

Group investigates those close encounters

Bradford logs up the UFO claims

CLOSE encounters of the third kind could be a reality in Bradford.

This is the claim of the West Yorkshire UFO Research Group who, since they started up a year ago, have logged numerous UFO sightings, particularly over Bradford.

Paul Bennett, of St. Paul's Road, Manningham, said he has had a marvellous response from the public. "More than 50 per cent of the UFO reports which we received, came as a direct result of the coverage, we got in the Bradford Star."

The group also produces a monthly magazine called UFO Brigantia, which deals with UFO sightings, and up-

to-date theories and attitudes towards the phenomenon.

It is edited by Andy Roberts, a house husband from Brighouse, who looks after his three-year-old son while his wife works.

"Personally I am a sceptic," said Andy. "Although I remain open-minded, I am not an out-and-out extra terrestrial believer."

He said he was not only

interested in unexplained lights, but also psychological cases, where people are convinced they have been taken aboard an alien aircraft.

"You used to hear about people thinking they had been taken into the fairy hills, so it's like modern folklore in that sense," he said.

The typical procedure when they hear about a

sighting is to find out what the astrological connection could be. Then they get in touch with the local airport and if they can't identify what it could be, the group investigates it more closely.

"People often think Venus is a UFO," he said, "and a lot of flashing lights turn out to be planes from Yeading, for example."

"We usually end up with

about five per cent that are unexplained, which is a very small proportion. The problem is that they probably could be explained, but we just can't get to the bottom of it."

The West Yorkshire UFO Research Group appeals to the public once again to let them know about any strange flashing lights or shapes in the sky.

They are also asking if anyone can give them free access to printing or photocopying to help them produce future magazines and booklets.

You can contact Andy on Brighouse 721993 or Darren Chanter on Bradford 638338.



Andy Roberts keeps a watch over Bradford.

Why does Andy Roberts spend his time scanning the skies above Bradford? Have a close encounter with our story on Page 5 to find out.