

PHENOMENA

THE SCIENTIFIC INVESTIGATION OF THE UNEXPLAINED

ISSUE 31 - NOVEMBER 2011

LITTLE GREEN MEME?

THE MYSTERIOUS LONDENDALE VALLEY
APPARITIONS ON SCOTLAND'S A75

PARAPSYCHOLOGY: A BRIEF HISTORY

COLD SPOTS, POWER DRAINAGE & THE PARANORMAL
ANNUNAKI CONTACT

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I've been ridiculously busy over the last six weeks or so with a number of new projects undertaken. The first, and by far the most demanding is filming for a number of TV shows. One of which delves into the subject of 'Star Jelly' again. Yes, just as last year the National Geographic Channel will be shedding some light on this relatively rare phenomenon.

Still a subject that requires much debate and research, I found myself back at the location where I stumbled upon some presumed 'Star Jelly' a number of years back. Also coincidentally, there have been a few UK newspapers discussing the phenomenon after several people claimed to have witnessed a similar substance on the Cumbrian Moors and Lake District area. However, I have been informed that their claims of discovering some 'Star Jelly' are to be taken lightly as it would seem that there was a strong possibility of the substance being misidentified frog spawn. Oh well... I was kind of hoping someone else in the UK would have investigated such an anomaly. Anyhow, the National Geographic Channel will be looking into such claims on Wild Case Files which is due to be air in the Spring of 2012. So look out for it...

Another TV show has given me an opportunity to investigate two prominent locations allegedly associated with the paranormal. The first being Woodchester Mansion. And before you say it... Yes, I have been there before and investigated the location. My recent visit allowed me to confirm my suspicions to which I will write up and feature it in an up and coming issue of PM. I'll also be informing our readers of my investigation of a well known Abbey in the UK which surprisingly intrigued me. It would seem that some strange things did actually go on there whilst doing my investigation. More on this maybe next year... You may have noticed that Mr. Sadler's sub-editorial is missing. Dave has been extremely busy with several new UPIA projects, article writing (featured in the current issue of Paranormal Magazine) and lecturing. Our visit to Halton Library's Paranormal Week was well received. Details of which can be found in this issue along with the usual interesting and thought provoking articles. Hope you enjoy it, we'll be back next month with another issue of paranormal tantalisation.

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Page 3: UFO's - If 19 out of 20, therefore 20 out of 20.

The fact is, as most UFO sceptics readily acknowledge, between 5 and 10 percent of all reported UFO incidents remain unidentified after investigation by those qualified to do so. A 5 to 10% level of hardcore UFO unknowns, over six decades on, worldwide, is a major scientific anomaly. Normally scientist research such unknowns, but not when it comes to this subject. John Prytz explains...



Page 6: Annunaki Contact.

Many people may be familiar with the Lake Erie UFO sightings in the U.S. that have been getting plenty of mainstream press attention. What most people don't realise is that what Michael Lee Hill and others have been videotaping over Lake Erie is but the surface features of something much deeper, a developing Annunaki contact case. Ed Komarek reveals some startling facts...



Page 10: Parapsychology - A Brief History.

Parapsychology is the scientific study of anomalous phenomena associated with human experience. Today it's also referred by some as Anomalistic Psychology. It is not directly associated with the investigation and research of the paranormal, but more so those that witness such events. There is a lot of confusion in regards the subject of parapsychology. Robert Young BSc. Attempts to explain...



Page 12: Cold Spots, Power Drainage & The Paranormal.

When you go out to investigate alleged haunted locations, most seasoned investigators will tell you that the most likely things you will experience will not be full blown apparitions, demonic possession or furniture mysteriously flying through the air, but will be more subtle effects, odd smells, strange noises, cold spots and equipment failure & power drainage. Mark Rosney explains...



Page 16: The Mysterious Londendale Valley.

Paranormal events are inherently unpredictable, and can seemingly occur anywhere. But some places seem to act as magnets for such happenings. One such place is the Longendale Valley. The valley is situated in the north-west of England, lying roughly between Greater Manchester and the Peak District National Park, in Derbyshire. Dave Sadler reveals some strange goings on in the location...



Page 19: Halton Paranormal Week - Opening Night Review.

Last year the UPIA were invited along to discuss how they conduct investigations and research methodology. Both Steve Mera and Dave Sadler were well received by the audience, and this year was no different. For those paranormal enthusiasts, this growing yearly event is not to be missed. This year members of UPIA discussed some strange goings on at a hotel. Check out what you missed...



Page 24: Spookology - Who Put The Norm in Paranormal?

In the way-back-when of my time editing Paranormal Magazine, I jokingly coined the term 'Spookology' in one of my editorials. I was writing in response to a certain amount of reader confusion regarding the likes of the Owlman, Black Dogs and other weird things that inhabit the twilight world of the paranormal. In this regular feature Richard Holland will be looking deeper into Spookology...



Page 26: Apparitions on Scotland's A75.

From its junction with the A74 motorway, the A75 road snakes west to Stranraer. Judging from reports, part of it has been the setting for ghostly manifestations. The supposedly apparition-prone stretch starts at Greta, in the east, and ends several miles west-north-west of the town of Annan, covering a distance of about 15 miles. Peter McCue looks into a number of reported incidents...



Page 30: Little Green Meme?

When the modern UFO era began after Kenneth Arnold's 1947 sighting of objects near Mount Rainier, Washington sightings of flying saucers began to be reported from all over the world. Not long after these sightings people also began to report seeing the occupants of the disks. Tony Morrill looks into one of the most profound UFO incidents ever reported. The Hopkinsville UFO Encounter...



Plus: Latest News Items, Spook or spoof? / Pilot reports UFO sighting / Russell Grant Spooked after seeing Ghost / Star Jelly on Marsden Moor / Picture that predicted 9/11 / Haunted Royal Castle & Victoria Beckham's UFO Sighting. Also, Book and DVD reviews, Details of conferences & events, Advertisements and much more...

UFO'S IF 19 OUT OF 20, THEREFORE 20 OUT OF 20.



UFO Sighting Reports

According to multiple surveys over the last several decades and from different countries: 5-7% of people have seen a UFO, and 10-15% know someone who has seen a UFO.

At least several hundred thousand (estimated) UFO sightings have been documented over the last 50 years, and the total number of UFO sightings is estimated to be in the millions. At least several thousand sightings are reported each year. Only a small percentage of those who see a UFO report the sighting.

The fact is, as most UFO sceptics readily acknowledge, between 5 and 10 percent of all reported UFO incidents remain unidentified after investigation by those qualified to do so. This fact apparently excites the scientific, astrobiology, and SETI communities not one jot. Now I would maintain that a 5 to 10% level of hardcore UFO unknowns, over six decades on, worldwide, is a major scientific anomaly. It amounts to at least several thousand unexplained UFO incidents. I was under the impression that it was the role and duty of scientists to research the unknown, but apparently not when it comes to this subject.

On the 26th and 27th of December 1969, the American Association for the Advancement of Science held a symposium on UFOs. The papers were edited by Carl Sagan and Thornton Page and published by Cornell University Press. One of the contributors was the late James E. McDonald*, an atmospheric physicist at the University of Arizona. McDonald's basic theme was to send a rocket up the proverbial butts of the overall scientific community for their near neglect of what he (and many laypeople) consider to be one of the top scientific anomalies

of the 20th Century (and now of the 21st as well) – Unidentified Flying Objects.

Unfortunately, Dr. McDonald must surely be turning over in his grave because nothing has really changed since he presented that paper. Scientists and UFOs tend to party together in much the same way as oil and water mix.

Now any scientist with an open mind, albeit even a skeptical mind, has to acknowledge that between five and ten percent of all UFO reports remain bona fide UFO reports after investigation and analysis by those qualified to do so. Let's make life simple and say the bona fide UFO unknown rate is 5% (or 19 out of 20). Let's call these the hardcore UFOs – the residue that has been sifted out from the larger picture. Now is the hardcore UFO glass 95% empty and evaporating (if 19 out of 20 of UFOs are explainable, then 20 out of 20 are) or is the hardcore UFO glass 5% full (if 19 out of 20 are explainable, then it's just 19 out of 20 that's been explained, full stop)? One of the main scientific arguments against UFOs being of any scientific interest is that if the substantial majority of UFO reports can

be adequately explained (95%) then surely all could be if there was only sufficient information. Well, the USAF (as a typical government agency that was responsible for solving UFO sightings) had a category for 'insufficient information', as well as 'possible' this or 'probable' that. They also had a separate and apart category for 'unknowns'. That is to say, they had sufficient information regarding a UFO sighting but hadn't a clue as to what the object(s) were. That's why they were tagged as 'unknowns'. And that amounted to roughly five percent of all UFO sightings.

Okay, 19 out of 20 UFO reports prove to have prosaic explanations. Therefore the twentieth one has one as well. Sorry, the logic just isn't there. The first and most obvious argument is that the 20th UFO sighting has been singled out as being different because it is different. It's like having one green apple in a basket of 19 red apples. If all you see on the surface are red apples, that don't mean there's not a green apple buried below, yet that's what those who should know better conclude. Yet in reality you can't conclude anything about the colour of the apples out of sight in the apple basket until such time

Identifying UFOs.

Identifying Unidentified Flying Objects is a difficult task due to the normally poor quality of the evidence provided by those who report sighting the objects.

Nevertheless, most officially investigated UFO sightings, such as from the U.S. Air Force's Project Blue Book, have been identified as being due to honest misidentifications of natural phenomena, aircraft, or other prosaic explanations.

In early U.S. Air Force attempts to explain UFO sightings, unexplained sightings routinely numbered over one in five reports.

However, in early 1953, right after the CIA's Robertson Panel, percentages of unexplained sightings dropped precipitously, usually being only a few percent in any given year.

When Project Blue Book closed down in 1970, only 6% of all cases were classified as being truly unidentified.

Many Ufologist's now believe both the Robertson Panel and Project Blue Book were constructed to suppress vital UFO information and debunk credible sightings.

as you investigate and examine the colour of all the apples present.

Other examples where 19 out of 20 don't equate of necessity to 20 out of 20: If you recover from the flu nineteen times in a row, that doesn't mean you'll recover the twentieth time. If the N.Y. Yankees will nineteen baseball games in a row, that doesn't mean they'll win number twenty. If you toss a coin and it lands heads nineteen times in a row, that's no reason to believe the twentieth toss will be heads. Taking an example from real science, if 193 species of primates have fur, surely the 194th will have fur too. Alas, we're the 194th – "The Naked Ape".

Here's a bit of an experiment that helps demonstrate that the 20th case can be the odd one out. Say you want to find out if relatively nonporous solid objects sink in fresh water. So you have a large bucket of fresh water, and into that bucket you toss an ordinary coin; a lump of glass; a lump of coal; a rock; a plastic comb; a brick; a lump of gold; a diamond; a china plate; a ball bearing; some copper wire; a piece of bone; a bit of cloth; a bowling ball; a CD; some lead shot; an aluminium ingot; a large salt crystal and a clam shell. That's 19 items – they all sink, therefore you conclude that the next solid item you toss in will also sink – an ice cube. Ooops; it's back to the drawing board.

Of course the reluctance of scientists to come to terms with the bona fide UFO hardcore is really an issue central to the sociology of science. In particular, the negative findings of the University of Colorado (Condon Committee) report (1968) have been cited as a decisive factor in the generally low level of interest in UFO activity among academics since that time.

That's despite the fact that that report couldn't adequately explain 30% of the UFO cases it investigated. Despite that historical anomaly, UFOs for better or worse acquaint to aliens and the ETH (extraterrestrial hypothesis). There's something about aliens that translates into little green (or gray) men, fodder for the tabloids that has an overall aura as a 'silly season' filler when there's no real news around. That's not the sort of fodder scientists like to feed on.

But these UFO unknowns don't have to be of necessity something that equates to alien intelligence therefore the UFO ETH. Okay, maybe the hardcore UFOs are time travellers from our future – that's one alternative. But then hardcore UFO unknowns aren't clustered around significant historical events that would be must sees – the bread-and-butter of that time travel industry – to tourists and historians from our future.

An early UFO ETH theory was that UFOs were actual living but non-intelligent organisms that lived in outer space but now and again would dip into our atmosphere. No biologist could actually explain how such creatures could survive, far less thrive, in the harsh conditions of outer space. So, fluffy critters from outer space without benefit of a spaceship aren't a likely option.



Some suggest that the hardcore represent some sort of totally new natural phenomena, except there's no even theoretical underpinning for new natural phenomena, and after six decades, well that's a total failure to come to terms with an easy way out of the hardcore mess.

However, natural phenomena wouldn't exhibit intelligent behaviour in any event, which the hardcore UFOs do. That's why they often tend to be the hardcore. Yet, still there's this observation about one UFO case studied by the University of Colorado under government contract to the USAF, headed by Dr. Edward Condon. The Condon Report, as it became known had this to say: "...this unusual sighting should therefore be assigned to the category of some almost certainly natural phenomenon, which is so rare that it apparently has never been reported before or since." You'd think that would whet the appetite of any scientist eager to make a major discovery that leads to the road to Stockholm (and a Nobel Prize). Apparently that's just not the case. Hardcore UFO sightings, even as an apparent natural phenomenon are taboo.

Regardless, ET, space critters, time travellers, unknown natural phenomena, whatever, scientists cannot claim the hardcore UFO issue settled while those unknowns remain. They are derelict in their duty by ignoring them, hoping they'll just 'go away'. It's not good enough for scientists to say 'if 19

out of 20, therefore 20 out of 20, and go on their merry way washing their hands of the otherwise reality that that logic is faulty. They need to prove that assertion, not ignore it. Translated, they've got to put up or shut up.

Some might claim that it's the alleged nature of the unknowns as claimed by the believers that puts the onus on them to prove their case. That would be so if they claimed the hardcore UFO unknowns were proof that UFOs were piloted by ET. However, while a few sprout that line (and if they do they should put up or shut up), a majority of pro-UFO people, believers if you will, just point to the unknowns as evidence (not proof – evidence and proof are two different things) that supports the UFO ETH.

Unfortunately, if the UFO ETH is really true, proof of that tends to be out of the hands of the believers since if ET doesn't want to be caught out, he/she/it won't be – that's the advantage of having advanced intelligence. You outsmart lesser intelligence. So the lesser intelligence needs the cooperation (or an unintended slip-up – Roswell?) of the greater alien intelligence, and we're not getting it. Of course if there is really no ET associated with the hardcore UFO residue, then that explains that.



But nearly all UFO believers just really believe that there's a case to be answered for that lone 20th hardcore UFO event, regardless of what the explanation turns out to be.

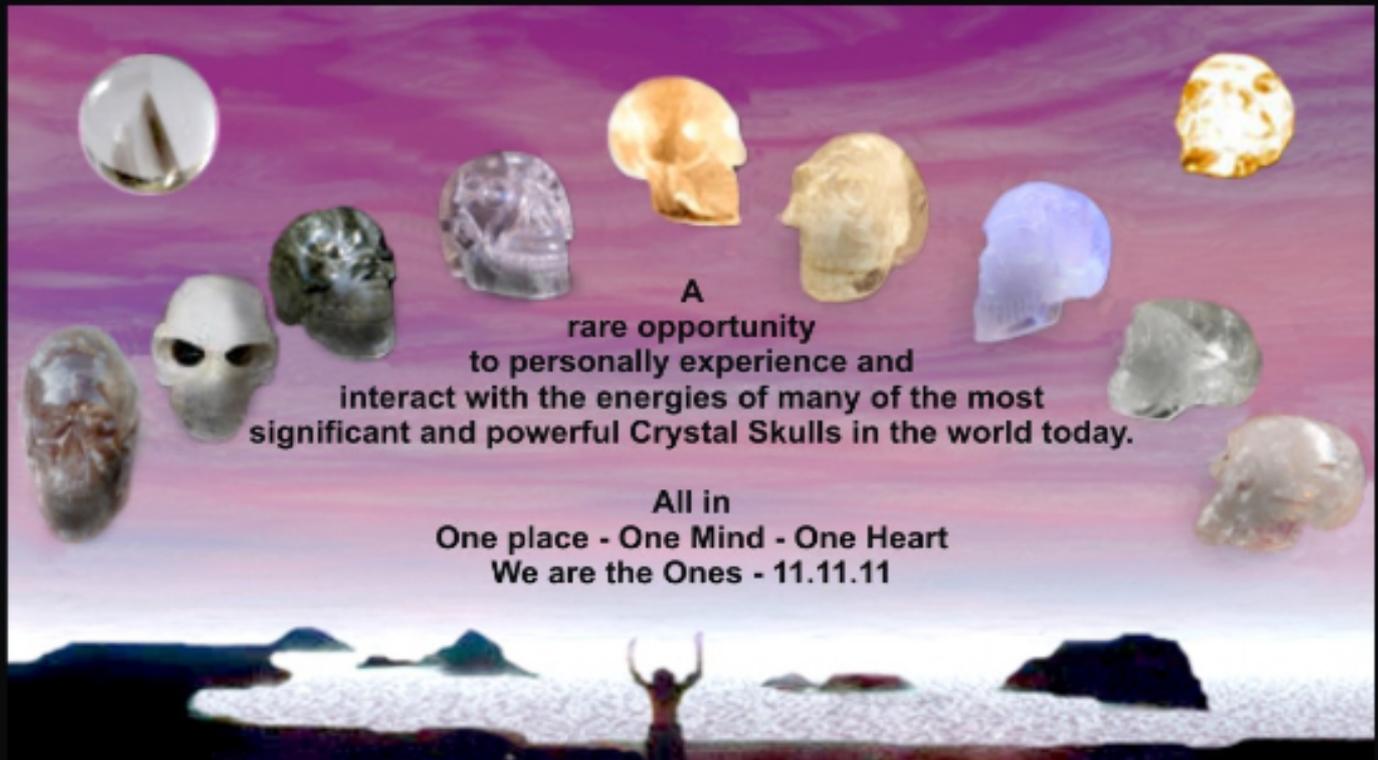
And the best people to find out that explanation(s) are scientists, yet scientists ignore the challenge as they did in Dr. McDonald's day; as they continue to do well into the 21st Century...

References.

**McDonald, James E.; Science in default: twenty-two years of inadequate UFO investigations; (in) Page, Thornton & Sagan, Carl (Editors); UFO's: A Scientific Debate; Cornell University Press, Ithaca, New York; 1972; pages 52-122.*

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Archaeologist



Crystal Skulls Researcher
Stephen S. Mehler, MA

Edgar Cayce (A.R.E) Historian



Crystal Skulls Researcher
Raymond Tarpey

Crystal Skulls found in the ruins of past civilizations have now surfaced and are coming together again in Los Angeles on 11.11.11. Some people say they are alien to this world, contain hidden knowledge, or contain miraculous healing properties. SHA NA RA-SYNERGY- EINSTEIN- AMAR- ET- RAINBOW- MAYA just to name a few of the ancient and sacred quartz Crystal Skulls gathering plus a world premiere showing of THE MYSTERY SKULL. Mayan Priests will assist in a group activation at this momentous event to wake up our cosmic memory. Join us for this incredible event. Bring your Crystals and your Crystal Skulls for three days of ceremonies, lectures, exhibits & energy healing. Registration/Info at: www.crystalskullsevent.com or call 520-304-2558.

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Annunaki Contact

Many people may be familiar with the Lake Erie UFO sightings that have been getting plenty of mainstream press attention.

What most people don't realize is that what Michael Lee Hill and others have been videotaping over Lake Erie is but the surface features of something much deeper, a developing Annunaki contact case. I have become involved in this case because I have been gathering cases that support the claims being made by Ar Bordon of not just contact with several types of extraterrestrials, but of attending annual meetings attended by earth humans and extraterrestrials, many who are human like ourselves...

What I am doing is all part of the process of not only identifying the different ET races interacting with earth's humanity, but also working to determine the motives and agendas of the different races some that are covertly involved with global governments and military on an ongoing basis. This spring I traveled to Nevada, specifically the Indian Springs area next to Nellis AFB to try to find more cases to back up parts of Charles story relating to his experiences with a type of human ET called the Tall Whites. I was successful in doing so and proved to my satisfaction that indeed the TW do exist and that Charles has accurately portrayed something of the motives and agenda of this race of ETs.

I also had the opportunity to interview Clifford Stone and Charles on this trip giving me even more information on various ET types and something of their motives and agendas. Charles told me he has also met a Tall Grey in the desert and at their base at Area 55 at Nellis. The TW have their base up in the range area. I have been able to get a pretty good picture of what the agenda and motives are of one of the types of Greys that most are familiar with who abduct people to steal eggs and sperm to create hybrids to infiltrate and influence our society to their own ends. I am working on building up profiles of other human ETs including those known as Nordics.

I have not paid much attention to the Annunaki and their operations on earth, until I got to know Ar Bordon and set about trying to see if I could find cases that would back up his story. I recently wrote up a small Facebook note as follows:

I got Ar Bordon's permission to write this in order to clear up some misperceptions about him and give folks an idea of what he is about as best I can tell. He said it was accurate and concise.

Ar Bordon (pen name) is the most public individual node in a network of people who have had direct contact with various individual extraterrestrials and groups, both of a human nature and non-human nature. This exopolitical network, in which Ar is a part, has direct face to face and telepathic contact and communication with ETs but is independent of National military and intelligence groups. Its parallel is the emerging exopolitical community that is much larger, but mostly without the extensive direct access to extraterrestrials as does Ar's network.

This network does liaison with the military and intelligence agencies involving issues of National Security when considered necessary.

The members of this exopolitical network have backgrounds with



corporations, military and intelligence agencies, but the group works independently and negotiates as a loosely knit operation to identify and to understand the evolution, motives and agendas of a rather large number of extraterrestrial races and civilizations and their interactions with earth humankind.

These direct interactions include several types of humans that closely resemble us enough to interact with us on the street without us knowing who they are. Other types of humans we would recognize as different from us if met on the street. Types that are not human include several kinds of Greys, several types of beings with Reptilian ancestries and insect ancestries and others including machine intelligences, robots, etc.

The big picture is of a well-populated universe of space faring beings of very diverse nature, some who have taken an interest in Earth affairs for a number of reasons as it is profitable for them to interface with us out of self-interest and cooperative interest.

Now keep in mind that I have other friends and associates that like Ar are embedded in networks of relationships that have been built up over a lifetime. This is how people like Clifford Stone and Charles Hall keep up with developments inside and outside of government.

I got a real break in backing up parts of Ar Bordon's experiences when I met Michael Hill through Facebook. There is a lot of information being conveyed to Wes Penre who has just told me he

has written a book that includes much more information given by Michael and he hopes to have it edited and available in a couple of months. The following is some of the information I would like to get out in the public domain right away for those with an interest in documenting and researching Annunaki contact cases.

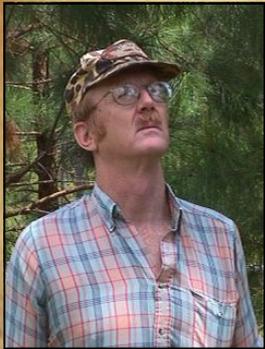
Ed, during that first meeting with "Them" which I believe now to be the Marduk led remnants, the Boyd Bushman subject was brought out first, and it was not done in a gentle way, Their Fangs came out if you know what I mean. This leader figure told me he worked for a group of people who decided what will be released, That he was an actual family member of the J. Allen Hynek Family and this family was still in control of what is released, and the Boyd Bushman info was not on the list, he asked me how this Boyd info came to be released.

I told him I willed it into manifestation and I thought it was BS that this info was being withheld from humanity. Well they found me hard to scare and the Leader Anunnaki figure stated, Michael, We need to know what you know and they brought these wands that have what looked like a bright purple LED at the end of this, and it seemed almost to be kind-a like a laser pointer. He pointed it directly at my 3-rd eye.

As A.R. communicated to me...,"The "mental" procedures you said to have been exposed to, involving light etc., are far more commonly used now and there are other ways besides lie detectors to know whether and what a

Annunaki?

In 1850, almost 250 miles away of Baghdad, Iraq, Austen Henry, a famous excavator, found some ancient clay tablets during his excavation. The exact location of this excavation was near a area of today's Iraqi town Mosul and what Sumerian tablets were indicating was one of the historical findings imaginable of our time- evidence of advanced species descending to our planet earth and living with humans. These were referred to as the Annunaki.



Ed Komarek is a long time UFO/ET investigator and activist having been involved in the field for forty years. He was involved in exopolitics long before the word exopolitics was coined by Alfred Webre a few years ago.

For the past several years Ed has written over two hundred exopolitical essays on exopolitics published to this blog and in the Internet press. The essays are regularly published in the American Chronicle, The Open News, The Canadian National Newspaper as well as in the UFO/ET community by UFO Digest and The Alien Seeker News.

Because these articles can be republished by anybody they float about the Internet creating an extensive global exopolitical network feeding back into the blog. Recently Ed has compiled these essays and cases into a free Internet e-book that can be read on the Internet or printed out for easy reading. It is believed to be the most extensive and detailed exopolitics book available to the public to date.

<http://exopolitics.blogspot.com/>

person does or does not know." Well this "Mind Probing" changed the whole course of this unfolding meeting. The meeting went from interrogating me over the Boyd Bushman info to all of a sudden this leader figure becoming very excited, Stating 'Oh My God', you are one of us! How did you come to be here?

We have been waiting for you to have a council meeting; we can do that right now if you please? I said regarding what? They said it would not be long until there would be another planet visible in our skies and they wanted to talk about what effect we believed this and the Anunnaki revealing themselves would have on humanity? I will finish this in another post.

I was told that this being I was sitting before was a "King" of the Anunnaki. An Actual name of this man was never given but after all that went down; my own guess is Marduk of The Anunnaki.

He went on to tell me that he was what is known as the Anunnaki, and that I am also a part of this Anunnaki family and it was a great synchronicity that I was "LED" there because now a meeting could commence between us all, over a "Change in Anunnaki Leadership" and there would be a new time arriving for mankind and a new "Game plan" needed to be discussed.

They told me the truth of the situation was that another member of the Anunnaki and I had incarnated into this lifetime as a humans in every way, to be here for these changes.

The Anunnaki Loki then intervned and said I have spoken with Michael already and he believes as I that humanity is ready for open contact and that Humanity should have the chance to evolve into a Galactic society, They are ready. I then spoke up and backed up why I believe the masses are ready for first contact. I told them the exact same thing I have communicated to you already, that I believe that without the bondage that has kept the human race in survival mode, that humanity would & could reach it's true potential. Loki & I teamed up on the "Give Humanity a chance to show their stuff, we are ready" bandwagon.

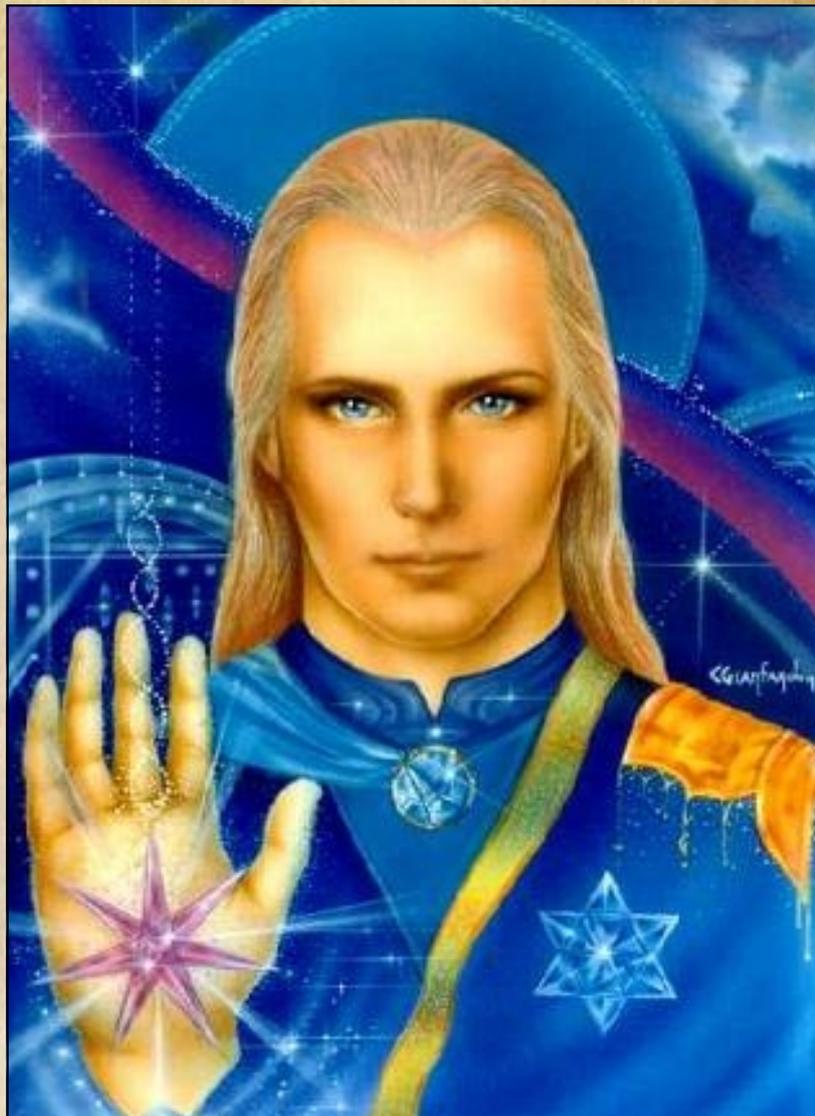
This male on the Bed (Marduk) said, well, it must be time! If that is what you feel, let's do it, let's make it so, I then said...."When?"

He said Obviously BEFORE 2012, he answered in a tone like he was annoyed by the question :-)

The next morning I awoke and got out of my tent and poured some water over my head and at that exact moment, I

noticed a male and female walking by my tent on the dirt road and I instantly know that was the Anunnaki leader male I seen the previous night only now he looked very Human and he then looked me in the eye and said "Good Morning Commander Michael!"

should be helped or not. There were a lot of quick judgments as to leaving the Earth and its inhabitants to their fates of doom and destruction. But there were also those who wanted to help and they couldn't just come here to do it themselves the way they were because



He now had a human appearance but you could still see the same sculpted facial features but they were subdued and he also had radiant blue eyes. We spent much of the next day together.

He offered to make me dinner, the meal was really good, lamb with Okra and a curry sauce. We talked. I asked him what should be done about the "Boyd Bushman" info being revealed in mine & Sereda's film?

He said, "Now that they know you are one of us they will not be able to touch you, so don't worry about it." So to say they are part of the group withholding this information is correct but they have also now backed the release of the Bushman info and revealing themselves to humanity. Which is happening as we speak.

I was once told there was a meeting of galactic leaders as to why the Earth

it would violate free will... so there was a test given even to the Anunnaki. To be born here on Earth as humans, to be in THEIR shoes so to speak and if they gave in and were corrupted, the earth shall be left to its destruction.



If they could keep the light and awaken within this nightmare as humans, they can change things and bring about the golden age so no free will would be breached because it would all be done from within enemy territory, from behind enemy lines! This planet is not to fail for it would affect all else because everything is connected...

DEAN HAGLUND
In a Documentary by Phil Leirness

"THE TRUTH JUST MIGHT BE IN HERE – Examines the world of conspiracy theories in a refreshing and novel way."
- Marc Hershon, The Huffington Post

"Insightful and entertaining ... The film flows beautifully."
- Richard Propes, The Independent Critic

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Chicago's
**HAUNT
DETECTIVE**

RAYMOND JOHNSON

Schiffer

I have been interested in the paranormal as well as Chicago folklore, legends and history for as long as I can remember. I have also always been interested in solving mysteries and that is probably why I had started a career in law enforcement. I was a gang/narcotics investigator for the West Chicago Police Department in DuPage County and had retired in 2005 after I was involved in the fatal shooting of a suspect. One of my goals in life was to write a book someday and that's when I came across Schiffer Publishing in Atglen, PA. They had been soliciting book ideas from individuals who were interested in writing about local/regional legends and the paranormal. I had come across a bookmark advertising that was in one of their books that I had come across when browsing the local book store. I put together a proposal and roughly two years later you have Chicago's Haunt Detective.

The book covers my own experiences with unexplained phenomena and research into some well known Chicago legends such as "Resurrection Mary" as well as strange Chicago cases such as the case of Teresita Basa, who was instrumental in solving her own murder and the case of Barbara and Patricia Grimes whose unsolved murders are still in the Chicago "cold case files". The book also touches on some less well known topics such as the case of John Annerino and the Guardian Angel Spirit Church, modern ghost hunting techniques featuring "Paranormal Research of Illinois" and the use of psychics in criminal or missing persons cases in which psychic Mel Doerr of Mount Prospect was very helpful in assisting me with research for the book.

The book was a blast to research and write and I look forward to my next book with Schiffer which is in the works and will concentrate on a ghostly architectural tour of the Chicago area. I am in the process of setting up book signings at local book shops and other outlets and you can check for updated information at my website HauntDetective.com under the Haunted Events section. You can also purchase the book on Amazon.com

Raymond Johnson - Chicago Haunted Places : Examiner September 14, 2011.

PARAPSYCHOLOGY

A Brief History

Parapsychology is the scientific study of anomalous phenomena associated with human experience. Today it is also referred by some as Anomalistic Psychology. Parapsychology is the study of phenomena suggesting that the strict subjective (Here in the head) and purely objective (Out there in the world), and suggests that the strict subjective/objective dichotomy may instead be part of a spectrum, with some unusual, anomalous phenomena falling between the subjective and objective.

We call such phenomena anomalous, as they are difficult to explain with current scientific models. Mainstream scientists and scholars still refer to the field as a pseudo science, but thanks to media coverage and reality television paranormal investigation programmes, it has become rather more popular and known to the general populace. Parapsychology studies and research's many anomalous phenomena, it's main field of study is: Extra Sensory Perception (ESP), Telepathy, Psychokinesis (PK), Clairvoyance, and Precognition. Other areas of study are: Haunting phenomena, Poltergeist disturbances, Re-incarnation, Out of the body and Near Death experiences, Unconscious Awareness, Cold Reading and Psychic Fraud and others.

To some people though, all supernatural and paranormal phenomena is regarded as Parapsychological in nature, this is not the case as studies in UFOs, Cryptids, Fortean phenomena etc are not in this category of Parapsychology but more Meta Physical (Spiritual) in nature. Sometimes you may come across people who are allegedly psychic and call themselves parapsychologists this is not so, as most parapsychologists are highly sceptical and scientifically minded and de-bunking phenomena if possible is the aim as well as well as discovering if some of the phenomena is genuine.

But where did it begin? And how did it all start? Originally Parapsychology was known as Psychical Research and some researchers still refer to it as such. It was constituted on 20 February, 1882 with the foundation of the Society of Psychical Research (SPR) in England. The SPR was founded principally on the initiative of some academics and scholars at Cambridge University all of whom believed that various claims for the existence of paranormal phenomena warranted scientific scrutiny. In those early days, a number of SPR members

were sceptics; others were philosophers concerned fundamentally with the metaphysical implications of parapsychological experiences if these should prove to be genuinely paranormal in nature.

Nevertheless the founders of the SPR were united in their conviction that the investigation of parapsychological phenomena was called for, despite the prevailing disinterest in such research among the established divisions of science.



The disinterest which still applies today saying that paranormal phenomena is unworthy and a waste of valuable time and resources. Parapsychology began when Spiritualism was at its most humble beginnings and most prominent era. Mediums such as Daniel Dunglas Home (1833 -1886), Leonora Piper (1859 – 1950), Helene Smith (1861 -1929) and Charles Bailey (1870 – 1947) were some of the mediums tested under early scientifically controlled conditions by early parapsychologists as well as cases of Crisis apparitions and haunting phenomena were also some of the main studies carried out during the early beginnings of psychic research.

This led to its American counterpart, The American Society of Psychical Research being established. Unfortunately many so called mediums were in the early years, exposed as frauds, such as Helen Duncan, by such prominent figures such as magician Harry Houdini and paranormal investigator, Harry Price. Also many spirit photographs during this era were also exposed as hoaxes such as the photos of taken by William Hope.

In 1917, J. E. Coover, a psychologist at

Standford University, was one of the first researchers to apply experimental techniques to study PSI abilities in the laboratory. Parapsychology became an academic science in 1927, when plant botanist, Joseph Banks Rhine (1895 -1980) became the father of modern experimental Parapsychology.

He studied Botany and plant physiology at the University of Chicago, where both he and his wife Louisa Rhine (Also a noted parapsychologist) obtained their PhD's.

This may seem an odd background for a person who taught psychology and engaged in parapsychological research, but two factors conspired to help Rhine along his chosen path. First, in the 1920s, botanists were in the forefront of work in statistical theory and Rhine's knowledge in this area served him well in his later efforts to design laboratory experiments of ESP. Second, Rhine's interest in parapsychological research endeared him to William McDougall, the newly appointed head of the Psychology Department at Duke University.

Rhine thus became an instructor in psychology in 1928 and an assistant professor in 1929. Rhine and his colleagues developed original experimental techniques to study PSI (Neutral term for parapsychological phenomena) abilities in the academic laboratory. And help popularise the term ESP (Extra Sensory Perception) and Parapsychology.

Rhine's laboratory at Duke University in Durham, North Carolina, USA, was initially part of the Psychology Department, and developed a worldwide reputation for pioneering and scientifically

sound PSI research. In 1935, Rhine created the first academic Parapsychology laboratory at Duke University. His best known research involved ESP testing using special cards, called Zener cards which was a pack of twenty five cards with the now famous symbols, cross, star, wavy lines, circle and square. The cards were created with the help of Dr. Karl Zener. Rhine also conducted PK (Psychokinesis) tests using dice. Rhine retired from Duke University and moved his lab off campus. Today, The Rhine Research Centre Institute for Parapsychology actively conducts PSI Research with Dr. Richard Broughton at the helm.

Although Parapsychology was and is a university based study and there are now more of the general public becoming interested in parapsychological phenomena, there are now separate colleges and online courses available to study parapsychology either through online and correspondence courses where the subject of parapsychology is taught directly as a subject without the need to study psychology as a main discipline as University's do, as the learner must do at least several years study of psychology before asking to learn parapsychology as a separate module, which unfortunately isn't very big. But the need to study basic psychology is critical for a greater understanding of parapsychological phenomena.

In 1985, The Koestler Parapsychology Unit in Edinburgh, Scotland was established as a research group based in the Psychology Department at Edinburgh University. It consists of academic staff who teach and research various aspects of parapsychology. Parapsychology has been part of the University of Edinburgh since the Appointment in 1962 of the late Dr John Beloff as a lecturer in the Department of Psychology. Beloff researched and taught Parapsychology at Edinburgh until his retirement in 1985, though he maintained his connections with Parapsychology and the department for another two decades. Many of Beloff's students are still active today. Beloff played an important role of bringing the Koestler Bequest to Edinburgh. The bequest was: to further scientific research into the capacity attributed to some individuals to interact with their environment by means other than the recognised sensory and motor channels. From December 1985 until his death in August 2004 aged only 62.

Robert Morris was Koestler Professor of Parapsychology at Edinburgh University. He recruited additional staff and research students to form the Koestler Parapsychology Unit. Over nearly two decades as Professor of Parapsychology,



Morris supervised over 100 undergraduate student projects, and over 30 postgraduate students, many of whom went on to establish research units and teach parapsychology at other higher education institutions. During that time he also served as president of the British Association for the Advancement of science, showing that Morris succeeded in his aim to integrate parapsychology with the wider academic community.

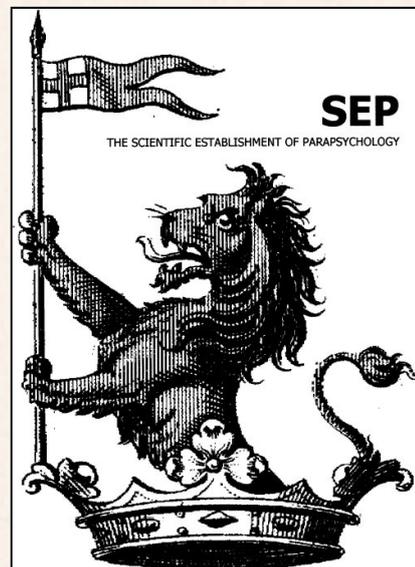
Noted Parapsychologists and their research are: Frederic Myers, William James, Harry Price, J. E. Coover, Joseph Rhine, Louisa Rhine, William Roll, John Beloff, Michael Thalbourne, Robert Morris, Lloyd Auerbach, Dean Radin, Barry Taff, Christopher French, Susan Blackmore, Caroline Watt, Carlos Alvarado and Hans Holzer, Richard Wiseman, Ciaran 'o' Keefe, Kenneth Wood and Steve Mera, along with many more who are currently engaged in PSI research.

Noted Universities, Colleges and Institutes engaged in PSI research are: Koestler Parapsychology Unit, Edinburgh, The Society for Psychical Research, London. The Institute of Forensic Parapsychology, London. The Scientific Establishment of Parapsychology, Manchester. The Office of Parapsychological Studies, Nottinghamshire. The Rhine Institute, North Carolina, USA. The Parapsychology Foundation, USA, The Parapsychological Association, USA, Goldsmiths College, London. Hope University, Liverpool, and Northampton University.

Although anyone interested in wanting to become a full time Parapsychologist, they will be greatly disappointed, as most researchers in this field study it on a part time basis in their spare time. Most researchers come from other scientific backgrounds and University placements in this field are rare, as competition is fierce.

Many researchers set out to set up their own institutions such as my own Institution (The Office of Parapsychological Studies) which mainly studies Haunting phenomena and

Poltergeist disturbances such as PK on the environment, or Steve Mera's (The Scientific Establishment of Parapsychology which deals with many aspects of anomalous phenomena.



Although parapsychology is an up and coming science, I think parapsychology is the future of science and most exciting, as it could lead to unlocking extraordinary human potential as well as survival after the death. Could you imagine anything more exciting?



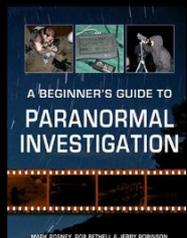
Rob Young BSc is a Parapsychologist based in Mansfield, Nottinghamshire. He is also the founder of TOPS, The Office of Parapsychological Studies. For more information on investigations and research please contact Rob Young directly on: 01623650462 or at his email address: itstherob@hotmail.com or alternatively contact him through his organisation and website address: www.parapsy.co.uk

COLD SPOTS, POWER DRAINAGE & THE PARANORMAL

When you go out to investigate alleged haunted locations, most seasoned investigators will tell you that the most likely things you will experience will not be full blown apparitions, demonic possession or furniture mysteriously flying through the air, but will be more subtle effects such as out of place smells, strange noises, cold spots and equipment failure caused by rapid power drainage from batteries...



Mark Rosney has had a keen interest in all things paranormal since witnessing an UFO incident in Halton, Cheshire in 1978. Although the sighting turned out to be the fiery re-entry of a Russian booster rocket, it spurred him on to learn all he could about UFOs. After ten years of extensive reading and research, he decided to actively investigate for himself. Over the years, he discovered many important links between UFOs and other paranormal phenomena, which spurred him on to investigate other aspects of the paranormal, from ghosts & Hauntings, to UFOs and Phantom Big Cats, and everything else in between. In 2007 he founded his own investigation team, Para-Projects (www.para-projects.com) based in the North West of England. He has appeared extensively on TV, notably on the series 'Spook School', and is a regular panel member on Roy Basnett's award winning radio show 'Zone Unknown', which airs on CityTalk 105.9 FM (www.citytalk.fm) every Sunday night from 8 – 10pm. He is also co-author of the book 'A Beginner's Guide to Paranormal Investigation' published by Amberley. He is neither a believer nor a sceptic, preferring a no-nonsense, objective approach to paranormal research and investigation. Mark has also put together an interesting book with Rob Bethell and Jerry Robinson entitled 'A Beginners Guide To Paranormal Investigation'. Available at Amazon.



Of all of these subtle but significant occurrences, Cold Spots and Anomalous Power Drainage appear to be the most commonly reported. Many things have been theorised about these two intriguing effects, which have been accepted seemingly without question or scrutiny for many years. Ask most investigators and they will tell you that Cold Spots and Power Drainages are the early indicators of the presence of a 'ghost' or 'spirit' that is taking energy from the environment in order to help it to materialise.

On the surface, this sounds plausible, for if a 'ghost' (whatever a Ghost may eventually turn out to be!) is present in our environment, then it is reasonable to assume that it has to interact with that environment in some detectable way, which invariably means either removing or depositing energy in some shape or form. Let us now look at each effect in more detail.

Cold Spots

Although I was previously aware of the existence of cold spots, I was completely unprepared for the strangeness of the experience when I first encountered one, on an investigation in a shopping complex in Liverpool, England. Within a few footsteps I felt as though I had stepped into a chilled meat locker. The cold was intense and came on in an instant. When I stepped back a few paces out of the spot, the bitter chill disappeared as instantly as it had appeared.



After testing for floor level draughts and overhead air conditioning, I was at a loss to explain how it was possible to have a small space within a large room that could remain so cold with such rigidly defined boundaries. It defied all I had learned about air convection and heat transfer. The spot remained incredibly stable for around 15 minutes as I popped

in and out of it in an attempt to map out its size and shape. After my first encounter, I began to wonder what conditions were necessary in order to cause a Cold Spot to manifest. I also began to think of ways that they could be measured in a more meaningful and scientific way than just walking in and out of them. Over the next few years, I armed myself to the teeth with all manner of temperature measuring equipment and went on the hunt for Cold Spots whenever the chance arose.



Temperature reading being taken in a Cold Spot in Chingle Hall. Although the air temp was above 25 C, the area felt incredibly cold.

Once the air temperature for both inside and outside the Spots had been determined, I then measured team members skin temperature both inside and outside the Spots. I discovered that when a person stands inside a Cold Spot, their skin temperature drops by around 5 degrees the instant they enter the Spot. What is more interesting is that once they leave the Spot, their temperature instantly returns to normal. This indicates that the cold feelings experienced by a person within a Cold Spot appear to be a

physiological response which is triggered, not by moving into a colder space, but by something else altogether.

The implication of these observations for the 'materialising ghost theory' is that energy is not being drained from the environment at all, as is attested to by the minute difference in air temperature between the inside and outside of the Cold Spot. The rapid drop in skin temperature that people experience inside Cold Spots is also highly unlikely to be caused by a 'phantom energy drain', mainly because the person's skin temperature instantly returns to normal as soon as they leave the Spot. What is most likely occurring is some form of perception 'fogging' causing the body's natural temperature regulation mechanisms to kick in. It is interesting to note that body temperature in humans is regulated by a very ancient part of our brain called the Hypothalamus, which some parapsychologists believe is the part of the brain responsible for producing effects such as Extra Sensory Perception, Clairvoyance and Psychokinesis.

Anomalous Power Drains

Over the years, I and fellow investigators have suffered many anomalous equipment malfunctions, of which 99%

My first surprise was that when measuring the air temperature both inside and outside of a Cold Spot, there was very little difference between the two, usually around 0.2 of a degree. Yet when inside the Spots I and fellow team members were feeling much colder. We concluded that whatever we were experiencing wasn't the cold!

of these have been caused by rapid Power Drainage from the devices batteries. One of the most dramatic examples that I personally experienced occurred during the filming of an episode of 'Spook School', a TV series that I was involved with a number of years ago. One of the camera crew began to complain that his broadcast quality camera, complete with professional power pack was starting to 'misbehave'.

When he consulted with other crew members, he discovered that most of the portable cameras on site were experiencing rapid Power Drainage. Luckily, not all the cameras were malfunctioning and he managed to capture evidence on video of the power life indicator on his camera jumping up and down erratically. To date, that was the only time that this particular piece of kit has malfunctioned in such a manner.

Again, like the Cold Spot phenomenon, Anomalous Power Drainage is popularly attributed to the presence of a materialising 'ghost' or 'spirit' 'gobbling' up energy in order to 'manifest'. To test this theory, I devised a protocol for using battery powered devices in investigations, which required the use of fresh batteries for each investigation. Each battery was tested and labelled beforehand and regular temperature readings were recorded from all over the sites throughout the investigations. Whenever a rapid Power Drain occurred, the batteries were removed, voltage readings taken and checks made to see if the device had failed due to factors such as low temperature (low temperatures can cause batteries to drain more quickly).

I found that the batteries, when tested in situ, appeared to be completely drained,



in the devices until they eventually failed, in order to eliminate the possibility that the batteries had made a temporary recovery. In all cases, the devices ran for the expected battery lifetime, which led me to conclude that the batteries had *not* been drained, but the flow of their power had been inhibited in some unexplainable way.

Points:

Mark makes some very good points. One thing is for sure, there does seem to be ample evidence to suggest that batteries are somehow adversely affected in alleged haunted locations.

Even the profound and inexplicable demonstration of batteries combusting, cracking and leaking battery acid have also been reported. Both I have witnessed myself on more than one occasion.

During investigations we use credible and well known batteries which should last the duration of the evening.

Making sure to test your batteries with a volt meter is also a good practice to undertake before use.

There has also been confusion in the past in regards to Cold Spots.

Is it the equipment faulting for some reason, giving false readings. Are the physiological feelings of being in a cold spot psychologically induced? One could argue 'Yes', that can happen. But does that account for all the reports? I'm not too sure.

What I can say is that I have experienced being inside a cold spot, and equipment register it. In any other practice, both the physiological affect and equipment registering it would be good enough. So why not?... After all, this could be an attribution of the paranormal...

Steve Mera: Editor



In conclusion, I still do not know what is really going on, but I feel that it has been effectively demonstrated that no energy is diverted to help the manifestation of a 'ghost' or a 'spirit'. It does not mean that the peculiar effects that paranormal investigators experience on their investigations are not attributable to 'ghosts' or 'spirits' (whatever these eventually turn out to be), but it does throw some of the popular assumed notions held by many investigators into serious question. If we are to eventually find the answers we have been seeking for so long, I fear that many more 'notions' may also have to tumble.

The Truth, they say, is out there. But in order to reach it, we all need to question more and thoroughly scrutinise all available evidence.

Happy Hunting
Mark Rosney
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but when they were removed from the area in which they had been drained, their charge mysteriously returned.

Once back home, the batteries underwent further trials, where they were left to run

THE
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Battery indicator on professional camera going haywire. First it shows 120 mins life...

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next it is showing 351 minutes, before failing completely...

Unknown Phenomena Investigation Association

This blog has been developed to offer interested parties a honest and unbiased account of modern day paranormal investigation. Analysis of media reports and images and re-education regarding the likes of the 2012 reports. It is also hoped we may change the mindset of most modern day paranormal investigators, and fans of Media driven paranormal tv shows, that all is not as it seems.

Natural, medical, physiological, psychological and other areas of known means can result in most reported Paranormal and UFOlogical instances

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

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EUROPE'S ROSWELL

— UFO CRASH IN ABERYSTWYTH —



EUROPE'S ROSWELL - A UFO CRASH IN MID WALES.

On a dark winter's night in January 1983, the sleepy Welsh village of Llanilar near Aberystwyth was allegedly buzzed by a strange flying craft, which hit trees, scattered shiny metal debris over four fields and flew off apparently unaffected.

One farmer witnessed the debris and clean up operation; one national newspaper carried the story; one civilian investigation team made it to the site; one collection of strange metallic debris remains. This is Mark Olly's trip into the world of UFO folklore and investigation into the claims of the alleged UFO crash. My friend and colleague Mark Olly is an author, musician, historian, archaeologist and lecturer. Best known for writing and presenting the ITV Granada/Sky History Channel's popular television series "Lost Treasures." Here he presents this first investigation in a series of internationally important hidden mysteries.

Dave Sadler: Phenomena Magazine

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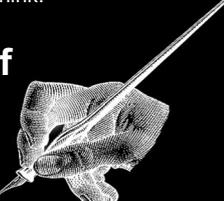


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The Other Sides of Truth



Paul Kimball is one of Canada's leading UFO and paranormal researchers, both through his work as an award-winning documentary filmmaker (2005 EBE Awards for Best UFO Film and Best Historical Documentary for Aztec: 1948, 2007 EBE award for Best Historical Documentary for Best Evidence; nominated for a total of seven other EBEs from 2005 to 2007), and as a researcher, writer, and speaker. He has appeared on television, radio (Coast to Coast, CBC Morningside, 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.

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

THE MYSTERIOUS LONGDENDALE VALLEY

Paranormal events are inherently unpredictable, and can seemingly occur anywhere on the planet. But some places seem to act as magnets for such happenings. One such place is the Longdendale Valley. The valley is situated in the north-west of England, lying roughly between Greater Manchester and the Peak District National Park, in Derbyshire.

It stretches for ten miles, through a remote, rugged and breathtaking landscape, nestling in the shadows of high moorland and two foreboding-looking peaks, known as Shining Clough and Bleaklow. A single road skirts the perimeters of the region, but much of it can only be explored on foot, it is so wild, bleak and isolated.

Walking the high moors of the region can be a haunting experience, especially when one encounters the scattered, rusted remains of dozens of Second World War aircraft.

An Account.

'It was about 9.30 p.m. on a November evening in 1995 when I walked into one of the front rooms at Bleak House to chastise someone for shining a torch through our window.'

Sean explained. 'Of course there was no torch, nor indeed any person outside.

However, the light filled the room with a chilly, moonlike glow.

The effect was heightened by the lack of street lighting at this altitude and when I went outside to investigate I saw a large pulsing ball of light directly above the house, and not too far from the aptly-named Shining Clough. With the hair on the back of my neck bristling I went to telephone my near neighbours at the Crowden Youth Hostel. Guess what?

They were outside watching the light in the sky too.'

A real mystery...

They were casualties not of war, but of foul weather and geology, the former often concealing the latter from unsuspecting pilots, who flew straight into the rock faces. The Longdendale Valley has been the source of numerous ghostly encounters, UFO sightings and other paranormal activity for generations, but we will focus on the two most persistent and puzzling phenomena to haunt Longdendale, the Longdendale Lights and the Longdendale Ghost Bomber.



The Longdendale Lights.

Laverne Marshall had a terrifying encounter with the mysterious Longdendale lights, just before midnight on February 14th, 1995. She was returning home to Glossop, after taking her son to Heathrow Airport, near London. She was accompanied by her daughter Stacey, and her baby, who were in the rear seat. Laverne related how they were driving along, chatting, 'when all of a sudden these little balls of light, four or five in all, appeared on the dashboard. They were really bright and dancing up and down just like they were being controlled by a juggler.

The first thing I did was to look up and see if a plane was going over; but there was nothing above us. There were no houses around, and there were no headlights behind me. I said to Stacey straight away "take that torch off the baby" but she shouted back "mum, I've got the torch in my hand and it's not turned on." So Stacey grabbed the baby off the back seat and held her and as she did so these lights moved onto the roof of the car.' Laverne watched in her rear

view mirror, helpless, as the lights slowly wandered around the interior of the car. She was too scared to stop the car, as there was nothing for miles around, except isolated moorland.

Stacey panicked in the back of the car, activating the central locking, and closing the sunroof. According to Laverne, the peculiar lights 'split up into two groups and we sat speechless as they went to the back window and then each moved back in single file to the

road,' Laverne added, continuing: 'we had no idea what was happening or where it was coming from or what it was. I still don't and can't explain it to you - but I know what I have seen.' The two women were deeply disturbed by their eerie encounter, but theirs was not an isolated experience.

Sean Wood's house overlooks the Woodhead Pass, where Laverne and Stacey's terrifying ordeal occurred. When interviewed by a local paper, he said: 'there are bright lights which appear at the top end of Longdendale ... but what they are I have no idea.' He first saw the lights in the early 1980s, over the desolate mountain ridge known as Shining Clough, not long after moving into the interestingly named Bleak House. He related the following account to Dr. David Clarke, who has conducted extensive research into the Longdendale Lights.

'It was about 9.30 p.m. on a November evening when I walked into one of the front rooms at Bleak House to chastise someone for shining a torch through our window. Of course there was no torch, nor indeed any person outside. However, the light filled the room with a chilly, moonlike glow. The effect was heightened by the lack of street lighting at this altitude and when I went outside to investigate I saw a large pulsing ball of light directly above the house, and not too far from the aptly-named Shining Clough. With the hair on the back of my neck bristling I went to telephone my near neighbours at the Crowden Youth Hostel. Guess what? They were outside watching the light in the sky too.'

dashboard where they regrouped, almost as if they were marching in order.'



Their ordeal lasted for seven minutes, as Laverne drove from the highest point on the Woodhead Pass, down into the darkness of the Longdendale valley.

The lights finally blinked out when the car reached the safety of some streetlights. 'As we got near the youth hostel at Crowden there's a turn to Glossop which takes you past the Devil's Elbow but even though I was running short of petrol I wouldn't go down that because it's even spookier than the main

The sightings continued. 'Two years after that I saw it again, beneath the skyline. In all I've seen them more than thirty times over the sixteen years I've been here. One of the times it was very, very big, and between fifty and seventy feet from the ridge; it was pulsing again and then stopping, moving back and forth and up and down. I've also seen three lights together, much smaller in size, like in a string, moving in an arch. I've seen these a few times, and also the big ones a few times.'

Visitors to Longdendale often report an eerie atmosphere. The valley itself has an extensive history of paranormal events, stretching back to earliest recorded times. Locals believe elemental entities have populated the moors. The Longdendale Lights have been immortalised in the region's folklore, with tales of sightings stretching back several centuries, to times when the eerie lights were known

as the Devil's Bonfires. Some old folk tales link the lights to phantom legions of Roman soldiers, said to traverse the moors on the first night of the first full moon of spring. The lights are reputed to be the flames of their torches.



The lights were apparently very active during the Second World War, with locals trying to rationalize the sightings as some kind of military activity. However, the lights re-appeared in the mid-1950's, a decade after the war had ended. They were often assumed to be the distress flares of lost hikers, but no such hikers could be located by mountain rescue personnel. In the 1960s, a youth hostel opened at Crowden, near Woodhead. Shortly afterwards, visitors and staff at the hostel reported multi-coloured beams and pulsating balls of lights speeding along the the remote western face of Bleaklow, and Shining Clough. Police officers and mountain rescue teams often searched the mountains but found no-one.



Above Photo: Longendale from Woodhead.

Barbara Drabble, a schoolteacher, had a puzzling and disturbing experience one evening in July 1970, as she drove past the youth hostel, towards her home in Crowden. She described seeing a 'brilliant incandescent blue light' which 'lit up all the bottom half of the mountain, all the railway, the reservoirs and about a two mile stretch of road.' The phenomenon persisted for several minutes, with the light being much brighter, clearer and starker than daylight. As she drove through the light, Barbara suddenly felt very cold, and the hair stood up on the back of her neck, as if it was electrified.

Dozens of guests at Crowden Youth Hostel, and the warden, Joyce Buckley, witnessed a similar, dazzling light shining through the windows. It appeared high on Bleaklow, in a region inaccessible to motor vehicles, which ruled out the possibility of it being headlights. Fearful that there had been a plane crash, Joyce summoned a Mountain Rescue search party led by Barbara Drabble's husband, Ken. He described 'very bright lights' high on a ridge, which he thought may have been distress flares. Several local residents had also seen the peculiar light phenomenon. But when the rescue team reached the summit of the ridge, they found nothing. They carried huge, powerful searchlights. Witnesses below described their lights as looking like tiny candle flames, when compared to the mystery lights seen earlier, which had flooded the whole valley with their incandescence. Lights continue to be seen high above Longendale. Witnesses often mistake strings of moving lights for hikers' torches high on the ridge. Other witnesses describe pulsating lights or searchlight-type beams. The lights have appeared all the way along the 15 mile mountain ridge, resulting in many reports to the police. But the elusive lights are said to melt into the ether as mountain rescue teams approach.

Utility company, the National Grid, discounts any connection between the lights and the pylons which litter the valley. Ball lightning has also been rejected as the phenomenon's source. The whole area lies directly below a major international flight path into Manchester Airport, and police and mountain rescue personnel often cite landing lights as the source of the moving lights. There is also a huge television transmitter in the region, which has been named as a possible source of the light phenomenon. But neither landing lights, pylon nor transmitter lights, can invade a car and meander around its interior for seven minutes. Neither can they bathe a whole valley in a brilliant glow, cause someone to feel very cold and as if they just passed through an electrical field. And what about historical accounts of the lights stretching back for generations, to times when there were no aircraft, TV transmitters or pylons?

The Longendale Lights make for an enduring mystery. Similar light phenomena have been witnessed in many other parts of the world, most notably at Hessdalen in Norway, and Marfa, Texas. Are these natural or supernatural in origin? Are they anything we need to fear? Maybe one day, the Longendale

Lights mystery will be solved. Or maybe not.

The Longendale ghost bomber.

Of all the modern-day phantoms to haunt the Longendale Valley, perhaps the most well-known are the Phantom Bombers of the High Peak.

The moortops are scattered with the fatal wreckage of dozens of World War II aircraft and reports of 'phantom' planes flying low over the valley are frequent. The most recent sighting was in March 1997, when Maria France and a companion had ventured up onto the moors at about 10pm to view the Hale-Bopp comet in the clear night sky. What they saw instead was a low flying plane. It was also seen by a farmer who was close by and he instinctively ducked, so convinced was he of the actuality of what he was seeing.

A short time after these sightings, a local couple heard the sound of a crash and saw an orange glow light up the sky. For fifteen hours, hundreds of emergency service personnel, tracker dogs and two helicopters searched the moorland for the stricken craft. No trace was ever found and there were never any reports of a missing aircraft.

Of course it must be noted that the area is used for military purposes, and it is highly probable that many of the sightings of 'ghost planes' can be attributed to low-flying aircraft dipping out of sight along the Valley. Indeed it has been confirmed that military manoeuvres were taking place in the area at the time of the sighting described above.

Members of the local fire brigade have also spoken of watching planes flying over the moorland that looked sure to be on a crash course only for them to dip below a hillside and reappear again. There are many reports of moorland heather being set alight by very low-flying planes. Might it be possible that some 'phantom crashes' are actually caused by circumstances similar to these?

Yes, it is possible, but it is also possible that there are many things in the "physical" world that cannot be explained away by so-called "natural" occurrences... It is also possible that in some way, the very land and air of the heather and the moors retain the residual images of the battle for the skies of Britain... a battle that cost the lives of thousands...

Earth Lights?

Earth lights are a rare anomalous light phenomenon, mistaken throughout history as dragons, UFOs, and ball lightning before being recognised as a separate category. One leading theory is that they are produced by tectonic strain in minor fault lines, so that they are literally generated by the earth.

In America they've been called "spooklights" or "ghost lights" since at least the 1950s, but Persinger and Lafrenière were the first scientists to recognise the phenomenon, in the late 1970s. The lights were renamed and brought to wider public attention by Paul Devereux in 1982 with his publication "Earth Lights".

They appear in many colours, shapes, and sizes, though the basketball-sized globular orange variety seems most common. Most sightings occur at night, when some lights can be seen from miles around. They're reported to be able to move against the wind and reach extraordinary speeds. Their terrestrial nature means that though many sightings are sporadic, there are some locations where they appear relatively often. It's through studying these hotspots, such as Hessdalen in Norway and the English Pennines, that their characteristics become evident.

PARANORMAL WEEK AT HALTON LIBRARY RUNCORN



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Mike Jaega and Mark Rosney



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This yearly event is not to be missed!!!

Once again the opening night was a success. An amazing evening we all had. We greatly underestimated the size of our audience (by far the biggest we've ever had for opening night) and we were rushing round looking for extra chairs. The first evening got off to a great start with Mark Rosney & Mike Jaega doing their annual update on local paranormal activity – only this year, since it was our 10th Anniversary paranormal week they had a look at all the interesting cases they've explored since Paranormal Week started. But because time was limited and Halton is a bit of a paranormal hotspot, some of the fascinating material they've gathered over the years had to be saved for another occasion.

This was followed by Dave Sadler, Steve Mera and colleagues from UPIA sharing details of an investigation of a hotel they visited on several occasions. They showed us the evidence they gathered and explained possibilities and the methodology they use to make sure the evidence they painstakingly gather is valuable, accurate, and usable.

Both presentations were extremely well-received, and it was a great opportunity to share the reality of serious investigation and move away from the entertainment that passes for Paranormal Investigation with many groups.

Thank you to Mike, Mark, Dave, Steve and the rest of the UPIA members who contributed to this evening's success. It was a brilliant evening.

Michael.

To find out what you missed during the week of events visit the following website.

<http://eximiusparanormal.wordpress.com/2011/10/24/paranormal-week-2011-off-to-an-amazing-start/>

*A venue well worth visiting for all paranormal enthusiasts.
Steve Mera - PM Editor.*



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Picture that predicted 9/11.

Chilling Twin Towers image was hanging in office from 1988.

By Emily Fairbairn.

THE nightmare of the Twin Towers is captured in a haunting picture — made by a Brit 13 years BEFORE 9/11.



The chalk drawing of passenger jets, skyscrapers, flames and a scared child emerged yesterday ahead of tomorrow's solemn tenth anniversary of the terror attacks. Amateur artist Willie Gardner's work from 1988 hung in a back office at an obscure Scottish community centre as the hellish events of September 11, 2001, unfolded.

Recently, Willie's daughter Aileen, 53, said: "It sends a shiver down people's spines.

"My father never showed any psychic qualities when he was alive but it's like he predicted the future." She confessed: "It's chilling that what he drew 13 years earlier went on to become such horrible reality."

The picture — now promoted to the foyer of Grangemouth's Community Education Unit in Stirlingshire — has sparked a similar sensation to that of another famous "premonition" image. That one — a Pakistan Airlines ad from 1979 — showed the shadow of an airliner hanging over the doomed New York landmark. Willie's includes two planes. One sports a distinctive red-tipped tail — echoing the livery of one of the hijacked jets that were crashed into the World Trade Center.

A fearful-looking girl with fiery tendrils of hair is seen looking skywards. Real life ... second jet heads for tower Astonished New Yorker Michael Devers declared after seeing the image: *"How did this man in Scotland predict the future so accurately? It's beyond spooky."*

Fellow American Simone Tranter, of Florida, said: *"I've shown this to everyone I know. It's more than a coincidence. It's just plain weird. It sent a shiver down my spine."* Willie drew the picture at the art club he attended at the education centre — and a worker there at the time recalled the boss's reaction.

Lex Cook said: *"He liked it — and Willie kindly gave it to him for the centre. I can remember at the time standing looking at it and trying to figure out what it was showing. It was eye-catching, but strange even at the same time."*

Now people who see it always ask if it is a tribute to the victims of 9/11. "They have no idea it was painted such a long time ago." Jody Cannon, the centre's current boss, confirmed: *"When I show it to someone new I don't say anything and they usually say it must be some kind of tribute."*

Amateur artist ... Willie Gardner Central Scotland News Agency, *"When I tell them it was painted years before it happened they don't believe it."* Mr Cannon volunteered to lend the picture out to any exhibitions interested in showing it. Willie died last year aged 78. His daughter said: *"My father was a great artist but although this image is spooky there was nothing supernatural about him. He was interested in science fiction, though."*

She added: *"Thousands of people all over the world are now sending dad's picture to each other over the internet. His 'premonition' has meant he's become a famous artist at last."*

MAPIT Response: 'This interesting article simply demonstrates that there is much evidence for coincidences, which many of us will experience in life. The evidence for such coincidences out-ways the evidence for precognitive illustrations. I guess it all how you want to look at it'...



Warwick Castle offer spook solution to Prince William.

STAFF at Warwick Castle have offered to help Prince William and Kate Middleton come to terms with news that their London residence is haunted — by holding a sleepover in their dungeons.

An invitation to the castle has been extended to the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge, who plan to live in a Kensington Palace apartment.

But the building is infamous for being the home of many ghosts and ghouls with the spirits of Queen Mary, Peter the Wild Boy and a sinister figure never identified.

To help ease them in ahead of their move, Warwick Castle wants to welcome the couple to meet some of their spookiest residents.

They've even offered the services of the castle's para-psychologist to take them into the dungeons and possibly meet a selection of ghoulish residents including the wailing plague victims Milly, Molly and Manky. But it seems unlikely the offer will be accepted with the couple's representatives claiming they are not aware of an invitation.

Source: Coventry Telegraph: Oct 2011.

Victoria Beckham's UFO Sighting?



Having conquered the fashion world, Victoria Beckham is no stranger to seeing stars. But the stars she normally associates with tend to shine in the limelight — which may go some way to explain the former Spice Girl's difficulty with identifying celestial bodies.

Twweeting yesterday evening, the 37 year old fashion designer joked that that an extraterrestrial craft could be sighted near the Beckham family home in Beverly Hills. Signing off with her initials, as is her Twitter custom, Victoria posted a pic of the odd sight and twweeted: "UFO hovering above our house last night!!!! X vb" Thankfully — unlike this confused 999 caller that mistakenly believed the moon to be a UFO — Victoria didn't report the 'sighting'. Probably because the authorities were probably flying in a helicopter over Los Angeles at the time...

Source: Daily Mirror - October 29th 2011.

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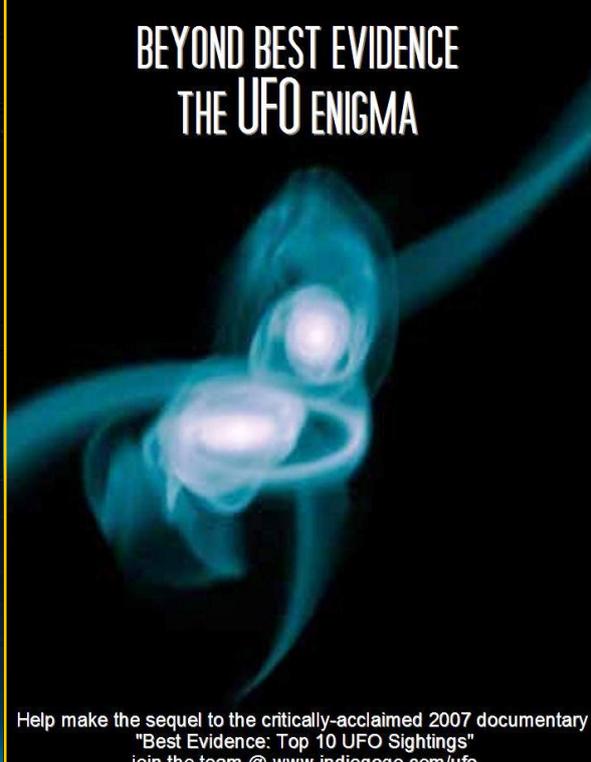
Beyond Best Evidence: The UFO Enigma is a feature-length documentary that will take the cases shown in *Best Evidence*, as well as a couple of new ones that highlight what appear to be some of the more "high strangeness" aspects of the phenomenon, and explore with the three key possible explanations 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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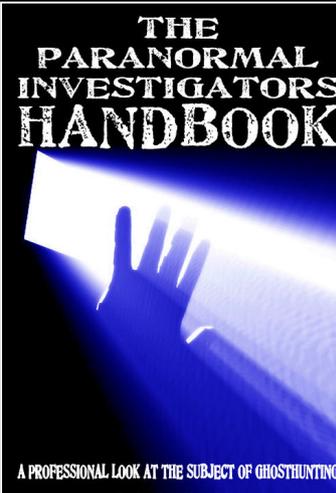
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Many Thanks, Paul Kimball.



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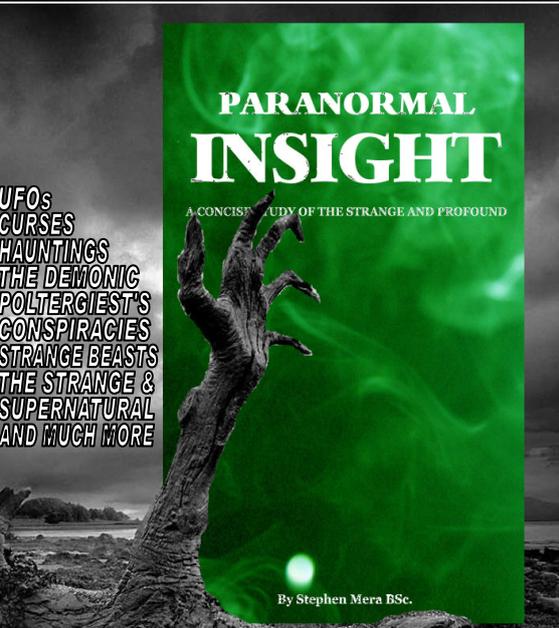
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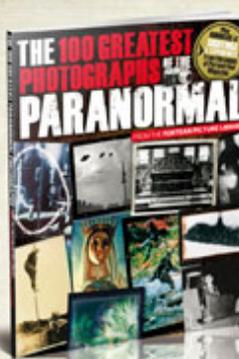
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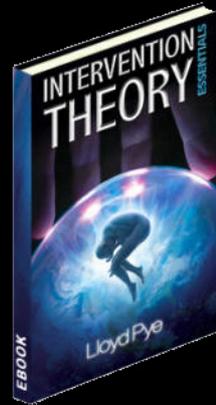
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Steve Mera: Editor - Phenomena Magazine

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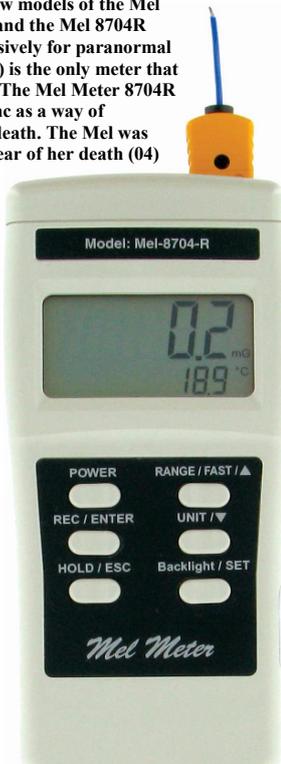
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SPOOKOLOGY

WHO PUT THE NORM IN PARANORMAL?...



Richard Holland is the editor of the ghosts and folklore website *Uncanny UK* and the former editor of *Paranormal Magazine*. A journalist of more than 20 years' experience in newspapers and magazines, he is the author of five books, including *'Haunted Wales: A Survey of Welsh Ghostlore'* which is to be republished by the History Press in October. To read more of his articles, and those of other authors on the subject of the supernatural in Britain, please visit:

www.uncannyuk.com

Dead from the neck up.

In traditional ghost-lore it seems that if any self-respecting ghost wants to get ahead he needs to lose his head. Literally. Why are so many spooks depicted as headless? It's a bit of a conundrum.

The most mundane possibility for an apparition being cranially challenged is that the person it represents lost their life on the chopping block. Beheading as a form of execution tended to be set aside as a privilege – when compared to hanging or worse – for the nobility. Many traditional ghosts belong to the aristocracy. Since they were the local celebrities, it's not surprising that they should feature in the fireside legends of their tenants and peasants, and a fair few of them were actually beheaded for treason or other misdemeanours.

Anne Boleyn is an excellent example. The most fondly remembered of Henry VIII's generally unlucky wives, Anne was beheaded on May 19, 1536 at the Tower of London. Her ghost haunts several locations, including Blickling Hall in Norfolk where she grew up. Here she rides up the drive in a spectral carriage with her head on her lap.

Oddly enough, at the Tower she is seen with her head still attached to her shoulders.

Anne's father, Sir Thomas Boleyn, who died peacefully but unhappily some years after the execution of not only Anne but also his son, Lord Rochford, also haunts Blickling Hall. Like Anne he rides in a spectral carriage and like Anne he carries his severed head on his lap. However, Sir Thomas was not beheaded – which is evidence that the mundane explanation doesn't necessarily fit. (Incidentally, Sir Thomas's head is not only detached but breathes fire, which I think is a bit show-offy).

The popular image of the headless ghost is that they walk about with their heads tucked underneath their arm. This isn't just a fictional conceit, many ghosts are described this way. I am intrigued by the description of an apparition once seen by a guard outside the Tower of London. As it approached him from the old execution site on Tower Hill, he saw it was the phantom of several men carrying a corpse on a stretcher. The body had its severed head placed in the crook of its arm. I guess this was a common arrangement,

In the way-back-when of my time editing Paranormal Magazine, I jokingly coined the term 'spookology' in one of my editorials. I've started using 'spook' as a handy word for any really weird and inexplicable ghostly phenomenon. At a time when the supernatural, an area of research in which we still understand very little, is becoming increasingly codified, the bizarre nature of the spooks recalled in this column may serve as a reminder that it's way too soon to start normalising the paranormal...

a tidy way of making sure decapitated noggins didn't roll off in transit. It might well explain the continued habit of certain spooks.

An imaginative suggestion for the headless ghost – and I confess I've forgotten who first made it – is that the head is missing because the person when in life was unable to see their own head, except of course in a mirror. I think the suggestion, working from the assumption that a ghost is a returning spirit, is that the projected body image does not include the head because it was usually invisible to the owner. In this theory one would expect any number of bumless ghosts, however, but I have yet to hear tell of one (no doubt I soon will). I am not convinced.

From a folklorist's point of view headlessness is a 'shorthand way of talking about apparitions' (to quote Jennifer Westwood and Jacqueline Simpson in 'The Lore of the Land'), in much the same way that 'flying saucer' became a shorthand for alien spacecraft and that any old ugly, hook nosed woman in a fairytale invariably turns out to be a witch. Headlessness is a clue, a motif. If it's headless, it's a ghost.

This could certainly be the reason why in the case of the spectral carriages which carry the Boleyns about, not only are the occupants said to be blank from the neck up, so are the horses and the coachman. This is a common characteristic of phantom carriages, not just those belonging to Anne and Sir Thomas. Westwood and Simpson also point out the example of one sighting

of Black Shuck in which the hound is described as having 'saucer eyes' despite having no head. For the witness telling the tale there was no inconsistency to this.

As a spookologist, though, I like to consider that maybe the descriptions are accurate – the apparitions really did have no heads. The stories to explain this factor – execution, brutal murder etc – have come later. The head is the seat of our personalities, our souls if you like. It houses our brain and four of our five senses. The brain processes all of our senses and therefore the only means we have of experiencing and relating to the living universe. Perhaps this is why the head is so often redundant when a remnant of a human being or animal – a ghost in other words – manifests in the living world. Perhaps our ancestors knew and understood this, hence the so-called 'shorthand' of the folklorists...





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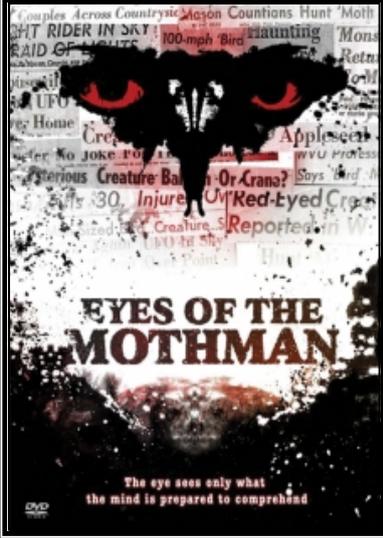
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GHOST VOICES

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Apparitions on Scotland's A75

From its junction with the A74 motorway, the A75 road snakes west to Stranraer. Judging from reports, part of it has been the setting for ghostly manifestations. The supposedly apparition-prone stretch starts at Gretna, in the east, and ends several miles west-north-west of the town of Annan, covering a distance of about 15 miles. But so far as I know, the road ghost sightings between Gretna and Annan have all been on, or close to, the route of old A75 rather than on the present-day A75. This part of the old A75 is now designated as the B721. Going west from Gretna, it runs through Rigg, Eastriggs, Dornock, and Annan before joining the A75. The eastern part of the modern-day A75 bypasses these population centres, on their northern side...

Sky News Survey.

According to a Sky News survey the top 10 spookiest roads in the UK were:

1. The M6
2. The A9 in the Highlands
3. Platt Lane, Leigh, Manchester
4. High Street and Suffield Road in Great Yarmouth
5. Gloucester Drive, Finsbury Park, north London
6. The B4293 at Devauden, Wales
7. The B3314 near Tintagel, Cornwall
8. Loch Dornoch, Highlands
9. The B1403 near Doncaster, South Yorkshire
10. Drews Lane, Ward End, Birmingham.

In fictional films, haunted sites may look spooky. But with supposedly real paranormal events, the settings are often quite unassuming. That's largely true of the stretch of road considered here. In places, the peaks of the northern Lake District can be seen to the south. Generally, though, the scenery is unremarkable. The A75 phenomena have been mentioned in books, in newspaper articles, and on the Internet. But some of these sources are very inaccurate. Take, for example, an article by Jill Stefko.¹ She refers to Kinmount Straight, describing it as a 15-mile stretch of road between Annan and Gretna Green. In fact, Gretna Green is only about eight miles from Annan, and the part of the A75 known as the Kinmount Straight is west-north-west of Annan, not between Annan and Gretna Green!

of his lorry. The man was wearing a high tile hat, a short double breasted jacket and tight trousers; and his companion was wearing a crinoline ankle-length gown and a large hat of the sun bonnet type. After bringing his lorry and trailer to a halt and switching on the hazard warning lights, Reid jumped out. He intended to remonstrate with the couple. But they'd vanished. There hadn't been time for them to jump clear of the vehicle, and there was no sign of them beneath it. What's more, an impenetrable hedge bordered the road at that spot. According to Green, Reid learned, months later, "that he had not been the only witness to [this] sudden and potentially dangerous manifestation". This could mean (1) that unbeknown to Reid at the time, someone else had seen the pedestrians walk in front of his lorry, or (2) that the

The couple thought that they'd driven straight through her, and they described feeling a terrible chill. In a book entitled *Gazetteer of Scottish Ghosts* (Fontana/Collins, Glasgow, 1980, pp. 14-17), Peter Underwood recounts a story about two brothers, Derek and Norman Ferguson, although I don't know whether these are their real names. The incident supposedly occurred one night in April 1962 as they were driving from Dumfries towards Annan. A large hen flew towards their car, only to disappear when it would have been expected to strike the windscreen. Shortly after, an old woman rushed towards the car, waving her arms. But she also vanished just when she would have been expected to collide with the vehicle. A succession of other figures appeared from nowhere (great cats, wild-looking dogs, goats, etc.). Derek, who was 22, swerved and braked repeatedly, trying to miss the spectres. He noticed that none of them actually hit the car, and he initially thought that it must all be his imagination. But when he glanced at his 14-year-old brother, he realized that Norman was also seeing them.

This part of the old A75 is now designated as the B721



Reports: 1950's.

Writing in the 29th October 2010 edition of the Annandale Observer, Rod Edgar, the chief reporter, referred to an experience that befell a man called Jim Carlyle at 1.45 a.m. one night in 1955. Carlyle, who was 75 at the time of Edgar's writing, was driving a taxi from Eastriggs to Annan, accompanied by his future wife. Edgar quotes him as saying: "There was a woman, dressed in white, a long cape, and she just floated right across the road in front of me. I braked, but I went right through her – it was a ghost."

The late Andrew Green described an experience reported by a lorry driver called Hugh Watson Reid. The incident allegedly occurred at 10.45 p.m. one misty night in October 1957. The location appears to have been Gretna, although Green's article refers to it, mistakenly, as Gretna Green. As Reid reached a bend in the road, at the junction with the A75, he saw a middle-aged couple walk, arm-in-arm, in front

same thing had been experienced there previously. I presume that Green meant the latter. Indeed, his article goes on to state that, "Other night drivers have experienced an identical incident at the same spot." But material seems to be missing from the article, so I can't be certain that this refers Reid's experience. The article mentions "a ghostly car which [...] travels the same road at night with dipped headlights, and then suddenly disappears." However, as I say, material seems to be missing from Green's article. Accordingly, I'm not entirely sure that he was referring to the road on which Reid had had his experience.

Reports: 1960's.

In the aforementioned newspaper article, Rod Edgar refers to a Margaret Ching, who had allegedly had a sighting in 1960. She "was approaching Dornoch, travelling to Gretna with her fiancé, when she saw an old woman in Victorian clothes standing in the middle of the road."

They were aware of a drop in temperature in the car, and Derek felt as if a force were trying to take control of the steering wheel. The brothers felt as if they were suffocating, but when Derek opened a window, it was bitterly cold outside. Screaming, high-pitched laughter and cackling noises were reportedly heard. Derek eventually stopped the car, but then they felt it being bounced up and down and rocked from side to side, which made them dizzy. Derek felt very sick and leapt out, whereupon everything was quiet. But when he got back in and slammed the door, the shaking and high-pitched laughter resumed. A strong wind seemed to blow up, and there was a sensation of fists striking the vehicle. Driving on, they experienced more apparitions and frightening noises. Eventually, they observed a small red gleam ahead. As they drew closer, it appeared to be the tail light of a large furniture van. Derek then realized that he was approaching it far too quickly, although he found himself unable to take any evasive action: his foot wouldn't move from the accelerator pedal. But as they were seemingly about to crash into the van, it disappeared. As they drove on, Derek noticed that the car had slowed to a crawl, and that the noises and high wind had died away.

Underwood's book doesn't specify his source for this dramatic story. I must say that I'm doubtful about its historical

accuracy. Indeed, I understand from Underwood that he was never entirely happy with it himself. It's certainly not typical. For one thing, road ghost experiences are generally much briefer. The Fergusons' ordeal supposedly went on for nearly half-an-hour. But there's no mention of their encountering any other traffic during that period, apart from the apparitional furniture van. Admittedly, the incident is said to have occurred late at night; and there were, of course, fewer vehicles on the roads in 1962. But I imagine that the A75 would have been fairly busy even then.

article, Maxwell reported that: "Since [the incident] I have heard other people talking about seeing the same man standing in the road just looking at the cars."³ The article also quotes her as stating: "I was convinced I hit [the man] but I couldn't see anyone so I drove to Annan police station." But this conflicts slightly with the newspaper account, which says that she drove home before she and her husband contacted the police. In respect of the Maxwell sighting, Graeme Wellburn (Public Information Officer with the Dumfries and Galloway Constabulary)

investigators had been in the area of the A75/B721 sightings, and had been discussing them. Was this ghostly encounter somehow staged for his benefit?

My enquiries into the phenomena haven't been very productive. In January 2011, I called in at the offices of the *Annandale Observer*. Rod Edgar, the chief reporter, indicated that he had contact details for some of the witnesses – at least two, as I recall – and I was hoping that he would pass that information on to me, if they gave their consent. He said that he would try to contact them on my behalf. But despite reminders, he didn't get back to me. I also submitted a short article to the paper about the apparitions, inviting readers to contact me if they had anything interesting to report. But I had no formal response from the newspaper, and so far as I know, they didn't publish the piece.

I obviously can't say for sure that the above-mentioned incidents occurred as described. But leaving aside the report about the Ferguson brothers, it's worth noting that there've been very similar accounts from elsewhere. For example, shortly before midnight on 8th November 1992, 54-year-old Ian Sharpe was driving down Blue Bell Hill in Kent, on the southbound carriageway of the A229, when a young woman ran in front of his car, her face turned towards him. His vehicle seemed to hit her, and she disappeared beneath it. But as in the case of Hugh Reid, when he got out and checked, there was nothing to be seen. Furthermore, his vehicle hadn't incurred any damage. Two weeks later, in the same general area, another driver, 19-year-old Christopher Dawkins, had a similar experience.⁵ Another parallel between the Blue Bell Hill events and those of the A75 is that different types of apparitional figure have been reported in the respective localities.

It's hard to know whether the number of genuine incidents on, or near, the A75 and B721 has been any higher than elsewhere, because we don't have reliable comparative statistics about the distribution of road ghost phenomena. Given that the sightings on the A75/B721 have received publicity, witnesses may have been more inclined to come forward. On the other hand, judging from the available accounts, the phenomena seem to have been sporadic and infrequent, although it's possible that incidents have gone unrecorded, or that reports have been overlooked.

A traditional assumption, encouraged by fictional ghostly stories, is that apparitions are spirits of the dead.

Worlds Most Spookiest Roads.



It would seem that there have been many surveys carried out in regards to the World's most spookiest roads. This obviously differs depending on which survey results you look at. However, the most commonly listed are the following.

If you don't find it scary enough to drive down a dark and quiet country road on your own, imagine encountering a phantom auto or having an ephemeral being step out in front of you.

Haunted roads are found the world over, from the misty roads of Scotland and the busiest roads in Hong Kong to lonely roads in the United States. If you'd rather avoid the supernatural happenings reported on these roads, you may just want to find another way home.

1. Tuen Mun Road, Hong Kong
2. A229 England
3. Bloodspoint Road Illinois, United States
4. M6 England
5. Boy Scout Lane Wisconsin, United States
6. A75 Kinmont Straight Scotland
7. N9 South Africa
8. Annie's Road New Jersey, United States
9. Belchen Tunnel Switzerland

The village of Annan.



Reports: 1990's.

In March 1995, a couple called Garson and Monica Miller were driving towards Annan on the Kinmount Straight when the figure of a man reportedly jumped out in front of them. They were apparently convinced that their vehicle had made contact with the figure, and they immediately notified the police. In his article in the 29th October 2010 edition of the *Annandale Observer*, Rod Edgar writes: "Looking back on the experience this week, Monica [...] said: 'What I saw appeared in front of the car dressed in a cloak, like a monk's habit. And he was holding what looked like a sock with something in it.'"

An article in the 1st August 1997 edition of the *Annandale Observer* described an incident that had occurred about two weeks previously. Donna Maxwell, 27, was driving home to Annan from Eastriggs on the old A75 when a man seemed to jump out in front of her car. She slammed on her brakes and closed her eyes for a second, but heard nothing. When she opened her eyes, she saw that the man had vanished. She was accompanied by her two children, who reportedly also witnessed the incident. The newspaper article quotes a police spokesman as stating that they'd been unable to trace the man, and that it was still a complete mystery. According to an Internet

informed me that, "Having lived [in] and policed the Annan area for some 32 years myself I cannot recall any other such incidents in that area" (e-mail, February 2011). As noted above, though, Garson and Monica Miller reportedly contacted the police after their sighting in March 1995. In any case, witnesses may not always report such incidents to the police.

Reports: 2010.

Derek McCall, a member of a local paranormal investigation group (with the whimsical name 'Mostly Ghostly'), reports having had an apparitional experience on 12th December 2010, between 8.20 and 8.25 p.m., while driving on the western fringe of Dumfries.⁴ The spot concerned is some miles west of the stretch of road that's been the main focus of this article. But the incident apparently occurred on the A75 and was typical. McCall was driving along at 60 m.p.h., listening to the radio, when he became aware of the figure of an elderly woman suddenly appearing at the side of the road. She wandered into the road in front of him. McCall hit the brakes, but if the figure had been a flesh-and-blood person, there wouldn't have been time to avoid a collision. At the point when there should have been a devastating bang, the figure vanished. McCall checked his rear view mirror, but there was nothing to be seen. Coincidentally, the previous night, he and his fellow

Roadside Apparitions.

But that's problematic, not least because there are reports of apparitions of inanimate objects (cars, aircraft, etc.) But I'm quite open to the possibility that some of the A75/B721 incidents have been genuinely paranormal. Many ghostly events have a theatrical quality, and that's certainly true of the alleged sightings on the A75 and B721. Could such occurrences be orchestrated by our own minds, operating collectively at a subconscious level? Or are they choreographed by some sort of non-human intelligence? These notions can be applied to other strange events, including UFO close encounters. From this perspective, ghosts and UFOs could be regarded as having no permanent existence. Instead, they could be temporary 'stage props' (entailing, for example, paranormal hallucinations or transient

materialisations), used for putting on dramatic performances. There's a common theme in the above-mentioned reports: that of vehicles running into apparitional figures. Is this symbolic? Are such experiences warnings about dangerous driving or, more generally, about the environmental damage caused by motorized transport and road building? Or is a mischievous intelligence randomly picking on road users just to give them a fright?

Notes:

Stefko, J. (2010). *Annan road ghosts – A75 Kinmount Straight haunted byway.*

Available at: <http://www.suite101.com/content/annan-road-ghosts--a75-kinmount-straight-haunted-byway-a263026#ixzz1GmUYZ5J>

Green, A. Ghosts in Scotland and the north United Kingdom.

Available at: http://www.mystical-www.co.uk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=181&Itemid=261

Scotland's most haunted road.

Available at: <http://www.mysterymag.com/wp/index.php/topics/606>

Ghost of Blue Bell Hill (1/2).

Available at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZoW6GKYSDCs&feature=related>

5. Ghost of Blue Bell Hill (2/2).

Available at: <http://uk.youtube.com/watch?v=Xwfw-7rNvfI>

Numerous investigations and stories have appeared over the years in Phenomena Magazine. Some unfortunately are the product of misidentification and rumours like the Stocksbridge apparition of Monks.; However there are a number of other similar incidents throughout the UK that seem more credible and defy rationality. If you have had such an experience, we would love to hear from you.

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VIDEO REVIEW

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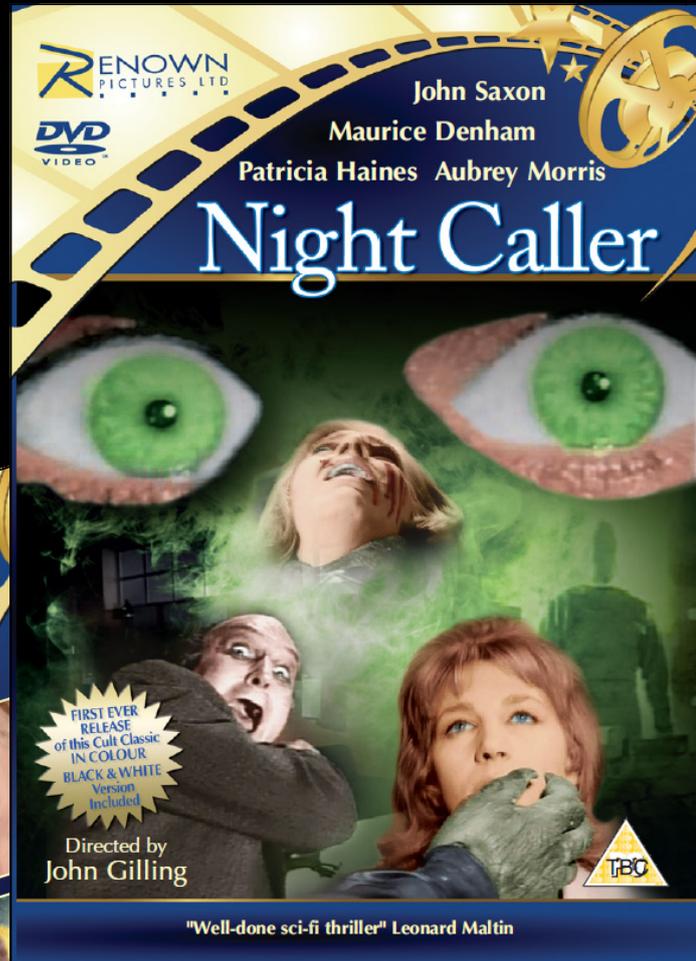
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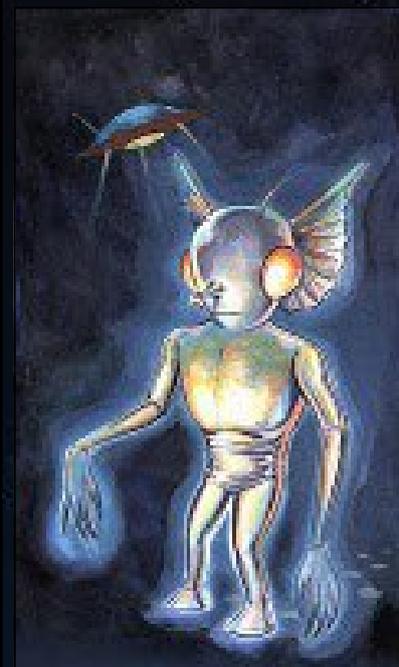
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Little Green Meme?

When the modern UFO era began after Kenneth Arnold's 1947 sighting of objects near Mount Rainier, Washington sightings of flying saucers began to be reported from all over the world. Not long after these sightings people also began to report seeing the occupants of the disks. People from all different walks of life were apparently sighting a myriad of strange creatures. In South America little hairy dwarves were sighted, while in other parts of the world the sightings of 9 foot tall monstrosities were reported. But whenever anyone refers to the occupants of these crafts, especially in the 'mainstream' media they only speak of "little green men". The reason for this is the events of the Kelly-Hopkinsville Case, the aftermath of which is that the term "little green men" would enter the vocabulary of the population and became an infective meme that would be with ufology for years to come.



On an August night in 1955, Billy Ray Taylor and his wife were visiting the family of Lucky Sutton. The Suttons; Vera Sutton, JC Sutton, Alene Sutton, and three Sutton children, lived in the rural town of Hopkinsville, Kentucky. Glennie Lankford, June Taylor and O.P. Barker were also visiting the Lucky Sutton house. Early in the evening Taylor went outside of the Sutton house in order to get some water from the outside pump. Just a few minutes later Taylor rushed back into the house exclaiming that he had just seen a flying saucer fly over the house, hover around the woods, and descend into a gully located nearby the home. No one in the family took Taylor's

claim seriously as no one went outside to investigate. An hour later the Sutton's dog began to bark, so Lucky and Taylor grabbed their guns and went outside to see if they could find what was upsetting the dog. The frightened dog ran under the house and would not return until the following morning. While outside of the house, Lucky and Taylor were amazed to see a 3½ ft tall being approaching them with its arms raised up. They later described the being to researchers as having a large round head, long thin arms that extended nearly to the ground, and legs that did not appear to move. The hands of the being were out of proportion to the rest of its body, and looked more like the talons of a bird than human hands. While the being's eyes appeared to be glowing with a fire that was the shade of yellow.

Being the good country folk that they were, Lucky and Taylor decided to shoot first and ask questions later. When the bullets from their rifle and shotgun struck the creature it back flipped, landed on its feet, and ran back into the darkness. At this point the men went back into the house to check on the family and tell them what had happened. When they rejoined the group in the living room they were astonished to see the same, or similar to it, being at the window. Again, Lucky and Taylor took a shot at the creature. This caused the being to flip backwards and retreat into the shadows. At this time the men were certain that they had either killed or at least wounded the creature(s), so they went outside to see if they could locate the bodies.

Taylor walked outside, but paused on the porch for just a moment. Suddenly, from the roof, a talon reached down and grabbed his hair. Alene pulled Taylor back into the house. Lucky fired upon the creature which caused it to release Taylor and fall from its perch. At this point, it's not clear who, but someone noticed that one of the beings was in the tree. So both Taylor and Lucky fired at the creature knocking it from the limb, however, instead of falling straight down, the being appeared to float in a falling leaf motion to the ground. This attack lasted for a little while longer before the group could no longer stand it. Everyone ran to their cars and took off towards the police station in Hopkinsville. When they arrived and began telling their story, it was obvious to the officers on duty that something had happened to these people as they were clearly shaken. A few sheriffs' deputies and the chief of

police, Russell Greenwell, accompanied the Suttons and Taylors back to the house. Once the police arrived they searched for a long time, but could find no apparent trace of anything out of the ordinary. They did, however, see plenty of buckshot meaning that shots had been fired on the grounds of the home that night. The police couldn't directly tie the buckshots to the sightings of the numerous beings, however in a few places that Taylor and Lucky had fired on the creatures there appeared to be a strange green luminescence on the ground, the source of which the police were never able to determine. A photograph was taken of the luminous patch of grass but a sample was not collected, upon returning the following day the patch had mysteriously disappeared. Police also interviewed neighbors that live close to the Sutton house, most reported not only seeing strange lights flying around in the sky that same night but also heard the gunshots that came from Lucky and Billy's guns.

Ultimately unable to truly prove anything, the police left the family to resume their duties. A little later that night once the police had finally gone and the family tried to go to sleep, Glennie Lankford spotted another one of the creatures back at the same window and told her son Lucky. Of course Lucky wanted to shoot it, but Glennie told him not to as the creatures, although certainly bizarre, had actually done nothing to harm them that night. Lucky fired at the creature anyway and once again the bullet had no effect and



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the creature retreated back in to the darkness. The being's presence at the home lasted until dawn. The following day the story was repeated in the *Kentucky New Era* Newspaper and the Sutton Farmhouse became a huge tourist attraction. The family was interviewed about the events of that night and no matter how many times the story was recounted it was always the same. A man named Andrew Ledwith, who worked with WHOP a radio station in a nearby town, interviewed each of the seven adults involved in the incident separately and each told the same story and described the creatures almost identically. Except that the female witnesses thought that the creatures had a more husky build than what the male witnesses described. Ledwith, who was also an artist, was one of the first people to illustrate what the witnesses saw. As later newspapers picked up the story over the weeks and months that followed, they began to refer to the beings as "little green men" although the original descriptions had been that they were in silver suits or were silver themselves.

After the initial media attention, people began to swarm the Sutton house. If the Suttons believed that the worst of their ordeal was over they were sadly mistaken. They were inundated with people seeking proof, stories, or in some cases even autographs. Sadly this was not all that the Sutton family had to deal with. Local public opinion almost immediately labeled the incident as a hoax. Eventually the family could no longer take all of the negative publicity and they started to charge the thrill seekers that came to see them. This only fueled the charges that the family was hoaxing the entire event simply to exhort money from people. The Sheriff's department, to its credit, took the family at their word. Chief of Police, Russell Greenwell had a few things to say about what had happened that night. When he described his initial meeting with the Sutton Family the night of the events he said that they appeared to have been frightened "beyond reason, not ordinary". He would also remark to Ufologist Isabel Davis that when he and the other officers arrived at the Sutton household that, *"In and around the whole area, the house, the fields, that night, there was a weird feeling. It was partly uneasiness, but not entirely. Everyone had it. There were men there that I'd call brave men, they felt it too."* The local police were not the only group to get involved in the investigations or to take what happened seriously. The US

Air Force, upon hearing about the incidents, sent officers from the nearby Fort Campbell to do some investigations. Although the Air Force investigation also turned up empty handed for any kind of concrete evidence, this incident remains as an open case to this day. Project Blue Book, the official Air Force UFO investigation from the time period, never did an official investigation but kept a file on the incident none the less. They labeled the case as an 'unknown' which is something they were not very fond of doing at the time. Eventually the family got completely fed up with all of the attention they were getting, so they sold the property to extended family and moved away. To this day, the surviving witnesses to the event are hesitant to ever talk to anyone about the case. Although on the rare occasion that they have told anyone their stories, they are exactly as they were on that late night oh so many years ago.

Persons that were skeptical of the case almost immediately came forward with alternative theories as to what the Suttons may have actually seen that night. One of the most obvious alternative explanations was that the family simply hoaxed the entire event. As it stands, although others may have also seen unidentified lights in the sky that night, only the families involved in the incidents ever claimed to have actually seen the beings. The local community seemed to accept this theory pretty readily at the time, as a matter of fact they wrote the entire saga off as a drunken hoax that had simply gotten out of hand. It's unlikely that this was the case as Glennie Lankford was known for not allowing the consumption of alcohol at her house, especially when young children were present.

In any event it wasn't too long before a member of the Air Force was ready to offer a very down-to-earth explanation for the strange fire that had occurred on that August night just two years prior. Speaking in 1957 U.S. Air Force Major John E. Albert came to the conclusion that what Lucky and Taylor had been shooting at was none other than an escaped monkey from a circus that was dressed in silver. There are a few problems with this explanation however. While it is true that a circus was in town during the week of the sightings, the circus never reported losing a monkey. Additionally if Lucky and Taylor shot nearly as many times at the creatures as they have said, there would have been a body of some kind

that was discovered by the Police or other investigators that night. The most recent terrestrial explanation for what had occurred that night was first proposed by French Ufologist Renaud Lecler. He suggested that perhaps the beings the family had sighted that night, were in fact Great Horned Owls. The owls would match the descriptions of the beings 'glowing' eyes and would explain some of the apparent otherworldly abilities displayed by the entities. As the owls fly silently it is unlikely that either Lucky or Taylor would have heard the owls flying around from say a limb to the top of the porch. Another part of this explanation that would seem to solve this case, is that the Great Horned Owl aggressively defends its nest.

Perhaps, the theory goes, when Lucky and Taylor first started firing on the beings they must have accidentally hit the owls nest causing them to attack for most of the night.



The problem with this explanation is not unlike the circus monkey theory. Where are the bodies? At many times Lucky and Taylor apparently hit the beings dead on, so if they were simply misidentifying owls, bodies would or should have been found somewhere at the house. Not only that none of these theories can explain the luminescence patch of ground that was seen, nor the very eerie feeling that was reported by all present at the house the night of the siege. As with most cases of UFO occupant accounts, the skeptics are still skeptical and the believers still believe in the basic validity of the story. No official explanation has ever been offered by either the police that investigated nor by the Air Force. The surviving members of the incident still maintain that the testimony that was given on that fateful night in 1955 is what actually occurred to them. The legacy of the case, besides offering yet another anecdotal story of human / non-human interaction, is the term 'Little Green Men'. The term has become a meme that has been picked up by people ever since. To this day you will still hear people mockingly refer to the occupants of UFOs as little green men. The next time you hear this, you can smile knowing where this term originated...

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