

# Balloon 'crash' mystery deepens

Mystery deepens over the low-flying hot air balloon which apparently hit the roof of a pensioner's house in Leicester — a second balloon was spotted the same day.

Yesterday's Leicester Mercury reported that pensioner Mrs. Idina Watkiss, of Coplow Avenue, off Evington Lane, claimed a low-flying balloon crashed into her roof on Sunday lunchtime.

After seeing the story, people rang the Mercury to say they spotted a balloon, sporting the motif of Leicester bookmakers Mark Jarvis, flying in the Wigston area on Sunday evening.

The pilot of that balloon, Mr. Ron Hallam, a director of Mark Jarvis, said he flew from Great Glen to Narborough between 5 and 6 p.m. on Sunday, and was nowhere near Coplow Avenue.

But Mr. Hallam said that he had spotted another balloon — a blue one with a Mercedes logo — flying over Stoughton at about 4.30 p.m. which could have been near Coplow Avenue earlier.

Mr. Hallam said he believed the balloon with the Mercedes logo may have belonged to Cooper's Cars of Rothley.

Cooper's confirmed they owned a balloon, but general manager Mr. Tony Willis said it was definitely not involved in any collision with a roof on Sunday.

LEICESTER MERCURY (5/12/86)

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*Parents, cleaners, ex-pupils, together to start the campaign test outside the*

**The committee also heard that Bardon Hill Primary School was working under "impossible" conditions.**

**It had a unique site — on the edge of the busy Bardon Hill quarry and was surrounded by 80 houses scheduled for demolition.**

**Co-opted teacher representative Ms. Pat Town said she hoped the two possible closures would not herald a**

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