



# Close encounters

by Mark Bentley

THE RADAR showed everything was normal, the police reported nothing unusual, people carried on their business. . . unaware that Haywards Heath was being visited by aliens.

After a UFO was spotted in Russia last week, these staff and pupils at a Haywards Heath school claim that they, too, have had a close encounter.

Over half the pupils of St Joseph's RC School, and two of the staff, say a strange UFO appeared above their playground, floating above the trees for several minutes before slowly moving on.

After the UFO had left the chil-

dren of one class tried to draw what they had seen without conferring. The results were remarkably similar.

Melissa Morrison, aged ten, front centre, described it as three metres wide and two metres high. She said "it was a round saucer with windows all around and dangly things hanging out of the bottom."

Brave Melissa said she could not see through the windows, but she was sure the aliens were very friendly. "They were just passing through," she said.

Teachers Sue Weller, right, and Jo Ferris, left, confirmed that

a eerie object, with grey-peach coloured legs dangling below it, had passed over the school. "There was definitely something in the sky," said Mrs Ferris.

The teachers believe there must be some logical explanation, and suggested a barrage balloon may have broken free.

But though Gatwick Airport said nothing unusual had crossed their radar screens, Melissa and her friends insist other people may have seen this craft from another world.

"Some people outside Sainsburys might have seen it," said Melissa.

Also pictured are teacher Mary Wells and pupils Lisa Birch, left and Katie Bright.