

'Close encounter' man at meeting

THE pensioner who claims to have been aboard an alien spacecraft in Aldershot joined a national UFO expert for a public talk on the subject.

Mr. Alfred Burtoo (77), of Pegasus Avenue, Aldershot, joined Mr. Timothy Good for the talk "What on Earth is Happening?" at Leatherhead on Wednesday.

It is thought to be one of the first times someone who claims to have had a "close encounter of the third kind" has appeared at a meeting.

He was fishing in the Basingstoke Canal near the Government Bridge last August when, he says, a spacecraft landed and he was invited on board.

But after being tested he was told he could leave as he was "too infirm" for the visitors' purpose.

Mr. Good, a principal consultant to the House of Lords' all-party UFO study group, has investigated the case and believes it is genuine.