

# PHENOMENA

THE SCIENTIFIC INVESTIGATION OF THE UNEXPLAINED

ISSUE 21 - JANUARY 2011

## 2012

WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT?

WORLD NEWS

THE SMURL HAUNTING BY JASON DAY

GHOSTS OF STOCKSBRIDGE

A CRITICAL EXAMINATION OF THE ALLEGED  
PARANORMAL DISTURBANCES IN STOCKSBRIDGE UK

THE DROPA STONES

BOOK REVIEWS AND MUCH MORE

The First Ghost  
Story Ever  
Recorded in  
the U.S.



SPENDING A NIGHT  
AT THE DEVA ASYLUM

MONSTERS  
IN YOUR BEDROOM!



THE DARK SIDE OF THE MOON / THE 21ST CENTURY EXORCIST & THE FRIGHT - BY KIRST D'RAVEN



Well, its that time of year again, when many organisations and establishments have a good sort out and make plans in regards what projects this year will be undertaken. Apart from applying more time to Phenomena Magazine our teams hope to visit some of the well known UK hotspots for paranormal activity. It should be an exciting year with lots of opportunities to discuss our findings with you.

One of the projects we are focusing on is a petition in hope of the UK government placing tighter control of the use of fire lanterns. Many UFOlogists will agree that fire lanterns are a menace and create a lot of misidentified reports, but apart from that, they have been responsible for fires in Surrey UK as well as causing upset to farmers who are concerned for their livestock as they sometimes come across fire lanterns and ingest them, causing serious illness or death. Apart from that, local and international airports have issued warnings about them and one particular child was seriously injured when hot wax fell onto his face from a passing fire lantern, almost blinding him. We will continue to inform you how we go on...

SUB-EDITORIAL



Welcome to an exciting edition of Phenomena Magazine, Why you may ask, have a peep through and you'll notice a lot of changes, we think for the better; And a big welcome to all our new readers from the USA. As of this issue, we are happy to announce our inclusion on www.ufotv.com, the biggest and best paranormal related merchandising site in the USA.

So many new readers and hopefully individuals wishing to offer articles for submission. We have also tightened our belts behind the scenes, as well as the visual differences, we have been able to gain additional assistance from colleagues within the UPIA for ideas, editing and proof reading. Lets hope Phenomena Magazine goes from strength to strength.

Welcome and enjoy to all readers, old and new.

**PHENOMENA**  
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Now recognised as the leading online magazine of its type Phenomena Magazine is a FREE magazine from the Unknown Phenomena Investigation Association and Manchester's Association of Paranormal Investigation and Training.

Originally scripted as an in house journal, Phenomena's circulation and format was altered due to the large number of persons interested in the publication. Phenomena looks at the whole realm of the unexplained. Paranormal, UFO's, Cryptozoological and much much more. Guest writers and reviews of books and documentaries add to the content as does recent news from the paranormal world.

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A special thanks to all our contributors. If you would like to contribute yourself, please contact the Phenomena Magazine at: [phenomenamag@yahoo.com](mailto:phenomenamag@yahoo.com)

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Page 2: The First Ghost Story Ever Recorded in the U.S.?

James Paradie looks into the first recorded paranormal incident in the U.S. A family from New Castle, New Hampshire that experienced some strange going on back in 1682. The Walton family woke up one morning to the sound of heavy rain, but... it was not rain they were hearing, but stones being pelted at their home by something that could not be seen.



Page 3: 2012 - The End Game Begins.

Marie D. Jones is the best selling author of many books, including "2013: The End of Days or A New Beginning? - Envisioning the World After the Events of 2012." The mythology behind the 2012 enigma focuses on the ancient Mayan Long Count Calendar which was a Mesoamerican calendrical system that mysteriously ends on December 21, 2012.



Page 7: Monsters in your Bedroom.

For many years, people have reported having unusual experiences in their bedrooms. The most common being the sighting of closet monsters, or beasts under the bed. Could these all be just our imagination running away with itself. Should we really dismiss children's claims so quickly. Steve Wagner discusses a few incidents that have been reported throughout the years.



Page 9: The Dark Side of the Moon.

Often when you talk about the Dark Side of the Moon, most jump to the conclusion your talking about Alien Bases or the Secret Government mining the Luna surface. It seem to be a place where we simply do not go! Well... that's soon to change. The L2 Farside Moon Mission is set to go. Leonard David explains how Lockheed's new project will use robots to carry out duties on Dark Side of the Moon.



Page 13: The Stocksbridge Bypass - A Critical Analysis.

A critical analysis of the alleged paranormal disturbances reported in the vicinity of the Stocksbridge Bypass, UK. After ten years of investigation and research, investigators Kirst D'Raven and Steve Mera come together in hope of solving the mystery that surrounds the area. Can this well known and documented case be finally put to rest?



Page 19: A Night at Deva Asylum.

'I never got use the weird feeling at that place. If it's true that buildings can really store memories, then the wards of the Deva Asylum held some unspeakable thoughts'. Dave Sadler of UPIA (The Unknown Phenomena Investigation Association) got a little more than he bargained for when he stayed the night on the alleged haunted wards of the Deva Asylum.



Page 22: The Fright.

Kirst D'Raven has made it her business to know where everything and everyone is during investigations, and that every possible thing that can be noted, recorded, taped or logged, 'is', because in her honest opinion, if anything weird is going to happen, it'll happen in exactly the place where you didn't expect it to... and this is exactly what happened during an investigation in Dronfield UK.



Page 23: The Smurl Investigation.

The Smurl family of West Pittston, Pennsylvania US experienced so much paranormal phenomena that their case became one of the most prolific investigations ever. Huge media interest brought about the book 'The Haunted' by Robert Curran, followed by the TV Movie. Were the Smurl's being haunted, or was their a more demonic presence? Jason day Investigates...



Page 27: The Dopro Stones.

Since the Dropra Stones were first mentioned in Erich Von Daniken's world renowned book 'Chariot's of the Gods', they have been seriously debated in regards their origin. The Supernatural Zone & The Astral World websites have featured some interesting information in regards the research carried out. Did these strange disks come from E.T.s or is their a more rational explanation...?



Latest News Items include: The 21st Century Exorcist, Green Fireballs, Ghostly Sightings and Evidence of seeing the Future. Also... Book Reviews consist of the UFO Christianity Connection - Fact or Fiction by Dr. Fred R. David and Loch Ness, Nessie & Me by Tony Harmsworth. Plus... Featured Advertisements and much more...

# First Ghost Story Ever Recorded in the U.S.?

Maine's close, but believe it or not, the first ghost story recorded belongs to the Granite State. All the way back in 1682 is when a New Castle, New Hampshire family experienced some interesting activity that made them move out of their house, and it even followed them there too!

The documented account takes place in 1682 in the small town of New Castle, when, even as it is today, was the smallest town in New Hampshire. A family named the Walton's woke up one morning to the sound of heavy rain. Thinking this was strange they soon realised it sounded like the house was being hit by stones. Rowdy kids? You'd think so, but more like rowdy poltergeists.

The family went outside and realised that the house was being pelted by stones, but by unseen hands as it was practically falling out of the sky. Some were small others were big enough to cause some serious damage if they were to hit anyone, but they were falling from the sky like rain, but elsewhere it was nothing, but just an ordinary spring day. As if the pure astonishment of it raining stones outside was strange it was even more odd that it was raining stones 'inside' the house as well! What was going on?

The Walton's were not mad, they were a highly respected family around New Castle, so the thought of them doing this for attention or to get people talking was simply mind blowing. But, there they were, watching the house being filled with falling rocks, and before they knew it the whole floor was covered with several inches of the raining rocks. Windows were locked, they were not smashed, but yet it was raining rocks inside the house.

It was almost like the Walton's were plagued with these falling rocks, because it lasted for months. No matter which friends house they used to get away from the rocks, it followed them their as well, and then when they moved back the rocks would cease at their friends, but then start up again at the Walton household.

One day, George Walton, the head of the house, gathered some of the rocks that rained upon them, and painted them. He then went and locked them away, but they would soon find a way out -on their own accord- and the



painted rocks would rain inside the house all over again. Even the secretary of the colony of New Hampshire, Richard Chamberlain, saw these unexplainable phenomena's happen before his eyes. Soon, talk got to other sections of the country, and scientists were coming from all over to see what exactly was going on to this plagued family. The scientists were frustrated that they couldn't find an explanation for it and to this day it remains a mystery of how or why this happened. Soon, the falling stones stopped, for good, and an old woman was accused of witchcraft and held accountable for the falling rocks of the Walton home. Lucky for her, she got away free and was ten years shy of when they used to execute people for using witchcraft.

What could explain these strange phenomena's? One thing that can be said about this, is that ghost stories are as native to the state as the Old Man of the Mountain or the Passaconaway Native American's. The state motto may have the word "Die" in it, but the spirits and the ghost stories that reside in this state may never die. Poltergeist phenomena has been blamed for many similar instances of stone throwing. There are a number of well documented incidents...

There have been numerous unexplained events that include instances of stones falling from the sky - or somewhere. Showers of stones, often from clear skies and in areas where rockslides from mountains cannot be blamed. Hails of stones pummeling rooftops and people, often causing damage and injury. Investigations of these events usually end with unnerved victims and with officials scratching their heads in puzzlement or, out of desperation, inventing "explanations" that are sometimes as outlandish as the events themselves.

Reports of this particular type of mystery go back centuries and come from all over the world. One of the earliest written accounts was by Robert Kirk in 1690, who attributed the throwing of "great stones" to subterranean inhabitants that he called the "invisible wights." And an unexplained stone-throwing incident that took place in New Hampshire was recorded in a pamphlet entitled "Lithobolia, or the Stone-throwing Devil," published in London in 1698. In some of these bizarre cases, the rain of stones occurs in connection with other paranormal phenomena, such as a haunting or poltergeist activity...

In the famous Bell Witch haunting of 1817, which included a host of strange goings-on, neighbours of the beleaguered Bells were pelted with stones thrown by an unseen entity.

The phenomenon is defined by the inability of investigators to identify any assailants or vandals, and usually by the lack of any motive for such an assault. So the questions arise: Where do these phantom stones come from? Who or what is responsible for throwing or dropping them?

# 2012 - The End Game Begins

Marie D. Jones is the best selling author of many books, including "2013: The End of Days or A New Beginning? - Envisioning the World After the Events of 2012." The mythology behind the 2012 enigma focuses on the ancient Mayan Long Count Calendar which was a Meso-american calendrical system that mysteriously ends on December 21, 2012.

The world is abuzz with talk of the year 2012; however, not everyone is looking forward to the year with the same outlook or expectations. For some, the year hints at apocalyptic end times; a period in which the world will be thrown into utter chaos and violent upheaval. A turbulent and tumultuous epoch in which both natural and man-made disasters will decimate and possibly lead to the extinction of life as we know it. Other, more optimistic people perceive this date as a moment of awakening, a massive global transformation of consciousness...one which is to be anticipated with joy and celebration. Perhaps, the real outcome lies somewhere in between the two extremes.

altogether, snuffed out in an explosive supernova of disaster upon plague, warfare upon extermination? Both the Judeo-Christian and Islamic end times scenarios, which are based upon Western fundamentalist Abrahamic thought, do indeed herald a time of literal cleansing. A time when the earth would suffer through the coming of the Four Horsemen bearing gifts of war, famine, plague and death - with the ultimate judgment day not too far behind. And certainly there is ample evidence in other religious traditions of an ending of one age, as in the Hindu "yugas" or ages that mark a cyclical pattern of both external and internal creation and destruction.

***'The final avatar will incarnate as Kali and bring about the destruction of all wicked people. Ultimately, the year 2012 may be more about internal transformation rather than external change'.***

The mythology behind the 2012 enigma focuses on the ancient Mayan Long Count Calendar which was a Meso-american calendrical system that mysteriously ends on December 21, 2012. Interestingly enough, that date also coincides with the winter solstice. This date further corresponds with a predicted "galactic alignment" which is believed to occur when our solar system passes directly through the Galactic Equator. And although there is some valid argument for other "end dates" as prescribed by the intricate and sophisticated Mayan calendar, including the alternate end date of October 28, 2011 (as well as an end date of December 23, 2012, rather than December 21), most experts who have studied the Long Count agree that time is coming to an end.

But what kind of an end? In the human mind, the etymology of the word "end" conjures a certain finality - one in which there is no hope. Thousands of years before our current civilization, did this seemingly simple agrarian society actually predict that life would end

This ongoing cycle or "kalpa" also has an end date when, according to Hindu belief, the final avatar will incarnate as Kali and bring about the destruction of all wicked people. Is that likewise an "end?" Even the oldest creation stories and mythologies tell of a cosmic cycle punctuated by a Big Ending, so to speak, although many native traditions believe that the end, though violent and deadly to be sure, would then be the beginning of a new era of peace, harmony and enlightenment.

The Mayans themselves have suggested that their own end date is really nothing more than the finishing point of a particular age or 'underworld', the one we are living in right now, the Galactic Underworld, and the entry point into the Universal Underworld of both conscious evolution and revolution. There is nothing in Mayan tradition, lore or belief that envisages a scenario in which we will all die and the planet will cease to exist. Rather, the idea is one of amazing and collective rebirth. A period of newfound cosmic awareness. An era in which humanity expands their

collective conscious awareness. Then why all the angst and fear when people speak of 2012? Maybe, the answer is within us. Perhaps it is as simple as basic human psychology. Nobody likes change, especially when it is preceded by great stress, trials, tribulations, and challenges, the likes of which we are already seeing in the years leading up to 2012.

Even if we were to ignore completely the Mayan Long Count Calendar and its Aztec sister version (which speaks of the very same end time transformation,) and even if we did not ascribe to the religious traditions that await total human annihilation at the hands of a final battle between the devil and the Christ (don't worry, the good guys will be raptured, we are told!), there is still ample evidence that the next few years will be rife with chaos, disorder and destruction. Why? Because what we resist persists, and often grows, and if there is indeed a wave of spiritual transformation gaining momentum, then coming resistance will be more than enough to make us wonder if we will, indeed, wake up to a brave new world on the first morning of 2013.

#### 2012 Theories.

Over the last few years there have been numerous theories knocking around in regards 2012. Some talk of extraterrestrials making themselves known to humanity, while others talk of the approaching planet Nibiru which could cause gravitational disasters or even collide with our planet. Of course, a popular theory is the sudden shift of magnetic poles and a quickly approaching ice age. There is even theories in regards a movement through our solar system being a treacherous one and that we could be struck by a huge meteor. On a more pleasant note, one such theory talks of human enlightenment and a sudden growth in consciousness and awareness. But it seems we cannot get away from those who predict disaster brought on by a nuclear world war.



As we have seen over the last several years, global power is shifting to the east, with economic turmoil already gripping much of the West in a headlock of plunging home values, rising energy costs, shaky markets, and a widening gap between the rich and the poor. As we approach (if we have not already) peak oil, the quest for easily extracted fuel will exponentially increase - even as the population skyrockets in urbanized areas as well as nations such as China and India which will only serve to further demand while supplies continue dwindling to depletion. Access to potable water threatens to plunge the entire globe into new wars, even as corporations scramble to privatize what little natural resources remain.

Global climate change is destroying indigenous and island lifestyles, and creating chaos all over the world as more nations are forced to deal with brutal drought, while others battle unprecedented flooding. Warm places are getting warmer, Arctic Ice is melting, and the unfortunate people of Tuvalu are watching as their entire island sinks mercilessly into rising ocean waters. Malaria, a humid-weather disease, is moving into highlands where it never existed before while other diseases threaten to derail any attempts by our most cutting edge pharmaceuticals to fight them. West Nile Virus, SARS, MRSA and avian flu all seem poised to pounce upon nations of people unprepared for pandemics, let alone regional epidemics.

And lest you think our public health and emergency preparedness systems will save us, let me remind you of the horrendous failings apparent during Hurricane Katrina. But don't despair! The news is not all awful. Science, medicine and technology promise to explode into the stratosphere in the coming years.

Computer technology historically follows an established pattern known as "Moore's Law" which describes an important trend in the history of computer hardware whereby the number of transistors that can be inexpensively placed on an integrated circuits increase exponentially, doubling approximately every two years. Some technologists believe that this increase is steadfastly moving towards a "singularity," when growth, development and transformation will come together in a climactic head, ushering in a brave new world of artificial intelligence. Before we know it, life itself will seem to be a sci-fi movie!

Quantum computers, bioengineering, human longevity experiments, and nanotechnology stand at the forefront of major advances in the way we live, and even die. With astonishing new genetic research, we may one day see the end of all disease. With the promising new exploration of bionics, we may never need worry about heart or liver failure again, knowing that we can order a new one that combines the best of both computer technology and biology - creating new types of living

systems that promise to change not only our quality of life...but our whole culture itself. Naturally, some may fear the rise of artificial intelligence and the coming singularity due to the (perhaps warranted) concern that humans will be somehow made obsolete - or worse, that we may lose control to the very machinery that we created...machinery that can think faster and more efficiently than we do.

***'Surprisingly, the greatest challenges that face humanity and the earth in general, over the next few years are all preventable'***

Others still wait excitedly for the development of technologies which will make life easier than ever. However, even the promise of an easier life comes with a price. Rising rates of heart disease, cancer and obesity are directly linked with the increasingly sedentary lifestyles of most developed nations. Add to that existing rates of disease in undeveloped nations, and emerging diseases entering and re-entering the fray, and humanity may not be wiped out at all by a big, bold natural disaster or nuclear war. Alarming enough, we may get snuffed out by the tiniest of threats, those packing the biggest punch of all - viruses that invade our bodies. Viruses pose a very real, very significant threat to humankind as our bodies are too weak and stressed to fight back, with pharmaceuticals rendered ineffective from years of overuse.

Surprisingly, the greatest challenges that face humanity and the earth in general, over the next few years are all preventable. With that being said, the biggest mystery is why we are not doing more to prevent them now...while we still can...and when it truly counts. Global climate change is creating a need for new ways of co-existing with the earth. Already, water shortages are threatening to derail peace agreements and further escalate already tense relations between nations into the stratosphere of war. And even the decreasing rates of food production, coupled with over inflated prices and a global market that favors the rich hint at another coming disaster - the spread of famine into regions never having experienced lack of food before.

So what can we do? As individuals, communities, and nations? How does one prepare for 2012? If the world is going to end for good, then obviously no preparation is needed.

The Maya is a Mesoamerican civilization, noted for the only known fully developed written language of the pre-Columbian Americas, as well as its art, architecture, and mathematical and astronomical systems. Initially established during the Pre-Classic period (2000 BC to 250 AD),

The Maya calendar is a system of calendars and almanacs used in the Maya civilization of pre-Columbian Mesoamerica, and in some modern Maya communities in highland Guatemala and Oaxaca, Mexico.



However, if the Mayans and others were right, and the ending is really more of a beginning, can we indeed prepare at all?

The green movement, focusing on building sustainability now, is a great place to start. We should be doing anything possible to make the coming changes less disruptive and damaging, whether that means conserving, recycling or raising awareness of the carbon "footprints" we each leave...and how we can lessen those footprints. Local communities are already springing up around the concept of contained,

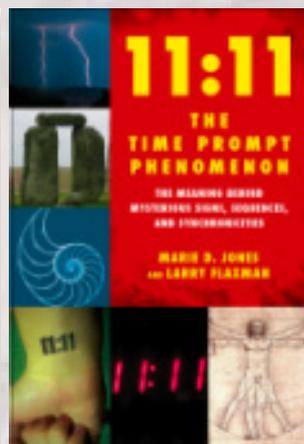
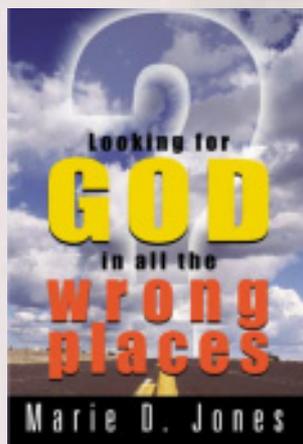
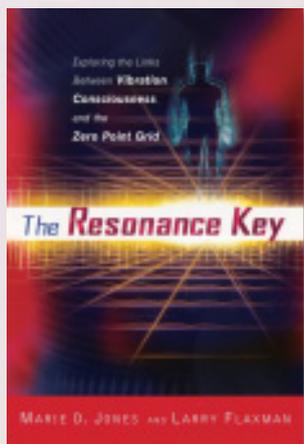
sustainable living, with residents pitching in by growing food, sharing water resources, bartering services and even watching out for each other's children to create a new sense of connectedness and unity. Should this effort spread, we may be able to greatly diminish the potential for death, disaster and disease that our overpopulated, stressed out and soon-to-be tapped out planet is quickly plummeting towards. Ultimately, the year 2012 may be more about internal transformation rather than external change. Even with increasing numbers of superstorms and earthquakes, an asteroid or two coming too close for

comfort, the highest sunspot cycle activity in years, global shifts in political and economic power, and a host of other earthbound changes, we may need to concentrate on the internal work to be done first. Spiritual transformation is on the lips of many awaiting 2012. Perhaps by altering our collective consciousness we can change not only our own lives, but our destiny as a people. Wouldn't it be great to wake up on the first morning of 2013 to a better world than we ever imagined? The problem is that before we can realize it...we must first have both the insight and the foresight to imagine it...

Marie D. Jones



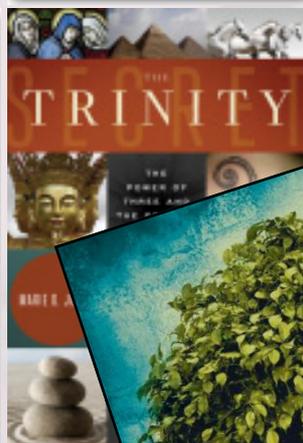
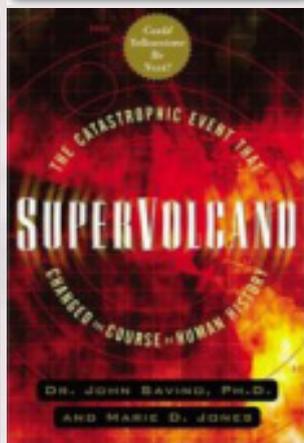
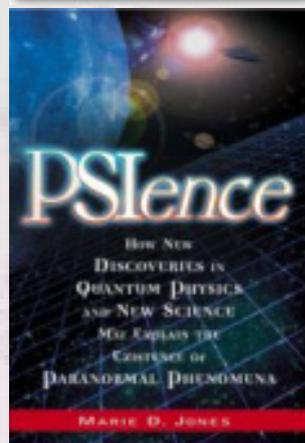
Books Available by Marie D. Jones.



Marie D. Jones is the author of a number of books, now available at Amazon.

The Déjà Vu Enigma, The Resonance Key, Looking for God in all the wrong places, 11:11 The Time Prompt Phenomenon, Supervolcano, PSience, The Trinity.

To find out more about Marie and her book, visit her website at: <http://mariedjones.com>



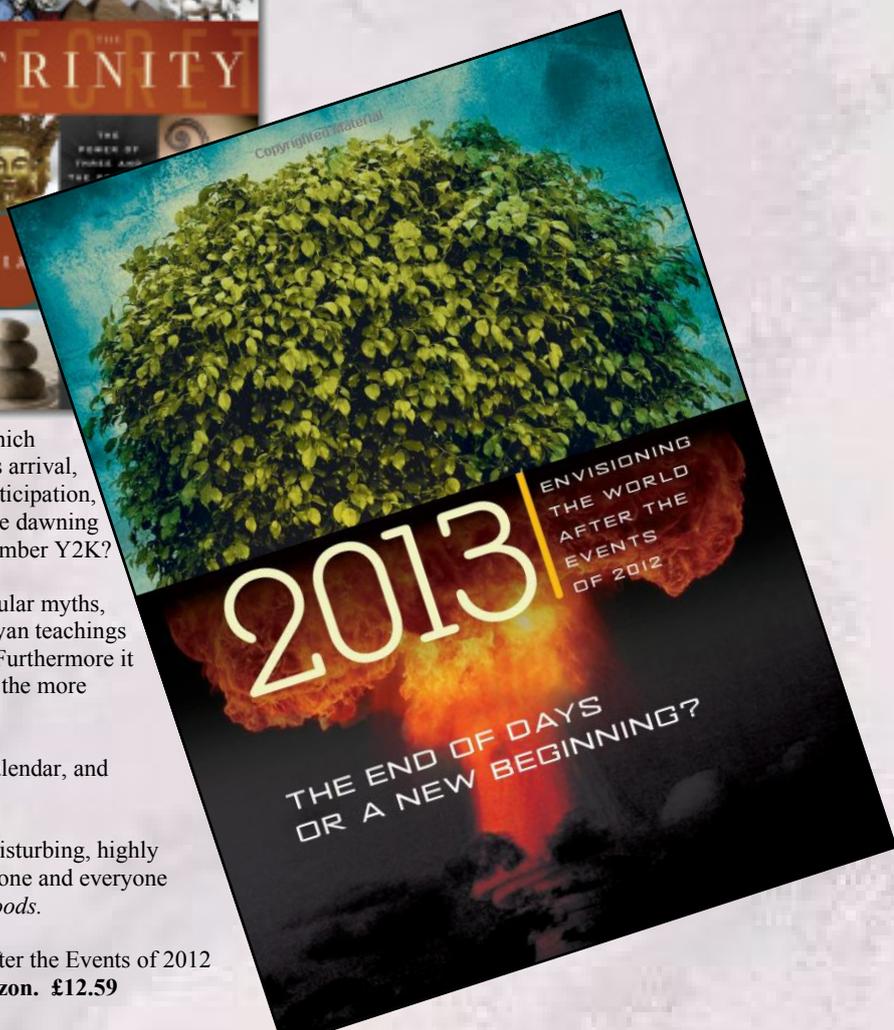
The 5,125-year-long Mayan calendar ends on December 21, 2012, which many claim portends a massive global transformation. Some dread its arrival, believing it will be the beginning of the end. Others with delicious anticipation, expecting it to be the catalyst for a quantum leap of consciousness, the dawning of a true New Age. Others wonder if anything at all will occur - remember Y2K?

2013: The End of Days or a New Beginning? examines all of the popular myths, prophecies, and predictions circulating about 2012, including the Mayan teachings of time acceleration and global awakening on a consciousness level. Furthermore it takes an in-depth look at lesser-known predictions and prophecies, at the more scientific and reality-based challenges we will face.

There is much, much more to the 2012 enigma than just an ancient calendar, and 2013: The End of Days or a New Beginning? will prove it.

"2013 is an essential read, and one that is at various times uplifting, disturbing, highly thought-provoking, but never without importance or relevance to anyone and everyone alive today." -- Nick Redfern, author of *There's Something in the Woods*.

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Stephen is the Chairman of MAPIT - Manchester's Association of Paranormal Investigators & Training.

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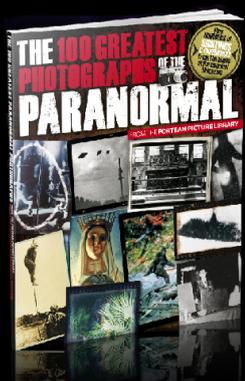
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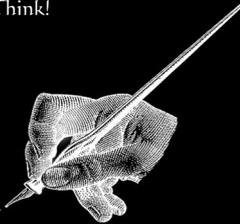


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# The Other Sides of Truth

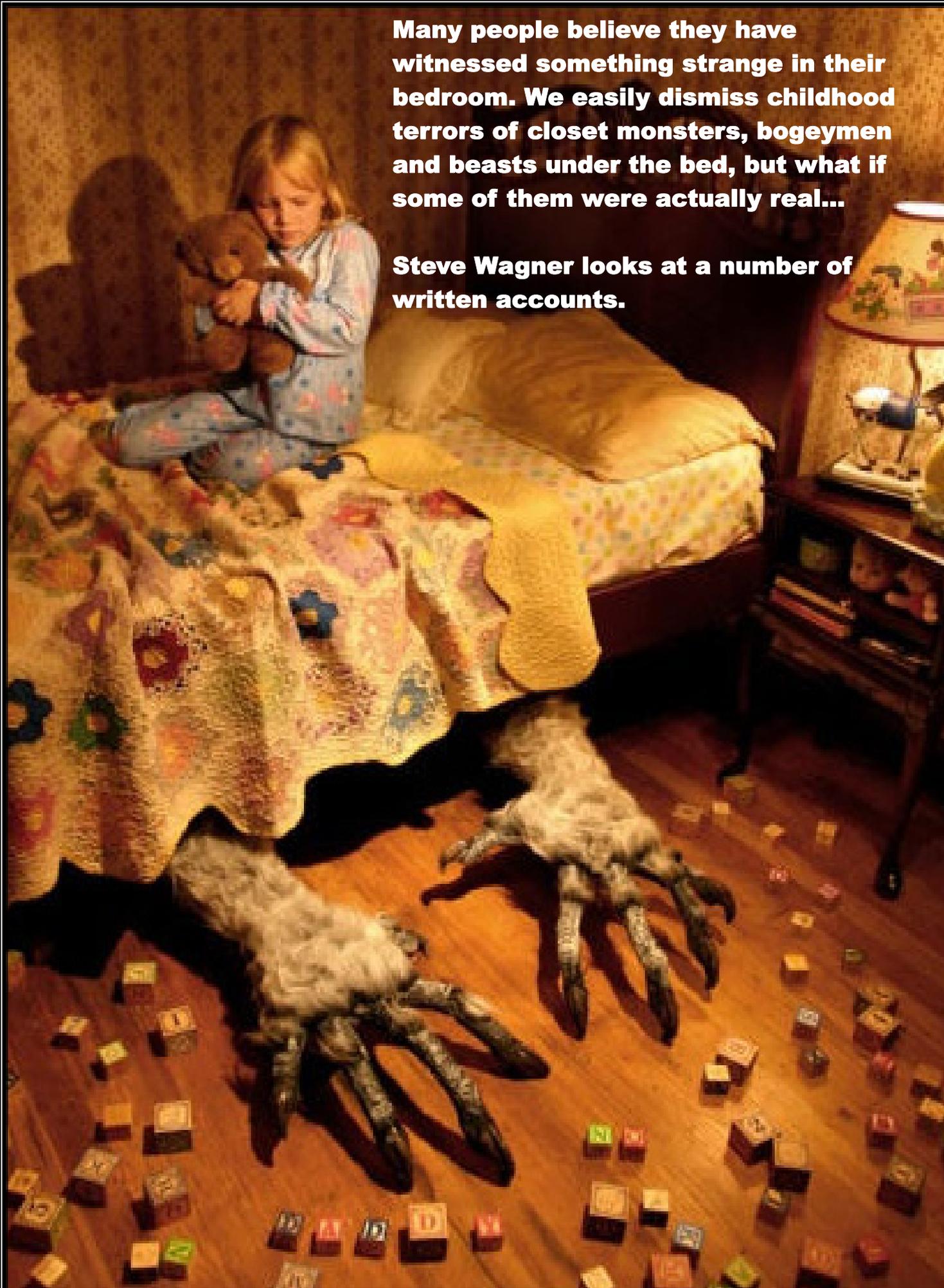


Paul Kimball is one of Canada's leading UFO and paranormal researchers, both through his work as an award-winning documentary filmmaker (2005 EBE Awards for Best UFO Film and Best Historical Documentary for Aztec: 1948, 2007 EBE award for Best Historical Documentary for Best Evidence; nominated for a total of seven other EBEs from 2005 to 2007), and as a researcher, writer, and speaker. He has appeared on television, radio (Coast to Coast, CBC Morningside, Binnall of America, Strange Days Indeed, The Paracast) and in person at conferences and symposiums in Canada, the United Kingdom, and the United States, to discuss the UFO phenomenon and the paranormal. Paul also stars with Holly Steven's in the TV series 'Ghost Cases', assisted by UPIA.

Visits Paul's Amazing Blog Spot at: <http://redstarfilms.blogspot.com>

**Many people believe they have witnessed something strange in their bedroom. We easily dismiss childhood terrors of closet monsters, bogeymen and beasts under the bed, but what if some of them were actually real...**

**Steve Wagner looks at a number of written accounts.**



# MONSTERS IN YOUR BEDROOM

My story took place in 2001 when I was 12, in my old home in Alpharetta, Georgia. My family and I had moved there in 1995 and from the first day I had always gotten a weird feeling in the upstairs part of the house. I was always petrified of the guest bedroom and had a number of weird incidents at the home.

The following is the most vivid of all the experiences. Thinking about it now actually makes me sick and I get that same feeling of cold panic. My family and I were leaving for a trip to Louisiana; the flight was at 3am. It was about 11pm and we doing some last minute packing.

I remember walking out of my room and lying down on my parents' bed to watch TV. My parents were downstairs at the time. The bed faced their master bathroom which had a walk-in closet at the end of it. The door had been left open with the bathroom and closet lights on. As I was flipping through the channels (the TV was right next to the door) I noticed something standing in the doorway -- it had to be at least six feet tall, a monster.

It was green and its face was disgusting. I can't describe it as anything other than a monster. I was utterly terrified. I tried to scream but nothing would come out. I got so scared; I closed my eyes and when I opened them, it was gone. I ran downstairs to find my parents and told them about it. I could tell my parents were a bit disturbed but they said it was probably my imagination. I have had to come to terms with what I saw because I'm a very rational adult. I don't know what it was but I know I saw something. From what I've read, there are other people who have seen tall demonic... or just terrifying monsters. It feels good to know I'm not alone. I just wish I knew what it was that was staring back at me that night.

When I was a young girl I remembered my father being a drunk. One night he came home all mad and he started hitting my mother. My mom was covered in blood and she was lying on the floor all hurt, she finally got up from the floor and started making him dinner. After he finished eating my mom walked him to my room so he would sleep well. I remember my mom putting him to bed and turning the lights off, then we both went to the living room to watch TV.

I remembered watching Jaws that night, all of a sudden we heard my father screaming for help. I got so scared because I never heard him so scared like that. Well my mom and I ran to open the door to my room, but it seemed locked, but how could this be? my mom said, my door knob was just plain and it couldn't be locked from both sides. So why did my door knob feel locked? My mom struggled for a few minutes trying to open the door.

Finally she managed to open the door and we saw my father up in the air like if he was hanging from something then a few seconds later fell feel down. He was so scared that he sounded sober, he told us to get away from there and he ran as far away from my room, when we saw my dad he seemed almost pale looking, he had scratches on his chest as if he got into a fight or something. My mom had asked him "What happened to you"? Are you OK? The only thing that came out of my fathers mouth was, "THE DEVIL, the devil was trying to take me away with him."

At first I thought my dad was only saying that to scare me but he was serious about it, he said that the devil wanted him and was trying to bite his neck. I thought to my self, it sounds more like a vampire then the devil to me, why would the devil want to bite his neck anyways?

Anyway we all were too freaked out so we all fell asleep in the living room, and the next day my dad told us the story again, but this time he said that he heard a mans voice, then he heard some one opening my closet door, he wanted to show us where he saw it come from, and since it was day time I really wasn't scared that much. We all went to my room then my dad opened my closet door and we saw this figure of a man standing inside my closet as if it was asleep, its arms were on his chest and he was all black, with long finger nails and he had wings. The weird thing about all this is that a few day later I saw it in my room.

I was watching TV in the living room. We had the hall light on so that way it could reflect light into my room, but that night the light only reflected half way. I saw a dark shadow standing in the middle of my room, then he took his hand out and started moving his index finger asking me to come to him with his reddish yellow eyes. I was so scared that I couldn't move at all. I was screaming for my parents but they couldn't hear me at all, how could this be they were ten feet away from me? Anyway when I turned my head back to see him he was already next to me. All he did to me was he had lifted me up and he kissed my forehead and my neck, then he left, just like that.

We never say IT again, but sometimes when I'm in the dark I feel like someone is there with me. I sometimes wonder if it was a vampire or something else. What do you think?

If you experienced something strange or spooky in you bedroom... Phenomena Magazine would love to hear from you!

Special Thanks to Nayomi at:

[trueghosttales.com](http://trueghosttales.com)



# THE DARK SIDE OF THE MOON

While NASA has officially given up its plans to send humans back to the surface of the moon anytime soon, a contractor is proposing a mission to send a crew to a stationary spot in orbit over the far side of Earth's neighbour.

Lockheed Martin has begun pitching an L2-Farside Mission using its Orion spacecraft under development. The L2-Farside Mission, a mission to the moon's far side depicted here, is being championed by builder of the Orion spacecraft, Lockheed Martin Space Systems. It is seen as an intermediate step toward more challenging missions beyond low Earth orbit. Using latest technology an astronaut crew would teleoperate robots on the lunar surface. Lockheed Martin. - The company says such an endeavour could sharpen skills and technologies needed for a trip to an asteroid - as well as showcase techniques useful for exploring Mars by teleoperation as astronauts orbit the red planet. Both are stated goals under the new direction for NASA outlined by President Obama.

## **President Obama laid out the goal of sending astronauts beyond the moon and into deep space.**

Last February, the White House issued its proposed NASA budget that aced out former President George W. Bush's Constellation program. That plan had benchmarked 2020 as the date to replant the feet of U.S. astronauts on the moon after the last set of moonwalkers departed the landscape back in 1972. Instead, President Obama laid out the goal of sending astronauts beyond the moon and into deep space. He aimed to land people on an asteroid for the first time in history by 2025, and send a crew to Mars by the mid-2030s.

### **Lunar Halo Orbit**

Space planners at Lockheed Martin Space Systems in Denver proposed using their Orion capsule to support an L2 farside moon mission - one that allows an astronaut crew to have continuous line-of-sight visibility to both the entire far side of the moon and

Earth. The crewmembers aboard NASA's Apollo 8 mission in 1968 were the first to set human eyes on that hidden real estate permanently turned away from the Earth. The Earth-moon L2 Lagrange point is where the combined gravity of the Earth and the moon allows a spacecraft to hover over one spot and be synchronized with the moon in its orbit around the Earth. From a halo orbit around that L2 point, a crew would control robots on the lunar surface. Teleoperated science tasks include snagging rock specimens for return to Earth from the moon's South Pole-Aitken basin - one of the largest, deepest, and oldest craters in the solar system - as well as deploy a radio telescope array on the farside.

*"We have come up with a sequence of missions that we've named 'Stepping Stones,' which begins with flights in low Earth orbit and incrementally builds towards a human mission to the moons of Mars in the 2030s,"* said Josh Hopkins of Lockheed Martin's Human Spaceflight Advanced Programs department.

### **Shakedown Cruise**

The first Orion missions to the moon's far side, viewed as feasible by 2016 to 2018, would accomplish science goals on the lunar surface using robotic rovers controlled by astronauts in space *"as practice for doing the same thing at Mars,"* Hopkins told SPACE.com. Hopkins said that the L2 missions would also be a "shakedown cruise" to practice medium duration missions and the higher-speed re-entry needed for exploration missions before the next step - missions to asteroids. Those in turn, he added, demonstrate additional capabilities for longer and more distant exploration before the Mars orbit mission.

According to a Lockheed Martin white paper on the proposed concept, a number of benefits stem from such a mission:

1. Astronauts on an L2-Farside mission would travel 15 percent farther from Earth than the Apollo astronauts did - and spend almost three times longer in deep space.
2. Each flight would prove out the Orion capsule's life support systems for one-month duration missions before attempting a six-month-long asteroid mission.
3. It would demonstrate the high speed reentry capability needed for return from the moon or deep space - 40 percent to 50 percent faster than reentry from low-Earth orbit.
4. The mission would measure astronauts' radiation dose from cosmic rays and solar flares to verify that Orion provides sufficient protection, as it is designed to do. Currently the medical effects of deep space radiation are not well understood, so a one-month mission would improve our understanding without exposing astronauts to excessive risk.

As scripted by mission designers at the aerospace firm, the mission plan is straightforward, performed using new or existing rockets and a configuration of Orion designed for lunar missions.

### **Mission Plan**

To land unmanned spacecraft on the surface of the moon's farside, NASA would have to develop a new moon lander, since plans for the Altair human moon lander under the Constellation program were axed. The robotic lander and rover would be launched first on a slow but efficient trajectory to the moon, to ensure that the rover is on its way before risking the crew launch.

Next, three astronauts would be launched in an Orion spacecraft. If NASA has built a heavy lift launch vehicle by then, it would be capable of launching the crew directly to the moon.

### **Rumours of the Dark Side.**

Over the years there have been numerous rumours in regards what my lie on the dark side of the moon. Some believe that there are alien bases backed up by unconvincing and more than likely doctored photographs.

Some believe that the U.S. have their own base there and have been mining the moon for raw material for some-time. I guess, until we can see it for ourselves, we will just have to continue listening to the speculation and rumours with a raised eyebrow!

Leonard David has been reporting on the space industry for more than five decades. He is past editor-in-chief of the National Space Society's *Ad Astra* and *Space World* magazines and has written for *SPACE.com* since 1999.

If that mega-booster is a no-show, smaller rockets can be used instead, but a more complex arrangement would be required. First, Orion would be launched to low-Earth orbit on a rocket such as a Delta 4 Heavy. Then, a modified Centaur upper stage would launch on a separate rocket. Orion would dock to the Centaur stage in orbit, and the Centaur would boost Orion toward the moon. Using either launch method, Orion would fly past the moon for a gravity slingshot manoeuvre toward the L2 point. Orion would use its propulsion system to enter a halo orbit around the L2 point. Once at this vantage point – 40,000 miles above the far side of the moon – the Orion crew would be able to see both the entire far side of the moon. Once at this vantage point –

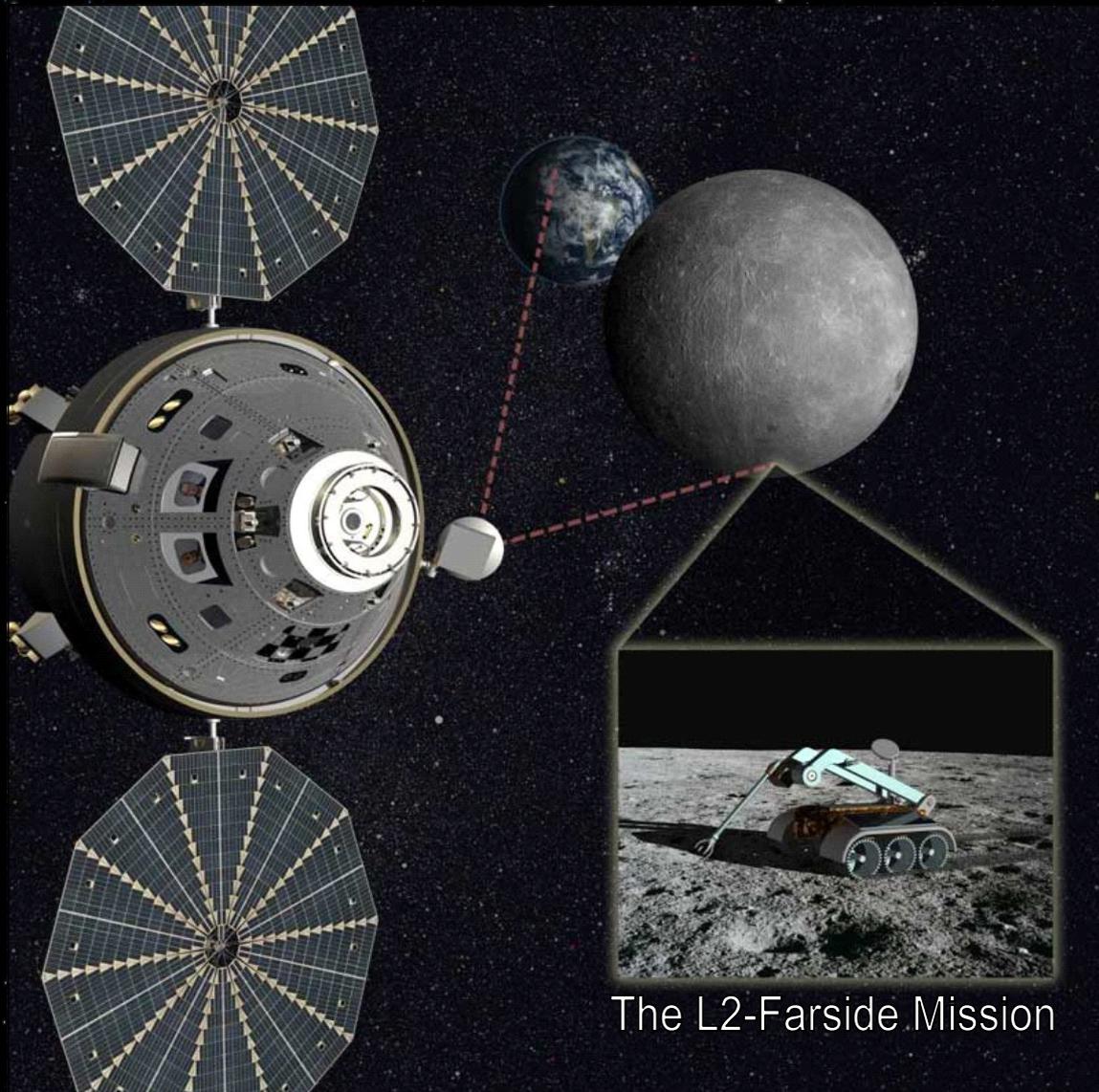
40,000 miles above the far side of the moon – the Orion crew would be able to see both the entire far side of the moon, and the Earth. From this unique slot in space, astronauts would control robots to perform various lunar duties. Astronauts would orbit the L2 point for about two weeks – long enough to operate a rover through the full length of a lunar day.

The far side of the moon is forever hidden from the naked eye on Earth, but now scientists have developed a simple way to describe how it looks, and in doing so could shed light on its enigmatic history. The simple mathematical formula they devised "explains at least a quarter of the moon's geography and geology," including the lunar

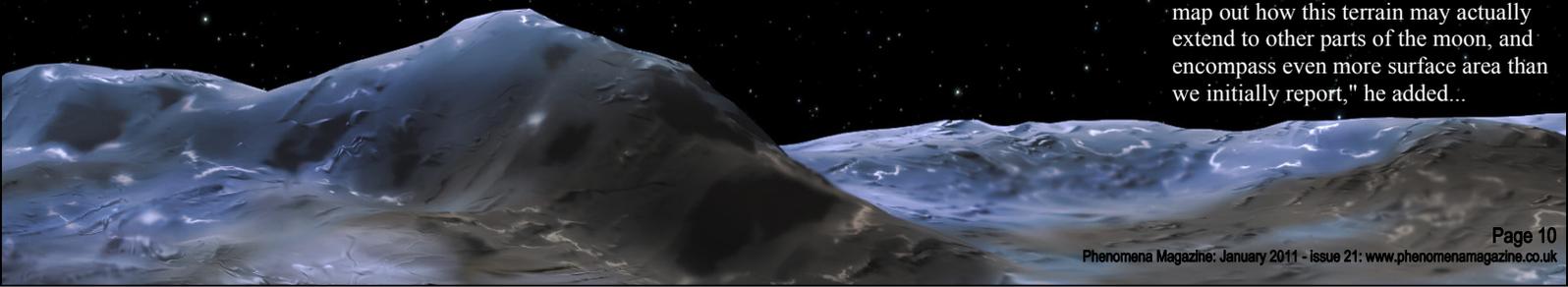
far side's highlands, Ian Garrick-Bethell, a lunar scientist at the University of California, Santa Cruz, said. "The near and far sides of the moon are very different — for instance, elevations on the far side are some 1.2 miles (1.9 km) higher, on average — and understanding the roots of those differences could shed light on the mysterious early days of the moon". Far side of the moon. The moon always keeps the same side turned toward Earth, which means one cannot see its far side — often erroneously referred to as its "dark side" — from Earth's surface. Humanity saw its first pictures of the far side of the moon in 1959 from unmanned probes, and human eyes first directly observed it during the Apollo 8 mission in 1968. Researchers discovered the formula while analyzing sets of lunar topography and gravity data, Garrick-Bethell told *SPACE.com*.

The stretch of the moon's far side surface explained by the new formula has to be the oldest lunar feature seen yet, since it lies beneath the ancient South Pole-Aitken Basin. The mathematics of it is similar to what applies to Jupiter's tidal effects on its moon Europa. "Europa is in many ways different from the moon, but early on, the moon had a liquid ocean under its crust, and it likely shares that in common with present-day Europa," Garrick-Bethell said. "The ocean for the moon was of liquid rock, however, not water." Just as the moon tugs on Earth's oceans, generating tides, so does Earth pull at the moon. The researchers suggest that roughly 4.4 billion years ago, when the moon was less than 100 million years old and its crust floated on an ocean of molten rock, these tidal effects caused distortions that were later frozen in place.

"People have been thinking about tidal explanations for the large-scale structure and shape of the moon for at least 100 years," Garrick-Bethell said. "The new thing here was to look at only one specific region of the moon that is very old, rather than to test the hypothesis over the moon as a whole, which was done previously." "As a whole, the moon exhibits a wide range of geologic processes, some young and some old, so I don't think it's fair to explore it as a whole". "These findings yield insight into the fundamental processes that built the lunar crust". "I would like to map out how this terrain may actually extend to other parts of the moon, and encompass even more surface area than we initially report," he added...



The L2-Farside Mission



## Green Fireball UFOs Blamed on Comet Debris!

An astrophysicist believes he has come up with a plausible explanation to a series of strange phenomena seen four years ago, which may explain reports of ball lightning and some UFO sightings in the southern hemisphere. On the evening of May 16, 2006, people across a wide area of Queensland, the Northern Territory and northern New South Wales in Australia saw at least three bright green fireballs streak across the sky. Similar sightings were also reported in New Zealand. A farmer from Greenmount, 28 kilometres south of Toowoomba, Queensland, said after seeing one of these fireballs land behind a nearby ridge, a pale green ball rolled down a hill and "was seen to bounce over a rock." Stephen Hughes of Queensland University of Technology investigated the phenomena and concluded they were the result of meteor fragments traveling through the Earth's atmosphere, accompanied by extremely rare ball lightning near the ground. His findings appear Wednesday in Proceedings of the Royal Society A.

### Electrical connection

Green fireballs are meteors of rock weighing at least one kilogram that glow green because of oxygen atoms being ionized by the swift passage of the meteor. The farmer who observed the ball rolling down the hill said it was approximately 30 centimetres in diameter and glowed green with the intensity of a 75-watt bulb. It descended from the ridge immediately after the fireball passed overhead. No trace of any meteoric fragments were found in the area. Hughes said the most likely explanation he could find is that it could have been a form of ball lightning associated with the fireball. "If it was something solid, 30 centimetres in size, it wouldn't just roll gently down the hill," he said. "There'd be a whacking great crater there and a huge explosion." "It sounded almost like a very light sort of beach-ball type of movement. I thought straight away this was an electrical phenomenon. Ball lightning was the closest thing I could come up with. It's certainly not a meteorite." He said the fireball may have momentarily provided an electrical connection between the ionosphere and the ground, thus providing energy for the ball lightning. Hughes said it's possible such connections could create a wide range of strange phenomena, and could be behind some reports of UFO sightings.

### Source of the fireballs

Hughes said the green fireballs in the sky were most likely debris from a comet that had passed close to Earth several months before. "It [the green fireballs] was definitely something from space and of meteoric origin as opposed to space junk," he said. "A green fireball is a lump of rock coming in from space, more massive than one kilogram. That's probably going to be something about the size of a lemon or an apple." Hughes said the fireballs were most likely debris from comet 73P Schwassmann-Wachmann 3, which had passed close to Earth about four months earlier. "There are [Hubble] space telescope images and Doppler studies, [which] were used to measure the speed of the fragments being ejected from the comet," he said. Based on this information, Hughes said the debris would have taken about 120 days to reach Earth. He added that given that the sightings fall in a line from New Zealand through to Tennant Creek in the Northern Territory, they strengthen the suggestion Earth passed through the trail of debris.

## Is Shayne Ward really getting touched up by a Ghost?

By James Ingham.

Singer, Shayne Ward told newspapers recently that, he keeps seeing a ghost! A female ghost who enjoys touching him up. He said: "Every time I see her, her image gets clearer. "The last time I felt someone touch my waist. I looked and could see my jumper moving and then tears just ran down my face".



"It's weird to be touched up by a ghost but I never feel threatened by her, even though she has a really distressing face."

## Grown men whispering on the floor like snakes. Screams so loud the neighbours complain. The Mail Newspaper (UK) investigates the unnerving world of the 21st century exorcists...

By Jane Fryer

Peter Lloyd's entire body is shaking. His eyes roll back, his hands flap about like a couple of trapped birds and he lets out a gentle groaning sound. Two inches from his juddering face, a man in a dark woolly jumper and smart corduroys is yelling at him. Or, perhaps more accurately, at something inside him. 'Get out. Get out evil spirit and go to the pit,' shouts Pastor Vincent. 'GO TO THE PIT! Cowardly spirit, I sever you from Peter. Now GET OUT!'

And, with that, he peels back Peter's right eyelid, glares into his glazed eye, jabs him hard in the stomach, bashes him on the head with a -leatherbound copy of the Bible and starts shouting again. 'Holy spirit, I ask for the full judgment of God to smite that evil spirit. Smite it. SMITE IT. Repeat after me, Peter: "In the name of Jesus, I break every curse before my father in Heaven." 'Now face me cowardly spirit and tell me your name. TELL ME YOUR NAME.' Pastor Vincent is carrying out an exorcism or 'inner healing and spirit deliverance', as he likes to call it. 'This is spirit warfare - an exorcism which literally means the expelling of evil spirits,' he had told me three hours earlier, as he daubed Peter's forehead in extra virgin olive oil, checked we'd turned our phones off and locked the door to a draughty office in St Paul's Trust community centre in Margate UK. 'Most people who come to me have been everywhere, tried everything and nothing has worked, but I get results.' Until five years ago, Pastor Vincent Bouwhuis, who is originally from Holland, ran a small business, refurbishing hotels.

But then he was born again, attended a five-week training course at the Spiritual Freedom Church at Phoenix, Arizona, launched his online Vincent Ministries and now conducts more than 100 'spirit deliverances' a year. He is one of thousands of charismatic modern-day exorcists who conduct exorcisms every day in the UK in return for offerings or donations ('people are generous but, then again, their lives improve enormously'). They advertise on the internet and in the Yellow Pages Directory as well as on Facebook and Twitter. Many, including Pastor Vincent, even offer online training courses, 'it's very good value at £50 a month' - where aspiring exorcists can learn the ropes. 'There's been a massive rise in demand lately, so I've been incredibly busy,' he says. And it's not just Pastor Vincent who's busy. Demand for exorcisms has shot up over recent decades. Recently, more than a hundred Roman Catholic bishops and priests gathered in Baltimore, U.S., to discuss the staggering demand and the shortage of priests properly qualified to carry them out. As one Catholic priest puts it: 'More people are dabbling in the occult, but then they get tangled and confused and come to us to unravel it all.' Because, surprising though it seems, every Church of England and Catholic diocese still has at least one bishop appointed exorcist upon whom parishioners can call in a paranormal emergency. They don't advertise their services. Catholic exorcists are forbidden to talk about their activities, but are busy behind the scenes to address paranormal referrals from parishioners, members of the police, the medical profession and the Samaritans. Although their work mostly consists of offering reassurance, occasionally, they still conduct formal exorcisms. They also operate under a strict set of guidelines and must have demonstrated themselves to be an exceptionally holy person. 'It is a specialism that has always been regarded with an enormous sense of reverence and awe,' says one priest, who cannot be named. 'We're talking about the salvation of a human soul here, not something casual.' So why on earth did Peter Lloyd (who claims to be possessed by the spirit of his eight-year-old self) opt for someone like Pastor Vincent? 'They had already prayed for me at church, but nothing really -happened,' says Peter. 'So I found him on the internet and here I am.' 'They come to me because I get results,' says Pastor Vincent. 'Or at least the Lord does, working through me. We go a lot deeper than the Church and we find every tiny hook that an evil spirit could have looped itself around. 'Of course, it can get noisy. Some people vomit, some scream in a loud voice and some manifest on the floor like a snake, which can be dramatic, but it works.' The Reverend Tom Willis is also an exorcist, but a rather more traditional one. For 50 years, he has worked in the York diocese of the Church of England as a Minister of Deliverance (the church's preferred term for an exorcist, although he claims he was once mistaken for the chaplain of a maternity hospital) and, until his retirement in 1996, he was the Archbishop of York's special adviser on the occult.

Today he assists the Church, trains clerics in his art and is still called out at least twice a week to help with some type of paranormal disturbance or other. 'I'm busier than ever, even the police call up for my help,' he says. 'No one wants to know about it, but it's a fact we have to deal with.' Reverend Willis has lost count of the number of times he has slipped silently, usually at night, into haunted houses, factories, hotels, DSS offices, doctors' surgeries and police stations to exercise his duties in 'the hidden ministry of the Church'; And he's seen an awful lot of inexplicable phenomena. There was the time he was thrown to the floor by a massive bolt of power, 'my head was whiplashed and my elbows and knees knocked together and every muscle tightened';

And the flying objects, 'video recorders, shampoo bottles, ornaments travelling through brick walls and doors opening and -slamming shut'. 'And sometimes I get a zig-zaggy feeling around my edges, a bit like an electric current and lots of people shouting: "It's behind you! It's in the corner!" But he insists that actual demonic possessions are very, very rare. 'In 50 years, I've only seen it for real three or four times and, usually, it's mental illness. 'Anyone who claims they are possessed very rarely is. You don't get possessed just walking to the -supermarket, you have to have dabbled strongly with the occult and called evil in.' The process by which the Church proves possession is strictly defined. Until all criteria, an aversion to religious objects, speaking a language the person has never learned and demonstrating a supernatural power, such as



extraordinary strength, are met, an exorcism cannot be approved. Which begs the question: why does Pastor Vincent perform so many exorcisms? And where do all the demons come from? 'Drug abuse, rejection, sexual abuse . . . there's also a spirit behind homo-sexuality,' he adds. 'A good friend of mine was homosexual, he came to the Lord and now he's -married with a family.'

**(Of course this is just Pastor Vincent's views and opinions).**

To the right: The bedroom scene from the 1973 film *The Exorcist* is one of the more famous in cinema history, but it now appears that a new brand of 'internet' exorcists are cashing in...



(Peter, the man I watched him exorcise, falls into several categories, he was a regular LSD and cocaine user, and rejected by his father as a child and had witnessed sexual abuse'.) Of course, many people would feel rather startled at homosexuality being mentioned in the same breath as demonic possession, but Trevor Newport, the head of a church called Life Changing Ministries and the man who performed Channel 4's controversial 'live' exorcism in 2005, has even more extreme views. He includes reading horoscopes, performing yoga and practicing martial arts as, demon-inviting activities. 'I've even had to cast things out of my own children,' he says. 'They were generational things, you know, if your ancestors have been involved in witchcraft, it can still have effects on you, that sort of thing.' Trevor is a born-again Christian who jets around the world casting demons out of people, talking at international conferences, giving seminars and raising money.

'I pray for money all the time. My offerings are good. I get thousands all the time. I got £3,000 just this week from donations; And I only ever fly first or business class. I'm very successful, but it's tiring. I've had people charge at me with knives and women shouting in men's voices. There's often a physical manifestation when the spirit leaves, it might be a cough or a scream or an unnatural yawn. It's an incredibly rewarding and interesting job and I love being able to help people.' Perhaps not surprisingly, the rise of so-called 'internet exorcists' has caused some concern. 'Some of these people decide to be a pastor, do a quick course in America, set up their own church and they're off,' says the unnamed priest. 'I wouldn't condemn them out of hand, but the danger is that they have no one they need to account to. 'And if money's involved, the whole thing can go quite bad quite quickly. Some of these other churches can jump in rather over enthusiastically.' The default position of the Church of England and the Catholic church towards those seeking to be exorcised is a healthy scepticism. 'If someone comes in and says they're possessed or they're having visions of Our Lady, it's safest to be sceptical and work back from that position,' says the priest. So how can you distinguish between possession and medical illnesses? According to Pastor Vincent, he can help with both. 'A lot of the trouble is disassociated identity,' he says. 'It is a fragmentation of the mind and things can only happen if you let God in.'

The *Exorcist* movie may have been popular in the cinema but such is the build up in demand for exorcists that the Vatican issued new guidelines to its priests and set up squads to deal with the rise of Satanism; Trevor Newport is a bit clearer: 'God shows me if someone needs medical help and if someone needs deliverance. I can see it. I know when something is not demonic and just mental.' One thing the old and new wave can agree on is how ridiculously busy they are. 'This is a massive social problem that, due to image, marketing and people's shyness is not recognised,' says Rev Willis. Apparently, it has been building up for half a century. Demonic possession and hauntings exploded in number following the repeal of the Witchcraft Bill in 1951 (for hundreds of years it had been illegal in Britain to consult a fortune-teller). Yet, it is still carried out.

Such was the Vatican's concern that, in 2000, it issued a new manual for exorcism rituals (replacing the 1614 version) encouraging priests to work with doctors to distinguish between demonic influence and mental illness. And, just three years ago, the Pope ordered his bishops to set up 'exorcism squads', priests trained on special courses to tackle the rise of Satanism. But despite all that, most people are still blissfully unaware that the Church provides such a bizarre sounding service or that it receives so many referrals from psychiatrists and the police. Indeed, if you tap the word 'exorcist' into the internet, you'll find pages and pages of people offering 'deliverance ministry', 'spirit release' and all sorts, but not one mention of the Church. As the Rev Willis puts it: 'It's not something we offer on Sunday mornings with coffee and biscuits, but it has always been part of the healing ministry of the church commanded by Jesus; 'And it always will be'. Back in the chilly office in Margate (UK) and after nearly three hours of shouting and groaning and a complaint from the meeting room next door about all the noise, Peter and Pasteur Vincent are reaching a climax. 'Get out. Get out. GET OUT!' Finally, a grey-faced Peter collapses into his chair in tears. He looks utterly spent and broken, but insists he feels some sort of relief.

'I feel like something has shifted. I don't know what, but it feels better,' says Peter. 'Of course he does,' adds Pasteur Vincent. 'Praise be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!'

**In 2009, investigators at the Unknown Phenomena Investigation Association put the internet to the test. They managed to be ordained in just under 45 minutes. What is the world coming to?**



## Is this evidence that we can see the future?

By Peter Aldous

Extraordinary claims don't come much more extraordinary than this: events that haven't yet happened can influence our behaviour. Parapsychologists have made outlandish claims about precognition – knowledge of unpredictable future events – for years. But the fringe phenomenon is about to get a mainstream airing: a paper providing evidence for its existence has been accepted for publication by the leading social psychology journal. What's more, sceptical psychologists who have pored over a preprint of the paper say they can't find any significant flaws. "My personal view is that this is ridiculous and can't be true," says Joachim Krueger of Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island, who has blogged about the work on the *Psychology Today* website. "Going after the methodology and the experimental design is the first line of attack. But frankly, I didn't see anything. Everything seemed to be in good order."

### Critical mass

The paper, due to appear in the *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology* before the end of the year, is the culmination of eight years' work by Daryl Bem of Cornell University in Ithaca, New York. "I purposely waited until I thought there was a critical mass that wasn't a statistical fluke," he says. It describes a series of experiments involving more than 1000 student volunteers. In most of the tests, Bem took well-studied psychological phenomena and simply reversed the sequence, so that the event generally interpreted as the cause happened after the tested behaviour rather than before it. In one experiment, students were shown a list of words and then asked to recall words from it, after which they were told to type words that were randomly selected from the same list. Spookily, the students were better at recalling words that they would later type. In another study, Bem adapted research on "priming" – the effect of a subliminally presented word on a person's response to an image. For instance, if someone is momentarily flashed the word "ugly", it will take them longer to decide that a picture of a kitten is pleasant than if "beautiful" had been flashed. Running the experiment back-to-front, Bem found that the priming effect seemed to work backwards in time as well as forwards.

### 'Stroke of genius'

Exploring time-reversed versions of established psychological phenomena was "a stroke of genius", says the sceptical Krueger. Previous research in parapsychology has used idiosyncratic set-ups such as Ganzfeld experiments, in which volunteers listen to white noise and are presented with a uniform visual field to create a state allegedly conducive to effects including clairvoyance and telepathy. By contrast, Bem set out to provide tests that mainstream psychologists could readily evaluate. The effects he recorded were small but statistically significant. In another test, for instance, volunteers were told that an erotic image was going to appear on a computer screen in one of two positions, and asked to guess in advance which position that would be. The image's eventual position was selected at random, but volunteers guessed correctly 53.1 per cent of the time. That may sound unimpressive – truly random guesses would have been right 50 per cent of the time, after all. But well-established phenomena such as the ability of low-dose aspirin to prevent heart attacks are based on similarly small effects, notes Melissa Burkley of Oklahoma State University in Stillwater, who has also blogged about Bem's work at *Psychology Today*.

### Respect for a maverick

So far, the paper has held up to scrutiny. "This paper went through a series of reviews from some of our most trusted reviewers," says Charles Judd of the University of Colorado at Boulder, who heads the section of the *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology* editorial board that handled the paper. Indeed, although Bem is a self-described "maverick" with a long-standing interest in paranormal phenomena, he is also a respected psychologist with a reputation for running careful experiments. He is best known for the theory of self-perception, which argues that people infer their attitudes from their own behaviour in much the same way as they assess the attitudes of others. Bem says his paper was reviewed by four experts who proposed amendments, but still recommended publication. Still, the journal will publish a sceptical editorial commentary alongside the paper, says Judd. "We hope it spurs people to try to replicate these effects." One failed attempt at replication has already been posted online. In this study, Jeff Galak of Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and Leif Nelson of the University of California, Berkeley, employed an online panel called Consumer Behaviour Lab in an effort to repeat Bem's findings on the recall of words. Bem argues that online surveys are inconclusive, because it's impossible to know whether volunteers have paid sufficient attention to the task. Galak concedes that this is a limitation of the initial study, but says he is now planning a follow-up involving student volunteers that will more closely repeat the design of Bem's word-recall experiment. This seems certain to be just the first exchange in a lively debate: Bem says that dozens of researchers have already contacted him requesting details of the work.

# THE STOCKSBRIDGE BYPASS

## A CRITICAL ANALYSIS

The little town of Stocksbridge lies at the Northern end of the Don Valley, close to Sheffield and Barnsley in South Yorkshire. Over the last few centuries, this town has grown from a small hamlet into what was, prior to the closure of the Steelworks, a thriving industrial town. The bridge from which the town takes its name is no longer there, but was no more than an old wooden footbridge which forded the river now known as the Little Don, the word Don being a variation of 'dun', describing the colour of the water. According to research the word 'Stocks' may have ancient origins; having connections with monastic buildings and possibly an 18th Century tenant known as John Stocks. The town played its part in the industrial revolution, with a cotton mill constructed in 1794, which was later to be taken over by the steelworks during the 1800's. Due to the need for fuel for the constantly working furnaces, the townsfolk soon decided to extract the coal from the nearby hillsides, and due to the high demand for this resource, children from the age of five and upwards were often sent to the mines to work.

Many will recognise the name Stocksbridge for its alleged paranormal disturbances, and if you were to type 'Stocksbridge Bypass' into any internet search engine you would find hundreds of websites featuring numerous stories about the experiences people claim to have had in the vicinity. Especially those that were reported to have taken place during the latter '80's in the vicinity of a newly constructed bypass, which opened on May Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> 1989 - many have even attributed the deaths of over 24 people involved in traffic accidents on the bypass to the sighting of an alleged ghostly monk. Of course, the poor layout of the bypass, its blind spots, poor lighting and speeding vehicles are obviously not taken into consideration - half of all traffic using the bypass on weekends was shown to exceed the 60mph speed limit, despite a high police presence. In an attempt to subdue rumors that the A616 bypass was a bit of a death trap, further adjustments were made incorporating numerous overtaking lanes,

warning signs and a speed control zones monitored by overhead cameras. Since the effort to make the bypass safer, serious injuries or deaths have dropped by 82%.

However, there is a legend regarding a local monk. Trevor Lodge, a local historian, had heard of such a rumour. That of a monk who becoming disillusioned with the harsh way of life at a nearby monastery, and had left and found work as a gardener at Underbank Hall. There he had lived the rest of his natural life, but because he had left the monastery the monk was buried in unhallowed ground on a nearby hillside. A hillside that is now cut through by the A616 Stocksbridge Bypass. According to the legend, his spirit is at unrest due to his grave being disturbed. There are also rumours that ghostly figures of children seen in the area may either be those that were buried alive during mining accidents, or killed when a cart carrying youngsters home from a day out overturned.

At first, incidents went undetected by the local press, thus many knew nothing of the so called paranormal hotspot - that is until it had television coverage by numerous TV shows which included 'Strange But True' with Michael Aspel and Inca TV's Production, 'Ghosthunters', after which a huge

influx of 'Ghost Hunters' from all over the country descended upon the small town. Police were often called to the scene as growing masses of individuals calling themselves 'paranormal investigators' began to cause chaos. Farmers and local residents were angered at the constant tide of people, armed with cameras and ghost detecting equipment.

*The alleged paranormal activity at Stocksbridge UK, quickly became one of the country's notorious locations for sightings of a ghostly monk.*

Some 'organisation's' even went as far as to charge groups of people for a kind of tour of the 'spooky' location, witness accounts range from the mundane to the outrageous and are often duplicated, but all can be traced back to a series of events that allegedly began during the early hours of September 7th 1987... During the construction of the bypass, a security team were employed to ensure the safety of the site.

Stocksbridge is situated about 12 miles North west of Sheffield, deep in the Pennine Hills - UK.

There are numerous explanations on how Stocksbridge got its name. One is that it derives from the Saxon and means literally Tree bridge or wooden bridge. Another explanation as to the naming of Stocksbridge comes from a person called John Stocks who lived at Stocks Farm.

When the town was finally developed it took the name of Stocksbridge. Stocksbridge still has a thriving local community and continues to grow with new estates being built. However it still remains an essentially village community.





Ghost hunters from organisations around the UK descended upon the small town of Stocksbridge causing havoc. Local residents were outraged at the amount of people attending nightly vigils.

Some organisations even constructed tours of the area for paying customers. The police were called on many occasions. Things were obviously getting out of hand.

To further complicate the investigation, numerous people from ghost groups had dressed up like monks and often gave those passing in vehicles a bit of a fright.

This of course created further reports to be generated, to which the press were no regularly reporting on.

A number of small mobile offices were situated at the site from which the security team worked. Stan and Ian's shift that night started like any other, with a patrol of the construction site. At around 12.36am. Stan and Ian claimed that they were in their patrol vehicle, driving up Pearoyd Lane close to the steelworks site when they saw children playing near the half constructed bridge. The children were next to an electrical pylon and seemed to be skipping about. Stan immediately noticed that the children's clothing was unusually out-dated. They thought it unusual for children to be out playing at such an unusual hour in such a remote area, so they parked the van, grabbed their torches and started to walk towards them. However, on reaching the location, they were both surprised to find no one there. The children had apparently vanished and no footprints could be seen in the muddy ground...

Still puzzled as to what they had seen the following morning, Stan and Ian mentioned the night's events to the construction workers, who told them that they too had occasionally heard children's voices whilst they rested in some of the onsite caravans during the night. Stan and Ian, a little spooked,

tried to put the event out of their minds. However, the incidents that took place the next night (September 8th) would not be so easy to forget.

Stan and Ian were once again driving up Pearoyd Lane towards the site, when something caught their eye. They claimed they could see a dark figure standing on the partly constructed bridge. As the headlights reached the figure, it simply disappeared. The security officers could not believe their eyes. They spun the vehicle around and retreated to their mobile office. In a state of panic and shock they telephoned their boss, Peter Owens, who attended the site. Peter could clearly see that Stan and Ian were in a state. Stan was shaking uncontrollably and Ian was in tears. Peter had never seen them act like this before and was convinced that they must have seen something that spooked them. In an attempt to calm the security officers Peter contacted the local police station at Deepcar where PC Ellis was on duty.

Listening to Owens, PC Ellis suggested that they contact someone from the church as this was hardly a police matter. Ellis put the phone down and thought that would be the end of the matter. One can only imagine the surprise on PC Ellis's face when the next morning he received a call from Stuart Brindley, the vicar of the local church, who needed help with two security guards that were refusing to leave until they got assistance. It would seem the security guards had taken Ellis's words quite literally, and descended upon the church for assistance. The guards were demanding an exorcism of the partly constructed bridge. Brindley could clearly see that both men were distressed. PC Ellis attended the church and managed to calm the men down. Ellis promised he would look into the matter and visit the location. Consequently, both security officers refused to work at the site again and within 3 months both had allegedly left their jobs...

On the evening of September 11th 1987, PC Ellis accompanied by special constable John Beet drove up the bypass to check over the construction site and bridge. Both were very sceptical as to what had been reported. They parked their panda and turned the lights off allowing their eyes to adjust to the moonlit night. The night was warm and both windows on the car were fully down. A few minutes later, PC Ellis turned to John and said, *'I'm sure I can see something moving around on the*

*bridge'*. Ellis got out of the car and walked over towards the bridge. He walked up the muddy embankment and climbed up a ladder to the top of the bridge. As he looked around he could see the pylon where the security guards claimed to have seen children skipping about. The bridge was quiet. No one was around. Then suddenly something caught his eye. A sheet of Tarpaulin covering blocks had come loose, and was blowing about in the breeze. Ellis realised that this is what he had seen moving about on the bridge and placed a few bricks on top of it to stop it blowing around. Heading back to the vehicle, he thought the security guards must have seen something similar and spooked themselves. The whole thing was rather funny. Ellis got back in the car and explained to John that it was nothing more than a sheet blowing around. They decided to stay a further ten minutes before heading off and continuing their patrol. They were just about to leave when suddenly a strange feeling came over Ellis, as if something had walked over his grave. He was just about to tell John when he felt a presence next to him. He turned his head to see a dark clothed figure pressed up against the door. It was as if the torso protruded through the car window, yet Ellis had his arm partially out of the window and felt nothing. He noticed a white 'V' shape in the material on the figures chest.

***John reached into the car to radio for assistance when out of the blue came a further 3 or 4 loud bangs on the back of the car.***

He was shocked and for a split second he couldn't speak. A moment later, the figure had disappeared and immediately reappeared on John's side of the car. John freaked and almost leaped from his seat. Again, it had appeared only for a second before vanishing. Ellis jumped out the car ready for confrontation, but no one was there. He went around the vehicle looking for footprints in the mud, but there were none visible. He even checked underneath the car. Both police officers were convinced they had seen a figure, yet there was no one around. Whoever it was could not have got away so fast. As the reality of their experience dawned, their nerves got the better of them and they decided to leave. Fast...

Ellis turned the keys in the ignition, but the car wouldn't start. Again he tried, but nothing. On the third attempt, the engine roared into life, and they quickly headed away from the site.

After a few minutes of travelling they suddenly heard something hit the back of the car. PC Ellis later recalled working during the miners' strike, when protesters would hit the police cars with sticks and bats. It sounded exactly the same. Ellis stopped the car and again jumped out. On inspection the police officers could see no damage to the car. John reached into the car to radio for assistance when out of the blue came a further 3 or 4 loud bangs on the back of the car. Now considerably spooked the officers jumped back into their car and sped off, never to return to the location. Back at Deepcar police station Ellis claimed to have made an official log of the incident.

Many things have allegedly been seen throughout the years and the descriptions vary. Incidents seemed to continue both during and after the bypass and bridge was completed...

In the Autumn of 1987, Judy and David Simpson were coming home from Judy's parents on their way to Wortley. Whilst driving Judy claimed to see something out of the corner of her eye. She described it as a grey coloured apparition with no facial features. It looked almost like a man running along but he was not running on the ground.



He was in the air, kind of hovering about 12 inches above the ground. David watched as the figure waved its arms and legs around all over the place. It seemed that the arms were distorted in some way, moving around in strange positions. They watched the figure run up the embankment and then somehow it suddenly appeared in front of them, as if it had dropped in front of them in

the road. Judy slammed on her brakes but the figure seemed to disappear through their car and vanish. Both Judy and David were convinced they had seen a ghost. Lucinda June, an alleged psychic believes she knows what is responsible for the sightings. She claims to have been driving along the Stocksbridge bypass when suddenly she became very cold. She glanced down at her heater controls but they were set to warm air. Then came the smell of musty books and a darkness started to manifest in the seat next to her. Lucinda was shocked and frightened. She picked up a spirit of a monk that had been in that location 500 years previous. As Lucinda drove on the darkness and smell suddenly vanished.

Whilst the bypass was under construction, runner Graham Brooke was training for an upcoming marathon. He was out jogging with his son Nigel. Graham claimed whilst jogging down a nearby road he saw a chap ahead of him who seemingly was walking in the middle of the road with his back to the traffic. As Graham got nearer he could smell a musty rotten odour. Graham glanced back at his son who was just a little behind him. As he got nearer the smell got stronger.

Then Graham noticed something quite strange. The figure wasn't walking on the road, but kind of walking in it. The figure could only be seen from the knee upwards. His feet were below the surface of the road. The figure was also dragging a large bag behind him which somehow also was partially below the road level. Graham's son Nigel claims to have looked at the face of the figure only to see the absence of features. He recalled only seeing a nose and dark eye sockets. In fact, the figure's face was blackened as if he had just come straight out of a coal mine.

Haulage Driver John Melbourne had parked his lorry up at a local layby for the night. As he was taking the secure ropes off he suddenly became very cold. But it was a warm night. Then the smell of a musty odour filled the air. As he walked to the front of his lorry he was shocked to see a monk gliding through his headlights which he had left on.

He watched the monk as it disappeared amongst the other trailers. John claimed to have experienced that same smell in the area several times, but is pleased he's not seen the figure again. He told his boss of his experience, who replied, 'Oh, you've seen it as well have ya?'

Neville a local bus driver and resident of Stocksbridge claimed that he and his friend had a terrifying encounter with the mysterious monk. Neville and his friend were walking up a local road when they suddenly felt that they had walked into a freezer. It was as if an unexplainable wall of freezing air had hit them.

### ***What they saw chilled them to the bone. Running frantically through a field was a brown cloaked figure.***

As they walked on, it seemed to get colder and colder, to the point their legs began to shake. As they stopped to gain their breath, they glanced to their right. What they saw chilled them to the bone. Running frantically through a field was a brown cloaked figure. At first they thought it was someone playing a joke, but all of a sudden, it just vanished and the suddenly appeared elsewhere in the field. They watched the figure do this several times. One second he was running and waving his arms about in the middle of the field then a second later he had vanished and reappeared near an entrance gate. Neville and his friend immediately realised that they were looking at the infamous ghostly monk and quickly fled back down the road.

Paul Ford and his wife Jane claim to have had to swerve across the bypass so not to collide with a cloaked figure that suddenly appeared in front of them gliding across the road. The couple claim that they both were almost killed as they came within inches of the embankment close to the old Steelworks. Paul explained that from a distance he thought it was just someone trying to cross the road, but as he got nearer he could see it was the figure of a man in a long cloak with no face. The figure was hovering above the road. Paul believes the sighting of such a figure could be the reason why so many people have had accidents on the bypass.

An unnamed man riding his motorbike on the bypass around 3.00am saw what he took to be the figure of a woman walking towards him. As he neared her, he slowed the bike down and noted she was wearing a long white dress, and her long white hair fell around where her face should be (but apparently wasn't) as she looked down at the verge. The biker passed her, and moments later

Parapsychologists have suggested that the alleged paranormal incidents in the vicinity of Stocksbridge could be the result of high Electromagnetic energy.

It is true to state that such EM fields can cause hallucinations and unusual emotions, such as fear and anticipation. However, during numerous visits to the location, no unusual high readings of EMF were obtained. The overhead electricity pylons do contain around 11Kv, but even the pylons did not generate any high EM fields.

A number of further tests confirmed the lack of Geomagnetic Energy which can sometimes be created by fault lines, underground streams and seismic activity.



The photograph to the right shows the bridge, taken whilst parked on the bypass.

looked back to find she had gone. Around five minutes later the biker was pulled over by police officers. He asked if they had seen the figure in white, they said they hadn't seen anyone, but would like to see his documentation...

The disturbances around Stocksbridge bypass have somewhat quieted down in recent years, which has given us perfect opportunity to conduct a thorough investigation. The reports are plentiful - from phantom Lorries and Inns, to strange lights. Car and motorcycle electrical systems behaving erratically to eerie mists. White ladies - and of course the notorious ghostly monk. The reputation of the Haunted Bypass deepens...

We have visited the location many times over the last ten years in order to carry out necessary research. To start with we obtained the video documented transcripts of interviews carried out with PC Ellis, Graham and Nigel Brooke, Judy and David Simpson, Peter Owens, Trevor Lodge a local historian and Neville the bus driver in 1994 and again in 1998; along with a few well known written accounts. A cross examination of this material did reveal a number of inconsistencies...

The first reported incident was that of two security guards hearing children playing in the vicinity of the bypass bridge. Later reports give mention to the security officers seeing the apparitions of children skipping around an electrical pylon close the bypass bridge, or a bush in a field about a mile away from the bridge. In all the visual reports, the children were said to be dressed in historic clothing.

Which quickly became children dressed in early 1900s clothing, (like that of the coal mining days).

On visiting the location, you quickly realise that the base of the electrical pylon is not visible from the bypass, or the bridge. You would have to travel over the bridge and look sharply left to see the pylon base. There was also mention of a figure seen on the bridge. At the time the event was allegedly witnessed, the bridge had not been completed; therefore neither of the two events could have included a vehicle on the bridge. So, if the security guards saw the figure on the bridge from the bypass, they would have been at a distance of at least several tens of feet from where it stood, which means the possibility of them being mistaken is very high.

If the children were seen from the bypass in one of the surrounding fields, this would again prove difficult as the embankments at either side of the road are very high and steep. If, like the first account, the sound of children were heard, then you have to take into account that the security guards were travelling in a land rover on a partially constructed road at the time, and the distances involved from the bypass itself and the location that the figures were actually seen. It would be impossible to witness any of these events from the Stocksbridge side of Pearoyd Lane before the bridge, due to the terrain, and doubtful that the security guards would have made the twenty minute minimum round trip from the bypass, through Wortley to approach the bridge from the other end. There has been mention that they drove up a

make shift dirt path to the top of the bridge. If this was the case we would have to question why the police officers didn't mention or use this road during their visit, and why it was later quoted that the bridge was inaccessible from the bypass.

The alleged apparition they saw seems to have been described differently. It was first reported to be a headless figure dressed in a dark cloak, this quickly changed to the sighting of a monk which disappeared in their headlights. The layout of the roads dictates that there is only one position where a vehicle can illuminate the bridge with its headlights, and that would be the Wortley approach. As the bridge did not extend that far across the bypass at the time of the event, and there would be little reason for the security guards to have made the twenty minute journey from the bypass to be in that position it is more likely they would have driven through the steelworks and approached from Pearoyd Lane - a journey of around eleven minutes. However, it would be impossible for the vehicle to have lit the bridge from that side due to the left hand bend in the road.

### ***Could the reported ghostly sightings on the Stocksbridge Bypass be just a load of hot air?***

To have illuminated the figure on the bridge while the Land rover was driving along the bypass is even less likely. The surface of the bridge is around 25ft from the bypass; the nearest point the land rover could have possibly been to the bridge, calculated on the maximum beam reach of the headlights would be around 66ft - at that distance the land rovers lights would be shining upwards at an angle of 38 degrees. The road is level at that point. The guards would be viewing any figure on the bridge at a distance of roughly 45ft, barely illuminated by the lights of the vehicle -we'll leave you to draw your own conclusions...

Some reports mention the security officers contacting their boss that night and that he had attended the site and ended up ringing Deepcar police station. Other reports say that they contacted the police station the following morning. PC Ellis indicates that the two security guards visited the police

What was it that made the Stocksbridge Bypass incidents so popular? Well... of course there was two television shows that featured the alleged incidents, but apart from that, many believed the incidents were true because there were quite a large number of witnesses, some of which were police officers and security guards. But the truth is... Neither a police officer or a security guard make reliable witnesses when it comes to the paranormal. They are no different than you or I witnessing something. As for the large number of reports... You have to remember there was huge media interest for quite a number of years and possibly a large number of hoaxes and mis-identifications reported.

station and looked physically shaken. No matter what happened. One thing is for sure. The security officers did descend up a local church in hope of getting the bypass blessed. The vicar Stuart Bridley was forced to ring the police at around 10.00am the following morning when the two security guards refused to leave. It seems unusual that a desk officer taking calls in the early hours of the morning would still be on duty and attending incidents at 10.00am the following morning.

responsible. Their sighting of a figure was described as having 'V' shaped material running down its chest. This could indicate a jacket, waistcoat or even a 'V' shaped cardigan or jumper. Not the type of clothing to be associated with a monk. The figure was also described as 'Dickensian'. Another factor in the police officers sighting report is the description of how the figure moved almost instantaneously from one side of the car to the other. This description has been echoed in

eyelets. Certainly not your typical monk habit. In fact the eyelet which serves as reinforcement to a hole in fabric was not manufactured until November of 1859. Thus throwing out the whole 12<sup>th</sup> century monk claims, straight out of the window.

So what of the musty smell sometimes reported by witnesses? The way in people describe musty smells does seem to vary. Most describe the smell of old damp clothing or old books. In fact, musty smells can also be attributed to certain chemicals such as those sometimes used in the manufacture of bed mattresses. Polybrominated Diphenyl Ethers or PBDE are organobromine compounds that are used as flame retardants and produce a musty smell. On examination, the nearest mattress manufacturers to the bypass location were situated in Sheffield around 12-15 miles away. If a factory was responsible, the musty fumes would have had to travel North Westerly being carried over a beer brewery and a Bassett liquorice factory which certainly have a much more prominent odour to them. It is also worth noting that the 'musty smell' aspect was first mentioned by a lorry driver working in a haulage yard below the bypass. We imagine the haulage yard had several lorry containers parked there, and may speculate that one such container may have been or was being used to transport new mattresses at the time of this event.

Psychologists have suggested electromagnetic energy can adversely affect the mind, and there does seem to be convincing evidence to support this theory. However, one must ask how and why such EMFs are produced. If some natural form of EMF is responsible then it is doubtful that it can cause group hallucinatory events such as shared experiences. The electric pylons carrying up to 11Kv are designed to give off very little EMF. Even a local substation hardly caused the EMF meter to fluctuate. Extensive research of the area, including local geology and data logging of electromagnetic fields and seismology have produced no evidence to suggest that anything of an environmental nature may be causing people to believe they have witnessed events that may be interpreted as paranormal in origin.

Local folklore holds stories of ghostly monks, children and white ladies, some of which do have some historical background - none of which occurred in the vicinity of the bypass itself, and as for the many reports of ghostly figures.

#### A Reminiscence of Craziness.

Many people visiting the bridge that crosses the bypass have over the years left there mark. On many occasions scary looking dolls and hooded figures have been tied onto the bridge railings and could have caused problems for drivers if they had fallen or were blown off onto the bypass below. Apart from that, those living local to the bypass would have obviously heard of its reputation and could easily be distracted by hooded figures and large dolls hanging from the bridge. MAPIT and UPIA urge those visiting the location to respect residents privacy and not to cause chaos for drivers. Please have some consideration...

# Ghostly stories of police 'n' spectres

**TWO bobbies convinced they spotted ghosts on Sheffield's haunted highway talk about their chilling encounter on TV's Strange but True programme tonight.**

Ecclesfield-based dog handler Pc Richard Ellis was petrified when the spooky figure of a man in Dickensian clothing appeared next to his patrol car at midnight on Stocksbridge by pass.

He was responding to a report by security guards who said they had been chased by a ghost on the notorious road which opened on Friday 13th October six years ago.

Both men, who worked for Constant Security in Rotherham, were so traumatised by the apparition they went into shock and have been unable to work since the experience, said their boss Mike Lee.

Tonight on Michael Aspel's Strange but True show Pc Ellis and former special constable John Beet describe their experience on the road which has become a notorious accident blackspot.

"I got a brief sighting of it next to the car and then something banged on the back of the vehicle," said Pc Ellis.

#### Unnerving

"Normally I'd have dismissed it as my imagination but my partner saw it as well and felt the same eerie feeling.

"It was unnerving and it wasn't a publicity stunt - we don't do that sort of thing in the police force.

"After all this time I'm still puzzled by it, there was defi-

By DAVID CLARKE

nately something supernatural there."

Since his fright dozens of residents have had weird sightings on the bypass.

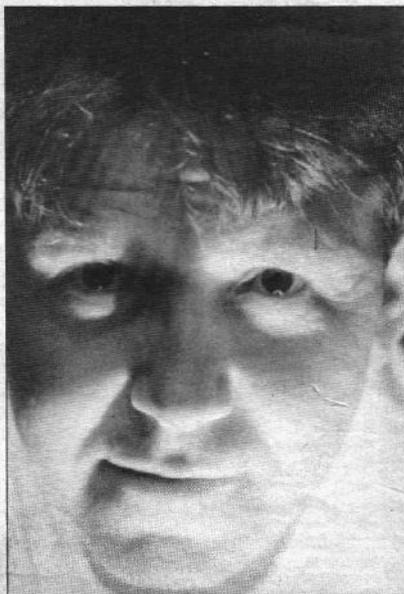
People have spotted dancing figures and a tall man dressed like a monk who makes a habit of scaring drivers.

Tonight viewers will see ghostly children from Wharnccliffe Side primary school acting out one sighting where security guards encountered a ring of children seemingly dancing around an invisible maypole.

Headteacher David Roger said the school gave permission for the a group of eight- and nine-year-olds to dress up in authentic Victorian costumes to re-create the scene.

He said: "It was very good and the programme makers looked after the kids very well.

"They are all excited and looking forward to becoming TV stars tonight."



Pc Richard Ellis: unnerving experience

several other reports since. During our investigation of the Stocksbridge case we researched popular culture of that time. The film 'The Lost Boys' was currently on release. This film features a scene where a gang of teenage vampires persecute the occupants of a remotely parked car by appearing at first one, then the other window of the car, all the while banging and scratching the bodywork.

During an interview in 1998 Graham Brooke talked of a musty smell and phantom figure walking below the level of the road. Some reports give mention to the sighting of a monk, some just say cloaked figure. It turns out that the particular road where the Brookes saw this alleged apparition is nowhere near the bypass and that the figure was described as wearing a type of cloak with

# 'Ghost' sightings on new road

**EXCLUSIVE**  
By Bob Westerdale

TERRIFIED security guards called in police and a clergyman after spotting "ghosts" on a £14m bypass being built near Sheffield.

A sergeant and Pc sent to the scene — near Stocksbridge — later said they "felt a presence" as they patrolled.

But South Yorkshire Police have refused to comment on the incident,

or on reports that the Panda car was jolted by mysterious thuds.

Police were brought in after experienced security men Steven Brookes and David Goldthorpe spotted a hooded figure on Peayroyd bridge.

The pair drove closer and claim the beam from their car shone straight through the figure.

Two days earlier, Mr Goldthorpe allegedly spotted three young children dancing round a nearby tree in the middle of the night.

After the second sighting, the security men went to the home of a Stocksbridge clergyman, waking him at 7am. They wanted to know if the area had once been a graveyard and

whether an exorcism was possible.

One of them later burst into tears and was in deep shock, but both agreed to return to work there.

Deepcar Pc Dick Ellis and a supervisory officer were both said to be disturbed by their visit, and reported back to their bosses, sources confirmed today.



IT WAS BECOMING MORE CLEAR THAT A SUDDEN INFUX OF GHOSTLY MONKS HAD COME INTO THE AREA.

So what are we left with...? Well... it would seem that even though there are numerous inconsistencies in eye witnesses testimonies one fundamental thing remains. Something must have been seen by at least some of these people. What was it that caused the security officers to flee in panic and to descend upon the local church for assistance?

What was it PC Ellis and John Beet saw whilst at the construction site? What was the mysterious figure walking in the middle of the road Graham Brooke and his son saw? And what about all the other sightings? It is possible that some of the incidents are mis-identifications, caused by visitors to the location dressing up like monks in hope of playing a joke on passers by.

In some cases, such stunts were carried out by teams of ghosthunters dressed like monks performing in front of cameras. Also, some of the stories may simply be hype. It is a natural human tendency to add to such legends, myths and tales rather than finding objective rational explanations. Let us also take into consideration that some people who are aware of the paranormal reports and have traveled the dark, and spooky bypass at night can easily imagine something strange. It is amazing what a bit of darkness and a spooky story can do to ones suggestibility and imagination.

The above cartoon represents what was really going on at Stocksbridge. Police officers attending the location often came face to face with hooded figures. However, this was not the infamous ghostly monk, but people dressed up in monk costumes.

Some people dressed up like monks in hope of scaring passers by and having their little claim to fame when local newspapers reported the sighting of the ghostly monk on that very same night. Hmmm.

Some dressed as monks so to create a video reconstruction of the alleged paranormal events. No matter what reasons there were, it all added to the story of a ghostly monk haunting the area.



Paul and Jane Ford re-enact their bypass scare when they claim to have seen a cloaked ghost

# 'Ghost' almost caused accident

By DAVID CLARKE

A GHOST which haunts a jinxed South Yorkshire by-pass has been blamed for almost causing a death crash.

Driver Paul Ford and his wife Jane had to swerve across the Stocksbridge Bypass when a cloaked figure glided in front of their car on New Year's Eve.

The couple claimed they were almost killed when the car came within inches of plunging down a steep embankment above the steelworks.

Petrified Paul, a supermar-

## Cloaked figure glided in front of couple's car

ket deputy manager, froze in fear and Jane, aged 25, had to seize the wheel to stop them plunging from the road to their deaths.

Paul, aged 28, was driving Jane, an advertising manager, to her sister's home in Stocksbridge when he spotted the figure.

"From a distance it looked like someone trying to cross the road but as I got nearer I could see it was like a man in a long cloak.

"Then I realised it had no face and it was just hovering

above the road. I just slammed the brakes on and swerved to avoid hitting it.

"It was only through Jane grabbing the wheel that we stopped the car from crashing."

### Shaking

Paul was left white and was shaking when the couple, of Portland Drive, Aston, reached their destination.

Jane said afterwards: "If I hadn't been in the car Paul could have been killed or seriously injured and it left both

of us badly shaken up. It was a very frightening experience and I think it might explain why there have been so many accidents on that road."

Now the couple have pledged never to return to the bypass — opened on Friday the 13th ten years ago — and say the spook is a hazard to drivers.

The mystery figure has been spotted on the bypass on a number of occasions, and some local people have blamed the ghost for adding to the road's lethal accident record.

Some people who have claimed to have seen the figure, said to be dressed in a monk's robe, have had to receive counselling.

If there is something really going on at Stocksbridge, it seems to have died down along with the droves of ghost-hunters attending the area. One final thing.... On the 31<sup>st</sup> October 2007, UPIA members were invited to the Hallam FM radio studios for a paranormal phone in on the popular late night 'Confessional' show. The night went very well and UPIA took several calls from Hallam's listeners. As the witching hour drew near we took a call from a man calling himself Dave from Wakefield. This call however was very different to others taken that evening. 'Dave' had taken the shows name quite literally, and had phoned to confess his own sins... He told the listeners how one September night twenty years before, he and his mate Ian had decided to dress up in hooded cloaks to play a

trick on the security staff up at the new bypass that was being built near Sheffield...

For documentation, this was recently confirmed by the radio presenter who now works for the BBC. Considering this investigation has found numerous rational explanations, we cannot rule out some of the incidents. I'm sure Stocksbridge will continue to be visited by those interested in the paranormal and continue to mystify us with further reports...

Steve and Kirst would like to apologise for upsetting anyone's belief in regards the Stocksbridge Bypass and Bridge being haunted! But that's the way the cookie crumbles... 'Sorry'!



# A NIGHT AT DEVA ASYLUM

I've been involved in paranormal studies for 13 years, I've witnessed or been privy to others witnessing some profound things, luckily I'm a realist, I work in the Unknown Phenomena Investigation Association with friends who, if I'm unable to find an answer to something, they inevitably can. I've spent time in some of the countries alleged most haunted locations, most I'd say poppycock, hype, owners wishing to make a penny from others interest in the subject. But I have been lucky to visit some locations, especially residential, which have offered a peculiar air.



In the early Noughties, I had opportunity to gain access to the former Deva asylum wards at the Countess of Chester Hospital. With permission and accompanied by site security; myself and several colleagues toured the desolate Victorian corridors, viewing each and every ward, office and private operating areas. A cornucopia of original fixtures adorned the dark, damp and musty sanatorium adding to the air of oddness. Complete silence, other than our low murmurs and footfalls, operating tables with scrubs lying upon them, like a doctor had just left, everything around offered the sense that patients, doctors and nurses were just around the corner. I'm not one who holds with the spiritual side of the subject, too often folk jump to this answer without any knowledge of spirituality or science, and along with spirituality comes feelings. I have been to two locations in the world which, psychological or not, have left me with a strange sense. Anne Frank's house in Amsterdam and the Deva wards at the rear of the 1829 building at the Countess. I was introduced to the cellar, or what I thought was the cellar.

In fact it led to a tunnel, a dark otherworldly place and to my astonishment, attached to the walls were manacles. In Victorian times, to protect the population from the low life mad people of society, this tunnel ran to the nearby Chester - Birkenhead railway, where trains stopped to allow patients to depart. The chains and manacles used to restrain the patients upon their arrival to the Deva. I was asked to take photographs by security, each of the three claimed to have witnessed alleged paranormal phenomena. Apparitions, being touched, shoved, object movement, shadows, noises, talking. The list was endless; each also related to me friends and colleagues who had also related to them, their tales of the wards. At last count the UPIA had individual testimony from 23 people each with their own tales of apparent paranormal phenomena.

All forms of environmental testing was conducted, which, at the time was quite insignificant compared to the quality of, and the availability of equipment today. This aside, all information gleaned was within tolerances expected in the wards. Many photographs were taken and two of the images offered unusual information. At this time digital technology was still rare, all UPIA images were taken on 35mm, still the most worthwhile way of photography within this subject, reducing the amount of fraudulent images currently darkening our doors. The first showed one of the security guards with a strange shadow enveloping him, the second, when asked to photograph a particular place where a running apparition was witnessed, did indeed show what looked like a negative of a persons shoulders and head, running ghost or perfect appearance of pareidolia?

And so we left our first visit to the inner workings of a very well known and ominous building, with nothing of consequence occurring or reported by any of the people present. I returned to the location, again accompanied by one

member of staff on numerous occasions, I never got used to the weird feeling, if buildings store memories then boy, the Deva held some unspeakable thoughts.

*'A low, rumbling moan, to the point of experiencing an infrasound wave emanated from god knows where'...*

A midweek summer afternoon, warm, dry and still, myself and my chaperone opened the twenty foot, twelve inch thick, half tonne weighted door ( at least at this point that's how I remember it ). The door was huge, it was thick and it was solid oak and extremely heavy. On each occasion the door was wedged open, this to allow light and for health and safety reasons. We had just arrived, two people, no equipment, nothing to monitor anything in the environment, visual, sound or any other means. Within seconds of crossing the boundary both myself and my acquaintance looked at each other in a pretty, mouths to the floor kind of way. A low, rumbling moan, to the point of experiencing an infrasound wave emanated from god knows where and then the coup de grace, the door, so long admired for its beauty, creaked loudly and crashed too with a bang like a cannon, echoing throughout the empty corridors.

This dear readers is the one and only time I have experienced fear in my whole career within paranormal investigation, from Ghosts, UFO's, Big cats, every single area in which the UPIA research and investigate, I have never experienced anything as bottom quivering shocking as I experienced that day. It may not sound much to folk convinced they've witnessed their own



fearful moments, but this to me was terrifying. The unexpected event caught me totally by surprise, and further investigation could offer no explanation to the cause. We split up and toured the building for external factors, but we were completely alone. Too many people are now involved in the subject claiming professionalism, most would have automatically blamed paranormal influences for the event we witnessed, I believe the moan and the door slamming were nothing unusual, but psychologically, and with the fear factor already instilled, at the time, I believed this to be very strange. In my career, and especially on some locations, I believe fear should not be shown to the subject, but more towards the people involved and some of those claiming the supernatural. Don't be scared of the dead, beware of the living.

Dace Sadler is the founder of UPIA - the Unknown Phenomena Investigation Association which was established in 1998.

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Looking back over my years of investigating the anomalous, I have to admit there have been very few incidents that I can honestly say have reduced me to a gibbering wreck. There have been times when I've felt uneasy – hell yeah! Put any rational person in an unusual and unfamiliar environment, tell them it's haunted and it's only natural that you'll illicit a fear response from them, but I've never really experienced the Oh, my days, tear evoking emotional malarkey that some people seem to encounter around every corner in this field of study. Truth is, I'm not one of the thrill seekers, and I'm not in it for the fear factor. I research the strange and unusual mainly because I don't scare easily. Sure I've felt uneasy at times – who wouldn't in a dark environment that someone has said may play host to some weird and wonderful phenomena we don't understand or can't explain, but I've never really felt that gut clenching, heart stopping hand of fear, at least not while in an investigative environment. Except for this one time...

During my formative years, I was contacted by the landlady of a public house in the village of Dronfield in South Yorkshire regarding some bizarre phenomena that she claimed herself, her partner and her staff had witnessed. Her account read pretty much like the early scenes of the film 'Poltergeist' – object movement, footsteps, things getting broken - and at a time when paranormal programmes were at their absolute pinnacle, I have to admit that it all did sound slightly exaggerated to my then, highly sceptical mind. Needless to say, I dutifully attended the location and conducted interviews, what I then considered to be thorough 'baseline' EMF tests (oh, how naive I was...), and arranged to return the following weekend to conduct a monitoring session of the environment.

During the week that followed I did a little research into the pubs history and location, and found no significant events, no previous reports of activity, nothing at all of note, and with possibly the lowest level of expectancy ever recorded in an investigator before an investigation, off I went with the team to see what we could, or rather couldn't, find. We split into two groups, established radio contact between both, and settled in to basically monitor the environment, rationalising the reported temperature fluctuations, noises etc. as we experienced them, half hoping that some of the more profound reported events – lights switching on and off, televisions moving of their own accord or audible footsteps – might occur during the night.

The first 'odd' event of the evening occurred around an hour into the investigation when Chris, one of the team suddenly hit the deck. One minute he

was stood beside me, quite happily chatting away, the next he was slumped in the corner looking a bit glassy eyed. Chatting to him later when he had regained composure it seemed our new investigator had got a little bit over excited during the build up to his first investigation. He hadn't eaten properly and spent the day pretty much working himself into a frenzy. We put his 'funny turn' down to a combination of over excitement and a possible drop in blood sugar levels and sent him to sit and chill out for a while. He in turn earned himself the nickname Betty, which has stayed with him to this day.

Several other events occurred during the night, many of which were rationalised – footsteps heard ascending the stairs were first confirmed to only occur after someone had walked up the stairs – a factor in the original report being of a 'presence' that followed people upstairs – we then realised that the boards were actually just settling back into their normal positions, creating a fascinating, but purely normal, echo effect. The oven was reported to turn itself off and on a few times, lights appeared to have turned themselves on or off, but never when we could definitely say nobody had been present to do it, or hadn't mistakenly left the lights on or off. At some point, when everyone was in the lounge area having a cuppa, we all heard the unmistakable sound of a crate full of bottles being dropped, coming from the bar downstairs. I think four of us went down to investigate the cause, I don't remember exactly who was with me, but I stood with my back to the bar while the others conducted a search of the area. Oddly there were no crates there, the only place crates were stored was in the cellar, behind a heavy door which was closed. It seemed odd that we would have heard a noise from the cellar so clearly when we were all the way upstairs.

It seemed even odder that there was no one in the cellar to have moved the crate so that it could make the sound in the first place, but we couldn't find any

explanations. We got ready to return to our colleagues upstairs, I made a mental note to check outside later to see if any crates had been left there.

As I stepped away from the bar, a bottle, which had been stood on the display shelf a good ten feet away from me, smashed on the floor about a foot to my left. Nobody else was in the area it had come from, and I wasn't anywhere near it either. At this point can I just say that I really don't think that there are ever going to be any serious challengers to my award for 'Person Doing The Best Scooby-Doo-Jumping-Into-Shaggy's-Arms Impersonation' which I earned that night, (except for my daughter Gee, who during a big cat investigation was 'startled' by a peacock doing a Lenny Henry impersonation, but she was only ten at the time). My only regret is there was nobody there to catch me when I jumped. I can honestly say that I well and truly 'Bottled' it, (*excuse the pun*) and I'm not ashamed to admit it.

As I said, this investigation was carried out in my formative years. To be honest, I very nearly didn't get past my formative years after that. I didn't have a clue where the bottle had originated from. Later the landlady, (who was making me a cup of hot, sweet tea at the time), told me it had been on the shelf behind the bar. She also said it had been full, but there was no spilt liquid in the area it smashed in as I remember. It had travelled around 10 feet or so, describing a delightful arc, no doubt, as it fell. (I can't confirm the delightful arc on account of how I wasn't watching because I wasn't expecting any bottles to be flying around)... and that's pretty much all I can say about it. I can however confirm that since that day I have made it my business to know where everything and everyone is during investigations, and that every possible thing that can be noted, recorded, taped or logged is, because in my honest opinion if anything weird is going to happen, it'll happen in exactly the place where you didn't expect it to...

Kirst is currently an investigator with the Unknown Phenomena Investigation Association. She is also trained as an Animal Scene Investigator and in forensic sciences.

# the Fright

## By Kirst D'Raven

# A FAMILY'S NIGHTMARE

By Jason Day

Jack and Janet Smurl met in 1967. Jack served as a neuropsychiatric technician in the Navy and by 1968 the couple were married. They lived in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, USA but after hurricane Agnes had flooded most of the area in 1972 they were forced to relocate.

Jack's parents, John and Mary Smurl, bought a semi detached house in west Pittston, Pennsylvania in 1973. The house was built in 1896 and was situated in a quiet, middle class neighbourhood on Chase Street.

Jack and his family moved with his parents and had no problems sharing the house with them. John and Mary Smurl lived in the right half of the duplex and Jack, Janet and their first two daughters, Dawn and Heather, moved into the left half. The Smurl's spent a lot of time remodeling and decorating the house and the first 18 months on Chase Street went without incident.

*As the months went by the activity in the house increased and by 1975 apparitions were being seen in the property.*

However in January 1974 the first signs of paranormal activity began. The Smurl's witnessed water pipes that would continually leak despite being repeatedly repaired by a plumber. A television set literally 'burst into flames' for with no apparent cause and an unusual stain appeared from nowhere on a new carpet. Nobody in the house knew who or what had caused these strange occurrences. Most frightening of all for the family at this point were the marks found in the bathroom. A new sink and bathtub were found to be severely scratched, as was some freshly painted woodwork. It looked to all intents and purposes as if a wild

animal had clawed at them. As the months went by the activity in the house increased and by 1975 apparitions were being seen in the property. Jack and Janet's oldest daughter, Dawn, started witnessing 'people floating' around her bedroom. Footsteps were continuously heard on the stairs, drawers opened and closed of their own accord and empty rocking chairs rocked and creaked as if someone was actually sitting in them. The list of phenomena continued to grow.

By 1985, and with the arrival of twins Shannon and Carin, the family were growing tired and frustrated by the incidents. What had started as annoying disturbances was driving them to despair. The house was often freezing cold, vile smells lingered throughout the house and unplugged radios would suddenly turn themselves on and blare out music. John and Mary Smurl would hear loud and abusive language coming from Jack and Janet's side of the house even though the couple would not even be arguing at the time.

In February 1985 Janet was doing the laundry in the basement. She heard her name being called and after searching for whoever had shouted her, she realised she had been alone the entire time. Two days later an apparition appeared to Janet in the kitchen. The room went icy cold and a black, faceless human form appeared. The apparition walked through the wall and appeared to Mary Smurl on the opposite side of the house. The haunting activity became even more intense after these incidents. Rapping and scratching noises were constantly heard from within the walls of the house and several neighbours heard screams and strange noises coming from the Smurl property when nobody was even home and the building was empty. Most alarming of all was the physical attacks that now occurred. On the night of her 13 year old sister Heather's confirmation into the Catholic Church, a large ceiling fan crashed down to the floor landing inches away from Shannon Smurl, nearly killing her.



The photograph to the left depicts the Smurl family stood outside their home.

On another occasion Shannon was tossed down the stairs. Jack and Janet began being levitated by an unknown source. Janet herself was violently pulled off her bed after making love to her husband. Jack was paralysed while this happened, gagging from a foul smell that filled the room. Even Simon, the family's pet dog, was subjected to attacks. He was repeatedly picked up and thrown by 'unseen hands'.

The Smurl's were now at their wits end and desperate for help. Janet had heard about Ed and Lorraine Warren. The Warrens were psychical researchers and demonologists from Monroe, Connecticut. Despite Janet's scepticism, and due to the fact she had no one else to turn to, she called Ed and Lorraine. In January 1986, shortly after Janet had contacted them, the Warrens arrived at Chase Street.

They began their investigation by asking the Smurl's about their family life, religious beliefs and other relevant factors. The Warrens, accompanied by Rosemary Frueh, a registered nurse and psychic, then began a tour of the house. They identified a bedroom closet as the crossover point between the two sides of the duplex and detected the presence of four evil entities in the building.

#### Demonic Activity?

Many have speculated that the alleged paranormal incidents reported by the Smurl's was in fact Demonic in nature. There does seem to be a fine line drawn between a haunting and demonic activity. The general rule of thumb is that even though alleged demonic incidents can start as general haunting experiences, they can manifest into much more dangerous and traumatic incidents. Bad odours of rotten meat tends to be a common indicator as well as strange animal sounds being heard, dark amorphous apparitions, scratch marks being found and of course those living in the environment being physically attacked.

One of which they believed was a demon. Without any evidence supporting family dysfunction, tragedy or any of involvement with the occult to invite the entities into their home the Warrens looked to another cause for the haunting. They concluded that the demon had probably been dormant for decades and had risen to draw on the energy of the girls entering into puberty and the family's strong religious beliefs. Both are common factors in poltergeist cases.

The photograph to the right shows Mr. Smurl pointing where the dark apparition passed through the wall.



The Warrens then set out to expose the demon by provoking it, playing religious music and confronting it with prayer. Mirrors shook violently as did dresser drawers. On another occasion the demon reacted by spelling out 'you filthy b\*\*\*\*d, get out of this house'.

#### Persecution?

Throughout the years, priests and paranormal investigators of diabolic haunting (demonic activity) have suggested that those who are devout Catholics seem to have the most traumatic of all paranormal incidents. They often go on to say that, such devout Catholics are persecuted the most and this is because of their strong belief in God. However, after surveys and research was carried out, this was found to be untrue. Sure, there are people who are devout Catholics that claim they have witnessed such traumatic paranormal activity, just like the Smurl family and even Doris Bither, who was depicted in the hit movie 'The Entity'. However, two families does not constitute a common indicator.

The situation escalated even further as Janet alleged to have been sexually assaulted by an incubus. Equally as terrifying were Jack's claims to have been raped by a succubus. He said the succubus took the form of an old woman with a young body. Her eyes were red and her gums were green. He also described her body as 'scaly'.

The Smurl's had tried several times to obtain help from the church. Janet thought she was going to receive help from a priest called Father O'Leary but she later discovered no such priest existed. The Roman Catholic Diocese of Scranton said they would consult with experts on the Smurl's case but thought it unlikely they would become involved.

With 'pig noises' now being heard coming from the walls Ed Warren was totally convinced that the Smurl's had a case of serious demonic infestation. So with the church unwilling to come to their aid, Ed Warren brought a priest he knew to Chase Street. Father McKenna,

later to become Bishop McKenna, was a traditionalist who refused to abide by the changes made by the second Vatican Council. He had performed more than 50 exorcisms for the Warrens in the past and was happy to help the troubled Smurl's. Father McKenna performed the ancient rite at the Smurl's home but it did nothing but serve to anger the demon even more. The family were now in the second demonic stage, oppression, which according to Ed Warren followed the first stage which was infestation and would be followed by two further stages, those being possession and finally death.

As the attacks continued Janet and Mary Smurl had slash and bite marks on their arms and Carin Smurl fell seriously ill from a strange fever and nearly died. During an attack on Dawn Smurl by an entity she was almost raped. Father McKenna performed a second exorcism in the late spring but it seemed to have had as little effect as the first ritual he had performed.

The demon had now begun harassing Jack Smurl at work and even following the family on camping trips. After repeatedly being refused help from the church and knowing that it would be pointless moving home as the demon would just follow them, the Smurl's decided to try another way to end their ordeal. Janet and Jack decided to appear on television, albeit anonymously. They were interviewed on the 'People Are Talking', show remaining behind a screen to protect their identity.

It would seem that the demon did not appreciate their appearance on the local Philadelphia television show as the attacks continued. Janet was levitated and thrown against the wall and in a separate instance a human hand came through the mattress of her bed and grabbed her by the neck. Jack was again raped by the succubus and the demon also appeared to him as a 'pig on legs' on another occasion.

### *The Smurl house became a tourist attraction to press, sceptics and curious members of the public.*

In August 1986 the Smurl's went public with their story. They gave an interview to the Wilkes-Barre Sunday Independent newspaper in the hope that somebody reading the article might be able to help them end their ordeal.

The Smurl house became a tourist attraction to press, sceptics and curious members of the public. The press attention from such publications as the Pittsburgh Post Gazette, Buffalo News and Scranton Tribune finally pushed the Roman Catholic Diocese to take some action and they offered to take over the investigation. The Warrens had also planned a mass exorcism with several priests and prayer groups also visited the house.

Medium Mary Alice Rinkman examined the Smurl's home and confirmed the Warren's findings. According to her there were indeed four spirits present. She identified a man named Peter who had murdered his wife and her lover and later been hung by a mob and also an old woman named Abigail Rinkman identified another spirit as a powerful demon but was unable to give any details about the final spirit. Bishop McKenna performed a third exorcism on the house and this time it had seemed to have been successful. There were no more disturbances. Three months later however it would appear that the ritual had not been such a success.



Just before Christmas 1986 Jack Smurl saw a black figure he believed was beckoning him into the third demonic stage...possession. He grabbed his rosary and prayed and the figure disappeared. Jack's hopes of it being an isolated incident were soon dashed. The banging, putrid smells and violent attacks started once again.

Tired, frustrated and beaten the Smurl's moved to another town. The chance that the entities would not follow them was their last hope of ending their nightmare. In 1988, shortly after the move, the church performed a fourth exorcism which finally seemed to have

freed the Smurl's from their ordeal. In the same year, 1988, Jack Smurl's book telling the family's story titled 'The Haunted' went to press. Three years later, in 1991, the television movie of the same name was released in the USA.

Many sceptics, amongst them some of the Smurl's neighbours, believe this only confirms their suspicions. That the family concocted the whole story in order to profit from book and film contracts. The possibility of a financial motive being behind the reported haunting was one of many reasons for scepticism according to Paul Kurtz.

Paul Kurtz was the Chairman of the Committee for the Scientific Investigation of Claims of the Paranormal (CSICOP) at the time of the Smurl haunting. Kurtz and CSICOP became involved in the case once the story had broken to the media. With newspapers carrying daily reports on the Smurl's story at the time, members of the public and the media contacted CSICOP asking if they knew what was going on at the house.

Kurtz dispatched two teams of investigators to West Pittston and also conducted an extensive 'over-the-phone' investigation. He contacted several members of the press who were working on the story and also members of the Smurl family themselves. In a report published in the Winter 1986/87 issue of The Skeptical Inquirer Kurtz concluded a number of explanations as to what really happened at Chase Street. None of the events, Kurtz says, were paranormal:

*'Our investigation of the Smurl case thus far points to several possible alternative explanations for what has allegedly been happening without the need to invoke an occult or paranormal one.'*

Kurtz's suspicions were also aroused by the fact that when one of his CSICOP teams arrived at the Smurl house they were denied entry by Ed and Lorraine Warren. The Warrens were now acting as spokesmen for the Smurl's and said they alone had been given privileged access to the house. So the CSICOP team were not allowed to enter the building despite the fact that the Smurl's had earlier given them permission to examine the house.

Kurtz also claims that when he asked the Warrens for permission to examine the video and audio tape evidence they claimed to have gathered he was given a number of conflicting answers as to why this would not be possible.

Amongst these were that the tapes would only be released to the Roman Catholic Church and that Warren had lent the tapes to a television production company and could not remember their name. Kurtz says:

*'For any demonological claims to be accepted they must be corroborated by independent observers. Thus far we only have the testimony of the Smurl's and/or the Warrens, unsubstantiated by any kind of objective physical evidence...we are committed to the impartial examination of any such claims... But we were denied the opportunity to examine the site or freely question the claimants...'*

Kurtz discovered, in conversation with neighbours of the Smurl's, that they had been complaining to village officials for years about the foul odours coming from an inadequate sewer pipe near the Smurl home. This could explain the strange smells described in the haunting. He also discovered that many of the rapping noises had emanated from the walls adjacent to 17 year old Dawn Smurl's room. He wondered whether she could have been responsible for the noises herself. Kurtz noted that Dawn's statements fit the pattern of a teenager playing tricks to get attention. Kurtz requested that the Smurl family submit to a thorough psychological and physiological examination but they declined. Kurtz concluded his findings by outlying the possibility of the financial motives behind the alleged haunting:

*'The fact that the Smurl's have signed a book contract raises serious questions about their motives. No doubt however, a large segment of the public and of the media is far more fascinated by demons and ghosts than the possibility of a prank or hoax.'*



The photograph to the left is of Ed and Lorraine Warren, alleged Demonologists.

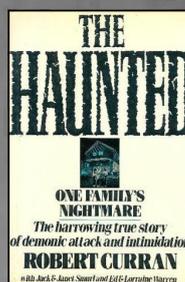
For over fifty years now, Ed and Lorraine Warren have been considered America's preeminent experts on the subject of spirits and demonology. Even more important perhaps, is the fact that they have also been the very same people for the past fifty years whom religious authorities have repeatedly called in to control some of the most profane outbreaks of diabolical phenomena throughout the U.S.

Cases where priests become allegedly possessed and where people claim to have been physically attacked. Cases where unworldly entities manifest and then preside and where time is violated and the physical environment is completely rearranged. Cases where spirits don't just haunt a house, they visibly tear it apart. The Warrens had visited some of the best known haunted locations and were also called in to help out the Smurl family.

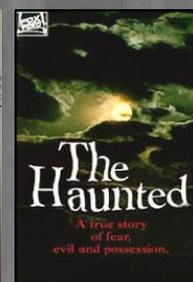
Of course, some people remain rather sceptical and suspicious of the Warrens, claiming that they have fabricated incidents and gained notoriety as well as making quite a bit of money from the subject. Depending on who you talk to, there certainly seems to be mixed feelings in regards the authenticity of their investigations.

The Haunted, a book by Robert Curran depicts the family's story of their harrowing ordeal. Later during the 1980s, a TV Movie was made also depicting the events...

The Book.



The Movie.



#### The TV Movie.

If we are to believe that the TV Movie of the Smurl incident is true, and of course there's no reason to, because most movies that state 'Based on a True Story', usually aren't, then the Smurl family fled their home in favour of a small break, and that the demonic entity followed them, as its dark apparition was allegedly seen near to where the family were camping. Due to having no escape, the family decided to head off back home, but when they arrived, neighbours rushed over to them to say, all hell was breaking loose. Screams emanated from their home and police were called to the scene.

Failure of a police report manifesting created serious doubt in the Smurl's story of events...

**The Author:** Jason Day is an exceptional researcher and is part of SPIRIT - Society of Paranormal Investigation, Research, Information & Truth.

Jason Day was the longest serving feature writer for 'Paranormal' magazine (March 2006 – January 2008), the largest monthly paranormal publication of its kind in the UK at the time, writing over twenty articles during that period. Currently he is a regular contributor to paranormal publications such as 'FATE' magazine in the USA (the longest running paranormal magazine in the world) and 'Ghost Voices' magazine in the UK. Jason also works with others in the written media, including some very prominent names in the paranormal community. His first book 'It's Only A Movie... Isn't It?' was released on 1st May 2010 and his second book 'Haunted Scunthorpe' was released on 2nd October 2010. Jason has also been commissioned to write three more books for The History Press, 'Paranormal Essex' due for release in March 2011, 'Haunted Grimsby' due for release in September 2011 and 'Haunted Chelmsford' due for release in July 2012.

Jason's experience working in the paranormal field has been varied ranging from being a regular co-host on the 'Friday Night Paranormal Show' on Pulse Talk Radio, being the featured article writer for the paranormal reference website ghostdatabase.co.uk and also being the chief consultant for the Famously Haunted Awards organisation on MySpace.

Jason currently hosts Famously Haunted's 'White Noise Paranormal Talk Radio Show' (now in it's fourth series year) on Blog Talk Radio and has interviewed such figures in the paranormal community as James Randi, Lorraine Warren, Dr Ciaran O'Keeffe, Derek Acorah, Nick Pope, Ian Lawman, Stanton Friedman, Katrina Weidman, Jason Karl and Richard Felix. Jason himself has been a guest on several radio shows, talking about his work within the paranormal field.

In early 2010 Jason became managing director of Phantom Encounters Limited, an events company offering a variety of paranormal experiences to the public, ranging from ghost hunts to UFO sky watches and monster hunts. The company also host Paranormal Lecture Series and Corporate Events. You can find out more about Phantom Encounters events at [www.phantomencounters.co.uk](http://www.phantomencounters.co.uk) One of three founding members of a small not for profit based in Essex, paranormal investigation team by the name of S.P.I.R.I.T (Society for Paranormal Investigation, Research, Information & Truth - established March 2006)

Jason's commitment to investigating and explaining the paranormal continues.

Jason is a well respected author in the field of the Paranormal. His books, Paranormal Essex, Haunted Scunthorpe and 'It's only a Movie... Isn't it?' are available from Amazon and Jason's website at: [www.jasonday.co.uk](http://www.jasonday.co.uk)

team and also a Founder Member of the team. To find out more about SPIRIT please visit their official Website at: [www.jasonday.co.uk](http://www.jasonday.co.uk)



One of Jason most interesting books is, 'It's only a Movie... Isn't it?'

### The Movie You Are About To Watch, Is Based On A True Story...

*Have you ever watched a movie that was based on a 'true story' and wondered just how true the story really was?*

If that movie was based on a subject such as a violent haunting, alien abduction, demonic possession or even a monster; you may have been comforted by the fact that such things don't exist, that it couldn't possibly be a true story...could it?

In this book British paranormal researcher, investigator, broadcaster and author Jason Day delves into the paranormal movies that make these bold claims.

Enlisting the help of paranormal investigators, monster hunters, ufologists, sceptics and mediums Jason compares the movies to the stories they are based upon and then investigates just how true the stories are themselves.

With expert opinions from James Randi, Jason Karl, John Zaffis, Phil Whyman and many more professionals in the paranormal field this book sets out to answer the question we have all, at one time or another, asked ourselves after watching films such as The Amityville Horror, The Exorcism Of Emily Rose, Fire In The Sky and The Exorcist:

**IT'S ONLY A MOVIE...ISN'T IT?**

Airing for two hours every Sunday night at 10pm (GMT), White Noise Paranormal Radio, the UK's number one paranormal radio show, brings members of the paranormal, scientific, sceptic and spiritual community "on air" to talk about their work, their issues and the latest developments within the paranormal community.

White Noise Paranormal Radio was the brainchild of two members of the Famously Haunted board, authors Jason Day & Kelly McKenzie who, noticing a lack of unbiased presentation within the paranormal, spiritual and scientific community, decided to provide an audio forum for all points of view to be aired.

Aired in over 30 countries worldwide, the show is in it's fourth highly successful season and plans for a fifth are currently well under way. In December 2009 the White Noise Paranormal Radio Show won the Best International Radio Show Award at the International Paranormal Acknowledgement Awards. At the same ceremony White Noise Host Jason Day won the award for the Best International Radio Show Host...



The Society Of Paranormal Investigation, Research, Information And Truth. SPIRIT are a Paranormal group established on 24th March 2006 and based in the South East of England. The founder members are Simon Day, Alison White and Jason Day. They are dedicated to the causes embodied in our name: Paranormal Investigation, Research, Information; And above all to find the TRUTH.

Jason is the Director Of Investigations and also a Founder Member of the

Jason Day is the author of 'The Smurl Haunting', featured on The Ghost Database. He is a respected author on the subject of the paranormal and a long term writer for Paranormal Magazine.

# The UFO-Christianity Connection: Fact or Fiction

by Dr. Fred R. David

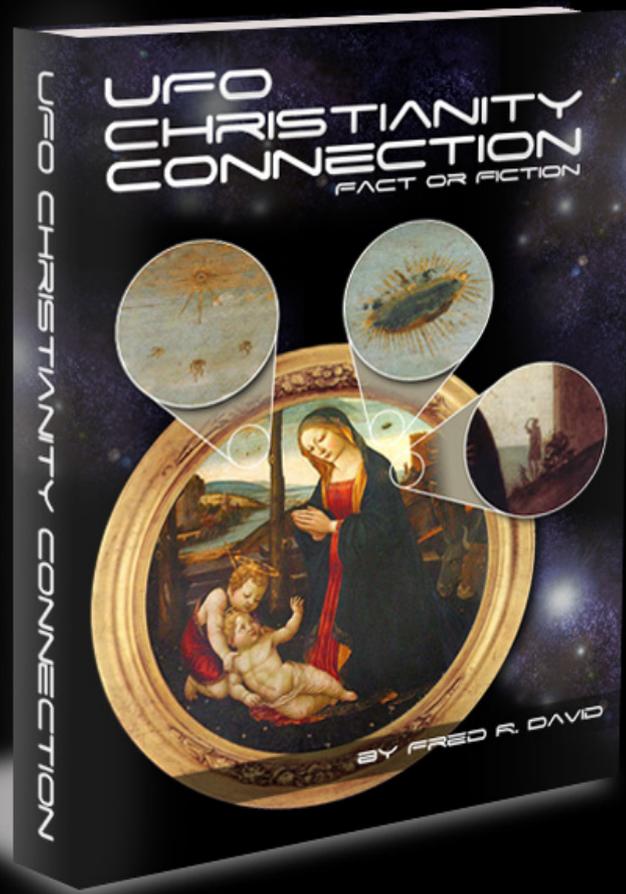
*"This book aims to renew your mind and perhaps strengthen your faith by expanding your knowledge of the Christianity link.. Everyone who walks by your coffee table will want to talk about this book" "I was quite excited by the prospect of reviewing this book, its cover promising an examination of current knowledge from many subjects including palaeontology, astronomy and physics etc. along with references to ancient texts of the Mayan, Aztec, Egyptian, Sumerian and Indian Cultures".*

*The book itself is very well presented, offering an abundance of colour photographs, links to websites and a massive list of references to sources; You Tube documentaries and the like.*

*However, I have to say this book was not for me...*

*I found it a difficult read to say the least, crammed as it is with links to cases which have been proved to be explainable, and not, as the author suggests, legitimate UFO experiences. The book presents a very one sided view of the subject, it seems to interpret any reference, Biblical or otherwise as evidence to support the UFO-Christianity connection instead of offering alternative explanations. That said, the multitude of references makes the book a valuable research tool for the interested new researcher who wishes to expand his or her knowledge of the theorised links between UFOs and Christianity, as long as he or she are willing to keep an open mind and use this book as a starting point in their research, and not as a irrefutable statement of the facts.*

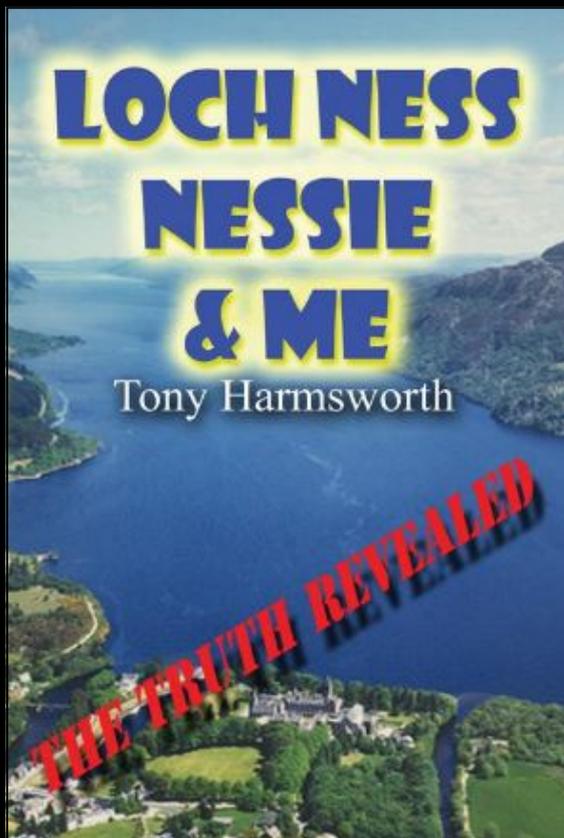
**A MOST FASCINATING WELL ILLUSTRATED BOOK...**  
**KIRST D'RAVEN - UPIA COORDINATOR.**  
**PHENOMENA MAGAZINE.**



<http://ufochristianityconnection.com/>

## Loch Ness, Nessie & Me

by Tony Harmsworth



*This book takes the story of the monster from its early mythological beginnings through to the present day. Initially it explains how the Highlands were formed and what has changed the scenery and the people from cataclysmic geological beginnings in the southern hemisphere through the changing cultures of Pict, Scot, Viking and modern Highlander. You are taken on a journey around Loch Ness, learning about its geography, the heritage and attractions which surround it and the villages and glens which are all part of the wider Loch Ness region. Then the story of Nessie begins. From humble origins of descriptions of big fish in the loch it suddenly burst upon the world as the Loch Ness Monster in 1933.*

*The author has taken on huge questions in this book. Can Nessie be killed by science? Can the myth be exploded? He has put his best efforts into answering these questions and others truthfully and fairly. If you really want to understand the subject, this is essential reading. The book's conclusion, however, shows that Nessie can remain as real as ever and that there is no chance of proving she is anything other than the creature each of us wishes her to be. After all, logic and facts must not be allowed to spoil a good and fascinating story which has run for more than seventy years!*

*"A fascinating book that caught my attention immediately. You can see that Tony has spent many years correlating the historical and geological information". Not only does this book approach the subject from a scientific stance, but also incorporates local mythology. The painstaking research Tony has provided in regards investigation and research into the mysteries of the Loch and its possible residents is also a delightful and informative read. One of the best books I have ever read on the subject of Loch Ness and of course... Nessie".*

**WELL WORTH A READ!**  
**STEVE MERA - EDITOR**  
**PHENOMENA MAGAZINE**

<http://www.loch-ness.com/buynow.html>

# THE DROPA STONES

In 1938 high in the mountains of Bayan-Kara-Ula, on the borders of China and Tibet a team of archaeologists were conducting a very detailed routine survey of a series of interlocking caves. Their interests had been excited by the discovery of lines of neatly arranged graves which contained the skeletons of what must have been a race of human beings.

***Finally Dr. Tsum Um Nui broke the code and started to decipher the "speaking grooves".***

They appeared to have spindly bodies and large overdeveloped heads. At first it had been thought that the caves had been the home of a hitherto unknown species of ape. But as the species seemed to bury its dead they eliminated an ape race.

While studying the skeletons one of the members of the team stumbled on a large round stone disc half buried in the dust on the floor of the cave. The disc looked like an Stone Age record. There was a hole in the center of and a fine spiral groove that is a continuous spiralling line of closely written characters. No one understood the meanings of the message. The disc was labelled and filed away among other finds in the area.

For 20 years many experts in Peking tried to translate the disc. Finally Dr. Tsum Um Nui broke the code and started to decipher the "speaking grooves". The Peking academy of Pre-History forbade him to publish his findings. In 1965, 716 more grooved stone discs were uncovered in the same caves. They told the story of a "space probe" by the inhabitants of another planet who came to the Baya-Kara-Ula mountain range. They had crash landed. Their peaceful intentions had been misinterpreted. Many of them had been

the Han tribe, who lived in the neighbouring caves. They referred to themselves as the Dropa's. They said they came down from the clouds in their space craft. It crashed landed in remote and inaccessible mountains. There was no way to build a new ship. Legend in the area spoke of small gaunt yellow faced men who came from the clouds long ago. The men had huge bulging heads and puny bodies. They were so ugly they were hunted down and killed. This description is similar to the bodies found in the caves.

On the walls of the caves archaeologists found crude pictures of the rising Sun, the Moon, unidentifiable stars and the earth all joined together by lines of pea-sized dots. The cave drawings have been dated around 12,000 years ago. The cave area is still inhabited by 2 semi-troglodyte tribes known as the Hans and the Dropa's.

These tribes are odd looking in appearance. They are frail and stunted in growth averaging only about 5 feet in height. They are neither typically Chinese nor Tibetan.

In Russia several of the rock were tested. The discs were found to contain large amounts of cobalt and other metallic substances. When placed on a special turntable they vibrated or hummed in an unusual rhythm as though an electric charge was passing through them. It is as if they formed some part of an electrical circuit.

## ***A second story emerges.***

Chi Pu Tei, a professor of archaeology at Beijing University, was leading some his students on an expedition to survey a series of interlinking caves in the

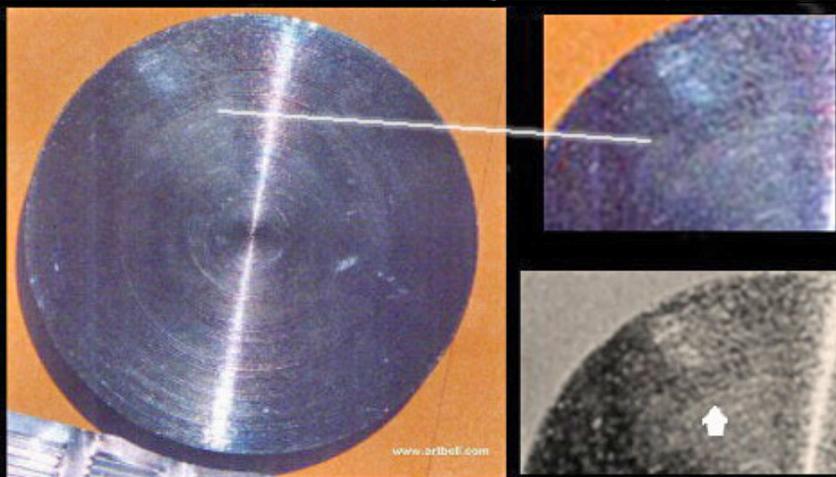
**The Facts:**  
Any serious researcher who has looked into this has called the evidence groundless, however there is nothing to genuinely support any claims. The actual Dropa tribe are regular sized herders. There are reports of dwarfism around rural China due to high levels of chemicals in the drinking water.

The Chinese museums have no record of any of these discs being stored there and the Russian government also has no records of any discs being studied.

Tsum Um Nui is actually a Japanese name adapted to Chinese. There are no reports Dr. Tsum Um Nui even existed.

The Egyptian language was not understood until the discovery of the Rosetta Stone. Hundreds, if not thousands of people had tried to translate the hieroglyphs without success before that. How could 1 man translate 716 discs in his spare time..?





Himalayan mountains. According to one account, the caves may have been artificially carved, and were more like a complex system of tunnels and underground storerooms. The walls were squared and glazed, as if cut into the mountain with a source of extreme heat. Inside the caves were several ancient, but neatly arranged burial sites, and in them the skeletal remains of a strange people. The skeletons, measuring a little more than four feet tall, were frail and spindly with disproportionately large skulls. At first, it was suggested by a member of the team that these might be the remains of an unknown species of mountain gorilla. Professor Chi Pu Tei is reputed to have responded, "Who ever heard of apes burying one another?" Yet, what kind of human was this?

Chinese scientist was able to decode the message of the stone plates. Dr. Tsum Um Nui felt the smooth face of the disk with the palm of his hand. "What could this disk possibly be?" he wondered.

He knew of its recent history; how it was discovered in 1938 by a Chinese archaeologist in a cave high in the Himalayans, along with 715 similar disks; how buried nearby were skeletons of a strange tribe of people averaging only a little over four feet high; how it was found that each disk was inscribed with a tiny groove that spiralled around its face, and that the groove turned out to be an unknown hieroglyphic. He also knew how the disks, as remarkable as they were, had been simply labelled along with other finds of the expedition and stored away at Beijing University for 20 years. During that time, others

had attempted to decipher the strange inscriptions, but without success. Perhaps now, in 1962, he could. The professor painstakingly transcribed the characters from the disk to paper. The writing was so small he had to use a magnifying glass to see it clearly. But the stones were old -- perhaps 12,000 years old, it was estimated -- and much of the hieroglyphics were difficult to make out or had been worn away by time and the elements.

As he worked, many questions nagged the professor. How did these primitive people fashion these precise stones? How did they manage the almost microscopic writing?

***A word emerged.  
Then another. A  
phrase became un-  
derstandable, then an  
entire sentence...***

Who were they and what was the purpose of these hundreds of stones? Once the characters were transcribed, Dr. Tsum Um Nui began the arduous task of trying to decode its message. Eventually, he began to make progress. A word emerged. Then another. A phrase became understandable, then an entire sentence. He had broken the code. He discerned that the messages on the stones were written by a people who called themselves the Dropa.

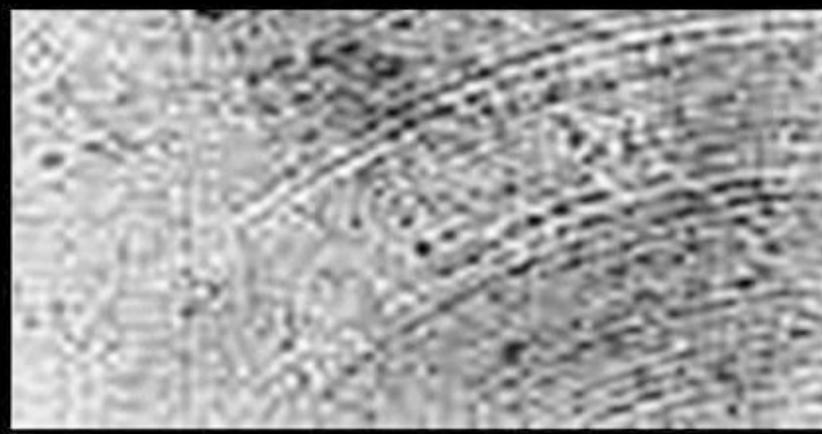
**The Facts:**  
According to Wikipedia, the photos people claim are Dropa Stones, are really known as Bi Disks. There have been thousands of these disks found across South-eastern China. These Bi Disks can be anywhere from a few inches to a few feet, are usually made of nephrite or jade and have a small hole in the center.

The discs were usually buried beneath the feet of the deceased. After the Shang Dynasty, the discs eventually took on some extravagant carvings such as dragons and snakes. There have been no discs found which contain delicate writing or spiral grooves having anything to do with the Dropa's.

First appearing in Erich Von Daniken's well known book 'Chariots of the Gods', The Dropa Stones received world interest, however, there seems to be a lack of evidence to support their authenticity...

More discoveries made further in the caves all but ruled out the idea that these were apes. On the walls were carved pictograms of the heavens: the sun, the moon, the stars, and the Earth with lines of dots connecting them. Then the team made the most incredible discovery of all. Half-buried in the dirt floor of the cave was an odd stone disk, obviously fashioned by the hand of an intelligent creature. The disk was approximately nine inches in diameter and three-quarters of an inch thick. In the exact center was a perfectly round, 3/4" hole, and etched in its face was a fine groove spiralling out from the center to the rim, making the disk look for all the world like some kind of primitive phonograph record.

This one plate, dated to be between 10,000 and 12,000 years old -- older by far than the great pyramids of Egypt -- was fantastic enough, but the wonder was multiplied manifold. In all, 716 such plates were found. And each held an incredible secret. The groove, upon further inspection, was not a groove at all, but a continuous line of strange carved hieroglyphics -- writing! The tiny, almost microscopic characters were in a language never encountered before. It wasn't until 1962 that another



But what they were saying to him 12,000 years later made no sense. What the Dropa had written must have been one of their cultural myths, or was part of some prehistoric religious ceremony. Or was it? When he had completed the translation as much as he could, the professor sat back in his chair in disbelief. The story the Dropa related was nothing short of astounding. How would his colleagues react? How might the world react if this story was true? The professor wrote up a paper on his findings and presented it to the university for publication. Their reaction was swift and emphatic: the paper would not be published. The Academy of Prehistory expressly forbade him to publish or even speak of his findings. The world, the academy decided, should not know about the Dropa and their fateful journey to Earth. Dr. Tsum Um Nui's findings were eventually published, however. Just two years later, he published the paper entitled, "The Grooved Script Concerning Spaceships Which, as Recorded on the Discs, Landed on Earth 12,000 Years Ago."

By some accounts, the academy relented and gave permission to the professor to publish the paper, and by other accounts he published it despite the official ban. In either case, his translation and his theory were met with ridicule by the archaeology establishment. The translation was just too shattering to be taken at face value or as an historical account. It just could not be true. It would change everything we know about our history and humankind's place in the universe.

#### What the Stones Reveal:

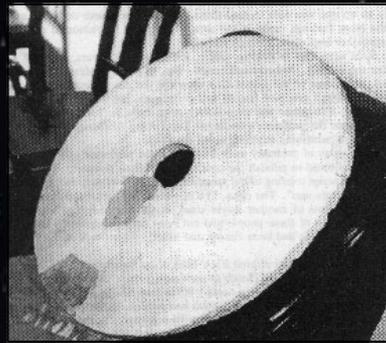
The Dropa disks tell the story of a space probe from a distant planet that crash-landed in the Baian-Kara-Ula mountains of the Himalayas.

The occupants of the spacecraft - the Dropa - found refuge in the caves of the mountains. Despite their peaceful intentions, the Dropa were misunderstood by members of the Ham tribe who were occupying neighbouring caves and who hunted down the aliens and even killed some of them.

A translation of one of the passages says: "The Dropa came down from the clouds in their aircraft. Our men, women, and children hid in the caves ten times before sunrise. When at last they understood the sign language of the Dropa, they realised that the newcomers had peaceful intentions." The stones go on to say how the Dropa were unable to repair their disabled spacecraft and could not return to their home planet, and so were stranded on Earth. If that's true, have their descendents survived?

Today, the isolated area is inhabited by two tribes of people who, in fact, call themselves the Dropa and the Han. Anthropologists have been unable to categorize either tribe into any other known race; they are neither Chinese nor Tibetan. Both tribes are of pygmy stature, adults measuring between 3-foot-6 and 4-foot-7 with an average height of 4-foot-2, and body weights of 38 to 52 pounds. They are yellow-skinned with thin bodies and disproportionately large heads, corresponding to the skeletal remains found in the caves in 1938. They have sparse hair on their bodies and have large eyes that are not Asian in aspect, but have pale blue irises. Supposedly, there also is an ancient Chinese tale that might bear-out the Dropa's claims.

The tale relates the story of a small, slender, yellow-skinned people who descended to the Earth from the clouds, and who were shunned by everyone because of their ugliness.



#### Strange Properties:

In 1968, the Dropa stones came to the attention of W. Saitsev, a Russian scientist who re-published the findings of Tsum Um Nui and conducted tests on the disks that revealed some very peculiar properties. Physically, the granite stones contained high concentrations of cobalt and other metals -- a very hard stone indeed that would have made it difficult for the primitive people to carve the lettering, especially with such minute characters.

### *The Dropa stones present an intriguing puzzle for archaeologists and anthropologists.*

When testing a disk with an oscillograph, a surprising oscillation rhythm was recorded as if, the scientists said, they had once been electrically charged or had functioned as electrical conductors. Whatever their true nature, origin, or meaning, the Dropa stones present an intriguing puzzle for archaeologists and anthropologists.

Were the Dropa truly visitors from some distant planet, or is their story merely a creation myth imagined by a primitive culture? If the latter is true, it adds one more such "myth" to the large number of stories from ancient cultures that claim their descendents came to Earth from the heavens; And if the former is true, the Dropa stones could represent the first recorded visit of an alien civilization to our planet...

There will be people out there that, despite all the evidence against, will still believe with all their hearts that there's something to this story. The Dropa's controversy will probably go down in history as another one of those unsolved riddles. Well, we have presented some of the facts, and will leave it up to you to decide.

For now, the Dropa stones remain unexplained...

**The Facts:**  
Stone discs? Wouldn't an advanced alien species make their spaceships out of steel? Where's the rest of the crash debris? Stone discs and nothing else?

Erich Von Daniken's 1968 book, 'Chariot of the Gods', had in it the first ever mention of the Dropa's story. Names and places in his book can not be corroborated. He also claims his main source for information was the Soviet sci-fi writer Alexander Kazantsev. Kazantsev says it's the other way around and that Daniken told him the story first...?

**How could this possibly have happened?  
The original drawing was made for a Russian magazine Sputnik, to illustrate a legend of extra-terrestrial "Dropa stones" in Tibet.**



Special Thanks to:

The Supernatural Zone - [www.gsl.net/w5www/ufu.htm](http://www.gsl.net/w5www/ufu.htm) & The Astral World - [www.astralworld.com](http://www.astralworld.com)



# HELP for HEROES

*Support For Our Wounded*

## DONATIONS

### ON THE WEB

Click on our donations button on our website [www.helpforheroes.org.uk](http://www.helpforheroes.org.uk) and you will be parted with your money electronically and securely. It is easy to use, safe and enables us to get Gift Aid from the nice man at the Treasury which will add 25% to your donation and that is worth having!

### BY CHEQUE

If you prefer to send your donation by post, make your cheque out to Help for Heroes and send it with the attached form, make sure you fill in the gift aid, to:

**HELP for HEROES**  
Unit 6, Aspire Business Centre,  
Ordnance Road,  
Tidworth, Hants SP9 7QD  
Tel: 01980 846 459

### BY PHONE

Call 0300 200 1066, or text Hero to 60999 to donate £5. Calls and messages are charged at national rate.

*Thank you so much for your donation.*

*We will make sure it Helps a Hero.*

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# HELP for HEROES

*Support For Our Wounded*

**The UPIA supports this Official Charity**

## What is HELP for HEROES all about?

“It’s about the blokes, our men and women of the Armed Forces. It’s about **Derek**, a rugby player who has lost both his legs, it’s about **Carl** whose jaw is wired up so he has been drinking through a straw. It’s about **Richard** who was handed a mobile phone as he lay on the stretcher so he could say goodbye to his wife. It’s about **Ben**, it’s about **Steven** and **Andy** and **Mark**, it’s about them all. They are just blokes but they are our blokes; they are our heroes. We want to help our heroes.”



[www.helpforheroes.org.uk](http://www.helpforheroes.org.uk)

Registered Charity Number 1120920