

Researching the unknown

SPOON - BENDING, mind-reading, ghosts and things that go bump in the night will be just some of the mysterious phenomena investigated by a research group starting up in the "Kentish Times" area.

Researchers will be attempting to discover if ghosts, unidentified flying objects and other strange sights exist and if they do, what they are.

The group is called **KASPR** — a pun on the name Casper, the friendly cartoon ghost — which stands for the Kent Association of the Society for Psychical Research.

KASPR is just one of many regional groups being set up around the country by the London-based Society for Psychical Research.

Organiser of KASPR is 36-year-old Mr Andrew Phillips, of Long Lane, Bexleyheath, who stresses "this is not a lot of cranks dabbling in the occult."

He said: "The emphasis will be on scientific investi-

gation of phenomena in the area and research into spirit healing, telepathy, life after death and other areas of the paranormal."

Mr Phillips, a draughtsman for a London firm, said this area is rich for sightings of UFOs, but ghosts are not so common. North-West Kent is also thin on the ground for budding metal benders.

But he hopes the new research group will devise and try out experiments in telepathy and metal bending.

His own speciality in psychical research is the investigation of poltergeists—noisy spirit entities which pester families by throwing objects about rooms and causing loud knocking sounds.

So far there are only 10 members of KASPR but he is hoping a public meeting at Hurst Community Centre, Hurst Road, Sidcup, at 7.45 pm tomorrow (Friday) will attract more people interested in becoming researchers.

BEXLEYHEATH & WELLING OBSERVER 19 FEB 81.