

Totally spaced out

THE alarming news from New York (where else but that fad-dish city?) is that so many of its people have been abducted by outer space aliens that they're queueing up for UFO therapy to get over the trauma.

"It's not fun," reports one distraught woman who was whisked off her apartment roof to the alien spaceship. "I felt like a trapped animal. The aliens treated me with no respect at all."

What to make of it? Luckily, that fast-talking expert on UFOs and the paranormal, Jenny Randles, has just returned home to Stockport from Washington where she has been giving a paper at a university seminar on the last 40 years of sightings, and can put everything in perspective.

Disturbed by what she sees as American hysteria — "a cult almost like a religion" — she says: "Over there nowadays you're nobody if you haven't been abducted. It's clearly in their minds, but no-one has ever been observed being taken on board a spacecraft."

Now she's writing a new book advising caution on the dangers of all these claims. "There's a whole host of possible explanations," she says, 'between dreams and actual spaceships. Glowing balls of fire over the Pennines could be generated by the earth's geological processes.'

Meanwhile (wouldn't you know it?) abduction stories have started to crop up in Britain. Unlike the large-headed humanoid aliens reported by the Americans, the British variety are human-like. Very hairy aliens have been reported in South America.