

# PHENOMENA

THE SCIENTIFIC INVESTIGATION OF THE UNEXPLAINED

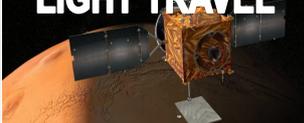
ISSUE 26 - JUNE 2011

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**CROP CIRCLES OF 2011 | LATEST NEWS | BOOK REVIEWS**



Hello to all, Its been a busy month of radio and TV work. I have just finished filming for a new UFO documentary entitled: 'The Truth May Be Out There - UFO's Over Manchester' which should be screening on Channel M sometime this month. I will be providing updates on Facebook, so keep in touch. Also, I am proud to announce that Phenomena Magazine is now being distributed in the United States by our good friends at UFOTV.COM. Current and back issues are available to download for free from their website. Another interesting issue I hope you'll enjoy. Many Thanks.

SUB-EDITORIAL



Well i've been sifting through data and statistics, monitoring trends and generally passing my eye over the world of the paranormal, cryptozoological and UFOlogical. My findings.... It seems there is a lull in the world. Less credible reports, a downturn in paranormal barmopts peddling their claptrap, less pies in the skies, hoax pussy cat cases where entire county police are mustered.

The world didn't end, the paranormal genre isn't being thrust in our faces by the media, all in all, its all gone quiet. Too quiet. The only constant is the money making scam merchants, yes the trutheers, end of world mob and the pariahs that are the paranormal tourist companies. Pay £50 to scare the crap out of yourself, all in the aid of lining our own pockets.

Time these halfwits were regulated. Do they pay VAT, Tax, Insurance etc? and are they being honest to their clients? Here's where I ask one to prove the facts to me? Anyakers?

So myself and UPIA's Kirst D'Raven are diversifying, looking at something away from the norm of the subject. Initial data is growing rapidly and hopefully some preliminary results will be released in the next few months.

Keep it real...

**PHENOMENA**  
The Official UPIA & MAPIT Update

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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THIS MONTHS CONTRIBUTORS

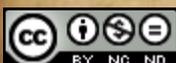
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Page 2: Ghosts Ahoy!

Often when discussing the haunting phenomenon, we usually think of stately homes, castles, inn's and other old buildings. However, there are a number of well known documented cases of such phenomena taking place on ships, especially the Queen Mary. Danise Villani explains some of the strange reports and incidents to take place on the darkened creepy decks of this once famous ship.



Page 3: The Haunted Painting.

Sean Robinson writes... 'I have recently been in contact with Steve Mera of MAPIT in regards some unusual incidents that have been taking place. I also contacted him in an effort to find out more about the artist of a particular painting that unusual disturbances seem to surround, and hopefully find out why these things are happening'. I'd love to hear from anyone who recognises this painting...



Page 5: The Sale Moor Disturbance.

During March of 2002 I was contacted by Joe Morgan and his partner Jackie. Both claimed to have witnessed paranormal phenomena taking place in their small home in Sale Moor, Manchester, UK. On most occasions I tend to find numerous rational explanations, however, on this occasion I found myself working with Trafford Housing in hope of having the family relocated. Steve Mera explains...



Page 11: A Visit to Luds Church.

Luds Church is a deep chasm penetrating the Millstone Grit bedrock created by a massive landslip on the hillside above Gradbach, Staffordshire, England, in a wood known as Back Forest, towards the southwest fringe of the Peak District National Park. Over 100m long and 18m deep, it is mossy and overgrown. A very historical & creepy place well worth visiting... Dave Sadler checks it out!



Page 13: Ghostly Phenomena in the Scottish Mountains.

Of 532 haunt and poltergeist cases that he regarded as sufficiently well documented, Ernesto Bozzano (1929) classed 374 as proper haunting's. In the majority, there was known to have been a tragic death in the location. But whether or not haunt phenomena tend to occur in places where there've been tragic deaths, it's clear that some don't invariably follow such fatalities... Peter McCue investigates...



Page 19: Crop Circles, Not a Modern Phenomena?

Apart from 'The Mowing Devil' information from the 1600's, most people think of the crop circles as a modern phenomenon (and wonder if modern technology may be responsible). However, there does seem to be some evidence that would suggest crop circles have been appearing off-and-on for hundreds of years. Nancy Talbot reveals some of the best documented cases...



Page 23: The Drummer of Tedworth - Part 2.

The case of the 'Drummer of Tedworth' is one of the most famous episodes in the history of witchcraft. It involved a poltergeist which, in the early sixteen-sixties, haunted the house of John Mompesson, a landowner, excise officer and commission officer in the militia, who lived at North Tedworth on the Wiltshire-Hampshire border. Kirst D'Raven recounts more of this unusual and historic case...



Page 27: The Poltergeist Experience.

Poltergeist phenomena is indelibly linked with Haunting's but is usually classed as a separate phenomenon nowadays. Parapsychologist's now seem to think that poltergeist activity is a result of RSPK (Recurrent Spontaneous Psychokinesis). But can the human mind really produce a field or force that can move and throw heavy furniture around etc? Robert Young investigates...



Page 31: Breakthrough in Faster-Than-Light Travel.

Interstellar space-travel and near-instant communication; discovering a network of intelligent extraterrestrial signals; harnessing the mysterious instantaneous quantum-entanglement effect. These are all either science fiction or things we will probably never live to see or understand, correct? Not at all. It is a clarifying a simple but extremely fundamental misunderstanding. Roland Tremblay explains.



Latest News Items include: Bog Cat on the Prowl, Aliens Watching Ashbourne Rugby?, The Soviet Gray, Poltergeist Forces Family to Flee, First Scientific Proof of Burning in a Crop Circle, UFO Filmed prior to Royal Wedding, Giant Asteroid to narrowly miss Earth, Recent Crop Circles of 2011. Book Review: Majic Eyes Only, Advertisements, Conferences and Events and much much more...

# GHOST AHoy!

## GHOSTLY SIGHTINGS ON BOARD THE QUEEN MARY AND OTHER SHIPS...

The Queen Mary has been a permanent feature in Long Beach, California for a couple of decades and is one of the most famous cruise ships of all time. The ship has become a hotel, museum and popular tourist attraction, and the historic ship is internationally recognized and attracts thousands of visitors every year. Besides the living guests, the ship is said to play host to several ghosts. It has been speculated that the Queen Mary might be one of the most haunted places in the world. Reports say that as many as 150 known spirits have taken up residence and lurk in various locations all around the ship.

The Queen Mary sailed her maiden voyage on May 27, 1936. Built in Scotland to be used as part of a two-ship express service from Southampton to Cherbourg to New York, the Queen Mary is 1,000 feet long, and in her day was said to be bigger, faster and more powerful than the Titanic. She also held the record for the fastest-ever North Atlantic crossing. The historic ocean liner's passengers included the most celebrated people of the time, including royalty, top entertainment figures and important world leaders. At the start of World War II in 1939, luxury travel stopped and the ship was turned into a carrier ship that was used by allied forces to carry troops from March of 1940 to September of 1946. It was during this time that she would become known as "The Grey Ghost". By the end of World War II, the ship had carried more than 700,000 troops, traveled over 500,000 miles and played a significant role in almost every major Allied campaign. She also survived a collision at sea, set the record for carrying the most people ever on a floating vessel (16,683), and participated in the D-Day invasion.

When the war ended, the Queen Mary was refurbished and started up her elegant cruises again in July, 1947, with weekly service between Southampton, Cherbourg, and New York. By the early 1960's, the popularity of transatlantic cruises greatly decreased due to the increasing affordability of air travel. The ship attempted to revive its popularity, but without central air conditioning, outdoor pools, or other amenities offered on most other cruise ships, the attempt was unsuccessful. In 1967, the Queen Mary was pulled from service and was sold to the city of Long Beach, California, to be used as a maritime museum and hotel. On December 9, 1967, she made her final voyage to Long Beach. During her 60-year history, the Queen Mary was the site of 49 reported deaths, opening the doorway for potential spirits to haunt

her. Reported hauntings include a young crewman in the engine room, swimmers in the first-class pool, a man in black, and a woman in blue. Some of the Queen Mary's most haunted places include the propeller box, engine room, boiler room, cargo hold and first class swimming pool.



One of these hauntings is thought to be the spirit of John Pedder, a fireman in his late teens who was crushed to death by a watertight door in 1966 during a routine drill. Unexplained knocking has been heard around the door, and a tour guide reported she saw a figure dressed in dark clothing as she was leaving the area where the young man had been killed. She saw his face and recognized him from his photographs. He was dressed in blue coveralls and sporting a beard. The young man has often been seen walking along Shaft Alley before disappearing by door number 13. This famous door was used in the filming of the Posiedon Adventure and has reportedly crushed at least two men during the ship's history.

The first-class swimming pool seems to be a hot spot for ghostly encounters. Wet footprints mysteriously appear even though there's not a drop of water in the pool. These footsteps lead from the deck of the pool to the changing rooms. Women in vintage bathing suits are occasionally seen stopping by for a swim, even though the pool has been closed for more than 30 years. There have also been reports of seeing the spirit of a young girl carrying her teddy bear along with disembodied voices, laughter and splashing sounds. In the second class pool area the spirit of another little girl named Jackie is often seen and heard. The girl drowned in the pool during the ship's sailing days and splashing sounds.

In the second class pool area the spirit of another little girl named Jackie is often seen and heard. The girl drowned in the pool during the ship's sailing days and doesn't seem to want to move on. Her voice and the sound of laughter has been captured in this area. In the room that was used as the third

class playroom, there have been reports of the sound of children crying in the nursery room. There is also a report that a single baby's cry has been heard. This crying is thought to be that of an infant boy who died there shortly after he was born. In some of the first-class staterooms there have been reports of a tall, dark haired man wearing a 1930's style suit showing up in various places. In addition to sightings of the man, the faucets and lights get turned on in the middle of the night, and phones ring in the early morning hours but no one is ever on the other end of the line. There are several other reports of sightings about the ship including a beautiful young woman in an elegant white evening gown who dances alone in a shadowy corner of the salon, which was once used as the ship's first-class lounge.

Another mysterious woman in white has been seen close to the front desk. She will usually disappear behind a pillar. Other phenomena that has been reported throughout the ship include the sounds of knocking, doors slamming and high pitched squeals, drastic temperature changes, and the recurring smells of another

### The USS Lexington...

*She stands tall and proud on the shoreline of Corpus Christi's North Beach, now a floating museum, but once a battle-seasoned war machine proud of her memorable service to the United States Naval Fleet. And like most battle-hardened ships, she has many stories to tell. But this World War II relic comes with a twist - a white-uniformed, blue-eyed young seaman who has been known to tell the tales of the ship to museum visitors who have come to tour her. Only this tour guide is a ghost. Staff of the floating museum call him "Charly".*

*Visitors have often called him helpful. But whatever you call him, the neatly-dressed sailor in white is not part of the museum staff, but reportedly a former crew member that simply failed to depart the ship after giving up his life after a Japanese Kamakazi attack on Halloween (Oct. 31) 1944 off the coast of the Philippines.*

*On a Corpus Christi Caller-Times web site, as many as 200 visitors to the museum have reported encounters with Charly. Without exception, the reports indicate the ghostly seaman is a "polite young man" that seems to share a great deal of information about the Lexington's engine room far below deck. Lexington tour guide David Deal, who served on the Lex in 1959-1960, says Charly seems to know a lot about the ship.*

*"This apparition told things about the engine that I don't even know," said Deal, who made the rank of airman on the Lexington and retired in 1976 as a catapult chief.*

*"It's fascinating because I'm one of these hard nuts to crack on something like this," said Deal, who added there has been more than just a few accounts of Charly's presence in the engine rooms. So common, in fact, have been the appearances of the eerie spectral tour guide that a "ghost cam" has been installed in the engine room where you can watch for the ghostly guide 24 hours a day.*



# THE HAUNTED PAINTING

I have recently been in contact with Steve Mera of MAPIT in regards some unusual incidents that have been taking place. I also contacted him in an effort to find out more about the artist of a particular painting the disturbances seem to surround, and hopefully find out why these things are happening. I'll give you the background on the painting.

My Grandmother had the painting in her attic for twenty five years. She said it was evil. She told me she used to see the dark figure of a man around the house and at night and that she heard strange noises and crying. She told me the artist had committed suicide shortly after finishing the painting and that he had used his own blood mixed in with the oils. After she died I got the painting, it is currently in our basement. Shortly after I got it, various members of my family started seeing a dark figure of a man. At night we began hearing noises and just recently we have heard crying and moaning. The painting is still in our house and although I never believed in the supernatural I am now convinced there is something evil about this painting.

Many people have contacted me about the painting and I have had lots of offers from them, wishing to buy it but I don't want to sell it, I just want to find out what is happening. I don't know if the background story is true but I do know there is something very unsettling about the it.

I have recorded some video footage regarding the painting, which I have named... 'The Anguished Man'. The video camera recorded some strange light anomalies. I set up the video camera again in the spare bedroom to try and catch some more of the activity on tape. I recorded over four consecutive nights for seven hours each night. After looking through the footage I found several strange light anomalies.

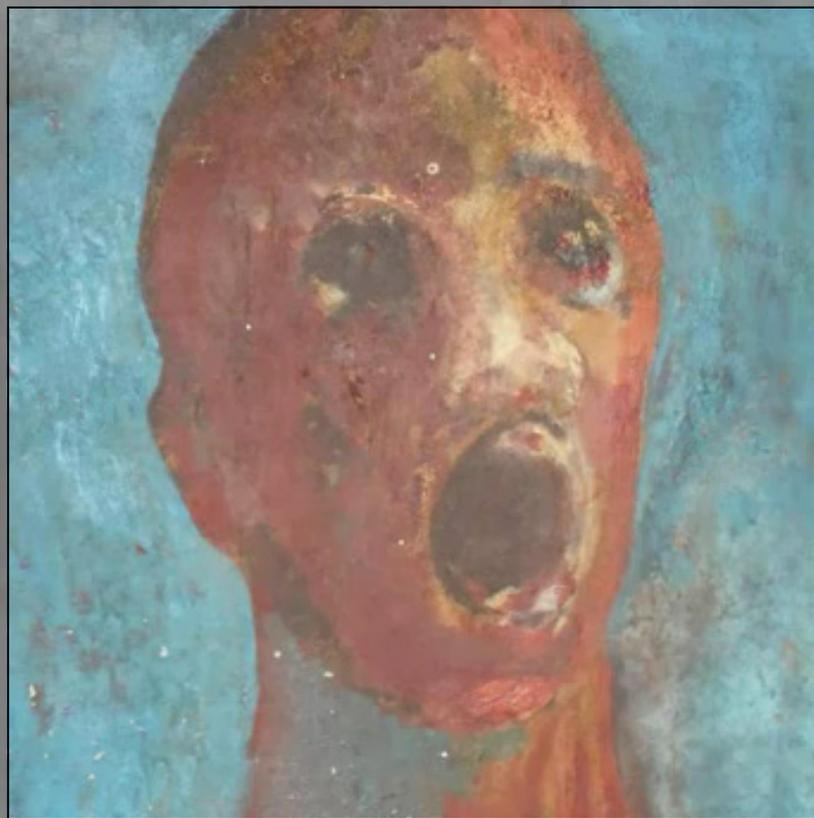
At the time these were recorded everyone in the house was sleeping, there are thick curtains up in the

bedroom so it can't be light from outside. There was one small lamp on in the bedroom at all times. I also recorded many noises, such as bangs and scraping sounds. I have uploaded the video to YouTube for people to view which can be found at...

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2vqlyJR9ckc>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CRQSWgYNqvI>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rizaeBZ88JQ>



The painting is approx 3 feet by 3 feet. It is an oil painting on canvas still mounted on its original wooden frame. There are no visible markings or signatures. My Grandmother told me it was a gift from a family friend, my Grandmother didn't know the artist but I'm assuming her friend might have known them. It is at least twenty five years old but that is all I know about it. My Grandmother told me the background story which had been passed on to her by her friend.

I have no idea what my Grandmother's friends name is or where she was from and my Grandmother died over ten years ago aged 96 so I have no way of finding out any more information, my only hope is that someone might recognise the artist. The videos I have placed on YouTube were taken on a Panasonic SDR - H81 60 GB sd/hdd video camera, and to be honest, I was shocked at the results...

From what my Grandmother had said about the painting, I have been unable to verify or establish the identity of the artist.

My Grandmother told me she felt there was something very unsettling about the painting and that since acquiring it she often saw the shadowy figure of a man in the house and heard strange noises. I really liked the painting despite it being a little disturbing but because my wife didn't really like it I stored it away in the cellar. A few years later our cellar was flooded and we moved the painting to my parent's garage for storage until the cellar dried out. When I got the painting back I



**The Curse of the Crying Boy Paintings.**

*The legend around these paintings are as grim as it gets. The stories began around 1985, when several mysterious fires occurred all around England. When the debris was sifted through the only item that remained un-charred was a painting of a little boy with a tear rolling down his cheek. Could this all be coincidence?*

*Whether real or not a Yorkshire fireman was so upset that he talked with the "Sun" newspaper in England. They ran his story about how everything in the home was consumed by fire except for a painting of a crying boy. There were at that time more than one of these paintings around and each seemed to have the same effect. The home and all contents would be totally destroyed but the painting of the little crying boy would not show any sign at all of damage. The newspaper began receiving telephone calls from people all over the area that had similar stories to tell about the crying boy paintings. One person that called the "Sun" was Dora Mann of Mitcham, UK, and she has been quoted as saying "Only six months after I had bought the picture, my house was completely gutted by fire. All my paintings were destroyed, except the one of the crying boy." After one month of hearing all the tales, the "Sun" gave their readers the chance to bring their crying boy paintings and agreed to have a very large bon fire to rid everyone of this cursed or jinxed paintings. All paintings that were brought to the newspaper were in fact burned and everyone rejoiced. However, the story goes on. There have been reports of the crying boy paintings being found in charred homes untouched since 1985 and 1988. No one knows for sure who the artists might be and where he got the idea to paint a portrait of a crying boy, the rumours are many and the tale is still around. The fact is... beware if you find a beautiful painting of a sad, little crying boy. You might just tempt fate...*

decided to put it upstairs in the spare bedroom and that is when the activity started. I began to see the dark figure of a man, it was always just out of the corner of the eye at first or quick fleeting glimpses of a shadowy figure but we all experienced it at various times. At night we began hearing strange noises, just bangs and scraping noises at first but then we started to hear crying and moaning. I suppose these noises could have been coming from somewhere outside but they felt like they were inside the house. Over the next few months the noises began getting gradually worse...

We even heard crying coming from the corner of our bedroom. I started seeing the dark figure standing at the bottom of the bed, just apparently staring at us. It had the appearance of a tall middle aged man but his features were not very clear. I suppose I could have been dreaming or it could have just been my imagination but at the time it felt very real. We noticed numerous cold spots around the house and our dog began behaving very strangely, sometimes refusing to go upstairs (when the painting was in the cellar the dog would never go in there).

One evening my wife thought I was getting into bed beside her but when she turned around there was a strange man staring at her, she screamed out loud and he just vanished. She has told me it might have been a lucid dream but to her, it seemed very real. I put the painting away in the cellar again and things settled down, we still heard occasional noises but nothing too bad.

After posting videos on YouTube and attracting a lot of interest a few people asked me to try and get some actual evidence so I moved the painting back into the top bedroom and set my video camera up and recorded for approx. eight hours over three consecutive nights. I spent several hours looking through footage and found I had recorded quite a lot of noises, most sounded like they came from outside the house but a few were different.. They sounded like they came from inside the bedroom...

There was a strange scraping sound and the sound of a loud bang, like something falling but in the morning nothing was disturbed. After the first night I was convinced I had left the bedroom door open but it was closed in

the morning so I changed the camera angle in order to record more of the bedroom because at first it had been focused solely on the painting.

Sure enough I recorded the bedroom door suddenly swinging shut despite there being no drafts in the room. I decided to leave the painting in the top bedroom and over the next few weeks my wife felt someone stroke her hair in the bathroom and I saw a strange fog like mist at the top of the stairs that vanished as quickly as it came. The whole family experienced feelings of being watched. I also began to experience intense feelings of anxiety and dread and suffered from terrible nightmares, at one point it felt like I was being repeatedly and violently lifted up out of bed.

After looking through the footage I found several strange light anomalies. At the time these were recorded everyone in the house was sleeping, there are thick curtains up in the bedroom so it can't be light from outside. There was one small lamp on in the bedroom at all times. I also recorded many noises, such as bangs and scraping sounds. A few days after this was recorded my son fell down the stairs and was convinced something pushed him, luckily he was unhurt but after this I decided to put the painting back in the cellar.

We are still hearing noises and sensing a strange presence around the house. I am currently awaiting a full paranormal investigation but until then I will be keeping the painting in the cellar.

### Cursed Painting or just Coincidence...?



The photograph above shows Paul Kimball sat next to the alleged cursed painting of the Spanish Lady.

During 2009 UPIA were involved in a 13 part TV series called Ghost Cases with Paul Kimball and Holly Stevens. One of the investigations was carried out at the Lion and Swan Hotel in Congleton which is said to be haunted and own a cursed painting of a Spanish Lady. It is rumoured that if you touch or move the painting, something bad will happen. Of course...

#### We Moved It!

Both our own and Ghost cases on site investigations offered, as is the norm, little or no actual evidence of paranormal activity taking place. This aside, Paul Kimball from Ghost Cases and Dave Sadler of the UPIA did move the painting of the Spanish lady.

It is with regret that a family member of one of the persons on site, involved in the production, did pass away the very next day.

Coincidence is the most likely explanation, but some folk may argue otherwise.

Check out Ghost Cases on YouTube or visit 'The Other Side of Truth' website - Link can be found on our adverts page.



I decided to set up the video camera again in the spare bedroom to try and catch some more of the activity on tape. I recorded over four consecutive nights for seven hours each night.

If you recognise the painting or know anything what so ever, please contact Phenomena Magazine as soon as possible. I would love to know more about it and the artist who painted it...

# THE SALE MOOR DISTURBANCE

On most occasions, when people contact me in regards to them living in a haunted house, I find rational explanations. However, on this occasion I found myself working with Trafford Housing and having a family relocated to a new home...

During March of 2002 I was contacted by Joe Morgan and his partner Jackie Hulse. Both claimed to have witnessed paranormal phenomena taking place in their small two bedroom house in Sale Moor, Manchester. Joe told me that they had attempted to obtain assistance from a psychic who visited their home in hope of finding out why the disturbances were taking place. They had also had a visit from a local vicar who conducted a blessing of the property. But unfortunately, neither the psychic or vicar were successful in culling the activity.

They then contacted a good friend of mine... Peter Hough, who had many years investigating such disturbances and was a well known author. Peter had advised Joe and Jackie to swap their bedroom around in hope of finding answers to why most of the disturbances took place in their little boys bedroom. (This was a good piece of advice and one I would have suggested myself).

I had worked with Peter for a number of years and I learnt many techniques from him, one of which is swapping bedrooms around. This undertaking had been found to be helpful in past investigations. A similar reported incident had also taken place on Norris Road, in Sale, only a mile or so away, and after convincing the family to swap their bedroom with their daughters, the incidents subsided and for whatever reason, the disturbances did not return.

Joe also told me that his and Jackie's family were aware of their difficulties dealing with the disturbances. Joe said that he had also talked with the local residents who could neither confirm nor deny knowledge of previous incidents reported at their home prior to them moving in. I agreed to take on the investigation in hope of finding some

answers and possibly relieving some of their difficulties.

A couple of days later I visit Joe and Jackie. Their home was an average two bedroom house and their two son's (David aged 7 and Bradley aged 2) had their own bedroom at the upstairs front of the house. As I sat sipping at a mug of hot coffee I could clearly see that both Joe and Jackie seemed anxious. I conducted an interview trying to get all the details down on paper. There was a lot of incidents being reported...

The property was owned by Trafford Borough Council so I realised it was going to be reasonably easy to check through records for previous incidents at the location. Jackie explained that most of the disturbances were taking place in their Son's bedroom. She went on to say that she and Joe have seen a strange figure of a man that they did not recognise and that they had heard unusual sounds. On occasion they even claimed to have noticed that things had been moved around.

Jackie jumped up and went over to a cupboard and pulled out a pad. She had kept a diary of events. I was pleased... rarely do people keep a written account of a log of events and it is often difficult for them to remember all the details and when certain incidents took place. So... this would make my job a little easier. Joe and Jackie were at the time unemployed and had an interest in paranormal orientated TV shows which they had watched avidly since experiencing paranormal phenomena for themselves. Jackie flicked through the pages of her pad and looked up towards me before taking a deep breathe and started to read out some of the many things she had wrote down. Jackie Had heard her son Bradley having a conversation on his own at the top of the stairs. She could clearly hear



him say 'No, that's naughty', 'Come from front door' and 'You upstairs'.

Bradley would not answer questions from Joe or Jackie. He just said 'Don't Know'. Bradley had also said that there was a dog in his bedroom. Neither Joe nor Jackie had ever had a pet dog. A few days later Bradley talked with his Nanna on the telephone and said 'Man in my room'.

Jackie had growing concerns for Bradley. As she was cleaning the lounge and she looked over at Bradley. He just stared at her and wet himself. This was not something Bradley had ever done. When Jackie asked him what was wrong Bradley said that he was sacred upstairs. Strange banging sounds continued to be heard from the upstairs back bedroom, yet on investigation, nothing was ever found out of place. Walking was again heard coming from upstairs when no one was up there and bangs and thuds were heard coming from the back bedroom again. Jackie had come to leaving bedside lamps on throughout the night, but on occasion she would discover that they had been turned off.

Joe and Jackie would often have sleepless nights due to their youngest son waking up screaming and the coat

**A common theory to the question: Why do children see ghosts?**

*The theory put forward is that children (and younger children in particular) are naturally closer to the spirit world, having just come from there where they waited their turn to be born into our world, and as such they have not yet forgotten those who dwell those planes with them.*

*Relatives of past and future, family deceased who have returned to the spirit realms and future kin who remain awaiting their turn were together there, tied by a blood-line that crosses all boundaries. So that when our children are born unto us this connection holds strong, and can remain intact for many years, and for some even into adulthood.*

*The unfortunate thing about such theories, is that there is little evidence to suggest that they are fact. At the end of the day... They are only theories...*

hangers in the built in wardrobe would make a noise as if being moved about. There was also the sound of a ball, bouncing off their bedroom wall. The sound would often be loud enough to wake David up who had now been relocated to their bedroom in fear of something tormenting him.

Joe had also seen a dark figure in the lounge as he was heading upstairs. This was the first time he had seen the figure downstairs and was rather concerned. He described the figure as just a solid black mass which was the shape of a person. Joe was so scared he contacted me on our 24 hour report line. As time went on other strange occurrences took place. The kitchen bin lid was regularly lifted off and dropped to the floor. Strange creaking sounds would be heard in the lounge just before their Sky TV system would mysteriously turn itself off.

One of David's toys in his cot would turn itself on and could often be heard from downstairs. Bradley had come to suddenly screaming out '*Man in my bedroom*'. The sound of footsteps upstairs continued on a regular basis. Teaspoons would also be heard moving about in the kitchen draw along with shuffling sounds near the kitchen doorway. Joe's mother and father had visited a number of occasions and had also heard the strange sounds throughout the house.

Bradley once again screamed out '*Man in my bedroom*'. Joe and his mother were beginning to become angry. They stood in Bradley's room and asked him if he could see the man. Bradley looked up and pointed towards the corner of the room. Joe demanded the 'man' to make a noise so to prove he was there. Silence befell the room. Then suddenly both Joe and his mother heard whistling coming from the corner of the room. The exact place Bradley had pointed to. Jackie had reported hearing sounds whilst she was watching TV in the lounge. The sound of someone walking in front of her. She also recalled the bathroom door opening whilst she was on the toilet. She initially thought it was Joe, but on investigation, he was downstairs with the children. The sound of footsteps had become more regular and would often be heard to start in the bedroom and end at the doorway.

Once again, I had received another call on our 24 report line from Joe who had

seen shadows moving across his bedroom wall. Clearly the couple were in distress and were sleeping very little. Doors had also been seen to open and close and the couple were often teased by knocking sounds on the back door as if someone wanted to come in. It was now time for Bradley's toys to turn themselves on. They would hear the musical toys from downstairs, yet on investigation they would suddenly stop or turn off. The bedroom cupboard doors had now started to open themselves during the night. Things were clearly getting worse.

On one particular night Joe and Jackie were downstairs watch TV when an almighty crash came from upstairs. In sheer panic the two rushed up the stairs as fast as they could and burst into Bradley's room. Bradley was stood crying and his bookshelf had been ripped from the wall, Books were scattered around the floor. The bookshelf was too high for Bradley to reach and Joe and Jackie had Bradley sleep with them that night. There was now a growing concern for the safety of their children. Joe did not want to worry Jackie but eventually told her that he had found sharp knives on top of the laundry basket which was in reach of Bradley. This was the last straw. I was determined to help this family, or have them relocated...

I carried out some research and found that there had not been as many tenants at the property as I thought. Mr. Maureen Daniels had been the previous tenant, and before her it was Mr. and Mrs. Wadden. Mr. Wadden died in 1967 followed by his wife in 1971. Both had died whilst in hospital. As for Maureen Daniels, she was reputed to be a little eccentric or possibly having some mental problems brought on by illness. A number of the local residents had mentioned to Joe and Jackie that she was apparently a rather shy person who did not venture out of her home very often.

When Jackie and Joe moved into their house, they discovered a letter that was possibly written by Maureen. It gave mention to her locking herself in her bedroom due to her crazed boyfriend or partner.

I do not know how accurate this information is, however, even though I knew that Maureen did reside in another house locally, I did not pursue

her due to her previous mental illness. I believe Joe had tried to pursue this himself with very little success. Historical research was carried out, looking for any unusual or strange reported incidents in the local area. Since construction of the building in the early 1960's no unusual reports were documented. A psychological profile of the current tenants was also conducted. Even though they were both reasonably young and possibly still impressionable they both seemed to be sound of mind. Neither were drug users and they rarely ever drank alcohol.

There interest in the subject of the paranormal may simple be due to them experiencing such disturbances. As for Bradley, he was a very alert child and seemed to be of average intelligence for his age. He did not seem to be influenced by his parents regarding their interest in the subject of the paranormal. Bradley would always have been in bed at the time Joe and Jackie were watching TV shows on the subject. David, who was only 7 months old at the time of the investigation was far too young for any form of psychoanalysis.

It had come to my attention that the notes and diary events constructed by the witnesses, that there were a number of people who knew of the unusual actions Bradley and the disturbances that were taking place, such as Fiona, who was Jackie's younger sister and who had been staying over at their home, possibly because of a family dispute at her own home. Sandra which is Jackie's mother and Jackie's Nanna. There was also mention to Joe's mother and father and Tracy, Joe's sister. One of our investigators Elizabeth Roxburgh attempted to contact Tom Barlow, the priest who had allegedly visited the property and carried out a blessing. Tom did confirm that he did in fact visit and carry out a blessing in each and every room of the house. He also told us that the family seemed generally upset and he was concerned for them.

He would not go into any further details regarding his conversations with Joe and Jackie due to confidentiality but seemed pleased that we were trying to assist them.

A number of photographs had been submitted to us for analysis. They had been taken by Joe. However we find rational explanations for all.

#### **A mother writes in...**

*My toddler on several occasions now has told me it has seen ghosts, and in two different languages. One is a language that belongs to the father, its the Cree word for ghost and the other in English. However my child doesn't know Cree. The first time my child ever made mention she had seen a ghost was right after there was a summoning for a spirit. (Not by me...but by someone I know) Anyways its not the first time ghosts will have been seen in my house and family members talk about the shadows seen in my house walking in the dark that went away long before my child was born. I saw them but after awhile you convince yourself it was nothing more then shadows and tricks of the light. However recently my child began to react hysterically to absolutely nothing so I asked my child what happened and in a frightened and crying voice my child said ghost. It took 2 hours before my child would calm down... do you think its possible that's really what my child is seeing?*

Many contained illuminated dust particles and one of the photographs depicted an acute lens flare. None of which had any paranormal explanations.

It was interesting that investigator Lynn Offord thought she had seen a dog at the property. She recalled seeing a dog pass down the hallway and thought it had gone upstairs. This had taken place just before I conducted the preliminary interview and before we had any knowledge that Bradley also claimed to have seen a dog from time to time. Once again, I must state, Joe or Jackie did not have a pet dog as Bradley suffered from Asthma and had an allergic reaction to pet hair. When asked if anyone else had a dog that visited, the answer was 'No'.

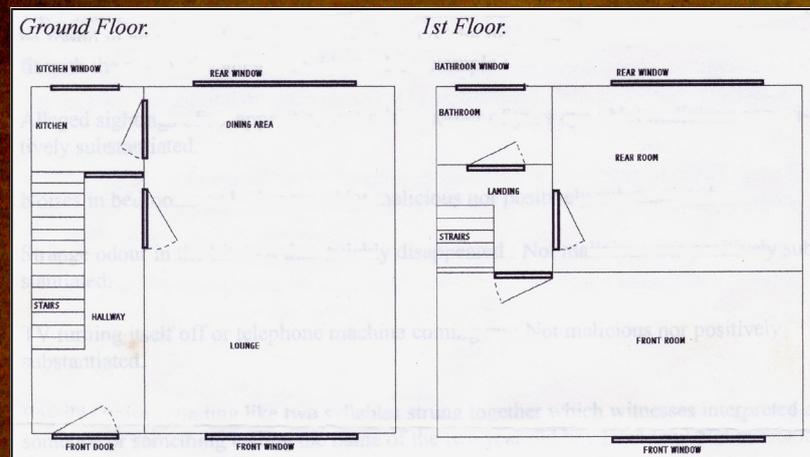
Environmental checks were carried out. We had managed to obtain assistance from Pears Geological Unit who visit the location and carried out ground penetrating radar tests just to see if their may have been anything unusual in regards their readings. Electromagnetic and geomagnetic fields were measured and monitored for a duration of 50 minutes in certain specified locations.

The ground penetrating radar provides us a graphic image of the sub-surfaces, concrete slabs and floors which has a variety of applications. GPR is commonly used as part of a Phase II environmental site assessment and other environmental studies to locate underground features. During such tests we occasionally discover concentrated forms of artificial electromagnetic fields and natural geomagnetic hotspots which can contaminate a location causing psychological conditions such as hallucinatory events and lucid type experiences.

However, no unusual readings were found throughout several local areas. Resistivity profiling is used to map changes within sub-surface electrical properties. Applications of a resistivity survey are similar to those of electromagnetic (terrain conductivity) surveys. This form of profiling is most commonly used for locating contaminated groundwater plumes, but in our case we use it to locate water content underground. Seismic reflections and refractions are also monitored for sub-surface stratigraphy. This methodology can reveal forms of bedrock and granite which can over a

period of time generate small electrical discharges. It is theorised that such charges can build up a dissipate causing electrical anomalies and adverse psychological conditions. Even water running through rock can cause a small electrical discharge. However, after completing all out environmental tests, nothing out of the ordinary was found.

The second stage of active investigation was to take place onsite. I attended Joe and Jackie's home with a few other investigators armed with numerous meters and detection devices. During our stay at the location our infra-red heat and motion detector was triggered around 11.30pm.



We had set it up in Joe and Jackie's bedroom. No explanation was could be found apart from the suggestion that an insect may have triggered the device, however, to do so, the insect would have had to be literally on the device itself. Around 12.10am the sound of a ball bouncing in the kitchen was clearly heard by 6 individuals. This happened twice but on investigation, nothing was found to have moved, but the audible recording device set up on the kitchen worktop did pick up the sound.

At around 12.30pm whilst doing a magnetic sweep in the lounge one of our investigators suddenly felt cold. She was stood in the corner of the lounge and when others approached the area, they reported a strange cold feeling. I decided to check this out myself armed with a temperature gun. When I walked over to the corner of the lounge I was surprised... I could in fact feel a coldness, yet my temperature device did not record anything different than the normal temperature of the house. Again I came out and walked into the location again. Time and time again I felt the same thing. I thought it would be a good idea to fetch the cameras and film and photograph the

location, however within minutes the coldness dissipated never to return. I have on occasion felt such cold spots before in alleged haunted locations.

Hollywood films would have use believe that you can see your breathe in such cold areas, but I don't think this is a true representation. I have been in a number of cold spots and never have I seen physical evidence of it, such as my breathe. I believe it was simply a Hollywood spin on the phenomena so to visually represent a cold spot on screen. In some cases when temperature units and devices record sudden drops in temperature, you have to take into consideration the possibility of the

equipment faulting or being adversely affected by means we do not understand. In a few cases, temperature devices also record spikes of increased heat and on investigation we find no explanation to why or how the incident took place. Equipment does require calibrating and examination to make sure they are working correctly before use on an active investigation... As to what was responsible for the cold spot in Joe and Jackie's lounge remains a mystery.

The next incident to be logged was the sound of footsteps heard coming from the front upstairs bedroom. I crept up the stairs as possible in hope of catching sight of this mysterious intruder. I reached the closed door to Bradley's bedroom and paused in hope of hearing something, but all was quiet. I opened the door and looked in. Bradley was sound asleep and nothing in the room looked out of place. Puzzled as to what exactly we had heard I went back downstairs and decided to set up a video camera at the bottom of the staircase looking up the stairs. It was now almost 1.00am and even though we told Joe and Jackie they could go to bed if they wanted,

**Council Officials pay to help family rid paranormal disturbances in a council house.**

*A few years ago council officials paid a psychic to exorcise a supposed poltergeist from a council house after the distressed occupants said otherwise they would leave and become homeless.*

*Easington Council in County Durham said the family could not be persuaded to stay in the house, and that through paying half the psychic ghosthunter's 120 pound fee they were saving money as otherwise they would have had to pay for emergency housing.*

*The Fallon family told reporters they heard banging from the loft, saw items fly across rooms and had doors slammed in their faces. They called police, who found nothing. Then they called in psychic Suzanne Hadwin and asked the council to help pay.*

*"This is the first time we have had to take such a measure," a council spokeswoman said. "However, the tenants were extremely distressed at the time and we therefore believed it was the most appropriate course of action."*

*Hadwin told the Sunderland Echo she used her Russian spirit guide and some angels to help rid the property of evil, which she said was linked to the murder of a woman in the house years earlier.*

*The council said the family were now happy to stay in the house and therefore they believed their money was well spent -- although they had never taking similar action before.*

*Note: MAPIT & UPIA do not charge for any of their services and do not believe such assistance should be paid for...*

**Are you experiencing strange goings on in your home?**

*Our homes are our hearts. They are the safe retreat of the living as their own personal refuge, meaning that having ghostly happenings invading your private and fortified spaces obviously makes people very scared and intimidated.*

*Many will call a local vicar in hope of them attending their home and carrying out a blessing. Recent surveys suggest only around 12% of said blessings actually are beneficial. Some people contact the first organisation they stumble across and unfortunately create more problems for themselves.*

*If you have some odd goings on in your home, its best not to rush into anything. Make sure to check out an organisation first. Obtain the services of a reputable establishment, the longer they have been going, the better. Check out their credentials and information about their previous investigations. Some establishments may even offer a portfolio.*

*Finally, make sure that the establishment will offer you confidentiality and conduct their services for free...*

they decided to stay up with us. Both seemed rather excited that we had heard things we couldn't explain. Joe went of to the kitchen to make more coffee, a necessity for most investigators.

As I was sat in the lounge with the other investigators we heard a knocking sound coming from upstairs. This time, Lynn went up and could find nothing unusual. She came down shaking her head as if to indicate nothing was there. Around 2.00am the sound of a ball bouncing in the kitchen was heard again, identical to the previous time and again, nothing was found and the audible recorder had recorded it. The strange noises continued through the early hours and by 7.00am we had decided to pack up. We were to go away and look through all our video footage as well as check the audible recorders.

The following day we reviewed all the recordings we had made at the location. We could not work out why the motion detector had triggered and when reviewing the audible recorders we could clearly hear the unusual sounds of a bouncing ball at the times we noted. The most interesting find was something caught on the video camera which had been left running for a few hours at the bottom of their staircase. To the right of the camera was the hallway and entrance to the living room, and to the left (about a foot away) was the adjoining wall to next door.



At precisely 3.48am a dark mass passed in front of the camera. Passing from right to left. This happened rather quickly and when frame stepped you could clearly see a dark mass move across the screen, but whatever it was, it seemed as if it had passed through the wall to the left of the camera and moved to the right (into the hallway).

The audio on the camera picked no unusual sounds up, only our distant conversations in the lounge. All our equipment was checked again to make sure they were all working as they should do. We found no problems. EMF, Ion Air Counts, GMF, Magnetic and Microwave meters shown no unusual readings. There were also no compass deflections or photographs of anything unusual. Just the odd sounds and that strange dark mass that seemed to pass in front of our video camera.

The property did not have central heating thus pipe expansion sounds were not an explanation for any of the odd noises we heard. The gas fire was checked for Carbon Monoxide leaks and nothing out of the normal was found. Inhalation of Carbon Monoxide can cause hallucinations, but this was not the case. Apart from the unusual cold feeling that lasted a few minutes in the corner of the lounge, nothing else of similarity happened. Temperature readings were as normal throughout the night.

I visited Joe and Jackie the following day to discuss our findings and our next step in assisting them. I had decided to telephone Trafford Borough Council to see what they had to say about the matter. After a lengthy conversation I was instructed to write to the head of housing about Joe and Jackie's problem. The following day I constructed a letter and mailed it to them. The letter read:

*'In regards to a recent conversation with a member of your staff, I am writing this letter of confirmation that paranormal disturbances have been reported and logged with our organisation. The property has been under investigation by our organisation for several weeks. In that time we have got to know the tenants rather well. When we first initiated our investigation neither tenant expressed an interest in moving from their home, however, as time went on, reported disturbances increased thus causing the tenant's stress and concerns for the welfare of their two young children. Investigators attended the property several times in hope of recording such anomalies. After a number of onsite investigations we concluded a number of unusual occurrences. In conclusion I believe that the tenants are witnessing what can only be described as paranormal disturbances. I would*

*gratefully request an electrical survey to be carried out at the property and to be informed of any abnormalities. I look forward to hearing from you'. Yours Sincerely, Steve Mera.*

I was surprised how helpful Trafford Borough Council were being. A few days later I received a telephone call from Joe to inform us that two electrical surveyors had visited their home and carried out a number of tests on their electrical system. I asked Joe if the surveyors said anything to him about their findings. Joe replied 'No, they just wrote down stuff and then left'.

Surely enough a couple of days later I received a letter from Trafford Borough Council explaining that they had sent electrical surveyors to their home to carry out tests and that nothing unusual was found.



In fact, the surveyors had stated that their electrical wiring was better than average and met all current regulation and specification.

Well, it would seem Joe and Jackie's electrical wiring was fine, just as we had suspected. I wrote to the housing manager once again just to ask if he had any details on file regarding similar paranormal reports at the property and/or suicides. Again I received a letter back within days saying they had no such information on file and that he had not heard of any unusual things goings on at the property before Joe and Jackie moved in.

I would at this stage like to thank Trafford Borough Council in their assistance, they were very helpful. On occasion I have had to deal with a number of councils and found most of them such as Stockport, Rochdale, Manchester etc very helpful. So... I had decided to re-interview Joe and Jackie and to compile my findings and feelings as to what was going on.

I arrived at their home and immediately noticed how tired both looked, they had been kept up again by unusual sounds and Bradley had woke up a couple

of night ago screaming out again about a man in his bedroom. Clearly swapping the bedrooms around hadn't helped. Joe said that they were at the end of their tether and even though they didn't want to move them may be forced to simply because they couldn't seem to get any sleep and Bradley was getting more and upset. I understood their concerns and agreed to help them. I told them that I would write one last letter to the council in hope of relocating them. At this point Jackie bust out crying, she really was stressed and I suggested that they try and get away from the house a while, maybe have a holiday or stay at their parents house. Jackie nodded as Joe held tight onto her hand. I felt so sorry for them. I can understand that how such paranormal disturbances can scare people and that living with it on a daily basis can be difficult and stressful.

Joe held tight onto her hand. I felt so sorry for them. I can understand that how such paranormal disturbances can scare people and that living with it on a daily basis can be difficult and stressful.



I wrote a lengthy letter to Trafford Borough Council the following day explained my concerns for the family. I even gave them the vicars telephone number just in case they wanted to talk with him in regards his involvement at the property. Whilst waiting a reply I decided to write up a final report.

Joe and Jackie's home in Sale Moor, Manchester was a small two bedroom house that had panelled studded walls and was built around 1963. I found no evidence of suicides at the location, all environmental checks came up normal, their electrical wiring was fine. There seemed to be no evidence of previous paranormal incidents at the location. I cannot help think that Jackie's younger sister who had been staying over at their home and was experiencing problems in her own home was somehow attributing to the disturbances, very much like poltergeist infestations can seem to manifest around adolescent individuals that are experiencing stress or upset.

After completing my report I sat back and awaited one of two things. Either a phone call from a very desperate Joe or Jackie, or a letter from Trafford Borough Council hopefully informing me that they will relocate the family. It was now June 16th 2002. I had received a letter in the morning from Trafford Borough Council. I hastily opened it and began to read... I couldn't believe it. They had taken my letter seriously and had arranged to help the family. There were to be relocated to one of three local properties. Fantastic! I couldn't wait to tell them. I decided not to telephone them. This deserved a visit so I could tell them face to face. I arrived at the house. Probably the first time I had visited without any equipment. I knocked on the door and as normal Jackie and Joe were pleased to see me. I sat in their lounge and told them of what I had learnt. They were gobsmacked, they didn't think that the council would help them. I told them that I was sent a letter from the council explaining that they were going to be offered one of three different properties locally, so they didn't have to worry about changing Bradley's school. Jackie once again burst out crying and Joe

approached me to (what I presumed) shake my hand. I was wrong. Joe embraced me and gave me a hug. At that point I realised why I do this. Helping a family overcome such disturbances is very rewarding... I was touched. Clearly Joe was emotional. All this time and I had never seen him this way. He was usually the strong character looking after his regularly upset partner. Whatever was responsible for driving the family away from their once comfortable home, would have to remain there. As for Joe and Jackie, they were off and I wouldn't blame them if they never looked back. Joe and Jackie moved house on the sunny morning of July 9th 2002. I was there that day to help out and give moral support. They moved into their slightly larger three bedroom home less than a mile away. Jackie was also happy that it was nearer to her mothers house and Bradley's school. As the years passed I regularly received Christmas cards from them. Bradley was doing well at school and young David was now toddling around the house. None of them ever experienced strange things again and slept soundly. As I suspected, Joe and Jackie's interest in the subject subsided and gave way to Joe's new job as a sales consultant.

As for their previous home. Trafford Borough Council let the property stand empty for several months before an older gentleman moved in. In August of 2003 I called to introduce myself simply as a market researcher. I asked him one two questions. Did he believe in the paranormal and had he ever experienced something strange. Both his answers were.... 'NO'!

Special Thanks to Lynn Offord, Mike Offord and Elizabeth Roxburgh. Also, I'd like to thank Trafford Borough Council for their assistance and of course the local vicar.

### Relocation due to paranormal disturbances.

*Over the years MAPIT have on occasion found it necessary to work with numerous council officials from different locations around the UK, so to assist a family in relocating to another home. MAPIT have carried out this service five times and on all occasions, council officials have rehoused the families.*

*It has however, come to our attention during certain investigations that some tenants manufacture stories such as, living in a haunted house, in hope of be rehoused somewhere else. Therefore in 1997 MAPIT offered a free service to City Councils. This service involved investigation and research of certain properties to see if we could find evidence of the said paranormal disturbances. A report is then forwarded to the council offices for review. We have carried out three such investigations on behalf of City Councils and one of the three cases provided evidence to suggest the family were faking incidents and manufacturing stories in hope of moving to a larger home...*

*To obtain one of MAPIT's services, simply contact us on our website at:*

<http://www.mapit.kk5.org>

Established for the serious study of anomalous phenomena the Unknown Phenomena Investigation Association were founded in 1998 to research, investigate and evaluate all disciplines of the paranormal genre.

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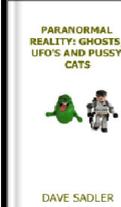
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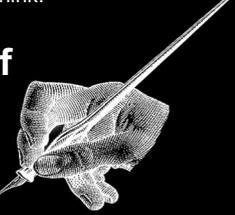


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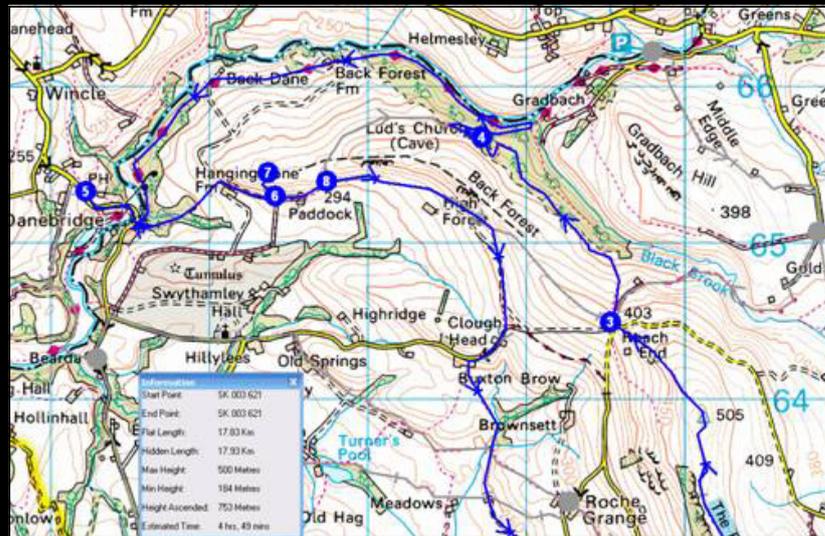
Paul Kimball is one of Canada's leading UFO and paranormal researchers, both through his work as an award-winning documentary filmmaker (2005 EBE Awards for Best UFO Film and Best Historical Documentary for Aztec: 1948, 2007 EBE award for Best Historical Documentary for Best Evidence; nominated for a 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, Binnal 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.  
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ENGLAND.

BY DAVE SADLER

Luds Church is a deep chasm penetrating the Millstone Grit bedrock created by a massive landslide on the hillside above Gradbach, Staffordshire, England, in a wood known as Back Forest, towards the southwest fringe of the Peak District National Park about 2.5 miles west of the A53 between Leek and Buxton. Over 100 m long and 18 m deep, it is mossy and overgrown, wet and cool even on the hottest of days.



preacher. Some have said that at one time a white wooden statue also known as 'Lady Lud' this stood in a high rocky cleft above the chasm.

Day trippers were charged a fee to visit Luds Church and hear Philip Brocklehurst's legend of the Lady of Lud and see the figure of a lady clad in white nestling in the rocks of Luds Church and were led to believe it depicted Alice de Lud-Auk, the girl with the 'unearthly voice' who was shot and died here. It is said Luds Church is haunted by Alice, who was killed as soldiers raided the illegal gathering. Her ghost is alleged to frequent the place of her death.

20th century but climbing is now discouraged so as to protect the lower plants that have colonized the damp rock-faces.



Robin Hood, Friar Tuck and Bonny Prince Charlie are all reputed to have hidden from the authorities within the chasm. Ralph Elliott, a local Luddite (known to be active in the area during the Luddite protests), and others have identified Luds Church as the Green Chapel of 'Sir Gawain and the Green Knight'.

Another legend has it that Luds Church was named after a horse: supposedly, a huntsman was pursuing a deer and as he followed it on horseback he was led to the chasm. The hunter failed to see the danger but his horse, Lud, did: when the rider went too close, the horse bucked and threw him to his death in the chasm.

In his Notes on Staffordshire Folklore in 1942. W. P. Witcutt wrote - The fairies were also associated with caves. One lived in Thor's Cave, and a whole clan were to be found in the cavern beneath Luds church. Another indication of the profound history and folklore surrounding.

Whether Luds Church is the mythological place written about throughout recent and antiquarian history remains to be seen. This aside, what a place. And yes, there is a peculiar feeling at the location. There is a bit of a trek, so good walking boots and some supplies are necessary. But go to Luds Church, its well worth a visit...

**How to get to Luds Church...**

*To get to Lud's Church requires a little walking up a few inclines. There is a car park around two miles from the location at which you can park (located at 53.193063, -2.002955) for free. Walk out of that car park and turn right, following the narrow road. As you walk along the road, you'll approach a fork; take the right side and walk down the hill to the Gradbach Mill [Youth Hostel](#).*

*Once at the Hostel you'll see the hostel on your right, a footbridge in front of you and a muddy path to the left. Follow the muddy path to the left, which in turn curves to the left. You will then come to a small gate; go through the gate and follow the path to the right.*

*Around 20m further on there is a narrow stile on your right (with a private grounds sign on a gate further behind it). Go through that stile and turn left. Follow the road for around 30m. On the corner of the road, you'll see another stile and if you look over the wall to the right you will see the footbridge that you need to cross.*

*Cross the footbridge and you will come to a signpost. Head for Swythamley. Head straight up in hill, then follow the path that goes to the right. Stay along this path until you come to a large rock formation on your right (a good ten-minute walk). You will then see a sign for Lud's Church to the left; follow it, and within a few minutes you'll arrive...*



It is believed that the chasm was considered by early Pagans to be a sacred place, most likely due to the phenomenon that reportedly occurs on that Day, at this time the sun shines directly into Luds church at midday on the summer solstice. If it is true then maybe that is how it got its name as Lugh (commonly anglicised to Lud, as in Ludgate in London) who was a Celtic sun god.

Luds Church was used by a dissenting religious group - the Lollards, followers of John Wycliffe, an early church reformer, who were condemned as heretics. They used it as a place of worship in the early 15th century. The Lollards also used Luds Church as a safe and secret hiding place.



Luds Church may have been named after Walter de Ludank or Walter de Lud-Auk who was captured here at one of their meetings. A wooden ship's figurehead from the ship Swythamley formerly stood in a high niche above the chasm, placed there by Philip Brocklehurst, then the landowner, around 1862. It was called 'Lady Lud' and was supposed to commemorate the death of the daughter of a Lollard



There is a reproduction painting of an old picture postcard in the dining room at nearby Gradbach Youth Hostel showing a strange statue perched on one of the walls of Luds Church. It was noted after a visit to Luds Church in the 1930s, there was what looked like the figurehead from the ship Swythamley fixed to the rock just inside the entrance, apparently placed there by Brocklehurst, the land owner from Sythamley Hall, around 1862, which looked very similar to the female in the Gradbach youth hostel painting. A number of climbing routes up the sides of the chasm were pioneered during the

# GHOSTLY PHENOMENA IN THE SCOTTISH MOUNTAINS

Of 532 haunt and poltergeist cases that he regarded as sufficiently well documented for statistical consideration, Ernesto Bozzano (1929) classed 374 as proper haunting's. In the majority, there was known to have been a death in the location involved. In many cases, the death was tragic. But whether or not haunt phenomena tend to occur in places where there've been tragic deaths, it seems clear that ghostly manifestations don't invariably follow such fatalities. If they did, reports of paranormal phenomena would be flooding in from virtually every hospital, fatal road accident site, and former battlefield, which doesn't appear to be the case. Similarly, with regard to the Scottish mountains, which are the focus of this article, it seems that tragic deaths don't necessarily lead to ghostly phenomena being experienced.

## The Grey Man Ben Macdui.

### John's Encounter.

*I was camping up in the Cairngorms last year for the first time ever, and although I will go back again this year, I won't be doing what I did last year...*

*I was alone, and after three nights camping in the beautiful Glen before the really hard trek through the mountains, I decided to risk the Lairig Ghru, which is a huge, treacherous valley carved out below the highest peaks. I pitched my tent on the flattest bit of scrub I could find and settled down for the night.*

*Some time later I was woken by an intense feeling that there was something outside my tent. I tried to tell myself it was deer, but I knew it wasn't. Not only that, but on the short occasions when the wind wasn't howling around the tent, I heard something else. I thought it was goats, and faraway music. I tried to tell myself it was someone camping further up the pass. But I suppose you just know when things aren't right, and I spent the rest of the night in fear.*

*As soon as the cloud cover broke a little the next morning, I packed up and headed off to Aviemore, feeling much better as I left the peaks of the mountains behind me. I had never heard of the Big Grey Man of Ben MacDhui before, and I only looked up Legends of the Cairngorms on the internet when I got home to see if there were any similar reports.*

*I was horrified to find that there were. I don't have any explanation about what was up there, but I do know that the reports of intense feelings of depression and morbidity happened to me also, and I can't explain it. As for the music and the sensation that something was stalking around my tent. I don't even want to think about that...*

Accidents and emergencies in mountain terrain are, of course, more frequent in places that attract large numbers of walkers and climbers. Ben Nevis (1,344 m/4,409 ft), the highest peak in the British Isles, is such a place. In an article available on the Internet, Heather Morning notes that in the five years from 2004 to 2008, the Lochaber Mountain Rescue Team received 101 call-outs in relation to incidents on the tourist track of this mountain. She states that recent figures from the Glen Nevis Ranger Service suggest that 200,000 people a year ascend Ben Nevis by the tourist track.

It doesn't require hard scrambling or rock climbing, and in good summer conditions it's a comparatively easy way of getting to and from the summit, provided the climber is adequately equipped, is in good health, and reasonably fit. But in cloudy or snowy conditions, careful navigation is required to avoid hazards. Over the years, people descending the mountain have been killed as a result of veering off the tourist route and winding up in the notorious Five Finger Gully. And there've also been deaths on other parts of Ben Nevis. But despite these fatalities, it doesn't seem to have a reputation for recurrent ghostly phenomena.



**Ben Nevis seen from the east.**

Buachaille Etive Mor (Gaelic for 'the great herdsman of Etive') is a multi-topped mountain that includes two Munros (peaks of 3,000 or more feet). The higher one, Stob Dearg (1,021 m/3,350 ft), is a prominent landmark at the eastern end of Glen Coe and rises over the wide expanse of Rannoch Moor to the east. Glen Etive runs past the south-eastern and southern sides of

Buachaille Etive Mor. The mountain provides hill-walking with extensive views, exciting rock climbs, and challenging winter routes. But it can be a killing ground. For example, three men were killed in an avalanche there in January 2009, and another two were killed in an avalanche in February 2010. But as with Ben Nevis, it doesn't seem to have a reputation for ghostly phenomena.



**Glen Etive with Stob Dearg on the right.**

The north side of Glen Coe is walled in by a chain of peaks running from Stob Mhic Mhartuin (707 m/2,320 ft) in the east to the Pap of Glencoe (742 m/2,434 ft) in the west. As the crow flies, the distance is over five miles. I imagine that comparatively few people make the full traverse. But a section of the ridge is very popular. Known as the Aonach Eagach ('notched ridge'), it runs west from Am Bodach (943 m/3,094 ft) to Sgorr nam Fiannaich (967 m/3,173 ft), a distance of about two miles. It's arguably the most sensational ridge on the British mainland, and requires a good head for heights. It includes two peaks that are classed as Munros: the aforementioned Sgorr nam Fiannaich, at the western end, and Meall Dearg (953 m/3,127 ft), further east. People have fallen to their death while traversing the ridge or coming off it; but as far as I know, it doesn't have a reputation for being haunted.

## Ghostly Encounters in the Cairngorms.

The northern corries of the Cairngorms are another accident black spot. I don't know whether that precise location has a reputation for ghostly experiences,

but there've certainly been stories of uncanny experiences on nearby Ben Macdui and elsewhere in the general area.



**Looking west along the Aonach Eagach.**



**Glen Coe seen from the Aonach Eagach.**

This matter is the focus of a book by the late Affleck Gray (1994). First published in 1970, it's a compilation of reports and speculations. However, it's poorly structured, lacks an index, and contains material that isn't adequately referenced.

Another source is Jack Hastie (1998), who provides a short, critical review of the evidence for the ghostly phenomena associated with Ben Macdui. But he doesn't give full references for the works he cites. Andy Roberts (1998) also examines the case, but his article contains historical errors and makes some questionable assertions.

The expression 'Big Grey Man' (BGM) has often been used in connection with the Ben Macdui phenomena, although some of the reported incidents sound more like bigfoot encounters than contacts with a human entity.



**Ben Macdui (on the left) seen from Cairn Gorm.**

Ben Macdui (1,309 m/4,295 ft) is the second highest mountain in the British Isles, but it's not particularly photogenic. There are other spellings of its name (e.g. 'Ben MacDhù'). It lies at the heart of the Cairngorms, on the eastern side of a pass called the Lairig Ghru. But some of the events mentioned by Gray occurred a good distance from the summit of Ben Macdui. For example, he refers (p.19) to a Tom Crowley, who allegedly had an unusual experience in the early 1920s while descending from Braeriach (1,296 m/4,252 ft) to Gleann Einich (Gray spells it as 'Glen Eanaich'). Crowley heard footsteps behind him, and looked over his shoulder to see a huge grey figure. He turned and faced it for a moment, but then fled. Braeriach is separated from Ben Macdui by the deep cleft of the Lairig Ghru, and if this incident occurred as described, Crowley would have been well over two miles from the summit of Ben Macdui at the time.

#### **Early reports.**

The best-known story about Ben Macdui concerns the chemist and mountaineer Professor Norman Collie (1859-1942). He described his experience at the annual general meeting of the Cairngorm Club in 1925, although the alleged incident had occurred some 35 years earlier. He said that he'd been descending from the cairn of Ben Macdui in mist when he began to think that he was hearing something more than just the sound of his own footsteps. For every few steps he took, he heard a crunch, and then another, as if someone were walking after him, taking steps three or four times the length of his own. Eventually, he became "seized with terror" and took to his heels, staggering blindly among the boulders for four or five miles until he was nearly down to Rothiemurchus Forest. A different version of the incident apparently appeared in an obituary published after

Collie's death (Baly, 1943), although it, too, claimed that Collie had heard mysterious footsteps on the mountain, had become very anxious, and had fled.

A chemistry lecturer and mountaineer called Dr. A. M. Kellas reportedly had a BGM experience. According to Gray (1994, p.128), it was around 1900. But Kellas doesn't appear to have left a written account of it, and there are different versions of what supposedly happened. Gray (p. 24) suggests that the most credible version may be that related by a W. G. Robertson in a letter to the *Aberdeen Press and Journal* in December 1925. Robertson had been a friend of the late Henry KeHaas. The latter reportedly told Robertson that he and his brother, Dr. Kellas, had been chipping for crystals late one afternoon on Ben Macdui when they suddenly became aware of a giant figure descending towards them from the cairn. It then passed out of sight, having been obscured by a feature of the terrain. They awaited its reappearance. But fear took over them, and they fled. Roberts (1998, pp. 158-159) mentions the Kellas brothers, mistakenly transferring the title 'Dr.' to Henry Kellas and stating that he died on the 1921 Mount Everest Reconnaissance Expedition. However, it was A. M. Kellas who died en route to Everest.

A man called Hugh Welsh informed Gray about experiences that he and his brother had had in the Cairngorms in the summer of 1904. During their first nights on the summit of Ben Macdui, they'd heard the sound of slurring footsteps, as if someone were walking slowly through water-saturated gravel (Gray, 1994, p. 61). They'd also heard this quite distinctly on the plateau in daylight, but they saw nothing to account for it. (This may be a reference to the Cairngorm plateau in general, and not necessarily the summit of Ben Macdui.) Welsh remarked that frequently they were conscious of "something" near them – they had "an eerie sensation of apprehension, but not of fear such as others appear to have experienced" (quoted by Gray, *ibid.*, p. 61).

#### **More recent reports.**

The above-mentioned accounts are examples. Other incidents are mentioned in Gray's book. The accounts he mentions all date from the late 19th century or the first half of the 20th century, although in the preface (dated "Spring, 1989") to the 1994 edition of his book, he states that: "Climbers continue to have these odd experiences as testified by the letters I continue to receive" (p. xi). But he doesn't specify the nature of the reported experiences. According to Hastie (1998, p. 513), "there are still

persistent reports of the sound of footsteps on the lower slopes of the mountain", although he gives no further details. A few years ago, I contacted Tim Walker, then Principal of the National Mountain Training Centre at Glenmore Lodge. Given his local knowledge and background as a mountaineer, he might have heard about any recent BGM experiences, if there'd been any. He was aware of the BGM legend, but he had nothing to report.

In 2007, Steven Pedlar and his father, Roy, informed me about some sounds that they'd heard one day in June 2006. They'd set out to climb Sgor an Lochain Uaine<sup>2</sup> and Braeriach in the Cairngorms. From Gleann Einich, they took a path up Coire Dhondail to get on to the plateau. After about five minutes, Steven stopped to put plasters on his heels, which had developed blisters. Roy continued to climb, and when Steven set off again, some 20 minutes later, his father was about a quarter-of-a-mile ahead. About half-way up Coire Dhondail, Steven heard a shuffling sound behind him, although he saw nothing when he looked round. Roy waited for him on the plateau. Roy had also heard sounds in the corrie. He took them to be footsteps, and thought that Steven had caught up with him, although there was no one there when he turned round. He was following the path through a V-shaped rocky defile at that point. A very strong, gusty wind was blowing from the south, but he was sheltered from it in the defile. So unless the wind had disturbed loose stones above, he doesn't think that it could have caused the footstep-like noises, which were very regular. He didn't think the sounds were echoes of his own footsteps. In an e-mail (July 2007), he explained: "I am sure [the footsteps] still continued after I had stopped to listen before I turned around to check on them." (I presume from this that the footsteps stopped when he turned round.)

As noted above, Tom Crowley allegedly heard footsteps behind him and saw a huge grey figure in the early 1920s while descending from Braeriach to Gleann Einich. Unfortunately, though, Gray doesn't specify the route that Crowley took to reach the glen. It would be interesting to know whether it was via Coire Dhondail. At any rate, these experiences, along with those that people have reportedly had on Ben Macdui, raise the possibility that the general area is something of a hot spot for ghostly events.

An article in the 4th September 2004 edition of the *Daily Mail* describes an experience that allegedly befell two men, Tom Robertson and Derek Blake, in July of that year. However, I don't know how much credence to give the



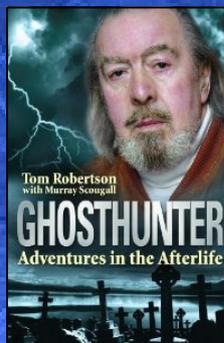
#### **The Presence:**

*The presence of the Big Grey Man Ben Macdui was first felt in 1890 by Professor John Norman Collie, though he did not publicly tell his story until 1925 at the annual dinner of the Cairngorm Club where he was the honorary president. He did not see the ghost, but heard frightening crunching footsteps approach him.*

*This was enough to terrify him to never return to the Grampian mountain alone, even though he was an experienced climber. Other climbers have heard the terrifying footsteps and crunching sounds said to be made by the Big Grey Man Ben Macdui and one army climber saw a strange image charge at him. He fired shots at the image, but nothing was found...*

report. The article refers to Robertson as “Scotland’s most famous ghost-hunter” and states that he “retired this year [2004] after conducting more than 3,000 investigations over four decades”. According to the paper, he’d “decided on one last investigation to resolve the [BGM] mystery.” He and his companion ventured into the Cairngorms and camped overnight “near Lurcher’s Pass” (the Lairig Ghru?). Around 1.30 a.m., Robertson reportedly heard footsteps, and Blake also heard noises. According to Robertson, through the canopy of the tent, they suddenly saw the outline of a dark shape against the moonlight, and it seemed to be 10-12 feet tall. A huge arm allegedly reached over the tent, which then collapsed on Blake’s side.

**Tom Robertson’s Encounter:**



*Tom Robertson gives an account of his encounter with the Big Grey Man Ben Macdui in Ghosthunter: Adventures in the Afterlife.*

*Available at Amazon.co.uk, when he and his friend, Derek Mari, went climbing and camping in the Cairngorms. This included hearing heavy footsteps, grunting, seeing a huge shadow and being attacked whilst in their tent.*

*A photo of what Tom Robertson considers the footprints of the Big Grey Man Ben Macdui can be seen in his book.*

*Both men had the same recurrent dream upon their return home and this involved the word Nephilim which Tom Robertson later researched as a fallen angel or offspring of an angel and earth woman.*

*Tom Robertson wonders if the Big Grey Man Ben Macdui, Am Fear Liath Mor, is a Nephilim ...?*

The men heard a loud mumbling noise and were thrown around like pieces of paper, and something allegedly hit Robertson’s feet, leaving his toes badly bruised. The flysheet of the tent was torn off. Looking through a gauze air vent, Robertson allegedly saw what looked like a giant grey gorilla. But the attack suddenly stopped and the creature departed. Fearing its return, the two men abandoned the tent and headed down the mountain at first light. However, before leaving, Robertson reportedly took photographs of what appeared to be massive footprints in the gravel. After they’d gone less than a mile, he collapsed, clutching his chest. Blake wrapped him in their sleeping bags, and went to Cairngorm Ski Centre to raise the alarm, after which Robertson was rescued and the remains of the tent were retrieved.



John Allen of the Cairngorm Mountain Rescue Team refers to the incident in a short film about the BGM that was made in 2005/6, and which can be seen on the Internet.<sup>3</sup> Allen’s team was apparently involved in the rescue. He states that the men’s story about their encounter was made up. But I don’t know whether that’s an inference or is based on some sort of admission made by Robertson or Blake.

An Internet item by someone referred to as ‘John’ describes an experience that he reportedly had while camping alone in the Lairig Ghru opposite Ben Macdui.<sup>4</sup> The date isn’t specified, but I’ve mentioned it in this subsection because I presume that if the incident really occurred, it was relatively

recent. The day had been very hot, but cloud descended and John felt cold in his tent, which was buffeted by the wind. He finally fell asleep, but then awoke with an intense feeling that something was outside his tent. He tried to tell himself that it was deer, but knew that it wasn’t. (His article doesn’t explain *how* he knew that.) During brief periods when the wind wasn’t howling around the tent, he heard what he thought were goats and faraway music. He tried to tell himself that someone was camping further up the pass. He states that he spent the rest of the night fighting the terrors that were making him paranoid, and that at that time he’d not heard of the Big Grey Man of Ben Macdui.

**Similar accounts from elsewhere.**

Reports of BGM-type experiences aren’t confined to the Cairngorms. For example, a walker, who refers to himself as ‘Ronaldo’, reportedly had an eerie experience in May 2009 while traversing some hills a few miles to the east-south-east of Achnasheen in northern Scotland.<sup>5</sup> After he entered cloud at 400 metres, “[a]ll was still and eerily quiet” and he could see no more than 50 metres ahead. As he approached Meallan nan Uan (838 m /2,749 ft) from Creag Ruadh (a lower top to the east-south east), he began to hear muffled footsteps and breathing behind him, as if someone were following him. The invisible pursuer seemed to speed up when Ronaldo went faster, and to stop when he stopped. Ronaldo paused briefly at the summit cairn of Meallan nan Uan and waited to see whether someone, or something, would emerge from the mist – but nothing did. Sitting on a flat col just west of the summit, he wolfed his sandwiches down while keeping a 360 degree watch. His mind was “running riot”, but nothing appeared. He continued on to the summit of Sgurr a’ Mhuilinn (879 m/2884 ft), although he doesn’t state whether he heard any strange sounds during that part of his excursion or thereafter. As for what caused his experience, he says that the only explanation he can think of is that the dense mist was reflecting sound. He adds that “it didn’t happen all the time, only in certain places and only when really still.”

McOwan (1996) cites various incidents in which hill-goers have experienced unexpected feelings of apprehension. For example, in late August 1981, Iain Gilbert was on Fraoch-bheinn (790 m/2592 ft), near Glenfinnan in the Western Highlands, when he suddenly became aware of an eerie silence. He was then overcome with a distinct feeling of unease and a desire to leave the summit as quickly as possible. However, in relating his experience to

McOwan, he opined that his reaction was almost certainly due to “the sound of silence, and not to anything supernatural” (quoted by McOwan, *ibid.*, p. 113).

**The notion of ‘mountain panics’.**

Roberts (1998) uses the term *mountain panics* to encompass incidents that have reportedly occurred on, or near, Ben Macdui, and elsewhere. Regarding Ben Macdui, he contends that all the witnesses in the “good” BGM accounts reported some form of uncontrollable panic reaction that led them to flee, and that “in the majority of cases the whole experience [was] *solely* a panic” (p. 163; italics as in the original). It’s not clear from this whether Roberts is referring to the majority of “good” accounts, or to the majority of *all* accounts. But either way, judging from the reports mentioned in Gray’s book, Roberts is wrong: the-hearing of sounds, sighting of a figure, or sensing of a presence (or more than just one of those elements) appears to have preceded the anxiety in at least the majority of instances. For example, Collie allegedly heard sounds suggestive of footsteps *before* he was seized with terror, and the Kellas brothers reportedly saw a giant figure *before* they became possessed with fear. It’s also worth noting that mountain-goers have had strange or ghostly experiences without experiencing panic. For example, as noted above, the Welsh brothers reportedly heard footsteps on the summit of Ben Macdui, but apparently without becoming overwhelmingly anxious and fleeing from the mountain.

**Comments.**

Although BGM-type experiences may not be confined to the Ben Macdui area, it’s interesting that that locality seems to have been the setting for multiple incidents over the years. However, some people may be prone to having uncanny experiences in wild settings, and to the extent that Ben Macdui has been climbed more often than some other mountains, it may have attracted more people of that type. If so, it may have hosted no more than its fair share of strange experiences.<sup>6</sup> But if that were the case, we might expect there to be a similar, or even greater, number of such reports in respect of popular mountains such as Ben Nevis and Buachaille Etive Mor. Of course, if a place has a reputation (deserved or not) for ghostly events, suggestion and imagination could come into play, boosting the number of reports. However, Gray (1994, p. 107) notes that “in many cases the narrators, seemingly honest and sincere, had never heard of anything unusual on Ben MacDhui

prior to their visit.” Of course, some of the stories about this part of the Cairngorms may be outright inventions or a mixture of fact and retrospective falsification (deliberate or otherwise); and genuine experiences might be explicable in terms of prosaic physical and psychological processes, such as the misinterpretation of normal sounds.

One of the people interviewed in the aforementioned film (referenced in Note 3) explained that he'd heard footstep-like sounds behind him when he was on Ben Macdui.



The sounds ceased when he stopped walking, but started up again when he resumed walking. It transpired that they were caused by coffee splashing about in a half-empty flask in his rucksack

However, I don't think we can exclude the possibility that the central Cairngorms have been the setting for genuine paranormal phenomena. On the other hand, to the extent that the manifestations have been rather infrequent, the area may be no more 'haunted' than any other mountainous part of Scotland. Because the case of Ben Macdui has received a fair amount of publicity over the years, there could be a reporting bias: people may have been more inclined to come forward and relate unusual experiences that they've had thereabouts.

### Haunted Bothies.

Judging from reports, walkers and climbers in the Cairngorms and elsewhere have sometimes experienced anomalous phenomena while using mountain bothies. For example, one evening in the mid-1970s, a climber called David Trainer was in the Courrou Bothy in the Lairig Ghru, cooking a meal, when he sensed a presence and heard footsteps approaching the bothy. But no one came in, and when he went outside to look, there was no one about. Later that night, while he was lying in his sleeping bag, he again heard footsteps coming up to the door (McOwan, 1996, pp. 149-150).

Ben Alder Bothy (also known as 'Ben Alder Cottage') is situated beside Loch Erich in a remote part of the Central Highlands. It's reportedly been the setting for ghostly experiences (see McOwan, 1996, pp. 136-144).

For example, one night, Robert Grieve (later Sir Robert Grieve) was staying there with a friend, and they heard footsteps entering the room next door. But when they checked, no one was there. Later, they heard the sound of heavy nailed boots pacing up and down outside; and during brief pauses, they sensed that they were being watched from a window, although when they went out with torches, they saw no one.

They returned to bed, but again heard footsteps entering the room next door. After some aimless tramping sounds, there was a moment's pause, and then the sound of heavy furniture being moved over the floor, although there was no furniture in the room at the time. When Grieve and his friend went through to it again, it was bare and empty. They retired for the night, and apart from further noises, nothing untoward occurred. According to McOwan (p. 136), it's frequently said that Ben Alder Cottage has a spectre, "the ghost of a stalker [...] who allegedly hanged himself there." However, McOwan notes: "This tale is not true and has been denied by his family and with chapter and verse" (emphasis as in the original). Accordingly, this may be a case of haunting without a link to a tragic death.



Above: Sir Robert Grieve.

Sir Robert Grieve (1910-1995) was Professor of Town and Regional Planning in 1965 and from 1970 to 1974. The Sir Robert Grieve Dissertation Prizes are named for him. Born in Glasgow, Grieve studied at the Royal College of Science and Technology and passed the final exam of the Town Planning Institute in 1937. He worked for Scottish local authorities until 1944, when he was involved in drawing up the Clyde Valley Regional Plan, and in 1946 joined the Planning Unit at the Scottish Office. In 1964 he was appointed Professor of Town and Regional Planning at the University but left the following year to become Chairman of the Highlands and Islands

Development Board. Grieve returned to the University Chair in 1970. He held offices in many influential committees and inquiries after his retirement in 1974, including those of chairman of an inquiry into Glasgow's housing conditions in the 1980s (for which he was awarded the Lord Provost's Award for Outstanding Public Service) and of the steering committee which produced *A Claim of Right for Scotland* in 1988, the blueprint for a devolved Scottish parliament.

### Acknowledgements & References:

I'm grateful to David Muir for proofreading an earlier version of this article, and to Robert Brown for help in creating the outline map of the Ben Macdui area.

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### Notes.

Morning, H. (2009). *Accident 'black spots' in the Scottish Hills? Is it us or the mountains to blame?*

Sgor an Lochain Uaine (1,258 m/4,127 ft), also known as the Angel's Peak, is the fifth highest mountain in the British Isles.

*The Big Grey Man of Ben MacDhui*, a short film by scottishhills.com.

*The grey man of Ben MacDhui: John's experience.*

*Strange Strathconon Corbett happenings.*

The Scottish mountains appear to have become busier over the years, and it may be that too much human traffic precludes the occurrence of ghostly happenings, which could be one reason why little is seemingly heard of the 'Big Grey Man' nowadays...



Peter A. McCue  
Dr McCue has a longstanding interest in spontaneous paranormal phenomena. He is a member of the Society for Psychical Research and he has written various articles on the paranormal.

### Acknowledgements & References:

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## BIG CAT ON THE PROWL?

By Hector Mackenzie  
Published: 29 April, 2011



A GRISLY find in Ross-shire and an intriguing image captured on camera has further fuelled speculation that a big cat is on the prowl. The sighting of a large, cat-like beast stopped Tain sisters Lisa and Alana Sydenham in their tracks as they were out driving near Embo on Wednesday night. Meanwhile on the Black Isle, the stripped-to-the-bone remains of a deer and large paw prints in the mud left another landowner pondering the possibility that a big cat is responsible. The latest revelations follow last week's exclusive Ross-shire Journal story in which Easter Ross farmer George Ross, of Rheguile Farm, spoke of the savaging of 18 of his sheep since the beginning of the year. Lisa Sydenham (29), an administration and information technology student at Dornoch College, contacted the Journal yesterday after her sighting on Wednesday night. She had been driving with sister Alana (26) near Embo outside Dornoch when she caught sight of a large beast on the prowl. Lisa, who snapped the black creature with the point-and-shoot digital camera she was carrying around 8.30pm on Wednesday night, told the Journal, "It was definitely not just a large domestic cat or dog. "At first I thought it was a very large dog but from the way it was walking and the shape of its body I could tell that it was a big cat. It was quite a distance away over a field. My sister Alana and I were at first very surprised and then excited. I looked into it and found there had been another sighting in the area last September. "It looked and moved like a cat. "It spotted me and crouched down in the grass before walking off. We must have watched it for about five minutes in all." She speculated that changes in animal licensing laws some time ago had prompted the owners of some exotic animals to release them into the wild. The Journal was also contacted yesterday by Black Isle-based Alison Kennedy, who lives near Culbokie. She stumbled across the remains of a deer on land she owns at Upper Braefindon on Monday night and is hoping for some expert analysis of distinctive paw prints found in the mud near the kill. She told the Journal, "On returning to the spot on Tuesday there were signs that the carcass had been dragged further away and carried off, nothing remained but a severed leg. All other stories only show remains of savaged animals, but I have pictures of paw prints at the site of the attack and the very fresh, almost totally eaten carcass.



"I tried to get SAC vets to visit the site and confirm what might have killed the deer, but have had no response so far. "If it was dogs, that in itself is very worrying, given the livestock in the area, but more so if it is a big cat." She said there were obvious signs of a struggle and the appearance that the deer had been dragged a significant distance during the apparent attack. Chief Inspector Paul Eddington, who has several years' experience as a police wildlife crime coordinator specialist under his belt, said there had been several very credible sightings of big cats in Ross-shire down the years. He said too there had been several stories of exotic animals being released in the Highlands since the 1970s following changes in legislation surrounding what people are permitted to keep as pets. There have also been documented instances of domesticated cats turning feral and breeding with wildcats. Ch. Insp. Eddington also recalled the December 2008 report — first revealed by the Journal — of the attack on a 73-year-old Easter Ross woman convinced she had been mauled after disturbing a big cat near her home. Pat McLeod, who lived in a remote cottage outside Alness, had required hospital treatment for cuts sustained in an attack the exact details of which remain a mystery. Police were sufficiently convinced to lay traps and issue a warning to the public to be vigilant. Ch. Insp. Eddington said, "Anyone who sees something unusual is encouraged to contact us. There's an issue of public safety to consider and also the well-being of any such creature. We have had a number of credible reports down the years and people can be assured they will always be taken at face value."

## Aliens watching Ashbourne rugby? May 4th 2011

A UFO has been captured on film above Ashbourne's Recreation Ground and experts believe it may be rare footage of an unusual phenomenon. News Telegraph reader Michael Hope-Smith filmed a recent Ashbourne Rugby Club First XV game against Southwell on the Recreation Ground and was amazed at what he saw when editing the footage. At one point in the video, for a split second, an object can be seen travelling across the frame at extremely high speed and Mr Hope-Smith said he cannot explain what might be flying so fast.



He said: "When going through the footage frame by frame I became confused by what I initially presumed was the ball suddenly being kicked high into the air, as I wound back, I realised it wasn't the ball but something else. "I then studied the images and the footage and I couldn't work out what it was, I was left with the only option but to consider it a UFO — after all it was unidentified, it was flying and it was an object. "I have had a bit of stick on this by family and friends, but as no-one can really offer a reasonable explanation I remain quite open minded.



"An aircraft doesn't travel at that speed, not any we know of anyway, a bird certainly doesn't fly that quick and an insect doesn't fly in such a straight line." UFO expert Omar Fowler, from Derby's Phenomenon Research Association, analysed the video for the News Telegraph and says he thinks the object is a "flying rod" — a rare piece of footage captured by digital cameras that some believe is a manifestation of alien visitors. More plausible explanations for the flying rod phenomenon suggest that it is an image caused by camera technology capturing a flying insect, but such recordings are rare.

Mr Fowler explained: "The fast moving object seen moving rapidly across the screen is what has been termed a 'flying rod' and these have been filmed all over the world. "The last prominent UK sighting was on the BBC Look North television programme on August 6, 2009, when a BBC webcam overlooking the Millenium Bridge at Gateshead captured a fast moving 'flying rod' object streak across the screen behind BBC presenter Colin Briggs and into the sky." Mr Fowler added that UFO activity has increased in Derbyshire recently and one of the most convincing sightings had been sent in by a father and son who spotted a strange airborne object while fishing near Melbourne. Mr Hope-Smith, who estimates that the object his camera recorded might have been travelling at more than 10,000mph, says he is not convinced the object he filmed is an insect — but asserted he does not believe in little green men. He said: "I will go as far as saying it's something else that we simply don't know anything about or even comprehend flying in the sky — an unidentified, flying object."



## The Soviet Gray?

By Mauro Galluzzo

Students behind the discovery of an alien's body at a UFO crash site have admitted it was a crummy hoax - made out of stale bread. A video showing the alien's mangled body frozen in snow in Siberia - became a world-wide sensation after appearing on YouTube. However Timur Hilall, 18, and Kirill Vlasov, 19, have admitted it was a prank after being quizzed by police over the stunt. A Russian interior ministry spokesman said: "We found the 'alien' in one of the student's homes. "It was lying under his bed and an examination of it revealed it had been made of bread crumbs which were then covered in chicken skin," he added. Now police and prosecutors are considering whether the pair have committed any crime. "What are we going to do with them? We have not yet decided," said police spokesman Sergei Zvedzin.

"We will be looking to see if a crime has been committed in connection with the use of animal skin. If they have committed an offence they will have to pay for it," he added. The Austrian Times reported that the bogus body appeared after locals reported seeing an alien spaceship crash in the region last month.



Local UFO expert Alex Komanov from the Russian UFO Research Centre immediately dismissed the find saying: "The body is interesting. The texture is similar to a real biological entity. "However, the creature has no clothes and I am sure that intelligent beings would be dressed in something like a space suit or coveralls."

But UFO fans are already accusing the Russian government of staging a cover up. "We know what we saw. Powerful people in the military just don't want us to see this," said one... lol.

### Poltergeist forces family to flee?

A family has been forced to flee their home after they became terrified by a poltergeist. Even paranormal investigators were 'freaked out' by the activities that included the discovery of the word 'move' written onto a window at the house in Hull, East Yorkshire. For Emma Keeitch, 31, and her family, the writing in condensation was the final straw and they left the house soon after.



Terrified: The writing on the window was the final straw for Emma so she took her daughter, Phoebe and fled the home in fear. The poltergeist echoes a case last week when the mother of 11-year-old Ellie Manning videoed a poltergeist opening a wardrobe door and moving a chair across a room. Experts were called in to see what could be done at Miss Keeitch's house, but one of them became so scared that he was going to be attacked by a spirit that he also bolted from the house. Now the family has been told that they will need to employ the services of an exorcist to rid the house of its spooks.

Spooked: Emma Keeitch took this picture of the word 'move' which was drawn in condensation on her bedroom window. Paranormal psychic Steve Kneeshaw said: 'I have done many investigations but this is the worst one yet - it even freaked me out. 'It was a very intense evening and some of what happened was totally bizarre. Emma and her boyfriend, Jamie Owen, 25, left their home with their four-month-old daughter Pheobie after waking up and seeing the message on their bedroom window. She claimed that poltergeists had switched on stereos, spun pictures that were hung on walls and even threw a plank of wood into a bin. She said: 'I've never believed in ghosts and always been very skeptical. But what has happened to us is too much - we just can't stay here any longer.



'We have tried to explain it away. You can blame the electrics or a draft for some things but not everything. One of the investigators, Kellie Taylor, said that she was slapped across the face by one of the spirits causing her to flee. As they continued to look around the house a television remote was thrown across the room and bedding moved by itself. Even the investigators were forced to run away after they became so spooked by the poltergeist In his report on the events Elliot Ainley said: 'The house is definitely haunted and has poltergeist activity. There are two spirits haunting the house - that of a mother and that of a baby.

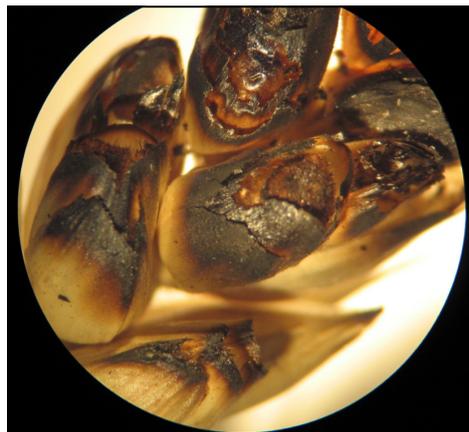


'The mother spirit seems particularly angry, probably at the way she died, which is why objects are being thrown about. 'We decided to do some glass divination, during which Kellie had her face seemingly lightly slapped by a spirit hand. 'Through this we determined that there were two spirits - a mother and baby and the names "Rachel" and "Sarah" also became apparent. 'They appear to have both died quickly and tragically. The master bedroom proved to be a very active area. All three of us were in this room calling out for the spirit when I had a TV remote control thrown across the room at me.'

A retired Church of England clergyman, Reverend Tom Willis, has now been called in and is expected to carry out an exorcism next week. He said: 'The first thing you need to do is diagnose what is causing it then I simply bless the house and pray what is there is removed. 'Hauntings are usually lonely spirits that have refused to move on. 'I don't get scared by this as I'm not actually that psychic and haven't seen an apparition in 50 years. 'What I do brings relief to both the spirit and those bothered by it.' Photographs by *Caters News Agency*.

### First scientific proof of Burning in a Crop Circle.

For many years the BLT research team have received reports of "burned" plants being found in some crop circles. Every time we have been given samples to test in the lab we have found that the blackening was NOT carbon-based and due to burning, but instead was blackening caused by colonization by an opportunistic fungus called *Ustilago*. Microscopic *Ustilago* spores are carried in the air all over the countryside and, when they find a food source (in crop circles this would be the internal nutrients oozing out from inside the plant stems if they have become broken or crushed), they immediately begin to feed and reproduce. At a certain point enough of the spores have reproduced so that the fungus becomes visible to the naked eye as a blackening which DOES look very much like carbon (*Ustilago* is usually black, sometimes red). However, a crop circle which occurred in July, 2010 in Holland has for the first time, been found to have actually been burned:



To read the full report see: <http://www.bltresearch.com/robbert/seedheads2011.php>.



A tourist claims to have filmed a UFO over Westminster just prior to last week's Royal Wedding. Hovering for 30 minutes the indistinguishable object has created a buzz amongst media outlets, appearing to change shape over time. "First we thought it was a parachute but it was way too high up," said the tourist who filmed it. The two-and-a-half-minute video footage shows a shimmering white object in a cloudless blue sky near Big Ben. It seems to move and shift shape, but to have three sections, like the starship USS Enterprise from TV's Star Trek.

*After looking over the footage several times, I believe the mysterious intruder to the London skies was nothing more than tethered novelty balloons, after all, there were many around that day... Steve Mera - Phenomena Magazine.*

### Giant asteroid set to narrowly miss Earth

By Orlando Parfitt - May 5th 2011.



A giant asteroid will only just miss earth later this year, according to NASA. The huge rock, dubbed YU55, will pass within 201,700 miles of our planet in November. If it crashes into earth the impact would be equivalent to 65,000 atomic bombs, while the crater would be six miles wide and 2,000 ft deep. The asteroid, which weighs 55 million tons and is 1,300ft wide, will be the largest ever object to get so close to our planet. It orbits the sun every 14 months. It will be closer to us than the moon, which is on average 238,855 miles away and will be visible through a small telescope. The best times to view it will be between 23:28 on 8 November and 07:13 on 9 November (UK time). According to NASA spokesman Dave Yeomans, there is no chance YU55 will crash into earth... for the time being.

He said in statement: "YU55 poses no threat of an Earth collision over, at the very least, the next 100 years." He added: "During its closest approach, its gravitational effect on the Earth will be so minuscule as to be immeasurable. It will not affect the tides or anything else." Nonetheless, it has been officially labeled a 'potentially hazardous object' by the space agency. YU55 was discovered by Robert McMillan, head of the NASA-funded Spacewatch Program at the University of Arizona in 2005, but it's not the only 'near-earth object' they are monitoring. NASA are also keeping tabs on WN5, an asteroid that will pass the planet in 2028, and '99942 Apophis', a celestial body measuring 1,200 ft which could zoom past us on April 13 2036.

They also believe an even bigger asteroid has a one-in-a-thousand chance of colliding with earth in 2182.

# CROP CIRCLES

## NOT A MODERN PHENOMENON...?

Apart from 'The Mowing Devil' information from the 1600's, most people think of the crop circles as a modern phenomenon (and wonder if modern technology may be responsible).

*much looser and dryer than ordinary, and the parts interspersed with a white hoar... much like that in mouldy bread, of a musty rancid smell, but to the taste insipid."*

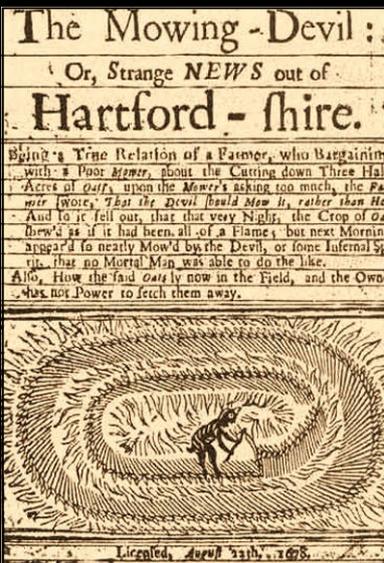
arm in southern England. He describes areas of crop "forming ... circular spots with a few standing stalks as a centre, some prostrate stalks with their heads arranged pretty evenly in a direction forming a circle round the centre, and outside these a circular wall of stalks which 'have' not suffered." Capron suggested that these flattened circles were the result of "some cyclonic wind action" and enclosed a sketch of the "most perfect" of these circles which, unfortunately, were not published.



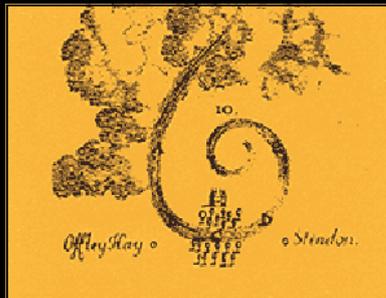
This crop circle illustrated in the picture above is from the same era, and occurred in St. Giles's fields at University College.

The cloud and trumpet-like feature illustrates Plot's hypothesis that crop circles "must be the effects of Lightning, exploding from the Clouds"... in this case, the clouds "breaking first in a quadrangular, and after in a wider circular form."

*A Natural History of Staffordshire (1686).*



The two drawings below illustrate Plot's report, they consist of rings, spirals and even squares within rings, all geometric forms which are appearing in fields today; and the professor's measurements of the flattened pathways ("seldom narrower than a foot, or much broader than a yard"), as well as the overall diameters of the formations ("near fifty yards, where-as ... some of them are not above two yards in diameter") are also typical of a majority of the crop circles we find today.



Modern farmers and land-owners, in cases where the land has been in the family for generations, regularly recount that their fathers, grandfathers, and in some cases great-grandfathers, did find crop circles in their fields from time to time, often in the same fields now affected by the phenomenon. A few photographs also exist of English crop circles which occurred in the early 1900's. Many of these crop circles seem to have been simple circles, or circles with rings, but some of them are reported to have been more complex in design. These anecdotal accounts have been obtained from farmers in several different countries such as Western Europe and in North America and seem to rule out the idea that modern technology is responsible.

Because the Wiltshire and Hampshire counties of Southern England (where the largest number of crop formations are found each summer) are compact and relatively easy to traverse, as well as being located centrally for researchers in Western Europe, the long-term effects of crop circles in these fields can be more easily observed. British photographers manage to document most, if not all, formations there each summer as they occur, so both the precise locations and dates of occurrence are recorded. Although no scientific study has yet been carried out to determine how many formations have some sort of long-term effect, it is clear anecdotally that most formations completely disappear once the field has been cut and ploughed. In most cases the new crop planted in the fields which hosted crop circles the previous

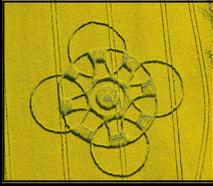
In July, 1880 the prestigious science journal *Nature* (Vol. 22, pp. 290-291) published a letter from British spectroscopist J. Rand Capron in which he described his discovery and subsequent examination of multiple circular areas of flattened wheat on a

However, there does seem to be some evidence that would suggest crop circles have been appearing off-and-on for hundreds of years. Here are a few of the best-documented accounts.

In 1686 a British account of geometric areas of flattened plants can be found in 'A Natural History of Staffordshire', written by Professor Robert Plot, LLD, the first "keeper" of Oxford's Ashmolean Museum and a professor of chemistry at Oxford. Professor Plot describes not just circles, but flattened areas "obtaining three parts of a circle, others being Semicircular, some of them Quadrants." These various designs were found both in "arable grounds" and in "open pastures ... And not only in a single, but sometimes in double and treble Circles, one within the other."

Drawings of two U.K. crop formations described in 1686 by Prof. Robert Plot...

Plot examined multiple such formations and states that the soils "under all of them were



Innage, nr Chepstow.  
Gwent, Wales. Reported  
22nd April 2011.

Well done to Olivier  
Morel and Francine  
Blake's group for  
photographing this aerial  
shot of the formation at  
Innage, nr Chepstow,  
Gwent, Wales. Reported  
22nd April. This was a  
long and expensive flight  
due to this there was  
great reluctance by other  
photographers to take to  
the air.

Well done again as there  
is ...nothing like an aerial  
shot to be able to grasp  
the over all effect of the  
crop circles.

Crop circle connector:  
<http://www.cropcircleconnector.com>



summer shows no apparent effect of the previous summer's event. But in a small percentage of formations, both "simple" circles and events of quite complex design, there is clear visual evidence in the newly-planted field of the previous summer's crop circle. In some cases the new plants in the area where the crop circle had been will be a slightly different colour, or they will be shorter, or taller, than the surrounding crop.

In 1999 an elegant formation (dubbed the "Dolphin" by field-teams) occurred below the Iron Age hillfort known as Barbury Castle, a frequent site for circles over the years. This formation attracted attention for a number of reasons, not the least of which was the fact that strange balls of light were seen and videotaped flying over the formation in daylight. The following year, as the new crop began to grow in the field, the "ghost" of the 1999 formation could easily be seen, in spite of the fact that the field had been tilled and re-planted as usual. As the 2000 season progressed, the old formation was still visible because the growing plants inside the areas which had been flattened in 1999 were both a darker green in colour than the rest of the crop, and they were at least 6-8 inches taller.

Numerous anecdotal reports exist of unusual animal and/or human response either at the time it is thought that new crop formations have occurred nearby, or upon entering new circles that have been discovered. Flights of geese have been observed to break formation directly over crop circles, reforming their "V" pattern once past the formation, and deer have been watched circumventing crop circles which were placed so as to block habitual game trails across fields. Farmers frequently report unusual disturbances among farm animals during nights when crop circles form nearby, particularly reporting that their cattle bellow loudly and/or their dogs bark unabatedly for hours. In the fields, some domestic dogs have refused to enter formations while others

have reportedly become quite sick after being in a formation and, in other cases, dogs have shown no adverse effects at all, exhibiting completely normal behaviour while in crop circles and afterwards.

A wide range of anecdotal reports exists of the effects on people. Again, these reports have not been scientifically evaluated, but it seems clear that many people experience unusual physical effects in 'some' crop formations and, again, most often when the crop circles are relatively new. These effects range from the unpleasant ("*splitting*" headaches, dizziness, disorientation, heart palpitations, a sense of "dread") to the euphoric (a strong sense of "peace," a feeling of joy, a sense of "oneness," and a feeling of love) and, in the 1996 "Julia Set" formation near Stonehenge, to the really bizarre.



After visiting the "Julia Set," a lovely 915 ft. long fractal spiral made up of 149 circles of varying diameters, more than a dozen women reported menstrual abnormalities, the most unusual of which was the reoccurrence in several post-menopausal women of their previous normal menstrual cycles.

Over the years a strange "electronic buzzing" noise has been heard by a number of people inside crop circles, in daytime and at night, and this sound was tape-recorded on one occasion. Many people have also experienced the sensation of a presence of some sort, other than their own, and invisible, while inside crop circles, and crunching sounds like "footsteps" have been heard by several people on more than one occasion while in circles when there was no one else present.

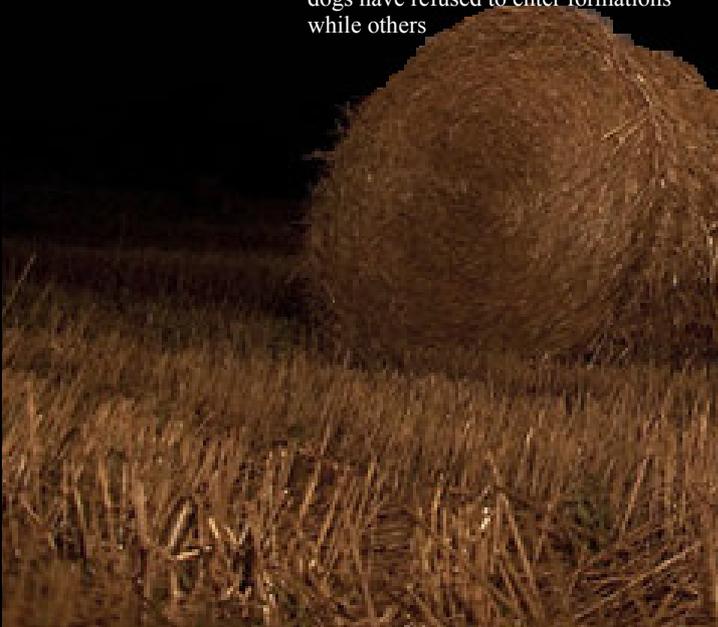
It is easy, perhaps, to dismiss such reports as being due to some sort of hysteria or over-excitement, and there seems to be no evidence of long-term effect to either people or animals. However, the fact is that a large number

of field personnel who have spent considerable time in the formations, as well as some of the more casual visitors, have experienced one or several of these effects in crop circles all over the world. The fact that most of these experiences are reported in newly-formed crop circles suggests there may be a remnant energy still present at some of these sites, to which at least some people are sensitive. It is most interesting that these effects do not seem to be present at all crop circles, and that, even when some people are affected in a particular event, other visitors will be unaware of anything unusual at all.

Although no thorough scientific study has yet evaluated this constantly reported effect, the failure of electrical and mechanical equipment in, near, or flying over crop circles occurs so often as to be considered almost normal by seasoned field personnel. Cameras, recording devices, cell phones and even tractors out in the field harvesting (when many circles, particularly in North America, are first discovered) regularly fail to operate. Quite a few crop circles in full-grown corn in the U.S. have been discovered by startled farmers whose harvesting equipment suddenly stops cold as they happen upon a flattened formation. Now that cell phones are so ubiquitous, reports of their failure to operate inside crop circles are heard during every summer; in some of these cases the phones have been taken outside the formation and found to work perfectly, but when taken back inside again do not function.

Crop circle photographers, both professional and first-time visitors, report every summer unexplained malfunctions of their equipment, in some cases finding the camera's damaged beyond repair. There have also been multiple incidences of professional TV News camera's suddenly failing inside crop formations.

In some crop circles we have also documented that compasses will either consistently deviate 10-20 degrees from North inside the flattened areas or will spin wildly, both when held at chest height and when placed flat on the ground. Pilots have also reported compass deviations when flying directly over new formations. Finally, witnesses living near fields in which crop circles have formed often report



TV, cell phone, smoke alarm and security device interference or malfunction during the nights when it is later ascertained a nearby crop circle was formed. In some cases they also report hearing unusual buzzing or humming noises, either alone or in conjunction with "strange lights" shining into, next to, or above their homes. Often these reports are made in conjunction with reports of unusual animal behaviour.

Ever since people began paying attention to crop circles strange balls of light (BOLs), frequently softball-size but sometimes smaller or larger, have been regularly seen, photographed and/or videotaped in and around the fields. These BOLs are seen in daytime as well as at night, and have now been observed (and in many cases videotaped) in every country where crop circles are studied. In England in the late 1980's and early 1990's sightings of soccer-ball-sized orangey light balls, drifting over the valleys and fields near Alton Barnes at night, were observed so often they were dubbed "Amber Gamblers" by local observers.



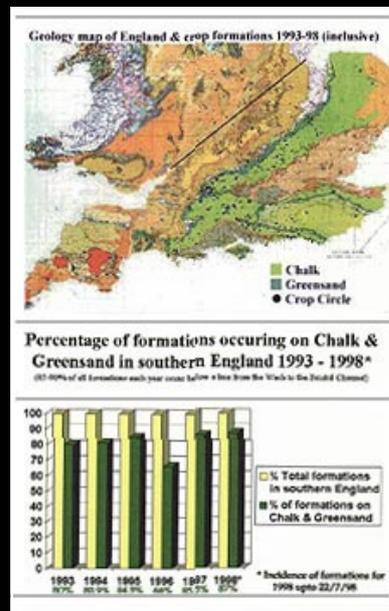
Smaller, tennis-ball-size, almost translucent BOLs have been both photographed and videotaped, and they have been seen and documented in various degrees of opacity and in different colours.

Some may speculate that photographs of BOLs may be nothing more than dust particles or pollen / insects; just like those caught on camera during paranormal investigations. However, these BOLs have been video recorded and seen with the naked eye many times. Often seen travelling through crops and changing direction and speed. It is presumed that the BOL phenomenon is a real event which currently remains a mystery.

During the mid-1990's two British researchers, Glenn Broughton (now living in Vermont) and Steve Page,

wondered why crop circles occur in some locations (in many cases year after year) and not in others?

By plotting crop circle occurrence on a geological map of southern England they were able to demonstrate that an overwhelming majority of British crop circles during the years 1993-98 occurred over aquifers lying beneath either deep deposits of chalk or greensand. This geological map can be seen below



Chalk is a highly porous rock. BLT investigator John Burke suspected that the Spring rainwater percolating slowly down through the chalk over the summer months might increase the ground electrical charge in these areas as the summer progressed. He further speculated that this increase in ground electrical charge might be enough to function

as an attractor to the complex upper atmospheric plasma system hypothesised by W.C. Levensgood as the causative agency behind crop circles and, further, that this would be particularly evident along the edges of the chalk layers, where the surface water has farther to travel to reach the underground aquifer.

On the microscopic level, abnormal enlargement of cell wall pits in bract tissue (a thin membrane which surrounds the seed-head and through which nutrients pass to the developing seed) were found. This examination utilises the optical microscope and is quite time-consuming and, although useful in the early, exploratory stages of the research, was replaced when equally reliable criteria were subsequently discovered. Enlarged (both laterally and longitudinally) plant stem nodes - the fibrous "knuckle-like" protuberances found spaced along the plant stem beneath the seed-head, technically called "pulvini." Expulsion holes in Nodes are often found...

The Crop circle phenomenon first hit the UK mainstream press back in the early 1980's and unfortunately it was two UFO investigators that visited the scene and expressed their opinions to the media that the formation was likely to have been caused by a UFO, (indicating a possible UFO landing site). Of course that was not the case, but, nevertheless many believed the crop circle phenomenon to have been directly associated with the UFO phenomenon. Unfortunately, there seems to be very little evidence to support such a theory. Don't get me wrong... UFOs have allegedly been seen, photographed and videotaped in the vicinity of such formations, but that does not suggest that they are directly associated. We do have however, many reports of 'Balls Of Light' (BOL's) and some may suggest that these are in fact UFO's...

Of course, many crop circles could be hoaxes, created by people going out into the crop at night and pressing elaborate patterns into the crop by using boards and measurement devices, but there does seem to be a number of formations that do have certain unusual characteristics, (like previously said). Whatever the crop circle phenomenon represents and how the presumed authentic ones are created still remain one of the world's finer mysteries...



Nancy Talbot is the Field Research Coordinator and press contact for the BLT Research Team (John Burke, William C. Levensgood and Nancy Talbot), which has been examining plants and soils in crop formations in several countries. They have also studied the electromagnetic environments, unusual animal deaths in the U.S. and Canada, and UFO trace-cases since 1989.

In the late 1960s and early 1970s, Ms. Talbot worked as a Research Assistant at the University of Maryland and at Harvard University. She then became an independent producer of Appalachian music festivals in the northeast. Since 1992 she has devoted 100% of her time to the development of a cohesive, well-trained field sampling and reporting network in several countries. This network has supplied the thousands of samples examined in-depth by Levensgood, biophysicist, and others over the last nine years.

Ms. Talbot lectures to groups internationally which are interested in learning about the physical abnormalities in the plants and soils associated with these phenomena and the hypotheses developed so far to help organize the laboratory data within a scientific context. BLT Research is a hard-working group of thoroughly interested, capable individuals serious about applying scientific methodology and solid professional expertise to these perplexing mysteries which have been ignored by the scientific establishment for far too long... Find out more by visiting:



<http://www.bltresearch.com>

# WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Beyond Best Evidence: The UFO Enigma is a feature-length documentary that will take the cases shown in *Best Evidence*, as well as a couple of new ones that highlight what appear to be some of the more "high strangeness" aspects of the phenomenon, and explore with the three key possible explanations with world's leading experts on the subject, as follows:

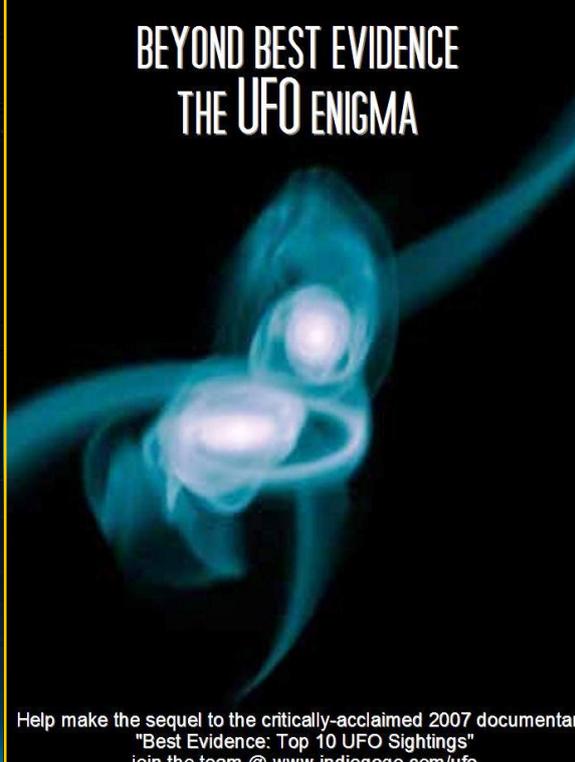
1. Extraterrestrial Hypothesis - This explanation maintains that UFO sightings represent proof of visitation to Earth by advanced extraterrestrials from another world, most likely within what proponents term of "local galactic neighbourhood."
2. Interdimensional Hypothesis - This explanation maintains that UFO sightings involve visitations from other "realities" or "dimensions" that co-exist alongside our own. It also holds that UFOs are a modern manifestation of a phenomenon that has occurred throughout recorded human history, which in prior ages were ascribed to mythological or supernatural forces and creatures.
3. Psychosocial hypothesis - This explanation maintains that UFO Sightings can be explained by psychological or social means, examples of which include wishful thinking, hallucinations, hoaxes, and misidentification of prosaic objects, such as satellites, aircraft, or natural phenomena.

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Many Thanks, Paul Kimball.

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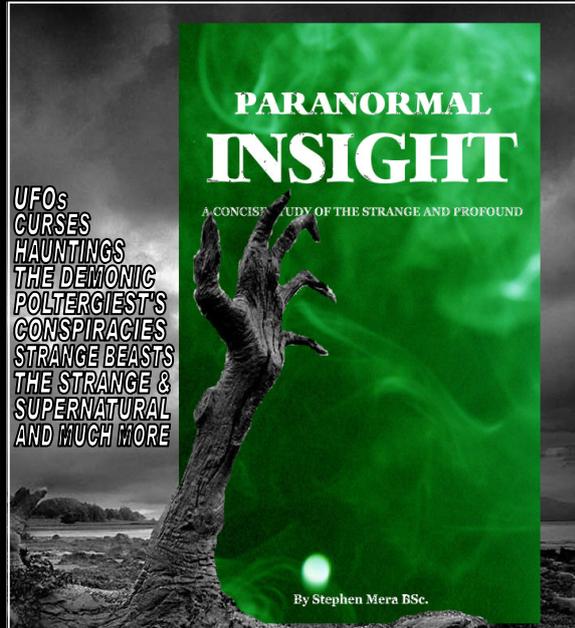
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By Stephen Mera BSc.

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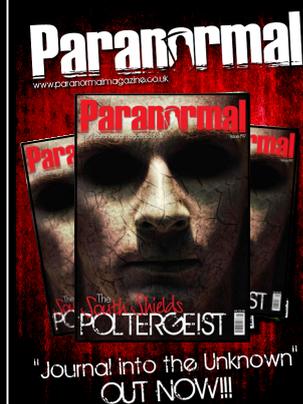
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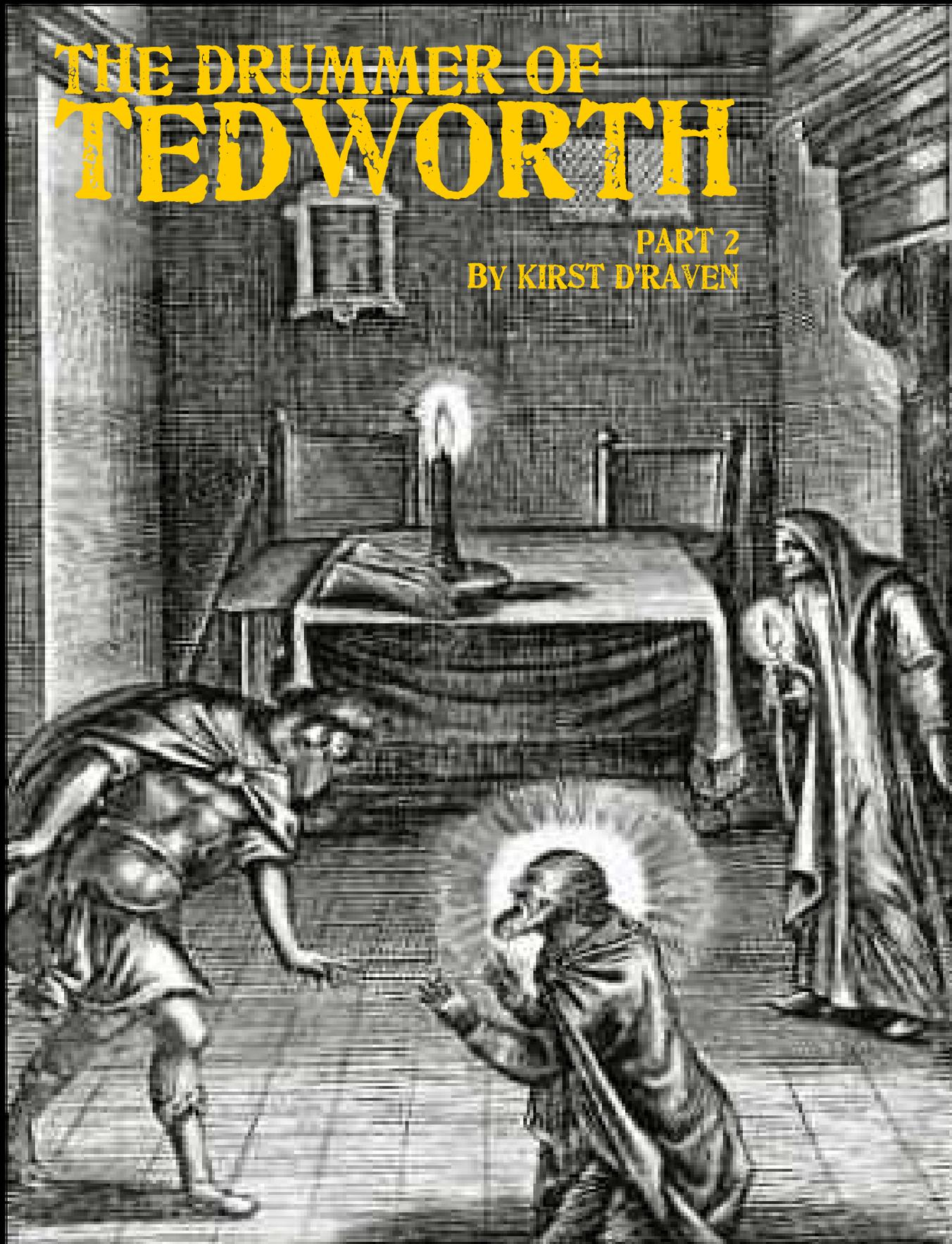
In each issue of Paranormal Magazine, we hope to bring you examples of such phenomena at work and even more besides. If we can supply possible answers, we will, so stay with us because the journey may prove to be all you ever hoped for.

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# THE DRUMMER OF TEDWORTH

PART 2  
BY KIRST D'RAVEN

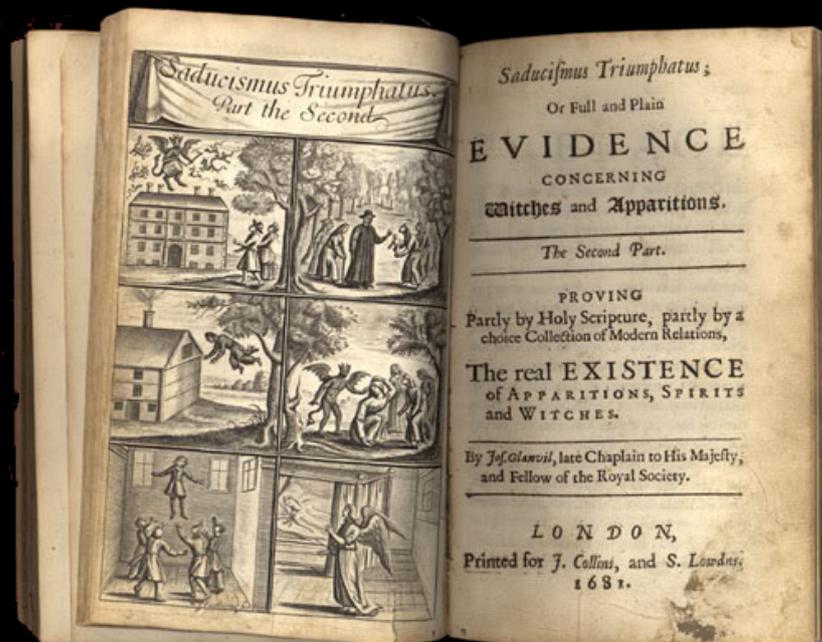


*And still perceived that it was Samuel, and he  
climbed with his face to the ground, and  
bowed himself." - Samuel, Chap. 28, v. 14.  
- W. Faithorne, 1654*

Today the chief significance of this case lies in the striking resemblance between the trials of the Mompesson family and modern poltergeist phenomena, or even Recurrent Spontaneous Psychokinesis (RSPK). There are few people who are not already familiar with the theory of an invisible entity which seemingly for no apparent reason other than to annoy, causes furniture to shake or move violently, rings bells, plays tambourines, levitates alleged "mediums," and favours its victims with knocks and even blows. RSPK was defined by William Roll in the 1960s and can be defined as inexplicable, spontaneous physical effects unknowingly effected by an individual who wishes to express hostility without the fear of punishment, and is sometimes forwarded as an explanation for the effects known as Poltergeist phenomena. Still another possible explanation could be given citing one of the many forms of temporal lobe epilepsy.

In the early twentieth century when research into psychic phenomena was relatively new, the learned gentleman researchers were divided in their opinion. The more forward thinking of the two camps claimed that the Mompesson case was not caused by something supernatural in origin, and was more than likely a hoax. The supporters of the newly coined Spiritual movement generated by the exploits of the briefly celebrated Fox sisters toe-dislocating and general (later allegedly admitted as hoaxed) shenanigans believed that the occurrences at Mompesson House were indeed caused by the restless spirits of the dead. For all we know, if the Fox sisters claim that they had hoaxed, the entire episode in which they were involved – the episode which fuelled a trend for darkened parlour séances and were the bane of the Victorian maid due to the amount of 'ectoplasm' which had to be disposed of following these events – may have been based on the alleged events at Mompesson House, which would be both a shame and quite amusing, in equal measures. So the only real chance of forming a true picture of the case of the Drummer of Tedworth lay within the meticulous documentation of the case made at the time the events were occurring.

A document exists, written by the Reverend Joseph Glanville who was a clergyman of the Church of England and an eye witness of some of the phenomena. Glanville's point of view is that of an ardent believer in the reality of witchcraft, and his narrative of the Tedworth affair was designed to shame the foolhardy folk who didn't. Glanville's account is therefore somewhat one-sided.



Another consideration is the fact that all the phenomena witnessed personally by Glanville and Mompesson were described as 'susceptible of mundane interpretation', while the more extraordinary phenomena – the great body with red eyes, the levitated children etc. were related to the Squire and the Reverend by second, third or even fourth hand sources - uneducated and superstitious persons no doubt, whose fears would lend wings to their imagination.

Further to these considerations, the Reverend Granville changed his story on many occasions, adding more details of his own alleged experiences, or making fun of other events when the validity of his narration was brought into question. It is also worth noting that the Reverend was responsible for reporting the case to Court – the medieval equivalent of selling your story to the tabloid newspapers – the Reverend Joseph Glanville may indeed have been the very first 'media whore'. John Mompesson was an avid letter writer, and though he was not a popular chap his name at least was well-known enough in the right circles for his letters to have been read and in some cases even replied to by some very important people of the time.

Samuel Pepys also wrote about the Drummer of Tedworth case, He documented the fact that, as far as he was concerned, John Mompesson had actually confessed to fabricating the whole story to none other than the King himself... John Mompesson was born in 1623 to the Reverend John Mompesson of the Parish of North Tidworth. The Reverend Mompesson had been called before parliament for his Royalist sympathies 20 odd years before our story commences. The young John Mompesson's uncle was the infamous Jacobean Monopolist, Sir Giles Mompesson, and his cousin

Thomas had raised a force in support of Penruddocks rising in 1655, and had then gone into exile in France before returning to England during the Restoration. On Thomas's return to Blighty his estates were restored and he became the MP for Wilton before 1662, when he secured himself a Knighthood and the Excise farm in Wilton for his dear cousin John. John wasn't, as many writers on this subject claim, the High Sheriff of Wiltshire at the time of these events, he wasn't even so much as a Knight, this title being stripped from the family due to old Uncle Giles's misdeeds. John was, however, a staunch Royalist, and as such had a desperate need to get back into the Kings good books. What better way than to be seen as the defender of the Faith, and present His Majesty not just a witch, but with a witch who had fought for the 'Other' Side?

Our Parliamentarian Drummer was the ideal pawn in Mompesson's game. William Drury had requested money from a local constable on the strength of a pass that was alleged to have been counterfeit in the neighboring town of Ludgershall. I'm uncertain as to the nature of this pass, but in 1660 an act was passed by Charles II titled 'An Act for the speedy provision of money for disbanding and paying off the forces of this Kingdome both by Land and Sea.' This act required that all 'Noblemen and their eldest Sons of the Age of 21.; A Baronet.; A Knight of the Bath.; Knight Batchelor.; King's Sergeant.; Esquires.; Widows rated at One-third according to Rank of Husbands.' To pay a levy to the Crown at a rate in accordance to their stature. Several 'commissioners' were employed by the Crown to achieve this, and among them, oddly, was John Mompesson.

That John had been accorded this position of trust is odd in the sense that his Uncle, Sir Giles, had been exiled in

**Documented Facts:**

The case of the 'Drummer of Tedworth' is one of the most famous episodes in the history of witchcraft. It involved a poltergeist which, in the early sixteenth-sixties, haunted the house of John Mompesson, a landowner, excise officer and commission officer in the militia, who lived at North Tedworth on the Wiltshire-Hampshire border.

In March 1662, Mompesson intervened in the case of a drummer, William Drury, who had requested money from the local constable at the neighbouring village of Ludgershall on the basis of a pass which turned out to be counterfeit. Mompesson had the man arrested (although he was later freed) and his drum confiscated; subsequently, in April, it was sent to his house at Tedworth. Thereafter, he and his family were assaulted by thumpings, tattoos of the drum and other noises.

There were also scratchings, panting like a dog, sulphurous and other smells, and strange lights; in addition, objects were thrown around the room, beds were elevated, horses lamed and the like. These disturbances continued over several months into 1663, despite the fact that for part of this time Drury was incarcerated at Gloucester on a charge of theft. Meanwhile, the case became well known, and many people visited Mompesson's house to witness the strange occurrences for themselves..

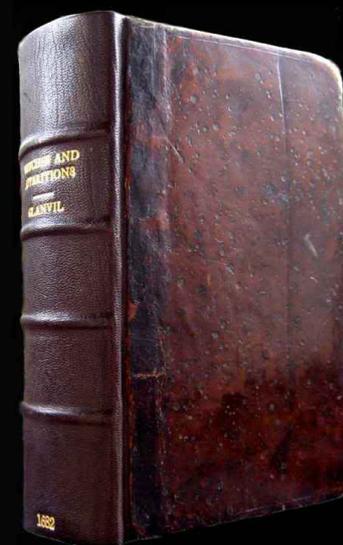
1623 after exploiting a similar position of trust bestowed on him by the Crown. Sir Giles had devised a scheme to become a commissioner for the licensing of Inns, among other endeavors, which he had the exploited for his own, and his friends and family's gain. As a result of his nepotism, Sir Giles was heavily fined, stripped of his title, exiled and made to ride down the Mall in London, facing backwards on his horse.

During his time as commissioner of Inns, Sir Giles had managed to upset just about everyone he came across – one of his favorite wiles was to send his men into establishments pretending to be in distress. The men would then spiel such a tale of woe and sorrow that the keeper would offer him a bed and sustenance. At which point, Sir Giles could not only earn a license fee from the poor keeper, but also fine or blackmail him to his hearts content – not a nice chap, old Sir Giles. The only people to benefit from his wicked ways were himself, and his immediate 'family'.

During the Reformation, it was common for banished dignitaries (such as Sir Giles, who had only left Britain

briefly) to try to regain their titles by... well, by getting into the new Kings good books. Giles' son, Thomas had already secured himself a Knighthood and the Excise farm for John, which meant John now owed him a favor. That the whole witchcraft themed poltergeist plot was engineered between the two to try to gain the Kings favor, Knighthoods within the family and thus reinstate the ageing ex- Sir Giles to a respectable position is not too far fetched a story. Using the Parliamentarian drummer who was allegedly trying to gain money by deception is far too close to home for it not to be an added detail designed to jog the memory a little.

In 1663, the events at Mompesson House ceased, and peace reigned again in the little village of Tedworth. Also in 1663, The King questioned John Mompesson about the alleged haunting, and John confessed that the whole thing had been a hoax – this little detail was recorded by the ever vigilant Samuel Pepys in his Diary. Another major event in the Mompesson family in this year was the death of Giles Mompesson; And our Drummer? Nothing is really known other than the vague story about him serving in



Cromwell's Army, of which I can find no record. After the false pass incident he was arrested for stealing a pig and sentenced to transportation. Some stories say he escaped on the way to the ship, some say he jumped overboard and swam to shore, or was lost.

We can pretty much say that the events at Mompesson House were not of paranormal origin – either that or that John Mompesson lied to the King, which if discovered would have brought about a charge of treason and almost certainly the loss of his head. The frustrating thing is that I'll never discover for certain John Mompesson's motive for the hoax.

Of one thing I am certain though – If John Mompesson's motive was fame and fortune, he surely achieved his aim, 350 years later the Drummer of Tedworth is STILL regarded as an 'Unsolved Mystery'.

#### **Documented Facts:**

*The notoriety of the case stems largely from its central position in one of the most famous works on demonology ever published, that by the divine and apologist for the new philosophy, Joseph Glanvill. A lengthy narrative of the Tedworth case first appeared in the version of Glanvill's book entitled A Blow at Modern Sadducism.*

*In Some Philosophical Considerations about Witchcraft, published in 1668, and it remained equally prominent in the omnibus Sadducismus Triumphatus: or, Full and Plain Evidence Concerning Witches and Apparitions (1681), brought out after Glanvill's death by his mentor, the Cambridge Platonist, Henry More, who had encouraged Glanvill in his investigation of the case in the first place.*

*Not only was the case prominent in the various editions of Glanvill's own book, it was further propagated by subsequent, more derivative demonologists, such as the New England cleric, Increase Mather, in his Essay for the Recording of Illustrious Providences (1684), and the Scot, George Sinclair, in his Satans Invisible World Discovered (1685).*

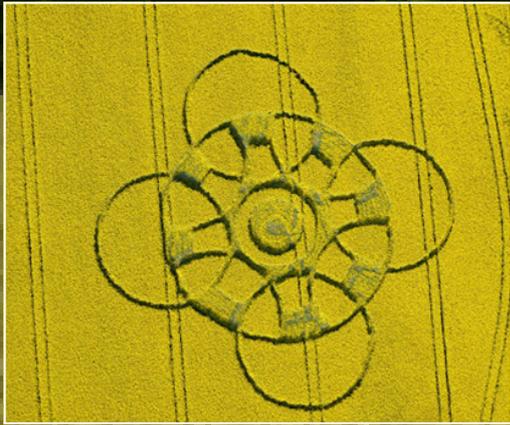


#### **New Light on 'The Drummer of Tedworth': Conflicting Narratives of Witchcraft in Restoration England**

By Michael Hunter  
School of History, Classics and Archaeology,  
Birkbeck, University of London,  
Malet Street, London, WC1E 7HX

This paper presents a definitive text of hitherto little-known early documents concerning 'The Drummer of Tedworth', a poltergeist case that occurred in 1662-3 and became famous not least due to its promotion by Joseph Glanvill in his demonological work, *Saducismus Triumphatus*. On the basis of these and other sources, it is shown how responses to the events at Tedworth evolved from anxious piety on the part of their victim, John Mompesson, to confident apologetic by Glanvill, before they were further affected by the emergence of articulate scepticism about the case. Available to view at: <http://eprints.bbk.ac.uk/250/1/Hunter4.pdf>

# RECENT CROP CIRCLES 2011



**Innage, nr Chepstow,  
Gwent. Wales. UK  
Reported 22nd April 2011.**

**White Horse, Nr Alton Barnes,  
Wiltshire. UK  
Reported 27th April 2011.**

**Silbury Hill, Nr Avebury,  
Wiltshire. UK  
Reported 29th April 2011.**



**Hannington, nr Cricklade,  
Wiltshire. UK  
Reported 7th May.**

**Bosschenhoofd, Woodenhead  
Area, Holland.  
Reported 24th April**

**Krasakan, Sleman,  
Yogyakarta. Java. Indonesia.  
Reported 23rd January 2011**



**East Kennett,  
Nr Avebury, Wiltshire.  
Reported 17th May.**

**Madisonville,  
Tennessee. USA.  
Reported 12th May 2011.**

**Sacramento County,  
California. USA.  
Reported 12th May 2011**

# THE POLTERGEIST EXPERIENCE

Poltergeist phenomena is indelibly linked with Haunting's but is usually now classed as a separate phenomenon. Parapsychologist's now seem to think that poltergeist activity is a result of RSPK (Recurrent Spontaneous Psychokinesis). But can the human mind really produce a field or force that can move and throw heavy furniture around etc?

The term Poltergeist is a compound of two German words, Polter which means, making a noise by knocking, throwing things about and to rattle. The word Geist means Ghost or spirit. So poltergeist literally means Noisy Spirit. Poltergeist activity has been reported for hundreds of years, there are many famous cases such as, Enfield 1977, the Bell Witch in 1817, The demon drummer of Tedworth 1661, Pontefract 1966 and Rosenheim 1967. There are also many other cases for the researcher to study in the field.

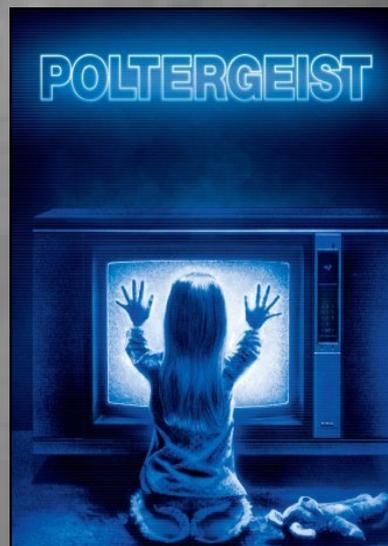
The famous psychic researcher Harry Price, who investigated Borley Rectory in 1929, and at the time allegedly Britain's most haunted house, once stated that while ghosts haunt, poltergeists infest! The phenomenological characteristics differ quite considerably from general haunting phenomena. They encompass, furniture being thrown about, cutlery bending, knockings and scratching sounds being heard, household objects such as cups and saucers moving on their own accord, footfall, apparition and asportation phenomena, formings of water appearing on walls and flooring and also blood has been reported, doors opening and closing and electrical interference plus many other inexplicable phenomena such as spontaneous combustion of objects. People also have been physically attacked by some unknown force and also disembodied voices have been heard.

Poltergeist occurrences usually last a few weeks, to a few months and then dissipate. A poltergeist occurrence begins subtly, such as scratching sounds and knockings being heard. The phenomena seems to increase by incidents such as cutlery bending and objects moving from one place to another, then it increases again such as heavy furniture being thrown across the floor and electrical appliances. It seems as if the more anxious the witness becomes so does the phenomena. It then increases again such as apparitions appearing, voices being heard and spontaneous fires occurring. Then it seems as if the poltergeist has used up its energy then begins to decrease then finally dissipate.

In a poltergeist case rarely is an apparition seen, but there are exceptions to the rule! In the Enfield case in 1977, dark shapes were sometimes witnessed and in the Pontefract case, a black monk was seen. So is the poltergeist really a haunting? But a more extreme incident? Or is it the unconscious human mind which somehow influences the environment around them? It is well known that in the majority of poltergeist cases there is often a focus, usually a human agent such as, more often than not, a young troubled teenage girl at the centre of the disturbances. It is now generally thought that their unconscious mind can somehow influence matter around them which causes physical effects in the environment. Parapsychologist's call it RSPK or Recurrent Spontaneous Psychokinesis. It is thought that a person going through extreme anxiety or stress somehow projects their unconscious innermost feelings onto the environment around them causing Macroscopic effects.

I myself have experienced extreme poltergeist activity at The Ancient Ram Inn in Wooton Under Edge,

Gloucestershire. I arrived there with little or no intention of experiencing anything untoward during the investigation, but my scepticism was seriously put to the test.



To begin with and whilst filming during the investigation, nothing happened, but as soon as any of us stopped filming all hell seemed to break loose! In the infamous Bishops Room and Witches Room We began to hear taps in response to questions, and when asked it would walk across the floor with the sound of shuffling feet.

The raps in response to questions became louder and more disturbing, the raps and knocks became poundings that would shake the floor. The beds in the Bishops Room were lifted many times and then dropped to the floor. Downstairs in the Bar Area, stools would shift across the concrete floor in response to questions as well as tables. At one point a table trapped me in the seat where I was sat and which I physically had to move back. The sound of whistling was also heard which responded back to me when I whistled.

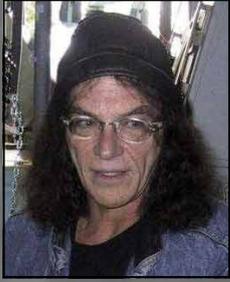
We captured many of the sounds we heard during the investigation. We also captured a very clear EVP of a little boy



*Rob Young BSc. is a Parapsychologist and is the founder of The Office of Parapsychological Studies, based in Mansfield, Nottinghamshire.*

*For more information about the organisation or would like to contact Rob directly, please e-mail:*

*Itstherob@hotmail.com  
<http://www.parapsy.co.uk>*



*John Hutchinson's life changed drastically in 1979 when, upon starting up an array of high-voltage equipment (which he was using to investigate phenomena produced many years previously by Nikola Tesla), he felt something hit his shoulder. He threw the piece of metal back to where it seemed to have originated, and it flew up and hit him again. This was how he originally discovered fundamental frequencies can shield gravity. When his Tesla coils, electrostatic generator, and other equipment created a complex electromagnetic field, heavy pieces of metal levitated and shot toward the ceiling, and some pieces shredded. Upon analysis and thorough investigation, the Canadian government dubbed this phenomenon the Hutchinson-Effect. Read his story below....*

*In the years from and after 1979, many members of the so-called and aptly named Military-industrial-complex (MIC), visited his lab, corresponded with him and/or in a variety of other respects observed his work and his inventions. Below, Figure 4 and Figure 5 are examples of correspondence John has received from these individuals or organizations.*

*His work has been classified as a matter of National Security by the Canadian Security Intelligence Service (see Figure 2). In the course of his research, John has come across many effects.*

*To learn more, please visit:  
<http://www.thehutchinsoneffect.com/>*

in the Bishops Room which said "Why do you scare me?" this was only the first of five investigations at the Ram Inn. On other investigations the same phenomena happened again, as well as other phenomena such as coins being thrown and a door in the Bishops Room being banged open with clear malevolence from the outside.

On the last investigation nothing at all happened, it then occurred to me that on the last investigation a particular investigator of mine couldn't make it on that particular occasion but on previous investigations the activity always seemed to centre around him or fairly near him. It did turn out that his marriage had deteriorated and also that he was not allowed to see his daughter. He also had lost his business and was unemployed at the time and later found out that he had been in trouble with the police.

So had all these feelings, anxiety and stress built up unconsciously which was then transmitted onto the environment causing inexplicable phenomena to occur? Or had some unseen entity latched on to his built up energy to cause mischief and havoc? It is well known that the human mind is the planet's most sophisticated computer and that we only use about ten percent of our brains, so just what is the other ninety percent capable of? I sometimes struggle to believe that the human mind can be capable of such feats as throwing around sofas, chairs, tables and appliances let alone many other phenomena experienced in poltergeist cases.

Why is it that there is always poltergeist activity reported at haunted locations if ghosts are residual? Are they really the one and the same phenomenon? Are poltergeists spirits of the dead trying to make themselves known to us by manifesting in some way? Or are they something else entirely? During paranormal investigations at locations when researchers experience poltergeist activity, if the poltergeist allegedly centres itself around one person, unconsciously producing RSPK, why then does a second researcher experience the same phenomenon at a later date at the same location?

There seem to be more questions than answers and can become quite complicated when looked at logically.

In parapsychology, macroscopic psychokinetic effects are rarely performed in laboratory test conditions. Psychokinetic effects are studied more by statistical analysis and random number generators which study sub atomic radiation decay using psychokinetic abilities.

'The Hutchinson Effect'. The only problem I see again with this is that to produce these effects he had a whole room full of equipment and computers to produce the fields to levitate fairly heavy objects. He also could not produce the fields strong enough to throw furniture and appliances about, let alone the many other explicable phenomena during a poltergeist incident. So can the human mind, the most sophisticated computer on the



In 1979, Dr. John Hutchinson accidentally discovered an astounding phenomenon whilst experimenting with longitudinal waves and high Electro Magnetic Energy, he found that using powerful radio wave interference, heavy objects could be lifted into the air. Objects such as metal, porcelain, wood and rubber were most affected. He also found that metal objects etc could be bent using what is now termed

planet really produce these phenomena? Or are there intelligent entities using the unconscious electrical activity of our brains as a way of communication and manifestation? Only more laboratory and observational research may eventually give us an answer. As Shakespeare once wrote... *'There are more things in heaven and earth, Horatio, than are dreamt of in your philosophy'...*

# BOOK REVIEW

To be completely honest... When 'Majic Eye's Only' arrived on my desk, I looked at it and thought... 'Oh No, not another Majestic Twelve book'.

I had become rather fed up with the constant repeat of material in many of the UFO books we see nowadays... However... I was pleasantly surprised. As I read through the introduction and information in regards how the MJ12 document came to light, I found myself urged to read on... Three days later, I had finished and was surprised I found time to read through this 300 page book. But I did enjoy it.

The book offers interesting and well known UFO incidents around the world, along with government responses and official records. A well designed book that I thoroughly enjoyed and as a bonus, Ryan Wood has also thrown in the alleged official MJ12 Document that has sparked debate around the world. A must read and certainly an essential book for anyone interested in the subject of UFO's. Make sure to add it to your collection.

Steve Mera BSc.  
Editor: Phenomena Magazine.

Available in hardback for £39.99  
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# MAJIC EYES ONLY

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RYAN S. WOOD  
FOREWORD BY JIM MARRS

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### PRESS RELEASE

TomsGadgets launches six new Paranormal Investigation Kits - 18.05.11

Are you looking to buy your own equipment in time for a paranormal investigation or ghost hunt? Well you're in luck as TomsGadgets have launched six new and improved kits, ideal if you are just starting out or are already an experienced investigator. Containing the most popular equipment in the paranormal market today, the new kit names have been unveiled as; The Essential Paranormal Starter Kit, Para-Classic, Para-Normal, Para-Advanced, Para-Group and Para-Pro.

The Paranormal Kits include a variety of equipment including EMF Meters, Motion Detectors, Thermometers and Torches and are presented in a hard wearing carrying case with cut foam, making them great for carrying to and from investigations and group events. Tom Cook, Managing Director of TomsGadgets says; "Our paranormal kits have been designed to cater for all levels of experience and budget to make it easier than ever to choose the right equipment." The Essential Paranormal Starter Kit priced at £99.99 is ideal for the paranormal enthusiast and contains the absolute essentials to conduct your own investigations and makes a great gift.



On the other end of the scale, The Para-Pro Kit is designed as the holy grail of investigation kits, featuring a selection of the highest quality equipment including Two-Way Radios and a Digital Recorder with a Boundary Microphone and is priced at £349.99. Prices of paranormal investigation kits range from £99.99 to £349.99 and are available to order online at [www.TomsGadgets.com](http://www.TomsGadgets.com) TomsGadgets is your Paranormal One Stop Shop supplying a full range of quality equipment all under one roof.

For further press information, please contact:  
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- EMF Ghost Meter
- Infrared Thermometer
- Beam Barrier Alarm
- Heavy Duty Torch

Includes batteries, plastic carrying case and an introduction to ghost hunting advice sheet. Individual items and group kits are also available.

Visit [www.TomsGadgets.com](http://www.TomsGadgets.com) for full kit descriptions or call 0845 456 2370

# The Ghost Meter

UPIA Ghost meter review...

Equipment reviews are never easy. Depending on the requirements of the individual user, you could say... an item needs to suit the needs, experience, knowledge and in this case, the necessary basic essentials of environmental monitoring. Toms Gadgets Ghost meter is probably the cheapest EMF meter available for the UK market. But remember, just because its cheap, doesn't make it a worthwhile commodity. If you are serious about the subject I'd look at the higher priced meters available on their website. This aside, for anybody with a basic knowledge of electromagnetic fields, which most people in the subject don't, then the 'Ghost Meter' is a useful tool.



An easy to read scale offers a decent none digital readout, along with a lit area which, when measuring fluctuations in the field, offers a constant red flashing. A volume control gives a sound level for a warble, again activated by EMF fluctuations. Mostly this, I set off, as it annoyed me. Still for the hard of hearing, or if situated in a sealed area, this can give notification to the user. The meter itself is useful. I was able to tell if my kettle was on, and other obvious, noticeable EM fields. This is a good thing, to the opposite, unobvious EMF's are virtually undetectable. Don't be deceived by the Ghost meter name, if ghosts exist, they are not likely to emit EMF, nor are they likely to disrupt a known EM field.



The EMF is however, likely to affect an individual directly, causing possible paranormal like effects to be reported. 'The Ghost Meter' offers a first step into recognising high localised EMF, and at its cheap price is a user friendly way of monitoring the environment, if on a strict budget, or before acquiring a superior meter to achieve enhanced results. The Tom's gadgets ghost meter may be just what the hobbying paranormal enthusiast who are on a budget have been waiting for. We are continuing to trial the 'Ghost meter' in live on site investigations.

Dave Sadler - UPIA

Toms Gadgets: ..... [WWW.TOMSGADGETS.COM](http://WWW.TOMSGADGETS.COM)

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# Breakthrough in Faster-Than-Light Travel and Communication, and the Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence (SETI)

Interstellar space-travel and near-instant communication; discovering a network of intelligent extraterrestrial signals; harnessing the mysterious instantaneous quantum-entanglement effect. These are all either science fiction or things we will probably never live to see or understand, correct? Not at all. By the end of this article you will see how clarifying a simple but extremely fundamental misunderstanding in our science legacy makes all of this a viable reality - now.

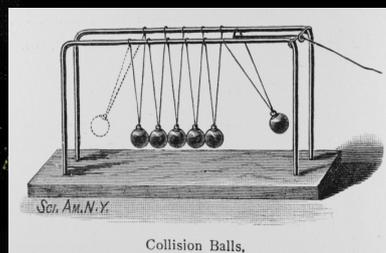
programs, locking us into an often-troubled science paradigm of abstractions, contradictions, mysteries and paradoxes.

Newton, for example, only created a *mathematical model* of his proposed gravitational force, offering no scientific or physical explanation for its still-unknown source of power, its law-violating undiminishing pull across eons of time, or how and why it even attracts matter

that is active - both *atomic* and *subatomic* matter - and there *are* no separate "energy" phenomena at all? The simplest example of this is a rethink of gravity, where all atoms actively expand very slowly and in unison. Nothing would *appear* any different over time, but standing on an enormous expanding planet means we would certainly *feel* this expansion beneath us - as a force pushing upward under our feet. Also, held objects would feel heavy as we essentially carried them along with us while being pushed upward, and would *appear* to be pulled to the ground when released, actually allowing the expanding planet to strike *them* instead. All objects would have to "fall" at the same rate, regardless of mass, which is precisely what does occur. Tossed objects would similarly appear pulled to the ground in curving paths that extend further the faster they are tossed, eventually never reaching the ground at all, but continuing around the planet in a continual orbit if tossed fast enough.

## Quantum Entanglement Explained and a Communications Revolution Revealed

Today's science explains quantum entanglement as an experimental observation where two photons from the same light source travel together, then are sent on two separate paths yet apparently maintain a mysterious link with each other. Thus, if one is later altered (such as a change in polarization), the other is instantaneously altered in the same fashion no matter how far apart they may be. This is considered a mysterious faster-than-light communication between two "entangled photons".



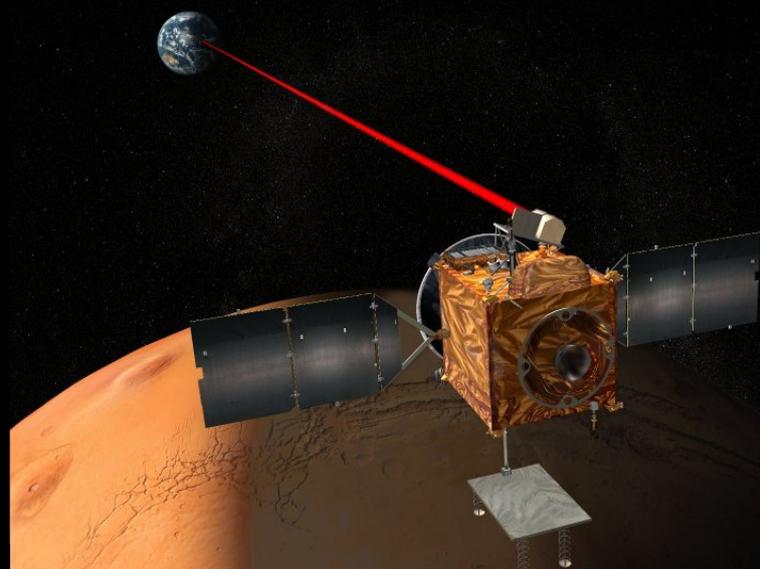
However, with the new understanding, the nature of light is radically changed from separate photons fired through space, to continuous beams of expanding subatomic-matter clusters that our eyes detect to generate the experience of colour and brightness. In this case, this is not an experiment with two photons exhibiting mysterious "quantum entanglement", but merely two separate unseen continuous beams



You may think that a lot of things are fast, like speeding bullets and Superman and the passage of time when you are having fun. But all of these things are nothing compared to the speed of light, which is the fastest that something can travel through the Universe. The speed of light is sometimes referred to as the "cosmic speed limit". Light travels in a vacuum at 186,282.4 miles per second or 299,792,458 meters/second. For simplicity, it is often said that these numbers are 186,000 miles per second, and  $3.00 \times 10^8$  meters per second.

How fast is this in normal terms? Well, the record for the fastest aircraft is held by the Boeing x-43 scramjet. Scramjets are single-use unmanned aircraft designed to go at hypersonic speeds. The x-43 traveled at 12,144 km/h (7,546 mph), or Mach 9.8, on November 16th, 2004. That is .000405% of the speed of light. And this is a jet that can travel from New York to Los Angeles in 20 minutes. While it takes photons about 8 minutes to travel the distance from the Sun to the Earth - at its furthest, 152 million km (94.4 million miles) - this scramjet traveling at its maximum speed would take about 522 days!

The speed of light is really fast, and at this speed some bizarre things start to happen. First off, photons can only travel this speed because they have zero rest mass, meaning that if you were to somehow trap a photon and put it on a scale, it would have no mass. It's virtually impossible for something with mass to travel this speed, because as you get faster and faster, it takes more and more energy to get you to the speed of light, which makes you heavier, which requires more energy, etc. Time also changes when you get to these speeds. If you left the Earth going the speed of light, then came back around and landed, you would perceive time as moving normally, but when you returned it would seem as if time sped up for everybody on the Earth, and all of your friends and family would be much, much older...



## All Just a Misunderstanding.

How can this be? It's not as surprising as it may seem, but follows from the leap of understanding that often occurs when simple misconceptions are clarified - it is just that this particular misconception reaches back centuries to the very nature of matter and energy. Misunderstanding the nature of light, for example, the physics underlying "quantum mechanics" and the meaning of experimental results can easily produce a strangely complex science and an oddly bizarre and paradoxical universe. But is this a true reflection of the world around us, or is something else going on here? In actuality, much of today's science emerged in much simpler times centuries ago, now forming a legacy of often unquestioned and presumed truths about our world. But on closer examination many of these presumed truths are actually just *abstract models* and not *physical* answers at all. This misconception is powerfully reinforced in our educational systems and science

together at all. Einstein offered a radically different, even more abstract and mathematical model for gravity two centuries later, providing even fewer practical answers, resulting in *both* models now residing in our science. But can the *singular* physical nature of gravity truly be captured by *two different* theories? Can light from a distant source be simultaneously both a "wave of pure energy" and a "quantum-mechanical photon particle", only physically "choosing" one or the other based on how it is later observed? Can a magnet cling energetically to a fridge against the constant pull of gravity, yet need no explanation for this endless energy?

## Clearing it All Up.

So, what is the centuries-old misunderstanding in our science? As mentioned earlier, it turns out to be a simple misunderstanding of the nature of matter and energy. Today we think of matter as passive lumps of mass, with various ethereal energy phenomena actively driving everything. But what if, instead, it is *matter itself*



**Allen Telescope Array  
Force Offline: Public  
Help Needed!**

*Federal and state funding cutbacks for operations of U.C. Berkeley's Hat Creek Radio Observatory (HCRO) force hibernation of Allen Telescope Array – In an April 22, 2011 email to Allen Telescope Array stakeholder level donors, SETI Institute CEO Tom Pierson described in detail the recent decision by U.C. Berkeley, our partner in the Array, to reduce operations of the Hat Creek Radio Observatory (and thus the Allen Telescope Array) to a hibernation state effective this month. NSF University Radio Observatory funding to Berkeley for HCRO operations has been reduced to approximately one-tenth of its former level and, concurrently, growing State of California budget shortfalls have severely reduced the amount of state funds available for support of the HCRO site.*

*What next for the ATA? – The SETI Institute is working on numerous efforts to insure the Array comes back on line as soon as possible. Pierson's email outlines potential work the ATA may be performing for the United States Air Force. Donor support is also needed to restart SETI observations on the Array. For the first time in history, SETI researchers are poised to use the ATA to examine the bounty of smaller planetary systems starting to be revealed by NASA's Kepler Mission. We are also working with a consortium of big thinkers to develop exciting opportunities for the public to participate in the future of SETI, making the science much less vulnerable to government budget cycles. For more information visit: [setiQuest.org](http://setiQuest.org)*

*Public help is needed. Help return the ATA to operations and support the exciting SETI exploration of the Kepler planets over the next two years...*

of expanding matter clusters physically connected back to where they were split from one initial beam. Then the more likely explanation of the “entanglement” effect is that an influence altering one beam is conducted along this continuous span of unseen physically connected matter clusters to affect the other;

And, since vibrations in solid objects travel faster the denser the material, the speed of conduction through the extremely dense span of such subatomic-matter clusters in light may well be extremely rapid - even far exceeding the speed of light. The “entanglement” experiments appear to suggest this possibility of conducting signals along beams of light at speeds that so far appear to be instantaneous, providing a practical possibility for faster-than-light communication.

Crucially, advanced species would likely use such communication along existing beams of starlight rather than generating light or radio waves and waiting for them to physically cross space at the relatively slow speed of light. An analogy for the difference between these two signal-transmission methods can be seen in the desktop toy with a line of hanging metal spheres suspended next to one another, often called Newton's Cradle. When one sphere is pulled back then released to swing and strike the others, a sphere at the far end is immediately ejected. A long line of such spheres would allow transmission of such a signal to the far end in this manner far faster than it would take for a single sphere to swing that same distance on its own.

Likewise, the new understanding suggests we might develop ways to look for such rapidly conducted signals hidden within existing starlight that already connects us with the distant stars, rather than today's method of looking for conventional light-speed signals as embedded features that move along with the beam. There could well be a hidden interstellar Newton's Cradle-style internet all around us, awaiting any civilization that reaches this fundamental understanding of matter and energy.... transmission of such a signal to the far end in this manner far faster than it would take for a single sphere to swing that same distance on its own.

Likewise, the new understanding suggests we might develop ways to

look for such rapidly conducted signals hidden within existing starlight that already connects us with the distant stars, rather than today's method of looking for conventional light-speed signals as embedded features that move along with the beam. There could well be a hidden interstellar Newton's Cradle-style internet all around us, awaiting any civilization that reaches this fundamental understanding of matter and energy. We could also find a way to conduct such a signal within the light of our own sun, revolutionizing telecommunications in the process.

The power-source violations of the "law of conservation of energy" by gravity, magnetism, and many other observations also now vanish. “Quantum mechanics” is as a mere fanciful model for a much simpler physical manifestation of expanding subatomic matter, suggesting viable and simple new advances toward detecting entire networks of intelligent faster-than-light extraterrestrial communication *conducted along* existing starlight. Gone are the physical mysteries and confusion of “quantum entanglement” and “quantum



### **Much More to Come.**

This new understanding rethinks everything, showing that even space travel is no longer limited by Einstein's claimed "speed of light limit". Such apparent limits from particle accelerator evidence simply stem from our misunderstanding of the true nature and behavior of the accelerating "magnetic and electric field energy". These "energy" fields are actually fields of expanding subatomic particles which, by nature, expand at the speed of light, hence particles in these accelerators could never possibly go faster when powered by such means.

Also, apart from the practical propulsion challenges, the fact that our spacecraft have never come close to light-speed has nothing to do with such a speed limit in nature, but is more because we haven't truly tried since we believe today's light-speed myths.

paradoxes”, which, it turns out, never were true physical mysteries at all, but mere human misconceptions of a far simpler physical reality right under our noses. The need for communication satellites circling the globe may well now be a thing of the past, and real-time robotic “virtual reality” exploration of distant moons and planets could be a reality for us, controlled instantaneously from here on Earth. Is such a revolution worth studying, considering how many billions we are spending today on telecommunication research, quantum computers, satellites, SETI and other technology? I think so.

*For more information about this new revolution in science, read my previous article “Expansion Theory - Our Best Candidate for a Final Theory of Everything”:*

[http://www.themarginal.com/theory\\_of\\_everything.html](http://www.themarginal.com/theory_of_everything.html)  
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**FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT: <http://www.psychicandscience.co.uk>**

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Thu 22<sup>nd</sup> September, 7.30pm  
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Box Office 01325 486 555  
[www.darlington.gov.uk/leisure](http://www.darlington.gov.uk/leisure)  
Tickets: £22 / £20

Mon 26<sup>th</sup> September, 7.30pm  
**THE POMEGRANATE, CHESTERFIELD**  
Box Office 01246 345 222  
[www.chesterfieldvenues.co.uk](http://www.chesterfieldvenues.co.uk)  
Tickets: £22 / £20

Wed 28<sup>th</sup> September, 7.30pm  
**THE BROADWAY THEATRE, PETERBOROUGH**  
Box Office 0844 850 0850  
[www.thebroadwaytheatre.co.uk](http://www.thebroadwaytheatre.co.uk)  
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Thu 29<sup>th</sup> September, 7.30pm  
**THE GRAND, LANCASTER**  
Box Office 01524 646 95  
[www.lancastergrand.co.uk](http://www.lancastergrand.co.uk)  
Tickets: £19.50 / £18.50

Wed 5<sup>th</sup> October, 7.30pm  
**PRINCES HALL, ALDRSHOT**  
Box Office 01252 329 155  
[www.princeshall.com](http://www.princeshall.com)  
Tickets: £18.50 / £17.50

Tue 11<sup>th</sup> October, 7.30pm  
**THE PALACE THEATRE, MANSFIELD**  
Box Office 01623 633 133  
[www.mansfield.gov.uk/palacetheatre](http://www.mansfield.gov.uk/palacetheatre)  
Tickets: £19 / £18

Wed 12<sup>th</sup> October, 7.30pm  
**BUXTON OPERA HOUSE**  
Box Office 0845 127 2190  
[www.buxtonoperahouse.org.uk](http://www.buxtonoperahouse.org.uk)  
Tickets: £20 / £18

Thu 13<sup>th</sup> October, 7.30pm  
**PAVILION THEATRE, BOURNEMOUTH**  
Box Office 08445 763 000  
[www.bic.co.uk](http://www.bic.co.uk)  
Tickets: £22 / £20

Wed 19<sup>th</sup> October, 7.30pm  
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Box Office 0247 655 3055  
[www.belgrade.co.uk](http://www.belgrade.co.uk)  
Tickets: £22.50, £19.25, £16.25

Thu 20<sup>th</sup> October, 7.30pm  
**THE OAKENGATES, TELFORD**  
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[www.oakengates.ws](http://www.oakengates.ws)  
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Sun 23<sup>rd</sup> October, 7.30pm  
**ASHCROFT THEATRE, CROYDON**  
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Wed 26<sup>th</sup> October, 8pm  
**WYLLYOTTS THEATRE, POTTERS BAR**  
Box Office 01707 645005  
[www.hertsmereleisure.co.uk](http://www.hertsmereleisure.co.uk)  
Ticket Price: £18 / £17 / £16

Tue 1<sup>st</sup> November, 7.30pm  
**WOODVILLE HALLS, GRAVESEND**  
Box Office 01474 337774  
[www.gravesham.gov.uk](http://www.gravesham.gov.uk)  
Ticket Price: £21 / £18

Wed 9<sup>th</sup> November, 7.30pm  
**CITY HALLS, SALISBURY**  
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Thu 10<sup>th</sup> November, 7.30pm  
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For all those that are yearning to learn the truth about the origins of mankind and the true history of our planet that has been long suppressed, 'The Big Awakening Conference will provide you with in depth knowledge and teachings from an expert line up of dedicated professionals, armed with the data needed to connect the dots of the mosaic we call existence. These men have zero tolerance for the lies and deceit we have been fed for many many years and are committed to bringing the truth to light. We have specifically selected a line up of speakers that are fluent in all aspects of the conspiratorial roots of all the problems we are facing on earth; Politically, Spiritually and psychologically and equally importantly we have handpicked researchers that always stay two steps ahead of the game, vigilantly covering all angles and degrees of the conspirators blueprint. Essential to understanding and utilising the truth for the benefit of humanity, our speakers will share with you the remedies and solutions our ancient ancestors documented in stone and scripture, laid out as a survival manual specifically for us at this critical time. You will leave The Big Awakening conference refreshed, empowered and ultimately armed with the fundamental knowledge needed to survive the drastic transition we are going through as a race. There is no more time for turning a blind eye to the tyranny we see running amok in the world. We are nearing the end date of a great year universal cycle which provides those that are awake and in tune with the higher resonance of nature's purity and truth, the opportunity to elevate to a higher level of being!. You all have an urge to follow the trail for truth and do what is righteous otherwise you wouldn't be reading this text now...

NOW! Is the time to act and prepare yourselves for the future we inevitably face as a result of our own contribution to the motions of natural law. Those that don't act now risk the chance of being left to incarnate a hundred times over into a world that they have ultimately neglected. Remember, In order to beat the beast, you must know the beast and in order to know the beast you must know the truth. The time truly is now...

#### Speakers:

Born in Northern Ireland, Michael Tsarion is an expert on the occult histories of Ireland and America. He has made the deepest researches into Atlantis, the origins of evil, and the Irish origins of civilization. He is the author of the acclaimed books, Atlantis, Aliens Visitation and Genetic Manipulation, Astro-Theology and Sidereal Mythology, and The Irish Origins of Civilization. He is the producer and presenter of the 'Origins and Oracles' dvd series that explores ancient mysteries and forbidden knowledge. He is also the producer of the Architects of Control dvd series. Michael is somewhat of an expert in Arcane Mysteries...

Pierre Sabak is an artist, photographer and author of the well known book: The Murder of Reality: Hidden Symbolism of the Dragon. This book has taken over 3000 years to write. The truth can no longer be suppressed! This is the real story of the Serpent Race and their control over humanity. Pierre Sabak takes his reader on an unbelievable journey and unearths the Ultimate Crime: THE MURDER OF REALITY. 'They said it could not be true... The consequences of this research are terrifying' (Pierre Sabak). A new major series of books, the Serpentigena describes how an Extraterrestrial Race have conquered planet earth and have ruled over man's place for thousands of years. In this fascinating study the author examines how the hidden priesthood encoded the serpent in the Bible and Koran using 'polymorphic' words, referred to by the Arab scholars as 'Wujuh al-Qur'an': 'The Forgotten Recitation' - or 'the Forgotten Koran.'

An ex-oilfield executive, Ian R. Crane now lectures and writes on the geo-political webs that are being spun; with particular focus on US Hegemony and the NWO agenda for control of global resources. Since 2007 Ian has focused his efforts on raising public awareness of the pernicious attack on the global population in the name of corporate globalisation and harmonisation; with particular focus on the excesses of Codex Alimentarius. Ian is an independent researcher; he is completely self-funded. The views expressed in his talks and DVD's are based entirely upon his personal knowledge and research. Prior to his retirement from the corporate arena, Ian enjoyed a career of 25 years in telecommunications and international oilfield services, a career that provided the opportunity to live & work in the U.K., Continental Europe, the Middle East & Houston, Texas.

Lee David specialises in Sumerian history; giving us a different interpretation of the biblical flood. He will explore historical warfare (the bits that are missing!) and also the important connection with Abram and law. Also, researcher and truth activist Robert Green will be in attendance to reveal some startling truths. Roberts is best known for his fight for justice in regards the Hollie Greig case.

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**ROBERT GREEN** - RESEARCHER & TRUTH ACTIVIST

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**Phenomena Magazine's Steve Mera and Dave Sadler will also be visiting and covering the event for inclusion in Phenomena Magazine.**

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02.07.2011

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| CONFERENCE 2011 |

THE MYSTERIES, THE MYTHS  
AND THE RUMOURS

GUEST SPEAKERS INCLUDE

Timothy Good, Nick Pope, Andy Roberts,  
Tony Eccles and Mark Pilkington.

EVENT STARTS @ 10:30am - 07:00pm

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Venue: Victoria Room, The Royal Station Hotel  
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