



# The Phenomenon Times

The official journal of  
The UFO & Paranormal Research Society  
of Australia

APRIL, 2010

*PIONEERING THE UNEXPLAINED WORLD*

Reporting on recent news and studies outside mainstream scientific  
endeavour,  
in a quest for truth.



Research of Australian Close Encounters  
First Division



## COVERING A BROAD, CROSS DISCIPLINARY APPROACH TO PARANORMAL EVENTS



STRANGE APPARITIONS



EERIE ENCOUNTERS



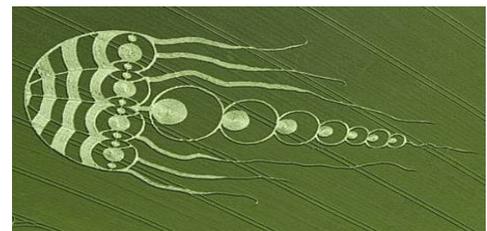
PSYCHIC PERCEPTION



UFO SIGHTINGS



TRUTH BEHIND LEGEND



THE UNEXPLAINED

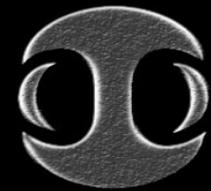
*In this Issue*

**KEITH BASTERFIELD, PAST LIVES, SECRET SOCIETIES *Plus more...***

<http://www.ufosociety.net.au>

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APRIL 2010



Lorraine Cilia

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

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Est 2000 (formerly known as the  
UFO Society of Western Sydney)

[www.ufosociety.net.au](http://www.ufosociety.net.au)

**G**reetings to all my Earthling and Alien Friends.

Ufology has had a lot of exposure in the media over the last couple of months. During February, a strange cloud formation over Mexico caused global media attention. There have been similar formations seen and photographed over Russia and China. They look suspiciously like cloud formations around a spherical object, but after much debate they remain unidentified.



Illustration 1: Mexico cloud formation



Illustration 2: GuanZhou province, China

From the UK came the news that the M.O.D. have closed their doors on taking UFO sighting reports from the general public. The media has jumped in to lend a helping hand and the Sun newspaper has opened its lines, offering to take all future reports, taking over from where the office of the M.O.D. left off. I am sceptical about this arrangement; the media has a reputation of either sensationalising or ridiculing the subject and will they conduct thorough investigations into the reports?

Mary Rodwell gave a presentation at the International UFO Congress at Laughlin, Nevada during February. Mary was the only speaker from the Southern Hemisphere and over the years has been a driving force in putting Australia on the international UFO map. Mary received great accolade from her peers and audiences; she is a brilliant representative for Australian Ufology.

As a result of the *Sunday Magazine* article 'Ghost Files', the journalist, Beverly Hadgraft, did a follow up story with Dom and I, featuring the UFO aspect of our Society, this article was released in the *Good Weekend* magazine mid March. We were then approached by Dallas Baird, a video journalist with Fairfax Media, who interviewed us for an online UFO related segment. This can be viewed at the following link:

<http://media.smh.com.au/ufo-seen-everywhere-right-1255250.html>

Last but not least, the media was hit by 'UFO Fever' when a housewife snapped great shots of a UFO over a busy road at Chipping Norton, NSW. Our speaker for the April meeting, renowned Ufologist Bill Chalker, was called in to investigate the sighting and analyse the photos. Bill will reveal his findings and results of that investigation at our April meeting.



UFO photographed at Chipping Norton

Negotiations are continuing with the Arts Centre, for our 10<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary Exhibition and Conference. I will inform our members of dates of future events as they become finalised. They will also be posted on our website: [www.ufosociety.net.au](http://www.ufosociety.net.au)  
REMEMBER THE FUTURE IS IN ALL OUR HANDS.

THE DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING IS WEDNESDAY MAY 12, 2010

~ Lorraine Cilia, UFO-PRSA President

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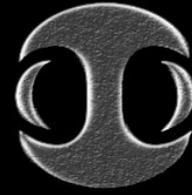
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*Kellie Pataky*

## VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

“**C**ome to the edge,” he said.

*They said, “We are afraid”.*

*“Come to the edge,” he said.*

*They came, he pushed them and they flew!*

~ G. Apollinaire

Welcome to a new and improved issue of *The Phenomenon Times*. Included are two new article sections, ‘Psychic Perceptions’, in which I intend to cover all aspects of psychic phenomenon and ‘Societies Secrets’, written by Darren Terry.

April is proving to be a very busy month for the group. We have had a paranormal investigation in Annandale, filming in Manly and have also been back to the Bushranger Hotel in Collector. We are also planning (weather pending) a mini-expedition.

March saw us on a night watch (which had to be re-scheduled due to bad weather), locally at Mt Annan. The night was very balmy and by the time we climbed to our position, the sweat was dripping off us. While the sky stayed clear for us most of the night, there was nothing significant to report.

The most exciting news, however, is our permanent move to the Campbelltown Art Gallery for our monthly meetings. The Committee value our member’s feedback, and with their support, we have made a step forward towards our future. We feel we will be able to work much closer with the community being at the Art Centre, and the modern facilities will allow us to deliver the professionalism we feel our members deserve.

Until next month,

~ Kellie Pataky, UFO-PRSA Vice President

# RESEARCHER PROFILE



## KEITH BASTERFIELD

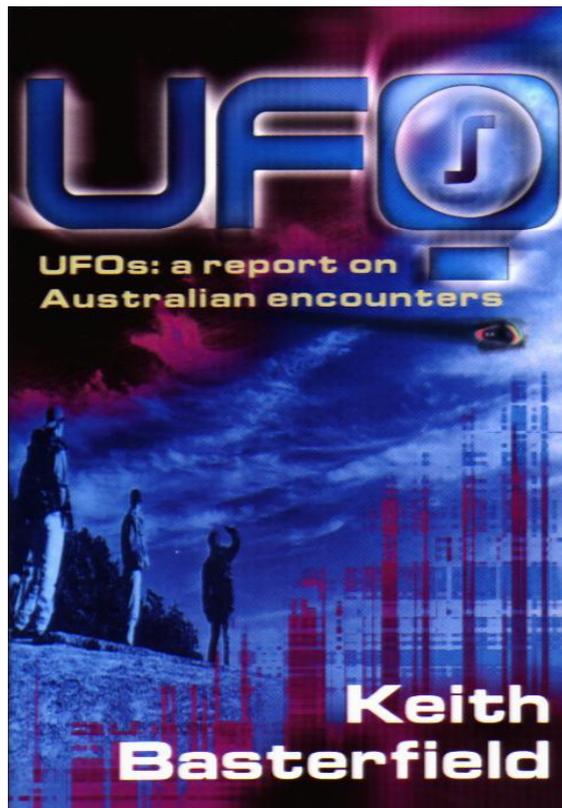
Keith Basterfield has been following the topic of UFO research since 1968. He began in the United Kingdom, and continued his efforts after relocating to Australia.

Keith was the Continental Co-ordinator for Australia and New Zealand for the **Mutual UFO Network** for a number of years until he stepped down from that position in 1998.

Keith also facilitated the National level Australian Abduction Study Centre, and is a member of the state level group UFO Research South Australia. Over the years Keith has been associated with the former US based **Aerial Phenomena Research Organisation (APRO)** as a field investigator, and in addition, has worked on material for the J Allen Hynek Center for UFO studies in the US.

His research work and findings have been published in diverse sources including the (former) *APRO Bulletin*; extensively in *MUFON Journal*; the *English Flying Saucer Review*; *Magonia* (UK); *The Australasian Ufologist Magazine*, the *UFO Research Australia Newsletter*, and various European, and South American magazines/journals. Jointly, with Robert E. Bartholomew and George Howard, a piece appeared in the prestigious "**Professional Psychology: Research and Practice**"(1991).

Keith has published two books to date. In 1981 his book on Australian UFO reports, "**Close**



**Encounters of an Australian Kind**", was published, and in 1997 a revised version "**UFOs: A Report on Australian Encounters**" was released.

At around the turn of the Century, Keith formed a group called **AURA** (Australian UFO Research Association) containing a business model approach toward collection and dissemination of all UFO related information. During the early months, Dominic McNamara joined and together with Keith, conspired to begin the **Disclosure Australia Project** – devoted to uncovering such information as existed within government organisations which should be in the public domain, but was as yet, not available to the public because it just couldn't be found. Although AURA has long since exhausted the former means of releasing files to the public after almost four years of work, Keith still occasionally releases newer information as it comes to hand.

# HOW TO RESEARCH THE UFO PHENOMENON AND RETAIN A LONG TERM INTEREST

*By Keith Basterfield*

People have asked me how I kept my interest alive across a 40-year time span of research. I thought about this again recently and came up with a few ideas which I'd like to share with you.

## **Have some guiding principles**

One of my main guiding principles has been to simply "follow the facts." If a UFO case turned out to have a mundane explanation, then I said so!

I believe that UFO investigators should weed out as many identified cases as possible, leaving only good quality "unknowns" to work with.

I have found this consistency of approach to be invaluable. It can however, lead to differences of opinion with other UFO researchers who have a non-negotiable belief system.

One example of this occurred after I appeared on an ABC television health program. I suggested on the show that some UFO abductions have their roots in terms of "sleep paralysis." A well-known Victorian UFO researcher took me to task for daring to suggest an alternative explanation than the Grays.

Another example, based on exhaustive research, was my suggestion that the 1988 Mundrabilla car encounter had an alternative non-extraterrestrial explanation. Some American researchers took a dim view of this suggestion, even though they had conducted no first hand investigations.

## **Tackle diverse research projects**

The range of research projects that I have conducted over the years had included:

- The possible application of the fantasy-prone personality, and hypnagogic imagery to UFO abductions. I had thought that support for the FPP hypothesis had declined but a recent UK study found support for it
- I asked the question "could reports of "angel hair" falls be simply spiders' web?" and found evidence to suggest that almost all reports are just that
- I conducted the only comprehensive literature review ever undertaken on the subject of alien implants. This revealed that very little peer review research had been conducted
- I took a long, hard look at the possible application of sleep paralysis to abductions, which made me conclude that most UFO researchers underestimate its relevance.

All of these projects developed my knowledge in many areas; made me question various approaches and ended up with me publishing articles across the UFO literature for others to discuss and debate.

## **Read widely**

I read a lot of different books and magazines, and browse the internet frequently. My reading covers diverse topics such as astronomy, biology, physics, the paranormal, mathematics and biographies to name just a few. I find this keeps my mind active. When reading I always try and link the information I come across to UFO research.

For example, I once read a book about the search for weapons of mass destruction in Iraq. A portion of a single page mentioned UFO research within the intelligence area of the Australian Department of Defence. This ultimately led to the release of a formerly secret intelligence file on UFOs. Copies of this file may now be obtained through the National Archives of Australia.

### **Don't separate research into UFOs from research into the paranormal**

In my opinion you shouldn't just study UFOs. UFOs are simply part of the paranormal. Much is to be learnt by researching these two topics as one.

For example, the after-effects of some UFO close encounters include a range of effects labelled paranormal, such as poltergeist activity.

Also, recent scientific studies on the topic of out-of-body experiences are relevant to abductions. Science has now been able to create OBEs on demand, by stimulating the human brain. It also has, in the laboratory, successfully demonstrated that one's sense of self can be transferred to a point outside the body.

### **Take frequent breaks from research**

I've taken a number of breaks from researching UFOs. I think the longest was for four years. Breaks, particularly long ones, enabled me to escape the day-to-day routine of UFO investigations. This gave me time to reflect.

It was during such breaks that I developed insights into how the fantasy-prone personality, and hypnagogic imagery relate to the UFO phenomenon.

### **Like Kylie Minogue and Madonna, reinvent yourself from time to time**

At various stages over 40 years of my interest, I have been:

- One of the Co-ordinators for the Australian Centre for UFO Studies
- Research Director for UFO Research SA
- Founder of the Australian Centre for UFO Abduction Studies
- Continental Director for the US Based Mutual UFO Network
- Facilitator for Disclosure Australia.

Each of these roles brought me into contact with a range of different individuals, and taught me new skills.

### **Publish your research**

I find no value in coming up with some valuable insights and then not telling anyone about them I would urge you all to run your own website; make documentaries; publish your own blog, or write for UFO magazines.

Publishing opens up your work to peer review, which ensures debate and discussion.

Speaking of publishing your work, if you'd like to see what I have published over the years, then Google "Keith Basterfield."

## **Don't be afraid to respectfully disagree with other researchers, whoever they might be**

David Jacobs is a US abduction researcher with some controversial viewpoints, some of which I have strongly disagreed with. I have debated some of his ideas in print.

Likewise back in the 1980's and 90's I found much to disagree with Whitley Strieber and documented my observations in print. Surprisingly, US abduction researcher Budd Hopkins agreed with some of my points.

About a year ago my thoughts on former astronaut Ed Mitchell's revelations about ETs, even made the pages of the Tehran, Iran daily newspaper!

I have outlined my views in various places on the inadequate research we have collectively undertaken on the UFO abduction phenomenon. Interestingly, some people in the US and UK have/are following up lines of research suggested, in part by me.

### **Finally**

You cannot retain a long-term interest in any topic, without thinking that the subject of your study has some merit.

I would however, make a couple of general observations:

- I think that examples of the "true" or "core" UFO phenomenon are much rarer than most UFO researchers think. At one stage in South Australia I led a group of investigators, who for three years examined several hundred local UFO reports, and found that 95% of them could be explained in mundane terms. Today if you look at large numbers of incoming UFO reports as listed on Australian groups' websites only some 10% are said to be UFOs. I believe that if sufficient, open minded resources were given today to investigations, that the clear up rate would still be about 95%
- I am still not convinced that the UFO phenomenon has a simple explanation such as extra-terrestrial. I am more inclined to consider an inter-dimensional or multi-verse origin.

In conclusion, after 40 years of research, I still believe that the UFO phenomenon contains genuine mystery, worthy of continued scientific study.

-- Keith Basterfield, February 2010.

# EERIE ENCOUNTERS



When I was about 8 or 9, we moved from the Central Coast in New South Wales to an old house that was turned into a set of 4 flats. The house was situated in Woody Point, Queensland. It's an old white place and it is still there today. Nothing happened for the first couple of months or so when we first moved in.

The way the unit was set out didn't leave much room for anything. It had a long lounge area, but small in shape as you first walked in. On the right side of the wall was panelling - later we found out why. Off to the left was a bedroom and off the back of the lounge was a small kitchen. The kitchen had double wood and glass doors. Beyond the kitchen was a small area like a void. To the left was a small bathroom and toilet. If we walked straight through the void it took us to another bedroom.

Outside the bedroom was a laundry room. One warm Queensland night, I was sitting on the lounge around 8pm, when I saw something out of the corner of my eye. At first I thought it was just the curtain blowing from the back bedroom, but then I looked and realised it was a lady in white. Although she was not a human in flesh, but rather a misty cloud. I said, "Hello," and then my mother looked around and saw her as well. The 'Lady in White' as we nicknamed her, walked to the panelling on the right hand side of the wall and vanished.

My mother said she had seen the lady in white a few times after that, but usually later on in the evening. Mum told us not to be scared, as the lady was not scared of us, and the house was probably her house long before we moved in.

Months later, the lady in white would tap my mother on the shoulder at 3:12am every night. She never disturbed anyone else. At first, Mum freaked out thinking there was a fire or something wrong with us kids. My mum eventually got used to her and would say to the lady, "Ok I will see you tomorrow," turn over and go back to sleep. Not scary at all you say. Now, here is where the fun begins....

Remember there are 4 flats. Our next door neighbour, on the ground level to us, never had any trouble and never even saw the lady. The neighbour told my mum that a few people had packed up and left the first day they moved into our flat.

"It's funny nothing's happening in your flat," she said. Mum then told her about the visits and that she found the lady in white very peaceful.

"Oh, that's not like her at all," replied our neighbour.

It was Christmas and we got new neighbours in the flat above us. Funny thing was, they were friends we knew from NSW. They stayed a total of 3 days and moved out. Our friend had told my mum that when she put the kids in the bath on the second night, blood had started coming through the walls. Things in the kitchen were thrown around the place. The kids wouldn't sleep in the room without one of the parents being in there with them. Our neighbours had been scared out of the house by the beautiful lady in white. No-one moved into the flat for some time.

The house had a huge tree out the back that we would all climb. One afternoon, there were a few dark clouds in the sky. My brothers, a few neighbours and I went to climb the tree. Then we saw a man there. He scared us all and we ran to tell our parents. There was no man in the yard, or near the tree or even in the street. Whoever he was, he scared me and I never went back to the tree or into the backyard again.

Once we had friends visit us from NSW with 2 small children who were about 1 and 3 at the time. They stayed in the back bedroom. The lady in white must have loved babies because the kids were awake in the middle of the night playing, laughing and enjoying themselves. When she left the room, the kids screamed the house down for hours. Their parents packed the bags and left that night.

Later, my mum did some research into the house. She found out the house was a plantation house and that the woman was murdered in the upstairs area. Mum, coming from builders background, also looked into the original plans before it was turned into flats. Where the woman in white walked through our wall at night, was a staircase leading to the top part of the house.

I remember her as clear today as I did back then. I now have moved back to Queensland and often drive past and wave to her. Silly really. She never bothered us and I do believe we never bothered her. Others did, I believe, that's why things happened upstairs and not in our flat.

~ Kelly, QLD.

# Psychic **QP** Perception

## Past Lives

By Kellie Pataky



**M**y fascination with past life existence began over 20 years ago when I arrived in a small country town that seemed very familiar to me. I was experiencing flashbacks of roads, buildings and even a church – yet I had never been to this place before. The strangest part of these ‘flashbacks’ is that they resembled an era many years before the current year. I could visually see men and women dressed in 1940s era clothing as well as motor vehicles. I remember standing in the street rubbing my eyes and massaging my temples feeling as though I was losing my mind.

At that time, I had no idea of ‘past lives’ and just brushed the experience off as having an overactive imagination. It was some 15 years later when I had my next experience. This was very similar to my first visions, except now I could place furniture exactly how it was set up in a living room before the current restoration. The owner of the restored house was actually an historian, and after explaining to him how I saw the original layout, he later verified by photographs that I was indeed correct. *What is going on, am I losing my mind*, I thought!

I then started to keep a more detailed record of my memories. I would log dates, times, location and events that were maybe triggering these flashbacks – if any. Nothing seemed to be a stand out, but I was now having very vivid dreams that seemed to last

all night. I felt I was truly living my dreams and when I woke up each morning, felt uncomfortable in the current era.

A close friend of mine at the time suggested that maybe the recent trauma in my life, as well as a near death experience 18 months before, could be the cause of my flashbacks. She put me in contact with a naturopath/iridologist/psychic that she had been going to for a number of years and trusted he could help me get to the bottom of what I was going through.

Reluctantly I took her advice and made an appointment. As soon as I walked through his door, he seemed to read me like a book. He described (as if he had known me for years) everything that I had just gone through and explained that this was a cycle I had to break. “Cycle, what cycle?” I asked. Apparently, in my past life, I had suicided over the same trauma I had just gone through and until I put my grief to rest and “move on”, the cycle would just keep repeating itself - life after life.

“This is way too much to digest. Thanks for your help, but you know nothing about me and I don’t think this is the answer to my problems,” I said.

“No problem, go home and have a really good think about what I have just told you and I will see you at your next appointment,” he said.

*Not likely!*

Sure enough, he did see me several weeks later and the regression and

hypnotherapy sessions began. Eight weeks later, I was a new person and I had a whole new perspective on life. Months went by and everything seemed to make much more sense. Years went by, and I seemed to be outgrowing a lot of my friends. This was when I joined the UFO Society of Western Sydney (now UFO-PRSA). All of a sudden, everyone seemed to understand me. I wasn't judged and now I had a whole new circle of friends I could be myself around. Two years after I joined the group, I became an investigator.

It was during one of our paranormal investigations that I was contacted by a person who I was very close to in my 'past life'. She made herself known to me via the psychic board at an old hospital. It turns out; this hospital was where she had died. The same night was when I had my first experience with my mediumship, so I was rather confused as to why this was all happening now. She was actually encouraging me to go with what I was seeing and hearing and trying to get me to acknowledge my gift. As nervous as I was, I felt very comfortable trusting her and that night proved to be very rewarding.

A few months had passed, and my family went on a holiday to the South Coast. During our stay, I happened to stumble upon a great little second hand bookshop. I absolutely love books, and was in my element browsing aisle after aisle, shelf after shelf. Nothing really caught my eye and I was about to walk out, when I accidentally knocked over a table in the back corner of the shop. A book fell to the floor and as I bent down to pick it up, the owner came over to help me. As I looked at the front cover, she called out to her husband "Darl, look what book has just found a new home". *Oh, great sales pitch*, I thought!

When I had a second look at the front cover, the words *past life family* stood out. "Dear God, do books like these actually exist?" I asked. The owner then took me over to the front counter with a big smile on her face and explained that this book had

changed her life. She felt the book was obviously meant for me and didn't charge me for it. "Good luck on your new journey" she said, as I left the shop. *Good luck...what is that supposed to mean?*

I couldn't wait to get back to where we were holidaying and start reading. There had to be a meaning to all of this and the sooner I got the book read, the sooner it would all hopefully start to make sense. I think I read the 147 pages in a couple of hours!

The book 'Yesterday's Children', by Jenny Cockell indeed had a big impact on my life. This was a real life story of Jenny, who for as long as she could remember had memories of living as a young Irish woman by the name of Mary. Mary had died over 20 years before Jenny was born. The similarities of Jenny's past life and what I could remember of mine were remarkable. We were roughly the same age and also remembering the same era. My descendants were also Irish.

Jenny was so determined to prove that her past life existed; she contacted a television researcher for the BBC who was looking at running a documentary series covering various paranormal topics. While there were no guarantees that Jenny's story would be included in the series, just having an outsider doing independent research helped her validate her story. Not only did Jenny's story as Mary make the BBC, but she also published her own book. Below is a brief introduction to her story, and if you are able to get a hold of a copy – I highly recommend it.

*Mary died twenty-one years before I was born but memories of her life and of that time were always a part of me, shaping and affecting the person I grew to become. This is an account of the search both for the children Mary left behind and for self-understanding; through reaching out to the past I had to unearth and face my own feelings of inadequacy and fear and find the reasons behind these emotions. I knew that I*

*had to try and find the children 'of yesterday' or my life would always be shadowed by memories of the past, of grief, anger and loss. In part, this book is written to and for Mary's children.*

*Before the search could begin, I needed to develop the courage and strength to pursue my dreams. I could never be certain that a satisfactory conclusion would be achieved and I was constantly dogged with doubts and uncertainties. The road was never going to be easy. I was driven by the obsession towards a goal that, deep inside, I knew was there to be reached if only enough effort was made, for long enough and in the right direction.*

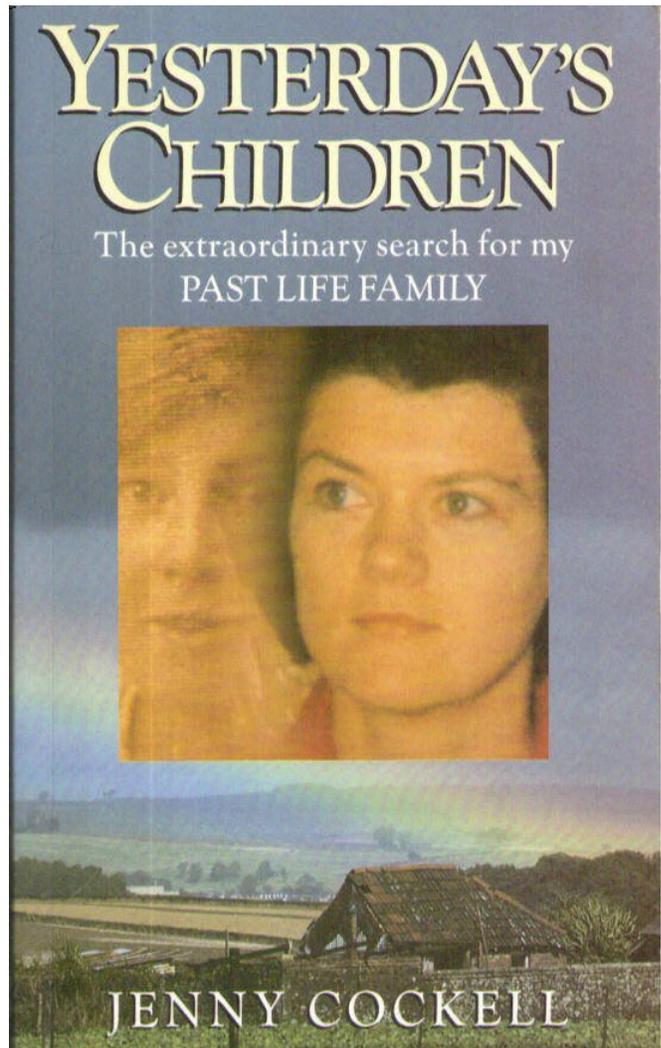
*Even the process of sharing this story seemed to have a place in the experience as a whole. Seeking the opinions of others and gauging feeling has helped me to meet my need for approval and find out how others view what I see as the memory of a previous life. I had always been puzzled that others seemed unable to remember any of their other lives, and at times I found it hard to believe that they could not. Writing this book has helped me to find out why my normality was not the normality experienced by others.*

*It's hard to be certain where my story starts – it's not really with my childhood or even my birth. In a sense it starts with Mary's death. But of one thing I am sure, it would never have happened without the dream....*

■ **Excerpt taken from *Yesterday's Children* by Jenny Cockell.**

As you just read about Jenny, confronting these memories can be a painstaking experience. But like her, I have also found it very rewarding and in some ways peaceful. I still diarise my memories and visions, and hopefully, once I piece them altogether - I too can write a book about my past life.

~ By Kellie Pataky



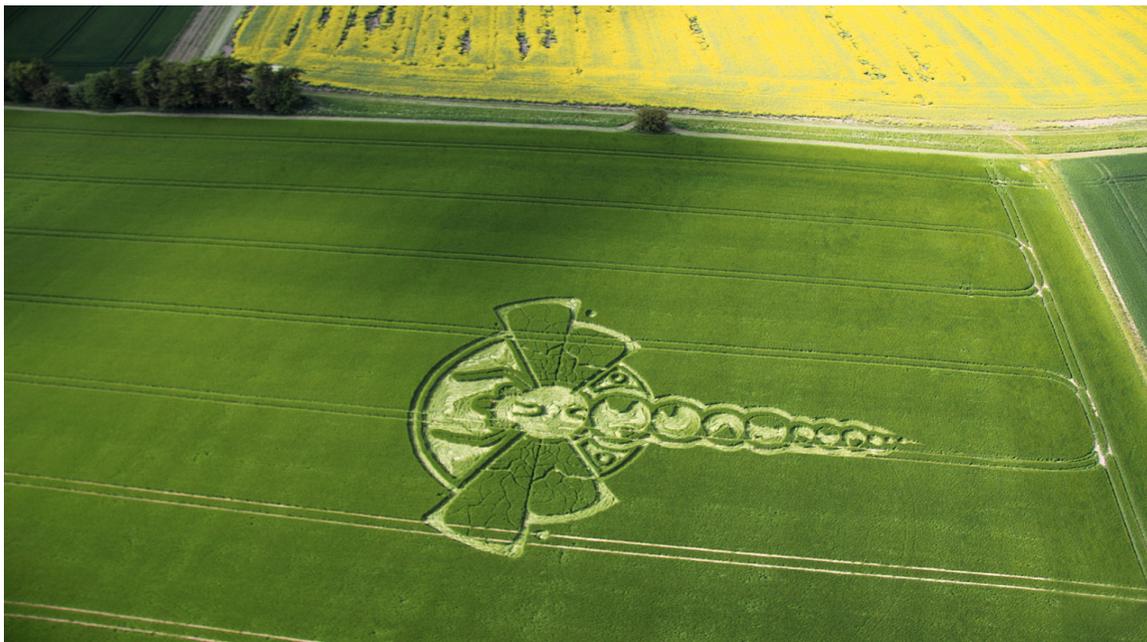


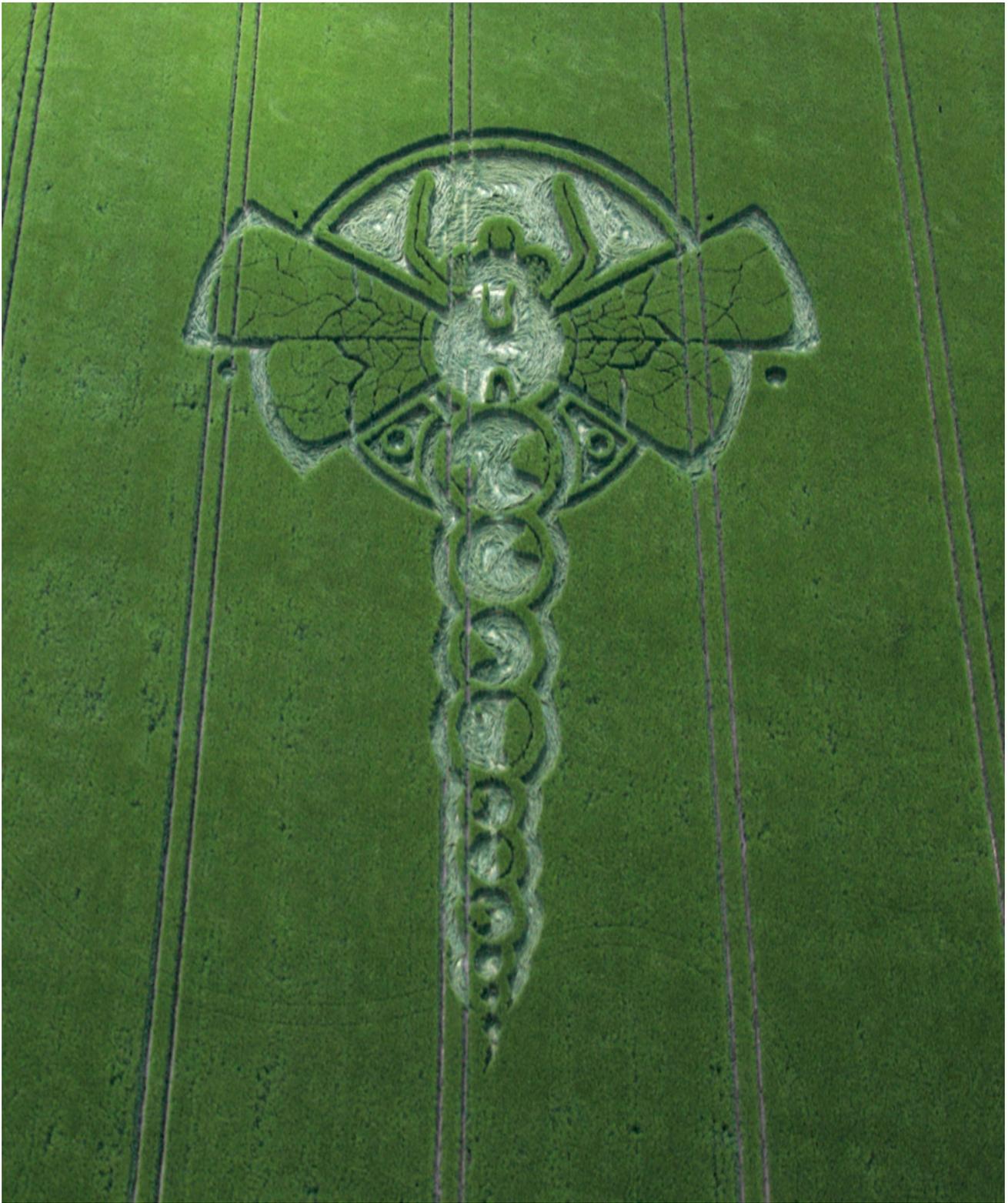
The Yatesbury formation is a very precise symbol; it could hardly be called abstract, as it looks very much like a dragonfly. And it seems that it *is* a dragonfly. There has been another 'dragonfly' crop circle in the past (at Uffington in 2000), but this one is more graphic. Jung used the dragonfly to symbolise the exploration of the unconscious. It is the door to our inner being that is so far removed from our day-to-day reality. Yet, it is that part deep within us that contains our deepest impulses that influence all of our thoughts and all of our actions. This area of our psyche is certainly worth exploring if we are to advance in understanding of who we are and of what we are doing here.

The halo at the head of the design makes it look holy, a bit like a Buddha, and the nine circles below the main body attached to the wings are significant as the number 9 signifies the end of a cycle. Whereas the comma at the very tip of that tail intimates at the beginning, or represents the embryo of a new cycle about to begin.

The whole thing emanates sacredness. It is very humbling to look at it – and what a beautiful design.

Upon inspection at ground level, the dexterity of the execution was amazing. Such fine lines in the wings that are almost impossible to see, and apparently completely impossible to enter, and there were so many. Such a complex design has never been seen before in all the years of crop circle study - a masterpiece of execution and of meaning.





Images Copyright Olivier Morel WCCSG 2009



# Secret Societies Society's Secrets

By Darren Terry

***A brief discussion on the articles that I am planning to write for the newsletter and internet.***

During my research on religion, its history, the occult and secret societies, I have found that there is more than one idea on a subject, more than one meaning or understanding of that subject and especially in history more than one account of how and why it happened. As you can understand religions see topics differently. Over the course of history, governments, organisations and religions have changed historic records to manage the information that has been released in an attempt to change society's views of them.

## **Eliphas Lévi Description of Baphomet**

This article discusses the symbolism of the drawing of Baphomet and description by Eliphas Lévi, born Alphonse Louis Constant, (08-02-1810 to 31-05-1875). His book "Dogme et Rituel de la Haute Magie" (Dogma and Ritual of High Magic) was first published around the year 1855. It was translated into English by Arthur Edward Waite as "Transcendental Magic, its Doctrine and Ritual" in 1910.



15 Figure 1. The 19<sup>th</sup> Century image of **Baphomet** by *Eliphas Lévi*

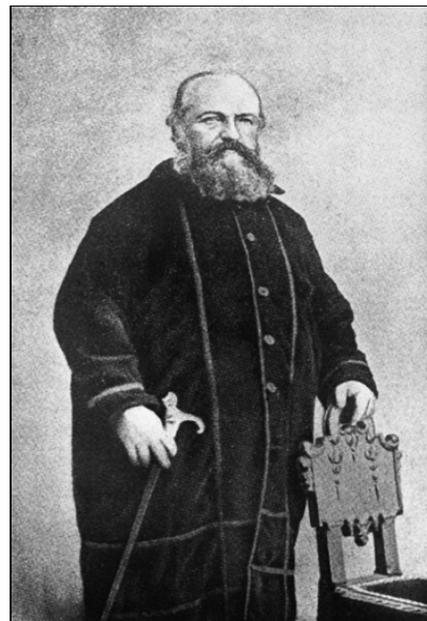


Figure 2. Alphonse Louis Constant

Eliphas Lévi did not see this drawing of Baphomet as a symbol of any of the above. He wrote, "But the adorers of (Baphomet) do not consider...that it is a representation of the devil; on the contrary, for them it is that of the god pan, the god of our modern schools of philosophy...the god of the primitive Gnostic schools." He also considered the meaning of Baphomet to depict the absolute in symbolic form.

Levi himself described the meaning of the symbol as:

"The goat on the frontispiece carries the sign of the pentagram on the forehead, with one point at the top, a symbol of light, his two hands forming the sign of hermetism, the one pointing up to the white moon of Chesed, the other pointing down to the black one of Geburah. This sign expresses the perfect harmony of mercy with justice. His one arm is female, the other male like the ones of the androgyn of Khunrath, the attributes of which we had to unite with those of our goat because he is one and the same symbol. The flame of intelligence shining between his horns is the magic light of the universal balance, the image of the soul elevated above matter, as the flame, whilst being tied to matter, shines above it. The beast's head expresses the horror of the sinner, whose materially acting, solely responsible part has to bear the punishment exclusively, because the soul is insensitive according to its nature and can only suffer when it materializes. The rod standing instead of genitals symbolizes eternal life, the body covered with scales the water, the semi-circle above it the atmosphere, the feathers following above the volatile. Humanity is represented by the two breasts and the androgyn arms of this sphinx of the occult sciences."

- Quote from "Dogme et Rituel"

I have found a passage on the internet, which I believe explains the meaning of Baphomet in plain English.

### Polarity

The idea of polarity, such as dividing the world into male and female energies, was a central concept within nineteenth century occultism. This influence is obvious in Levi's Baphomet in several places. This includes:

The gesture of one hand pointing up while the other hand points down, expressing the Hermetic concept "As above, so below," reflecting how different levels of existence influence on another, whether those levels be intellectual vs. physical, spiritual world vs. material world, or microcosm vs. macrocosm.

Chesed and Geburah, which are two Sephirots on the Kabbalistic Tree of Life, this maps out the aspects of existence. They are on opposite sides of the tree, which are commonly understood to be male and female, severity and mercy. Chesed represents kindness and love, while Geburah presents power, strength and judgment.

The Latin terms *solve* and *coagula* written upon Baphomet's arms, which translate to dissolve and coagulate, which are opposing alchemical processes.

Multiple physical examples of Baphomet being both male and female (i.e. breasts and phallus; one male arm, one female arm).

The caduceus-like image replacing the phallus, in which the two snakes frequently represent male and female.

## Elemental Forces

Baphomet also represents the unity of the four Platonic elements, earth, water, air and fire. Air and water are the easiest to identify through the fish scales (water) and symbolic semi-circle of atmosphere (air). Baphomet's feet are planted on the sphere of the earth, while fire burns from his crown.

## Fertility and Life

The choice of goat-like features for Baphomet comes from several connections between goats and fertility. Levi himself called the figure Baphomet of Mendes, comparing him to what he believed was a goat-headed Egyptian god honoured for fertility purposes. Pan, a Greek god with goat features, was likewise commonly associated with fertility in the nineteenth century.

In addition, Baphomet's phallus has been replaced with a caduceus, which is considered by some to be a symbol of fertility. Certainly the phallic emphasis can only encourage notions of fertility.

## Other References in the passage:

Levi's mention of Khunrath refers to sixteenth century occultist Henrich Khunrath, an Hermetic and alchemist whose works influenced Levi.

Levi describes Baphomet as the sphinx of the occult sciences. A sphinx is most commonly a creature with the body of a lion and the head of human."

*By Catherine Beyer, About.com Guide*

Just a quick note: I do not intend to use such a long quote from the internet or any other source but I feel that the above passage does sum up the meaning very well and I did not wish to lose any of its meaning with the rewriting of it.

Baphomet has been described as a Masonic god or idol, and a symbol or drawing of the Christian devil. It is said that the Devil card in the popular Rider-Waite tarot deck is based on the drawing of Baphomet. This may be so, and I intend to explore the connection between these two in a later article. It has also been said to be an Arabic word meaning "The Father of Understanding" or an idol that the Templar Knights worshipped. It has been described that this idol could have been the severed head of John the Baptist.

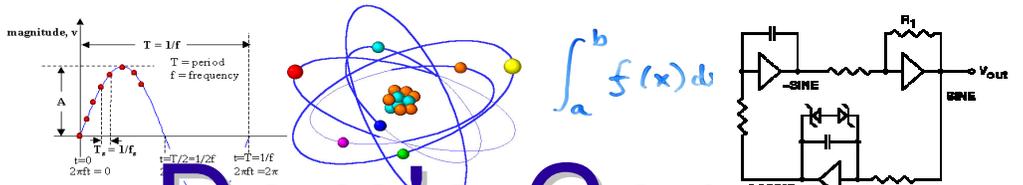
The drawing and the description of Baphomet has many different meanings depending on who you ask. Due to the passing of time we may not find out the true meaning or reason that Baphomet has turned up in history so many times.

There are a lot of areas that I have skipped over in this article as I will be looking at these areas in more depth in later articles. I wish to create a library of articles that can be used as a reference tool. In doing this I hope to be able to separate different ideas which the reader can understand the relevant meaning of the subject to that era or topic.

I invite anyone to comment on my articles or suggest topics that I can write about which you maybe interested in and would like me to explore or share with others.

I do not profess to be an expert in these fields. I am only trying to introduce different ideas and information for everyone to consider, in their own life's journey.



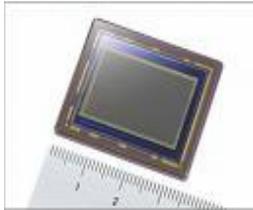


# Dom's Corner

## RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

The inability to 'see in the dark' has been a problem for humans for as long as they have lived. The idea of travelling at night, hunting at night, in fact doing anything after dark has always been a circumstance of need and necessity, sometimes with its own advantages but always with a high price of danger attached. In the case of the Society, when you are faced with trying to see objects and circumstance in the midst of the night, it would be nice to break that problem once and for all.

In the past, only night vision tubes were so capable. Hot on their trails were the CCD (Charge Coupled Device) cameras and the like which could see into the Infra Red range - so long as you excited the near foreground with enough Infra Red – enough to clearly make out all objects up to a short range of around 15 Metres. Night vision tubes are extremely expensive and outside the range of our society.

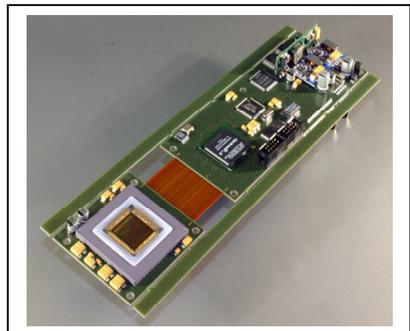


But I often pondered over the last couple of years as to how fast we could post process an image taken with a CCD without any extra Infra Red energy thrown out into the environment, i.e., sensitive enough to capture information, even if you could not see that information in a screen in real time -night or day?

What this would mean is the ability to capture large enough amounts of information in an electronic image sensor and actually processing that information with software and pattern matching enhancement before displaying it on a screen. The differences here are in pricing and the ability to compare a 'before and after' situation within a portable device that can run for hours at a time. If the post processing is fast enough and the video buffering can be accomplished, then one of the main problems we face can have a practical solution that the society can afford.

As a result, I have already begun the layout of such an instrument and we expect that the first development tests will probably take place sometime before the next edition of the Phenomenon Times. What we will end up with is an experimental platform capable of plugging different sensors with different frame rates that can all be operated by the same basic device. This will mean an opportunity to experiment with a different part of the spectrum and high-speed frame rates – another area which eludes us due to price alone. That's two birds with this one stone! There is also the third possibility of providing IP communications (Internet Protocol) whereby we could observe by remote contact.

The idea here is to have a singular base style of device that can be 'Flashed' (code read in) to operate a plethora of different imaging sensors. In this way, the investigation team can simply pick whichever instrument type would be the most suitable for the task at hand!





## **SIGHTING REPORTS**

### **GOLD COAST, QLD - 2009**

At approximately 2300 hours on the 12<sup>th</sup> April 2009, I went outside onto my verandah to have the last ciggie for the evening, when I caught sight of what I first thought was a plane, as Coolangatta airport is only a few kilometres from where I live on the Gold Coast. But I then noticed that the 2 orange lights were not moving - they were sitting totally still for a good 10 minutes. My eyes were fixated on them and it was a perfectly clear sky. At that time, my 15-year-old son arrived home with two of his friends. I yelled for them to come out and have a quick look. They stood and watched and asked me how long had the lights had been there for, and I told them that it had been at least 10 minutes. When my son and his mates then said they were going to go out onto the street to have another look, with that the 2 lights started to move to the right across the sky. The kids were yelling out to me from downstairs, asking, "Can you see them? They just moved!" I then went downstairs myself onto the street to have a look because I could no longer see the bright orange lights from where I was.

Just as I got out onto the street, the 2 lights took off at such a speed to the right of us - no plane or helicopter could fly that fast and be totally silent. We all then went upstairs and had a chat about what we had just seen. The next morning, a couple who live about 2 kilometres away from me were telling me they had seen the same thing, however their time slot was not the same as ours; theirs was approximately 1.00 am, 2 hours after our experience.

### **PERTH, WA - 2008**

It was the 1<sup>st</sup> December 2008 at approximately 2200 hours when I noticed 3 orange lights in the sky. 2 of the lights appeared to come down fast, leaving an orange arc in the sky for 1 to 2 seconds. The light that stayed there hovered for around 4 or 5 minutes before moving off. I managed to get a picture of the lone light, but it's very small. It was a partly cloudy night, but I had a good view of the lights. When they moved, I heard no sound associated with the objects.

## BLYTH CREEK, QLD - 1963

It was a warm summer evening around 8.30pm on December 2<sup>nd</sup> 1963. Myself, my parents and 7 other younger children were camped on the side of the road, 10 miles east of Roma in Queensland. We had just finished the evening meal and Mum had just put the younger children to bed in the tent, leaving us older 3 kids up.

As we sat around the campfire talking into the night, my father drew our attention to a light coming along the train line in the distance. At first we were puzzled; the light appeared to have stopped, then some 10 to 15 minutes later, the light started coming closer. When the light got about 500 yards away, it left the train line and turned towards our campsite. This is when I noticed that there were two lights, not one, and that they were in front of a large dark object.

We were all in such a panic; Dad screamed for one of us to get the gun, Mum and my two younger brothers ran into the tent leaving me and Dad outside, and even the family dog was seen salivating, shaking his head, whimpering and running into the tent. I remember thinking it was a plane and that it was going to crash on me. I looked up at this big square window and then the object moved away from our campsite.

My parents came out of the tent and Dad told me to go to bed. I thought to myself that this was strange, as I couldn't work out why they were acting like nothing had happened. Days later, I was so confused that I was asking my mother if I had been in hospital because I remembered being

operated on. I had a lump on the side of my head, and on the lump was a cut. I also had diarrhoea and could see auras around everyone.

A couple of days later, we noticed that the leaves on the tops of the trees - where this object came into the campsite - were all wilted. My Dad got one of my brothers to climb up and bring down some of the smaller branches. The leaves looked like they had been put in hot boiling water; they felt like limp seaweed.

I don't know if it was the next day, but my Dad returned from town with news that the police in Roma had a number of reports of people claiming to have seen strange lights. I remembered Dad reading the newspaper and in it there were claims of UFO sightings - 8 minutes after we had seen this object at our campsite.

During the Close Encounter, I remember that everything was still. There was no sound and the traffic on the highway seemed to have disappeared. The object was the size of a 4 bedroom house, with large square windows going around the middle. The duration of the sighting was approximately 20 to 25 minutes.

-- Reports compiled by  
Lorraine Cilia.

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