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THEY'VE SEEN THE LIGHT!

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UFO SPOTTERS have been flooding the Mercury with calls since a couple spotted strange lights two weeks ago.

In last week's Mercury we reported that Catford couple Don and Lynette Simpson had seen the bright, white lights sweeping across the sky.

Suggestions as to the cause of the unexplained sighting have ranged from fireworks displays to the 21st birthday celebrations of London Weekend Television, but these lines of inquiry have drawn blanks.

Civil servant John Costin told the Mercury he'd seen the same sort of thing before and wasn't particularly bothered when he saw the four bright lights as

Were they UFOs?

he walked along Peckham's Southampton Way at midnight on Saturday, July 29.

"The lights were going into the centre and then fanning out again, and I remembered I'd seen the same sort of thing before over the area," John said.

Polytechnic lecturer Nick Dunleavy, of Alanthus Close, Lee, spotted the lights as he was leaving the Royal Festival Hall.

"They seemed to be coming from the Fleet Street area, but they definitely weren't fireworks. They were more like spotlights," he said.

Landscape gardener David Champion saw the lights when he was taking his dog for a walk along Scarlet Road, on the Downham Estate.

Camden Town-based company Theatre Projects Services laid claim this week to the mysterious UFOs.

The company said the strange sights in SE London were in fact the result of their lights being used at a bash for barristers in the city.

The lights were also used at celebrations marking this week's premiere of Batman.