened by these geopathic stress lines, says Mr West, whose quiet assurance as he goes about his business, dressed top to toe in black, is impressive.

Richard's company, 'Lifespace' was recently highlighted in the Daily Telegraph - and since then he has have been inundated with inquiries and people seeking his help, at £100 a session for a home survey, diagnosis and 'treatment'.

He says he is mindful of the sensitive nature of what he does and that he is working without guidelines. But so far he has had some impressive clients. Richard said: 'I have been asked by members of the Church of England to dowse for sites for new churches.' In this case, he explained, he was looking for the positive energy lines, which also exist, just like the damaged lines. 'Most churches and sacred sites are built on positive energy lines.' I witnessed them in action at the Silks' rambling home, parts of which date back to the 11th century.

What he did surprised me in the same way as a session with a medium might - it provoked a strange mix of belief and disbelief. Dowzers, like mediums, also claim to be dealing with an unseen force or energy. Richard flew into Guernsey at the height of the airport security alerts following terrorist warnings. Fortunately his bags of equipment and dowsing paraphernalia - divining rods that looked like straightened, wire coat hangers - and heavier 10in lengths of metal used to negate the stress lines (more of that later) had been packed away in a suitcase, which weighed in at a mighty 19.6kgs. (What would the airport security have made of them if they had been found in the hand luggage?)

At the Silks' home Clive, a retired manager for a Guernsey-based merchant bank, explained how he had been feeling. 'None of the specialists can give me an answer, but I can feel drunk with tiredness.' Following a talk with Clive, Richard walked around the room, getting a feel for the place. He then produced two dowsing rods and paced up and down the room. He was doing a survey and asking whether there were any stress lines in the house. But asking whom exactly? 'It is tapping into the information field,' said Richard by way of explanation. What and how? 'If we could explain that, we could explain the universe,' he continued.

Richard is involved in the British Society of Dowzers research group trying to understand more. He said questions had to be very specific. All fascinating stuff, but a little disconcerting. Nevertheless, I accepted an invitation to hold the dowsing rods and it was as if they had a life of their own. I sensed a tingle and was told they acted like antennae, picking up information from the surroundings. Apparently they can even be used to find lost items.

'There has to be a real purpose,' he explained. Richard pronounced: 'There are two geopathic stress lines in the house. Now I need to find them.'

And sure enough, he did, after more pacing with the divining rods, which swung wildly in the vicinity of the 12-inch wide line. One stretched from the front room through to the kitchen and was '89% strong' and another cut across a different part of the house and was less strong.



*Left: House diviner Richard West discusses his findings with Geraldine and Clive Silk.*

In the kitchen a further investigation placed it to the left of the Aga. Then came the odd bit. Geraldine and Clive suddenly realised that their bedroom was in the room above.

And the stress line (remember they travel upwards as well as flowing forward) cut directly through their bed. Could this be the reason for Clive's ill health and why he woke up in the mornings more tired than when he went to bed? 'If you sleep over the line, it affects the signals from the brain to the body so the repairs are not done efficiently and this is why people wake up tired.'

The second stress line was detected in another part of the house - directly below another bedroom, which had also been used by the Silks. Earlier Richard said he could often sense a stress line. 'You do become very sensitive.' At one house he said he felt its presence by being unable to speak properly and feeling fuzzy-headed.

As if to prove the point, Richard stood directly in the path of the north-flowing geopathic stress line in the Silks' bedroom and said he felt dizzy and had pains in his legs. This was the action of the negative line, he said. 'Geopathic stress lines can suppress the immune system shutting down the body's natural defence system. Any natural weaknesses or genetic disorders are amplified,' he explained. According to his literature, he goes as far as making a connection between geopathic stress and cancer, following research published in Germany 70 years ago.

'Exposure to geopathic stress might initially manifest as a crushing exhaustion, always waking with a feeling of tiredness and a fuzzy head.' He believes geopathic stress is due to our modern lifestyles and the demands of building on land for economic reasons. Then it was on to solving the problem.



Outside Richard found the bad energy line and its pathway into the house. He then produced two rather rusty-looking lengths of steel and banged them into the ground in the heart of the 'stress line'. This action, he said, would interrupt the flow of the geopathic stress line and prevent it from entering the house, thereby alleviating the negative impacts. But he warned the Silks that they might have to suffer a detox from its effects before the benefits really started to filter through. And to demonstrate that it had worked, he produced the divining rods that revealed the stress line had gone, or been negated.

The Silks are great believers in dowsing and alternative therapies: Geraldine has her own pair of dowsing rods. Six days after the visit, she said she had been sleeping better since the dowsing. 'I used to wake at 3am. Now if I wake up, I can get to sleep and it's restful sleep.' But for Clive there have been no noticeable benefits, so far.

'Clive has been unwell for so long that it could take months for it to work. And we have been told he may go through a detox lasting two weeks, so we shall see. We are open to anything and everything,' said Geraldine.

**Richard West's company is called Lifespace;  
He can be contacted on 07860 519790 (mobile) or (01227) 454116  
or by visting the website at: [www.lifespaceltd.com](http://www.lifespaceltd.com)**

*He also offers his services to alleviate sick building syndrome and the 'creation of positive space'.*

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