

- 5 JUL 1985

UFO theory on mystery circles

A MYSTERY fit for the files of scientist and visionary Arthur C. Clarke was being speculated upon by villagers this week.

On Monday, while driving to his boutique in Rustington, Jeremy Fisher of Grove Lane, West Chiltington, spotted some strange markings in a cornfield on the side of the Long Furlong, a twisting country road between Findon and Clapham.

And, after studying them, he is now convinced the impressions were made by alien visitors.

"I was so intrigued by them that I nearly drove into a lorry," Jeremy explained afterwards.

With him was his wife Carol and 26-year-old Lisa Wigg, who lives in Storrington. "I thought it was very unusual," said Carol. "The marks had either been left by a UFO or it was a hoax."

What the three had spotted in the corn were five perfectly

formed circles. The one in the middle measured 18 yards across and the smaller ones five yards. The smaller circles appeared to be spaced at an equal distance from the centre.

"When I got to the shop I phoned Worthing police," said Jeremy. "They were very sceptical. One of their theories was that the wind had done it."

"But he is still convinced the circles were left by visiting aliens."

"Twenty years ago I saw a flying saucer on the brow of the hill when I was driving home along the same road," he said. "It was a huge disc. It was winter time and I could see it clearly outlined against the sky."

Also at the scene on Monday afternoon was Jean Monger from Clapham. She claims to have seen a UFO over the area eight years ago. "It floated across the forest. It was cigar-shaped and had green and red lights."

A man who identified himself as a "UFO watcher" made a brief appearance at the scene. He said that the marks had been

reported to him and he had come to inspect them.

"I saw two of these sets of markings next to each other in a field in Hampshire. They were exactly the same shape. It was in 1983 at exactly this time of the year," he claimed.

Tony Wicks, manager for Findon Farms which owns the land, was more sceptical.

"I noticed the marks on Saturday at about 7.30 a.m. I thought somebody had been having a game. I don't believe it's anything to do with outer space. I don't know what it is but I think it's been done by human beings with a piece of string. I heard of something similar appearing at Winchester."

He said there were no footprints near the circles but there was a trail where the corn had been trampled.

The Fishers remain unswayed. Carol took a few ears of corn away with her from the large circle. She claims to have psychic abilities and intends to analyse the samples to shed some light on the mystery.



LISA WIGG and Jeremy and Carol Fisher beside the field where they are convinced an unidentified flying object has left the mysterious circles visible in the picture. Photograph by Stephen Cobb.