

UFO group searches for the answers



A group of workmen taking meteorological readings in Sawyers Valley in 1978 discovered a strange row of five big rings burnt deeply into the earth.

Each ring was about five metres in diameter and the row stretched over a distance of nearly 90 metres.

There were no obvious explanations at the time, but it was some months before anyone thought to contact the Perth UFO Research Group with details of the incident.

Sightings of unidentified objects in the sky are nothing new to the group but "contact sightings" are much rarer.

The group was particularly interested in this sighting, as its sightings officer, Mr George Hume of Bedford, explained: "It was interesting because it was most unusual to find five rings.

"Although we could prove nothing, my own opinion is that one craft landed. These craft also have mechanical problems and in an attempt to get away it made four hops and then got off the ground."

Mr Hume, a 70-year-old bachelor of Lawrence Street, first found a fascination with UFOs in 1947 when he read of a pilot spotting "discs" over Washington DC.

This pilot was the first to coin the phrase "flying saucer" which has stuck ever since.

"It was something interesting and could not be explained," Mr Hume said. "I have been fascinated with the subject ever since."

In his four years as the group's sightings officer, he has received about 50 telephone calls a year from sometimes anxious, sometimes excited members of the public who claim to have spotted objects in the sky.

Each sighting is investigated, the person interviewed and details filed away. The air force, police and meteorological office all refer details to the group of sightings

made by the public. "Most of the calls we get are about lights in the sky which really don't prove a great deal," Mr Hume said.

Even Captain Cook spotted a UFO on his travels and recorded the incident in his log, he said.

Mr Hume believes alien spacecraft have conquered the limitations of distance and have set up bases on earth.

The group is in the process of investigating another possibly fascinating case that occurred in Coolgardie recently and was apparently a "contact sighting." This is where a person actually comes into contact with a craft or beings or something they have left behind.

It was thought a craft came from a base in October Revolution Island in the Arctic Circle, Mr Hume said.

"But we are waiting for more details," he said. "If people dismiss UFOs in a simple way, saying they are from



Mr George Hume pictured with a model UFO and a display chart of photographs of UFOs.

At a barbecue to be held soon, members will be showing younger members how to study the stars with telescopes.

The group works closely with the Adelaide UFO group.

The Perth group is trying to recruit people living outside the city to interview anyone who has made a sighting in the country.

Mr Hume said he had even made a sighting over Bedford but he could not determine its shape because he did not have his telescope with him.

Soon after, he received a call from a woman who said she had spotted a flying saucer over the area.

The famous Bermuda Triangle has certain anomalies, according to Mr Hume, which are also found in other parts of the globe.

He believes that all the ships, aeroplanes and people reported missing in the triangle have just disappeared but have not actually gone.

Tonight Mr Richard Lawrence, the world secretary of the Aetherius Society, who is in Australia for a lecture tour, will be talking to UFO group members.

our system, it is oversimplifying it. This is a very complicated subject.

"Once these craft conquer problems of distance, they can come from anywhere."

The group celebrates its 25th year in existence in October and its 150 members regularly arm themselves with telescopes to scour the skies.

The Aetherius Society is a world-wide organisation based on extra-terrestrial contact supposedly made by a Dr George King.