

Liz Dobson

CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF AN ENGLISH KIND

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'We walked into the light and floated up'

there was an operational assistant called Corporal Gibson on duty who logged the inquiry.

He adds: "Our comprehensive radar scan would have clearly picked up any aircraft within a fifty-mile radius."

At the end of June John had a heavy cold. He was lying in bed early one evening dozing.

"I began to see myself as if in a dream, driving along that dark, narrow

thing attaching itself to

talked among themselves and their closer friends the more they were convinced they had made contact with the UFO.

Gloria went to the local library to try to find an address of an organisation that could help them explain their experience.

From some of the books she copied out the telephone number of Ken Phillips who, from his home in Springfield, Milton Keynes, manned a 24-hour hot line for reports on UFO sightings.

John phoned Mr. Phillips, who says: "From John's report I realised he and his family had undergone a profound experience.

"I sent him a preliminary questionnaire to fill in. When he returned it, his report was passed on to Frank Johnson, the

UFO investigator who lived nearest the family."

Frank Johnson, a retired senior lecturer in zoology, from Aston University, Birmingham, had been with the British UFO Investigators Network about 18 months.

Before he got in touch with the family, Natasha had finished the school summer term and on the last day brought home all her work books.

HER STRANGE DRAWING

Among them was the drawing she had done at school the day after their journey from Reading.

It showed a saucer-shaped Spacecraft ringed in coloured lights hovering over the family car.

A beam of yellow light splashed down from the Spacecraft on to the road—just as her father had dreamed.

After half a dozen meetings with Frank Johnson, the family could provide no further details of their original story.

John says: "When we told him about the rashes and bruises and that Gloria and I had felt sick on the night of the sighting he suggested that we might like to take blood tests to see if we had come into contact with radiation." It was now the begin-



Illustration: ROY WRIGHT

ning of November and Gloria was nearly two months pregnant with their son Gregory.

"The results of the blood test came through and both John and I were perfectly normal. The doctor joked: 'Well Mrs. Mann, I can assure you your baby does not have green blood.'

"Frances' results were completely normal, too; Frank did not feel it necessary for the children to have blood tests."

When the family next met Frank Johnson he suggested that a hypnotist might be able to help

them remember what had actually happened.

Frank telephoned Geoffrey M'Cartney, a consultant hypnotherapist.

Gloria's doctor advised against hypnosis during her pregnancy, but John and Frances started weekly meetings.

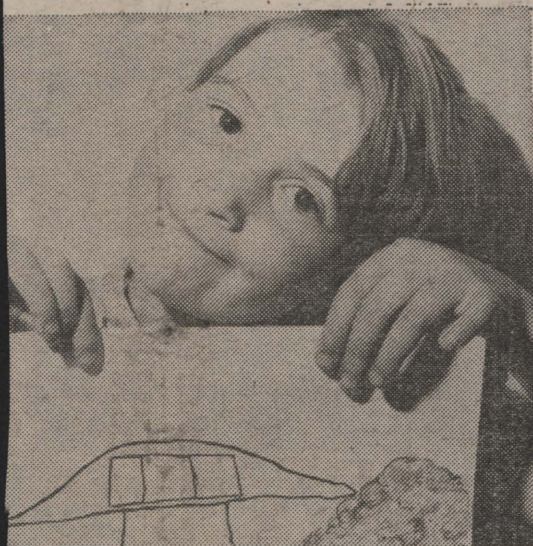
Under hypnosis the family told an even stranger story.

NEXT SUNDAY
'Welcome to our Spaceship'

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