

TUFOIC 2015
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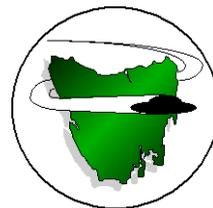
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TUFOIC STATISTICS 2015

Unidentified	3
Astronomical	18
Aircraft	8
Satellites	10
Balloons /Kites	12
Others	18
TOTAL	69

TUFOIC TIMELINE

1960 October. Cressy & Northern Midlands Flap.
1965-66 Maatsuyker. Series of mystery lights.
1965 October. TUFOIC founded.
1971 May. Landings at Lynchford & Wilmot.
1971 December. Low level at Lachlan.
1974 Year long flap centred in North East of state. Resident UFO at Gladstone all winter. Climax in a number of auto-stops. Including Priory & Tayene.
1975 Close encounter at Lake Sorell as flap shifts to the Lake Country, more reports from the Midlands.
1976 Summer. Maydena fly overs.
1978 October. King Island reports & disappearance of Valentich aircraft.
1979. Memory loss case. Motor vehicles affected on West Coast.
1982. George Town whizzing ball.
1983 February. Centre for UFO Conference in Hobart. Mystery paranormal events at Melodale.
1987 December. Strange auto-stop at Deddington.
1996 Tamar Valley flap with daytime sightings.
1998 June-July. Sightings between New Norfolk & Granton.
2005 Summer. Series of low level reports culminate in several cases on the same day in the Lower Midlands.
2011. TUFOIC produces 78 page booklet on History of the UFO in Tasmania. Other reports being, North East 1974. Events at Melodale, Maatsuyker Lights, & Cressy 1960. Plus Annual Reports from 1969 to 2015.
2015 December. TUFOIC ceases operating after 50 years.



YEAR IN REVIEW 2015

After 50 years of operation the Tasmanian UFO Investigation Centre has closed its doors. The Centre has investigated and collected data on Tasmanian UFO sightings since it was founded in October 1965. The Centre will not exist as an official organisation with membership, meetings and publications. However, Phil Polden (previously the Centre's Northern Representative) will maintain investigation into sightings by operating a Facebook site under the name of TUFOIC.

It may be felt by some that cessation of the Centre is a sign of defeat or a task unfinished in solving the UFO mystery. The aim of the Centre was investigate and distribute information on UFO sightings across Tasmania. We believe this was achieved over the 50 years of operation. The Centre maintained a log of investigations enabling an analysis of unidentified and explained events. Tasmanian cases in general have followed patterns elsewhere in the world even to reflecting the downturn in Close Encounters noted by other researchers. The Centre has produced Annual and Special Reports on sightings culminating in a 78 page booklet, Tasmania a UFO History (2011). All of the Centre's publications are filed with the Tasmanian State or Federal Libraries (Canberra). The Centre's unidentified case files will be held by Phil Polden. The cases cover the period from the 1950s up to 2015.

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The past year for the Centre became the year of the Facebook. The removal of the Centre's telephone numbers in the local directory switched the emphasis on contact to the internet. Direct contact to the Centre by post, email and phone had slowly declined in the last few years. Phil Polden established a Facebook page which in the past months has kept the Centre in the public eye. With this has come a focus on digital pictures from witnesses with the "is this a UFO" query. So far considerable time has been spent with little reward as the pictures are generally lens flares, birds etc: Another difficulty with modern communication is that the witness can remain anonymous making the collection of full detail on an event sometimes impossible. Obviously this in turn makes a final analysis of the sighting fraught with danger.

Reports to the Centre for 2015 were the most since 2005 but in keeping with the recent trends the unidentified number continued at low levels. The bulk of cases involved lights in the sky, more often than not orange lights, which did little other than float across the sky or fade out. Doubtless most of these were hoax devices. Ongoing events still continue at our Highland Lakes location. It is hoped that a visit from mainland investigators early in 2016 may finally bring some conclusion to this series of baffling events.

INVESTIGATIONS 2015

Sixty nine events were received by the Centre during the year, not all required full investigation as an initial assessment uncovered an explanation. A number of events could not be finalised as witnesses failed to respond to follow up for further details. An incident at Wynyard late in the year also could be of interest but this was reported to the MUFON organisation in the USA. Email to MUFON for assistance in order we could follow up this report have not been responded to. Local sightings can now appear at any UFO group around the world which does little to help gathering Tasmanian reports In keeping with recent years astronomical and hoax balloons accounted for over 40% of the cases.

Ansons Plains. 8.30pm. March 28th.

The two witnesses had been out shooting in the Anson Bay Road area on the night of March 28th. They were in the vicinity of Ansons Plains when a bright light to the west caught their attention. The light was estimated as being more than 500m distant across a large open paddock. It looked to be about 100m above the trees at the far side of the paddock.

The witnesses stopped to take a look at the large strange silent light. It seemed to have green, red and yellow colours. Both binoculars and a rifle scope were used for a better view of the lights. It looked to be triangle shaped with beams of coloured light coming down below towards the ground.

Making things stranger a “meep meep” sound was heard and an amber light approached from the south. It looked to be nearing the larger light but then veered up and away to go out of sight to the north.

Some four minutes had now passed since the first view of the light. The witnesses decided to see if they could approach the

light to find an explanation. They spent time trying to locate a bush track to get closer to the light. Losing sight of the light they gave up and returned to the road about half an hour later. The light was now visible higher in the sky over the paddock. They tried shinning their spot light (350m range) on the light which seemed to give off a reflection. Almost at once it started to move away to the west and in several minutes was lost from view. Its movement was a strange zig-zag circle jolting motion. The witnesses returned to their shooting before some half hour later noticing the same or similar light to their north-east. The witnesses now headed back towards St Helens then realised the light was back out to the west of the road. They finally saw the light from the town but it was now just a faint light high up in the sky.

Personal contact was made with the witnesses with forms completed. Follow up was made in the area with local authorities for explanations.

Astronomical and aircraft explanations were ruled out leaving the Centre with an unidentified report.

2015 Highland Lake Lights Continue.

The residents at the Highland Lake property advised that the small near ground lights maintained their presence during the year. The witnesses have tended to take less notice as the lights are mostly repetitive. Any approach is a waste of time as they just turn off.

However, in March, NSW Fortean Researcher Mike Williams with the witness’s permission visited the property to investigate the lights.

It was hardly dark when Williams reported he could see a golf ball sized light about 70 meters away near a tree. In his efforts to approach the light he lost sight of it and it was then no longer

visible. Later in the evening he saw the original light again with a second light nearby 2 meters off the ground. The second evening of his visit he saw a basketball sized light 70-100 meters away before it moved out of sight. He was puzzled on the first night when his six week old torch with new batteries failed when he was about 40 meters from the light but was normal once he moved away. Overnight he placed three game cameras (which work off heat source) setting them to video function. The following morning two of the cameras had changed to still mode and nothing had been recorded.

In July one of the residents from the property had a breakdown in their vehicle on the nearby highway. Whilst waiting for the tow truck to arrive a number of puzzling lights were observed. Being mid-winter it was dark at 6.30pm when he could see two sparkly lights along the highway to his east, one



Clip from the video taken in early hours of November 30th 2013. The two small lights flashed whilst in view then turned off. One of the lights is seen briefly to come back on. (Team Paranormal)

on each side of the road. The lights were about a meter above the ground and

some 100 meters distant. They looked to be about the size of a car’s parking light. The silent lights just went off and on intermittently for some 20 minutes. A number of motorists stopped to assist the witness but he recalls the lights always seemed to be off at the time. Eventually the two lights just went off for good. At the same time they were replaced by a third light which looked to be just 30m away over the road. The witness says he had got out of the truck a few times to make sure the lights were not a reflection. The third light was only on 10 seconds and it also went off. Around 7pm two white lights (one above the other) could be seen west of the lagoon, they were moving around as they slowly went north, getting smaller as they faded away.

The witnesses have noted numerous incidents, too many to report in full. Lights shinning into the house, rumbling as if from below ground, an electronic sound going off and on, flashes of light in the sky and of course light performances in the nearby bush over the span of several years.



Highland Lake country typical of the location of the lights event.

TUFOIC 2015.