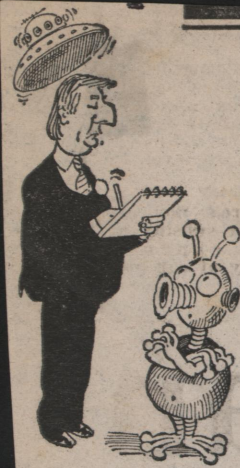


# ANGUS MCGILL

## Where have all the UFOs gone?

(THEY'VE GONE TO  
IPSWICH, EVERY ONE)



SOMETHING is happening in Outer Space, something strange. No one knows what and no one knows why but the UFOs seem to have stopped coming.

There hasn't been a sighting, not what you would call a sighting, for months. No speeding discs of light, no close encounters with curious craft and silvery strangers. Even photographs of distant flashes in the night sky have been in short supply. Something is up.

Perhaps we will know more after this weekend. UFO investigators from 28 countries are coming to London for the British Unidentified Flying Object Research Association's congress and they will look into it I'm sure.

Meanwhile I have an explanation. Actually I'm pretty sure I have THE explanation. What has happened surely is this . . .

Space-ships from other worlds, having taken a close look at us for several years, have decided that they don't like what they see. So they have taken off again and who can blame them?

That is clearly the answer but all the same a good many delegates to the BUFORA congress are unlikely to accept it and for a reason that may surprise you. A lot of them just don't believe in visits from outer space.

They believe in UFOs, of course, how could they not?

"If one sees something in the sky which one cannot identify and which subsequent investigation fails to identify then it must be an unidentified flying object," says Lord Kings Norton reasonably.

"So when people say to me 'Do you believe in UFOs?' I regard it as an extremely silly question."

Lord Kings Norton is an extremely distinguished scien-

tist and engineer and everyone in BUFORA knows how sceptical he is. This does not stop him from being their president.

"What I want," he says, "is a genuine investigation into these phenomena to see just how many we can explain."

And indeed until recently the skies were full of the things. Never a day went by without a clutch of sightings somewhere.

At Warminster alone UFOs were spotted just about every night. It soon became famous for its UFOs. Local hotels ran UFO-spotting weekends and journalists flocked there from all over. Me too, I flocked. I spent a long night on a Warminster hillside staring at the sky. Nearly everyone else saw UFOs that night but I didn't see one, I did feel a fool.

Anyway these sightings and others, far more exciting, actual landings with doors

sliding open and small persons of a superior kind crossing the lawn and coming in for coffee, they were all painstakingly investigated by BUFORA and others.

These investigations had a profound effect on some of the investigators.

Jenny Randles, for instance, a bright and down-to-earth Lancashire girl, began like most of the investigators by believing that the world was being visited by intelligent beings from other worlds. She soon changed her mind.

Nine out of every ten sightings turned out to have a perfectly ordinary explanation. As for the rest, well, she says, choosing her words, many of the more colourful contact-cases "emerge from the psyche of the percipient".

This leaves a few very interesting cases which don't yield to any explanation. Miss Randles believes that these are a new kind of natural

JENNY  
RANDLES  
... amazing  
happenings  
in Rendlesham  
Forest.



There is, for instance, Mr Bob Taylor of the West Lothian Forestry Department who came across a dome-shaped object in a clearing on November 9, 1979. Two grey spheroids with spikes, looking like animated landmines, came out of it and rolled and bounced towards him. He felt a tugging at his legs and smelled a nasty smell and collapsed face downwards.

When he came round they'd gone. He thinks his dog frightened them off.

Then there is the young Gateshead woman called Carol who was visited by 12 tiny creatures in her bedroom at 4 am on September 3, 1979. They were about 2½ feet tall with pale, feminine type faces. They took a close interest in her. One of them even touched her and made a rather disparaging remark. "She is just like any other earthling," it said. Then they all disappeared.

Carol didn't like this much but she should complain! A lady, unnamed, in Wellington, Surrey, was raped by a space-man inside a spaceship in 1973! On October 16 actually.

And Mr J. B. Aylen of Heavitree, Exeter, is in absolutely no doubt about the danger we are all in. His letter in the current issue of Flying Saucer Review should alert us all.

"Are we perhaps kept like animals in a zoo," he asks, being observed regularly and having medical check-ups to see if our radiation level is correct?

"Perhaps, slowly, we are all being abducted and are being bred for some nefarious purpose. How long do we have to wait before something positive appears?"

I would like to know this too. I might have to alter my holiday dates.

**STOP PRESS!** Hold everything, Flying Saucer Review has a Late Item from the splendid Jenny Randles:

Three separate rumours, she says, from three separate sources, talk of amazing happenings around an air base in Rendlesham Forest, just east of Ipswich, between December 27, and the end of January.

Mysterious objects have been picked up by radar. There is talk of multiple landings at the base. One large object, they say, crashed in the forest and EVERYTHING HAS BEEN HUSHED UP.

"You are asked not to treat this short item as anything other than a preliminary introduction to what may be either a most amazing UK case," she writes, "or the greatest hoax / rumour fire-storm that this country has ever known . . ."

I say the same. Watch this space.

\*UFO Study a handbook for enthusiasts, by Jenny Randles. Robert Hale, £7.95.

physical phenomenon which we will understand one day.

A loss of faith in men from outer space has not reduced Miss Randle's enthusiasm for UFOs. Her second book on UFOs is out this week.\* And she works for Flying Saucer Review though she wishes it had a different name. "Fly-

ing saucer" dates from the earliest days of UFOs. No one calls them that now.

Still, alien persons from outer space are not totally out of favour in UFO circles. There are still fervent believers, among them, of course, those who have actually met them.