

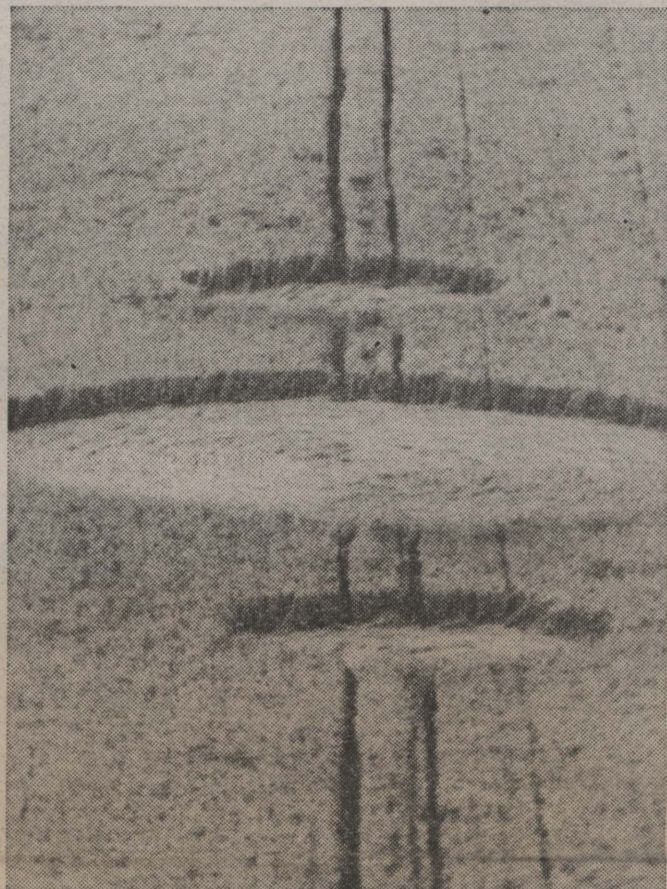
WHY HAVEN'T YOU PHONED, E.T.?



We've found enough White Holes to sink a flying saucer!



HERE Mrs Payne with pictures old and new of the phenomenon. "The holes are quite friendly," she says. Others are not so sure.



THERE Strange goings-on in the Devil's Punchbowl, near Winchester, 1981

The big mystery of UFO-land is getting deeper

IT'S not just in Wiltshire that ET has left his calling card. It seems he has also paid a visit to neighbouring Hampshire.

And last night the mystery of the farm field holes had everyone going round in ever-increasing circles.

The saga began at the weekend when five rings appeared in a cornfield in the Wiltshire town of Westbury inside the "Warminster Triangle," an area that knows a thing or two about UFOs.

The nation held its breath as the Express invited E.T. to phone from outer space and explain what on earth is going on.

Last night we were still waiting. Then came the startling revelation that five similar rings had appeared in Hampshire's Devil's Punchbowl, a magnificent amphitheatre below Cheese-foot Head beauty spot outside Winchester.

This time they are in barley not corn. But the geometric perfection and pattern are just as intriguing.

The new circles are in an 80-acre field beside the A272 road to Petersfield.

The big circle is 50ft in diameter, and the four smaller ones grouped round it are each 18ft across.

And it's not the first time they have appeared there! They also turned up in 1980 and 1981.

This year they were dis-



AND EVERYWHERE A new mystery yesterday as they appear again in the Winchester barleyfield: The plot gets cornier

By DAVID THURLOW

covered on the thundery night of June 18.

Maurice Botting, manager of a neighbouring farm at nearby Owslebury, said: "I went past that night at 1.30 a.m. and they were not there."

"When I went by again at 6.30 a.m. there they were—and it was quite astonishing. We are all mystified and would love to know what the answer is."

In each circle, the barley has been knocked down

scientifically in a clockwise spiralled spiral from the centre leaving a perfect arc.

Mrs Petronel Payne, 37, from Owslebury, said: "The barley is laid perfectly, not ripped, torn or crushed."



"What we want is a logical explanation. There have been other circles in the area."

"People rang the Ministries of Defence and Agriculture two years ago but no one was interested so we left it."

Last night the local pubs were agog as villagers in the two counties put forward their own theories.

Some said the circles were cut by a hoaxer on stilts, or by deer, a whirlwind, or a helicopter.

Others suggested it was the work of hedgehogs joyfully making love in the mid-summer moonlight.

But as the speculation grew that it might be something from outer space, the Hampshire field owner launched a furious rocket of his own.

Lieutenant Commander Henry Bruce has absolutely

no doubt what it's all about. No fancy theories for him.

He declared: "It's grown up people behaving like children making wanton damage."

"They want to delude people who are stupid into believing it's a UFO."

"Any child could do it. It's the easiest thing in the world to do. I won't say how."

Mrs Jenny Randles, director of investigations for the British Unidentified Flying Object Research Association said: "We believe the circles are not mysterious but caused by whirlwinds or tornadoes. We think the weather is to blame."

Come in E.T. The line is open!

CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE WILTSHIRE KIND: SEE PAGE 9