

**Pan Chalk Pit, SHIDE, Newport**

**Professor John Milne FRS, born 1850, was a brilliant British geologist who lived and worked in Tokyo, Japan, and in Newport on the Isle of Wight. He is widely regarded as the father of modern Seismology.**

▲ Milne lived and worked at Shide Hill House from 1895 until his death in 1913.

▲ The seismographic laboratory at Shide Hill House in 1903. The house was situated close to Pan Chalk pit from where Milne was able to measure earth tension.

**The earth speaks slowly  
To the mountain  
Which trembles  
And lights the sky**

*ancient Japanese haiku*

▲ This car park site used to be a gas plant and before that a foundry belonging to Hurst, a local hardware store. Scrap metal was stored and sold from here. Milne acquired a stamp post from Hurst's to make the large scale seismograph pictured above.

▲ Professor Milne and Tone, his Japanese wife with Shinobu Hirota (Milne's Japanese assistant), Billie the dog and three Japanese visitors in the garden at Shide.

▲ Milne established serious scientific study of earthquakes produced the first codes of practice for civil engineers in seismic regions.

**John Milne 1850 - 1913**  
 Father of modern Seismology