

ROYAL OBSERVATORY GREENWICH

MERIDIES MEDIA - MEAN TIME NOON DIAL

THE RESTORATION / RECONSTRUCTION OF THE ORIGINAL SUNDIAL BY DR TADEUSZ PRZYPKOWSKI IN 1968

MERIDIES MEDIA – Mid-Day Mean Time Sundial - Short Version

This sundial indicates the “clock” time at 12 noon (Greenwich Mean Time) or 1 pm (British Summer Time), when the spot of light, at the centre of the sun image shadow, crosses the gilded figure-of-eight line, according to the date. The gilded Roman numerals denote the months of the year, i.e. I = January, II = February, III = March, etc. Small red diamonds mark the divisions between the months. The vertical centre-line marks the Greenwich Meridian.

Example: On 10th October, when BST is still in force, the sun will be “ahead of schedule” and will be on the Greenwich Meridian 13 minutes before 1 pm ‘clock’ time. When the spot of light crosses the gilded line of the 10th month, denoted by the Roman numeral X, it will indicate the time to be 1 pm BST.



photo D.P.C.

The sundial was delineated by Christopher St J. H. Daniel, to mark the Queen’s Diamond Jubilee, and it was executed in green Kirkstone slate by Ben Jones of Exeter.