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Official Newsletter of the Tasmanian UFO Investigation Centre. Founded in 1965

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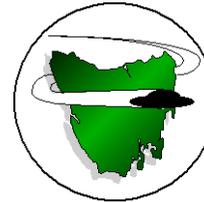
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YEAR IN REVIEW 2005

The Tasmanian UFO Investigation Centre celebrated 40 years of operation during 2005. Almost like a birthday gift a series of sightings were reported to the Centre between December (2004) and mid 2005. In fact only twice in the past 25 years has the Centre received more reports to investigate? The Melton Mowbray sighting in February would be one of the Centre's better cases for investigation, data collected, and the sheer puzzlement of the whole incident. Supporting events at Brinktop Reserve, Mangalore, Otago Bay, and Port Sorell kept the subject in front of the media. Coverage in the media was accurate and of great assistance to the Centre. Items appeared in the local press, the sightings were reported on radio as far as Queensland. Some of the sighting reports appeared on UFO web-sites world wide. One small worry was the alteration of some detail of sightings on the web; makes you wonder how exact is all the other information?

TUFOIC NEWSLETTER

February 2006 Edition 99

The Melton Mowbray case was well investigated and indicated the close approach of an unidentified aerial object. However, despite discussing the event with a number of authorities, no one seemed to have their interest aroused by the sighting and its apparent lack of an explanation. The downside during the year (an all of the recent years) has been the time spent investigating and explaining the endless reports of orange lights. The "hoax balloons" appeared from Burnie to Hobart, one Devonport witness chased an orange light until it fell as a burning bag by the roadside. Many witnesses in Hobart's northern suburbs remained unconvinced with the explanation for orange lights one August night. Some clever tricksters launched six "balloons" in a great display that was also witnessed by the TUFOIC investigator. The lights drifted slowly south, changing patterns, then eventually fading out in classic "balloon" manner. Even the press failed to cover the explanation so that the internet recorded a lights flap over Hobart.

Membership of the Centre remains fairly stable; a few new members have joined a couple have left. However, our meetings (5) during the year were sparsely attended (a trend we believe in most organisations). The Centre does not have the numbers to organise events such as Conferences and Seminars which have become fairly commonplace elsewhere.

General interest in the UFO subject seems to remain at a good level with the public at large. However, one's curiosity on the UFO subject (and just about anything else) can be satisfied from the comfort of home, no need to go out on a bleak winter night to a cold hall someplace to hear about the subject? The Centre in the year ahead may have to revise its strategy for disseminating UFO information.

The excitement of the UFO action during the first half of 2005 has now died away. It is anybody's guess as to what 2006 will bring, a glance at recent years suggests that we may return once again to a period of low activity.

Elsewhere in the world during the past year we have seen information released by the Brazilian, Spanish, and Mexican governments, don't hold your breath to hear from our pollies!

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<p>Executive</p>	
President	Janis Burns
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<p>OBJECTIVES OF TUFOIC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To investigate Tasmanian UFO reports. • To publish details of UFO reports and maintain a UFO database. • To distribute authentic information to members and fellow UFO organisations. • Membership is open to all who support the aims of the Centre. 	

TUFOIC STATISTICS 2005	
Unidentified	17
Astronomical	37
Aircraft	15
Satellites	10
Balloon Hoaxes	26
Others	27
TOTAL	132

2005 April 27. 5.20am. Otago Bay
The lone witness was en-route to work and approaching the Bowen Bridge. A slow bright flashing blue light caught her attention over or to the side of the road ahead. The light was estimated to be 100 metres ahead and some 5 to 10 meters off the ground. The light seemed to be moving to the left. The witness slowed right down and as she passed the location of the light and saw something over the house by the road. A metallic spherical shape was observed, there seemed to be patterns on the object, with two black areas (windows?) at the top. All the time there was a bright blue flashing light on the bottom left. The object had the nearby steep hillside of Mt Direction behind it. The witness felt panic at the event and hurried on to work. She called her husband and went back later to look at the area but found nothing to account for the object.

2005 May 4. 10am. Squeaking Point. The witness was out fishing on a fine day with a clear blue sky. Something shinny caught his attention and he was puzzled to see a silent grey bullet shaped object over the water. The object was not much more the 30-40 meters above the water and about the same distance away. It slowly moved north towards the sea, as it did so the witness called out to other fishermen nearby but they failed to hear him. To complete the puzzle the object which had 4 silver squares like

windows on the side just vanished in mid-air. Local enquiries, checks at Devonport Airport, and media coverage all proved negative.

2005 May 8. 6am. West Takone. The witness was up early for work and having a coffee before leaving home. Glancing out the window with a view to the north-east he saw something shinning. Just above the hill line against a clear sky was an object with a rounded top and flat base. It was a bright silver colour some 500m distant just above the trees. He observed for about 3-4 minutes before the object vanished.

2005 June 13th. 9.30pm. Burnie. The witness was waiting outside for a visitor when she noticed something coming out of the clouds to the east. It looked like a grey hexagonal shape but it was partially obscured by mist. As she watched two bright orange discs of light were seen to leave the object and shoot off to the south-west. The orange discs were out of sight in seconds. The hexagonal moon sized shape then looked to move up and into the cloud after being visible for some half a minute.

2005 Aug 12th, 9.55pm. Bust-me-Gall Hill. Motorist approaching the hill sees some lights in the sky ahead. After reaching the top of the hill there is something low over a hill to the east of the highway. He stopped his car for a closer look at a flat shape about 6-8 metres across. It had a red light on the left hand side and a blue light on the right. Shinning down below was a line of white light. He turned off the car engine and had a close look at the silent stationary object. He felt a bit uneasy after 2 or 3 minutes as no noise could be heard. He restarted his car and quickly left the area.

SIGHTINGS CONTINUED

2005 Feb 15. 2am. Native Corners.

The witness was staying on her sister's farm. She often has to get up in the night; this time about 2am. The passage inside the house is dark but on this night the inside of the house was quite bright. Upon returning to bed she saw a brilliant half-moon width light just above hills to the north-east. The light was surrounded by a glow and looked to have a tinge of red on the left side. She dozed off after about 10 minutes and did not see the light again. Her sister in the morning said that she was also up about 2am and commented how bright it was outside. The moon had set some 3 hours earlier.

2005 Feb 28. 3.34am. Swansea.

Lone witness had been to the bathroom and on the way back to bed saw some lights outside the house. Closer inspection revealed a line of blue, red, and maybe other flashing lights. The lights were over open country to the south-west.

She woke her partner to have a look as the lights moved further away to the north-west in quick jerks of speed.

2005 Mar 1. 9.15pm. Campania.

The witness was putting her dog outside when she was surprised to see what she took to be a plane coming down the gully from towards Native Corners. As she tended the dog the lights disappeared. However, in a few minutes they were back crossing the same gully as before.

She could see a line of coloured lights; there was no sound.

2005 Mar 14. 4.14am.

Woodbridge. Due to health problems witness is always up early. He noticed two big bright white-greenish lights just above a dip in the hills to the south-east. It was like looking at two headlights except there seemed to be some red on each side. The witness was puzzled by the lights and woke his wife to take a look. Soon after the two lights suddenly went down behind the hills. A subsequent check on following nights found no stars etc in that area to explain the event.

2005 April 15. 11.35am. Bradys

Look Out. The witness was travelling south on the West Tamar Highway approaching Bradys Look Out. Something shiny caught his attention in the clear blue sky out over the Tamar River. He could see a spherical metallic shape that was so bright it had reflective halo around it. The witness in amazement slowed right down to keep the object in sight. Then he pulled into the Look Out car park. Although it had taken only 20-30 seconds he could not locate anything to explain his sighting. He arrived home at Legana soon after and did notice a high flying plane leaving a vapour trail in the sky, it bore no resemblance to his sighting.

**Know of a sighting, ring
TUFOIC on 03 62236009**

TASMANIAN SIGHTINGS

1976 Winter. 2am. South Hobart.

Witness says whilst travelling down Huon Rd en route to work he saw a strange phenomena above the fog bound city. A sphere of lights was bouncing along slowly north, as the sphere moved along lights fell from it. He lost sight of it after a few minutes.

1978 Summer. 5.30am. Granton.

Witness travelling north on highway sees a black triangle shape over the Derwent River. It is moving slowly north before speeding up and disappearing in seconds.

2002 Spring. 10pm. Melton

Mowbray. Two witnesses travelling north on Lake Hwy when they see a red light in the northern sky. They stop the car as the light moves south into a cloud. They observe lightning flashes from the cloud before an oval object emerges from the cloud. It had a ring of white lights around the centre and a green glow below. The object moves on south into a second cloud and is not seen again.

About March 2002 4.30pm. West Launceston.

Witness reports a strange event when visiting her friends' flat. Her friend had claimed it was haunted but she treated it as a joke. This time, however, whilst they were sitting in the living area a mist area formed just a metre away from the startled witnesses. It developed into a giant blank TV screen some 2.1 metres tall and 1.8 metres wide. The witnesses were transfixed by the amazing sight

which lasted about a minute then just dissolved into thin air. Possibly paranormal, no further action possible.

2004 Jan 23. 2.30am. Near Forth.

The witness was looking at the stars when he heard the ducks causing a rumpus. Through the trees to the south he saw a large bright, eye-shaped object. It was travelling west over the paddock at crawling speed. The object was about 100m off the ground and about 300m distant. It was bright white and its outline shimmered. The witness felt uneasy and went back inside; he does not know what happened to the object.

2004 March. 2am. Plenty.

Witness reading in bed when a bright light is noticed over a nearby hill to the east. A greyish oval shape can be seen with a circle of flashing green lights about its base. After some minutes the object moves north and quickly disappears.

2004 May 27, 8pm. Poatina.

Family travelling home on highway just after Poatina noticed a steady brilliant white light to the north. They stopped and got out for a clear view. The light then moved west before tracking back to the east at higher speed. Next the light moved vertically some 10 degrees before vanishing. .

2004 July, 6.30pm. Nunamara.

Witness and son travelling to north-east on Tasman Hwy about 10k out of Launceston. The mother says she

SIGHTINGS CONTINUED

saw a bright light that was on a metal type oval with red, blue, and other lights on it. She slowed down as the object was stationary over the paddocks some 500m distant. It did not appear to go anywhere but just vanished in mid-air.

2004 August. 2.30am. Scottsdale. The witness due to health reasons is often up in the early hours. On this starry night she went outside on the porch. Almost at once she saw a bright light in the northern sky. It gradually approached over a period of a few minutes until it resolved into a silent silver oval, about half-moon sized. There was a band of light with lights in it around the objects' centre. The object went almost overhead as it moved south, but then it changed course to the north-west and was out of sight in a matter of seconds.

2004 Dec 25, 9.30pm. Molesworth. Group of witnesses notice a star like light approaching from the Orion constellation. It travels across the sky, then stops before moving away on its original flight path and disappears. This performance is repeated some three times with the light always moving off quickly.

2004 Dec 28th, 12.10am. Brinktop Road. Witness with young son was travelling towards Richmond. A bright white light could be seen to the north-west. As the witness reached the Look-Out reserve, the light suddenly moved quickly towards the car. The light passed

over the road, became stationary a few hundred metres away and shone a beam on the car. The witness had by now stopped the car and sat for 30 seconds with the car all lit up, when the object and lights just vanished. The object was estimated at 2-3m across with red and blue blinking lights below. There seemed to be a dark area in the centre of the light which also seemed to be the location of the beam.

2005 Jan 18th. 12.30am. Elderslie Road. Turning off the highway onto Elderslie Road the witness was surprised by a football sized green light with a tail. Her car at once slowed down. The light was just above the car then seemed to disappear as she drove over the brow of the hill some half km from Brighton. Upon arriving home some few minutes later the same silent light was seen again. This time it did a U turn and shot up into the sky disappearing near the constellation of Orion.

2005 Jan 26. 4.30am. Legana. The 2 witnesses who were up early noticed something yellow and bright in the south-east sky. The husband raced in to get his binoculars. He observed a cylindrical object with a band of white light above, and a smaller red band below. The object moved northwards occasionally stopping to hover. When travelling it did so at an angle, when stationary it was vertical.

Eventually it was lost to sight behind cloud to the north-east.

2005 Feb 14. 12.10am. Melton Mowbray. Three women travelling north on the Midland Hwy noted a distant light as they left Pontville. Just short of Melton Mowbray the light approached their vehicle growing in size to a football shape with pulsing red and blue lights on each side. Then the object seemed to be over the car as they pulled up and all got out to see this strange "aircraft". A beam was now visible shining down into the paddock about 20m distant and from the object 15m above. The object was estimated at 8-10m wide and moving slow and silently. It was so bright one witness said she could see the fence and dry grass in the paddock. The object seemed to have a dark disc area above the bright light and beam. It gradually moved away and the beam went out. The witnesses went on their way and the object was last seen as a large light receding south.

2005 Feb 14, 9pm. Epping Forest. The witness was driving south on the Midland Hwy when he realized there was a large bright white light in the paddock alongside the road. He estimated the light as 2m wide and some 100m from the car. The light was in view about 30 seconds. He called his wife to have a look but it just vanished.

2005 Feb 14. 11.45pm. Rekuna. The witness was up late attending to the children on an isolated property. She

looked outside and saw a large area of brilliant light on or just behind a

hill 500m from the farm. The witness went to bed but kept wondering what the light could be. She got up for a second look after midnight; the light was still there but looked to be further away. She searched the area a few days later but found nothing to explain the event.

2005 Feb 14. near Midnight. Mangalore. A family of 3 travelling home after the Regatta fireworks saw what they took to be an approaching aircraft. However the lights moved across to the east of the road then seemed to hover. The witnesses were amazed to find that they overtook the set of lights which looked to be going slowly northwards. The lights had a capital I pattern. Two or three red lights above bright yellow/white lights in the centre, then flashing blue lights below. The husband said he could see a light beaming downwards. The lights looked to be going away east but were lost to view behind the car. .

2005 Feb 15. 1.45am. Millvale. The witness says she always goes to bed late and always has a look at the night sky. This time she saw huge bright white light over Laskeys Hill just to the west of Mangalore. The light seemed to have a beam below that was lighting up the hillside beneath. She thinks she watched for 15 minutes before the light just shot off towards Campania (east).