

Bus stop boys spot mystery in the sky

THE bright, glowing diamond-shaped light moving fast across the morning sky looked like a real-life UFO when brothers Andrew and Gary Reeves spotted it as they waited for their school bus.

Andrew, 11, saw the mystery light first, high above a hill in Clay Hill Road, Basildon.

He said later: "I looked up while we were at the bus stop and saw this bright light in the sky. I stared at it and saw it was a glowing diamond shape, then I called Gary."

Gary said: "I looked up to where Andrew was pointing. At first I thought it might be a weather balloon, but I changed my mind because it was glowing so brightly."

"I told mum to look up because I thought it was a UFO, but she wasn't really bothered — she was looking for something in her bag."

Gary and Andrew insisted that she look up — and Mrs Reeves, of Sunnedon, Basildon, took one glance at the boys' excited faces and looked.

Imagination

She said: "I saw a flash which dazzled me for a moment. When I looked again the sky was empty."

"At first I thought it was my imagination, but the boys said the object had suddenly disappeared with a flash."

"Whatever the object is, it certainly made an impact on Gary. He was trembling with excitement."

Gary said: "I am convinced it was a UFO. Some of my friends didn't believe me when I told them and my teacher, Miss Kingston."

"I didn't feel scared, but I was all shaken and trembly. It was a funny experience."

But the boys' dreams of having seen a UFO were shattered today by forecaster Mr Bill Giles at the Meteorological Office HQ in Bracknell, Berks.

He said: "We do send large balloons up with radar targets on them from the Shoebury weather station."

"As the targets are diamond-shaped, I would say this is definitely what the boys saw."

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Another woman also saw UFO

A HODDESDON woman claims to have seen the unidentified flying object hovering over Hertford Heath on January 5.

The mystery was described in the Mercury when a woman claimed she saw a strange object while she was on her way home from work just after 5 pm.

Now Mrs Marion Phelps, of Dorchester Avenue, Hoddesdon, has reported that she saw the same object.

Mrs Phelps was driving home from the Hertford garage where she works and was passing through Hertford Heath when she happened to glance upwards.

CIGAR SHAPED

"I saw what I thought at first was a very big star and although it was dark I could see that it had the shape of a cigar."

"Although I was keeping an eye on the road, I could see this thing for quite some time. I saw a red light and a white light beside it and then the white light just disappeared."

"They couldn't have been tail-lights on a plane because they would have stayed the same distance apart."

"I was a bit mystified by it and I told my husband about it. It seems I'm not the only one who saw it."

Unidentified flying objects are nothing new to Mrs Phelps and her family. Some years ago her husband was calling their cats in at night when he saw a strange circular object shooting across the sky.

Mystery object

A Lochmaben woman, Mrs Potts, of Parkfoot, and members of her family saw an unidentified flying object above their home in the early hours of Thursday morning.

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The time was about one o'clock and they describe the object as "quite large, with three distinct bright lights shining from it". They are quite certain it was not an aircraft and they wonder if the object was spotted by anyone else.

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