

# Field day for UFO spotters

THE LIGHTS are on all over Oxfordshire — the key word being "over."

It could be that Astral Intergalactic Tours were offering a special guaranteed no surcharge deal last month — or it could be something quite mundane.

Whatever the reason Contact International (UK) — a worldwide association for objective UFO researchers — has been inundated in the last few weeks with sightings of mysterious aircraft and strange lights in the sky.

Mr Derek Mansell, honorary treasurer of the association, which is based at his home in Crown Road, Wheatley, says: "We're not saying they are all craft from outer space. They could well be, but they are out-of-the-ordinary things that can't be explained."

Among them are:

- September 9: seven sightings at 9.05 pm from Oxford, Bicester, Boars Hill, Kidlington and Wheatley of a fairly low, fast, silent swept-wing aircraft with unusual lights.
- September 11: from 8.50 pm to 9.04

pm over Wheatley, a satellite-type light circling silently and then fading out, viewed through binoculars.

- September 11: between 9.30 pm and 9.45 pm at Bicester, two orange-yellow discs flying fast towards Oxford silently, witnessed by a husband and wife. One disc travelled in a straight line, the other weaved from side to side.

- September 12: at 10.15 am three nurses and others saw three large silver discs, reflecting a lot of light, moving west to east very fast;

- September 12: two Abingdon housewives saw a huge object, reflecting light and metallic in texture at 11.05 am. Two airliners passed underneath. They watched it for 35 minutes and then it faded away;

- September 12: in Marston Link Road, Oxford, at 10.20 am three men saw several round shining objects moving east very slowly;

- September 12: Two reps travelling along the M40 near High Wycombe saw five objects follow each other across the motorway at a low height. They were about the size of a football and appeared to be lights.