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# UFO alert after 'light' in the sky

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UFO hunters in North East Lancashire were on the alert today after a new "sighting" on the moors above Darwen and Burnley that brought scores of telephone calls shoaling in to police stations.

Burnley police alone had 30 phone calls in an hour as people rang to talk of a mysterious, flame-tailed object drifting over the hills.

Two policemen were among the many who saw the latest mystery object in the sky.

One caller to Burnley police station said the object was "as big as a double decker bus."

And all over the area puzzled people saw lights and flames as the unidentified object drifted across the skies.

One of those who got a grandstand view was 38-year-old driving instructor Mr John Shannon, of Victoria Terrace, Tockholes.

He was taking his children to a party about seven o'clock at night and stopped his car near the top of Heys Lane.

## A star

He said today: "It approached me from my left—from the direction of Feniscowles. It looked like a shooting star and as it turned over Darwen and headed south towards Manchester I saw that it had a tail three times its own length.

"There were sparks coming out of the tail and I thought I saw lights. But there was no noise that I could hear.

When it got near Darwen it made a decided dip in the Manchester direction. I thought it must have been a plane and I rang the police to tell them."

Radar operators at Manchester Airport picked up an object on their screens at about the same time. But it was not an airliner.

The new East Lancashire sightings come only 48 hours after sensation in New Zealand where other observers saw another UFO. Among those who had a first class view were the pilot of a light aircraft. One of his passengers took pictures.