

A UFO invasion, by Jupiter!

UFO-MANIA has set Walsall buzzing — as dozens of readers report seeing strange objects in the sky.

But star-gazing experts say they were simply looking at the planets Jupiter and Venus.

Reports flooded in following last week's story in which four Manor Hospital workers and a paperboy said they had seen unidentified objects or lights in the sky.

● An assistant in an off-licence in Chasewater said a man came running into the shop saying he had been followed by a UFO down a narrow lane near Barr Beacon.

"He was very flustered. At first I didn't believe him, but there was no way he could dream up such a story," she said.

● A Mr Holder from Wimperis Way, near Beacon Hill, said his wife Linda was lying in bed at 3am and saw two bright lights approaching the house.

Bright lights

"I am convinced it was a UFO, as my wife said there was no noise and as our curtains were drawn, they cast no shadows," he said.

● Another reader said he was walking to the pub in Pheasey when he saw the two bright lights moving at considerable speed towards him.

"I dashed into the pub and got my brother and a dozen friends out onto the streets to see these lights," said Mr Steve Mercher, from Aldridge.

Among other readers who contacted us was Mr Harold Davies from Willenhall who said his 16-year-old grandson was petrified at the sight and was afraid to go out.

● Mrs Diana Wilkes, an infant school teacher, wrote to us saying she and her husband were driving towards Streetly emery and noticed the bright lights. "One was cylindrical/cigar shaped and the other was a fuzzy circle," she said.

● Mrs Ann Gilchrest from Hednesford, near Cannock, said she was in a car when she saw the two 'bright headlights' travelling towards them.

there was no way they could be aeroplane lights.

"We live in an area where planes fly over everyday and this was totally different," she said.

● Miss Veronica Yates, of Drayton Street, Walsall, said she was hanging washing on the line and one light stopped above her.

"It was an amazing sight. The object stopped right over me.

"It had a dome on top and two search lights on the front. I was rooted to the spot and it turned around and disappeared," she said.

● Ten-year-old Francois Butler of Sutton Road, Walsall, made a note of the precise day and time he saw

It was Monday, March 7, at about 8.20pm, when, facing south, he saw what looked like a 'bright red ball of light'.

He said: "It just appeared in the sky. I went downstairs to look through the dining room window and it was still there.

"I watched it for about five minutes then went back upstairs and shortly afterwards it disappeared.

"I carried on looking out of the window but it didn't return and I haven't seen anything like it since." Other letters have suggested that these lights were the planets, Jupiter and Venus on an orbit and are the third and fourth brightest planets.