

# A SPACE AGE FAIRY TALE

EACH June 19 for the past two years, at 10.15 p.m., John Mann and his family have driven along a stretch of the A417 near the Oxfordshire village of Stanford-in-the-Vale—to see if the aliens from Space will keep their promise to return. It was there, in 1978, that the family are convinced they were taken aboard a flying saucer. Their strange experiences aboard the UFO were at first blotted from their minds, leaving one hour unaccounted for in their recollections of that evening. But since John and sister Frances underwent hypnotherapy, their memories are vivid.

And nothing is more vivid than the words of one of the silver-suited, human-like aliens: "WE WILL MEET AGAIN." Today, three experts who have heard the family's weird story give their verdicts...

**Report by JEAN CARR**



**says Mystery Man Arthur C. Clarke**

**WORLD-FAMOUS** writer of science-fiction and science-fact, Arthur C. Clarke, whose latest book *Mysterious World* is now being serialised on ITV, says:

"The UFO phenomena and reports of encounters with beings from Outer Space are a myth of our age.

"What makes it all even more of a fairy tale are the claims of meetings with Space people who look just like us.

"The human race is

the product of millions of coincidences. If there is any form of intelligent life other than ours in Outer Space, it certainly won't be men and women in silver Space suits.

"I am sure most of the people who do believe are very honest people.

"But when people are asked to describe something fantastic that has happened to them, they can do so only in terms familiar to them.

"What this family describe and draw are similar to the material

**The experts give their verdict on...**



**CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF AN ENGLISH KIND**

in films, television programmes, newspaper reports, science fiction: anything that has ever dealt with UFOs and close encounters.

"I myself have seen five or six UFOs, every one of which would have convinced most people they were seeing something inexplicable.

"One of the UFOs had me and film producer Stanley Kubrick, who I

*The full story of the experiences of the Mann family will be found in The Janos People, by Frank Johnson, to be published by Neville Spearman, Ltd., on October 9 at £5.25.*

## THE PSYCHIATRIST:

# 'Things we can't explain'

**TOP** Wimpole Street psychiatrist Dr. David Waxman, chairman of the Medical and Dental Hypnotists Association, says:

"I have an open mind about UFOs.

"But here we have a family who are good, honest, basic people, driving along a deserted country road late at night, who see a light in the sky. The

first thing John Mann says to his wife is, 'Look, it's a UFO.'

"Already they believe in the possibility.

"There could be a logical reason for the apparent loss of one hour. But I do not dismiss the possibility of some paranormal phenomenon which

delayed their arrival home. There are things we cannot explain.

"However, the man and his sister dream of going up in a Spaceship. Of course they will have such dreams: they are convinced they saw a UFO and are anxious and confused.

"Along comes a UFO investigator who believes in the possibility of beings from Outer Space.

"He takes them to a hypnotist. He is 'cued' by the investigator to find out what happened to the family on the Spaceship. In turn, the hypnotist 'cues' his subject towards the answers.

"No one is deliberately being misleading. But once the family have been 'cued' by the investigator and the hypnotist, they are expected to come up with some sort of story—and they do.

"What they are saying is only the truth as they believe it."

## THE HYPNOTHERAPIST:

# 'They are NOT lying'

**GLOUCESTER** hypnotherapist Geoffrey McCartney worked with the family for three months, taking them back in time to relive what happened to them that weird night in 1978. He says: "Hypnotism is not a truth test.

"But if John and Frances had concocted something between them, at some stage you would expect their stories to contradict.

"True there were conflicting descriptions in their stories, but they were outnumbered by similarities.

"All I can say with any certainty is that they have had a unique and identical experience. They did not make it up."

worked with on 2001, A Space Odyssey, totally fooled for a while.

"But in every case, there was a logical and rational explanation.

"I regard a visit from beings in a Spacecraft as the modern equivalent of fairies at the bottom of the garden."