

Look skywards says Pudsey UFO buff

UNIDENTIFIABLE flying objects, U.F.O.'s, meteors and the mysteries of the constellation are everyday phrases to a young astronomy enthusiast.

Fourteen-year-old Stephen Hart, of Trilby Street, Bramley, is the Pudsey representative of the Yorkshire U.F.O. Society, founded in late 1980, a member of Contact U.K. — the World's

By Sarah
Cousin

biggest U.F.O. movement, and of both the Leeds and Bradford Astronomical Associations.

His interest in U.F.O.'s stemmed from his involvement in astronomy, and though he retains an air of scepticism, he is convinced there is something going on.

U.F.O.'s are not always saucer-shaped, as one might imagine — they appear in all different shapes and sizes and travel at various speeds.



Collector of U.F.O. sightings Stephen Hart peering into the unknown.

Change

Neither are people who claim to have seen them always believers before their experiences, though the sightings are often so convincing that they do change their minds.

"There is a lot of speculation about U.F.O.'s. The most popular theory is that they are alien ships from another world, and another is that they may be manned by humans from an ancient civilisation, still surviving secretly in a desolate corner of the earth, such as the Himalayas", explained Stephen, who personally favours the first explanation.

Stories

There are numerous stories of close encounters of the third kind. In 1980 a Leeds man was found dead on top of a pile of rubble. Cause of death could not be established, but he looked as though he had died of fright.

An explanation was that he had been kidnapped and interrogated by some alien force. Rather far-fetched for some, perhaps, but Stephen quotes another example of a woman travelling in her car near Skipton in March of this year. A U.F.O. lifted her car up, and aliens interrogated her.

Unharmd

She was freed unharmd and under carefully monitored regressive hypnosis recounted her amazing experience. The beings

that had contacted her were from another galaxy, and were at war with a "bad" civilisation.

The Yorkshire U.F.O. Society investigates all reported sightings and scientifically analyses every detail to establish that which is credible. Reports are then sent to a data team in Oxford.

Pudsey

Stephen collects reports of sightings from the Pudsey area, and would be grateful for anyone who has had such an experience to contact him. He emphasises that all names and addresses will be kept completely confidential.

Sightings reported to the police are passed on to the military, and Stephen says: "There is strong evidence to suppose there is a cover-up".

Hysteria

"If aliens landed on earth and showed themselves to all there would be mass hysteria. People should be properly informed of sightings, so they will be prepared", he added. For this reason there is a continuous campaign by the U.F.O. societies urging the powers-that-be to end the cover-up.

"There is one star in the universe for every person who has ever stood on earth. Sightings of unidentifiable flying objects have been recorded all through history, and there has been an upsurge since 1947" said Stephen, adding: "It is time people should be turning their eyes skyward and just wonder about what's out there".