

UFO team hot on trail of the shooting cigar

● **HEALEY** couple did not believe in UFOs — until late on Sunday when they saw an orange glow in the sky.

The couple were about to go to bed when they spotted an object the size of a tennis ball shooting across the sky. As it got closer they could make it out to be a long cigar shape.

"I really would like to know what it was even if it wasn't a UFO," said the woman, who refused to be named.

"The object came towards us, changed shape, then disappeared and as it came back it was cigar shaped. It was visible for

two or three minutes, probably over the Howley or Woodkirk area," she said.

The woman rang the Batley-based UFO hotline and co-ordinator, Philip Mantle, is checking out the sighting. He has already discounted the possibility that it could have been an aircraft.

"I have contacted Yeoman Airport and they were non-committal about it. They close down at 10 p.m. and there were no emergency landings," said Philip.

"Talking to colleagues in the South it appears that there were many sightings around London over the weekend but whether they are connected I would not like to say."

The UFO hotline, launched earlier this year, has received reports from as far afield as Blackburn and Birmingham and Philip says it has been a great success. The hotline number is Batley 44049.

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