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30ft flying saucer seen at Keighley

It was a cold, clear morning as busmen Maurice Hunnabie and Neil Slater drove through the deserted streets of Keighley on their way to work.

But their routine journey took a peculiar twist as they entered the town centre at 5 a.m. on New Year's Eve. For they claim that hovering above the roof tops 400 yards ahead was a bizarre, glowing object about 30ft. in diameter.

Maurice stopped his car and the startled men watched in astonishment as the strange, pulsating object moved slowly north-west, maintaining an altitude of 100 to 150ft.

"It was huge and seemed to be giving off a glowing light," said Maurice, of Bolton, Bradford. "I first spotted it hovering over the library as we drove up Cavendish Street but I didn't mention it to Neil at first.

Portholes

"I thought I was seeing things, so I stopped the car and asked Neil if he could see it as well. He had already noticed it and we sat watching as it moved off slowly toward Skipton."

Maurice said the object, which was absolutely silent, appeared to rotate within a shroud of white light.

He said: "It was shaped like a tilted saucer and had a number of windows like portholes down the side, plus a dome on the top. The portholes were black. It was a frightening experience."

"We were both a bit shaken afterwards. Neither of us had been drinking the night before and there was no way we could have been fooled by a trick of the light. The object was real enough."

Engine ran on

Many witnesses who claim to have encountered unidentified flying objects have reported that their car engines stalled for no apparent reason, but Maurice says his car engine kept running throughout the experience.

"I used to keep an open mind about UFO's but I firmly believe their existence now," he added.

Mr. Trevor Whitaker, regional investigation co-ordinator for the British UFO Research Association, said: "This sounds quite interesting and I will pass on the facts to the Skipton area investigator."