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ANNALS



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ANNALS OF THE ENQUIRING

Fortean UFOs Paranormal
Cryptozoology Bizzarrie
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Cryptozoology Bizzarrie

ISSUE # 20

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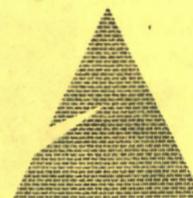
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TO THE FOLLOWING
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SUBMISSIONS
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FIRST WORD

EDITORIAL

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Welcome to another issue of Annals which I try, as time will allow, to keep on schedule whenever possible. Well, I did promise in Issue 19 to bring you 'Two remarkable stories,' this time around, and in the centre pages you will find an amazing account of a Bristol truck driver's claimed abduction by aliens from his vehicle. As for a definitive answer to the 'Bentwaters Case', an abrupt and so far unexplained silence on the part of our main witness has left co-investigator Andre Wolf and myself few alternative avenues of exploration. Nevertheless, here is a brief outline of the claims and information we have received via a man formerly with the U.S. military, who for obvious reasons I will refer to only as 'X':

'X' is adamant that, in spite of evidence to the contrary, the incident which took place that December night of 1980 outside RAF Woodbridge in Rendlesham Forest, was of man-made origin. It was not a UFO encounter with a downed spacecraft and its occupants. He further claims to have been a part of a US 'special forces' contingent whose tasks include testing the security of bases worldwide, including the U.K. The incident that night involved a helicopter and detachment of the 21st Special Operations Squadron. 'X' was a member of the crew and says the aircraft was disabled for a short while when encountering trees at the edge of the base. The SOS were equipped then, and still are, with up to six specially adapted Sikorsky helicopters. Most of their work is shrouded in secrecy and the aircraft they use comes with many 'bolt-on' gizmo's, including low-light TV, precision navigation and electronic counter measure equipment, plus even baffles to reduce noise. It was their second visit to the base, having conducted a low-level evaluation the night before. We have not been told where the 21st SOS were based at the time, but it seems likely that it was RAF Alconbury, just northwest of Cambridge, at a distance of about 70 miles by air. The reason for this assumption is its relative nearness to Woodbridge and it is currently home to three individual squadrons of US 'special forces' units. Although these appear to be comprised almost exclusively of Hercules aircraft. This is as far as we can go, but rest assured that when additional information is made available you the reader will be kept informed.



TELLING TALES

It seems the tales of hoax crashed flying saucers in the UK [see *Annals #19*] are getting longer. You may remember the reports in March last year at Appleton, Cheshire, and the downed UFO near Doncaster this past Christmas. All designed, we were told in the press, to catch the crooks who illegally monitor police and other authority transmissions using scanners.

But now, it transpires, the same or a remarkably similar story has resurfaced several times during 1993, including fake sightings in Holland and Lincolnshire. A very similar story line featured in one episode of the ITV series *Harry*. We can expect that this story will re-appear at least on more time, so keep your eyes on the pages of your local newspaper and don't believe all you hear (or read).

1993 - A YEAR TO DISMEMBER

Dissent seems to have run amok among several of the world's leading UFO/paranormal organizations during 1993. Posturing, sniping, back-stabbing, and other nasties have erupted and spilled into the public domain. Meanwhile, the rest of us count our blessings that our research remains unshackled by the constraints, petty foibles and inflated egos often entrenched in the structure of so many councils, committees, or any organized body of people that evolves an elitest hierarchy.

The latest fell from the pages of the current issue of *The Cerealogist*, in the form of a resignation insert written by the magazine's Assistant Editor, John Haddington. He states that the views between himself and new editor George Wingfield had become "largely incompatible" in view of the Editorial tone of the magazine and that these differences were "irreconcilable."

Michael Glickman, a regular contributor in the form of his "New Swirled Order" column villifies Wingfield for his "betrayal of our readership" in a letter over the latter's reasoned denunciation of the Bythorn Mandala as a hoax - no less. He has promptly resigned and blasted the Editor by adding: "I could not face further pollution of this magical subject by yet another deeply boring and ultimately meaningless obsession."



Britain's foremost UFO organization, BUFORA, has periodically rounded on itself and in this latest debacle lost its Director of Investigations last year. Jenny Randles, who resigned on November 30 although retains ordinary membership, writes in the Winter issue of her magazine *Northern UFO News* of a "hurtful and traumatic separation," having been D of I since 1981. In true Randles style there was no naming of names but she admitted to being "pushed from council" with little option offered as an alternative. Just how effective is an organization when "a major figure" within BUFORA confided he had investigated nearly 100 cases without submitting or sharing any of that information with his own National Investigations Council? More to the point: How long can it continue to function in a worthwhile manner before its effectiveness becomes redundant?

The resignation of Jenny Randles followed that of Paul Fuller (Editor of *The Crop Watcher* - or *Muckspreader* if you are a devotee of George Wingfield!), who resigned his position as a Director within BUFORA on September 11. It would appear that both decisions are not entirely unconnected.

In the United States, a decision to publish James Pontolillo's controversial *Demons, Doctors and Aliens* by The International Fortean Organization, has led to its President Raymond D Manners resigning, among others.

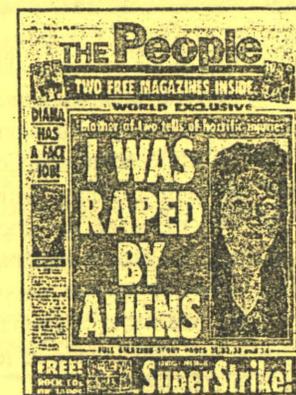
NEW SOMERSET UFO GROUPS

Following a number of sightings in recent months within my area of Somerset, a Faulkner woman, Elizabeth Dearman, has now formed the *Mendip UFO Association Network*, of volunteers. Incidents have included "a massive object covered in orange light and seeming to have windows" spotted in the night sky above Norton St Philip by a woman and her grandson. On January 23 another woman witnessed objects similar to "silver-coloured cigars" that flashed across the sky over Hayden, near Radstock. Mrs Dearman also collaborates with Sue Hembury-Kellow of Stoke St Gregory, near Taunton, who recently established the *Somerset UFO Research and Investigation Unit* in her area of the county last year.

ABDUCTION INSURANCE

Sunday newspaper *The People* offered readers a free insurance policy against alien abduction in a simple competition [for simple minds?] it organized February 27.

Payment goes to next-of-kin in the event of a lucky winner's permanent demise. The tabloid has been featuring regular stories of readers' alleged encounters under suitably lurid headlines. It's February 20 edition was dominated by a front-page story of Maria Ward, who claims she was abducted and raped by alien entities more than three years ago. Maria, 33, of Dartford, Kent, apparently passed a lie-detector test while appearing on a Central Television show, during which she recounted for viewers the traumatic events the victim maintains really did occur (see elsewhere for this and other stories).



ALTERNATIVE 3

Reading a copy of *Bill Knell's UFO Newsletter* No 26, which was given over to NASA's missing Mars Probe last August and earlier alleged cover-ups involving UFOs and other missions, it is disappointing to note the continuing myth surrounding the British television documentary entitled *Alternative 3*.

Bill Knell makes the mistake, as have some other American investigators, of continually referring to this program as if it were based on fact and not the fiction it so obviously was. There never has been any collusion on a grand scale, or otherwise, involving the scientific communities of the U.S., Russia and Britain. No secret bases on the Moon - or Mars, for that matter and no missing scientists. For the record, it was a spoof documentary made by the Anglia TV in 1977 and had originally been scheduled for network transmission on April 1 of that year. In fact it was aired some months later. The *Fortean Times*, Issue 64 (Aug/Sept 1992), carried a very full and comprehensive expose, written by co-editor Bob Rickard, which laid the matter firmly to rest.

Bill Knell also makes reference in his cover-up article to a 1989 Space Shuttle Discovery mission. He says Mission Commander John Blauhah was giving a press conference from space when: "Suddenly, cameras were off and the Astronauts switched to the second, private radio channel to Mission Control. At that time, a ham radio operator from Maryland recorded the Commander saying, 'Houston. this is Discovery. We still have the Alien Spacecraft under observation...'" Surely, are talking about a 'private' radio frequency, then the transmission would have been secure? If one Ham can tune in, then so can thousands of others throughout the world. In fact, the Goddard Amateur Radio Club, run by employees of the Goddard Space Flight Centre in Maryland, monitor the NASA-Shuttle audio frequencies from about one hour before launch, through to landing. These transmissions are then relayed via shortwave worldwide. It is naive to believe the words 'Alien Spacecraft' would be used under such circumstances. The recording of the UFO conversation that Bill Knell plays during his slide lectures is most likely the results of a hoax transmission. (*Bill Knell's UFO Newsletter - 164-22 77th Road, Flushing, NY 11365, USA*)

LOST RECORDS RETRIEVED

Just Cause, the newsletter of America's *Citizens Against UFO Secrecy*, carried details in its Sept 1993 issue concerning the recent acquisition of a great deal of Project Blue Book material. This includes 32 rolls of microfilm of the USAF's 1952 clipping service, plus additional film and material encompassing Project Sign - Blue Book's predecessor - plus copy relating to the Condon Committee investigations in the 60s. CAUS acknowledges the indebtedness to Professor Herbert Strentz, a former research associate with the University of Colorado's Condon Committee. It was he who retrieved the documentation during a 1967 visit to Project Blue Book headquarters at Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio. Personnel there at the time were in the process of dumping "unnecessary material" that included all of the above files. In fact, this invaluable information should have been transferred to the National Archives, but never made it. (*CAUS, PO Box 218, Coventry, Ct. 06238, USA - Pub. Just Cause \$15 US, \$20 Foreign*)

Maria Ward, 33, who claims she was abducted by aliens in November 1990, passed a lie-detector test while appearing on a Central Television show *Central Weekend*. In front of millions of viewers Maria recounted her experiences, after television executives read her account in the *People* newspaper a week before. They thought she was lying and challenged her to appear. "We were stunned. She passed the test with flying colours," admitted show producer Doug Carnegie, following her appearance on the Friday night show. Maria Ward, of Dartford, Kent, told the newspaper: "I can remember having something done to me in my womb. I could feel something moving around inside me like a wriggling worm." The *People* reported that doctors were appalled at her injuries.

Another *People* reader Graham Holland, 47, of Wellington, Somerset, recounted his experiences which began in the summer of 1991 when he was engulfed in a green mist as he worked on the dockside at Dover harbour.

"I felt drained, like my life and all my knowledge was being probed. It was the most terrifying experience I have ever had," he said. "They in turn passed on information to me about their civilisation. After the encounter I didn't eat for seven days."

Graham says he has since been visited by other aliens who, he claims, perform experiments on him. During one night he says he awoke to find himself on an operating table in a surgery with three or four beings about 3ft tall probing him.

"They used pen-like devices to check my hair, skin and internal organs. The small beings were being ordered around by two larger human-like creatures about 6ft tall. "At first these people terrified me because I didn't know their intentions, but now I know them to be benevolent," he added. Graham believes the beings are not from another planet, but from another dimension.

By soldier John Walsh claims he was visited by aliens during an exercise on Salisbury Plain, Wiltshire.

He is convinced, he told the *People* newspaper, he must have been abducted by beings from another planet.

He was on guard duty when an intense bright light silently approached and lit up the ground around him.

"I was scared out of my wits and pulled the sleeping bag over my head," he said.

"When I stood up, I looked at my watch and saw I had lost three hours."



Extracts from the People - Feb 27/94

FISHY FILM OF UFO

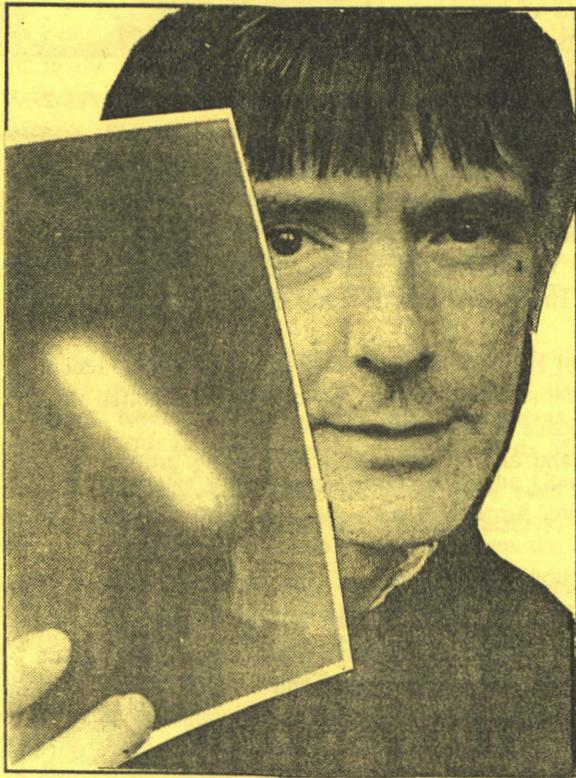
Three anglers captured a bright yellow UFO on video while fishing near their Norfolk homes last October.

"I saw it a long way off and made a joke that it might be a UFO," said Stephen Farra, 31. "It came overhead, right above us, then disappeared into the distance."

BUFORA Investigator Philip Mantle is now studying the footage and has been quoted as saying: "There's no suggestion of a hoax."

MILITARY PHOTO'S OF CYPRUS UFO UNCOVERED

*1400 Soldiers
witnessed the
1971 incident*



MoD SHOULD REVEAL 'EVIDENCE': Bob shows picture of the Cyprus UFO given to him by a former Royal Marine who witnessed the event while based on the island in 1971.

Colourful 'transparent' UFO spotted

A "transparent craft" which hovered for an hour over a hilltop landmark is currently being investigated by Sue Hembury-Kellow, director of the Somerset UFO Research and Investigation Unit.

The incident occurred in March and viewers at Crowcombe, near Taunton, said the object was ultra-bright with silver, white, gold, red and blue colours.

Other witnesses at Wiveliscombe - six miles away - described an object which shot high into the air and then came lower before moving away.

The photographs had lain in a drawer for more than 20 years, but the pictures of a bright unexplained light seen flying above 1,400 Royal Marines during manoeuvres in 1971 were clear enough.

The incident had taken place while the troops were on a night exercise on the island of Cyprus. It is claimed that the Ministry of Defence collected more than 100 rolls of film documenting the UFO and the RSM personally dispatched a film taken by a naval photographer to Whitehall.

But before he sent it he got several prints made and eventually filed them away until recently.

It was a radio broadcast by Bob Boyd, of the Plymouth UFO Research Group, that prompted the ex-regimental sergeant major to contact him with details and photographs of the sighting.

"I think the Cyprus pictures are indisputably authentic - I've interviewed hundreds of people and believe the man was telling the truth," said Bob. He now wants the MoD to release all its film and photo's of UFOs, in order that they might be subject to further scrutiny and study.



CORN CRUNCHING IN CANADA

North America has not been immune from the crop circle phenomenon and Canada's vast acreage of grainfields have had their fair share in recent years. While the Prairie provinces record the bulk of incidents, Ontario has accounted for remarkably few.

It was a surprise to many researchers, therefore, when crop circles were to return to the same cornfield west of Oshawa, Simcoe County, last year, following an original appearance there in 1992.

A report in the *Huronian Sunday* of Oct 1, 1993, carried a description of this sophisticated configuration.

"In one circle, corn stalks are flattened to the ground in a clockwise swirl about 20ft in diameter. In the second circle, the corn is compressed in an counter-clockwise swirl about 22ft wide. Connecting the two circles is a 44-foot-long pathway, in which three rows of corn have been neatly levelled in parallel lines."

A true 'dumbbell' shape of the kind we have grown accustomed to in England and an elaboration on the 1992 circle

which was a ragged affair, consisting of a 100ft by 80ft wide oval swirl of flattened corn stalks. They had been pressed to the ground in a counter-clockwise manner. A somewhat belated mirror of circle events on this side of the Atlantic.

However, in the '60s and early '70s, burn circles and crop circles were reportedly observed in fields in Southern Ontario. In one instance, a ton and a half of soil was inexplicably removed from a field.

A crop and soil advisor, from the Ministry of Agriculture in Simcoe County, recalled once encountering a crop circle in a field of sunflowers.

It was about four years ago when Harvey Wright came across the 120ft circle and, in that instance, every plant in it was dead or injured. But the sunflowers were not bent over or twisted in a circular pattern, "They were fried standing up," he added, believing that it was the results of a lightning strike.

*Thanks to Bonnie Wheeler
Cambridge U.F.O. Research Group (Canada)
for copies of Huronia Sunday - Nov 1992 and Oct*

ALLERGIES AND ALIENS -

The Visitation Experience:

An Environmental Health Issue

A new research report
on the alien abduction
experience
by Albert Budden

This publication represents a synopsis of a **research initiative** that has taken place over the past fifteen months. Basically, the approach developed states that the experiences of visitation by a variety of other-worldly beings, which have been documented and researched by so many over the past decades, **are the mental and physiological products of a range of environmental illnesses**, shared by and coped with in their commonest form, by about 20% of the population.

These conditions develop as a result of the failure of the bodily immune system to adapt to a range of environmental influences which impinge upon the individual over prolonged periods.

They can broadly be described as allergies, although this term of convenience, used because it has the ring of familiarity to so many, could be classified under the label of **environmental sensitivities**.

This adaptive breakdown does not show itself in any two people in exactly the same way, and comes about due to **the cumulative response to pollution**. This ecological issue has a modern ring to it, and rightly so, as the twentieth century has produced environments that contain many forms of such contamination on a scale not seen before in man's history.

The methods of clinical ecology, electromagnetics and medicine show that **there is a physiological basis** for the bizarre perceptions currently featuring so regularly in the media, known as the alien contact or alien abduction experience.

This report outlines the evidence for these conclusions and **describes a completely novel approach** to the understanding of not only these alien experiences, but of apparitions, visions and the physical effects that can broadly be called **poltergeist phenomena**. The report presents evidence in conventional scientific terms that anyone can check up on.

Also, this practical method of investigation **can make regular predictions** about the location, lifestyle and health of the people who undergo such experiences, as well as their preoccupations, creative activities and even, to some extent, their physical appearance. It can also predict where such cases are to be found, and the illnesses that not only they are likely to be suffering from, but also those of their neighbours. It can also predict the type of treatment they may need to cure them.

In short, **it identifies the stimulus responsible** for the experience referred to as "visitations", or in more modern language, close encounters, and shows that **they are intrinsically linked to environmentally produced illnesses**.

* The author formerly worked for the Scientific Civil Service and has taught science at state schools, where he specialised in biology and sociology. He is to have a book published by Blandford in the Spring of 1995: UFOs - The Electric Indictment. ALLERGIES AND ALIENS is obtainable by mail order, price £5, from: Discovery Times Press, St Lukes House, 270 Sandycombe Road, Kew, Surrey TW9 3NP. Available from May 15, 1994.

IN THE AIR ON THE AIR

Sky One seems almost to have been taken over much of this year by anything that is UFO or supernatural oriented. There's the *X-Files*, plus *Sightings* and a mini-series based on the book by Budd Hopkins, entitled *Intruders*.

X-files is a definite yawn and is supposed to be based on the FBI's files of unexplained phenomena. I seriously doubt it - probably some Hollywood hack's fertile imagination, most likely.

Sightings is much better, although it can run from good to bad. It aired in North America during 1993. The most recent episode I've seen dealt with a UFO 'hotspot' at Anza, California. Researchers there the year previously had some enviable equipment; including a laser as well as radar supplied by Panasonic and a 'Starlite' camera made available by Cohu Inc. The latter came fitted with a video intensifier that could see into the night sky about 1,000 times better than a regular home video camera.

The stakeout team were hoping to record 'Goldie' - a inexplicable light source that had been witnessed as many as 50 times in the night sky during the past 3/4 years. Certainly the equipment did track and record something. A bright unidentified object was indeed filmed ascending and descending in the air above mountains.

In mid-March, a morning TV live discussion show: *The Time The Place*, produced by Central, was given over to the abduction experiences of invited members of the audience.

Some stories, frankly, seemed designed to stretch the viewer's limits of credulity. An example was the man who claims he had been cured of a fatal illness by aliens. Adding that he frequently sees them during succeeding hospital visits.

The show was a partly balanced affair, through the inclusion of a few skeptics, a psychologist and Jenny Randles. The UFO researcher attempting to temper the more outlandish stories that surfaced.

One front-row guest claimed to be an investigator, but the verbage she trotted out seriously weakened her case and any credibility she was seeking.

For example: Just how many aliens can you entertain in your home, when there are too many to count? True-to-form she got the final say after shutting someone else up.

AN OUT OF THIS WORLD EXPERIENCE U.F.O's

(FACT OR FICTION)
FALKIRK TOWN HALL
Thursday 30th June 1994
7.30pm

SPECIAL GUESTS:

Malcolm Robinson

(Investigator Lecturer)

Philip Mantle

(Investigator Lecturer and Author)

- Promoting his new book

Without Consent

VIDEO PRESENTATION ON
GIANT SCREEN

Tickets £4 from:

Strange Phenomena Investigations

Malcolm Robinson

41 The Braes, Tullibody

Clackmannanshire SCOTLAND

FK10 2TT

ABDUCTION

SIGNED, SEALED AND DELIVERED

Bill W was on the 'night trunk' run when, shortly before midnight on a August evening in 1968, he was to begin the journey of a lifetime. The events which unfolded that night would come back to haunt him during the ensuing years and serve to leave him both distressed and confused about the whole affair. For Bill, now retired, has come to the inescapable conclusion that he was the victim of an alien abduction.

It was early in 1993 when, through a close relative of Bill's, I was first made generally aware of the former truck driver's experiences. No interview or even a meeting was permitted at this stage, although I was allowed to forward him one of my dreaded sighting report forms. In spite of its lengthy content and, to many witnesses, the inclusion of questions that appear unrelated to their experience at the time, I was pleased when a week later it was returned to me fully completed. Now, as well as a record of Bill's encounter I felt I had a profile of the man and this would serve me well should an interview take place.

I was fortunate for, in late '93, I was given the chance to investigate further when Bill finally overcame his reluctance and agreed to a series of two interviews. During these meetings we explored fully all aspects of his experience and, like many other abductee incidents recorded throughout the world, I found it to be but a part of a much more encompassing series of ongoing encounters that had dogged him for most of his life.

His journey, on the night in question, was to take him from a depot in Bristol to the heart of Devon, carrying a full load of grocery provisions destined for several supermarkets along the way. As always, he carried out an inspection of the articulated vehicle beforehand, ascertaining that tyres and brakes, particularly, were in good order. Satisfied, he pulled out of the yard into the blackness of a night that would change him forever.

Following an uneventful trip and two drops in Somerset, Bill swung off the A361 and on to the B3227. A road that would take him to a small depot near Great Torrington. Here his third and final shedding of the remaining load should mean a reasonably early turnround. Empty and light of contents, his truck would make good time on the return journey. But plans often have a habit of going wrong and this time it was to lead to an out-of-this-world experience.

It was at approximately 4.45am that he was driving through the small community of South Molton. Traffic was non-existent and the road quiet when, about five miles further on and in the beam of his nearside vehicle headlights, Bill caught the remotest glimpse of what seemed to be several deer close by the hedgerow. A countryman at heart and fond of wildlife, he made a mental note of the incident. He remembers, almost instantaneously, a vivid white light that seemed to

envelop his cab. It temporarily blinded him and the next time he opened his eyes the events took on the form of a dream. He 'awoke' slumped over the wheel of his truck, now safely parked in a lay-by. Somewhat befuddled and bemused, Bill glanced at his wristwatch and gasped as he noted the new time of 5.20am. How and why had he fallen asleep when the depot was so close? These and other questions would have to wait as he started his vehicle quickly and drove the remaining distance to his destination.

Bill never did deal seriously with the puzzle brought about through the events of that night and they were soon forgotten. Except, that is, for the uncomfortable ride back to Bristol. It felt like a bout of boils had once again descended on him after many years being free of them. This time they had formed at the base of his spine. Checking later, he found three very angry purple spots in the shape of a small triangle.

As time went on he began to consider the possibility that they might not be boils after all, for they behaved in quite a different way to the others he had endured. They never got to the point of bursting and the inflamed spots took months to subside and caused endless pain in the process. It was to be more than a year before the markings would disappear entirely.

The dreams, or nightmares, as they quickly became, began some two months after that strange night in Devon. Bill still regularly ran that same route and sometimes would feel a little uncomfortable whilst travelling the B3227. He could never understand why until his subconscious revealed more during these fitful periods of sleeping. Six months later he dreamed a almost complete dream of the night in question, that was to leave him scared and uncertain as to his own sanity. It was certainly far too way-out to expect his wife or children to understand, so he kept the matter to himself for a long time.

Bill is now convinced that he was abducted from his vehicle that night, but by who and for what purpose he has no real idea. He now knows that the deer he glimpsed in the lights of his vehicle were in fact small creatures. At that same instant his truck lost all power as a brilliantly lighted object appeared low in the sky ahead of him, straddling the road. He says it had the appearance of a jug, minus its handle [see drawing].

The next thing he remembers is being outside the cab while three brown-skinned and pug-nosed little people were propelling him through the air towards the craft, that had subsequently come to rest on the road itself. He felt helpless but was 'receiving' reassuring voices that seemed to be received directly into his consciousness. Bill believes he was, indeed, conscious throughout the experience. In spite of the unreal events that unfolded quite outside the bounds of normality that we all come to expect in our daily lives.

There remain gaps, still, in Bill's recollections that, even after 25 years, have yet to be filled. For example, he has no idea how he was actually placed on board the craft but next remembers the pain of being subjected to a form of medical examination. What was inserted into his left nostril was so intrusive as to cause his tear ducts to flow, although this lasted only briefly.



The little brown creatures worked efficiently, as though they had carried out the same kind of procedures numerous times before. Bill remained a passive subject while apparently other experiments were carried out. He continues to have only the haziest recollections during this period of time.

However, he did note that at one stage a device was drawn forward and placed about his neck, where it rested loosely just above his breast bone. He felt a slight tingling sensation, in the minute or so that it was present against his skin and recalls sweating profusely shortly after.

Most of the time he says he lay on a couch-like table that was hard and cool to his skin. Although not remembering it as such

when I suggested that, in order to retain the memory of such tactile feedback he must have been without clothes, Bill was startled by this fact. He had not, until that point, ever considered he was minus his shirt, shoes and trousers.

I broached the subject of the three boil-like sores present at the base of his spine and only noticed by him following the abduction experience. But Bill has no memory recall that could connect the two instances. He added that, from time-to-time during the ensuing years, small fragments of memory flashes have allowed him to build up the picture so far.

The former trucker now firmly believes he has been involved in earlier encounters with similar beings, since his teens and maybe even childhood. In the next issue of Annals we will explore some of these startling claims of contact.

DISCS ON DISK

If you own a PC then there are a few programs that attempt to deal with this subject and which meet with varying degrees of success.

There's UFO - billed as 'The' research tool for the serious sky-watcher. On disk is 500 reports with photographs, while CD-ROM contains over 1200 reports plus full-motion video and audio. Disk: £34.95 / CD-ROM £44.95

'Gridworks' has been compiled by Bruce Cathie and Rodney Maupin. It deals exclusively with Cathie's World Energy Grids and can accurately calculate the light and gravity harmonics for any latitude, plus co-ordinate conversions of the Energy Grid to any specific point on Earth. Disk: US\$150.00

Nine forks and three ashtrays have been found at a Wyoming site where UFOs have been reported in the last few years.

"We reckon lightfingered aliens went into a local restaurant but then ditched the stuff before getting back in their spacecraft," said a police officer.

Hundreds of fish, between 2-5cm long, were found flapping on roads in the Australian outback at the end of February.

Now zoologists have come up with their own simple, but flawed old chesnut, solution. They reckon that storms swept fish eggs, which had been dormant for a year or so, up into the sky where they hatched and then fell to earth!

• • • • •

The report that is next was apparently first published in an issue of the *Scientific American* during the 1880s. Make of it what you will:-

Curious Phenomenon in Venezuela

To the Editor

The following brief account of a recent strange meteorological occurrence may be of interest to your readers as an addition to the list of electrical eccentricities:

During the night of the 24th of October last, which was rainy and tempestuous, a family of nine persons, sleeping in a hut a few leagues from Maracaibo, were awakened by a loud humming noise and a vivid, dazzling light, which brilliantly illuminated the interior of the house.

The occupants, completely terror stricken, and believing, as they relate, that the end of the world had come, threw themselves on their knees and commenced to pray, but their devotions were almost immediately interrupted by violent vomitings, and extensive swellings commenced to appear in the upper part of their bodies, this being particularly noticeable about the face and lips.

It is to be noted that the brilliant light was not accompanied by a sensation of heat, although there was a smoky appearance and a peculiar smell.

The next morning the swellings had subsided, leaving upon the face and body large black blotches. No special pain was felt until the ninth day, when the skin peeled off, and these blotches were transformed into virulent

The Fort Dimension is a column dedicated to the memory of that great Victorian visionary, Charles Fort.

THE
FORT
DIMENSION

An American whose research and questioning approach to the strange phenomena of his time has ensured that he remains an influence on our tomorrows

raw sores.

The hair of the head fell off upon the side which happened to be underneath when the phenomenon occurred, the same side of the body being, in all nine cases, the more seriously injured.

The remarkable part of the occurrence is that the house was uninjured, all doors and windows being closed at the time.

No trace of lightning could afterward be observed in any part of the building, and all the sufferers unite in saying that there was no detonation, but only the loud humming already mentioned.

Another curious attendant circumstance is that the trees around the house showed no signs of injury until the ninth day, when they suddenly withered, almost simultaneously with the development of the sores upon the bodies of the occupants of the house.

This is, perhaps, a mere coincidence but it is remarkable that the same susceptibility to electrical effects, with the same lapse of time, should be observed in both animal and vegetable organisms.

I have visited the sufferers, who are now in one of the hospitals of this city; and although their appearance is truly horrible, yet it is hoped that in no case will the injuries prove fatal.

WARNER COWGILL

U.S. Consulate, Maracaibo, Venezuela
November 17, 1886

* Credit source: Bill Knell's UFO Newsletter #24 (via Cambridge UFO Research Group pub. Issue 46-Dec 93)

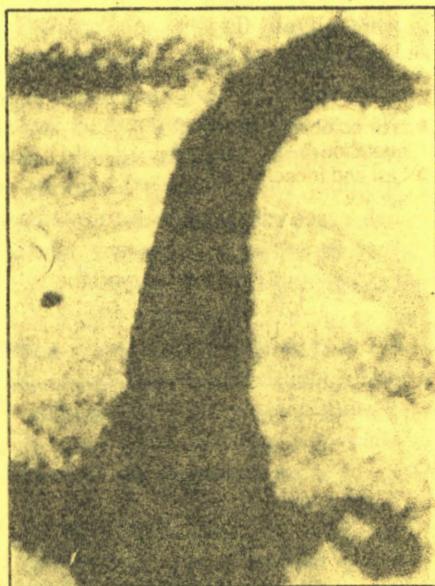
Ed comment: *To add credence to the validity of the above story, it would be nice to learn the exact date of issue in respect of its publication in the 'Scientific American'.*

CRYPTO

ORNER

His credentials could have fooled anyone - and they did. For Harley Street surgeon Colonel Robert Wilson, and his film maker pal Marmaduke Wetherell, duped the world with their Nessie picture for sixty years.

It was in 1934 that the famous photograph was taken and it quickly became known as the "surgeon's photo". But it turned out to be one of the century's biggest hoaxes, for the monster was nothing more than a child's toy submarine fitted with a wooden serpent's head.



Researcher Alastair Boyd, the man who exposed the picture as being a fake, still believes in the existence of the creature and he has continued his hunt for it ever since his first sighting back in 1979. Although the photograph itself has now been proved a hoax, it will remain on display at the *Loch Ness Exhibition* in Inverness, north Scotland.

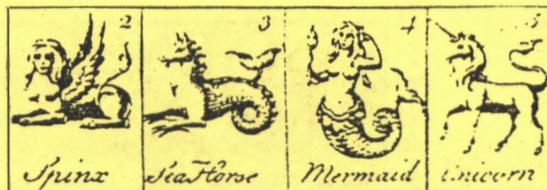
On April 1, the mini sub *Taurus* commenced its first official underwater trip of the loch and now anyone with £68.50 to spare can book a seat. The craft was originally built in Vancouver in 1970 as a Navy submarine rescue vehicle and was latterly used by North Sea oil divers. It can carry up to five passengers.

Britain's deepest freshwater lake is extremely dark and even with the sub's searchlights switched on, visibility will not be much more than 15 feet. But maybe a lucky passenger will photograph the creature and be able to collect the £10,000 prize offered by bookmakers William Hill.

Certainly the submarine is already fully booked until May and even Adrian Shine, who has spent the last ten years hunting Nessie, finds the new project exciting. He plans a trip on the submersible himself.

MYSTERY HEADHUNTER STALKS SHEEP

Fearful farmers in the wild country of the Welsh borders have mounted shotgun patrols to kill a mystery big cat they claim is slaughtering their animals. Farmers near Presteigne, on the Herefordshire and Powys border, have found more than a dozen lambs with their heads ripped off. Forestry worker and smallholder Caple Bevan, who had a 35-kilo lamb killed, says a fox would never have attacked the animals in the way they were left headless. "There were no other marks. It was just as if something had put its foot on their shoulder," he added. Bevan and his wife found large paw prints in the mud and elsewhere walkers have reported strange paw marks. Unusual prints have been found in snow. Naturalist Trevor Beer, who has investigated big cats in the West for the past 12 years, suggests it might be a big cat, or maybe a wolverine - a North American animal resembling a small bear. [Source: *Western D. Press*-Feb 28/94]



GETTING A HEAD

A snapping turtle born with two heads and five legs has defied long odds against survival. The mutant turtle, named "Darrell and Darrell," was three years old today at the New England Science Centre in Massachusetts. [Source: *Belfast Telegraph* - Sept 21/93]

BORN ON THE RUN

A rare four-legged emu has been born on a ranch in Texas. Ranch owner Mike Hobbs says he was shocked when the legs kept coming out as he helped the chick hatch out of its shell. [Source: *Ceefax* - Jan 27/94]

OFF-COLOUR

Naturalists are hopping about with excitement over an orange red-eyed frog called *Jaffa!* The amphibian "freak" was named by the Fielder family who found him near their home in Truro, Cornwall. He has now been handed over to the Cornwall Conservation Trust. They say *Jaffa* is a common frog, but a genetic disorder means he is orange instead of the normal green. [Source: *Ceefax* - Feb 3/94]

LONDON PROWLER

A news report on March 3 referred to sightings of a young lioness in north London. Up to eight separate people had reported seeing the beast in the Winchmore Hill area and a police helicopter was called in to join the search. The report added that checks with circuses and local zoos had failed to locate from where the creature had come from. A vet armed with a tranquilizer gun was called to the scene.

- I have no further information on this incident. Was the creature eventually captured or killed? - Ed

WHAT IS THE MOST CUNNING OF ALL ANIMALS? THAT WHICH NO MAN HAS YET SEEN.

BOAR WAR

It was the first time in 200 years that wild boar had run loose in Kent. The 16-strong pack, some weighing up to nearly 400lbs, rampaged through a local vineyard causing thousands of pounds worth of damage.

In another incident one boar smashed into a car after charging across the road.

"It was huge and went straight into the front of my car, pushing the engine back nine inches," said driver Janice Jackson.

[Source: *Today* - Mar 16/94]



Farmers celebrate the slaughter of the beast

Miraculous Moggies

The discovery of a cat, still alive after 41 days in the rubble of the Los Angeles earthquake, underlines the nine lives of our furry friends.

A three-year-old cat called Abigail disappeared for six weeks and was found alive under the floorboards of a Norwich house.

Another cat survived a four-week trip from Saudi Arabia inside a sealed container on a cargo ship, with no sign of food.

Kizzy the Tabby was bricked in on a building site for two weeks but found enough moisture in the walls to survive.

Cats have also survived: cycles in washing machines, being dumped in a dust cart, a 32-day round-the-world trip in the hold of a jumbo jet and rides around the country clinging on to the undersides of cars and trains.

One of the world's oldest cats was Kitty, who died aged 32 in Staffordshire after having 218 kittens.

FISHY DOG STORIES

A carp bought a week before came back to life when an Iranian man tried to thaw it with hot water. "Mehdi Qassemi said that the fish revived and started jumping immediately after he poured hot water on it," the Iran News Agency reported. [Source: Teletext3 - Jan 29/94]

When Mary Bratcher ran over her dog Brownie she buried him in a field. The following afternoon, when her New Mexico family returned from a trip, the dirt-covered pooch was on the porch. The mongrel lost an eye and broke his right shoulder but recovered.

SCIENCE eY@

Russia's defence ministry has denied reports that it has been developing biological weapons of mass destruction. The ministry said it was not producing such weapons, including a so-called "super plague" which had no antidote in the West. *The Sunday Times* (Mar 23/94), had reported that the Russian military was secretly carrying out the work. The report was said to have been based on information supplied by three Russian defectors.

An asteroid is due to collide with the planet Jupiter on July 20, causing an enormous impact which will be visible from Earth. One amateur astronomer has taken out newspaper adverts warning people to wear dark glasses on the fateful day and seek out cold cellars. But Patrick Moore, Britain's best-known astronomer, insists the planetary smash cannot do any real damage and the idea it might harm the Earth is "abject rubbish".

For centuries the mysterious stone statues of Easter Island, in the South Pacific, have been scattered all over the island. Some were toppled over during an ancient tribal war. Others were scattered when a tidal wave hit the island 30-years-ago. Now a team of archaeologists is currently engaged in returning the statues to their original positions.

What is this mysterious phenomenon that causes normal ordinary people to develop strange wounds on their bodies that resemble those suffered by Christ?

Over the past 700 years there have only been about 300 genuine cases of stigmata recorded. It is estimated that currently there are nearly 20 cases worldwide. Three such stigmatics are alive in Britain today and reports exist of two others.

Historically, it is recorded that St Francis of Assisi was meditating on the crucifixion, when blood began to pour from his hands, feet and side as if he, too, had been on the cross.

In recent years the Italian monk Padre Pio, who died in 1968, attracted a cult following. He had stigmata and was believed to possess healing powers. People today make pilgrimages to his home and receive blessings, touched by a mitten he wore on his wounded hands.

There is a particular time of the year when the wounds of stigmatics bleed the most - at Easter, a time of great significance for Christians.

Almost all stigmatics have strong religious beliefs and are usually devout Roman Catholics. They believe that they are sharing Christ's suffering and many report pain and tiredness. Some possess healing qualities. They may also create visionary drawings or writings, or see 3D images of God.

There have been cases of people hoping to cash in by pretending they have the stigmata but, during the last century, the wounds of many stigmatics have been put under great scrutiny.

While believers would say that a religious miracle creates the wounds, some experts suggest that there is a medical explanation. It could be that the

STIGMATA Blessing Or A Curse ?

mind causes the wounds to appear. They link it, therefore, to *Psychotic Purpura* - a condition whereby patients show physical manifestations of stress.

German specialist Dr Lechter succeeded in inducing the wounds through hypnosis on a patient who had never suffered from stigmata.

In a documentary transmitted on March 29, entitled: 'A Modern Mystery', Granada TV's *Network First* program dealt with the subject as it related to three stigmatics in the UK and Ireland.

A 43-year-old widow, Heather Woods, first noticed blisters appearing on the palms, then backs of her hands, shortly before they began to weep. Wounds also appeared on her feet and side, following experiencing visions of herself being nailed to a cross.

She was seen by her GP and dermatologists, but no one was sure just how the marks appeared.

Mrs Woods, a deacon at a Celtic Christian church in Lincoln, was found drowned in a river last November, following filming of the documentary.

Scotsman George Hamilton was working in a shipyard when he first became aware of strange wounds appearing spontaneously on his body. It was three months before he summoned the courage to show his doctor. Now, seven years later, he is unable to eat solid food and is kept alive by a tube which supplies him with a liquid diet through his nose.

"I'm sure I'll have the stigmata for the rest of my life ... sometimes I think it's more of a curse than a blessing," he commented.

DEBATE ON THE DINOSAURS

While scientists are supposed to be experts, often they never agree among themselves.

When it comes to the dinosaur, some have finally united on a theory that the creatures became

extinct about 65 million years ago. So here is an update on what may - or may not - have caused the downfall of those giants.

About 250 million years ago eight out of ten creatures died. Most species were wiped out within a few million years - a short time in evolutionary terms. Continental drift was the problem as it destroyed coastlines and seas, killing many sea creatures. The oceans then rose and eventually affected those species on the land.

The dawn of the dinosaur age came more than 228 million years ago. Scientists know this from the results of excavations in the Ischigualasto Basin in Argentina. Palaeontologists there recovered two types of dinosaurs - the oldest known fossils yet of the beasts discovered so far.

Why and when did dinosaurs become extinct? Probably as the result of a planetary catastrophe such as the impact on Earth of a huge meteorite. There is evidence for this having occurred on a grand scale in Mexico. Rocks from the resulting crater may have been flung as far away as Haiti. This would then have created so much dust in the atmosphere that our planet's climate could have cooled dramatically, killing off the dinosaurs ... **Hang on!** ... The collision, surely, should have caused a drop in the oxygen level in our atmosphere and the huge animals had insufficient lungs to cope and soon found themselves gasping for breath ... **Wait a minute!** ... Their nostrils were too small. Well, it was a giant meteorite wasn't it? No, sorry, forgot all about the huge volcanic eruption that changed the weather. Now that has to fit in somewhere. Anyway, all agree that dinosaurs became extinct rather quickly, approximately 65 million years ago - a short time in evolutionary terms. Yes, they all agree on that point I'm certain.

Huh ... all, that is, except for Professor John Morris and a group of science professors. You see, they formed the Museum of Creation and Earth History at Santee, California, about a year ago. And they are quite sure the world is no more than 10,000 years old and not the millions as claimed by the evolutionists.

Exhibits at the new museum attempt to prove scientifically that the biblical story of Creation is true. Earth did not, after all, evolve over billions of years from interstellar chaos. The displays explain the Flood and also the fact that animals are far too varied to have evolved from a single organism. So, there you have it - Now we're all clear on these points now heh?



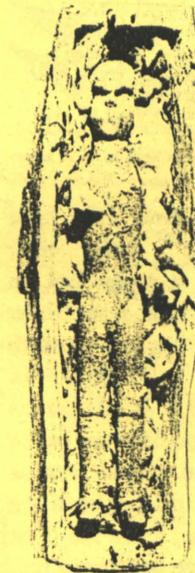
"Still, the Jurassic period was all right while it lasted"

GRAVE CONSEQUENCES

Most Italians already feel they are being taxed to death, but now not even the grave brings relief from the taxman. The Health Minister has ruled that the deceased are still responsible for the yearly health care charge of £26 - that covers basic care by a family doctor. The minister hopes family members and heirs will pay, but she conceded there is no way to enforce the measure.

A Turkish watchman shot his wife dead with a hunting rifle after she switched channels while he was watching the news, Anatolian news agency reported. Police said Salih Ciftci (53) grabbed his rifle and fired in rage during a prolonged argument with his wife Halide. She had turned off the end of the evening news.

[Source: *Irish News* - Oct 13/93]



In New Jersey, a pensioner has been found guilty of reckless manslaughter for shooting dead her husband during a fight over a missing TV remote control. Jurors deliberated for three days before convicting Ellen Gartland (65). She now faces 10 years jail.

A drunken man who met his ex-wife to discuss their divorce settlement videotaped himself shooting her dead and then killing himself. Kansas police said Raymond Nolan shot his ex-wife Jean in the back of the head, then turned the gun on himself. When he pulled the trigger the first time the gun misfired, so he reloaded and shot himself in the chest.

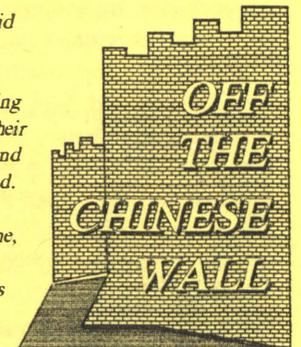
[Source: *Teletext 3* - Jan 22/94]

A woman in Greece was found dead after being shot at point blank range, in January. She had paid an assassin to kill her because she could not cope with her husband's affair.

A killer who believed he was possessed by demons slaughtered his wife and daughter with an axe, Leeds Crown Court heard on March 3.

Chinese policemen in Tianjin have captured a teacher who has attacked more than 80 women with sulphuric acid since 1991. Wu Shouhe (22) said his motive was revenge after he was denied a place at university by a female teacher.

A merchant in China, where dogmeat is a traditional delicacy, is now doing a roaring trade in cat meat. At a pet exchange in Nanjing, buyers make their choice and the owner then strangles the cat and cuts off the head, paws and skin. Cat meat is said to taste best cooked with pepper, ginger and aniseed. A Chinese housewife, keen to improve her love life, snipped off her husband's penis with scissors in the belief that he would grow another one, according to the Heilongjian Legal News in January. 'Bobbitt Syndrome' also struck in nearby Korea, when construction worker Lee Chu-pom was discovered with his penis cut off in a Seoul. The 42-year-old was found moaning and bleeding and died later in hospital.



Get Stuffed!

A dozen 2,000-year-old corpses, some sporting leather jackets, felt hats and hair nets, have been unearthed in China's far western region of Xinjiang. The mummified bodies, found in tombs dating back to 475 BC, are believed to be people from the lost kingdom of Cheshi; one of the communities which vanished with few traces when much of the region became desert in the middle ages. Several of the mummies had tattoos on their faces and the chests and stomachs of some corpses bear surgical cuts sewn up with hair," the official Xinhua news agency said.

[Source: *Daily Mail* - Oct 7/93 + others]

Yukon gold miners and scientists have discovered the world's best-preserved example of an extinct 26,000-year-old ice age horse. The freeze-dried carcass included the pelt and a well-preserved foreleg.

In Norway, scientists are studying two mummified seals that could be more than 100,000-years-old. They were found late last year in Antarctic ice, 160 miles from the sea and 1,150m above sea level. No modern seal could have strayed so far inland say the scientists.

Pub landlord Bert Mayo-Evans serves up a shock for customers - a mummified rat. The dead rodent, was found beneath a pewter bar top during renovations at the 200-year-old Sun Inn, in Hereford. Bert said: "The story I'm putting around is that I was lifting a cider barrel and it dropped and split open and there was the rat inside. There are old stories of farmers who used to throw rats in their cider to give it body."

[Source: *Sunday Independent*-Oct 24 - 93]



More Bones To Chew On

Early humans in China may have lived side-by-side with their primitive ancestors, a report out on March 3, says. It adds tests show that a human skull dug up in north east China could be 200,000 or more years old. That is almost as old as some of Homo Erectus bones that have been found. Homo Erectus is thought by some to have been the ancestor of humans. It is the first time that experts have had proof that the two species were alive at the same time.

A scientist claims he has found human fossils over three million years old in Siberia - challenging the belief that the human race originated in Africa.

A British tourist who went on holiday to the Dominican Republic traded in his leather lace-up shoes for a 38-million-year-old lizard preserved in amber.

LEFTOVERS

An Italian faith healer has claimed a statue of the Virgin Mary in his garden cries tears of blood. A steady stream of devout and curious visited the house of Bruno Burato, on the shore of Lake Garda for a look at the 'miracle statue'.

Forensic scientists from Verona want to check if the blood is human.



ENIGMAS - A wide variety of topics in Issue 35 including details of a current case that SPI are working on involving a haunted council house. Updates on Scotland's UFO 'hotspot' at Bonnybridge, Stirlingshire, and part 3 of Rex Gilroy's 'Man-Apes of Australia'. An entertaining read once again.

"44pp A5 - £2.00 ea / £10 pa (5 issues).

Editor: Malcolm Robinson - Enigmas, 41 The Braes, Tullibody, Clackmannanshire, FK10 2TT, Scotland.

8 min 41 secs
... gasp!

We know that much research over many decades has been conducted in Russia into the paranormal. If we believe half of what we read, then their success in such experiments are quite amazing.

I was 'grazing' (channel hopping) through the foreign satellite channels on April 11, when I happened upon a dutch show hosted by local celeb *Tineke* that dealt with the paranormal.

In the studio was a Russian lying full length and underwater in a glass tank, without breathing aids of any kind. He was wired to a heart monitor, which in turn registered beats of less than 40 per minute.

Astoundingly, this man continued to remain submerged for an astonishing 8 minutes and 41 seconds, before having to resurface. It took maybe five more minutes for him to fully recover from the effects of this remarkable feat. Apart from contorting his abdomen while in the tank, he appeared perfectly at ease.

THE CEREALOGIST - Well, I like the cover even though it took several hours for my eyes to readjust. I'm talking about the Single Image Random Dot Stereogram (SIRDS) that stared back at me from the front of the Winter 1993/4 issue. While I couldn't make out the 3-D image of a crop circle, I located the Cosmic Mandala - so don't feel cheated. In spite of the trials and tribulations of its new editor, if anything, I found content more diverse than many earlier issues. Oh, there's a price rise by the way.

"28pp A4 - £2.80 ea / £8.40 pa (3 issues).

Editor: George Wingfield - The Cerealogist / Specialist Knowledge Services, St Aldhelm, 20 Paul Street, Frome, Somerset BA11 1DX.

GEM - Short for Gloucestershire Earth Mysteries, I must say I liked the 'shamanic panic' criticism expressed by co-ed Jo-Anne Wilder in the editorial of issue 17. It does seem to be flavour-of-the-month among the beacons of EM. We turn the page and Jo's sidekick, Danny Sullivan, contemplates the significance of long barrows to the Neolithic peoples, in his article: 'Shamanic Gateways To The Otherworld?' This issue also includes an informative account of Orgone93. Go buy.

"30pp A4 - £2.25 sample / £5.75 pa (3 issues).

Editors: Jo-Anne Wilder & Danny Sullivan - GEM, PO Box 258, Cheltenham, GL53 0HR.

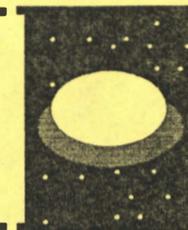
NEXUS - This Aussie mag is now my favourite read and the April/May issue has just arrived. I like its sheer diversity and openness to ideas, however far out this might extend. Glancing at contents, I see articles on 'free energy', 'healing with magnets', 'Mars mission cover-up', 'mystery rock carvings in Australia' and much more.

"74pp A4-ish - £2.50 ea / US\$25 pa (6 issues).

Editor: Duncan M. Roads (Aus) - Subs: Nexus Magazine, PO Box 177, Kempton IL 60946-0177, USA.

Subscribers!

If an 'X' appears
on the UFO, then
it's time to renew -
I hope you do ...





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